

Annual festival filled the fairgrounds with bluegrass music

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

What this year's FallFest, the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association's (WMBMA) fall music festival, may have lacked in attendance, it more than made up for in good, old-fashioned music.

The audience of about 70 was mostly older people, with a few in their 20s and 30s. Band members ranged in age from teenagers to retirees.

Bluegrass, a genre of country music, originated in the Appalachian Mountains in the late 19th century. The word "bluegrass" was first used by Bill Monroe in the 1930s. Bluegrass goes in and out of style and has been riding a wave of popularity since the soundtrack to the 2000 film "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" was a surprise hit. The CD has sold over seven million copies.

"Bluegrass is actually increasing in popularity," said WMBMA president Lee Strassburger.

"Everybody knows Alan Jackson, the great country western singer; he just cut a bluegrass album. Bluegrass is still hot."

No electric instruments or amplifiers were allowed on the stage, although some groups were able to plug in to the P.A. for a little more volume.

"Your typical bluegrass band has one guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo and a bass," Strassburger said. "There's usually at least three people who will usually sing in a group."

Bands from all over West Michigan were on the bill, along with groups from Ohio and Kentucky.

"I'm always looking for up-and-coming bands who are hot, who you know are going to be big," WMBMA talent booker Jim Strangways said. "We got a great line-up."

Among the activities during the festival



Jamming in the campground.

were several instrumental workshops.

"We have mandolin, fiddle, guitar and singing workshops," Strassburger said, "and we get anywhere from 10 to 15 people per workshop. They'll show you new things on the guitar. Usually we get somebody

who's really good on the guitar to give a lesson and a lot of people who go to those are beginners, who are trying to learn bluegrass music."

Another interesting activity was called the "band scramble."

"You put your name and the instrument you play

in a hat," Strassburger said. "Then we pick out the bands by drawing names from the hat. Whoever you draw, that's who goes in the band. They get one hour to come up with three or four songs

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Alto Harvest Festival was packed with fun

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Small town charm, perfect fall air and a celebration of the changing season came together on Saturday, September 21 when the 33rd annual Alto Harvest Festival & Car Show took to the streets of downtown Alto for a day packed with activity and entertainment for the whole family.

James Carey, who is on the festival planning committee and spearheads the car show portion of the event, was excited about this year's big turnout saying, "It was a banner year" for both the festival and the car show, which is in its seventh year of being on the schedule of events.

Festivities kicked off

early with a well-attended pancake breakfast at the Fire Barn which benefited the station. Opening ceremonies took place next at the newly installed shelter/stage area provided to the community by funds donated by the Alto Downtown Development Authority. The white pavilion style stage was alive with music for the rest of the event, which ran until 3:00 pm, as a series of talented local performers shared their talents with festival attendees. First among them were the Caledonia String Players who were followed immediately by Lowell High School's popular Fusion Rock Orchestra. Young trio The Piping Hot Pizza Boys

occupied the stage after a mid day break for the half hour parade and were followed by recording artist and Caledonia native Crisi Dykstra who rounded out the day's musical entertainment line up.

A baking contest sponsored by the Ice Cream Caboose, who also participated as a vendor with their mobile ice cream shop The CaBus, was won by first time entrant and lifetime Alto resident Kate Hopkins. "I was ecstatic because I never win anything!" exclaimed Hopkins. Her entry, Creamy Lemon Oat Bars, earned her both a ribbon and a check for \$25. All entrants were asked to bring double entries for

the contest so that one could be used for a game of Baking Bingo. The American Legion also hosted games of bingo inside the post.

Food was plentiful at the event with seven local vendors selling everything from elephant ears to hot dogs and pie to pizza at family friendly prices. The Alto Lions' Club once again served their popular option of fish and fries and the American Legion offered a sloppy joe meal deal. A new food addition to the festival was the availability of a farmers' market right at the festival. The produce stands were an extension

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Martin and Lorema DeYoung watch the festivities from the corner near a 1968 Chevy El Camino.

Get ready to do the Harvest Hustle

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

If you're into walking, running or hustling while wearing a wacky costume, you'll want to clear Saturday, October 12 on your calendar.

Put on by Lowell Community Wellness, the "Harvest Hustle Family Fun 5k Walk/Run" is in its ninth year.

The race, which will

begin and end at Cherry Creek Elementary School, starts at 9 am. Participants should be on site at 8:30 for registration. Following the race, there will be a costume contest with prizes given for the best and most unique disguises.

The cost to participate is \$10 for students between ages 14 and 18, including seniors over 65. Individual

adults pay \$20 and entire families can enter for \$45. Children under 13 participate for free. All proceeds benefit Lowell Community Wellness.

Check the Lowell Community Wellness website, lowellcommunitywellness.org, for further details.

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The Scenes



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Ask the principal

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

It is obvious that Randy Fleenor loves being the principal at Alto Elementary. The southernmost building in the Lowell school district. Throughout the duration of our interview and the tour that preceded it, his enthusiasm and pride were apparent. The rurally set K-5 building, which will debut their brand new and expanded driveway funded by the Alto Downtown Development Authority (Alto DDA) next week, has been headed for over half a decade by Fleenor, whose distinct personality and sense of humor are as unique as the school itself.

(Ledger) How did you come to be the principal at Alto Elementary?

(Fleenor) I had been commuting from Lowell to Lansing for several years working at a school there. My family had been living in the Lowell area for about 12 years at that time, so I had always wanted to work for the district. I heard about the opening, applied and it worked out.

(Ledger) What is the parent reaction to the newly constructed driveway?

(Fleenor) Anyone who has had children here understands how cramped it has become, so I think everyone is excited about it. Safety is the top priority and this will improve safety. Of course, patience is the key as it is being completed. Everyone has been flexible.

(Ledger) What kind of support does the school receive from the Alto community?

(Fleenor) Well, The Alto DDA has donated upwards of a half million dollars over the past five years. We have all worked hard at making this community meeting place better for all. I have nothing but gratitude for this group. They are committed to the Alto area. They see a need and attack it. We also see a lot of support from the Alto Lions' Club. They make annual donations, host a Christmas party complete with gifts for all the kids and even pay for eye exams and glasses for students. They are another great group of people in Alto.

(Ledger) What advantages are there to the rural setting of your school?

(Fleenor) Fresh air and well water. There are studies, I am sure, that prove these give you a leg up!

(Ledger) What is the best thing about your job as principal?

(Fleenor) Endless variation in your day. I am ADHD. Ask my secretary.



Principal Randy Fleenor on the job at Alto Elementary

(Ledger) During your time as an educator, what was one of the most endearing moments? The funniest?

(Fleenor) Most endearing, seeing students really rally and get behind projects that help others. When you see kids, especially your own, put others before self, well it is pretty powerful.

The funniest, a student bringing in a live chicken for show and tell...found it in the backpack! And my discussions with a kindergartener about starting a unicorn ranch someday!

(Ledger) What are some of the goals you have set for the 2013-14 school year?

(Fleenor) First, safety. Second, that each child finds the success they need this year. Third, that both students and parents have a happy and enjoyable year.

(Ledger) What change from state government would help education most?

(Fleenor) If they came out and volunteered in a school for a week I think the "walking in their shoes" concept would really help them with perspective.

(Ledger) What new roles is technology taking in your building?

(Fleenor) It is a game changer. We are really teaching kids how to teach themselves in the digital age. The only guarantee is that things will not stay the same.

(Ledger) What makes Alto Elementary unique?

(Fleenor) Easy. The staff and students. The best, ever.

(Ledger) How do you help fifth graders make the transition to secondary school?

(Fleenor) Over communicating with their parents about middle school details and remind them we haven't lost anyone yet.

(Ledger) How do you prepare young learners for success in the next stages of education?

(Fleenor) Build confidence. Discouragement is the foundation of an unsuccessful life.

(Ledger) How can parents better help young students achieve educational success?

(Fleenor) Be positive about learning in front of their children. Not just going to school, but learning every day.

(Ledger) What is the best thing about Alto students?

(Fleenor) Heart.

(Ledger) What do you think are the three most important factors in elementary education?

(Fleenor) A dedicated and selfless staff. Willing and open student minds. Supportive and flexible parents. These things equal a successful school.



along main street

FLU SHOT REMINDER

No cost/low cost flu shots for Kent County residents age 60 to 64 will take place Thurs., Sept. 26 from 10 am to noon at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

VOICE TOWN HALL MEETING

Discussion of current events in government and community owned utilities. Everyone is welcome. Sept. 26 at 6:30 pm at the Englehardt library meeting room.

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS

Ready, Set, Move, senior exercise class will start Sept. 30 at the Lowell YMCA on Mondays and Fridays from 10:45 to 11:45 am. For more information call 855-9570.



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Stress Relief & Relaxation Workshop - Join Kelly Doherty, an occupational therapy student, for this class that is focused on a primary strategy for stress management--relaxation! It is designed to inform about various relaxation techniques, as well as soothe the mind and calm the body. Please register in advance. Tues., Oct. 1, 6-7:30 pm. **"Look Good, Feel Better"** - This program, presented by the American Cancer Society, will help women in treatment for cancer with appearance-related side-effects. Please sign up as class size is limited. Tues., Oct. 8, 1-3 pm. **Woodcarving** - Learn how to make easy and beautiful wood carvings with Doug Shassberger. Beginners are welcome and supplies are provided. Tues., Oct. 15, 3-4 pm. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow

STORY TIME WITH KDL

The Flat River Outreach Ministries will be having a story time with Kent District Library at the food pantry on the first Wednesday of every month, from 5 to 6 pm starting Oct. 2.

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.

The Laurels of Kent Howl'Fest

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Annual Ride for Warriors Bike Tour raises funds for Vets

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Bicyclists hit the streets of rural Kent and Ionia counties despite the cool weather Sunday, September 15, for the second annual Ride For Warriors Bike Tour. The fundraiser, began by biking enthusiast and Alto resident Ellen Seese, raised \$600 through its efforts which will be donated to war veterans via the Disabilities Advocates of Kent County (DAKC).

The tour, which included optional 12, 21 and 50 mile routes, both began and ended at the Alto American Legion where many participants enjoyed breakfast. Those opting for the longest ride were also welcomed for rest stops at

both the Lake Odessa VFW and the Saranac American Legion along their way.

Many of the events registered 21 riders, including locals from Cedar Springs to travelers from Indianapolis, IN, arrived to be a part of the effort, sharing some personal affiliation with the military, whether they themselves were veterans or supported loved ones in the service past or present. Seese herself, who created the ride when she could not find a similar event to participate in, has a son, Raymond, who graduated from the United States Naval Academy this past May and is currently serving as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marines. Two of her

nephews have seen seven deployments between the two of them to either Iraq or Afghanistan. "They sacrifice a lot for us and many of us do not think about what is sacrificed for freedom," said Seese, whose uncle and father-in-law were also veterans. "The need to give back is strong."

Last year's raised funds were distributed directly to two local veterans by the DAKC to make improvements to their homes to better accommodate their service related disabilities. Seese says that the DAKC works often with veterans in an effort to "keep them in their homes and keep them independent." The moneys from this year's event will

be distributed in the same way, this time making a much needed bathroom modification for a disabled Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Participation was slightly down this year but Seese still feels

positive about the amount accomplished by those who joined her at the event. "While I had fewer riders, I had more people who donated money," she said. Seese plans to continue organizing the charity ride

long into the future with the dedicated assistance of her husband Paul, daughter Leannah and some great friends who have been along for the "ride" of turning her unique fundraising idea into a hero-assisting reality.

Rough landing for local pilot

Emergency personnel responded to reports of a plane crash at the Lowell City Airport on Lincoln Lake Ave SE this past Monday at around 6:40 pm.

Original reports claimed that the plane in question had flipped over on

its top but the Kent County Sheriff's Department reports that did not occur describing the occurrence as more of a hard landing than a crash.

A 51 year old Lowell native, and only passenger aboard the small yellow two person plane, escaped the

incident without injury. The plane itself only incurred minor damage.

A report of the incident will be sent to the Federal Aviation Administration for review.


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BIGGEST TREE CONTEST

In the city of Lowell is on for 2013. The contest is being sponsored by the Lowell Arbor Board. This is the fourth annual Big Tree Contest.

To be eligible the tree must be in the Lowell city limits and the deadline is Oct. 31, 2013. The top three entries receive plaques that can be placed on or adjacent to the tree.

Some previous winners of the Biggest Tree Contest:
2008 - 725 Bowes Rd., Oak; 2009 - Oakwood Cemetery, Oak;
2010 - 412 N. Division St., Elm;
2011 - 701 Amity, Oak; 2012 - 904 Monroe St., Oak @ 166"

CONTEST DETAILS

- Tree size will be confirmed by an arborist & a professional landscaper.

Entry form available at City Hall or City of Lowell website: www.ci.lowell.mi.us

- - - - - **ENTRY FORM 2013** - - - - -

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____
Location of tree within the city limits (nearest cross streets): _____
Species of tree (if known): _____
Girth of tree in inches (as measured 4.5 feet above the ground): _____
Landowner of property where tree is located: _____
Landowner phone(s): _____

Entries postmarked by Oct. 31, 2013 to:
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outdoors

don't miss out

Dave Stegehuis

Deer hunting is such a big part of Michigan culture that people who don't hunt are still aware when the hunt is taking place. At one time schools and factories closed for opening day of firearm season because only a few would show up for class or work that day.

The opening of small game season was also a big deal. Today, however, rabbit, squirrel, and grouse season opened on the 15th of September, and only those who hunt small game are aware of the open season.

The people who pursue small game in the fall are as enthusiastic and dedicated as any big game hunter. Roaming the northern forests on the chance of flushing a grouse (we used called them partridge or "pats") is a very relaxing and enjoyable experience whether or not game is bagged. Small game hunting with a dog takes the

experience to another level. The best grouse hunting is in the U.P., so hunters and their bird dogs came from other states to hunt grouse and woodcock. Both of these species are found in heavy cover and a good pointer can locate sitting birds and allow the hunter to approach and flush the bird and possibly get a shot at a fast flying target. The companionship of a well-trained bird dog is what motivates the majority of upland game hunters to return to the colorful fall woods every year.

The rabbit population varies where cottontails are found in the southern regions of the state and snowshoe hares in the north. Both species hop around in the central regions of the state. Rabbit hunting can be experienced without a dog and provides many hours of enjoyable hunting for young and old. Rabbits are

traditionally hunted with a beagle or several hounds in a pack. A buzzer or bell on a bird dog helps to keep track of it in cover, while the raucous yip and howl of a beagle on a hot trail informs the waiting hunter of what is going on with the chase. The hunt is all about the dog for many hunters.

Pheasants are more difficult to find now, but efforts are being made to bring them back, so the determined pheasant hunter can find game somewhere. Sharp-tail grouse are hunted in the U.P., but require a special license endorsement to hunt.

Small game hunting is easily overlooked, but those in the know will be out there enjoying the season. Many of today's avid hunters were introduced to the hunting lifestyle in the squirrel woods. If you haven't hunted small game, it may be worthwhile to check into it and find out what you have been missing.



At Your Local Library

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

Connect with an Author: Mo Willems

Share your love for this award-winning children's author through books, crafts, and games. We will even write him a letter! For all ages. Thurs., Oct. 3 at 10:30 am.

Genetic Roulette: The Gamble of Our Lives, A Film by Jeffrey M. Smith

Produced by the Institute for Responsible Technology, this documentary describes the potential health consequences of genetically-modified (GM) foods and crops. Sponsored by the nonprofit organization NoGMO4Michigan, this viewing will feature non-GMO popcorn. For adults. Wed., Oct. 16 at 6 pm.

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viewpoint

to the editor

even-handed reporting

Dear Editor:

Congratulations to your reporter, Justin Tiemeyer, for an excellent piece of reporting on the status of negotiations between the city, Lowell Light & Power and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW).

This was the most thorough, informative and even-handed explanation that I have read yet on the issues that are preventing a settlement.

Each side claims they want a "fair" contract. Unfortunately, the word

"fair" is a subjective term and means different things to different people. Now that a neutral, third-party fact finder has given his assessment of what is "fair," hopefully both sides will embrace his recommendations and finally reach a settlement based on those recommendations.

As for the suggestion by some that the negotiations be done in public....well, that is just silly and would not help the process.

Sincerely,
Tom Stahr
Ada

talks not over yet

Dear Editor,

Headline in the Sept. 18 Lowell Ledger (Union asks that public be included in contract negotiations). I would like to bring forth my views about that article. First, I would like to congratulate the Lowell Ledger for bringing forth such highly sensitive information related to the contract negotiations going on between the city of Lowell and the union members of the Department of Public Works and the Lowell Light and Power. It's a great article and if you have not read the article, I suggest you do.

This is a story about arrogance, deception, intimidation, power and control. It's a story about the loss of individual rights and job security. It was stated in the article that fact finders are a neutral third party appointed by the state in order to determine what contract wording would be fair for all parties involved.

The article also explained that after the fact

finder reviewed comparable union contracts, consulting applicable acts and laws and hearing arguments from each side, the employer's contract was found unreasonable in the face of the union's contract, which [was] described as fairly typical in labor contracts and recommending essentially the union proposed structure.

I read the whole article and I have come to the conclusion that unjust demands by management are the reasons why these negotiations have been dragging on for over 20 months causing not only sustained grief but an unwarranted monetary loss to the employees. This is not over yet and the community deserves the facts, so I hope the Ledger will continue to be diligent in their reporting. The community needs to rid itself of its dictatorial style of governing.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard
Lowell

where to draw the line

Dear Editor,

I want to take the time to commend some of our youth programs here in Lowell. My husband and I have been fortunate to have been involved in the youth football, wrestling, lacrosse and 4H programs as board members, coaches and advocates. We have so many willing volunteers in this community that step up to the plate to volunteer their time to help promote the growth of these sports and involve our kids for no more than a t-shirt or a thank you because they truly love the sport and our kids.

So it really upsets me to find out that gymnastic operates as a "non-profit," yet close to half of their income is paid out in a personal salary to their director. This just doesn't sit right with me. If they want to run it as a business and pay taxes like any other small business, I have no problem with her making whatever she wants, but don't use a non-profit so that she can personally gain.

The reason that I am addressing this now is because my daughter has been involved with gymnastics for close to seven years and when she decided after the first day of the fall session that she wanted to take the session off, I questioned the refund policy. I was told that it clearly states "No refunds will be given on or after the date of the first class," but it also stated, "If you

withdraw from a class within seven days of the class start date, a 50 percent refund would be given." We were well within seven days of the start date, but I was still told that I would not get anything back. So after several e-mails and pleading my case, she finally agreed to provide a 50 percent refund because she wanted to "be done with us."

I found this very unprofessional and this led me into doing a little research on the organization, as well as the refund policies of the other youth sports in this area. I talked to several other organizations and most of them agreed that they give full refunds within the first week or a full credit towards a future class and then after that, depending on the circumstances, they may give a full or partial refund. I understand that sports can be big business, but making money off from a child who no longer would like to participate, when you are operating as a "non-profit" is beyond comprehension.

So I just wanted to personally thank all of our volunteers, who are involved in mentoring our youth, for your time and commitment and thank the organizations that reinvest in their programs and athletes by keeping their "salaries" low or non-existent and do the right thing by our children.

Kim Taylor
Lowell

a clarifying voice

To The Editor,

After VOICE was mentioned several times in a front-page article in the September 18 edition of the Ledger, I felt it was appropriate that I remind readers of what VOICE is all about.

The group evolved after a number of citizens approached the late Ivan Blough, in the summer of 2009, about the sale of Lowell Cable TV by the city. Those folks felt that the decision should have gone to a vote of the people. Most of you are aware that through the efforts of VOICE the LCTV Endowment Fund was established. Our mission was and still is: To strive to

understand the issues our elected officials are facing. Tap into the creativity of our residents. Find positive ways to resolve problems in our local governments. Investigative branch – Utilize the technology and legal resources available to us to be better informed about governmental issues. Encourage school age children to become involved in their government, beginning at the local level.

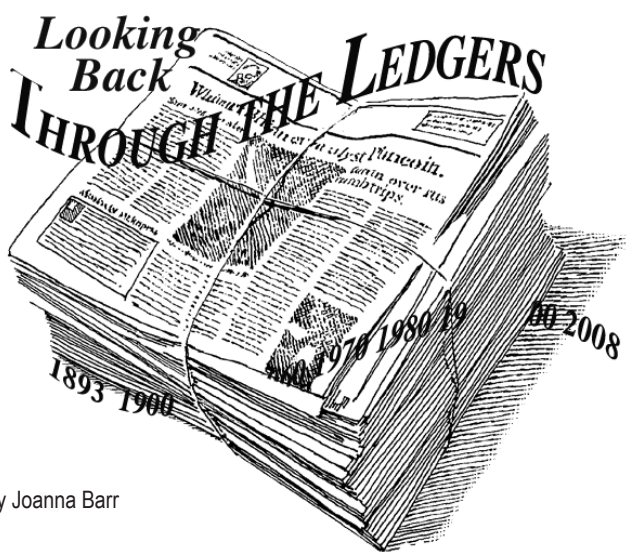
On the home page of our website, voiceoflowell.org, we state: "we take pride in our small city and surrounding communities. But we know it is never

To The Editor,
continued, page 14

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thelowelledger.com



By Joanna Barr

140 years ago Lowell Journal September 24, 1873

A lady in this village says she can't do a thing when the clock doesn't run. She works by the tick of the clock and when the clock stops she gets bewildered and doesn't know whether she is making soap or spanking the children. We advise those children to be good and keep the pendulum of that clock busy.

Mr. Giles Hatton, of Bowne, owned a 2,000 pound four-year-old Durham bull, which he kept for stock the past summer. He kept the animal in the stable, fastened by a rope attached to the ring in the nose. On Sunday morning [the 14th last.] he went in the stable to feed him, when Mr. Bull broke his rope and made for Mr. H., striking him in the abdomen. Mr. H. caught him by the horns and there was a lively time for a few minutes. Mr. H. called for help. His son in the house heard him and seizing a club as he ran, drove the bull back and rescued his father from death. Mr. H., it is

hoped, is not seriously injured, though he is bruised so as to be obliged to keep to his bed. That bull is now beef, Mr. H. having ordered him "slaughtered without delay."

125 years ago Lowell Journal September 21, 1888

Foster, Stevens & Co., of Grand Rapids, became alarmed about their pay and Saturday ordered deputy sheriff Hill to seize and return to them all he could find of \$500 worth of nails, screws, &c, which they had recently shipped to the Starr Cutter Company. It was feared at the time that their action would bring on other creditors and the works would be closed. They opened up as usual Monday morning, however, and there is no outward sign of more trouble.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 25, 1913

Old Ottawa Indian camps on land once owned by his tribe. Ionia, Mich., Sept. 23.—John Fronsway, an Ottawa Indian from Isabella county, is in Portland to investigate lands in Danby that were once owned by the Indians. He was a member of the tribe that left the locality in 1854. Arriving there with his wife, they walked from Portland to the Ingall farm in Danby and pitched their tent. He says he has been advised that they still have land interests there and wants to know how it happened that the Indians gave up their lands, which are now mostly owned by the Commonwealth Power company.

Advertisement: Slavery. The colored people were made free by a proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, so today we have more white slaves than black ones. The man who is only one step away from want, one step

Looking Back,
continued, page 14

Lowell Women's Club presents check to Gilda's Club of Lowell



Pictured holding the check, left to right: Jan Thompson, Gilda's Club president Wendy Wigger and Lowell Women's Club president Lori Ingraham.

The Lowell Women's Club and their junior members for the year 2012-2013 raised money from various activities, such as Christmas Through Lowell with crafts and luncheon; the Fallburg Fall Festival, soup and cookie dough sales, the sale of Enjoy the City coupon books, selling homemade jams and jellies, the Lowell Farmers' Market and serving as hostesses for the Annual Parade of Homes.

Through these activities the club was able to provide six college scholarships totaling \$7,000 plus an additional \$1,700 in charitable giving. The

charitable gifts went to Flat River Outreach Ministries for their annual North-South Food Fight campaign, the Lowell Pink Arrow Pride program, the Lowell Gilda's Clubhouse which provides assistance to those dealing

with cancer, the Lowell Area Historical Museum, St. Mary's Pregnancy Center, Alpha Women's Center, Safe Haven Ministries, The Ronald McDonald House, Schneider Manor and the Lowell Relay for Life.



- SEPTEMBER 25**
Carolyn Thaler, Sara Swift, Carol Wingeier, Patricia Mull.
- SEPTEMBER 26**
Micah Soyka, Jim Nikodemski, Torin Hacker, Alexis Shaffer.
- SEPTEMBER 27**
Brooke Tetzlaff.
- SEPTEMBER 28**
Bruce Weeks, Erin Doyle, Chad Newhouse, Tony Johnson, Matthew Foster.
- SEPTEMBER 29**
Orison Abel, Judy Baird, Kayla Brenk, Kelleigh Walling, Edward Stormzand II, Keaton Dilly, Cameron Dilly.
- SEPTEMBER 30**
Jimmy Hodges, Lowell Swift, Linda DeCator, Ray Zandstra, Mark Willmarth, Jay Thaler, Haley Main, Ernie Barnes, Jessica Spencer, Don VanSickle, Kyle Potter.
- OCTOBER 1**
Sue Zoodsma, Stephanie Foss, Justin Anes, Sara Schuitema Sandy Nikodemski.

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college news

The following Lowell High School graduates will receive the Donald Gerard, M.D. Honorary Medical Scholarships for the coming school year of 2013-2014. Kelsey Crowley, third year student at The New York Medical College in Westchester County, New York; Lindsey Hoogenboom, third year student at Case Western Medical School in Cleveland, Ohio; Erin Beddows, second year student at Michigan State

College of Human Medicine in Grand Rapids; Alexander Harrington, second year student at Drexel University Medical School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Kenneth Hayes, second year student at the University of Michigan College of Medicine in Ann Arbor; and Haley Getzen, first year student at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. These recipients were recognized at the Pink Arrow football game on September 6, 2013.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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area churches

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Worship Service.....Sunday -10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)
Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.

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
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2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.fbcloell.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
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10:30 A.M.Fellowship
11:00 A.M.Worship

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WEDNESDAYS:
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"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street
897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
Barrier-free entrance

WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....9:30 a.m.
YOUTH GROUPS (JR. & SR. HIGH).....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday After-School Kids' Club until 5:30 p.m.

Rev. Rick Blunt

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Alto Harvest Festival, continued

of the seasonal farmers' market that already takes place in Alto. "It just seemed appropriate at a harvest festival," explained Carey. Alongside the wide variety of fun dining options, arts and crafts vendors also set up shop to sell their homemade and unique goods to festival visitors. "We had a few more crafters this year than in

previous years," mentioned Carey.

Free kids' activities were the highlight of the day for many of the families in attendance. The green space outside of the Alto Baptist Church was filled to the brim with activities directed at kids of all ages, including two full size inflatable bounce houses. Whispering

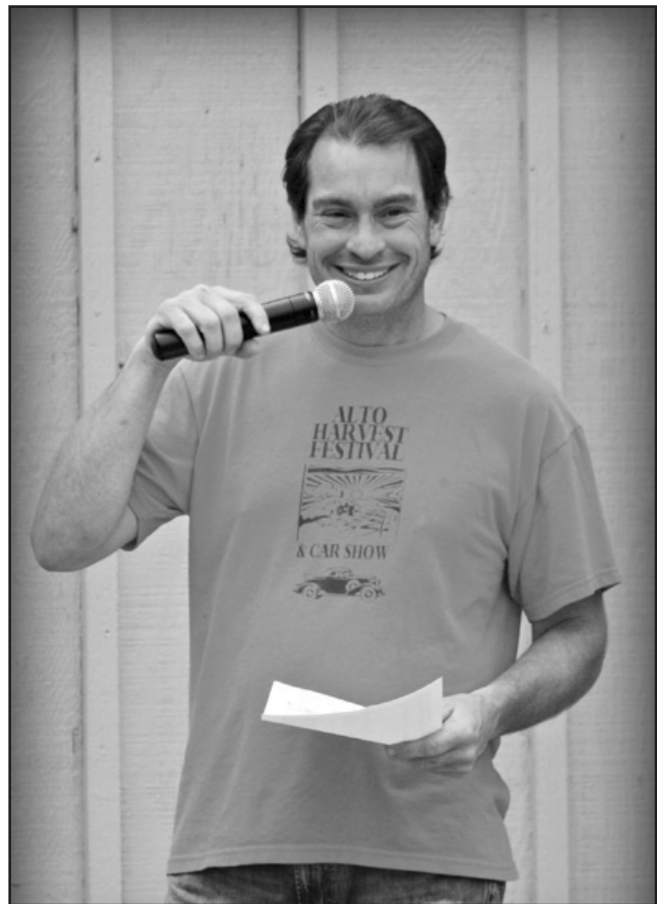
Pines Mobile Zoo brought along an entire petting zoo complete with goats, cows and even a more exotic camel. Lines of enthusiastic youth waited for the gifted artist at the face painting booth and a local balloon stretcher also provided fun and smiles. A kid's scavenger hunt, sponsored by the Graham Family Farm, was also enjoyed by many. Magna Mirrors sponsored one of the most unique youth events at the festival, the Puff-n-Pedal Pull. Participants from age 3-10 vied for trophies in front of a large and supportive crowd in a miniaturized version of a traditional tractor pull using their own physical pedal power to move the pint sized tractor. Jacob Hoeksma was announced the winner at the close of the competition.

Carey says the committee works hard to provide all of the activities at little or no cost because they know how important it is for the event to be affordable for families adding that their ability to do so "is due to the generous sponsors and the support we get from the community."

Over 180 cars registered for this year's car show portion of the festival, a record for the event. Cars and their enthusiastic owners lined the distance of Depot



Whispering Pines Mobile Zoo provided a free petting zoo that included this nuzzling camel.

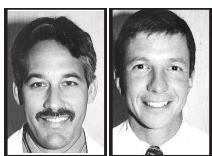


Car show coordinator and host James Carey during the awards ceremony.



Classic cars lined the streets of Alto.

health



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



Anemia is a condition in which one does not have enough red blood cells. Red blood cells contain hemoglobin. Hemoglobin enables the cell to carry oxygen to the body. There are many different causes of anemia, including blood loss, vitamin A (VA) deficiencies, genetic disorders, and an abnormal destruction of red blood cells.

The most common

causes of anemia are iron deficiency, VA deficiencies, anemia of chronic disease, bone marrow disorders, and hemolytic anemia (abnormal destruction).

Many factors can increase your risk of anemia, including poor diet, intestinal disorders like Crohn's disease or Celiac Sprue; or surgical removal of the intestine, menstruation, pregnancy, chronic conditions involving

the kidney or liver, fatigue, paleness of skin, shortness of breath, dizziness, chest pain, headache, and unusual coldness of hands and feet.

Common symptoms of anemia are fatigue, paleness of skin, shortness of breath, dizziness, chest pain, headache, and/or unusual coldness of hands and feet.

Anemia can also be mild in which case you will not notice any symptoms.

A visit to your doctor can help discover anemia by a physical exam, lab tests/blood counts and other tests to evaluate your gastrointestinal (GI) tract.

Treatment will depend on the specific cause. At times, even a blood transfusion may be needed before a cause can be identified and treated.



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City Looks Salons

Bluegrass, continued



The well-worn banjo of NewTown's J.R. Williams.

and they get up and do them on stage. It's a lot of fun."

Smoking and alcohol weren't allowed in the building where the bands played, so the real action was outside at the campground. Groups of people in circles played instruments together while dogs ran around their feet and passers-by stopped to listen.

Doug Lindhout, a bluegrass fan, parked his camper on the fairgrounds the Sunday before the festival started.

"We've got all these cool musicians here, who just roll through all festival long," Lindhout said. "You have a little beer and knock some stuff back with some people and it's been a lot of

fun. This is not your 'Peter, Paul & Mary' folk music."

"Last night I bet there was \$100,000 worth of instruments out here," Strangways said.

"A lot of guys come here and just jam all weekend," Strassburger said. "They'll be playing all night long in the campsites."

As three men played complicated, intricate bluegrass riffs on guitar, banjo and bass in front of a camper, Lindhout passed out beers and chatted with friends.

"The guitar player is a plumber, but it isn't about what you do," Lindhout said. "Are you a rich guy or a poor guy, who cares? Let's just play some music. The big joke in bluegrass is you can make tens of dollars."

The one act nearly everybody was excited to talk about was the duo of Billy Strings and Don Julin.

"You have to hear Billy Strings and Don Julin," Strassburger said.

"Billy Strings and Don Julin, holy cow," said Steve Albert, host of "Bluegrass & More" on Blue Lake public radio.

"His name is William Apostol and he's known as Billy Strings," Lindhout said. "This guy is the next big thing and we'll all be able to say we knew him when. He lives up in Traverse City and he's got that world turned upside down. They just love him. He's a monster."

In performance, Strings

was manic, stomping, jumping up and down, contorting and twisting his body while playing a torrent of notes on his acoustic guitar. Strings' vocals were rough at times, occasionally not in a very effective way, but bluegrass isn't really a genre where you want too much polish anyway. Julin, the author of "Mandolin for Dummies," was a stabilizing influence and provided a perfect musical and vocal counterpoint to Strings' furious energy.

Julin enjoyed playing at the festival.

"It's great to come to a bluegrass festival," Julin said, "and not a music festival that just has a band with a banjo somewhere in their line-up. This is really cool. Real bluegrass all day long."

Bluegrass fans might be right about the potential success of the Strings and Julin duo.

"We played the west coast this summer," Julin said, "and we're heading off to Boston and New York in November."

The next WMBMA festival will be at the Fairgrounds in June of next year. Even if bluegrass isn't your thing, you might want to plan on camping out anyway and bring your banjo.

"It's just fun, great, beautiful music," Albert said. "High energy. Even the sad songs are happy. It's just an infectious kind of music."

2013 HARVEST HUSTLE

5K FAMILY FUN RUN/WALK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2013

8:30a.m. REGISTRATION (Cherry Creek Elementary)

9:00a.m. START

Register on-line at signmeup.com

Contact info: info@lowellcommunitywellness.com

Cost: Registration fee includes event t-shirt. T-shirts available for preregistered participant only. Pre-registration strongly suggested.

\$10 Students (age 14-18)

\$10 Seniors (65+)

\$20 Adults

\$45 Families

Kids 13 and under Free (no t-shirt)

Costumes Encouraged



Race registration begins at 8:30a.m. at Cherry Creek Elementary School. The run will take you on a paved trail along Foreman St, Gee Dr, and Alden Nash. Participants will run to the corner of Foreman St and Alden Nash and then reverse course back to the Start/ Finish Line at Cherry Creek Elementary.

Run, walk or jog - have fun and get moving! The focus of this event is to encourage families to lead a healthy active lifestyle together.

Costumes are highly encouraged. Prizes will be awarded for race winners and best/unique costumes.



Billy Strings and Don Julin.

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Red Arrow SPORTS

- CROSS COUNTRY

Girls win Bob Perry invitational/boys take third

by Karen Jack

Both the girls' varsity and junior varsity teams won the Bob Perry cross country invitational, beating out Byron Center, Holland Black River, Grand Rapids Covenant, Saranac and Maple Valley. The boys' varsity team placed third, after Holland Black River

and Byron Center and the boys' JV team took first.

Placing for the girls were Lauren Blanchard in fifth with a 21:38.01 run, Rachael Walters in sixth with a 22:00.34 run and Haley Engles with a 22:26.58 run. Kyla Dixon took 13th (23:09.42), Mary

Leasure took 21st and Megan Khodl took 26th out of 46 runners.

Zac Diamond took sixth for Lowell in the boys' division, with an 18:08.98 run. Also placing for Lowell were Adam Marks (10th), Nick MacDonald (14th), Marc VandenBerg (22nd),

Kyle Cater (31st), Jon Wyckoff (38th) and Eric Judd (44th) in a field of 50.

Both the boys' and girls' JV teams took first. Three of Lowell's boys placed in the top five in the JV division, including Alex Bohr in first, Travis Brubaker in fourth and David Bjorelind in fifth.

The Lowell girls' JV team put six girls in the top ten. Desiree Striplin took second, and Emily Judd, Colleen Cater, Abi Cummings, Kelsey Emmanuel and Kristy Bobko placed fifth through ninth respectively.

Girls' coach, Sarah Ellis, was elated at how

well all the teams did for the day. "It's been a long time coming. We had 14 girls medal and I am just so proud of them," she said.

The teams travel to Carson City for an invitational on Saturday.

The time is yet to be determined.

Soccer ends the week on a high note

by Karen Jack

After a tough week on the field, losing to Caledonia in overtime on Tuesday and Grand Rapids Christian on Thursday, the Arrows came back to beat Cedar Springs on Saturday, 2-1.

Cedar Springs took the lead in the first half with a shot in the net, but the Arrows had a chance to tie it up with a penalty kick at the end of the first half. Senior captain Spencer Lyon

scored for the Arrows in that penalty kick attempt.

Lyon also scored the second and final goal of the game midway through the second half on a nice cross from Nick Proefke and an on-touch volley into the net.

The defense, led by Jake Sweet, Collin Pawlowski and Josh Theisen played well to hold Cedar Springs to only six shots. The Arrows were able to create

a lot of opportunities for scoring, but they struggled to find the back the net. They stayed tough, though, to pull out the win.

Head coach Rich O'Keefe was happy with their performance on Saturday. "Overall, the boys played with a lot [of] heart today, especially coming off

a couple one-goal losses. And they were determined to have a positive outcome. We will take this positive result as we prepare for the second half of our season."

The team travels to Forest Hills Central on Thursday, with game time at 6:45 pm.

At right: Goalkeeper Liam Kelly kicks the ball down the field.



Spencer Lyon takes control of the ball.



Jake Sweet takes the ball back from the opponents



Red Arrow Fall Sports Teams



varsity tennis

First row, left to right: Kyle Bell, Jeremy Bergin, Quinn Summerfield, Parker Groom, Blake Posthumus, and Caleb Kaufman; second row, left to right: coach Roger Wall, Keaton Pomper, Carter Noskey, Zack Ritchie, Matt Lazar, Luke Kloosterman, Zachary Fotis, and coach Bonnie Wall.



Red Arrow SPORTS

- TENNIS

Rough week on courts

by Karen Jack

The week started out tough for the Arrows, dropping the match against OK White foe, Caledonia 6-2, then placing eighth out of eight at the South Christian tournament on Saturday.

In their Caledonia match, Parker Groom was the only Arrow to win his match in the singles, although Zach Fotis gave his opponent a run for the money, losing 5-7, 4-6 in his match. The doubles team

of Luke Kloosterman and Keaton Pomper won their doubles match in flight one (6-3, 3-6, 6-3). Hanging tough and making their match go to three sets were flight three's Matt Lazar and Zach Ritchie for Lowell, but they couldn't hold on.

The Arrows traveled to South Christian on Saturday for a tournament, but had to leave their flight one and two singles (Fotis and Groom) and half of their flight one doubles players (Kloosterman) back at home, due to them all having to take the ACT test, which is the college admissions test. Team scores were Hudsonville 17, Northview

and South Christian each 16, Zeeland East 15, Byron Center 12, Unity Christian 9, Coopersville 6 and Lowell 5.

"I knew we'd have a tough day with three of our best players out," said coach Bonnie Wall. "It's difficult to do well when you're missing a quarter of your team."

The team will face #2-ranked Forest Hills Central on Monday, Sept. 23 and Grand Rapids Christian on Wednesday, Sept. 25. The Christian game is at home and begins at 4:15 pm.

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS' VARSITY TENNIS

- * Denotes a game at the high school tennis courts
- 9/25 at 4:15 p.m. GR Christian*
- 9/27 at 4 p.m. at Greenville
- 9/30 at 4:15 p.m. Jenison*

BOYS' & GIRLS'

VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY

- * Denotes a game at the high school campus
- 9/28 time TBA Carson City Invitational
- 10/2 at 5:30 p.m. Girls at 4:45 p.m. Jamboree at GR Christian

BOYS' VARSITY FOOTBALL

- * Denotes a game at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium
- 9/27 at 7 p.m. at FHC
- 10/4 at 7 p.m. at EGR

GIRLS' VARSITY GOLF

- * Denotes a game at Arrowhead Golf Course
- 9/25 at 3:30 p.m. Jamboree at Caledonia
- 10/2 time TBA Conference at Thornapple Pte.

BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER

- * Denotes a game at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium
- 9/26 at 6:45 p.m. at FHC
- 10/1 at 6:45 p.m. EGR*

GIRLS' VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

- * Denotes a game at Lowell High School
- 9/26 at 7:15 p.m. GR Christian*
- 9/28 at 8:30 a.m. West Ottawa Invitational



lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., Oct 2 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

...

Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and three-fourths theater.
~ Gail Godwin

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2013!

Calling all Lowell clubs, organizations, community groups, school sports teams, and any service men & women to participate in the Homecoming Parade.

Friday, October 11, 2013!

If interested please reserve your spot by contacting Nick at Lowell High School
Phone: (616) 987-2994
Email: nblough@lowellschools.com

Red Arrow SPORTS

- FOOTBALL

Arrows come out on top against #1 ranked Muskegon

by Karen Jack

In a clash of the Titans, the number three-ranked Red Arrows took it to number one-ranked Muskegon on Friday night in an epic "upset" with a final score of 31-20.

Muskegon was picked by every single source imaginable to win the game, but Lowell surprised everybody and came out strong, scoring in their first three drives and never letting up until zeros came up on the clock in the fourth quarter.

In fact, Muskegon only led once and that was in the first quarter when the Arrows failed on the extra point attempt on their first score due to a fumbled snap. Muskegon scored a touchdown after that and completed their extra point attempt. It was all over for them after that though. The Arrows never let up and never let them lead for the rest of the game.

Running back Dylan Brower credits the defense for how well they played. "Our defense was tough tonight and they never let up," said Brower. "You can't win these big games without a tough defense." The defense held Muskegon to only 79 rushing yards compared to Lowell's 201 yards.

Kanon Dean opened up the scoring for Lowell on a 20-yard run to throw the first punch of the game. After Muskegon scored on their first possession, the Arrows came right back to score again on a Kyler Shurlow pass to Josh Branagan for ten yards for the touchdown. The Arrows went for two on the extra point attempt, but were unsuccessful and took the lead at 12-7. Muskegon fumbled on their next possession at their own 28-yard line and Lowell's Josh Colegrove recovered it, setting Lowell up for an easy score. Shurlow ended up crossing the goal line on a one-yard run to take Lowell up 18-7 and Dean ran it in for the two-point attempt.



Jeff Houston outruns the defender for yardage.

Once again, Muskegon fumbled on their next possession at the Lowell 42-yard line, with Max Dean recovering the fumble, but the Arrows couldn't capitalize on it to end the first half up 20-7.

Muskegon came out of the locker room in what looked like a stealthy comeback attempt, scoring a touchdown on their first drive, but Lowell came right back with a score of their own on a Shurlow rush of three yards, after passes to Ben Bigham for nine yards, Kyle Blough for 15 yards and Jeff Houston for 14 yards. Brower rushed for another six in the drive. Again, Lowell scored on the two-point conversion on a pass from Shurlow to Grant Peterson.

Going into the fourth quarter up 28-14, the Arrows got down to the Muskegon 16-yard line and relied on kicker Austin Bieri for the field goal to put them up 31-14. Muskegon had to punt on their next drive, but Lowell fumbled the ball and it was recovered by Muskegon. In a strange twist, the player that recovered it was down on the ground, so the Arrows thought he was down, but

no whistle ever blew and Muskegon ran the ball in for a touchdown to score for the last score in the game.

Leading the team in rushes were Shurlow with

104 and Brower with 68. Shurlow went 14 for 18 in passing for a total of 139 yards. Branagan led the receivers with 43 yards, followed by Bigham with 38 and Houston for 34.

Defensive leaders were Andrew Metternick with seven tackles. Shurlow, Houston and Josh Colegrove had five tackles each.

"I'm happy with the outcome tonight and how our kids worked the whole game to stay tough and never give up," said Noel Dean, head coach. "We don't have any superstars on this team. We're just a bunch of ugly mutts who all work together to get the job done. Muskegon's a great team and we made them fight the whole game. I'm just really proud of these kids tonight."

The Arrows travel to Forest Hills Central to open up conference play on Friday. Game time is 7:00 pm.



Austin Bieri kicks the field goal while Andrew Metternick holds the ball.



Jeff Houston (#10), Kyle Blough (#6), and Kanon Dean (#7) all stop the Muskegon rusher.

Running with the Pack Honors Andy Nauta with Summer Poker Run August 24

Thanks so much to all the bikers (84 plus) who participated in the Andy Nauta Memorial Ride. Special thanks to the Alto Legion who sent everyone off with coffee & donuts; Dave & Mary Burns, owners of Alto Bar, who cooked the pork to perfection; the wait staff who kept us all content; the days of planning by Pat Cornish of Pat's Auto Repair Services & his big bro - Paul of Straight Up Lift Truck Services who kept the action rollin' with raffles, a firework display & the Chicago jazz band, Guinness Brothers (Love the Sax); and the generosity of Chey Williams who donated his 50/50 winnings back to the benefit.

I know all who were able to attend felt Andy's presence & helped rock Alto - just as he loved doing. The Family will never forget your kindness or the memories made and shared!

Mark & Becky Nauta, Carrie, Nate & Chris

LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of
Sept. 30, 2013

MON: Sloppy Joe Scoops, served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake; mini soft pretzel w/string cheese & yogurt, served at Bushnell; baked beans, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, broccoli florets, chilled mixed fruit, apple, milk.

TUES: Baked BBQ chicken w/biscuit, seasoned corn, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, applesauce, fresh grapes, milk.

WED: scrambled eggs w/ sausage & biscuit, hashbrowns, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh cherry tomatoes, fresh pear, orange wedges, milk.

THURS: Homemade macaroni & cheese, seasoned broccoli, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, fruit goop, banana, milk.

FRI: Homemade cheese pizza on WG crust, green pepper strips, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, green pepper strips, mandarin oranges, pears, milk.

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obituaries

DETMERS

Elsie Detmers, age 89, of Lowell and Lake Placid, FL; passed away Saturday, September 21, 2013, after a very wonderful life.

She has rejoined her loving husband, Paul J. Detmers; son-in-law, James B. Cook Jr.; and four siblings. Surviving are three daughters, Karlene (Ron) Redder, Berdie Lou Cook, Paula Jane (Daniel) Kruger; nine grandchildren, Scott (Sarah) Floyd, Laurie Floyd, Chad (Veronica) Redder, Jamie (Christopher) Frain, Jennifer (Aaron) Kik, Cindy (Randy) Flynn, Zachary (Meagan) Kruger, Noah (Devon) Kruger, Jedidiah Kruger; 13 great-grandchildren and her sister, Carolyn Hansma. Elsie was a life-long resident of the area where she worked alongside of her husband running the farm in Keene Township. For over 50 years she has been a member of the Girls Card Club where she has maintained many special friendships and was a member of the Lake Placid Elks Club. The family will receive family and friends at the Metcalf and Jonkhoff Funeral Chapel on Tuesday from 2:00 to 4:00 and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and for one hour prior to the service at The First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St. Lowell. The funeral service will be held at the church at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday with the Rev. Rick Blunt officiating. Interment to follow at Rest Haven Cemetery, Belding. For those who wish, memorials may be made to Odyssey Hospice or to First United Methodist Church of Lowell. The family is being served by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service 4291 Cascade Rd., SE, at Kenmoor, E. of I-96 www.metcalfandjonkhoff.com



Memorial will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to: Mackenzie's Animal Sanctuary, 8935 Thompson Rd., Lake Odessa, MI 48849. You're whole again Mom! God has you in His hands, we have you in our hearts.

YURKINAS

Esther (Haskill) Yurkinas, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, cousin, aunt and friend. Esther "Chickie" Yurkinas, 76, of Lowell, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 21, 2013, at Heartland Health Care, Ionia, after a long battle with dementia.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elton and June Haskill; son, Joseph M. Yurkinas. She is survived and forever missed by her children, Gregory, Catherine, Valarie, Vincent and Jill Renee; her sisters and brother, Elsie, Jean, Karen and Sidney; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; many cousins, nieces and nephews. Mom loved books, history, animals, family and friends. Per her wish, cremation has taken place.



Memorial will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to: Mackenzie's Animal Sanctuary, 8935 Thompson Rd., Lake Odessa, MI 48849. You're whole again Mom! God has you in His hands, we have you in our hearts.

Back to school checklist could include Social Security

If your son or daughter is a high school student turning 18, you've probably spent some time shopping for school supplies and the latest fashions, working out the schedule for the academic year, maybe even looking into colleges.

If your young senior is collecting monthly Social Security benefits, here's one more thing to add to your "Back-to-School" checklist.

To make sure that Social Security benefits continue beyond age 18, eligible students must obtain certification from school officials that they are still in high school and provide it to Social Security. Otherwise, monthly Social Security benefits automatically stop when a student turns 18.

For more information about Social Security student benefits, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/schoolofficials. The website

outlines how the process works with instructions on what the student and school official must do to ensure that benefits continue past the student's 18th birthday. With the appropriate certification, Social Security generally does not stop benefits until the month before the month the student turns 19, or the first month in which he or she is not a full-time high school student, whichever is earlier.

Some students receive Social Security survivors benefits because a parent is deceased. Others may get dependent benefits because their parent receives Social Security retirement or disability benefits. Benefits for minor children generally continue until age 18 — or 19 if they're still in high school. The only exception to this rule is if a student is disabled and eligible for childhood disability benefits. In that case, a separate application for benefits is required.

So as you're buying school supplies, trying out back-to-school fashions, and figuring out when the holiday break begins, don't forget the important step of visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/schoolofficials.

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

O'CONNOR

O'CONNOR, Hazel Belle - Lowell Hazel was born Hazel Chase to Miles and Lena Chase (Deacon) in Walkerville, MI, she passed away Sunday, September 22, 2013 at her home. She attended Walkerville High School. She was employed by E.H. Sheldon in Muskegon. She retired from Stow Davis of Grand Rapids, MI. Hazel was married December 31, 1953 to Frank O'Connor in Muskegon, MI. Surviving are son James O'Connor, sister Mary Chase of Muskegon, MI, brothers Philip Chase of Grand Bay, Alabama, Michael and Paul Chase of Walkerville, MI, stepson James Haralson and family of Bellevue, MI. She was predeceased by her husband Frank, her parents, sister Helen and brother James. A private graveside service will be held at Elbridge Township Cemetery in Hart, MI.



Memorial will take place at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to: Mackenzie's Animal Sanctuary, 8935 Thompson Rd., Lake Odessa, MI 48849. You're whole again Mom! God has you in His hands, we have you in our hearts.



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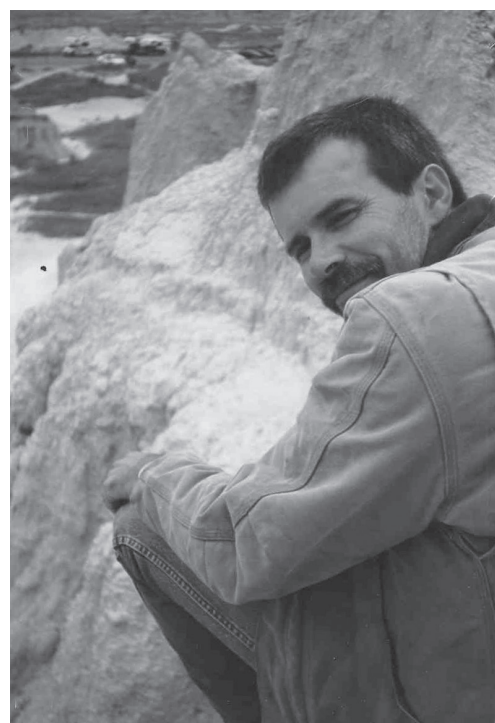
897-9555

GREG FORD

7/6/52 - 9/25/03

It's been 10 years since we had to say goodbye. We think of you often and wish you were here to watch your grandsons grow.

We're comforted knowing that you and Mom are together again and watching over us.



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

FEDEX NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE - for **PREPAID** boxes only. We will be able to process boxes to be delivered via FedEx soon. Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

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

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

ATTN: AREA VISION CARE PATIENTS - West Michigan Eyecare Associates is a private practice that is dedicated to maintaining that special relationship that exists between a patient & their family eye doctor. Call us for personalized care, 949-8500.

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

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809. 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

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

FREE HEAT & HOT WATER - Eliminate monthly heating bills with Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

ACREAGE FOR SALE - Ada, 10 wooded acres. Located on private drive. Prime building spot. \$99,900. Call 616-481-7702.

ACREAGE FOR SALE - Lowell Township, 14 acres. Was to be phase 2 & 3 of Cumberland Ridge Condo Development. Approved for up to 63 condo units. Bank owned. \$126,000. Crown Realty, Chris Graves, 262-6490.

for sale

WOOD FOR SALE - \$150 a cord, \$80 a half. \$45 face free starter bundle. Call 616-755-1515. Free delivery.

for rent

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

SARANAC - 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Call Ron or Marvie, 485-9703.

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

RENOVATED 2-BEDROOM VICTORIAN - (Circa 1870) home in Lowell. 8 rooms (original woodwork/stained glass) including a pantry w/floor-to-ceiling cabinets & bonus room. New kitchen/bathroom cabinets & fixtures. Newer fridge. Washer & dryer included. New gas furnace & central A/C. Utilities (except water) included. Newly painted inside & out. Yard maintenance provided. Sits on a one-acre wooded lot w/plenty of space to play. Only a 3-minute walk to historic downtown Lowell. No smoking. \$950/month. Call 312-203-7350 for details. Available Nov. 1, 2013.

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

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

wanted

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

CRAFT VENDORS WANTED - Christmas through Lowell at St. Patrick's, Nov. 15 & 16. Reasonable booth rental fee, closed Sunday. Information, 874-8070.

help wanted

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

HELP WANTED - Morning cleaning job. Must be 18 w/valid drivers license. For interview call 897-1119.

ANIMAL CAREGIVER - Looking for an ambitious, physically fit person to care for many small dogs in a large, impeccably clean facility. 2nd shift, includes some weekend hours. Alto area, 616-868-7382. E-mail resume to: animalcaregivers@outlook.com

GREEN ACRES LOWELL - an assisted living home is currently seeking a part-time direct care worker for 1st and 2nd shifts, experience preferred. Applicant must pass a background check and have a high school diploma or GED. If you have a passion to work with the elderly and truly want to make a difference then we want you! Apply in person at: 11530 Fulton Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

sales

TOTS FALL PRESCHOOL ALMOST NEW SALE - Oct. 5, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Cherry Creek Elementary, 12675 Foreman. FREE to shop! FREE to sell! Call Lori at TOTS to reserve a space! 987-2532.

MOVING - Quality furn. reasonable. No dishes, clothes, tools or junk! Sat., Sept. 28, 1-4 p.m. 1305 Highland Hill Dr., Lowell.

ALLEGAN ANTIQUE MARKET - Sunday, Sept. 29. 400 exhibitors. Rain or shine. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., located at the Fairgrounds, right in Allegan, Michigan. \$4 admission. No pets.

SLAM BAM BARN SALE - 13435 Grand River Dr., Lowell. Sept. 26 thru Sept. 29 (Thurs. thru Sun.) 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check out the common and unusual! Furniture (couch, chairs, computer desk, tables, round Oak dining table w/4 chairs, bar stools), clocks, antiques, housewares, framed wall art, saxophone, workout equipment, fishing stuff, ladies purses, some ladies clothes, men's suits and more! More stuff coming in before sale date.

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 There is a Drop Box in the Door Closest to the Post Office if you need to drop something off to us after hours.
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card of thanks

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

who reached out to our family after the recent death of our wife/mother, Morna Ford. Thank you for your prayers, your visits, phone calls, cards, flowers, meals and memorials. Thank you to Rev. Rick Blunt for the beautiful service, the UMW for providing the luncheon and to Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for helping with the arrangements. A special thank you to Steve and Shirley Carlson, who stayed with our dad until the family arrived.
 Bob Ford & family

THANK YOU

The Grant Higgins family would like to thank all of the friends, neighbors and relatives for your thoughts and prayers during our time of need. Your support was felt by all. The luncheon prepared by the Jesus Non-Denominational Church of Greenville and the special meals from everyone were appreciated by our family.

services

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

WALNUT HILL LAWN SERVICE - Mowing, rototilling, general cleanup, trim small trees & shrubs & fertilize. Free estimate, reasonable rates & licensed. Call Aaron at 616-328-9558.

TIME TO SHINE WINDOW WASHING - is running a fall special. Call for your free estimate & ask about our discount. 616-292-0695.

BASEMENT WATER-PROOFING - Professional Basement Services waterprooing, crack repair, mold remediation. Local/licensed. Free estimates. 517-290-5556.

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

services

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

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

SHIP YOUR UPS PACKAGES WITH US & SAVE!! - Call us for a price comparison. We will need: weight, zip code & dimensions of the box. No Hazardous materials or firearms accepted at this location. Daily UPS pickup at 3 p.m. Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9261.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - 14 to 20 yards available. Garage, attic, household cleanup, roofing, trash, junk etc. Dependable service & affordable prices. Call for free estimates. Contact Doug 616-295-6640.^{TFN}

Coming Events

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

VOICE TOWN HALL MEETING - Thurs., Sept. 26, 6:30 p.m. Discussion of current events in government & community owned utilities. Everyone is welcome. Englehardt Library meeting room. For more info contact Peggy Covert, 897-7948.

THE LOWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION - second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building, 300 High St., Lowell.

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALPHA WOMEN'S CENTER - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. 11-5 p.m.; Tues. 6-9 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m. 987-9533. Diapers, formula, clothing & free pregnancy testing available.

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

ALTOLIBRARYHOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m.

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

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

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday: 1-4 p.m. Families: \$10; individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER - 402 Amity. Mondays: 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Thursdays: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Non-denominational. Help for pregnant women/adolescents in need. Provides support, referrals, food, clothing/infant items. Lowell area. 897-9393.

LOWELL SERENITY CLUB MEETINGS - (AA) Mon., Wed., Thurs.: 12-1 & 8-9 p.m.; Tues. & Fri.: 12-1, 4:30-5:30 p.m. & 8-9 p.m.; Sat. & Sun.: 10-11 a.m. & 8-9 p.m. The first step is always the hardest. If your life has become unmanageable due to alcohol, please join us at 101 W. Main. 897-8565.

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

Looking Back, continued

from hunger, is a slave if he is white. He is not his own master. He is forced to accept just such terms as those to whom he is under bondage may dictate. A savings account at this bank will make you feel independent. You can start a savings account with one dollar and then deposit any sum you may desire. City State Bank. The bank that pays four per cent.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 22, 1938

Headline: Burglars enter business places during week-end, about \$100 taken at Strand. Lowell business places were plagued over the week-end by robberies that so far have been unsolved. The Strand Theater was broken into sometime after midnight. Saturday, the burglars made their entrance, then went to the 2nd floor where they obtained entry to the office by jimmying the door from its hinges. They broke into a locked desk drawer and obtained around \$87.00 in a money bag and more than \$10.00 in coins in a tin can. Candy bars and gum were also taken from the lobby. The William Mueller gas station at Foxes Corners was broken into the same morning. Entrance was gained through a window, the burglars taking about 75c in

pennies and a quantity of gum, cigarettes and candy. Early Monday morning the Curtis-Dyke Ford garage was entered through the ladies' restroom. About \$37.00 was stolen from a drawer, but over \$3.00 in the till was overlooked. No other merchandise was disturbed or taken from the garage. The robberies are being investigated by deputy Frank Stephens and marshal Fred Gramer, assisted by county and state police. Fingerprints have been taken and at the Strand theatre the burglars left behind evidence which may lead to their undoing. The burglary at the Strand was discovered by operator Leo Daverman when he went to the theatre about five o'clock Sunday morning just before starting on his regular trip to Detroit for films.

A transaction was completed here on Tuesday whereby H. J. Englehardt sold to Titus W. Hagar of the Hagar Lumber company of Grand Rapids, 66 feet of frontage on Main St. by 182 feet on Washington. This is the corner upon which stood for many years the "Gulliford Arms Apartment", which was razed a few months ago by Mr. Englehardt.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 26, 1963

Ten years ago this week... As part of the National Newspaper Week observance, the Ledger sent out a search call for the oldest Lowell paper in existence. C. H. Runciman came up with the first copy off the first press run of the first edition of Lowell's first newspaper—"The Lowell Weekly Star" dated September 12, 1860. Runciman had preserved the historic newspaper in a special metal container.

Two juveniles left a trail of cherry pie and jelly rolls to their hide-out and made it easy for Lowell police to catch them. After taking \$16.50, a cherry pie and 3 jelly rolls from Gold's Bait Shop on Riverside Drive, the two youths went to their tree hut. Police found them and their parents made restitution.

Lowell Light & Power got its first emergency failure since going on the R. E. A. lines Wednesday at 11:30. Breakers shut down the R. E. A. line and Lowell had three engines on the line and power back on in just

four minutes. The Lowell plant puts engines on the line during the co-op's peak load daily from 5 pm to 9 pm. This is the first emergency shut down of the power on the transmission line.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 28, 1988

Headline: District rejects millage increase, \$300,000 worth of board cuts await in the balance after voters say no to millage hike. Sitting on Dick Korb's desk this Tuesday morning, the morning after the millage election, was a folder tabled 1988-89 budget. It was opened to the page that read potential cuts. Those cuts have been changed from potential to probable after the Lowell School District was denied its request for a 2.9 mill increase in 1988-89 and an additional .3 mills in 1989-90 and 1990-91. "It's disappointing in that I felt the election was a decision to keep the programs intact, one that would allow voters to acknowledge their support to keep our quality programs intact," Lowell High School principal Dick Korb said. "Obviously that was not the case."

Thousands of people traveled around and through detours last weekend to get to Fallasburg Park and spend one of the nicest weekends this fall enjoying the sights, sounds, and tastes of the 20th Annual Fallasburg Fall Festival, sponsored by the Lowell Area Arts Council. With steady traffic in and out of the park each day, the ten nonprofit groups from the Lowell-Alto area felt like winners as their hard work reaped funds for all of their special projects in the year to come. There were some special winners, however, in three events. The first was the food booth contest. The groups who sponsor booths are urged to follow a theme in menu, booth design and worker costume. First prize in this competition went to the West Central Michigan Historical Society, the group who started the festival twenty years ago. Second prize was won by a new group, the Vergennes United Methodist Church and third prize also went to a festival newcomer, the Boy Scouts. Honorable mention went to the Congregational Church.

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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following request:

APPLICANT: Buyrite, LLC

REQUEST: A Special Use Permit and Site Plan Review to establish an Open Air Business for the purpose of displaying and selling used motor vehicles, mini-storage barns, and utility trailers on the following described property which is zoned General Commercial.

LOCATION & ADDRESS: The property is located at 11797 East Fulton Street which just west of the Meijer gas station on the north side of East Fulton Street. The property is occupied by a vacant building and consists of 1.25 acres. PP# 41-20-04-401-040.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2013
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI. 49331

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission

To The Editor, continued

enough to simply vote for our elected officials and then forget about what is happening in our government. "This is so important today when several issues are shaking the whole foundation of this city and the life we have enjoyed for many years. Someone mentioned to me last week that "the city (is) going down the same path as Detroit? The upper administration gets their huge pay raises, the council doesn't listen to the public and they are going to push the workers away." Have you seen pictures of Detroit lately? Much of it resembles cities that were bombed during World War II. Is that the legacy that we want to leave our children and grandchildren?

Contrary to what mayor Hodges stated in his letter to the editor on September 14, VOICE does not indulge in "negative aspects, personal attacks and implied wrong doings." Everything we have said is backed up by documentation and is factual.

A couple of years ago we organized a field trip to Greenville for some of our city officials to see the yard

waste program that their citizens enjoy. It is a self-supporting operation where yard waste is collected, composted and then sold to nurseries and landscapers. VOICE felt Lowell should stop requiring residents to pay to have our yard waste hauled away to landfills and start a similar program. When I asked council members, at a recent Coffee with Council, if they were ever going to consider a yard waste program for Lowell, I was told that they have more important things going on.

Really? Then why are the agendas for the city council meetings dwindling down from three or four pages two years ago to less than one page of business now? While the closed sessions have increased from just 2 in 2011 to 15 as of September 2013.

According to page 16 of the Michigan Employment Relations Commission Guide to our Collective Bargaining laws, fact finding, which is where the negotiations are now, "The hearing will be conducted in public." So why is the city council still meeting in closed session on the union

negotiations? We need some honesty and transparency in our government. Thankfully the article on page 3 of the September 18 Lowell Ledger tells us exactly what is going on. Negotiations fact finder, Lane Hotchkiss, stated, "(he) found the employer's contract unreasonable in the face of the union's contract." Is this what you expect from your city government?

We will ask these questions and more at our next Town Hall meeting at the Englehardt Library on September 26, 2013 at 6:30 PM. City council members and Lowell Light and Power board members have told us on several occasions that there aren't enough people in the community interested in what is happening for them to listen to us. Please come to the meeting and show them they are wrong.

We also encourage the Lowell High School government students as well as Boy and Girl Scouts to attend this meeting. We would love to hear from some young people on these issues.

Barb Barber
Lowell

**THEME:
FOOTBALL**

ACROSS

1. Dads
6. Common inquiries
9. *You can place a football one in Vegas
13. Throat dangler
14. Australian runner
15. Man with a mission
16. Sans-_____ font
17. Day _____
18. Deserving of respect?
19. Rains and snows together
21. *Start of the game
23. Greatest possible
24. Hit the road
25. Hair raiser
28. Affirmative
30. *A _____ defense uses five defensive backs
35. Smell
37. "_____ the night before Christmas..."
39. Ronald Reagan's wife
40. Formerly Persia
41. Certain saxes
43. Cow sounds
44. Goes great with onions
46. *Most players must be still until this
47. Whimper
48. Wiggle room
50. Moonfish
52. "_____ the season ..."
53. Chapter 11 issue
55. Mutt
57. *Final destination
61. Like Anthony Kiedis's group
64. Refined woman
65. Caustic chemical
67. Star in Cygnus
69. Cell phone bill item
70. *Received when deplaning to attend the Pro Bowl?
71. Dough or cabbage

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
	19					20		21	22					
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57	58	59	60					61				62	63	
64						65	66			67				68
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



SEPTEMBER 18- SEPTEMBER 24

- A Kenyan shopping mall is under seige by a Somali group linked to al-Qaeda. Three attackers were killed and 10 suspects have been arrested at a mall supposedly targeted because it is a frequent spot for American and European tourists.
- Peggy Eddington-Smith, 69, of Dayton, Nev., just received a letter that was written by her father, Pfc. John Eddington, in 1944. Eddington wrote the letter before going to fight in World War II. He died in Italy in June 1944 and never had the chance to meet his daughter. She also received her father's Purple Heart medal.

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- DOWN**
1. It causes inflammation
 2. They go north and south in NYC
 3. Opposite of knit
 4. Venusian, e.g.
 5. *Defensive score
 6. Come clean, with "up"
 7. It increases strength of signals
 8. San Francisco's 1906 event
 9. Pitcher's illegal move
 10. Taro plant
 11. Not kosher
 12. Feudal laborer
 15. Jelly ingredient
 20. Kappa Alpha _____
 22. Wayside stop
 24. Knickknackery
 25. *Tailgating staple?
 26. Creepy
 27. Furlough
 29. Hole-making tools
 31. *Where football training happens
 32. Flogger's tool
 33. Food safety threat
 34. Plural of lysis
 36. Was aware of
 38. Cleaning bar
 42. Elbow room
 45. Radar + dome
 49. Japanese capital
 51. *Only 11 allowed here
 54. Isabella Swan of "Twilight"
 56. Watery discharge of the eyes
 57. Plural of #14 Across
 58. Org. with a mission
 59. Normandy landing
 60. Opposite of zigs
 61. Bit attachment
 62. In one case
 63. Seaside bird
 66. Coniferous tree
 68. Made in the morning?

Puzzle Solutions for this week are on page 6

NEED TO SEND A FAX?

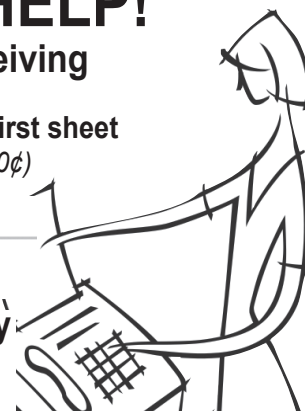
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9							6	3
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		3	8		7	2		
			3			1		4
6	7							9
			9					
	9			8		6	5	

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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.

ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Do you think Food Stamp purchases should be limited to "healthy" foods only.

YES 74%
NO 21%
IN SOME CASES 5%

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

If more citizens had guns what do you feel would be the outcome?

FOR THIS WEEK'S POLL VISIT

WWW.thelowellledger.com



Sheryl Tessmer

Position: Office manager at Lowell Family Medical Center
Residence: Belding
Experience: Over 30 years in medical offices
Family: Husband and dog
Hobbies: Drag racing, ATVs, boating, fishing
Fun Fact: Once got in trouble for dissecting her sister's fish



Sheryl Tessmer in her office at Lowell Family Medical Center.

Office manager enjoys the people she meets on the job

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

“Organized chaos” is how Sheryl Tessmer described her job as the office manager at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 W. Main St.

Tessmer, 50, graduated from Fenton Senior High School in Fenton, MI. From there she went to Ross Medical Education Center, where she was certified as both a medical assistant and a medical office manager.

“I’ve been in the medical field since I was 18,” Tessmer said.

“I’ve always worked in a physician’s office.”

Tessmer has been with Lowell Family Medical Center for 20 years.

“When I first started working for them they were over on Center St.,” Tessmer said. “Back then they had three doctors. Now there are five.”

Tessmer credits the rest of the staff with the office’s success.

“We have a great staff,” Tessmer said. “The doctors are wonderful.”

With more than 10

people on the staff, plus the doctors and patients, Tessmer is a very busy lady.

“In a typical day, my first, foremost and biggest job is making sure the doctors are not struggling with the computers,” Tessmer said. “I probably lap the office at least 30 times. I keep the staff and everything running smoothly.”

She answers a constant stream of e-mails and phone calls and deals personally with banks, the government and insurance companies. In addition to her duties at

the medical office she also manages a rental property for the doctors, collecting the monthly rent and dealing with routine building maintenance.

Lowell Family Medical Center recently switched from traditional paper records to keeping patient information on file in an electronic database.

“It’s easier because now you don’t have to run around looking for charts,” Tessmer said.

With any computer system there is always a

risk of hackers, viruses and identity theft. Tessmer is confident that Lowell Family Medical Center’s electronic records are secure.

“That was my biggest fear,” Tessmer said. “Security is the number one concern of anybody who has an electronic health records’ system.”

Thanks to Tessmer, Lowell Family Medical Center has a combination of firewalls, anti-virus software and third-party watchdogs guarding their system.

“I wouldn’t be able to sleep at night otherwise,” Tessmer said.

Out of the five doctors on staff, Tessmer has a particularly special relationship with Dr. James C. Lang, who she calls “my hero” after the doctor helped treat her during a battle with cancer eight years ago.

“He got me through chemo and radiation,” Tessmer said. “He was always there with me.”

During her entire bout with cancer Tessmer only missed two days of work.

“Sure, I was sick, but I just kept on trudging through,” Tessmer said.

Tessmer loves the local community in Lowell and relishes her personal relationships with all the people she sees around town.

“It boggles my mind how many people know me,” Tessmer said. “When I go to the bank or wherever in town, people are like, ‘Hey, Sheryl!’ It’s kind of nice.”

Tessmer has been married for 18 years. She lives in Belding with her husband and a four-year-old chocolate lab named “Nazzi,” after drag racer Victor Cagnazzi. She enjoys going on trips to drag races in Indianapolis and to Florida for deep-sea fishing. She also enjoys outdoor sports closer to home, including boating and driving quads and ATVs.

“I have a really good life,” Tessmer said.

Do you know of someone who has an interesting story “Behind The Scenes”?

Send your suggestion to:
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lowellbuyersguide.com
Subject line: Scenes

REMINDER NOTICE REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION

**TO BE HELD ON
NOVEMBER 5, 2013**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT ANY QUALIFIED ELECTOR OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP, LOWELL TOWNSHIP, VERGENNES TOWNSHIP AND THE CITY OF LOWELL, WHO IS NOT ALREADY REGISTERED, MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AT THE CITY OR TOWNSHIP OFFICES, AT ANY SECRETARY OF STATE BRANCH OFFICE, OR OTHER DESIGNATED PLACES FOR THE SCHOOL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2013.

**THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING
REGISTRATIONS WILL BE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2013**

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE:

- CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES
- AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 5, 2013

Sandra Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk
(616) 868-6846
9am to 12pm

Betty Morlock
Lowell City Clerk
(616) 897-8457
8am to 5pm

Linda S. Regan
Lowell Township
(616) 897-7600
9am to 5pm

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township
(616) 897-5671
9am to 3pm



Sheryl Tessmer in front of now-obsolete paper medical records.