

## J&H Oil to locate gas station in Vergennes Township

by Emma Palova

J&H Oil Co. will open a gas station, on the southeast corner of Vergennes and Lincoln Lake roads north of Lowell, in the spring.

The Vergennes Township Board approved the proposed site plan on Monday night with six recommendations from the planning commission. The board also wants to be notified once J&H Oil decides on the restaurant that will go inside the station.

"We are willing to comply," said representative Joe Grochowalski, of Omega Architects based in Grandville.

The 4,000-square-foot gas station has 1,000 feet dedicated to a franchise restaurant yet to be determined. Potential choices for the restaurant are Subway or Tim Horton's. The restaurant will most likely have a drive-thru due to the morning rush for coffee. The gas station will also have a convenience store.

"The owner will not put in a restaurant that people don't want," said Grochowalski. "Subway is a possibility."

The proposed opening hours are 5 am to 11 pm.

The gas station, located at the busy Lincoln Lake and Vergennes roads' intersection with traffic lights, will have access from both

roads. There will be a total of 33 parking spaces.

The format, according to Grochowalski, will be similar to the Mobil gas station by the I-96 exit on Alden Nash in Lowell Township.

"There is nothing on the north side of Lowell," said Grochowalski.

The gas station will be located on 3.1 acres in a commercial zone of the township.

"It is a transitional neighborhood," said board member Rick Gillett. "We want the opportunity to know what the restaurant is." The station will have

Station, continued, page 2



J&H Oil will put a gas station with a restaurant at the Vergennes and Lincoln Lake roads' intersection in the spring.

recycling used cell phones



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stories of survival

9.7.12

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lowell grad is world champion



page 10

## Tuesday is Pink Arrow Community Day

by Karen Jack

The Pink Arrow Community Day, which is the kickoff for the Pink Arrow

ties include a free lunch and games for kids, as well as the annual blood drive, where \$10 will be donat-

ed to Gilda's Club by MI Blood, for anyone who attempts to donate. They will also have "Be the Match" bone marrow swab testing, organ donation sign-up

and the Flat River Outreach Ministries food drive. A child seat check is available by appointment only, as well as various professionals on hand for health assessments.

Sign-ups for the Quiver run as well as the Grattan Twilight Walk, both of which benefit Gilda's Club, will also take place.

Everyone is encouraged to purchase their Pink Arrow V t-shirts at this event as Harold Zeigler Ford has agreed to donate \$1 for each t-shirt sold on Tuesday, Pink Arrow Community Day.

Gilda's Club is located at 314 South Hudson Street in Lowell.



Pride Project, will be held on Tuesday, July 31, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at Gilda's Club in Lowell.

This year's festivi-

## Community wide effort seeks citizen involvement

by Emma Palova

The Greater Lowell Vision Committee has held a steering meeting to determine desired outcomes for the community.

The committee, consisting of the city of Lowell, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Lowell Area Schools, Lowell and Vergennes Township, strives to come up with a vision for the Lowell community.

"It's a nice collaboration," said Vergennes Township clerk Mari Stone at the Monday night board meeting.

The committee has hired consultants Williams & Works and the members are seeking input from the citizens.

"We want people to participate," said Stone. "We're looking for citizen involvement."

Citizens are invited to a meeting at the Lowell Township hall on Aug. 21 from 7 pm to 9 pm.

So far, the grassroots conversations have created an opportunity for the five entities to talk about the future.

"We want to get ahead of issues in the community," said Stone.

These issues could include traffic rerouting and construction, such as the M-52 overpass and how will it affect the community.

Citizen involvement, continued, page 2

50 CENTS



# Pure Michigan Venture Development Fund accepting applications

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation has announced that the Michigan Strategic Fund is targeting to invest up to \$9 million to help grow the venture capital industry in Michigan.

“Michigan is a national leader in research and development – ranking fifth among all states in number of patents awarded, in the top 15 in university innovation and second in industrial research and development spending – all critical driv-

ers of good venture deals,” Gov. Rick Snyder said. “The venture industry needs to continue its growth here to better support entrepreneurs who are developing promising technologies and innovative early stage companies that will help to propel Michigan’s economy in the future.”

The Pure Michigan Venture Development Fund will seek applications from first and second generation venture capital funds in Michigan for the primary purpose

of increasing their ability to raise additional funds and become viable entities, with the ultimate intent of increasing the number of venture investments in the state.

“The Pure Michigan Venture Development Fund will be a valuable tool in helping to grow the venture industry in Michigan,” said MEDC President and CEO Michael A. Finney. “Increasing the number of venture funds here will lead to the development of new innovation companies, greater eco-

nomie growth and ultimately, more and better jobs.”

The PMVDF will invest in up to four new venture funds in the state with up to \$2.25 million each. Awarded venture funds must raise additional capital from the private sector (at least 4.5 times the state’s investment) and invest in Michigan companies.

To qualify, applicant venture funds are required to have raised \$1 million in private capital from at least three unrelated investors at the time of application,

which must be evidenced by signed investor commitments. Funds that have raised more than \$25 million are not eligible to apply. Funds with target sizes greater than \$50 million will not qualify for this program.

Proposals must be submitted to the MEDC via email sent to VDF@Michigan.org.

Once the MEDC has received the application, applicants will be contacted on how to pay the application fee. Proposals will not undergo peer review until the application fee has been received.

All applications must be received by July 31 in order to be considered for award.

A \$1,000 application fee will be due once a review confirms that the application meets the required minimum

guidelines. There will be a peer review of the venture fund’s business plan as required under the 21st Century Jobs Fund legislation.

Questions pertaining to the Pure Michigan Venture Development Fund should be submitted electronically to VDF@Michigan.org. Responses to questions will be posted to the program web page on a regular basis: [www.michiganadvantage.org/PureMichiganVentureDevelopmentFund](http://www.michiganadvantage.org/PureMichiganVentureDevelopmentFund).

The full review process is expected take up to 90 days. The review period may be longer or shorter depending on application volume.

Complete guidelines for the PMVDF Fund can be found at [www.michiganadvantage.org/pure-michigan-venture-development-fund/](http://www.michiganadvantage.org/pure-michigan-venture-development-fund/).

## Station, continued

500 gallon grease traps for the restaurant. Most of the townships monitor the emptying of the traps.

“Subway does not generate much grease,” Grochowalski said, referring to the choice of location.

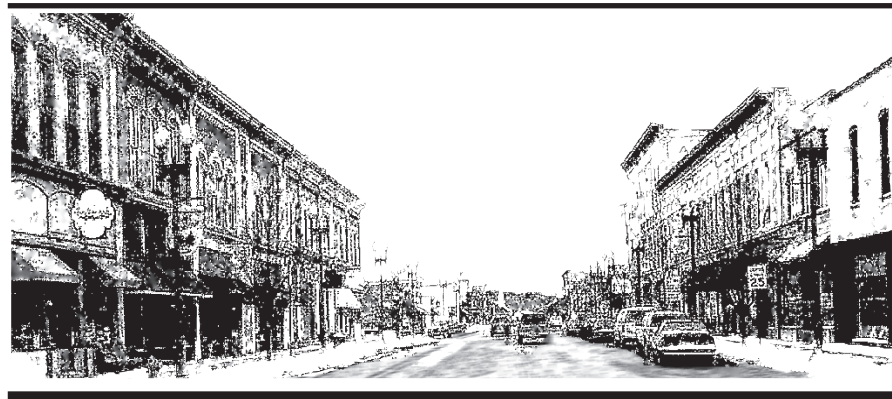
Trees have been left on the south side of the property and shrubbery will be added along Lincoln Lake to prevent lights from shining across the street. LED lighting will be used. Some issues, such as drain plans

and perking of the soil, remain to be resolved. The station will have a four ft. by eight ft. sign.

“I worry about things that don’t work,” said Grochowalski, “like being too close to the intersection,

but we’re good to go to the health department.”

The property has been zoned commercial since May of 2002. It was master planned commercial in 1989 and again in the 1999 master plan and 2007 update.



along main street

### BLUES, BIKES & CARS

If you like good music, beautiful motorcycles, old and fancy cars, beer and good food, you will want to be at the First Congregational Church, UCC, 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. on Sat., August 25, beginning at noon.

### LHS CLASS OF 1992

The Lowell High School Class of 1992 20th Reunion committee is looking for updated addresses. Please contact Betsy Nugent Wieland at [lowellclassof92@gmail.com](mailto:lowellclassof92@gmail.com) or (616) 374-7646 for information.

### PRIMITIVE WOOL RUG HOOKING AT LOWELLARTS!

Artist Sue Clay will teach, “Primitive Wool Rug Hooking” at LowellArts!, 149 S. Hudson, Tuesdays, Sept. 18

and 25 from 6 – 8 pm. Students will learn the step by step process covering the layout, technique and finishing of a hooked wool project. This is a hands-on workshop where you will learn techniques to practice for a week and then come back for a second session to ask questions and continue practicing techniques. Adults Only. For more information, call 897-8545 or visit [www.lowellartsmi.org](http://www.lowellartsmi.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.

## Citizen involvement, continued

“We will have a method to deal with these,” said Stone.

And collaboration will help keep all the participating parties on the same page and hopefully eliminate duplication, according to supervisor Tim Wittenbach.

“We will speak as one voice,” said Perry Beachum.

Some of the desired outcomes include creating an understanding, building a lasting foundation for collaboration, unifying various efforts and determining what kind of businesses would thrive in the greater Lowell area.

“What will the community support,” said Stone.

Currently, the committee is working on a logo for the project and a website.

Also part of the vision-

ing effort will be Rural Café sessions scheduled for Oct. 10, Oct. 23 and Oct. 25 from 6 pm to 9 pm at the Lowell High School cafeteria.

In related business, Perry Beachum informed the Vergennes Township board about the health fair kickoff for the upcoming Pink Arrow game to be held on Sept. 7.

The health fair will be held at Gilda’s Club on July 31. Blood and potential bone marrow donors are encouraged to attend.

The annual Pink Arrow Pride game fundraiser is in its fifth year.

“One hundred percent of funds will stay in the Lowell community,” said Beachum. “It’s a great event held in Vergennes Township.”

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# 4th annual Grattan Twilight Cancer Walk to benefit Gilda's Club of Lowell

by Karen Jack

It all started four years ago when April Kole contacted Grattan Raceway about being able to walk around the track for exercise. When she told her friends about that, somehow, the idea of doing a walk for cancer got thrown into the conversation. Having many friends who either have had cancer or are going through cancer, her friends jumped on the idea and thus the Twilight Walk became reality.

Over the past three walks, the group has raised over \$30,000 with 100 percent of the profits going to Gilda's Club, here in Lowell. In the first year, they had

116 walkers. In the second and third year, they had 316 and 214 respectively. They also got corporate sponsors involved to pay for everything so the proceeds could all go directly to Gilda's. In their first year, they had eight corporate sponsors. This year, they have 21.

Participants get pledges and walk around the Grattan Raceway track, which is decorated with memory and tribute flags of people who have or are battling cancer.

"It was important for us to keep this walk going because so many of our friends have had cancer and it's not going away. We believe Gilda's Club does

a fantastic job of helping people with cancer so [we] wanted to continue to try to support them to keep them in Lowell," said Donna Gundrum, one of the orig-

inal coordinators, who also happens to be a cancer survivor.

Their goal this year is to have 500 walkers. If you're interested in participating,

you can go to their website: [www.GrattanTLCWalk.com](http://www.GrattanTLCWalk.com) for all the information you will need to participate, including contact people for any questions you may

have or if you would like to be a corporate sponsor.

Each year, they also provide some type of music for entertainment after the event. This year, Interio will be providing the music, so you can bring a lawn chair to enjoy the music after the walk. There is also a children's area with games and prizes, as well as a silent auction. If you don't want to walk, but would like to bid on the auctions, you're more than welcome to do so.

The walk will take place at Grattan Raceway on Thursday, August 2. Registration begins at 5:30 pm and the walk starts at 7:00 pm.



# WWC offers recycling of cell phones and electronics

by Emma Palova

The Wittenbach/Wege Agriscience and Environmental Education Center (WWC) has a drop-off site for cell phones and other electronics, including batteries.

The electronics recycling is a fundraiser for the center to offset costs of various educational programming.

"It's a great way to help the environment and raise money to provide educational programming at a reasonable cost," said director Meggan Johnson.

The dropped off electronics then go on to the Planet Green Co., that even recycles items such as video cameras that cannot be otherwise recycled.

The cameras are taken apart into metal and plastic pieces for further recycling. Even batteries are accepted through a Kent County recycling program to prevent chemicals going into land-

fills and eventually into the groundwater.

"It prevents the pollution of our groundwater," said Johnson.

The recycling site accepts all electronics, such as iPods, MP3 players, digital cameras and printer cartridges.

Planet Green assigns each item a value and reimburses the recycling program at the center with approximately \$200 annually.

"It's a way to help people dispose of electronics," said Johnson.

The recycling program started as part of the environmental club at the Lowell High School and since then, the center has taken it over.

Also, in order to prevent storm water pollution, the center has rain barrels available for \$20. These can be attached to a downspout or to a gutter to collect rainwater. The proceeds from the sales benefit the Relay

for Life. The 55-gallon barrels are donated by Litehouse and the attachments have been purchased from Bernard's at a discounted price.

"It will help save money on your water bill," said Johnson.

Cell phones can also be dropped off at the Lowell Police Department. The cell phones are then shipped to Shelter Alliance, who refurbishes them and donates them to domestic violence centers.

Detective Scot VanSolkema encourages people to drop off working cell phones, but to remove personal information.

"It's been very successful," he said. "We've sent out quite a few boxes."

Cell phones can be dropped off at the police department during open hours, Monday through Friday from 6 am to 5 pm.



WWC collects cell phones and other electronics.

\*\*\*\*


**Every man dies. Not every man really lives.**  
*William Wallace*

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## financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

### "Millennials" in good position to invest for the future

If you were born anywhere from 1982 to 2001, or within a few years of this range, you are considered a "Millennial." As a member of this group, you share many things — cultural references, familiarity with technology, attitudes toward work and family — with others your age. And if you're one of the "older" Millennials, you and your peers have something else in common — specifically, you have a good opportunity to launch investment strategies to help you save for the future.

Why are you so well positioned to invest for the future? For one thing, it's because you have so much of the future ahead of you. As an investor, time is your greatest ally, for a couple of reasons. First, the more years you have to invest, the greater the growth potential of your investments. And second, by investing for the long term, you can help reduce the impact of periods of short-term volatility on your portfolio.

Furthermore, since you may be in the early stage

of your career, you probably have yet to reach your maximum earnings and may be eligible to put in the full annual amount to a Roth IRA, one of the most effective retirement savings vehicles available. (Eligibility to contribute to a Roth IRA is phased out over a specific income range.) When you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings have the opportunity to grow tax free, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you're at least 59 1/2 and you've had your account for at least five years.

Even if you do contribute to a Roth IRA, you can still participate in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k) if you work for a company, a 457(b) if you work for a state or local government, or a 403(b) if you work for a school or other tax-exempt organization. And you should indeed contribute to your employer's plan, because it offers some key benefits: Your earnings accumulate on a tax-deferred basis, and you typically fund your plan with pre-tax dollars. So the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. (Taxes are due upon withdrawal, and withdraw-

als prior to age 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.)

The amount you can afford to put into your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored plan depends on your earnings and other circumstances — but you should at least strive to contribute enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered. Otherwise, you'll be walking away from "free" money.

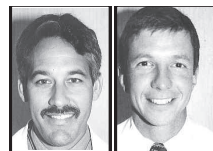
All the money you contribute to your plan is yours, but if you leave your job before a specified vesting period — which often ranges from three to seven years — you may not be able to keep all your employer's contributions. Check your plan's rules to see how this applies to you.

Of course, since you, as a Millennial, are in the early stage of your working years, you may well be on the lookout for new job opportunities. But if you are close to being fully vested in your 401(k), you might consider waiting a few extra months — or even a year — to take a new job, so that you can leave with the money your employer has contributed.

As a Millennial, you've got time on your side as you invest for the future. So make sure you take advantage of all the opportunities that come your way.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*

## health



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

### depression

Depression is a medical illness, just like diabetes or high blood pressure. People don't choose to be depressed. Depressed people are not "weak" or "crazy." Depression affects more than 17 million people in the United States each year. Symptoms of depression include the following:

- feeling sad most days for two weeks or more
- loss of interest in things you used to enjoy

- lack of energy
- sleeping more or less than usual
- weight changes
- feeling hopeless or worthless
- trouble concentrating
- irritability
- thoughts of death and suicide

Depression is believed to be the result of a chemical imbalance in the brain. The imbalance could be


caused by genetic factors, like a family history of depression; or by environmental factors, like stressful life events. These brain chemicals are called neurotransmitters and are responsible for your moods.

Depression can be successfully treated with medicine, counseling or both. Medicines can help to correct the imbalance of neurotransmitters. Counseling can help you change a negative view of yourself, your past and your future. Regular exercise and avoiding alcohol, illegal drugs and too much caffeine can also help. Talk to your health care provider if you feel you may be depressed and they can help you decide what treatment may be best for you.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### finally an explanation on signs

Dear Editor,

A Feb. 22 headline in the Lowell Ledger stated, "City to negotiate contract IBEW union." The article stated that the contract will impact a total of 13 city employees, five from the Lowell Light and Power and eight from the DPW (Department of Public Works), including the water plant. With negotiations pending, we have nothing on which to comment at this time, said city manager Mark Howe.

The constituents of Lowell pay the wages of the DPW workers and are the owners of the Lowell Light and Power and I believe they should have been informed, from the very start, why some of the employees of the Lowell Light and Power and the DPW want to be represented by a union. But that didn't happen.

Finally after six months of silence, a headline in the Lowell Ledger stated,

"Yellow signs signify continued negotiations between officials and IBEW." In the article, the constituents of Lowell finally got an idea why some of the city employees want to be represented by a union. I would be more than just a little upset if I was one of the unfortunate that could possibly be replaced by part-time workers or the job was subcontracted out. It's gratifying to see the Lowell Ledger bring the negotiation to the forefront. As of now with the information standing, I have to stand with the members of the Lowell Light and Power and the DPW and their quest for better job security. I believe that the city manager and the city council have not come forward with viable reasons why they're still in negotiations after six months and why the negotiation is now going to a mediator.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard  
Lowell

### honored to be included in series

Dear Editor,

When Teresa Beachum called and asked me to tell my story for the Community Fighting

Cancer series, I was very hesitant. Now that I did, I am very honored to be included.

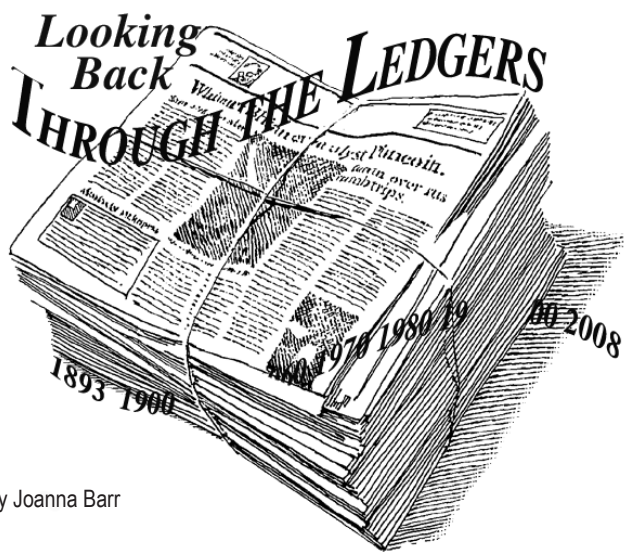
Through the whole process Teresa was so encouraging. She is a very kind and generous person. I am very thankful for all she does for this community. I also want to thank Brandon from Modern Photographics. I thought we would just meet and he would take a few pictures and that would be it. But he actually wanted to sit down and hear my story first. He wanted to know how I felt about the Pink Arrow Pride. He was very patient and easy to talk to. It is very apparent to me that he did this with everyone he photographed for this series. You can see the personalities of each person. He is very talented.

I know there are many people involved in this project, but Teresa and Brandon truly touched my heart and our community is blessed to have them.

Cara Sauber  
Lowell

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By Joanna Barr

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 25, 1912

Circus star bounces down stairs on his head – Did you ever see a man walk down stairs on his head? Hillary Long, who will appear in Lowell on August 7 with the Frank A. Robbins All Feature show, goes down a flight of stairs on his head twice a day, with as much ease as the average person walks down on his feet. He is the only person in the country performing this act and he has been secured by Mr. Robbins at great expense, as the greatest feature of the greatest show that this veteran showman, whose name has been known to the public for thirty-two years, has ever put on the road. The show this year has been entirely rebuilt, with many new star acts and will give two performances here on the date mentioned, the first 2 p.m. and the second at eight in the evening. The doors will open an hour earlier in order to allow those who attend plenty of time to view the animals prior to each exhibition. The menagerie has been doubled in size over that of last year.

D. G. Mange who recently bought the W. W. Wilson property on Main street, has sold the property to the Lowell Cutter Co. whose auto body factory it adjoins on the east. Mr. Mange, on behalf of our business people, reserved the right to use the lot for team hitching purposes until same should be required for factory purposes. The fire charred house and old barn have been razed and the material is being removed making a decided improvement in that vicinity.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo July 29, 1937

For the first time since the prohibition era, beer is being served at bars in some Lowell establishments under new state regulations which became effective July 24. The customer may drink standing at the bar or seated at a table – no walking around while drinking. Another regulation provides that beer and liquors cannot be legally served to person under 21 years of age. After August 1, slot machines and skill games must be discontinued.

### 135 years ago Lowell Journal July 25, 1877

A sneak-thief entered Mr. Althen's residence one day last week and was about to carry away some personal property belonging thereto when he was discovered by the children. Master Clyde Weatherwax being present, flourished a mop in the air and drove him from the premises. Good for Clyde. The thief took nothing from the house but his villainous self, which we regret was not captured before leaving town. Rogues and tramps are numerous this season and should be watched very closely. Whenever a suspicious looking chap is seen hanging around hereafter, we trust some officer will insist upon a thorough acquaintance with him and his business.

Frank Avery has fixed up his ice cream parlor in fine style. Lace curtains in front, oil paintings and other pictures within. Glad to see the boy doing well. He deserves prosperity. The new ad. of Foster Bros., stands out boldly and speaks in a manner to be understood. The same may be said of the Star Clothing House, whose new ad. will be noticed in the JOURNAL.

Complaining that beer costs them too much to sell at ten cents per bottle, proprietors of Main-st. beer selling places announce a raise in price to fifteen cents per bottle or two for twenty-five. Draught beer by the glass will be ten cents.

The sedan belonging to N. E. Borgerson was stolen from Main-st. Monday evening while Mr. Borgerson was away attending Showboat rehearsal. In its place was left another car which had been stolen in Flint the same day. This car belonged to Seymour F. Pritchard of Saginaw. Officers theorized that the Pritchard car had run out of gas and that this was probably the reason for the exchange. Mr. Borgerson's car was a 4-door Dodge sedan, color black. State police and other officers are searching for the stolen car and thieves.

Three persons were arrested here on Tuesday charged with taking clams from Grand River without a license. They were taken into justice court where they pled guilty, each assessed a fine of ten dollars and costs. The arrests were made by conservation officers John A. Kroll and Louis Kahl.

### 50 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 26, 1962

Lowell Airport Association will sponsor a buyers and sellers meet at the Lowell Airport on Saturday and Sunday, August 11 and 12. More than 100 aircraft are expected to fly into the Lowell field to exhibit their latest models; also used aircraft will be shown. Many are expected to need overnight accommodations and anyone who has a spare room that they would rent are asked to call 897-7791.

Rep. Jerry Ford will be flying into Detroit Friday evening, but will arrive too late to get a scheduled flight from the Motor City into Grand Rapids in time to make the Republican Night Showboat performance. To enable Ford to get to Lowell before the show, Dick Curtis will fly his plane into Detroit and pick up the Congressman.



# happy birthday!

### JULY 26

Elaine Gregersen, Eric Baird, Josh Geldersma, Ellen Dilly.

### JULY 29

Rachael Vegter, Mary Fox, Matt Lee, Terry M. Estes.

### JULY 27

Kyle Hendrick, Mike Shalander, Ed Roth Sr., Jason Spencer, Paige Wilson, Sharon Tichelaar.

### JULY 30

Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberley DeBold, Bill Potter, Paige Rash.

### JULY 28

Tom Speerstra, Rachel Shanne Smith, Bobby Wright, Tiffany Hunt, Alexander Barr.

### JULY 31

Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.



## lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Wednesday, August 1, 2012, for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 pm and lasts

one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the center and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training.



## At Your Local Library

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

## In The Service

Air Force Airman Paul T. Finkel graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Finkel is the son of Craig and Lisa Finkel of Grand Rapids.

He is a 2010 graduate of Forest Hills Eastern High School, Ada.

## college news

Central Michigan University has announced the May 2012 graduates. The following are local graduates and their degrees:

Ada: Melissa Freeman, Bachelor of Science; Erin Gavigan, Bachelor of Applied Arts; and Matthew Tevlin, Bachelor of Science in Education.

Alto: Cynthia Engerson, Bachelor of Science.

Lowell: Austin DeClercq, Bachelor of Applied Arts; Ethan Drain, Bachelor of Science; Justin Harden,

Bachelor of Applied Arts; Kenneth Hayes, Bachelor of Science; Joshua Kleczynski, Bachelor of Science; Kenneth Kline, Bachelor of Applied Arts; Ryan Lane, Bachelor of Science in Education; Kelsey Ligman, BSED; Taryn Schumacher, Bachelor of Science in Education; Erin Soules, Bachelor of Science; and Patricia Wilk, Bachelor of Science.

Central Michigan University's spring semester honors list includes the following students who earned 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and higher grade point averages.

Ada: Jacob E. Aronoff, Janelle M. Bauchan, Shannon Lynn Dahlquist, Meredith Joan Greengard, Renee Leigh Jeffrey, Brett Mitchell McMahon, Hannah May Messer, Jenna Marie Pope, Caitlyn Marie Przybysz, Molly Przybysz, Courtney Anne Race, Kaelly S. Schlosser, and Kathryn Jeanne Winer.

Alto: Grace Marie Baker, Linnea Suzanne Churches, Cynthia Lynae Engerson, Bridgette Lynn Smith, Melissa Ann Stanley, and Kimberly Rose Williamson.

Lowell: Deanna Corin Bunn, Heather Ann Burg-

lowing students who earned 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and higher grade point averages. er, Austin T DeClercq, Jone Wesley Destine, Ethan Michael Drain, Dylan Jackson Dues, Chelsea Catherine Dyer, Krista Breanne Foster, Shelby Leigh Herb, Brittany Joanne Holst, Emily Kristine Jelsma, Paige N. McVey, Matthew Thayer Schloop, Taylor Leigh Schumacher, Jordan Bryanna Timmer, and Laura Marie Walsh.

Erik R. Mateus of Ada recently received a four-year Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree, with cum laude honors, from Northwood University.

# area churches

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

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

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

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
Pastor Rod Galindo  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Morning Worship.....10:00 A. M.  
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell  
Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin  
9:45 A.M. ....Sunday School  
10:30 A.M.....Fellowship  
11:00 A.M.....Worship

**897-9863**  
Nursery & Children  
Worship Programs Provided

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

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
402 Amity St. • 897-9820  
www.stmary-lowell.com  
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 10:00 AM  
Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM  
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915  
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EWTV FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

**LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
201 N. Washington  
Lowell, MI • 897-8800  
Pastor Wes Hershberger  
Sundays - Christian Education.....9:15 a.m.  
Celebration.....10:40 a.m.  
Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service,  
Adult Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

**Lowell Naz - Where People Matter**

**CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)**  
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery  
Robert Holmes, Pastor  
**SUNDAYS:**  
Worship: 10 a.m.

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

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

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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168  
Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org  
Rev. Jon Pickens  
Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn  
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.  
Sunday School Hour/ABF's.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA 6-8/Youth Ministry.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.  
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times  
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

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201 N. Washington  
Lowell, MI • 897-8800  
Pastor Wes Hershberger  
Sundays - Christian Education.....9:15 a.m.  
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TO OUR LOYAL VOLUNTEERS and FRIENDS members for their hours of service in sorting, pricing, setting-up, and all the other chores as well as selling at our Book Sale under the tent.

TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 for your organization and energy.

You all made our recent Book Sale under the striped tent a big success!

You enable the Friends of the Library to support the ongoing programs for adults and youth, as well as, purchases of needed items for the library to make your visit a more pleasant one.

**Thank you all!**

The Friends of Englehardt Library  
Kent District Library

# Green Acres expands with memory care addition

by Emma Palova

Green Acres Retirement Living is expanding with a memory-care unit addition to its current home located on West Fulton Street.

The phase II addition, slated for November completion, will have seven apartments that will focus on residents with dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

The goal is to provide "aging in place" to assist the residents in their transition as the disease progresses in various stages.

"We will be able to take care of our residents and keep them as independent as possible," said administrator Kelly Johnson.

The need for the memory care addition emerged as the existing home filled up, leaving the company with a five-month waiting list.

"We don't want to turn people away," said Johnson. "The need is within the community."

The 7,000-square-foot facility will also have an entertainment room, activity room, back patio and a dining room with kitchen. The addition will create approximately five to 10 new jobs, including direct care workers, nursing staff and existing positions of activity director and administrator.

It will also provide for any needs the residents may have, as more of the baby boomer population ages.

The apartments have been designed for one resident or a husband and wife couple.

"We provide exceptional care," said Johnson.

And anyone is always welcome to visit and tour

the facility or participate in the various activities.

"We're truly proud of what we've done here," said Johnson. "We are thankful

for the support of the community that has made us successful."

Due to the growing needs of the aging popula-

tion, Green Acres Retirement Living has been steadily expanding in Michigan. Currently under construction, is a home in Mount

Pleasant and a 20-bed addition has been completed in Mason.

Johnson also encourages Lowell residents to volunteer at the home.

"We're looking for volunteers to help with activities," said Johnson.

The activities may include exercise, church services, outings, bingo, arts and crafts or picnics.

"We are excited for the future of Green Acres of Lowell," said Johnson. "We look forward to continuing to serve our community."

The existing home in Lowell opened a year ago in July.

The contractors for both phases are Johnson & Neuhof & Associates, based in Grand Rapids.



The memory care addition to Green Acres is slated for November completion.

## Looking back, continued

Injuries in the line of duty have been plaguing the local water-ski troupe that has been staging the fine pre-show entertainment. While practicing his jump routine last Saturday, Garry McWhinney skinned his face and was badly bruised when a tow-rope became entangled in his ski and he was dragged along the river bottom. At the Tuesday performance, Tom Beckering of Grand Rapids, who had been delighting the crowd with his ability to skim across the surface of the water on bare feet, plowed into an unused, floating ski and ruptured blood vessels in his feet. Another skier, Roger Kropf, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kropf of Lowell, was taken to Butterworth Hospital Tuesday morning to have an infected appendix removed. This put a stop

to the stunt Roger had performed with great success at the Monday performance - standing on his head while being towed on a surfboard.

### 25 years ago The Grand Valley Ledger July 29, 1987

The world's Largest Cherry Pie event took place in Traverse City on Saturday, July 24, highlighted by the building of a special oven, production of the pie, the vending of cherry products and soft drinks. This was in celebration of the Michigan Sesquicentennial and the National Governor's Conference taking place in Traverse City this past week-end. Even Lowell had a hand in the production with the local King Milling Company furnishing one-half the

flour required in making the pie, which was 18 feet in diameter by 26 inches deep; baked weight - 26,517 lbs. and served 100,000 people. It even made the Guinness World Book of Records!

The Lowell community was shocked and saddened by the death of Thomas C. (Tom) Fonger, 38, early Sunday morning from injuries suffered in an auto accident when his car went off Cannonsburg Road and struck the Cannon Township Fire Department building. Fonger was taken to Butterworth Hospital where he died. He was returning home from his Lowell High School 20-year class reunion which was held earlier at the Cannonsburg Ski Lodge. According to State Police reports, he was not wearing a seat belt and the cause of the accident is still under investigation.

## college news

Rachelle Smith, of Alto, a freshman majoring in Elementary Educ Option 1, has been named to the spring 2012 academic honors list at Spring Arbor University. The academic hon-

ors list recognizes full-time students who have received a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for the semester. Part-time students must receive a 3.7 GPA for the se-

mester and carry a cumulative 3.7 GPA.

She is the daughter of Eric and Cindy Smith.



In The Ledger

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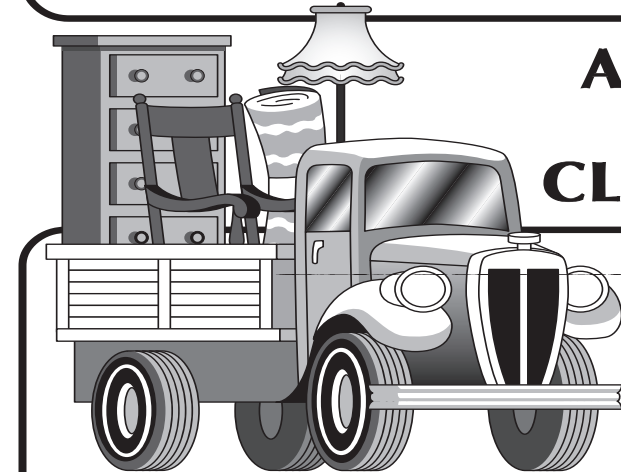
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## Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, August 4  
8:30 am to noon  
5068 Breton, Kentwood

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**DO NOT BRING:** latex paint, medication, needles, fireworks, ammunition, propane, tires, business & non-Kent County wastes



Kent County Dept of Public Works  
(616) 336-2570 • 1-888-217-2850  
www.accessKent.com/hhw

# A Community Fighting Cancer

9.7.12

The following is the fourth in a series of stories that *The Lowell Ledger*, *Buyers Guide* and *Pink Arrow Pride* will highlight by area cancer survivors. Each writer will convey, in their own words, their personal journey as they walk through the many phases of this disease toward health. A big part of *Pink Arrow* is providing free programming at Gilda's Club Grand Rapids, Lowell Clubhouse. Photos by Modern Photographics

## Matthew Rehl

Matt's story. Cancer is a horrible disease. If you have not been personally affected by cancer, then statistically, you are just plain lucky/blessed.

My name is Matt and I am currently doing chemo therapy to battle stage four colon cancer. My journey began in August of 2011. I had some abdominal discomfort and passed some blood, so I knew I needed to pursue this medically. Sounds simple but I was one of those people that had never been in the hospital and never gets sick, so first I had to find a doctor. Found a doctor and described my condition; he told me to go to an emergency room and they would do the same tests he would do. He would be in contact with the hospital.

ER scans had revealed a "mass" in my abdomen; they scheduled me for a colonoscopy and biopsy. That done, I was scheduled for a barium enema for more informa-

tion, surgery to remove the "mass" and an appointment with my new doctor to make sure I was fit for surgery. This all happened in approximately one week's time. The biopsy results came in the day of the surgery; I had cancer. The day after surgery, I remember them seeing how far I could walk around the hospital and maybe they would send me home sooner than the normal three- to five-day stay.

That is the last thing I remember for approximately three months.

My colon resection was leaking and I developed sepsis and peritonitis.

*"If you have not been personally affected by cancer, then statistically, you are just plain lucky/blessed."*

For quite some time, I was one of the most critical patients at Blodgett Hospital. When I came to, my wife had to tell me three months had passed; I remember my

first thought was there's nothing I can do about it and whatever it is, is what it is. My driver's license says I'm six foot one inch, 180 pounds and I now weigh less than 105 pounds, so needless to say, there's not much left of me.

The next step was physical rehab. I could not walk or really hardly move myself around at all and oh yeah, I still had cancer. The physical rehab department at Blodgett was new, but the people were phenomenal for me, as was all the staff in the different departments I was in during my stay. The goal for rehab was to get me to the point where I could get in my house and get from the couch to the bathroom. This took close to two months. I could then continue my physical rehab on my own at home.

As a result of the setbacks, by the time I was close to being strong enough to start cancer treatment, I was diagnosed as stage four colon cancer.

I've recently started my third type of chemotherapy, attempting to get better results. There is still a long, long way to go. During this

ally have not been able to work since August of last year, family and friends have helped me with work-related things. I had one

dren's group. At first I went so my wife, as a support person, would have other people to talk to; I did not feel I needed the support,



time, I have also been admitted to the hospital multiple times, mainly as a result of my unconscious time. I have had multiple outpatient procedures and in the last two months I have spent over a month of that time in the hospital for kidney failure. I now have two tubes sticking out of my back draining fluids from each kidney to bags.

I have found it interesting how friends and family have reacted to all of this. My wife and my daughter are my main line of support, although because I re-

friend say he didn't think it was right for people outside of the family to visit me, it would be intrusive. I told him he was wrong, at least for me, I enjoyed the support and variety. For additional support, my wife and I have been going to cancer support group meetings at Gilda's Club in Lowell. That is right, there is a Gilda's in Lowell sharing the Senior Center house on Lowell's south side. Meetings are Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. There are additional meetings at the same time for grief support and a chil-

but I must say, I enjoy the meetings and adding a variety of new people to my circle of friends and support. I strongly recommend you contact Gilda's for more information whether you are a patient or support person.

After nearly a year so far, there is only so much I can type in one article, so if you know me and you want more information, you can contact me and I will tell you anything you want to

*Matt's story, continued, next page*

## Kristen McLaren

On August 27, 2011, my life changed forever. On the way home from a family picnic, my husband and I, along with our three children, were in a head-on collision. My husband was killed as was the other driver and my children and I were severely hurt. One minute

while my kids were struggling to live. None of them were even able to attend their Dad's funeral. I wondered where we would go from here? How would we survive this? How would I help my kids heal?

Because of our strong faith in Jesus Christ and

missed several weeks of school and only went back part-time for a while until they could handle a full day. On top of all this, we moved into another home the week of Christmas. Life had changed dramatically! It was easy to push the loneliness and despair aside

ing to find a new normal without my husband.

It wasn't until after the holidays that grief really started taking its toll on us. Like I said before, we were so busy, it was easy to push it to the back burner. We were always sad, but now it was affecting us more. We were floundering in a sea of grief and the waves crashed down harder and more frequently. I needed to get my kids help. I remembered the case-worker at Mary Free Bed telling me about the work that Gilda's Club did and that they offered help for children as well. I thought it was about time we gave it a try. The only encounter we had with Gilda's of Lowell was when my kids helped prepare a dinner for them with their 4H club. It was a "nice thing to do" and it helped them accomplish their "community service" for the club. I was soon to realize what an impact that simple dinner could mean to the people who attended the group sessions there.

I went to Gilda's Club in Lowell because we live in Greenville and it would be a closer drive for us. I went initially for my chil-

dren. They needed a place where other kids knew what they were going through. They needed to feel accepted - to be normal. I, of course, also attended the grief group there, but was reluctant that it would be

*"The best weapons I have are the people who have been fighting along beside me."*

any help to me. After all, these people were strangers and could not relate to what I was going through. I soon realized that I did need to be there - I needed to feel accepted. I am not the only widow there, but I am the youngest. I am not the only one in pain and that in itself is a comfort. I have also found that through my pain, I am able to comfort others in my group. I feel a deep connection to the people there and care for their well-being. There is a genuine, friendly bond that we have and it is a tremendous support to me in my walk through grief.

They also have a wonderful program for youth. My children's ages are ten,

eight and two and there is something unique offered for each one! They are currently participating in the Camp Sparkle that is offered through the Grand Rapids chapter and they are having a blast. The people who

work with the kids are phenomenal people and have such a passion for what they do. It isn't just a place to go

for healing and even fun, it is a family.

Going to Gilda's Club on Tuesday evenings is now a regular part of our week. At first it was a bonus that we were able to eat there, but it truly is a blessing that a meal is provided. I am very grateful for those who have generously donated their time, talents and of course, the meals each week. It gives those of us who go there a chance to enjoy each other's company outside of group and even, for some like me, a break from cooking. I want to personally thank all of you who have helped support Gilda's Club through the Pink Arrow Pride. Without you, our journey through grief would be a harder one.



my family was happy and complete; the next, we had a huge hole and we were all scattered among hospitals recovering from various severe injuries. I was alone and now a single parent having to cope with this loss and planning a funeral, all

huge support from family and friends, I knew we were not completely alone. And yet that feeling was there. Because of my kids' injuries, we kept extremely busy with doctor appointments, therapy and catching them up in school. The kids

because of all that was going on. Many days, I did not know how we even made it through and yet the calendar zipped by very quickly. Months passed and doctor appointments slowed. The kids were back in school full-time and we were try-



# A Community Fighting Cancer

9.7.12

## Matt's story, continued

know. If you don't know me, you can either find me at the Gilda's Club meeting on Tuesday or try contacting me through Gilda's. I will tell you anything you want to know.

P.S. We welcome your prayers.

Betty's Story. As you may already know by reading Matt's story, my name is Betty and I am Matt's wife.

This journey has been a long one. I have watched from the sidelines as Matt lay unconscious for months, struggled through physical rehab, as he continues to undergo procedures, takes numerous prescriptions and sometimes just feels ill and have marveled at how positive he is through all of it. While I am considered to be part of the "support," I could honestly

not have gone through this without his will and drive to conquer the cancer.

Our family and friends have been a constant beacon of light when things seem dark. They are there for us and we are so very thankful to have them around us. We love you all!

I also cannot say enough about Gilda's Club. Even though we have our family, there are times when I just needed to talk

(and listen) to others who have journeys of their own. I had at times struggled with how I was feeling. Am I doing enough? What if I miss something? Being with the support group and having them share their experiences helped me understand my role in all of this and has made me an even stronger person.

Please keep not only our family, but all of those families that have strug-

gles of their own, in your thoughts and prayers.

Jessica's Story. My name is Jessica and Matt is my dad.

Having my dad be diagnosed with cancer was devastating, but I can honestly say that it has made me more aware of the important people in my life. I am very appreciative and lucky to have my family, who have been drawn

closer together through all of this and equally lucky to have my friends in my life.

The cancer experience has also opened my eyes to the oncology field. I will be starting my fourth year of nursing this fall and hope to guide my career in that direction.



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Lowell Pink Arrow Pride Community Day

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Tuesday, July 31, 2012

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For Appointment:  
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Purchase a banner for \$199 or rehang last year's banner for \$100.

Banners will hang from the light posts on Main Street.

Order your banner by contacting Perry & Teresa Beauchum at 616-581-6199 or drop off last year's banner to the Lowell Ledger office, 105 N. Broadway.

# Local graduate dominates martial arts world championship

by Karen Jack

Mariah Moore, a 2011 Lowell High School graduate, dominated the world championships for Arnis, the martial arts of the Philippines. The sport consists of two opponents squared off with varied amounts of protective covering and armed with one or two 28 inch long fire-hardened rattan sticks.

Moore competed in the Global Stick and Blade Alliance Inaugural World Championships and brought three gold medals and a bronze medal home, despite an injury that would have sat any other athlete out of the competition. Moore suffered a very bad sprain, tearing ligaments, as well as a stretched Achilles tendon six days before competition. Her sport's doctor cleared

her for competition as long as she could stand the pain.

"I was told it would take nothing short of a miracle to even be able to walk in six days. But I believe in miracles and with one amazing sport's doctor, one



Mariah Moore shows off her four medals.

amazing physical therapist, three hours per day of physical therapy in the pool at the center, electrotherapy, icing therapy, photonic stimulator and lots of prayers coupled with my indomitable will, I did it. I trained for two years for this competition alone. I wasn't about to let anything or anyone take away my dreams, including an injury," said Moore.

To earn a seat on the U.S.A. national team, competitors must first qualify regionally in October and then nationally in February. Moore was the only competitor within the U.S. and internationally to qualify and be seeded in all five events of the tournament. Coming home with the gold for the U.S. in the open multiple weapons forms and the team

forms competition, she definitely has shown her will. She also earned the gold for the USA women's three-man stick fighting with two other U.S. competitors from California on her team. Moore also took the bronze in the women's middle weight full contact single stick competition with her team, the Journales System.

Ironically, her father Randy got interested in the sport after watching his daughter compete and now also on the USA national team, took one gold and two silvers home for the USA team.

Moore has a total of 14 world championship titles at the age of 18. She has definitely made a name for herself, appearing on the cover of the largest international



Mariah and Randy Moore getting ready to compete.

martial arts' supplier catalog, called KWON, in both 2011 and 2012. She will also be appearing in the movie "Dirty Bomb" with

Eskrima fight scenes (stick fighting), which was filmed in Grand Rapids.

## NOTICE OF HEARING OF PRACTICABILITY AND REVIEW OF BIG CROOKED LAKE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL

TAKE NOTICE that the Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board will hold a public hearing on the practicability of a five-year improvement project for Big Crooked Lake consisting of nuisance aquatic plant control, plant control coordination, administration, and contingencies. The project would begin in 2013 and continue through 2017 and have an annual budget of \$23,500. The hearing will be held at the Grattan Township Hall located at 12050 Old Belding Road at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 14, 2012.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that a special assessment roll has been prepared and is on file at the Grattan Township Hall for public examination during normal business hours. Said special assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing the cost of the improvement project to benefiting properties.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board will hold a hearing immediately following the aforementioned hearing of practicability for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and for hearing any objections thereto. An owner of or party with interest in real property to be assessed or his/her agent may appear in person to object to the special assessment or may protest such special assessment by letter filed with the Lake Board at or prior to the time of the hearing. Written objections may be filed with or mailed to the Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board c/o Grattan Township Treasurer, 12050 Old Belding Road Belding, MI 48809. Notice is also given that the owner of any real property within the Big Crooked Lake Special Assessment District who, having made an objection to said special assessment either in person or in writing, may, within thirty (30) days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll, appeal such special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal or other court of competent jurisdiction.

Big Crooked Lake Improvement Board  
Kent County, Michigan

## Alto Farmer's Market opens

by Karen Jack

When Lydsay Grummet wanted fresh vegetables and other goods around Alto, she had to go to Lowell or other places to get them. Being a baker herself, she also wanted to sell her breads and cookies to her neighbors. So instead of taking her goods elsewhere, she decided she would try to start the Alto Farmer's Market.

To do so, though, she had to do a lot of research to make sure she was following the law. She reached out to Michigan State University, which sent her a lot of information to her to help her get started. She also went to the local downtown development authority for help. Armed with all she needed, she decided to make a go of it.

"I wanted to make sure that the smaller farmers could sell their goods," said Grummet. So she decided there would be no charge for someone to come and sell their products. Grummet said as long as they follow the Cottage Food law, they could participate without being licensed.

The Cottage Food law allows people to sell baked goods, jams and jellies, but they must have a tag on them that states that the goods have not been approved by the Department of Agriculture. They're also not allowed to make more than \$15,000 per year in sales without being licensed.

"Anybody can come and set up a booth as long as they follow the Cottage Food law," said Grummet. She'd like to keep building her vendor base so the

people of Alto can get some quality goods, offering an array of products as well. "We also welcome nonprofit organizations. We want to keep it as open and community-friendly as possible, with it still being safe," added Grummet.

The farmer's market opened this year on May 5 and started with only two vendors. Each week is different, but she's seeing more interest as more people hear about it. The market is located at the Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Alto and is open on Saturdays from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you're coming from Lowell, just take Alden Nash and follow the Farmer's Market signs.

If you're interested in being a vendor, you can reach Lydsay Grummet at 616-868-6607.

\*\*\*

**"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."**

Dr. Seuss

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*(mostly produce)*  
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**1 PM (until food is gone)**  
*Bring your own box or bag.*



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**The Lowell Ledger**  
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

# Snap Fitness offers a Drop & Run school supply drive

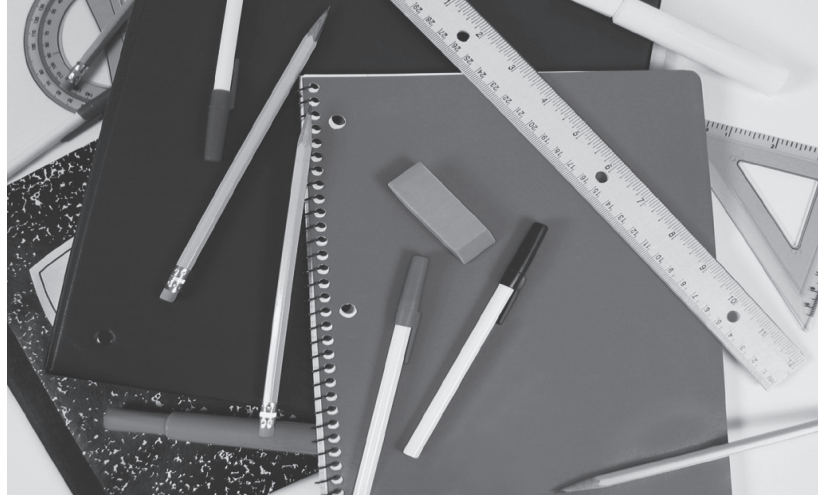
Snap Fitness of Lowell is holding a Drop and Run School Supply Drive. "The young people in our community deserve to have the materials needed to inspire creative learning

supplies to donate to Lowell Area Schools," McQueen said. The Drop and Run School Supply Drive will be held August 1, 2012 through August 31, 2012. Community members are

Community Day, offering body composition testing. "Our fitness center also holds a pink Cybex treadmill that we ask our members to walk or run on to help raise money for the Pink Arrow Pride," said McQueen.

"Our community is very important to us and we are striving to help everyone we can."

Interested in participating in the Drop and Run School Supply Drive or to take a peek at the pink Cybex treadmill? Stop



in the classrooms," said Devon McQueen, general manager. "We also need our community members, leading by example, to live a healthy lifestyle and Snap Fitness offers affordable options for everyone to do so," said McQueen. In return, community members who donate school supplies will get the choice to accept a free week pass to exercise at Snap Fitness or they can join Snap Fitness and get the first month free.

"This is a win-win situation for everyone in our community and we hope to see boxes full of

welcome to visit Snap Fitness during the staffed hours. Examples of items that schools will utilize are crayons, markers, pencils, printer paper, hand sanitizer, Kleenex, 3-ring binders, glue sticks, colored pencils, highlighters, pencil boxes, zip-lock bags, scissors, erasers and notebooks.

Snap Fitness was the host of the Lowell Community Wellness Weight Loss Challenge, where over 1,600 pounds were lost earlier this year. Snap Fitness will also be at the Lowell Community Wellness Health Fair on July 31, 2012, Pink Arrow

in at Snap Fitness located at 2173 W. Main Street next to the Ada-Lowell 5 movie theatre. If you would like to donate supplies, items will be accepted at Snap Fitness' booth during the Lowell Community Wellness Health Fair held at Gilda's Club on July 31, 2012. For more information visit [www.snapfitness.com/lowellmi](http://www.snapfitness.com/lowellmi) or call Devon McQueen at 616-987-4000.

# Wastewater plant team receives recognition

by Emma Palova

The team at the Lowell Wastewater Treatment Plant has received both state and national awards for an outstanding safety program.

The Michigan Water Environment Association (MWEA) gave the state award to the Lowell team and nominated the facility for a national award.

Facing stiff competition from other municipalities, plant manager Mark Mundt was surprised when he found out the Lowell facility won the national award from the Water Environment Federation (WEF).

"I was very excited to win the state award and pleasantly surprised to win the national award," he said.

The award is actually given to the entire team and to the United Water operators of the plant.

"The staff and United Water are very proud to have received these awards," said Mundt. "It's a reflection that Lowell is a wonderful place."

Mundt said the plant staff and Lowell strive to be better than other communities.

"This is one of the many examples [of] how we are a little better," Mundt said. "I love living in Lowell. We're very happy to have brought these awards to Lowell."



Pictured are Mark Mundt with mayor Jim Hodges.

\*\*\*\*

All life is an experiment. The more experiments you make the better.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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## NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regular meeting of the Lowell Charter Township Board held on July 16, 2012, Ordinance No. 01-2012 - Flood Plain Regulations, an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance was adopted, a summary of which follows:

- This ordinance is an amendment to Article 13 which regulates the 100 year flood plain.
- Section 13.01 describes and defines the purpose of the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone.
- Section 13.02 Adds definitions.
- Section 13.03 Applicability.
- Section 13.04 100 year Flood Plain Delineation.
- Section 13.05 Permitted uses.
- Section 13.06 Flood Plain Regulations - Regulates filling of the flood plain and construction in the flood plain.
- Section 13.07 Disclaimer of Liability.

This Ordinance shall become effective August 1, 2012. A copy of the complete text of the ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI 49331 during regular office hours or viewed on our website: [www.twp.lowell.mi.us](http://www.twp.lowell.mi.us)

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

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**August 2**  
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lowell Showboat  
**Sizzlin' Summer Concerts**

Live Music on the Flat River  
On the Riverwalk ♦ Historic Downtown Lowell

Kari Lynch Band

Mixing elements of classic country, rock, and contemporary country, the Kari Lynch Band has played sold out venues, fairs, festivals, large events, smaller intimate sets, television, radio, and opened for national artists. For them, it's all about the music, the fans, and putting on an entertaining and unforgettable performance. Their dynamic stage presence, chemistry, and passion shine through each performance. The band has shared the stage with major label artists and also performed at the International Speedway during the NASCAR Daytona 500 Speed Week events in 2011. Band members are Kari Lynch - Lead Vocals; Matthew Kok - Acoustic Guitar; Ryder Jones - Electric Guitar; Sam Briggs - Drums; Jacob Meekhof - Bass.

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[www.lowellartsmi.org](http://www.lowellartsmi.org) or 616.897.8545  
[www.discoverlowell.org](http://www.discoverlowell.org) or 616.897.9161

# obituaries

## KENT

Agnes Lee Kent, age 77 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord Sunday, July 15, 2012. She is survived by her best friend Terrie Hoag; friends, Mindy Potter, Michael Hoag, Kevin Hoag, Stuart Hoag, Scott Dykhuis, Jerry and Sandy Risher; puppies, Nikki and Teddy Bear; kitties, Holly, Tasha, Callie, and Princess Angel. A Memorial Service was held Monday July 23, 2012 at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to help with funeral expenses in care of Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331



## STORMZAND

Andrew "Andy" Douglas Stormzand, age 46 of Lowell, passed away Sunday, July 15, 2012. He was preceded in death by his father Anthony "Tony" Stormzand. He is survived by his wife, Heather; children, Eric, Nick, Bailey, and Cassidy; mother, Carol Stormzand; brother, Geoffry (Paige) Stormzand; sisters, Laurie (Eric) Teasley; Dr. Susan (Todd) Murphy; aunt, Jean Stormzand-Jeltema; granddaughter, Miley Stormzand; parents-in-law, Len and Linda Hamp; Dianna, mother of Nick and Eric; aunt, JoAnn Denkema; also many nieces and nephews. Andy was 2007 Sportsman Champion at Berlin Raceway, owner of Stormzand Asphalt - Lowell for over 20 years, and a loving husband, father, grandpa, son, and friend. Funeral services was held Friday July 20, 2012. Rev. Gary Dougherty of Faith Bible Church officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to a trust fund set-up for the benefits of Andy's daughters c/o Heather Stormzand, 516 W. Main, Lowell, MI 49331



# LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 12-192357-DE

Estate of ROBERT  
DARRION SWINGLER,  
JR., deceased. Date of  
birth: 06/16/1954.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS:  
The decedent,  
Robert Darrion  
Swingler, Jr.,  
who lived at 517 Union  
Ave., SE, Grand Rapids,  
Michigan 49503 died  
05/22/2012.

the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Anita Swingler, 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.

July 13, 2012

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

Anita Swingler  
517 Union Ave., SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

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# LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 12-191895-DE

Estate of KATHLEEN JO  
DORAN. Date of birth:  
11/16/1960.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS:  
The decedent,  
Kathleen Jo Doran, who lived at  
1948 Galewood Ave.  
SW, Wyoming, Michigan  
died 04/05/2010.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Charles Doran, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NE, Suite 2500 Grand Rapids and the named/ proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Thomas E. Lane  
(P36477)  
688 Cascade West Pkwy  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-285-6050

Charles Doran  
1948 Galewood Ave. SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509  
616-690-9172

## FAXING

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\$1.00 first sheet -  
50¢ additional sheet

### Buyers Guide

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a request from Richard L. Siegle to rezone 26.65 acres of property from a combined zoning of AG1 and AG2 to all AG2, Rural Agriculture.

Property location: 5701 Bancroft Ave SE  
Permanent Parcel No.  
41-20-33-326-005

The hearing will be held as follows:  
When: MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2012  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Where: Lowell Charter Township Hall  
2910 Alden Nash SE  
Lowell, MI 49331

The application is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during regular office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Township Planning Commission

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**Simple Direct Cremation... \$1,030\*\***  
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# Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce Riverwalk Festival kayak race

The 10th annual Riverwalk Festival Kayak race on the Flat River in downtown Lowell was another great success. The race was three miles and consisted of four 3/4 mile laps going north on the river and finishing back at the Showboat. "We changed the race course this year to make the event a little more fan friendly," said Jon Holmes from Bill and Paul's Sports House, who helps organize the race. "The old course took the racers farther north, which put them out of sight for much of the race."

"I came over from Grand Haven to participate and the start of the race is

one of the most exciting that I have been involved in," said race participant Bill Bellinger. "There is a narrow slot for the kayaks to maneuver between the Showboat and the island," Bellinger continued.

There were placement awards and prizes for all 13 participants. In male kayaks over 14' long, Bill Bellinger took home first place with a time of 30 min. 20 sec.; Jon Holmes, second place, 32.05; and Rusty McBride, third place at 33.21. In male kayaks under 14' long, Steve Doyle was first with a time of 34.29.

In female kayaks under 14' long, first place was

Karen Standly with a time of 42.16, second place was Sharmayne Busha with a time of 42.50 and Candice Browne, third at 43.30.

The oldest racer award went to Karen Standly at 60-years-old and the youngest racer was Ember Larson, 12-years-old.



Kayakers listening to pre-race instructions and beginning the race.

## How a global bank brought big risks to the U.S.



Sen. Carl Levin

For today's sprawling international banks, access to the U.S. financial system is a must. Global banks want access to U.S. dollars, and U.S. wire transfer systems. And they want the safety, efficiency, and reliability that are the hallmarks of U.S. banking.

But some banks abuse that access. The Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair, recently released a report and held a hearing on how one such global bank, HSBC, exposed the U.S. financial system to abuse by money launderers, drug

kingpins, terrorists, and rogue nations such as Iran.

HSBC, headquartered in London, has been among the most active banks in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. It first acquired a U.S. presence in the 1980s; today its leading U.S. affiliate is HSBC Bank USA. The bank has more than 470 branches across the United States and four million customers.

But HSBC's history in the United States is one of poor protections against illicit money flows. In 2003, the Federal Reserve and New York State Banking Department required the

bank to revamp its anti-money laundering program. And in 2010, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency again demanded changes. The OCC cited massive failures in HSBC's monitoring system.

To examine these issues, the subcommittee issued subpoenas, reviewed more than 1.4 million documents, and conducted extensive interviews with HSBC officials from around the world, as well as officials at other banks, and with federal regulators. Our evidence showed five key areas in which HSBC exposed the U.S. financial system to abuse:

- HSBC's U.S. bank failed to adequately monitor transactions with HSBC banks in nations at high risk of financial crime. For example, the U.S. unit allowed millions of dollars of transactions with its sibling in Mexico, despite warnings from law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and Mexico that there was a high risk of involvement with drug kingpins.

- HSBC units in Europe and the Middle East conducted transactions with the U.S. unit while hiding the fact that the transactions involved rogue regimes such as Iran, Sudan and North Korea. From 2001 to 2007, HSBC units overseas sent 25,000 transactions involving Iran, worth \$19 billion, and in 85 percent of those transactions, concealed the links to Iran.

- HSBC's U.S. bank did business with offshore banks linked to terrorist financing. For example, it opened an account for a Saudi Arabian bank with known links to terror groups when the Saudi bank threatened to pull its business from HSBC worldwide unless it could open a U.S. account.

- HSBC cleared hundreds of millions of dollars in suspicious bulk travelers cheques. One Japanese bank regularly sent HSBC's U.S. bank \$500,000 or more a day in such cheques, all sequentially numbered and signed with the same illegible signature — sure signs of wrongdoing. When

regulators forced HSBC to investigate, the Japanese bank could provide no information about the mysterious Russian clients behind the transactions.

- HSBC offered bank accounts to what are known as bearer-share corporations, a form of corporation prone to money laundering and other illicit activities because it can be used to conceal the true owners of the corporation. One such HSBC account was used by a father-son team of Florida developers who later were convicted of tax fraud.

It's deplorable that a bank would demonstrate such weak defenses against terrorists, drug money and rogue regimes. But making matters worse is the poor effort by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, HSBC's main U.S. regulator. The OCC knew of and

tolerated HSBC's unacceptable performance for more than five years without taking a single enforcement action.

Our report includes a number of recommended changes, for both HSBC and the OCC. Officials at the bank and the regulatory agency have promised improvements, and the steps they have announced so far are welcome. HSBC cooperated with our investigation, and its leaders apologized at our hearing. But promised changes have failed to materialize in the past. This global bank, and the agency that oversees it, must do a better job of protecting Americans from the illicit flows of money that enable crime, terrorism and weapons proliferation.

*Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.*

## LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

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

Visit [www.grfoundation.org/lowell](http://www.grfoundation.org/lowell) to submit your application.

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

## ANNUAL REPORT OF PRIVATE FOUNDATION

# NOTICE

The annual report of the Lowell Area Housing, Inc. Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2011 is available for inspection at its principal office, 725 Bowes Road, Lowell, Michigan during regular business hours by any citizen who requests within 180 days after date of this notice.

Date: July 23, 2012

Marcia Roth  
President

\*\*\*  
I'm selfish, impatient and a little insecure. I make mistakes, I am out of control and at times hard to handle. But if you can't handle me at my worst, then you sure as hell don't deserve me at my best.

*Marilyn Monroe*

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1. Rushed
6. Church seat
9. \*Paddington Bear's homeland
13. Convex molding
14. Popular activity at Heavenly in CA
15. "Harold & \_\_\_\_\_ Go to White Castle"
16. Army aid
17. Precedes senator
18. Circular gasket
19. Drum sound
21. \*Willy Wonka's heir
23. Longest division of geological time
24. \*Pinocchio dreamed of becoming this type of boy
25. He floated like a butterfly?
28. Network of intersecting nerves
30. Middle Eastern confection
35. \*Like boys that lived in Neverland
37. Lacking sensation
39. "\_\_\_\_\_ the day"
40. International Civil Aviation Organization
41. Attempts
43. Small ladies' hand-bag
44. Deep opening
46. To strike a piece of stone sharply
47. Deep-red variety of chalcedony
48. Stay clear of
50. Clobber
52. Big Island flower necklace
53. Of the highest quality
55. 2000 lbs.
57. \*Flying nanny
61. \*Aunt Polly's wayward nephew

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**JULY 18 - JULY 24**

- A suicide bomber who had a fake Michigan driver's license, blew up a bus full of Israeli tourists outside Burgas Airport in Bulgaria. It is believed the bomber had a fake U.S. passport as well. Even though he used a Michigan license, the address on it was in Baton Rouge, LA.
- A concert that Bruce Springsteen said, "I've waited 50 years for this," with legendary Beatle, Paul McCartney, was approaching the finale when the promoters shut the microphones off citing curfew restrictions.
- James Holmes, 24, opened fire and set off gas canisters in an Aurora, Colorado theater minutes into a premiere of the Batman film "The Dark Knight Rises." The massacre left 12 people dead, including a six-year-old and 58 injured. Holmes apparently planned the attack with "calculation and deliberation," said police. The assailant's weapon jammed during the attack, which forced him to change weapons. The rifle that jammed was capable of firing 50 to 60 rounds a minute.
- Penn State University will remove and put into storage the statue of Joe Paterno, outside of the football stadium, after investigations revealed that Paterno helped cover allegations of child sex abuse by assistant coach Jerry Sandusky. Penn State president Rod Erickson said, "I believe that, were it to remain, the statue will be a recurring wound to the multitude of individuals across the nation and beyond, who have been the victims of child abuse."
- Michigan DNR officials are telling us that the abnormally high temps this summer are not only taking a toll on crops, but salmon and trout are succumbing in high numbers due to warm waters.
- San Diego's gay pride parade included active-duty troops marching in military dress, the first time that U.S. service members have participated in such an event while in full uniform. The defense department said it was making the allowance for this event, even though its policy generally bars troops from marching in uniform, saying it did so because organizers had encouraged military personnel to march in their uniform. The parade was getting national attention.

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64. Fully informed
65. Type of brew
67. County across Golden Gate Bridge
69. A pariah avoided by others
70. "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
71. "\_\_\_\_\_ and well"
72. A cold \_\_\_\_\_ of weather

73. "\_\_\_\_\_ 's the word"
74. Having no cover

**DOWN**

1. Read-only storage
2. Affirm
3. Musical finale
4. Like last eight in college basketball
5. \*Dolittle's title
6. Attention grabber
7. Increase
8. Make face in pain
9. Make like a cat
10. \*Astrid Lindgren's "\_\_\_\_\_ of Lonneberga"
11. Raja's wife
12. Strong desire
15. Eucalyptus-loving marsupials
20. Beside, archaic
22. Exclamation of suspicion
24. What prompter does
25. \*She followed the white rabbit
26. Lakes in Scotland
27. Asimov or Mizrahi, e.g.
29. Syrian neighbor
31. Plural of #70 Across
32. \_\_\_\_\_ signs
33. Light shade of blue
34. \*Girl from the Swiss Alps
36. Comedy Central's "\_\_\_\_\_ O"
38. \*Corduroy, e.g.
42. Phlegms
45. Strong point
49. Who \_\_\_\_\_ the prize?
51. \*Robin Hood or Eragon, e.g.
54. Bible song
56. African antelope
57. \*Toot and Puddle or Frog and Toad, e.g.
58. \*"\_\_\_\_\_ & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship"
59. \*Bear with the biggest chair
60. Pre-college school
61. Appear
62. Viking name
63. Tear violently
66. Romanian money
68. Flanders of "The Simpsons"

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*

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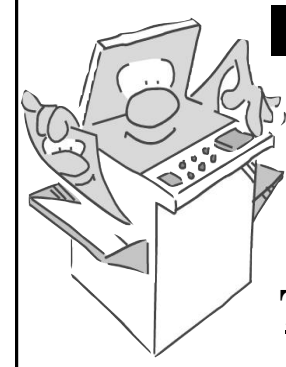
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**Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.**

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105 N. Broadway, Lowell

# Emerald Meadows Assisted Living Community celebrates anniversary

While most organizations mark "big" anniversaries - those that end in zero or five - Emerald Meadows Assisted Living Community believes every year is worth celebrating. This August marks their 13th anniversary of providing assisted living and memory support services in a warm, community setting and manager

Kathy Higgins is throwing another party.

"We started a few years ago when we reached our 10-year milestone," she says. "And we had so much fun with the friends and family who came to celebrate with us, we decided, 'This is something we need to do every year!'"

Celebrations have in-

cluded a picnic, special speakers, guest entertainers, and games. This year's 13th birthday party will be a carnival-style celebration - carnival games, carnival food and a bouncy house for the kids. Entertainer John Amos will return for a night of lively singing.

The public is welcome to join in the celebration. The fun begins at 4:30 pm on Thursday, August 9. Please RSVP to Sylvia by August 6 at (616) 954-2366. Emerald Meadows is a Providence Life Services community located at 6117 Charlevoix Woods Court SE in Grand Rapids.

# Rain falls on Riverwalk stage, cancels concert

by Emma Palova

Young and old concertgoers were disappointed last Thursday, as the much

Band was cancelled, the rain drops brought relief to the area suffering from drought.

droughts in history, as of Thursday there have been 24 days with a temperature of at least 90 degrees in



awaited rain fell on the Riverwalk stage.

Instead, they should have been dancing the rain dance like Donald Trierweiler and Braydon Schramm.

Lowell was one of the "lucky ones" to get any rain at all.

And even though the scheduled Steve Hilger

The ground and the Flat River eagerly soaked in the lifesaving water, releasing vapor into the dry air.

The wilting trees, shrubs and grasses immediately spruced up, along with the flowers in the planters by the Showboat.

In what is considered one of the country's biggest

West Michigan, tied with a record set in 1959. The average is five days.

Other than Lowell, some of the "lucky dogs" receiving rain were Alto, 0.93 inches; Ada, 1.02 inches; Grand Rapids, 0.7 inches; Greenville, 0.20; Hastings, 0.44 inches; and Rockford, 1.17 inches.

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**Happy 13th Birthday!**

Join us for a carnival-style celebration of our 13-year anniversary! Carnival games, carnival food, and a bouncy house for the kids will make this fun for the whole family. Entertainment by John Amos and a free raffle add to the excitement — come celebrate with us!

**Thursday, August 9 — 4:30–6:30pm**  
Please RSVP to Sylvia by August 6 — 616.954.2366  
*Mark your calendars! Bring your friends!*

**EMERALD MEADOWS**  
Assisted Living  
6117 Charlevoix Woods Court S.E.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546

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*If you had a banner last year, to rehang the existing banner the price will be \$100. Please drop them off at The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway.*

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