

Behind The Scenes



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enough is enough



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New and familiar Lowell City Council members sworn in at Monday's meeting

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

There was minimal public comment at the city council meeting on Monday, Nov. 18, but there was a very long history lesson.

New councilperson Jeff Altoft, along with returning councilpersons Jim Hodges, Chris Schwab and Jim Hall were sworn in at the start of the meeting. The new mayor will be selected in January.

Lowell resident Alan Teelander was the only resident who spoke during the time designated for public comment. Teelander questioned the board about Lowell Light and Power.

"In November of 2009 there was a power cost



New and returning councilpersons are sworn in. From left to right: Jeff Altoft, Jim Hodges, Chris Schwab and Jim Hall.

adjustment on our bills of \$3.29," Teelander said. "As of August 2013 that had risen to \$38.02. That's a big jump. That's about

146 percent. Greg Pierce is getting a lot of credit for balancing the books and doing some good things at Lowell Light and Power. I

could do that if I could get a 146 percent increase."

Teelander also questioned how board members are chosen, citing

Andrew Schrauben's recent move from city council to the light and power board and councilperson Jim Hall's former position on the light and power board.

"I wonder if there's any kind of a problem, a 'good old boys' system, with switching from one board to another," Teelander said. "Is there any thought of having a little vacation between boards?"

Teelander also took the opportunity to plug his website, lowellcityhall.com. The council did not respond to any of Teelander's questions or comments.

City council meeting, continued, page 3

Lowell students take the stage with *The Nutcracker*

Four students from Lowell to perform in classic holiday ballet

Four Lowell students will join West Michigan Youth Ballet's 2013 holiday performance of *The Nutcracker* at the Forest

Hills Fine Arts Center on Saturday, December 7 at 1 pm and 4:30 pm, and Sunday, December 8 at 1

pm. A Nutcracker Tea will take place Saturday before the 1 pm performance only, with limited seating.

Hannah Briggs, Rachael Fotis, Taylor Higgins, and Nicole Mooney will join over 70 students from West Michigan, ranging in age from 8 to 18 years, to dance in West Michigan Youth Ballet's seventh season of *The Nutcracker*.

"The Nutcracker allows students the opportunity to work with professional choreographers to present a full ballet complete with beautiful sets and costumes," says Jen Norder, artistic director. "The experience builds confidence and a sense of accomplishment through hard work."

Thomas Morrell, artistic director of the Northwest Michigan Ballet Theatre, is among the professional choreographers who staged aspects of the production.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.wmyb.org or by calling 616-682-4853. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and \$6 for children 6 and under. Tickets for the tea are \$15 each with limited seating.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center is located at 600 Forest Hills Avenue SE, Grand Rapids.



Hannah Briggs, Rachael Fotis, Taylor Higgins, and Nicole Mooney.

Spart representative explains biodigester technology to LL&P meeting attendees

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Despite a few minor arguments, the light and power board meeting Thursday, Nov. 14, was a relatively low-key affair.

Board member Perry Beachum was absent. New board member Andrew Schrauben arrived late and did not participate in the meeting. About 10 residents also attended the meeting. Peggy Covert was the first of three citizens who spoke.

"Do we have a timeline as far as the transformers that almost went under water in the last flood? That really concerns me," Covert said.

"We're working on plans and looking for grant money," light and power general manager Greg Pierce answered.

LL&P meeting, continued, page 2

50 CENTS



LL&P meeting, continued

“There was some possible FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] money for grants but that hasn't quite panned out, but we're still working on that,” said board chairman Greg Canfield.

Covert went on to comment on the union negotiations.

“We've got good workers here and I just don't understand what the problem is as far as giving them a decent contract,” Covert said. “Usually, in most companies, if workers are doing a really good job they're rewarded for that.”

The board did not offer a reply to this.

Randy Halstead asked the board about a comment he made in the last meeting. Halstead accused the board of being untruthful in their reply.

“The question I've asked for the \$.99 fee that was assessed to all of us ratepayers was, 'Did Lowell Light and Power have the

option to opt out of the program?' And you, Mr. Canfield, told me 'No,'” Halstead said.

“I didn't believe from my memory that we did,” Canfield said.

“That is incorrect. And I'm not very happy about that,” Halstead said.

The issue in question

is Public Act 95, a state law requiring utilities to charge customers a \$.99 monthly fee to ensure “low-income energy assistance funding.” According to the law, a utility that opts out of charging the fee cannot shut service off to delinquent customers between November 1 and April 15. Lowell, by charging the fee, is able to do so.

Ralph Brecken was the third and final member of the public to speak. Brecken again asked the board to hold a special meeting to focus on the city's power generators. The board again refused to hold such a meeting. Brecken went on to question the board about the generators.

“How do you plan on fueling them?” Brecken said. “Why were they purchased and set in a

location where there is not an adequate fuel supply?”

“We'll get gas here,” Canfield said. “It may be a year or two before it gets sorted out, or whatever period of time, but this is a long-term plan.”

Representatives from the Spart company gave a PowerPoint presentation on the biodigester to residents. The presentation shed some light on a project that has not spent much time in the public eye. The two major points covered were, if light and power buys the biodigester from Spart it would save millions of dollars and that 85 percent of the biodigester's fuel will be fat, oil and grease from restaurants that will need to be trucked in.

The next light and power meeting will be Thursday, Dec. 12.



The light and power board members in discussion.



along main street

Unquestionably, there is progress. The average American now pays out twice as much in taxes as he formerly got in wages.

~ H. L. Mencken (1880 - 1956)


FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thurs., Nov. 21 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

LHS IDOL

LHS students sing for a chance to be the 2013 LHS Idol on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Guest judges Hughet and Internio from 104.5 WSNX The Morning After Show. Scholarship prizes for the top three provided by Broadway BreakThru. Tickets \$5 and proceeds benefit the high school musical.

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.



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Lowell High School wins a \$25,000 Celebrate My Drive grant

Lowell has something to celebrate this season thanks to thousands of safe driver commitments made in support of Lowell High School through the Celebrate My Drive® program created by State Farm. One hundred schools are eligible to receive a grant ranging from \$25,000 to 100,000. Lowell High School was in the top 100 and will be awarded a \$25,000 grant from State Farm.

In addition to collecting commitments to be safe drivers, the Celebrate My Drive program recognizes a very important and joyous

occasion in the life of young people - learning to drive!

Car crashes are the number one killer of teens and a teen's first year on the road is the most dangerous. Using research as a guide, State Farm® is approaching teen driver safety, a winnable public health battle, by engaging teens while they learn to drive in a supportive and positive way.

"I am proud of Lowell High School's efforts to generate excitement among students, faculty and the entire community to make safe driving commitments and have

positive conversations about teen driver safety," said local agent Deborah Wilks. "Lowell Youth Advisory Council and Leadership Class were key in planning and hosting Celebrate My Drive events. They are already making plans for next year to win the \$100,000 grant!"

To stimulate more safe driving conversations, State Farm specified that 10 percent of the grant be used to support ongoing teen driver safety efforts. Lowell students determined that the rest of the funds will be equally divided between the arts, athletics and technology. The Youth

Advisory Council will use a grant application process to evaluate needs inside the areas of focus. The grant application will be available mid December.

Lowell schools and State Farm believes Celebrate My Drive is an effective tool to amplify the conversation around the importance of education related to teen driver safety. "Both students and community benefited from Celebrate My Drive," said advisor Chaye Klomparens. "While getting across the importance of teen driver safety, students learned how to plan, organize, market, and will soon be evaluating grant submissions, all through service learning. The whole process has been of great value to our

community." About Celebrate My Drive:

Celebrate My Drive® is a different approach to a leading public health risk. Car crashes are the number one killer of teens, and a teen's first year on the road is the most dangerous. Using research as a guide, State Farm is approaching teen driver safety, a winnable public health battle, by engaging teens while they learn to drive in a supportive and positive way. It's a community celebration of safe driving habits emphasizing the benefits of safe choices as teens celebrate the freedom that comes with getting a drivers' license. Learn more about the initiative at www.celebratemydrive.com.



City council meeting, continued

City manager Mark Howe presented the council with an application for a Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater Program (SAW) grant. If Lowell is selected for the grant it

would pay a huge portion of the city's costs for creating an asset management plan, something the city is required to do either way.

"What this SAW grant does is it helps us to position ourselves to put that asset management plan in place and probably in greater detail, basically at a cost of ten cents on the dollar to the city of Lowell," Howe said.

After some questioning of Howe by councilperson Schwab the council unanimously approved applying for the grant.

The meeting also included a long, oddly contentious discussion of a Civil War cannon the city sent to Ashland, KY, to be refurbished. Councilperson Altoft led a 45-minute debate about what kind of platform to place the cannon on when it's ready. After some occasionally heated conversation the council decided to stick with the plan already in place.

Howe then proposed

that the city would join the Greater Lowell Community Vision Alliance, an organization whose goal is "to develop a comprehensive vision for the Lowell area," according to the alliance's 'resolution.'

"What's before you tonight is to ask you whether or not you would approve of the city of Lowell's participation in the Greater Lowell Community Vision Alliance," Howe said. "What that would mean, then, is that members of the alliance would adopt this resolution."

"Having been at those meetings it is a very good, communicative way of working with our neighbors and uniting this community as one," said mayor Jim Hodges. "It's been very beneficial and even fun getting to know the others even better. We've also shared and gained knowledge as far as pending projects that our friends in the townships have."



Alan Teelander questions the council

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IN THE KOSCIUSKO
SUPERIOR COURT #1
2013 TERM

IN RE: THE MARRIAGE
OF BRIAN L. YODER,
Petitioner, and
AMY MARIE YODER,
Respondent

CAUSE NUMBER
43D01-1310-DR-319

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HEARING
The Respondent
is hereby notified
that the Kosciusko

Superior Court #1 has set final hearing in the Superior Court #1 courtroom located in the Kosciusko County Justice Building, 121 North Lake Street, Warsaw, Indiana, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 13th day of December, 2013. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at my office in Warsaw, Indiana, this 6th day of November, 2013.

Ann Torpy, Clerk
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CITY OF LOWELL

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Please note that trash, recycling and yard waste pickup for the week of November 18, 2013 will be on Thursday, November 21, **not** Friday, November 22nd as noted in the Trash, recycling and yard waste calendar. The week of November 25th the trash and yard waste pickup date will be Friday, November 29th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 897-8457.



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natural resources

Dave Stegehuis

The majority of Michigan residents have little opportunity to experience our vast natural resources in their daily lives. Most of us are drawn inside buildings in urban areas to work, learn, or spend leisure time. Therefore it is easy to overlook the existence as well as the importance of the vast natural resources around us. At the very least we may overlook opportunities to take advantage of our outdoor heritage and take our good fortune for granted.

We have in Michigan, 35,000 inland lakes and ponds, 49,000 miles of rivers and streams, and 3,000 miles of coastline. In addition to local public parks and recreation areas, Michigan has 3.89 million acres of state forest land and

another 2.7 million acres in three national forests. The state also has agreements with large land owners such as timber companies to allow public access to their property.

The abundant natural resources are important to the state's economy. The sale of timber, gas, oil, and minerals provide substantial income. Tourists from out of state recognize the wonders of Michigan and contribute to the economy providing income and jobs. Residents and visitors ski, hike, camp, view wildlife, and ride the 5,900 miles of snowmobile trails. With the large amount of land and water available, there are millions of people who hunt and fish in Michigan. There are almost one million registered boats. Fishermen and hunters

spend billions of dollars every year to do what they do. Anglers have drawn as much as 11.2 million in federal funding and hunters 28 million just by buying licenses which is how the federal government determines funding allocation to each state.

Other states have remarkable natural resources which benefit that state, its citizens, and visitors. But one may be hard pressed to find a state with the quantity, diversity, and public access that we have in Michigan.

This is just a reminder of the great opportunities out there for those who pay attention and find ways to take advantage of our vast natural resources. By getting involved you too can help to maintain and expand our natural heritage and, at the same time, improve your own quality of life.

Godspeed, USS Gerald R. Ford



Sen. Carl Levin

Over Veterans Day weekend, I had the honor of giving the keynote speech at the christening ceremony of the USS Gerald R. Ford, the U.S. Navy's newest aircraft carrier.

We Michiganians are proud to call President Ford one of ours. That's not just because he held our nation's highest office, but because of the manner in which he held that office – with a

fundamental goodness of heart and generosity of spirit that all of us in public life should try to emulate.

There is perhaps no more visible, more powerful representation of America's military strength than the towering hull of an aircraft carrier. No other nation makes carriers like America makes them, and the USS Gerald R. Ford will be the most powerful American carrier ever to sail.

Yet for every time this ship will instill doubt in the minds of our adversaries, it will many more times give hope to our friends and the people of the world. It will be welcome support in a time of crisis, and it will bring comfort and aid in times of disaster and grief. And so it is truly fitting that it will bear the name of Gerald R. Ford.

Gerald Ford sought to replace division and doubt with unity and hope. He

Levin, continued, page 11

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viewpoint

to the editor

music man reference for city

To The Editor,

Trouble in River City...
Well, either you're closing your eyes - to a situation you do not now wish to acknowledge or challenge...

Or you are not aware of the caliber of disaster indicated, by the presence of a monopoly in your community.

Ya got trouble, my friend, right here, I say, trouble right here in River City.

Why sure I'm a concerned citizen, certainly mighty proud I say...

I'm always mighty proud to say it.

I consider that the hours I spend, with a mouse and keyboard in my hand.

It helps us cultivate horse sense, a cool head and a keen eye.

Never take but try to give, an iron-clad thought to those who live - right here in River City.

From twisted words and rhetoric by the councils and the boards...

But just as I say, it takes more than judgment, brains, and maturity to discern, an agenda of a city of blacked-out meetings and the games they play...

Telling you that you don't pay more in taxes or utilities.

Counting on you not looking back and seeing forward.

Thinking you don't or

won't see the big picture of behind closed door meetings and a smiley mayor with the slickness of a conman selling you something you don't need but ultimately you become the payer...

I say that any boob can take, and shove a paper in a pocket.

And they call that sloth.

It is the first big step on the road to the depths of deg-ra-Day-tion - I say, first, medicinal wine from a teaspoon, then beer from a bottle.

An' the next thing ya know, your kid is playin' for money under the table, in a pinch-back suit.

And list'nin to some big out-a-town Jasper -

Hearin' him tell about gamblin' on a bio-digester

Not a wholesome investment in our future, no!

But a place where they will set it right down - right in the middle of our fair town!

With a stank that stinks beyond the fumes, an agenda of talk and slapping backs in darkened rooms.

Ya got trouble, my friend, right here, I say, trouble right here in River City.

Why sure I'm a concerned citizen, certainly mighty proud I say ...

I'm always mighty proud to say it.

I consider that the hours you need to spend, with a mouse and keyboard in your hand.

It helps us cultivate horse sense, a cool head and a keen eye.

Never take but try to give, an iron-clad thought to those who live - right here in River City.

Alan Teelander
Lowell

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on the asinine decision by MDOT [Michigan Department of Transportation] to put the new left turn signals going east and west rather than north and south. As anyone who travels east and west during peak hours knows, it takes a ridiculous amount of time to turn south while driving west. I was so disappointed.

Deb Apol
Lowell

To The Editor,

A great guy chased me down to return my debit card after my car stalled at the ATM [automated teller machine] and I forgot to grab my card.

I'm very grateful that he had morals and thought it important enough to flag me down to return it. Most people would have let the ATM suck it up.

Cameron Dilly

sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving inspires me to think upon the first successful harvest and the Pilgrims who came over on the Mayflower. It was the pure hospitality of the Native Americans who taught the Pilgrims how to plant and harvest corn, how to fish, and how to get maple from the trees. The blessings were many and the feast served as a celebration of the Pilgrims' first successful harvest. They were not only grateful to their Native American friends for being such a blessing to them, but they were also thankful for the sun, the rain, and the earth's abundant bounty. I am sure the Pilgrims were purely relieved that they would be able to sustain themselves and provide for their families.

As we approach the Thanksgiving season centuries later, the spirit in Lowell is so much like that of the original Thanksgiving harvest of the 1600's. As you know, Lowell Area Schools received the support of the voters in our community to authorize a One Mill Building & Site fund to address school safety and security, as well as to address roof and asphalt repairs. With the help of our community, parents, and local business owners, the Lowell Area Schools has been truly blessed. We are relieved that precious programs and extra-curricular opportunities provided to our students will be preserved. Without the passage of our building and site proposal, General Fund dollars used for programming would have been shifted away from programming to repair our aging roofs.

We have already begun the process of meeting with

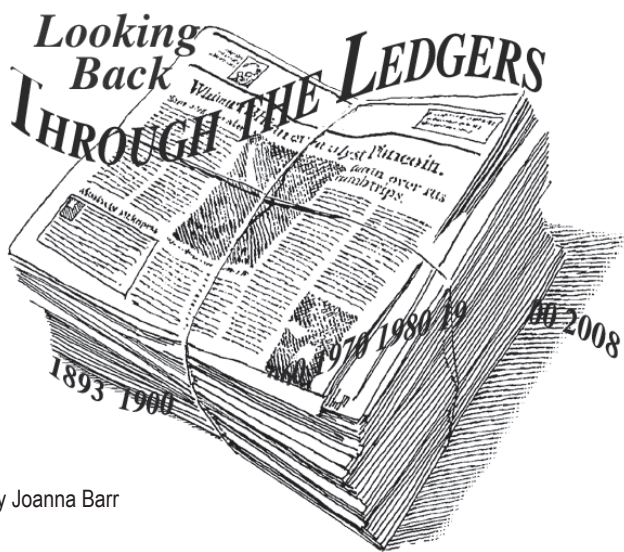
security firms, scheduling bids, and taking steps necessary to move forward with our plans to reconfigure entry vestibules in order to create more secure visitor access controls. Parents and community members who visit our schools will soon see initial steps to address security with the installation of buzzer systems at elementary school entryways. Once the weather breaks in the spring, we will address changes in school entryway infrastructures, roof repairs, and asphalt projects. As you know, the Board of Education and administration chose a conservative "pay-as-you-go" strategy to maximize taxpayer dollars, therefore the district will receive initial dollars raised from the building and site proposal in 2014.

On behalf of the Board of Education and all of our students, please accept my deepest thanks. The community's trust and support is reflective of the intent and true meaning of Thanksgiving. I, like the Pilgrims, am humbled by your generosity and profound desire to help our schools and provide for our students.

Like many of you, I will be celebrating Thanksgiving by counting each blessing of love, provision, health, and family. May this season serve as reminder for all of us to give thanks not only for precious moments with family and friends, the miracle that nature provides, and for living in the caring community of Lowell.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Greg Pratt
Superintendent of Schools



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal November 16, 1888

Supervisor Gould, of Algoma, Kent county, is to be prosecuted for refusing the ballots of some people who claim to be naturalized, but who Gould decided were not voters. He was ignorant of the law, his friends say, or he would not have acted with such promptness.

F. L. Jackson, who is accused of having shot his wife seven years ago at Batavia, N.Y., and then to have run away to California to avoid prosecution, has been arrested in Ionia county and sent to New York state to answer for his offense. The case, so far as heard from, had no sensational features and had been almost forgotten.

George Bonar wheeled Art Burnett in a wheel barrow from the Davis house to Howk & Bostwick's store Monday evening before the assembled crowd, all because Harrison was elected.

Mrs. Gilbert T. Burnett was adjudged insane Saturday and deputy sheriff Hill took her to the Kalamazoo Asylum the same day. She is only 25 or 26 years of age and the mother of two little children.

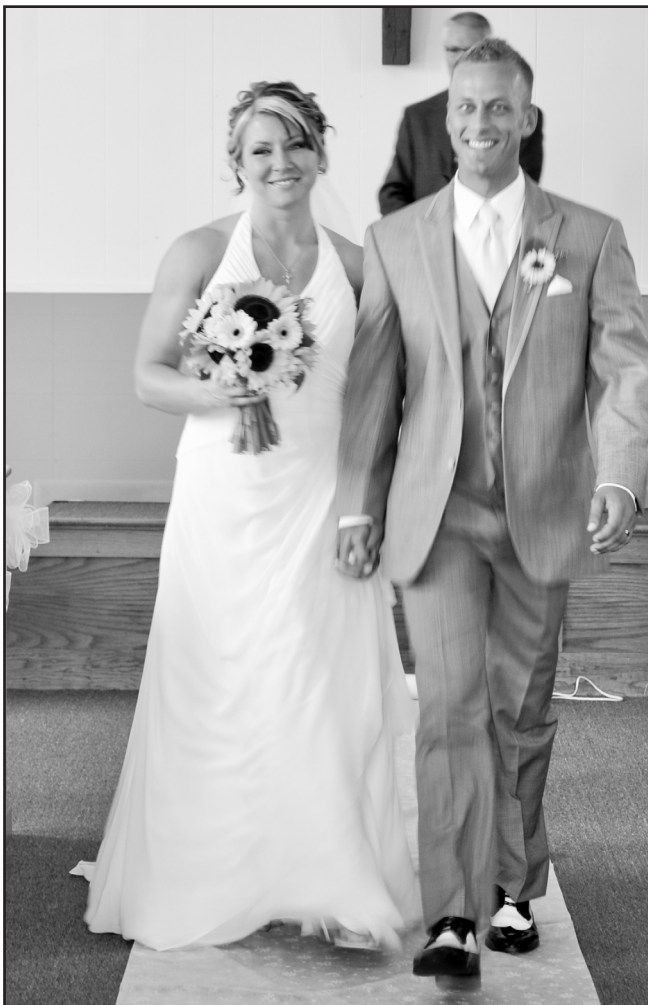
A young man named Orloff Insley, living at Belding and working in Bigbell's dryer picked up a bottle he found in the work room and put it to his nose, taking a strong sniff. Orloff fell dead to the floor. The bottle contained chloroform and as he was a great sufferer from heart disease, it is supposed the action of the chloroform killed him. He was 18 years of age. - Greenville Call.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 20, 1913

Headline: Making criminals - saloons are largely responsible says Judge Sadler. The lecture given in the city hall last Friday evening under the auspices of the Clover Leaf club, by Frank P. Sadler, late judge of the criminal court of the city of Chicago, was most interesting and instructive. A large audience greeted the lecturer, who was introduced by S. P. Hicks.

weddings

Wittenbach/Kuhns



Heather and Kyle Wittenbach

The marriage of Heather Kuhns and Kyle Wittenbach was celebrated on August 23, 2013 at the Historical Alton Church in Lowell. Parents of the couple are Delbert and Susan Kuhns, Dawn and Chris Whelpley, both of White Cloud, and Ken and Kim Wittenbach of Lowell.

Maid of honor was Brittini Bremer. Bridesmaids were Alicia Postumus, Jackie Bernhard, Kourtney Kramo, and Kelsey Wittenbach. Best man was Caleb Bryant. Groomsmen were Nicholas Kuhns, Ryan Kalman, Gavin Guernsey, and Ange Kramo.

area births

Barnes/Reynolds



Colin Charles Barnes

Tom Barnes and Michelle Reynolds are pleased to announce the birth of their son Colin Charles Barnes born Thursday, November 7, 2013 at Spectrum Butterworth. He weighed 4 lbs. 14 oz. and measured 17 inches. Grandparents are Bill and Cathy Reynolds, of Grand Rapids and Linda and the late Charles Barnes, of Lowell.

health



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


low platelet count

A platelet is a cell in the blood. Platelets help your blood to clot after an injury, like when you fall and scrape your knee. The clots that are formed help you stop bleeding. When your platelets are too low, you don't have the same ability to form clots and stop the bleeding. This would be caused by many things, such as viruses, cancer or some medicines. If you don't have enough platelets, it could be a sign of something serious. Most people who have low platelets don't know it until they may develop symptoms such as easy bruising, frequent nosebleeds, bleeding gums after brushing teeth, long

bleeding times after a minor cut or scratch. Your doctor can diagnose a low platelet count by doing a blood test. If they are low, you may need to see a specialist (hematologist). Low platelets are not always treated. Many times they will replenish themselves over time. If they don't come back spontaneously, your specialist will look further to identify the cause and if necessary, a transfusion may be in order. If you have frequent nosebleeds, cuts that don't clot in a timely fashion or easy bruising, see your doctor to determine if you have a low platelet count.

...
"There is nothing quite so sweet as tiny little baby feet."
~ Author unknown

If you see this guy on November 24 wish him a



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy 60th Birthday Dad
Jeff Altoft
~ Love you, Angie

area churches

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Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org

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(Nursery available)
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Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
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Barrier-Free



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10:30 A.M.Fellowship
11:00 A.M.Worship

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Brian Brown, John Butler Sr., Michelle Wernet.

NOVEMBER 21
Michael Hewitt, Tammy Gildner.

NOVEMBER 22
Lu Green, Carla Briggs, Andrea Richmond, Karrie Borton, Joshua Gerard, Dylan Olin, Arlene Sytsma.

NOVEMBER 23
Trisha Propst, Sherri Vezino, Gregory Duiven, Mike Harding, McKinsie Rice, Dave Thompson.

NOVEMBER 24
Sabra Nicole Kinsley, Ryan Moore, Jenny Decker, Heather French.

NOVEMBER 25
Pat Vezino, Melissa Peterson, Amy Swift, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt, Lorri Myers.

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Send your Street Smart questions to:
 ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
 subject line - "Street Smarts"

college news

Former Lowell High School standout Michelle Foote has helped the Grand Valley State women's soccer team occupy the No. 1 spot in the national rankings for the last six weeks. The freshman forward boasts

five assists and has scored three goals through 13 matches. Foote is also tied for second among all Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) players in assists.



Abby Downing

"For some reason I thought it was a little troll, but I'm not sure, to be honest."



Anne Shirley Capman

"A man fishing, because it's a river."



Wanda Mitchell

"Well, it's a guy fishing. And because he's fishing."



Melissa Yeagle

"Some sort of statue, maybe a memorial."



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- ★ Green bean casserole,
- ★ Cranberry relish
- ★ Home baked rolls

THANKSGIVING DEADLINES


Deadline for the December 1 edition of the **BUYERS GUIDE** is **Wed., Nov. 27 at 3 p.m.**
If you require a proof your deadline is Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Deadline for the December 4 edition of **THE LOWELL LEDGER** is **Mon., Dec. 2 at 10 a.m.**
If you require a proof your deadline is Wed., Nov. 27 at 5 p.m.

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NOV. 25-29
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Flat River Antique Emporium - a new business with a flare for the past

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The address 216 W. Main St. is no stranger to the world of antiques. Long before the doors of the new Flat River Antique Emporium (FRAE) opened this past October the block long building, now sliced into sections, housed the similarly titled Flat River Antique Mall which was at its time the largest antique store in West Michigan. Spouses and co-owners of the newly opened store, Ronald Janowski and Karen Waid, intend to capitalize and expand upon the rich history of their location with their shared love of antiques and of each other.

Lowell residents for more than sixteen years, the fun and boisterous couple discovered their mutual love for antiques quite by accident. "When we got married we were almost kind of afraid to tell each other that we liked old stuff," Waid said jokingly as she described the day they discovered their common interest. It

was nearly two years into their marriage, now in its 32nd year, that the duo was strong armed into selecting a dining room set for their then barren apartment by Janowski's parents. After an unsatisfying trip to a popular main stream furniture retailer, the couple happened upon a rustic antique shop called Mr. Oak Antiques on a back country road where they realized and admitted their love for the aged and unique items located inside. That is the moment when their antiquing journey began. "From then on that is all we bought," she says.

The couple, who still seem to have the glow of newlyweds, met while serving our country in the United States Army. They share a son, Philip, who is now a freshmen at Grand Valley State University studying creative writing. The family also hosted exchange students in their home for seven years. Waid says that as new empty nesters they saw an opportunity to "do

something on our own" and the store came to pass soon after. Waid had been attending meetings of the Downtown Merchants Committee and SCORE (Counselor's to America's small business) for years, knowing that someday their dream of ownership would come to pass.

Lowell has long been a mecca for antique collectors and the draw remains strong as FRAE joins the long list of such vendors along Main Street. Waid, who served as an employee for several of the shops in town before going out on her own, says that each store in the area has its own unique flavor and that the abundance of choices in town is a blessing. "When shoppers find out that there is not just one but eight stores to visit they are just thrilled," she said, also noting that on average about half of the antique hunters that shop in Lowell are first time visitors from out of town. "Having a group of stores makes Lowell a destination spot," she said.



Ronald Janowski and Karen Waid, co-owners, inside their newly opened store.

Emporium is defined as a shop selling a wide variety of goods and the FRAE lives up to that definition. They offer a wide variety of items including home decor, architectural elements, hand painted signs, lighting, linens and of course antiques and collectibles. They also feature locally sourced

goods, such as handmade lotions and soaps produced in neighboring Alto and beautifully carved wood work from a gentleman in Clarksville. The store also specializes in camp, cottage and cabin decor inspired by the couples' travel experiences in the Adirondacks. Waid says they chose to be an emporium because, "We know that people come to Lowell for antiquing but when they come with friends who are not after them specifically, we wanted to be sure to have items that they are still going to enjoy and want to shop for."

Beginning in January and running through March the FRAE will also be hosting a series of do-it-yourself classes tentatively scheduled for Thursday nights. The classes will be hosted by local crafters and will cover a wide variety of fun topics that result in a take home self creation. Waid says that they are open to class suggestions and those wishing to teach a class are welcome to pitch their idea.

Waid, who herself is an avid crafter said that, "We will announce the specifics on our Facebook page as well as in our window display as the classes draw near."

Waid says that the store opening has been quite successful and they have enjoyed great experiences in both the Girls' Night Out event as well as the annual Christmas Through Lowell celebration during their novice weeks of business. The store's well laid out collection of merchandise and do-it-yourself supplies is thought out, pleasing to the eye and eclectic enough to please any shopper who stops into the emporium. "Being an emporium we get to go outside of the definition of an antique store," explained Waid. Both she and Janowski also step outside of definitions with the unique and fun atmosphere created inside the two-level store by their friendly and funny natures, which are as warm and welcoming as the store that their love of antiques created.



A lovely display of goods along the brick walls inside the historic downtown building.

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Bonnie Van Spronsen

Behind The Scenes

Position: Medical transcriptionist at Dery Physical Therapy and Rehab
Residence: Lowell
Experience: Working in the medical field
Hobbies: Search and rescue, reading and yoga



Bonnie Van Spronsen with canine search and rescue dog Dallas.

Physical Therapy employee finds time for search and rescue

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing reporter

Bonnie Van Spronsen has been working with Dery Physical Therapy and Rehab for well over a decade doing medical transcription work and insurance billing.

Dery does all kinds of physical therapy, from sports to automobile accident rehab. They make use of the Total Gym, Airdyne bikes, treadmills and other more hands-on methods. The only thing they don't have on location is a swimming pool.

Van Spronsen first came to Dery as a patient. She had injured her shoulder and needed some physical therapy herself. The people at Dery tended to her needs and she tended to theirs.

Dery needed someone with typing skills and Van Spronsen was the ideal candidate.

"I like all the people that I meet," Van Spronsen said. "I like the challenge of getting bills through by working with the insurance companies."

Van Spronsen spends a lot of time on the telephone with insurance companies. She doesn't believe the people she talks to are ever difficult or mean-spirited. Each bill just requires a big time commitment and sometimes communication falls apart.

"The right hand doesn't always know what the

left hand is doing," Van Spronsen said, specifically referring to big insurance companies.

Van Spronsen's normal day involves phone calls and computers, but at any time she could get a call from the canine search and rescue unit and she will have to deploy immediately.

Van Spronsen has a black lab named Dallas who is trained in searching for human remains. Dogs like these are often called "cadaver dogs." If a person has gone missing and law enforcement does not know if said person is dead or alive, Dallas will be deployed along with a live air scent

dog to a predetermined area. Unlike many wilderness dogs that will roam as far as a half mile away from their trainer, Dallas usually stays within Van Spronsen's line of sight.

Dallas is also qualified to do historical recoveries. If someone is trying to reconstruct an old cemetery, Dallas might find unmarked graves where the headstones have decayed or moved due to 50 to 60 years of neglect.

Van Spronsen and Dallas are also qualified to do boat recoveries where drowning victims need to be found.

"For some people its hard to deal with hospitals and critical cases," Van Spronsen said. "I've seen a lot of deaths. If I can find a loved one or give closure to a family, that far outweighs the disturbing feeling of seeing a body that is decomposed."

In order to take part in the search and rescue, Van Spronsen took Dallas to the Forest Research Center at Western Carolina University, where they partook in Dr. Sheryl Johnson's cadaver dog training program. The program involved speakers from around the world and experience with various levels of human decomposition.



Bonnie Van Spronsen at work at Dery Physical Therapy and Rehab.

Van Spronsen and husband Karl are the proud parents of three sons. Her eldest son Ken is a state trooper in Alaska. He is married with two children and has been featured on the popular television program Alaskan State Troopers. Her middle son Josh lives in Clarksville with three children. Her youngest son Christopher now lives in New Mexico.

It was Christopher and his bloodhound Drake who got Van Spronsen into search and rescue in the first place. She assisted her son in training his dog, began going to meetings and before long she found herself looking for her own dog to train. She got Dallas from the Ionia County Humane Society after waiting six to eight months for just the right puppy.

If Van Spronsen is able to find any spare time, she is likely to be reading a book.

"It's my relaxing escape," Van Spronsen said. She likes reading all kinds of books, but, not unexpectedly, prefers mysteries and historical books.

She has a passion for photography and keeps spry by doing yoga twice a week. "Dery is behind my volunteer search and rescue 100 percent," Van Spronsen said.

While the patients clearly come first, Dery also keeps their commitment to the health and well-being of their employees. Van Spronsen noted that most businesses would not accommodate for an active search and rescue career, but Dery is very supportive.

Be it through rehabilitation or closure, Van Spronsen doesn't shy away from helping people. For her it doesn't appear to be a duty or a chore. It is fun and it is life.

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LAS WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS' VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

* Denotes a game at East Kentwood Ice Arena

11/20 at 7 p.m. Kenowa Hills*

11/22 at 8 p.m. Hudsonville*

11/23 at 6 p.m. Portage Northern*

11/29 at 3 p.m. East Grand Rapids at Patterson Ice Arena

11/30 at 3:30 p.m. Manistee Tournament at West Shore Community College

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School main gym

12/3 at 7 p.m. at Cedar Springs

12/6 at 7 p.m. at Ionia

12/10 at 6 p.m. at Forest Hills Eastern

12/14 at 4 p.m. at Traverse City West

12/17 at 6 p.m. Northview*

BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School main gym

12/10 at 7:45 p.m. at Forest Hills Eastern

12/17 at 7:45 p.m. Northview *

12/20 at 7:45 p.m. at Greenville

BOYS' VARSITY WRESTLING

* Denotes a game at Lowell HS

12/7 at 9:30 a.m. Allegan Tournament

12/13 at 7 p.m. at Marist High School

12/14 time TBA at Mount Carmel High School

GIRLS' VARSITY COMPETITIVE CHEER

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School

12/21 at 11 a.m. Reeths Puffer Invitational

1/11 time TBA Gull Lake Invitational

GIRLS' VARSITY GYMNASTICS

* Denotes a game at Lowell High School Auxiliary Gymn

12/30 at 6 p.m. Kenowa Hills*

1/4 at 9:30 a.m. Rockford Flip-Flop Invitational

Harrison named staff member of the month

Murray Lake Elementary (MLE) physical education (PE) teacher, Margaret (Norm) Harrison, was named Staff Member of the Month for October.

“Missy always steps up and does what is right for kids. She is genuinely concerned for the physical well-being of her students. She makes movement so fun! Parents know that if they need someone to coordinate a health fair at the last minute... Missy is right there,” commented Murray Lake teacher Sue Wilterink.

Harrison has been teaching at MLE since it opened in 2004. She also teaches at St. Pat’s and has taught at all of the other elementary schools in the district.

Harrison resides just minutes away from the school on Murray

Lake with husband Bill. The Harrisons have three children: their son Bill and his wife Andrea live in Milwaukee; son Dan lives on Mackinaw Island and their daughter Chelsea, who recently graduated from Hillsdale College, lives locally and works at Amway.

“The best part of teaching PE at Murray Lake is that I get to teach all the children in the building and I am able to encourage active, healthy and happy lifestyles. I enjoy being with kids who are so full of life and enthusiastic about everything,” said Harrison.

When she is not at school Harrison enjoys being with family, being outdoors, biking, boating, skiing, walking, reading and traveling.



Margaret Harrison with one of her kindergarten PE classes.

Levin, continued

took office at one of the most tumultuous moments in the history of our democratic system. His task was to calm America’s stormy waters so that we could regain our self-confidence as a nation. George H.W. Bush observed as Vice President Ford prepared to take office as president, “What we need at this juncture in our history is a certain sense of morality and a certain sense of decency.” That’s the perfect description of Gerald Ford. He was the right man for the time.

He knew our true strength, the strength that would carry us through that trying time, wasn’t just in the

force of our arms, but what is in our hearts. In a 1975 speech outlining his foreign policy goals, President Ford spoke of the need to build a strong military, but then said, “I would like to talk about another kind of strength, the true source of American power. ... I am speaking here of our belief in ourselves and our belief in our nation.”

That is the spirit this great vessel will carry across the oceans. It embodies our military might, and much more: It carries the name of a president who showed us America at its best, an America that strives to bring hope to every corner of the

planet and to do so with strength, but without bluster.

Then-Congressman Ford brought a moment of modest humor to the solemn moment he was sworn in as vice president. He told America, “I am a Ford, not a Lincoln.” He showed us that one need not take on extraordinary trappings to accomplish extraordinary things, just as the men and women of this ship, drawn from every part of this land and every segment of our society, ordinary Americans all, will accomplish the extraordinary.

In the decades to come, when the crew of the USS Gerald R. Ford

helps defend our nation from danger, when they protect the innocent from harm, when they sail under freedom’s flag bringing hope in times of despair and calm in moments of crisis – at those times, they will exemplify the greatness and

goodness, the steadiness and steadfastness of their vessel’s namesake, and of the nation he loved so much and served so well.

Godspeed to the USS Gerald R. Ford and to the men and women who sail her.

LUNCH MENU

ELEMENTARY MENU
Week of
Nov. 25, 2013

MON: Grilled cheese on WG bread, tomato soup, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, applesauce, pears, milk.

TUES: WG pancake & scrambled eggs, warm cinnamon apples, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, red pepper strips, (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), baby carrots, fresh grapes (served at Bushnell), orange wedges, juice (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), milk.

WED: No School

THURS: No School - Thanksgiving

FRI: No School

Christmas Round The Town

NOVEMBER 29 • 9AM - 6PM
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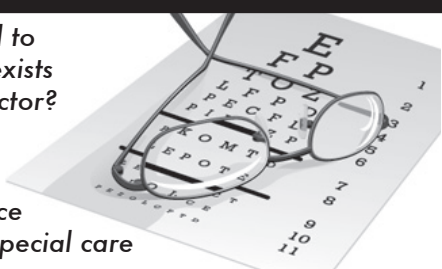
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Looking Back, continued

The judge's subject "The Criminal in the Making" was handled in a way to startle a rural audience. He showed that most of the raw material out of which criminals comes from small towns and villages and the rural districts. The unsophisticated boy or girl from the country falls an easy victim to the seductions of vice in the great cities. Judge Sadler's long experience upon the bench of the criminal court eminently equips him to discuss the causes of criminality and their cure and makes it well worth while for parents and all others interested in the welfare of the young to give heed to his words.

Viscount Phillip-Cosmo Gorden Lennox, of Charlotte, who has been arrested on a charge of non-support, has been sentenced to serve 60 days in jail at Hastings if he cannot pay the court costs, amounting to \$37.25. He has tried to raise the money by mortgaging his touring car. He was arrested on complaint of his father-in-law, George Roush. The viscount has had a romantic career since he left England a few years ago.

Because he gave the age of his prospective bride, Esther Harr, as 17, when she was but 15, Clifford Vendenberg, of Portland, has been held for trial in the circuit court. The couple are now married.

Fred Johnson, who was captured by Deputy Sheriff Raimer after stealing a purse from the Daley saloon, received a sentence Tuesday of from one to five years, at Ionia, with a recommendation of 2 1/2 years.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 17, 1938

Headline: Escape in night clothes from burning home. The family of John Fahrni was forced to make a hasty escape in their night clothes from their home Sunday morning about eight o'clock, when they were awakened by the honking of the car horn. Upon arising they found the house full of smoke and the back part of the house afire. Just then the fire whistle started to blow, the alarm having been turned in by a bus driver. It is believed the fire started from a short circuit somewhere in the car as it had been bothering the night before when the Fahrnis were driving home. There

was considerable damage done to the contents of the house and they are staying at the home of his father, Chris Fahrni, while the damage is being repaired. The house and contents were covered by insurance, but there was no insurance on the car which was in the garage attached to the house. The damage would have been much greater but for the prompt arrival of the fire department.

A hunting suit on display in front of the store next door east of Thorne's barber shop was stolen last Saturday night about ten o'clock. No one thinks that anyone in the barber shop had anything to do with it.

The army is again on the move – that is the army of deer hunters, most of whom will doubtless be out of the trenches by Thanksgiving Day. In the meantime the women, children and old men left behind will do their best to hold the fort. By Tuesday night of this week 147 deer licenses had been issued to Lowell hunters.

Work of relaying the oak plank flooring of the upper bridge over Grand River was begun yesterday by the Kent County Road Commission. About one week's time will be required for the job, during which the bridge will be closed to daytime traffic but will be open for traffic nights and Sunday. The present flooring was laid about two years ago but soon became warped and the clattering noise of the loose planks as cars passed over could be heard as far away as Velzey's hill.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 21, 1963

George Hale, Lowell postmaster, revealed that Santa Claus' zip code number this week for anyone who wants to be sure of delivery of a letter and an answer. For best results write Santa Claus at the North Pole, 99701. The post office will be closed Thursday, Thanksgiving, but mail will be picked up from the street boxes and dispatches made.

Jim and Carl Heim got a thrill last Thursday afternoon at 4:30 when an attractive young lady with a small child came into the station and asked for the key to the rest room and appealed for help from the police. She said the man in the car waiting for her had a gun and had kidnapped her. Jim drove to the station for police who searched the man and found a 41 cal. derringer. Mrs. Johnnie Rowan, 23, of Pontiac signed a felonious assault charge against her husband, James E. Rowan, 26, of Rochester. She told police that her husband had forced her and their two children, Jamie, two and Tammy, four, to accompany him and he used the gun to threaten her. Rowan was arraigned Monday in Grand Rapids on a felonious assault charge and was held on \$5,000 bond.

James E. Ward, 18, of Ionia, got his deer Saturday at 6:30 pm right in the city, when he struck one on

West Main Street near the Valley Vista sub-division. When the authorities arrived to remove the deer, they discovered it was gone—probably tagged by a passing motorist.

Rex Krout, manager of the Drake Service Station on East Main Street, reported to police that thieves kicked in the front door of the station sometime Thursday night or early Friday morning and stole \$36.47 in change. The thief or thieves pried open a metal cabinet to get at the change.

Indian lore collector, Dr. Ruth Herrick, of Lowell, is still looking for bear claws to complete a bear claw necklace. Any hunters in the area who get a bear have a ready market for the claws hero!

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 16, 1988

Headline: Blasher wins "First Buck Contest." At 7:40 am a Jeep wheeled up in front of the Ledger office and an excited Kurt Blasher, 25, of Belding, hopped out. In the back of Blasher's Jeep was an eight-point buck he bagged from a blind north of Lowell at about 6:45 am. Blasher was the first hunter to show up at the Ledger and was therefore the winner of [the] annual "First Buck Contest." Blasher told [the Ledger] he has been hunting since he was 14 and has killed five deer. He was successful with a gun last year and bagged one each with his bow and gun the previous year. His biggest buck was an eight-point with a 23-inch spread. Blasher said he killed the deer with a 12-gauge slug just five minutes after reaching his blind. "I didn't even have time to get cold," he said.

Rails to trails: Across the country, local communities are recycling abandoned railroad routes to answer the growing need for outdoor recreation. According to National Wildlife magazine, railroad beds make ideal trails. They run through cities, farms and fields. More than 150 rail-trails contribute thousands of miles to the country's trail system.

Bardwell opens Recreation Center: Roller skating & bowling for youths. Many communities yearn for a recreation center where its family and children (elementary through high school) can visit without worrying about riff raff, drugs or alcohol turning family fun into a hangout fiasco. Harry Bardwell, owner of Roll Away, LTD opened the doors to a bowling alley, roller skating, video extravaganza and has a leg up on anything or anybody running interference. The Grandville resident, looking to move to Lowell, successfully managed a center in West Germany similar to that of which he's opened in Lowell. "I police my own grounds. There are no groups standing outside the building hanging out," Bardwell said. The center's manager also makes sure there are no students still waiting for a ride home at evening's end. While the center serves the youth, it also ministers to the bowling needs of ladies, men, mixed doubles, senior citizens, church groups and the junior bowlers. "There is no alcohol sold at the alley during the adult leagues. They're here to bowl and have fun. If people want to drink, they can do that before or after coming to the Roll Away, LTD," Bardwell said. Anyone who was in the former American Legion building knows it needed some work. Bardwell bought the building May 20. Between the purchase date and Roll Away, LTD's opening (Aug. 24), he put roughly \$25,000 into renovations. Much of the work he did himself. "I hired in people to resurface the alleys and the roller rink floor," Bardwell said. "I didn't know a whole lot about roller skating surfaces, but I got some advice from an employee at a skating rink in Jenison," Bardwell said. The floor he renovated used to be filled with dips. Now it's a smooth, resurfaced maple floor. Of course, Bardwell invested in a top notch music system to go with it. While many use the alleys and the roller rink, groups have also found it handy as a meeting hall. It's been used for birthday parties, church and school group gatherings. The American Legion and Attwood have also come here for meetings," Bardwell said. Bardwell spent 20 years working for the U.S. government managing a bowling alley in West Germany. "I liked West Germany and its culture, music, folk dancing and the Alps," Bardwell said. "I'm my own boss," he says. "I enjoy the small town, friendly atmosphere of Lowell."

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 13-194689-DE

Estate of LOUISE M.
TROMBLEY, deceased.
Date of birth:
04/27/1933.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Louise M. Trombley, died 10/25/2013.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lois Lee

Miller, 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.

November 13, 2013

R. John Stephan (P71686) 3875 West River Dr., P.O. Box 327 Comstock Park, MI 49321 616-784-5080

Lois Lee Miller 4035 Leland NW Comstock Park, MI 49321 616-706-8056

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

classifieds

for sale

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 Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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}

100% WOOD HEAT - No worries. Keep your family safe & warm with a Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. BIG SALE, call for details, SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

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}

AMERICAN GIRL DOLL CLOTHES - 16" - 18" homemade outfits, \$10 & under. Come to my home (6 miles East of Lowell). 616-642-6097.

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

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

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

ORDER YOUR HOME-MADE PIES - Apple, cherry & lemon; cookies and cakes for the holidays. 616-794-2390.

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}

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

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

for sale

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

SEMI LOADS 10 CORDS OF 8 FT. LOGS - 10 in. average diameter. See pictures at www.coxx.com, movies on YouTube (alanj-cox) or call Al at 231-846-0346 anytime.

for sale

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

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

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.^{TFN}

wanted

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

CRAFTERS/VENDORS - for 3rd Annual Bushnell-Cherry Creek Holiday Bazaar. Thurs., Dec. 5, 5-8 p.m. Email: bushnell.cce.familylinks@gmail.com for an application. Or pick up application at Bushnell or Cherry Creek office.

LOWELL SCHOOL ARTISTS NEEDED - to participate in Art Show contest during 3rd Annual Bushnell-Cherry Creek Holiday Bazaar. FREE entry fee. Event on Thurs., Dec. 5, 5-8 p.m. Prizes awarded for each age group. Email: bushnell.cce.familylinks@gmail.com for application.

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}

HIRING BOOKKEEPER - Must have excellent knowledge of Quickbooks & have referrals. See www.k9ai.com. Call 616-293-5653.

FOOD PROCESSING POSITION AVAILABLE - An Ada food processing company is hiring for a full-time position. Position will require food processing abilities. Hours are 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri. Benefits are included. Start at up to \$10 per hour depending on experience. Contact Mary at 616-676-0767, in person at 6210 E. Fulton.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY - King Milling Company is seeking a qualified individual for a first shift (7 a.m. - 4 p.m.) Sanitation Technician/Trailer Washing position. Applicant must be self motivated, and have a clean driving record. Please apply at 115 S. Broadway in Lowell.

help wanted

GREEN ACRES LOWELL - an assisted living home is currently seeking a part-time direct care worker for 3rd shift, experience preferred. Applicant must pass a background check & have a high school diploma or GED. If you have a passion to work with the elderly & truly want to make a difference then we want you! Apply in person at 11530 Fulton Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

DRIVER WANTED - once a week to chiropractor in Grandville. Also occasional cleaning help. Call Linda, 897-9202.

NOW HIRING - part time experienced maintenance person to maintain grounds and facility. 616-293-5653 canineacademy international.com

services

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

services

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

GLOBAL DISCOUNT GARAGE DOORS - Spring repairs, electric openers replaced & repaired. Free estimates. Lowest prices guaranteed. Call 616-334-3574.

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

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

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.

misc.

3rd ANNUAL BUSHNELL-CHERRY CREEK HOLIDAY BAZAAR - Thurs., Dec. 5 from 5-8 p.m. Kids crafts, storytime with Mrs. Claus, Craft/Vendor Show & please come vote for your favorite student art project at our first ever Art Show. Location: Cherry Creek Elementary, 12675 Foreman, Lowell.

UPS SHIPPING FEDEX PICKUP COPY SERVICE, (black & white & color!) FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING & MUCH MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER BUYERS GUIDE 105 N. Broadway
HOURS
 M-Th. 8-5 p.m.
 Fri. 8-noon
 Closed Sat. & Sun.
 Ph. 897-9261
 Fax 897-4809
 email:
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Coming Events

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

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

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

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

LOWELL - Varsity sporting events, concerts, school board meetings, city council meetings, DDA meetings & planning commission meetings can be viewed on the 'local' Comcast public access channel (25) within a day or two of when they were held. Many athletic contests & concerts can be heard 'live' from the www.wlrsradio.org internet radio website.

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

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

LOWELL ROTARY CLUB - meets each Wednesday at noon at Lowell City Hall. New members welcome.

VERGENNES CLUB MEETS - at 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month March thru Nov. Meeting at Schneider Manor Community Room. Program & refreshments. Guests welcome.

CARVING CLUB - meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at LowellArts! New members welcomed. Call for information, 616-752-0096.

WEE WEDNESDAYS - Every Wednesday, 11-11:20. Rhymes, stories, songs & fun for adult & baby. Babies birth to 17 mo. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding. 616-794-1450.

FRIDAY FUN - Every Friday, 11-11:45 a.m. Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes, games & a simple craft. For 3-5 year olds. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding. 616-794-1450.

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

NA MEETING - Mondays, 6 p.m. at Lowell Serenity Club.

NEW STORY TIME AT FROM - first Wed. of every month, 6-7 p.m. at FROM, 11535 E. Fulton, Lowell.

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

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

KNITTING - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. Instructional knitting class

by Cathie Richter. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

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

FAMILY BUILDING BLOCKS BRICKS PARTY - Tues., Dec. 31, 1 p.m. Design, build & bond w/the whole family w/building blocks. For all ages. Englehardt branch library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

FREE HOLIDAY GIFT WRAPPING SERVICES - at the Belding Masonic Lodge on Dec. 6 from 4-7 p.m. & Dec. 7 from 1-5 p.m.

GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

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

BEYBLADES - Wed., Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m. Test your skills & have fun competing in KDL'S Beyblade Battles! Bring your own Beyblades & arenas, or train & compete using the library's equipment. For ages 6 & older. Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. Ph. 784-2007.

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.

ADULT CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m., A committed group for those diagnosed with cancer. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell.

Lowell graduate doing her part to end bullying

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Mariah Moore is well-known for being a champion. Since the young age of 12 she has been winning both national and world championship titles in the martial arts. She earned a staggering 11 of each, along with a slew of gold medals, before graduating from Lowell High School in 2011 after which she became an entirely different kind of champion, one for our youth. Using her first hand experience as a motivator and her tremendous success as a platform, she began leading a crusade against bullying with her motivational anti-bullying assembly tour Enough Is Enough (EIE).

Moore says her own trouble with bullies began immediately after her first world championship competition in 2006, "I was so excited and happy when I earned two world championship titles and two gold medals for the USA. I was on top of the world and had an amazing experience and wanted to share my happiness with everyone. But when I went back to school a month later everything changed." Moore claims she began to experience relentless bullying at the hands of her classmates. "The kids that I thought were my friends now called me names and said awful things about me. They made fun of my world titles and tried to pick fights with me. The boys would kick my heels and knock the

books out of my hands. The girls would spread awful rumors about me. This went on every single day until I graduated from high school. I put on a brave face at school and got through the darkest days by pouring myself into the art I love: martial arts."

Moore is certainly not alone in her suffering. "Bullying is everywhere," she says. "No income level, no race, no sex, no geographic space is immune. It can lead to anxiety, depression and even suicide."

It is estimated that one out of four kids is the victim of bullying and that 160,000 children miss school every day due to fear of being victimized by their peers. An astounding 71 percent of students asked report that bullying is a problem in the school they attend.

Moore's first anti-bullying assembly took place in May 2011 when she spoke to and performed for the student body at a small northern Michigan school. She said that the change that came about in the school and the outpouring of stories from those who had attended inspired the EIE movement, "Boys and girls alike poured their hearts out. Eyes were opened, dialog began and transformation started. With this one assembly I realized why I had endured all those years of suffering. I also realized that my world titles and martial arts skills were earned for a reason more



Moore in her own EIE pledge photo committing to the fight against bullying.

important than gold medals and six foot trophies. Right then is when EIE was created."

The exciting and fast paced EIE assembly tour has now traveled to schools across the United States and Canada spreading a message of encouragement and empowerment and urging students to "Stop The Hate and Heal the Hurt" which is the slogan of the EIE campaign. Following the assembly,

which includes two martial arts performances and an interactive audience participation exercise, students are asked to take a photographic pledge, showing the EIE logo on their hand, to prevent bullying both in schools and in cyberspace. "Cyber bullying is a whole new animal," says Moore of the use of the internet and technological devices as bullying weapons, "there is no reprieve when the school

bell rings. It goes on 24-7. This probably contributes to the growing rates of bullycide." Incidences of bullycide, suicide by bullying, are on the rise across the country affecting children as young as seven years old. Statistics show that a victim of bullying is twice as likely to commit suicide than someone who is not a victim.

Moore says that although her athletic success

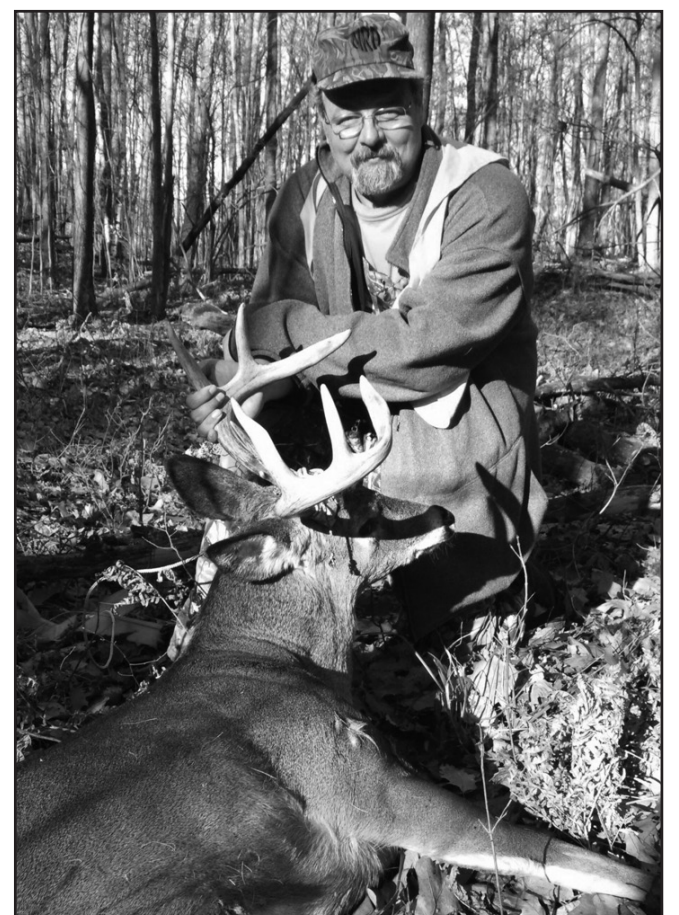
came along with daily heart break at school she is proud to be able to use her own experience of triumph and strength to affect change in the lives of the young people she meets. "I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to use my skills and experience to help others. I very much believe that I live to make a difference and I will through the EIE anti-bullying movement and assembly tour."

Responsibility in Action



The Murray Lake Elementary students pictured were nominated by staff members for putting October's character trait into action on a daily basis. These students received an award and were

recognized in front of the entire student body. Murray Lake Elementary is currently focusing on "Respect" for the month of November.



Bill Brock, of Lowell, is pictured with the deer he shot on opening day at 9:10 am. He was hunting on public land in the Huron National Forest. The deer weighed 209 lbs. field dressed. The eight-point rack measured 17 3/4 inches at the outside spread. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) aged the deer at 4 1/2 years old.

**THEME:
POP CULTURE**

ACROSS

- 1. "The buck _____ here"
- 6. Augment
- 9. Like a jury unable to agree
- 13. Orca, e.g.
- 14. *Photographs in text messages
- 15. Wiser
- 16. Buddhist who has attained nirvana
- 17. Australian runner
- 18. Sign of life
- 19. *Movie host
- 21. *Like popular TV genre
- 23. Hot springs resort
- 24. Ski lift
- 25. Sensitive subject to some
- 28. Delhi wrap
- 30. Boredom
- 35. "_____ Free" (1966)
- 37. *What a judge does on "Top Chef"
- 39. Straight muscles
- 40. _____ Continental currency
- 41. Iron Age priest
- 43. Churn
- 44. Make _____ more attractive
- 46. Major European river
- 47. "Fool me _____, shame on you"
- 48. Rodent and name of outdoor gear maker
- 50. Fungal spore sacs
- 52. Articulate
- 53. Coffin along with stand
- 55. Mozart's "L"_____ del Cairo"
- 57. *One Direction, e.g.
- 61. *Modern book
- 65. _____ Architectural projection
- 66. Jelly-like stuff
- 68. **"Say Yes to the Dress" target

CROSSWORD														
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72						73				74				



NOVEMBER 13 - NOVEMBER 19

- Oxford dictionary's word of the year for 2013 has been announced and the word is "selfie."
- A rare November storm swept through the Midwest with straight line winds and tornados. Six people were killed in Illinois.
- George Zimmerman, who four months ago was found not guilty of murdering teenager Trayvon Martin, has been arrested again for pointing a shotgun at his girlfriend.
- A male lion killed a lioness with a bite to the neck at the Dallas Zoo. Apparently a very rare event.
- Friday, November 22, 2013, marks the 50th anniversary of the death of President John F. Kennedy. Kennedy was shot during a motorcade in Dallas, Texas by Lee Harvey Oswald and in spite of the Warren Commission results stating he was the lone gunman, conspiracy theories still exist among many.

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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.

- DOWN**
- 1. Go to and fro
 - 2. Through, to a poet
 - 3. Pearl Harbor location
 - 4. Surveyor's maps
 - 5. Arrangements
 - 6. D'Artagnan's weapon of choice
 - 7. *Kourtney and Khloë's sister
 - 8. Beyond suburbs
 - 9. Drag
 - 10. Tangerine and grapefruit hybrid
 - 11. Egg holder
 - 12. *Multi-shaded Christian
 - 15. Merciful one
 - 20. Talked like a sheep
 - 22. **"The Biggest Loser" isn't supposed to do it a lot
 - 24. Like a noble dignitary
 - 25. At right angles to ship or plane
 - 26. Known for its common red casing
 - 27. Computer message
 - 29. Like pink steak
 - 31. Audition tape
 - 32. *They're on an iPhone screen
 - 33. Carthage's ancient neighbor
 - 34. *From Disney to pop star
 - 36. "Cheers" regular
 - 38. *The Jonas bros
 - 42. Interior designer's focus
 - 45. Cricket penalty
 - 49. Sn, on periodic table
 - 51. First-aid item
 - 54. Bordered
 - 56. Frustration, in print
 - 57. *One of Miami Heat's "Big Three"
 - 58. Filling treat
 - 59. Pitiful puppy cries
 - 60. **"Teen _____" mag (1967-2007)
 - 61. Besides
 - 62. Have supper
 - 63. Original garden?
 - 64. R in RIP
 - 67. Rock music style

Puzzle solutions appear on page 12

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One of the lessons of history is that nothing is often a good thing to do and always a clever thing to say.

~ Will Durant (1885 - 1981)

**THIS WEEK'S
ONLINE
POLL
RESULTS**

*Are Northwestern
University's uniforms -*

Appropriate 57%

Inappropriate 14%

No opinion 29%

**TO VOTE IN
THIS WEEK'S
ONLINE POLL
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thelowellledger.com**

Subscriber saves Ledgers and shares fond memories

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing reporter

Sandra Hawkins has her Lowell Ledger mailed to her in Woodland, California, just outside of Sacramento. Her collection of Ledgers might just have the most mileage of any other collection, because she's been living in Sacramento since 1965.

Hawkins lived out her youth on the border between Lowell and Saranac. She lived on Kyser Road (named for Charles Kyser). Sandra was born a Vickery, but is a

Kyser on her mother's side. "It used to be that my entire family lived within 50 miles of Kyser Road," Hawkins said.

Hawkins graduated from high school in Saranac in 1957. There were only 42 people in her class and they all made a pact to join the armed forces and serve the country side-by-side. As a result, Hawkins joined the air force and was stationed at Mather Air Force Base near Sacramento for her entire three-year stint. An

enlisted soldier, Hawkins tended to the cars and trucks in her maintenance position.

When she returned to Saranac/Lowell, it would not be for good. In no time, she had convinced her sister and her cousin to come back to California with her.

Before she retired, Hawkins worked at an automotive supply company owned by her husband Mike Hawkins, who she met and married while living in California. They now have

two married daughters, one of which lives with Hawkins, along with her husband and two kids.

"I'm in my ideal spot," Hawkins said. "Close to the mountains. Close to the ocean. But I prefer the mountains."

Though Hawkins spent such a small percentage of her life in Michigan, she has no shortage of good things to say about her home state.

"Fond memories, my heart is full of them," Hawkins said, poetically. "My heart is way up North."

Hawkins' favorite place in Michigan is White Fish Point. She remembers yearly outings to nearby Tahquamenon Falls, which was her father's favorite place to go. Every time she comes back to Michigan, she likes to go up North with her relatives, many of whom are hunters and stay at the family cabin in Escanaba.

Hawkins has fond memories of the Lower Peninsula as well. Her mother, Madeline Kyser, later Madeline Vickery, wrote for the Lowell Ledger as early as 1936.

Hawkins loves the Looking Back feature in the Lowell Ledger, because it



Sandra Hawkins has her Lowell Ledger mailed to her in Woodland, California.

is peppered with her family history. She will see things about her mother or about her grandfather John Callier, a long time King Milling employee who was given a step from the old building.

Hawkins will sometimes ask her 19-year-old granddaughter to read some of the articles from her old Ledger collection, but the language is often so different that she has difficulties with it. Hawkins'

stack of Ledgers could likely teach her grandchildren lessons they could never learn in a history class.

Hawkins recounted her yearly Lowell ritual. She would fly back home, hop in a rental car and drive directly to Ball's Softee Creme and then continue home, but only after she'd had her ice cream.

"I just can't wait to get back there," Hawkins said.

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