

from  
facelift



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## MDOT discusses bridge slide method at last Lowell Township public meeting

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be using the new "bridge slide" method on an upcoming construction project in Lowell Township.

Details about the project were revealed at a public meeting at Lowell Township Hall on Wednesday, Jan. 8.

"We've decided to use a different type of construction on this one. We'll be sliding this bridge," said Charlie Stein, MDOT project manager. "We'll be building this bridge on the west side of the road and it'll be on a temporary sub-structure during construction. What we'll

do then is after the bridge is demolished and the new, permanent sub-structure is built, we'll actually slide the super-structure over into place."

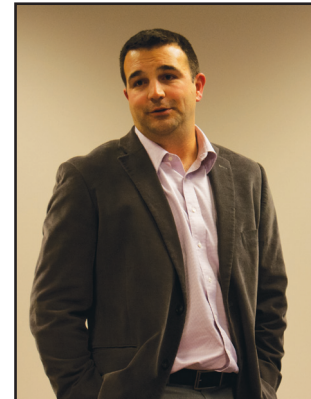
The bridge on M-50 (Alden Nash Rd.) goes over I-96 in Lowell Township. MDOT plans to make it a bigger, better bridge.

"Currently the existing structure is a 4-span structure," Stein said. "It's going to be widened by 33 feet to accommodate two additional lanes, which will be left-hand turn lanes essentially. It will also have full shoulders, so two 10-foot shoulders [as well] will bring the bridge up to standard."

The total cost of the project has not been determined. MDOT is still in discussions with the contractor,

"We're pretty much done with the design plans at this point," Stein said. "We're working on developing a cost proposal with the contractor, Anlaan Corporation."

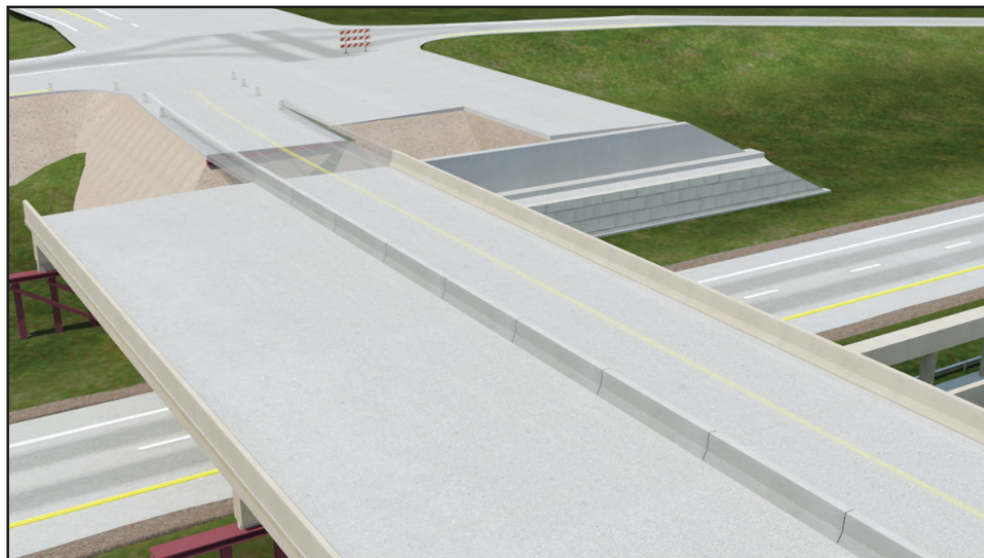
There will be some detours and delays, but with the new "bridge slide" method those problems are reduced.



Charlie Stein of MDOT revealed details of the "bridge slide."

"When we demolish the bridge, that'll be a one-weekend closure," Stein said. "Then when we actually slide the bridge that'll be a one-weekend closure. So, effectively, you'll only have a four-day closure of M-50, where detour routes will be in effect."

Bridge slide, continued, page 2



A still shot from an MDOT slide show shown at last Wednesday's meeting.

## Rescheduled winter celebration enjoyed at Bushnell

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Kindergarten students at Bushnell Elementary put on their pajamas, grabbed

their best stuffed friend and hopped aboard *The Polar Express* this past Friday in a

winter celebration centering around the popular book.

The day's activities, which were rescheduled due to weather closings before the holidays, kicked off with a snack of hot cocoa and sugar cookies. Students used frosting and sprinkles to create their own delicious cookie creations before heading to the media center for the next stop of their railroad journey.

Bushnell principal Roger Bearup greeted the

pajama-clad students as they gathered eagerly around for a reading of the book that is widely considered a new holiday classic.

The story, which was written by West Michigan native Chris Van Allsburg and partially set in Grand Rapids, centers around a young boy's night ride to the North Pole aboard *The Polar Express*. He rediscovers the true magic of Christmas through a reindeer's bell given to him by Santa.

Bearup read expressively to the young learners who displayed excellent listening skills. At the end a single jingle bell was given to each of the students in attendance. The students then broke out into a delightful and impromptu rendition of *Jingle Bells*.

After a lunch and recess break the students wrapped up the fun with a viewing of the film adaptation of the book starring Tom Hanks.



Principal Roger Bearup reads *The Polar Express* to students in the library as part of the rescheduled winter celebration day.

## Flooding at Lowell fun center

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

A worn fitting on a fountain pop dispenser caused considerable water damage to the Roll Away Fun Center this past Friday afternoon.

The problem was discovered around 3:30 pm by the building's maintenance man, reported longtime owner Bob VanNoller. "Boy, was I surprised to get that phone call! I had been here earlier in the day and this was not

happening," said VanNoller.

Gallons of water spilled onto the floor of the rink-side concession stand when the worn fitting broke loose soaking both the tile and carpet in the upper level of the building.

"Fortunately it is not on the wood," said VanNoller, referencing the fact that the water did not make it to the wooden skating surface, "There is no way to clean water out of wood."

Water also made its way to the first floor of the building, soaking through the ceiling and dripping like rain, according to VanNoller. Water dripped from ceiling tiles and through light fixtures onto the bottom floor drenching both floors and equipment.

"The pool table was flooded and water was

Flooding, continued, page 2

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CENTS



# Flooding, continued

literally dripping out of the bottom of it," said VanNoller. Fortunately the shiny wooden lanes of the bowling alley were also spared any damage from the flood.

friends and family armed with shop vacs gathered to assist in the clean up. A representative from the company that owns the soda dispensing machine also arrived and called water damage experts to clean up at their expense.

Work began immediately at the center as

The incident forced VanNoller to postpone the Lowell Middle School chess club fundraiser which was planned for that evening. He says that it is his biggest event of the year and also the primary fundraiser for the club.

"It will definitely be rescheduled," he said.

Roll Away was open for business again by Saturday morning after an all-night effort to undo the damage.

"We still have some problems," he said, "but we are open."



Friends and family helped clean up the water-soaked carpets near the concession stand.

## "Friendship and money: oil and water."

~ Mario Puzo

# along main street



### FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thurs., Jan. 16 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

### SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS

Class held at the Lowell YMCA on Mondays and Fridays from 11-Noon starting Monday, Jan. 20. Call 855-9570 for more information.

### FRIENDS REBUILDING WHITES BRIDGE

Meets the 3rd Monday of each month at the Keene Township Hall, 8505 Potters Road, Saranac, at 6 pm. Public is invited to join the group as they plan to raise funds to restore Whites Covered Bridge. For additional information, email rebuildwhitesbridge@aol.com

### GILDA'S CLUB LOWELL CLUBHOUSE

**Neuropathy Informative Workshop** - Tues., Jan. 14, 3-4 pm. If you are living with neuropathy, come and join others who are also. We will learn, share and laugh together. **Woodcarving** - Tues., Jan. 21, 3:15-4:15 pm. Learn how to make easy and beautiful wood carvings with Doug Shassberger. Beginners are welcome and supplies are provided. **Book Club** - Tues., Jan. 21, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join

Kathy Mieras for a relaxing and cozy book club. Pick up your book to borrow at the parlor desk. Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit [www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow](http://www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow)

### FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP RESCHEDULED

The date for the annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship has been changed to Thurs., Jan. 23 at 7 pm in the Lowell Middle School Gym. This event is free and you may sign up at the event. All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to compete. Trophies are presented to winners at each age level. If you have any questions, please contact Brent Noskey, 307-0020.

### HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION

The Lowell High School class of 2018 orientation will be held on Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014 from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This orientation is for parents and their students who will be entering high school in the fall of 2014. In addition to an informational session, teachers and club sponsors will also be available for questions. Please call the Student Services Center at 987-2908 with questions.

*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.*

# Bridge slide, continued

There will also be a few delays on I-96.

"We will have some intermittent closures on I-96 when we set beams and that kind of stuff," Stein said. "When M-50 is detoured the traffic will be sent up and over the ramps so it'll be reduced to one lane so there will be impacts to I-96 on the weekends for those four days."

This will be the first time a "bridge slide" will be done in Michigan.

"The reason why we are sliding the bridge is basically because of the major impacts at the interchange," Stein said. "We realize that if we were to build this and demolish the bridge, there's not very good detour routes. We're trying to minimize disruptions to the public and the businesses and the neighboring communities as much as possible."



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# Treasures Thrift Shop to get face lift this February

by Justin Tiemeyer  
contributing reporter

The Treasures Thrift Shop at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) has been a staple of affordable shopping in Lowell for years. Lowell bargain hunters will be saddened to find out that the store will close its doors on February 1, but they will be gladdened to learn that when it reopens it will be better than ever.

With the remaining funds from the River of Hope capital campaign, FROM will be renovating the thrift shop to provide a better shopping experience. By removing a series of interior walls, Treasures Thrift shop will have more retail space in their two main showrooms and gain access to an additional large showroom down the

north hall. The majority of the renovation will be conducted by Ridgeline Construction, with Flat River Electric donating their services for electrical needs.

"These changes will create more open spaces for us to carry more merchandise on the showroom floor, all of which is generously donated by the community," FROM director Tamela Spicer said.

While the Treasures Thrift Shop benefits the community already simply by providing affordable alternatives to decorating one's home and clothing one's family, the main purpose of the store is to fund the services FROM provides to those in Lowell

who are having trouble making ends meet. Because it is open to the entire community and not just FROM clients, the thrift shop is able to provide over 43 percent of FROM's annual revenue.

"What people don't realize is that every time they shop or donate their gently used items to FROM they are helping to pay rent for a family or helping with a utility bill or feeding a child," Spicer said. "Treasures is truly an opportunity to shop with a purpose."

Treasures will remain closed from February 1 through 19 for renovations. Nearly a month after its soft reopening, there will be an official grand reopening event from March 26-29. While it is too early to speculate the exact details of this event, Spicer teased that there will be sales, demonstrations, food and fun.

"We will be doing some painting and reorganizing after the major renovation is complete so we want to give ourselves a little time to get everything in shape before celebrating the grand reopening in late March," Spicer said.

The Treasures Thrift Shop is the last of a series



Treasures Thrift Shop will have a different look after February

of projects proposed in 2009 at the end of the River of Hope capital campaign. These projects included the installation of a new roof, new windows, taking down interior walls to create program space, renovation of the front entrance, parking lot and the new donation center. The funds have created a more efficient FROM building with better handicap accessibility. This final

renovation will certainly complement the original purpose of this fund.

FROM is still in need of volunteers to help in many areas, from moving items off the showroom floors prior to renovation to resetting the store once the work is complete. Anyone interested may contact FROM volunteer coordinator Diane Kleczynski at 616-897-8260, extension 23.

Treasures Thrift Shop is run by volunteers who donate over 1,600 volunteer hours monthly as they sort and hang clothing, price furniture and operate daily business. The thrift shop will continue to hold regular hours until the renovation, Wednesday and Friday 10 am to 8 pm, Thursday 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday 10 am to 4 pm.

## business matters



Greenridge Realty announced that Elaine Wingeier received Sales Associate of the Month in December.

This award recognizes Wingeier for her outstanding success and achievements.

Elaine Wingeier



## college news

Jonathan R. Fox, of Lowell, has been named to the dean's list at Western Michigan University in recognition of outstanding scholastic achievement in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences for the December 2013 term. Parents are Tom and Krista Fox of Lowell.

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## sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

### "School Boards Lead Strong"

Lowell Area Schools Celebrates  
 Our School Board Leaders This January

January is School Board Recognition Month and Lowell Area Schools is joining 545 local and 56 intermediate school districts across the state to thank these community volunteers for their untiring dedication to public education.

Serving on a school board has been described as the toughest volunteer job in America. Yet Michigan's public school board members dedicate countless personal hours to attending meetings, school functions, and hours of preparation for the decisions they make. On top of that, many pursue their own professional development to stay on top of the ever-changing education landscape. Members of the Lowell

Board of Education are truly advocates as they provide vision and leadership for student achievement, academic programs, district funding and school facilities. They are deeply dedicated individuals who are committed to the continuing success of our schools and students.

School Board members are citizens whose decisions affect our children and build our communities. They ensure that decisions on school programming are made by people we've elected to represent our community's values, culture and circumstances. Showing appreciation for the important work of school boards should be a year-round process, but too often

we neglect to recognize the dedication and hard work of these men and women who represent us. This January, the staff and students of our district are asking all members of the community to take a moment and thank a school board member.

It's an exciting and challenging time in public education. Please join me in thanking the Lowell Board of Education members who dedicate countless personal hours to ensure the needs of our community are met by our public schools. We salute these public servants whose civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible. We applaud them for their vision and voice to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders.

The members serving on Lowell Area Schools Board of Education are:

**Jim Turner,**  
 Board of Education  
 President

**Brian Krajewski,**  
 Board of Education  
 Vice President

**Pat Nugent,**  
 Board of  
 Education Secretary

**Gary Blough,**  
 Board of  
 Education Trustee

**Tom Kaywood,**  
 Board of  
 Education Trustee

**Laurie Kuna,**  
 Board of  
 Education Trustee

At the January Regular Board of Education meeting, students, staff, and administration celebrated School Board Recognition Month. Students used their artistic talents to create appreciation cards and banners to show their gratitude to the Lowell Board of Education members who make Lowell Area Schools a great place to learn.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### constituents denied

Dear Editor,

In a Dec. 25 Lowell Ledger article Mark Howe, Lowell's city manager, suggested less contentious – public meetings. The article stated, "My goal for 2014 is to promote civility in our public discussions," Howe said. We need city residents to engage in the conversation in a constructive manner."

Then a headline in Jan. 8 Lowell Ledger stated, Mayor reappointed at combative council meeting."

I believe the reasons the city council meetings continue to be contentious is because the city manager and city council seem to have no desire in being the servant for which they were put into office to be. Last year something that resembled a police state came about when constituents of Lowell were threatened to be removed from a council meeting just because some insisted in having their right to have a dialogue.

For two years the constituents of Lowell

have been denied their right to have a dialogue with the city council over contract negotiations where the employees of the Department of Public Works are being denied a (just) contract. If you ask a question at a city council meeting that doesn't pertain to what's on the council's agenda the council reserves the right not to comment. The city council should be having dialogues and answering all questions that pertain to the city, not just what's on the council's agenda. The time for change is past due. If Mr. Howe is (really) serious about less contentious meetings, may I suggest th at Mr. Howe and the city council (start) being the humble servants for whom they were put into office to be. Opening a dialogue on the ongoing contract negotiations would be a start in the right direction.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard  
Lowell

### a quick history lesson

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to last week's letter to editor "happy with electric service." On face value it would appear to state a general satisfaction with the service and decision making of the management of LL&P regarding the tree trimming policy, which I agree with. My concern is with the message in the later part of the letter where it states, "Let's stay out of their business and let them do THEIR job, as they know better than you and I." This comment to me is very troubling and please allow me to explain.

In the Bill Of Rights, the First Amendment of the United States Constitution states:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

It is the right to petition I would like to focus on. The right to petition is fundamental in the United States, as a means of protecting public participation in government. It is the right to make a complaint to, or seek the assistance of, one's government, without fear of punishment or reprisals.

The first significant exercise and defense of the right to petition within the U.S. was to advocate the end of slavery by petitioning Congress in the mid-1830s, including 130,000 such requests in 1837 and 1838. In 1836, the House of Representatives adopted a gag rule that would table all such anti-slavery petitions. John Quincy Adams and other Representatives eventually achieved the repeal of this rule in 1844 on the basis that it was contrary to the right to petition the government.

The right for individuals to ask questions of its government or to question government's decisions

is so important that in 1925 the US adopted the incorporation doctrine. This in-turn made the Fourteenth Amendment, along with the rest of the Bill of Rights applicable to all states and local governments.

It is disheartening, to say the least, to hear anyone from the public to ask others to give up such a basic right as not to be involved in government; a right that this nation was based on, a right that started the end of slavery. And yes, LL&P is a department of the city of Lowell, per city charter.

Remember, "THEIR business" is our business.

We are they, ALL of us; we make up government, common people just like you and me. Someone else had this same sentiment...

"...that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

President Abraham Lincoln,  
Gettysburg Address  
November 19, 1863  
Ralph Brecken  
Cedar Springs

### need more open stores

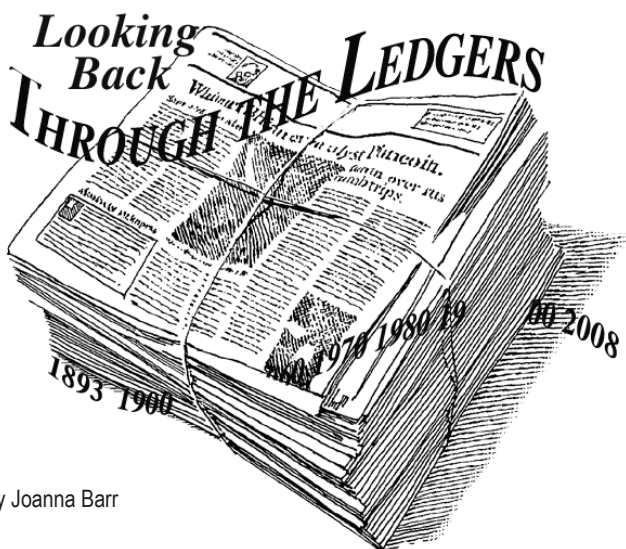
Dear Editor,

I wanted to publicly thank businesses in Lowell for being open for us to shop local Monday pm, December 23. I decided to do some local last minute Christmas shopping with my girls. I expected all the downtown stores to have their lights on and awaiting Christmas customers. I was thrilled to see some stores

open, yet very disappointed many were closed. We tried to stay local and shop in Lowell Christmas week. Thank you to the shop owners who were open to happily serve us a few days before Christmas.

We were very grateful to be helped by you on that snowy Christmasy evening.

Heather Dilley  
(& girls) Lowell



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal January 16, 1889

The township library is now open for the drawing of books. One hundred and fifty new volumes have been recently added.

The Council have re-engaged Arthur Morgan as night watch and lamp lighter for the West Side and D. V. Dennick as lamp lighter for the East Side.

Stray dog—a large yellow dog, with a white neck, has taken up his abode at Denny's Blacksmith shop. The owner is requested to take him away.

A number of Miss Lottie Driscoll's friends gave her a surprise at her home in Lyon block, Monday evening, being the occasion of her 17th birthday. The evening was pleasantly passed in dancing, eating and cards.

About a year ago Henry Powers and John Scanlon, cousins, of Grand Rapids quarreled and Scanlon killed Powers. The first trial resulted in a disagreement of

the jury, but after 24 hours' deliberation Saturday, the second jury found Scanlon guilty of manslaughter.

The proprietor of the Tremont House, at Vicksburg, Mich., had Frank Howard, well known here, arrested and jailed at Kalamazoo Friday. Howard was charged with getting \$70 worth of board at the Tremont House under false pretenses.

A good while ago Earl Nash bought the right to sell in certain territory a patent arrangement for carrying the steam and fumes of a cookstove up the chimney, from the inventor or owner, a gentleman by the name of Parks, of Mecosta, giving therefore, besides some cash, a mortgage on a horse. Parks eventually sold the mortgage to M. F. Strong, who recently took the horse to satisfy his claim.. Nash claims there was fraud in the original transaction, that the patent arrangement was n. g. and he don't want to pay. He claims to have offered soon after buying the right to give Parks the \$25 if he would trade back. The case found its way into Justice Hunter's court last Thursday and only came to an end Tuesday morning at 1 o'clock, by the jury disagreeing. Nearly everyone who ever saw one of the things was brought to witness and the combination drew big houses to the end. A new start will be taken Thursday. Secure your seats early.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 15, 1914

Lowell's Schools notes and items of interest by student reporter - about twenty sophomores enjoyed a sleighride to the home of Warner Roth in Vergennes. Games were played and light refreshments served. A lively time was had by all. The Freshmen decided that they would not be out done by the Sophomores

## We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher. Opinions expressed in "To The Editor" are not the views of the Ledger employees or the publisher. All letters are subject to editing for length and grammar. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.

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# engagements

## Den Houter/Manglitz



Jessica Den Houter and Michael Manglitz

Jessica Den Houter, the daughter of Kathryn Den Houter and the late Leonard Den Houter from Lowell, announces her engagement to Michael Manglitz, the son of the late Christopher Manglitz and the late Katalin Manglitz of Hyattsville, Maryland.

Jessica is currently working as the Transition Coordinator at KIPP DC: College Preparatory and studying law at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and Michael is a Ph.D. candidate at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

# Social Security disability benefits

The month of February is a time to recognize a number of unfortunate ailments that disable and take the lives of too many people.

February is American Heart Month, focusing on heart disease and how to prevent it. Every year more than 700,000 Americans have a heart attack and about 600,000 die from heart disease — making up about a fourth of the nation's deaths. National Wear Red Day, February 7, also focuses on heart disease — the number one killer of women.

February 4 is World Cancer Day, a chance to raise our collective voices in the name of improving knowledge about cancer. February 14 is National Donor Day, encouraging everyone to become an

organ donor, giving the ultimate Valentine to someone in need.

These awareness campaigns remind us how critically important Social Security disability benefits are for people with severe disabilities and their families.

Many people do not like to think about disability. However, the onset of disability is unpredictable and can happen to anyone at any age. The unfortunate reality is that one in four 20-year-old workers become disabled before reaching retirement age. When severe illness or injury robs a person of the ability to work and earn a living, Social Security disability benefits can provide a critical source of financial support at a time of need.

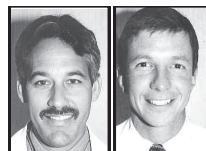
You don't need to have had a heart attack, organ transplant, or cancer to qualify for disability benefits. However, you must have a disability that is severe enough to render you unable to work and that is expected to last a year or longer, or result in death.

If you have such a disability, you should start your application

now. The most convenient way to accomplish this is online. Just visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/applyfordisability) to begin.

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 [vonda.vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov)

# health



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

## Clostridium difficile colitis

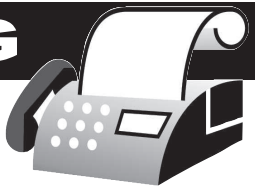
Colitis (inflammation of the colon) can occur as a result of infection with the bacterium *Clostridium difficile* (also known as *C. diff*). The disease results from disruption or removal of normal healthy bacteria from the colon by antibiotics. The *C. diff* bacterium produces toxins that attack the lining of the colon and can cause severe damage to the colon itself. More commonly, *C. difficile* toxins produce diarrhea and abdominal discomfort. Unfortunately, it is resistant to most antibiotics. Complications of *C. diff* colitis include bowel perforation (a hole in the colon) and pseudomembranous colitis (patches of severe inflammation and pus in the colon). *C. difficile* is one of the most common infections that are typically acquired in health care institutions, along with Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA). Hand washing and disinfection, isolation of infected patients

and appropriate antibiotic use are the best ways to reduce the spread of these types of infection.

Risk factors for contracting *C. diff* colitis include treatment with antibiotics, hospitalization, nursing home residency, critical illness, immune system depression, age older than 55, disease of the bowel or recent gastrointestinal surgery. Signs and symptoms of this colitis include watery diarrhea, fever, abdominal pain and cramping, nausea with or without vomiting, and weight loss.

Diagnosing *C. diff* colitis relies on the patient's history of frequent diarrhea for several days, typically in a person who is taking or recently took antibiotics. A stool sample is tested for the presence of the bacteria toxins. Other tests may be required if complications are suspected, including blood counts, blood chemistry, abdominal x-rays or computed tomography (CT) scanning.

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# happy birthday!

**JANUARY 15**  
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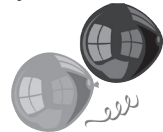
**JANUARY 16**  
Alex Stuckey.

**JANUARY 17**  
Kevin Rasch, Joe Potter.

**JANUARY 20**  
Shelby Baird, Josh Rinard.

**JANUARY 18**  
Shelby Weston.

**JANUARY 21**  
James Vezino, Mark MacNaughton, Krysta Jankowski, Brooklyn Rinard.



# financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

## Are you prepared for the unexpected?

When you're working to achieve your financial objectives, you will encounter obstacles. Some of these can be anticipated — for example, you won't be able to invest as much as you want for retirement because you have to pay for your mortgage. Other challenges can't be easily anticipated, but you can still plan for them — and you should.

Obviously, the word "unexpected," by definition, implies an unlimited number of possibilities. However, at different stages of your life, you may want to watch for some "expected" unexpected developments.

For example, during your working years, be

prepared for the following:

- *Emergency expenses* — If you needed a major car or home repair, could you handle it? What about a temporary job loss? These events are costly — especially if you are forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for them. To help guard against these threats, try to build an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, held in a liquid, low-risk account.

- *Investment risk and market volatility* — Extreme price swings are unpredictable, and they can affect your investment success. To defend yourself against wild gyrations in the market, build a diversified

portfolio containing quality investments. While diversification, by itself, can't protect against loss or guarantee profits, it can help reduce the effect of volatility on your portfolio. And here's one more thing you can do to cope with the ups and downs of investing: Maintain a long-term perspective. By doing so, you won't be tempted to overreact to short-term downturns.

- *Long-term disability* — One-third of all people between the ages of 30 and 64 will become disabled at some point, according to the Health Insurance Association of America. Disabilities can be economically devastating. As part of your benefits package, your employer may offer some disability insurance, but you may need to supplement it with private coverage.

- *Premature death* — None of us can really predict our longevity. If

something happens to you, would your family be able to stay in your home? Could your children still attend college? To protect these goals, you need adequate life insurance.

As you approach retirement, and during your retirement years, you may want to focus on these challenges:

- *Living longer than expected* — You probably don't think that "living longer than expected" is necessarily a bad thing. However, a longer-than-anticipated life span also carries with it the risk of outliving your money. Consequently, you may want to consider investment solutions that can provide you with an income stream that you can't outlive. Also, you'll need to be careful about how much you withdraw each year from your various retirement and investment accounts.

- *Need for long-term care* — If you had

to stay a few years in a nursing home, the cost could mount to hundreds of thousands of dollars. These expenses could jeopardize your financial security, so you'll need to protect yourself. You could "self-insure," but as that would be extremely costly, you may want to "transfer the risk" to an insurance company.

A financial professional can help explain your choices.

None of us can foresee all the events in our lives. But in your role as an investor, you can at least take positive steps to prepare for the unexpected — and those steps should lead you in the right direction as you move toward your important goals.

## outdoors



get real

Dave Stegehuis

Henry David Thoreau wrote, "In wildness is the preservation of the world," while spending two years off the grid at Walden Pond. Charles Lindberg observed, "Real freedom lies in wildness, not civilization." Thoreau lived in the mid-19th century and Lindberg the first half of the 20th century. These reflections are still relevant as we move into the 21st century.

The natural world is just that—natural; everything else is by the design of man. That which is created by man is almost always done for the direct benefit of people. This of course is necessary to insure long term human survival. At other times, the focus is simply on entertainment and convenience. The man made elements of our world are artificial and fleeting, while nature is consistent and unchanging.

The difference between Thoreau's time and today is there are fewer square miles of what might be called wilderness or natural areas. All is not lost, however, because others before us had the foresight to preserve wild areas for future generations. Even today, more land is being set aside and protected. We have the good fortune to have the opportunity to seek out and access wild places to recreate and find solitude.

We therefore are able to experience the same relationship with the earth as our ancestors. Making this connection can lead us to a better understanding of our role in the big picture. This perspective can help one to establish a positive outlook and improve the quality of life. In a virtual world we can all use a good dose of reality.

# LHS January Student of the Month

Lowell High School has announced that freshman Tiana Petricevic is the Lowell High School Student of the Month for January 2014.

In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly department chair meeting. Students are selected based on academic achievement, character and work ethic. There are 1,200 students eligible for nomination, so this is quite an accomplishment for Petricevic. She will receive

a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

Sara Ellis nominated Petricevic and she writes, "Tiana is a gifted student but she also has a wonderful work ethic. She will ask for clarification, seek out more information in her own time and is genuinely enthusiastic and excited for class. She just performed an exciting skit in Spanish with the enthusiasm of an



Tiana Petricevic

accelerated drama student. She does everything to the best of her abilities and does it with a smile."

This program is made possible by the support of the LHS Academic Boosters, who support the high school in many ways. If you are interested in helping support the LHS Academic Boosters you may contact the office at 987-2900.

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# Reader loves Austin but calls Lowell home

by Justin Tiemeyer  
contributing reporter

Just South of Austin, Texas, is a town called Kyle and this is the place Michigan transplant Karen Torres has called home for the last 28 years.

Torres is employed by the City of Austin. As I.T. project manager, she oversees communications and technology.

"I love my job here," she said.

Torres travelled West during the recession in the 1980s. She had been working for EDS, a company which was bought out by GM. At the time of the buyout, she was offered a position with GM but there was no promise that she could stay in Grand Rapids. Since she didn't want to move to Detroit, she ventured out of state with a couple of close friends.

Torres originally found herself in Mesa, Arizona.

"I didn't like Arizona because it was nothing but sand and palm trees," she said.

Not giving up on the portion of the world that lies beyond the Mississippi, Torres ended up in Austin where she could once again find trees and water.

"It was a good move," she said.

Torres immediately connected to the high tech community in Austin. There were many obvious benefits, from South by Southwest and Austin city limits to Formula One racing and great Texas dining. It was still cold in the winter, but Torres was excited not to have to scrape her windshield or shovel snow on her way to work every

morning.

Torres lives with her husband David. Her son Adam is a graduate of Texas State. He lives a much different life from Torres, who was born in Grand Rapids and raised in Lowell. Torres graduated from Lowell High School in 1976 and attended Davenport College.

Torres still has family in Michigan, her mother; brothers: Roger and Lee; and sisters: Shirley, Arva and Janice.

"I come home every year, usually in October because of the change of the seasons," she said, though she noted that even Austin's trees experienced a change of color this past year.

Torres continues to read the Lowell Ledger in order to stay in touch with




the community. She likes to read about old friends and see how they are doing.

"I like Lowell," Torres said.

When Torres returns, she enjoys going to Fallsburg Park, checking out the covered bridges and


she makes sure she hugs one of the big Northern trees, the kind you can't find in Austin.



## Girl's Pitching Clinic

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the lowell ledger



# Grand Rapids' Hope Lodge is one of many projects assisted by Lowell Relay for Life

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Committee members from Lowell's annual Relay for Life (RFL) event met at The Hope Lodge in Grand Rapids on Jan. 8 to provide a home-cooked meal for the cancer fighting guests of this unique facility.

The lodge offers a comfortable and cost-free home away from home for patients who must travel to the area for their lifesaving treatments.

The Hope Lodge is a project of the American Cancer Society (ACS). The Grand Rapids' location is the first to be opened in Michigan and the 25th nationwide. Its downtown location puts guests within minutes from the city's ever-growing medical district.

The building itself provides private rooms for guests and their caregivers, shared common areas, such as living rooms and kitchens and a bevy of entertainment options including a library and a pool table.

Shelby Sakowski, the co-chair of the Relay for

Life event in Lowell along with Lori Ingraham, says that this is the third time the group has gathered for this purpose.

"It has been a moving and more direct way to support people who are battling cancer. Bringing a meal and sharing a few hours of my time to ease someone's life during a very difficult time is easy for me and if it makes a difference for them, that is what truly matters," says Sakowski.

This is Sakowski's eighth year of involvement in Relay for Life, which is the largest fundraising effort for the American Cancer Society. It is her second year leading the Lowell event; she reports that the total raised by the community was over \$60,000.

The next Relay for Life will be held June 20 and 21 at Lowell High School. Those interested in forming a team, making a donation or sponsoring the event are encouraged to visit [www.relayforlife.org](http://www.relayforlife.org)



American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge, a project of the American Cancer Society, was the first to be opened in Michigan and the 25th nationwide.

## EARTH TALK™

### Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk:** What is the Obama administration's America's Great Outdoors initiative and what does it hope to accomplish? - Doug St. James, New York, NY

President Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum in April 2010 establishing the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to promote and support innovative community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and reconnect Americans to the outdoors. The Memorandum calls for collaboration among the Departments of Interior and Agriculture as well as the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House's own Council on Environmental Quality in leading the initiative. Eight other federal agencies play a supporting role—and literally thousands of other partners from state, local and tribal governments, non-profits and the private sector are involved as well. Getting young people, especially city kids, into the outdoors to experience our country's unique natural heritage is a top priority of America's Great Outdoors.

Before pursuing any specific strategies, initiative leaders solicited feedback from everyday Americans as to what mattered most to them regarding conservation and access to the outdoors. Some 105,000 written comments and many more spoken ones from "listening sessions" held coast to coast streamed in and were crucial to the development of programs. Public feedback continues to shape the initiative's agenda.

Some of the programs that fall under the umbrella of America's Great Outdoors include: the Veterans Fire Corps, which employs veterans in forest fire management; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's program providing technical training and work opportunities for underserved youth in habitat restoration and fisheries monitoring; and the establishment of a new network of "water trails" coast to coast to increase everyone's access to the outdoors.

America's Great Outdoors was in the news recently when Interior Secretary Sally Jewell announced the launch of 21st Century Conservation Service Corps as part of the program. "21CSC," as Jewell calls it, aims to be a modern incarnation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that President Franklin Roosevelt used to help put Americans back to work during the Great Depression. Jewell envisions a 100,000 person strong "CCC 2.0" that will provide opportunities for thousands of young Americans—6.7 million of whom are currently unemployed or not in school—and veterans transitioning back to civilian life to serve their country, feel proud of what they are accomplishing and improve their own lives and the lives of others around them.

Part of what makes America's Great Outdoors unique is that partners from every sector of American society—not just the federal government—are encouraged to help. 21CSC is partially funded by a \$1 million dollar donation from clothing retailer American Eagle Outfitters, and Jewell is in search of another \$19 million from other private sector partners to turn the program into a potent force for reducing youth and veteran unemployment while giving our endangered lands and waterways some much-needed attention.

Environmentalists may be disappointed that the Obama administration hasn't been able to muscle through mandatory greenhouse gas emissions cuts and put sustainability concerns at the forefront of the policymaking process, but getting unprecedented numbers of Americans involved in conservation projects that protect the nation's treasured natural heritage is a worthy conservation legacy in its own right. The program is sure to positively impact generations of Americans for decades to come.

**CONTACTS:** America's Great Outdoors, [www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/](http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/); 21CSC, [www.doi.gov/21csc/](http://www.doi.gov/21csc/).

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## LUNCH MENU

**ELEMENTARY MENU**  
Week of  
Jan. 20, 2014

**MON:** No School.

**TUES:** Grilled chicken on WG bun (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), WG breaded chicken sandwich (served at Bushnell), baked beans, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, peaches, applesauce, milk.

**WED:** French toast sticks served w/sausage, warm cinnamon apples, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, broccoli florets, pineapple, orange juice, milk.

**THURS:** BBQ pork ribbie on WG bun (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), WG breaded chicken nuggets (served at Bushnell), mashed potatoes & gravy, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, strawberries, peaches, milk.

**FRI:** Tony's pepperoni pizza on WG crust, celery sticks (served at Bushnell), baby carrots (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, apple, juice, milk.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

- BASKETBALL

## Red Arrow girls crush Kenowa Hills 55-22

by Karen Jack

Defense was the name of the game for the girls' basketball team on Friday night by trouncing Kenowa Hills, 55-22. From the opening jump ball to the



Kate Montgomery shoots for two of her sixteen points.

last buzzer, the girls didn't let up.

The team held the Knights to only three points in the entire first quarter, stealing balls, forcing turnovers and rebounding both offensively and defensively. Kenowa Hills made some adjustments in the second quarter, but Lowell still outscored them by two points. "We really wanted to defend more as a team and I thought we were able to do that tonight," said coach Jake Strotheide.

The third quarter was unbelievable by only allowing the Knights to score one point and that was from a free throw shot, while the Arrows scored 15 points. At that point, it was a runaway game. Both teams scored eight points in the last quarter.

Offensively, Kate Montgomery was the highest scorer with 16 points all in the first half. Katie Holzhueter had eleven points and five assists and

Aubreigh Steed had nine points with 13 rebounds. "Our team had 15 assists which I was really happy about. We are sharing the ball much better and I think on any given night we can have someone have a big game," added Strotheide.



Aubreigh Steed blocks a shot, above and, at left, Tara McQueen goes for the rebound.

The girls travel to East Grand Rapids on Friday at 6:00 pm.

## Boys lose barnburner against Kenowa Hills

by Karen Jack

The third quarter made the difference in the entire game for the Red Arrows in their 56-51 loss against Kenowa Hills on Friday as far as scoring goes. Some

would say a technical foul called against Lowell with less than a minute to go in the game, could have changed the outcome. Lowell called a timeout

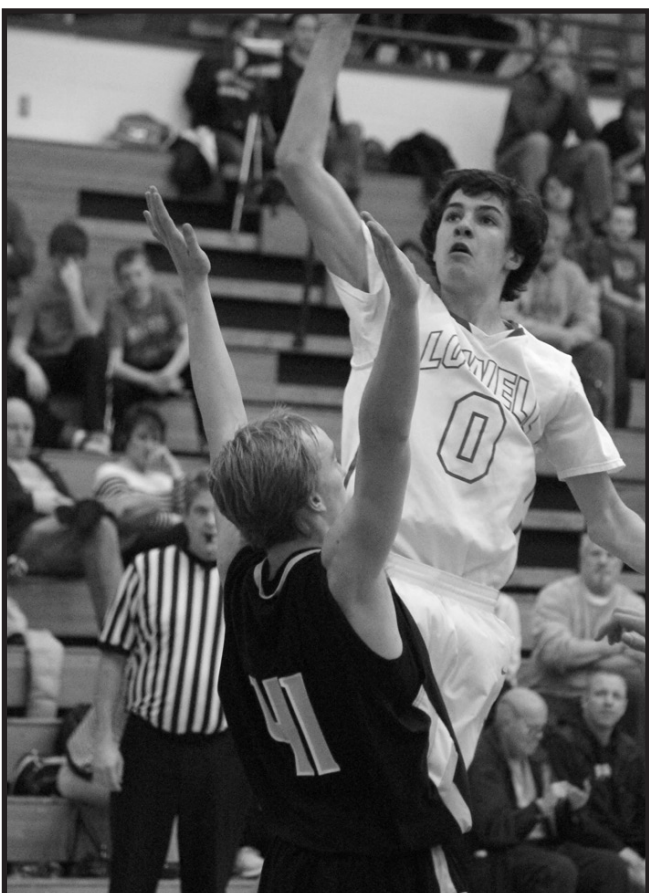
when they didn't have any left and were down by three with possession of the ball when that technical was called, potentially changing the final score. "I did a poor job of communicating with my assistant coaches and the officials," said coach Kyle Carhart. "Our guys did the right thing defensively, got us the ball back and I was really disappointed that I cost them a chance late in the game. I will certainly learn from my mistake and prevent it from costing us again in the future."

Lowell outscored the Knights in the first quarter by four points, but then Kenowa Hills came back and outscored Lowell by four in the second quarter, going into the locker room all tied up at 26. The Knights obviously made some adjustments and came out in the third quarter on fire, outscoring Lowell by

six. The Arrows only gained one point on Kenowa in the fourth quarter and with the controversy of the technical foul, just couldn't push pass the challenges Kenowa threw at them.

Leading the scorers for Lowell was Matt Beachler with 13 along with Josh Branagan and Gabe Steed both contributing ten points. Josh Branagan had 12 rebounds; Ryan Stevens has six assists. Both Beachler and Austin Branagan had two steals.

"I was proud of how hard our guys played on Friday," added Carhart. "Effort is something that we had really focused on after a poor showing on Tuesday and the guys responded well. We had a lot of opportunities that we were unable to capitalize on, but hopefully through film and continued practice we will improve together."



Ryan Stevens goes up for the shot.

The boys travel to East Grand Rapids on Friday, game time scheduled for 7:45 pm, but will start 20 minutes after the girls' game is completed.



Austin Branagan takes a jumper.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## - GYMNASTICS

### Lowell enjoys stunning victory over Rockford

by Karen Jack

An almost four-point win in gymnastics may not seem like a lot, but because they score in tenths, it equates to about a 20-point win in basketball and that's how much the Lowell Red Arrows' gymnastics team beat powerhouse Rockford on Wednesday - 134.0-130.50.

"I knew it would be close but I didn't expect to win," said coach Michele DeHaan. "Rockford has a powerhouse program and has been like that for

many years. We were able to capitalize on some big mistakes they made and some of the girls pulled out some big scores to put us over the edge."

Compared to last year, Lowell's uneven bar scores have all averaged a point higher than last year. Lauren Browning and Lauren DeHaan have both improved their form and are swinging bigger. Browning has added the same release move that DeHaan had last year and it's proved to increase their

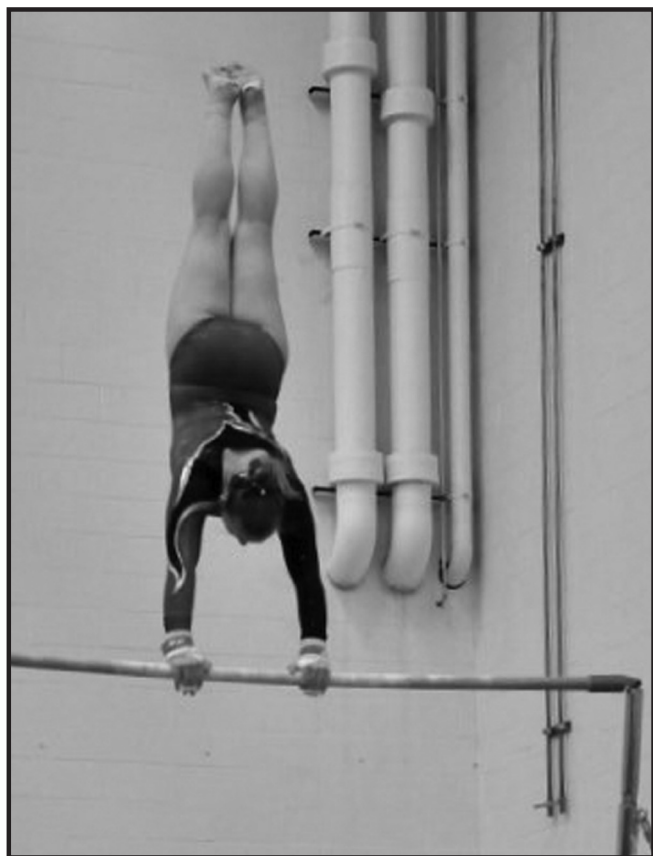
overall scores as a team. Last year, they consistently received sevens on the event, but this year, the top four scorers for Lowell all got eight or higher. Jordan Lytle led the Lowell scoring with 8.60, while Browning scored 8.15, DeHaan scored 8.10 and freshman Corah Kaufman scored 8.0.

The beam tends to always be the big event of the meet and many times the final score of the meet can change based on the performance on the beam. Each fall off the beam costs the gymnasts 0.5 in scoring. Four of the Lowell gymnasts fell off the beam, which cost the Lowell team score two points, which shows really how big this win was. Leaders on the beam were Bethany Kaczanowski with 8.25, Lytle with 8.15, Karmen Anderson with 8.05 and Lauren DeHaan with 7.85.

The floor exercise is probably Lowell's strongest event. Unfortunately, they can't use the spring floor at home meets because of the work it takes to set it up. Although they practice on the spring floor and usually have it at away meets, they didn't use it for the Rockford meet. Without the spring floor, the girls have to water



Lisa Price does a switch ring leap. (Photo courtesy of Leana Weiler)



Jordan Lytle performs a giant on the uneven bars. (Photo courtesy of Pete Bauman)

down their tumbling passes, which costs them in scoring. But Lisa Price still managed to get almost a nine on the floor, scoring 8.95, which is incredible without a spring floor. DeHaan followed her with 8.50, Plutschow next with 8.45 and Kaufman with 8.4. "She will be a force on [the] floor for us this year. She has an extensive dance background that powers her through. Scoring a 9.0

on floor at a home meet without a spring floor rarely happens and for Lisa to get an 8.95 was exceptional," said DeHaan.

As part of the coach's job, DeHaan followed all of their scores closely, knowing that a 0.5 change in score could make the difference in the meet. Coaches are allowed to inquire about certain aspects

of the scoring if they don't agree. DeHaan did just that three times where the judges made mistakes to get a better score for the girls, which helped them over the top.

"What a great night for the team. We haven't beaten Rockford in at least ten years and this was a huge confidence builder for our team," said DeHaan.

The Arrows host Kenowa Hills' co-op team on Wednesday and then will have their home invite on Saturday at the high school. They plan to use the spring floor at Saturday's meet, so the fans can see what the girls can really do on the floor. Wednesday's meet begins at 7:00 pm and Saturday's meet begins at 10:00 am.

## - WRESTLING

### Arrows win Gary Rivers Memorial tourney

by Karen Jack

The Arrows wrestling team hosted their first home meet of the year in true Red Arrow wrestling fashion by taking their opponents by storm, winning all five matches to win the championship.

The tournament had 16 teams in four different

pools. The Arrows won their pool by beating Hudsonville (61-6), Thornapple-Kellogg (68-3) and Battle Creek Lakeview (69-3). They met Hesperia in the semifinals, which is the number three-ranked team in Division 4 and easily beat them 45-19. In the finals, the Arrows

defeated Division 1 number three-ranked Hartland for the championship 39-28.

Winners in the Hudsonville match were Bailey Jack, Jordan Hall, Danny Kruse, Kanon Dean, Max Dean, Garrett Stehley, Josh Colegrove, Logan Wilcox, Sam Russell, Lucas

Hall, Zeth Dean and Derek Krajewski.

Jordan Hall, Jake Garcia, Kanon Dean, Max Dean, Colegrove, Wilcox, Russell, Lucas Hall, Zeth Dean, Krajewski and Jack all won in the Thornapple-Kellogg match.

For the Lakeview match, winners included Kruse, Eli Boulton, Garcia, Kanon Dean, Max Dean, Stehley, Colegrove, Wilcox, Lucas Hall, Zeth Dean, Krajewski, Jack and Jordan Hall.

Lowell changed up the line-up for the Hesperia match, putting in Josh Kinsley at 130 lbs. and moving Jack and Jordan Hall up a weight class to 135 and 140 lbs. In that match,

Wrestling, continued, page 14

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the lowell ledger



# obituaries

## FRANEK

Joyce Marjorie Franek, age 81 of Lowell, formerly of Higgins Lake, passed away Thursday, January 9, 2014. She was preceded in death by her husband Tony Franek. She is survived by her daughter Marilyn (Phil) Kasper; grandchildren Matthew Kasper, Amelia Kruger, Kristian Kasper; great-grandson Brayden; brothers John Cawker and Red Cawker. The family will meet with friends and relatives Thursday 6 – 8:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 129 Jefferson Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



## KROPF

Janice Louise Kropf, age 82 of Lowell, passed away Thursday, January 9, 2014. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert A. Kropf, and by her infant children, Gary and Judy, brother Ralph Colby and sister Shirley Lambert Brooks. She is survived by: Evelyn (Mac) McKinney, Christine (Jody) Hall, Jerry (Katie) Kropf, Linda (Scott) Phillips, Dan (Rhonda) Kropf; grandchildren: Tera, David, Andrea, Diana, Jenna, Jeffrey, Mandy, Jamie, Lisa, Jen, Johnny, Wade, Julie and many great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Jan resided at Green Acres of Lowell and enjoyed her many antiques and her peaceful surroundings. She loved to knit and attend daily devotions and had many close friends and a loving staff at Green Acres. The Funeral service and committal will be held Thursday 12:00 p.m. at Vergennes United Methodist Church, 10411 Bailey Dr NE, Lowell, MI. Rev. Nathaniel Johnson officiating. Visitation 11:00 a.m. until time of service at the church. Interment Alton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers her family encourages memorial contributions to be made to Vergennes United Methodist Church.



## STEVENS

June Elaine Stevens, age 81 of Lowell and formerly of Alaska, Michigan, passed away Sunday, January 12, 2014. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald Stevens. She is survived by her children: Vicky (Phil) Gramh, Gary (Geri) Stevens, Diane (Peter) VanVugt, Greg Stevens and Todd Stevens; brother Larry (Joan) Link; sister Shirley Jousma; 18 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren. June was a wonderful painter and artist. She was also very creative and talented in many ways. She was a 4-H leader, quilter, cake decorator, candy maker, baker and caterer. June will be fondly remembered as a wife, mother, grandma, great-grandma, sister and daughter. She collected antiques, believed in Bigfoot, enjoyed shopping at garage sales, picked morels, as well as enjoyed fishing off a pontoon boat at Hardy Dam. June loved her birds. She told of black-capped chickadees, blue jays and cardinals that ate out of her Mom, Myrna May's hand, who died of cancer when June was eight years old. Visitation will be Tuesday, January 21, 2014 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Funeral services will be Wednesday, January 22, 2014 at 11:30 am at Ada Bible Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Ada Bible Church, 8899 Cascade Rd SE, Ada, MI 49301.



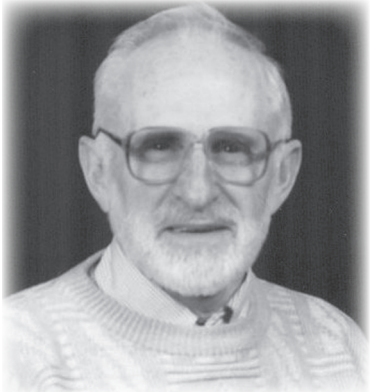
## KELLOGG

Minnie Evelyn Kellogg, age 85 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord on Sunday, January 12, 2014. She was preceded in death by her daughter Pamela. She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Arthur H. Kellogg; children Darell (Ellen) Kellogg, Cathy (Walt) VanderWulp, David (Anita) Kellogg, Dawn (Tim) VanderWulp, Doug (Connie) Kellogg, Robert 'Duane' Kellogg; brother Dan (Carol) Smith, sisters Inabo Reblin, Gertrude Irwin, Sue (Don) Beechum, Maryanne Libbey, Rita (Darwin) Gilbert, Celia (Dean) Wheeler; sister-in-law Carol Smith; 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be Sunday, January 19 at 2 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI. Rev. Ken Ford officiating. Visitation 1-2:00 p.m. at the funeral home.



## RITTEGER

Robert James Rittenger, age 85 of Lowell, passed away Saturday January 11, 2014, surrounded by his loving family. Bob was preceded in death by his wife Thelma Rittenger in 1985 and his son, Steven Rittenger. He is survived by his wife, Sharon (Pedley) Rittenger and his children Paul and (Jennifer) Rittenger, Diane (Paul) Papranec, Denise Rittenger, Donna (John) Browne, Denise (Chris) DeLong. Bob was blessed with 16 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Bob was born and raised on the family farm in Alto, Michigan and lived in Lowell, Michigan his entire life. He was a proud tool and die maker for General Motors for 41.4 years. He loved the outdoors, travel and his family. Funeral services were held Tuesday at First United Methodist Church of Lowell.



## BOWNE TOWNSHIP Schedule of Regular Board Meetings for 2014

**TIME: 7:30 PM**  
**PLACE: BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC HALL**  
**8240 ALDEN NASH SE, ALTO, MI**  
**PHONE: 616 868 6846**

January 20	July 21
February 17	August 18
March 17	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 17
June 16	December 15

This notice posted in compliance with PA 267 as amended (Open Meetings Act) MCLA 41.72A(2) (3) AND WITH THE Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
 Bowne Township Clerk

**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS**  
 1ST Thursday each month-7:30 pm  
 Historic Township Hall

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
 3RD Thursday – 7:30 pm  
 Historic Township Hall

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
 small ads **BIG** deals  
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 Lowell, MI 49331

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

# classifieds

## for sale

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

SAVADGE 20 GA SHOTGUN - Model 220F bolt action slug gun in great condition. 3 years old. \$400. Call or text 616-291-7502.

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.

2003 DODGE RAM 1500 - 5.7 liter Hemi w/auto transmission, 2 wheel drive, 4 door cab, short box, clean inside & out. Very good condition, good maintenance. 120,420 miles. Call Greg, 616-889-6698 or Mike, 616-808-5801.

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

TOTAL WOOD HEAT - Safe, clean, efficient & comfortable. Classic Outdoor Wood Furnace from Central Boiler. Call SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

2002 MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - Key Heights, 16x80, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, clean, well kept, all appliances, 10x12 shed, large deck, \$20,000. 616-322-3082.

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

FEDEX NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

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

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

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 897-9261

## 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.

COMMERCIAL CLEANING COMPANY - Different positions available. Must be 18 years of age with valid drivers license. Flexible hours. Call for interview, 897-1119.

## 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).

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

LOWELL APARTMENT FOR RENT - 2 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled, storage, deck, trash removal, laundry area, \$650/mo. + utilities. \$350 deposit. No smoking. No pets. 897-4829.

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

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

## wanted

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

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

## misc.

SINGLES DANCE - Jan. 17 & 31 at Candlestone Inn, 8100 Storey Rd., M-91 off Belding. 7 p.m. - midnight. 21 & over. \$7 per person. Free snacks with cash bar. Call Mae at 616-255-4641.

## services

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

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

## services

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

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

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

## services

YOGA CLASSES - at 901 W. Main, \$9 walk-in. Mixed level, Tues. 7:30 a.m. & Sat. 9 a.m. Tues. & Thur., 6:30 p.m. Gentle, Tues. & Thurs., 4:45 p.m. For specials: www.thehammockllc.com. 616-893-5661.

DAYCARE NOW HAS 3RD SHIFT OPENINGS - Rates & hours discussed upon interview. For more information call 616-366-2047.

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# 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 run 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.

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.

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

SWEDISH WEAVING - Jan. 15 & 22, 6 p.m. for those who have already started their projects. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

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.

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

LEGOS AT THE LIBRARY - For youth ages 5-11. 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.

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

CRAFT AWAY THE WINTER BLUES - Sat., Jan. 25, 10:30 a.m. Shake off the winter blahs with Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood, crafter extraordinaire. In this session, participants will learn English Paper Piecing. Pre-registration is required & participant spots are limited. Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield Ave. SE, Alto, 616-784-2007. www.kdl.org

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.

FRIENDS REBUILDING WHITES BRIDGE - Meets 3rd Monday of each month at the Keene Township Hall, 8505 Potters Road, Saranac at 6 p.m. Public is invited to join our group as we plan to raise funds to restore Whites Covered Bridge. For additional information, email: rebuildwhitesbridge@aol.com

VEGETARIAN CHILI COOK-OFF - Sun., Jan 19 at 4 p.m. Free com-

munity event. Delicious samples. Vote for your favorite. Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists, 10300 Vergennes St. (corner of Parnell). Call 676-1667 with questions.

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP - Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship, Thurs., Jan. 23, 7 p.m. in the Lowell Middle School gym. Free event, sign up at the event. Open to all boys & girls ages 9-14. Trophies presented to winners at each age level. Contact Brent Noskey at 307-0020 with questions.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP - Jan. 20, 6 p.m. Discussing "Major Pettigrew's Last Stand." Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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.

BOYSCOUT 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.

ADULT PROGRAM "BUDGETING" - Jan. 16, 6:30 p.m. Presented by Sue Powers, Independent Bank. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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

GRIEF - NEW MEMBER MEETING - Call the clubhouse to schedule your introductory meeting for grief support groups. Gilda's Club - Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

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

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.

SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH - Community Crisis Fund meeting at 7 p.m. at Poppa C's in Clarksville.

# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Wrestling, continued

Lowell went down by four points after the first bout, but wins by Garcia at 152 lbs. (decision), Kanon Dean at 160 lbs. (pin), Max Dean at 171 lbs. (technical fall), Stehley (forfeit), Colegrove (pin), Wilcox (pin), Lucas Hall (decision), Zeth Dean (technical fall) and Jack (decision) made it a run-away win.

Hartland won their semifinal and ranked number three in Division 1, the Arrows had their hands full walking into the match. They went down by three after the first match, but Kanon Dean won 5-4 to tie the team score at three. Both Max Dean and Stehley

won by major, while Josh Colegrove won by pin to put the team core at 17-3. Lowell gave up two pins in a row to close their lead to 17-15, but Lucas Hall won by decision and Zeth Dean won by a major decision to increase the lead to 24-15. Lowell dropped by decision at 125 lbs. and Jack won by a major decision to make the score 28-18 with three bouts to go. Jordan Hall won by technical fall to lock out Hartland, even if Lowell was to be pinned in the last two bouts. Lowell lost at the 145 lb. weight class by decision and Hartland voided the 152 lb. bout to finish the match up by 11.

Seven of the fourteen starting wrestlers for the Arrows went undefeated for the day, including Lucas Hall, Zeth Dean, Jack, Kanon Dean, Max Dean, Stehley and Colegrove (who pinned in every match).

"I think we wrestled well and we are getting better each week," said coach RJ Boudro. "One of the officials who reffed us last week at the DCC tournament made a comment to me that he noticed an improvement from last week. That is what we are trying to do – get better every practice, every competition and everything else will take care of itself."

**The Arrows host Caledonia on Wednesday, then face Richmond on Friday at Olivet College in a battle of number ones. Lowell is ranked number one in Division 2 and Richmond is ranked number one in Division 3. Start time is 5:30 pm.**



Jordan Hall gets back points.



Garrett Stehley does a hard cross-face to gain control.



Bailey Jack gets the double-leg takedown.

### A year of focused commitment



Sen. Carl Levin

When I announced last March that I would not seek reelection in 2014, I said that I wanted to spend my time working on a number of serious challenges that Michigan and the nation face, rather than on reelection. As we begin the new year, I want to update you on the tests we faced in 2013 and where I believe we can move forward in the year ahead.

Among the tasks I mentioned in my announcement was my responsibility as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee to monitor and advance the end of our combat commitment to Afghanistan and to help the services, our troops and their families recover from

the strains of more than a decade at war.

In two trips to Afghanistan over the last year, I have seen rapid and positive changes that are transforming security and daily life for the people of Afghanistan. Challenges remain, but our troops and our nation should feel a sense of accomplishment about what we have done there for our national security and for the people of Afghanistan.

In Syria, where severe repression has sparked a revolt against the dictator Bashar Assad, the use of chemical weapons by Assad's forces against civilians shocked the world. With a strong U.S. push, international pressure

pushed Assad into an unprecedented agreement to destroy Syria's chemical weapons capability. That agreement is an advance for the security of the region and the world.

Pressure on another outlier country – Iran – has for the first time in decades provided at least some hope of progress. Late in the year, the United States and our allies reached an interim agreement that freezes Iran's nuclear program and could set the stage for a final agreement that ends the possibility of an Iranian nuclear weapon. Like most Americans, I am skeptical of Iran's leaders, but I believe this interim step should be given a chance to succeed.

As our involvement in Afghanistan recedes, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to give greater attention to tired military families and help the services rebuild military readiness that has been strained by war. But that opportunity will slip away

if we do not address the continuing threat of budget sequestration.

Sequestration is the across-the-board, automatic spending cuts that slashed major funding from important domestic and national security programs in 2013. These cuts have closed Head Start classrooms; ended research programs to fight life-threatening diseases; and forced our military to ground fighter jets and cancel important training exercises. The budget agreement we reached at the end of 2013 reduces sequestration's impact somewhat for the next two years and offers a bit of hope for an end to the cycle of crisis that has plagued Congress. But it does not touch sequestration for the following six years.

In the longer term, there is only one solution to the sequestration problem: We should replace these meat-ax cuts with a balanced deficit reduction plan. Any

such plan must include additional revenue. I have introduced two bills that would close unjustified tax loopholes identified by the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair. These loopholes are the source of massive tax avoidance by highly profitable multinational corporations and wealthy individuals at the expense of middle-income families. I will continue searching for common ground with colleagues of both parties to work for a balanced replacement for sequestration.

We've made significant progress in recent years in building on Michigan's manufacturing and technological excellence to enhance our state's competitiveness and improve opportunities for Michigan workers. The growing strength of our auto industry as it emerges from its restructuring is just one result of these efforts. Michigan is an

increasingly important hub for development of green-energy technologies in vehicles and other fields. The Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, a groundbreaking nuclear research facility being established at Michigan State University, reached important milestones. I'll keep working in the year ahead to strengthen our foundation of economic competitiveness.

The last year was a difficult one for our state's largest city, Detroit. I and other members of the Michigan delegation have worked to do all we could to make sure that the city has access to all available federal resources to assist in its recovery, and I'll continue to look for ways to help.

There is no question this year will be a challenging one. My final year in the Senate will be one of focused commitment to the job I was sent here to do.

**THEME:  
SUPER BOWL**

**ACROSS**

1. What John Wilkes Booth did
6. \*Montana used it to throw 11 Super Bowl TDs
9. Manufactured
13. With ample space
14. Waikiki garland
15. Policeman's shocker
16. Spritelike
17. Egg cells
18. Shamu and such
19. \*The coldest Super Bowl venue to-date
21. \*2014 Super Bowl stadium name holder
23. Australian runner
24. Fries, e.g.
25. Actor's domain
28. Trans-Siberian Railroad city
30. \*Last year's power
35. Younger sister to Katniss
37. Larger-than-life
39. Tolerate
40. Milano moolah
41. India bigwig
43. Network of nerves
44. Like a lemon
46. Cough syrup balsam
47. Inevitable occurrence
48. Tip of lion's tail
50. Shipping hazard
52. Bell and Barker
53. Swerves
55. Orinoco or Grande
57. \*Type of Super Bowl venue
61. Kool & the Gang's 1983 hit
64. Boston hockey player
65. 34th pres.
67. Haley to Manny on "Modern Family"

CROSSWORD														
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- DOWN**
69. Moved like Argo
  70. \*It's raised for field goals
  71. Mauritanian village, Boeir \_\_\_\_\_
  72. The Benevolent and Protective Order of \_\_\_\_\_
  73. Fossil fuel
  74. Sound like Wilbur

1. "\_\_\_ we there yet?"
2. \*Manning in 2006
3. Soybean curd
4. Novelist \_\_\_\_\_ Zola
5. Go-getter
6. Medicinal succulent
7. R in rpm
8. \*Frequent Super Bowl host, but not this year
9. Lime-rich soil
10. American Society for Clinical Investigation
11. Like Beethoven
12. Gaelic
15. Come up with a sum
20. Divine presence
22. Tokyo, once
24. Bicycles on skis
25. Water balloon sound
26. "All My Children" vixen
27. Firestone ware, pl.
29. Quarrel
31. \*It's artificial at this year's Super Bowl
32. Elite military unit
33. \_\_\_\_\_percha tree
34. The Three Musketeers' swords
36. \*Halftime entertainer
38. His was a merry old soul
42. Donkey in Latin America
45. "Above and \_\_\_\_\_"
49. \_\_\_ Tzu of "Tao Te Ching" fame
51. \*They play at host venue
54. Between wash and dry
56. Tear jerker
57. Double reed woodwind
58. \_\_\_\_\_ Europe/Asia mountain divide
59. Ottoman man
60. "Tomorrow Never \_\_\_\_\_"
61. \*They also play at host venue
62. Infamous Roman
63. Maple, to a botanist
66. New Zealander parrot
68. \*Super Bowl begins at 6:25 pm in this zone

# Looking Back, continued

so they arranged for a sleighride party to the home of Miss Lucy Parrot. The Freshmen claim that it was the largest party of this kind that ever left Lowell, but the Sophomores would like to have them prove it.

The Lowell schools will soon have a new Victrola, which will prove a benefit in many ways to the pupils. R. D. Stocking, the local music dealer, has ordered one for this purpose. Fresh shipment of the latest Victrola records just received at Stocking's. Do you "hoe em off" or shave? We have the hoe kind and also the very best razors which are sold with a guarantee and will be kept honed free of charge for one year. Better try one and be convinced what real shaving is. The sale of music at 7cts. a copy continues at Stocking's, adv.

## 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 19, 1939

Gee, whiz! Thermometers along Main St. this (Thursday) morning registered six degrees below zero – a drop of 30 degrees from Wednesday afternoon. The entire landscape is covered with about four inches of snow.

Extension of the South Lowell electric line of the Municipal plant was approved at a special meeting of the common council held last Monday evening. The line to be extended will take in the Evan Roper farm, formerly owned by Rev. David F. Warner. The council also voted at this meeting to install a five h. p. fire siren in the tower on the city hall to take the place of the 2 ½ h. p. siren which has been in use for the past several years.

## 50 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 16, 1964

Lowell will have the pleasure of hearing two well-known personalities at annual meetings of the Lowell Y. M. C. A. and the chamber of commerce it was revealed this week. Appearing at the annual "Y" meeting will be co-captain of the Detroit Lions' football team, Terry Barr. He will talk about his experiences in professional football. Speaking at the chamber of commerce meeting will be Congressman Jerry Ford, who is currently serving on the presidential commission to investigate the assassination of President J. F. Kennedy. His talk is expected to touch on this inquiry and the current activities of Congress.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 18, 1989

Headline: King Memorial Pool's future in doubt, estimated cost to repair piping system \$50 - \$60,000. The future of the King Memorial Pool may be in serious jeopardy following a report from the Kent County Health Department. The report cited three items needing repair before the department will issue a license. According to Lowell YMCA director Doug Ybema, the first two complaints do not pose a major problem. Small cracks in the deck area around the pool need repair. Also, the pool's shell needs repainting and possibly sandblasting prior to painting. The kicker is the presence of major leaks in the pool's piping system. The King Memorial Pool is approaching thirty years in age and Ybema says the galvanized pipes circulating water to the filter have begun to rust out. This current trend in council thinking is not likely to prompt a healthy dip into city coffers to fund the needed repairs to the pool. Lowell Ledger publisher Roger Brown expressed his concerns about the dilemma with the pool. "The council declined to fund an ice skating rink this winter. The movie theater is gone. There isn't much recreation available for our youth as it is, so it scares me to hear about such serious problems with the pool." Brown acknowledged that the city has spent considerable money in recent years for the purchase and development of recreation facilities in the city. The softball complex at Creekside Park and the new sliding hill are good examples.

Puzzle solutions appear on page 12

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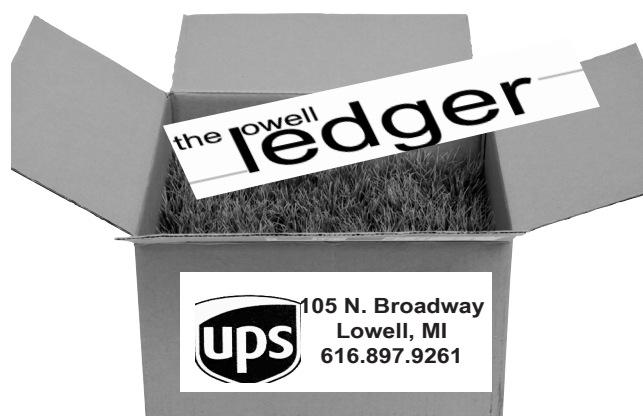
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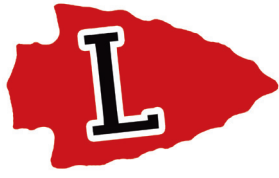
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



# Varsity Gymnastics

Back row: assistant coach Alyssa Buikema, Sela Bauman, Captain Meghan Plutschouw, Jordan Lytle, Kaylee Wold, Kaezi Bladey, Leana Weiler, and head coach Michele DeHaan; middle row: Captain Bethany Kaczanowski, Karmen Anderson, Lisa Price, Morgan Taylor, Lilly Quiggle, Paige DeHaan, Captain Lauren DeHaan and Colleen Cater; front row: Corah Kaufman, Alise Forward, Riley White, Captain Danielle Krajewski, Lauren Browning and Sarena Wilterdink.



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## Lowell Robotics and Aerial Ascent

by Brendan Philo and MTR Sarah Philo

Lowell Red Arrow Robotics attended Kickoff at Grand Valley State University Saturday January 4, 2014. Kickoff is an event where we find out what this year’s game will be for FIRST Robotics Competition. FIRST means For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. Lowell area high school students on the robotics team will brainstorm, prototype, and build a robot to compete in this year’s game, Aerial Ascent. Build season only

You can get bonus points by throwing the ball over a truss in the middle of the field, catching it on the other side, and teamwork. The more robot teamwork involved, the more bonus points awarded.

Following the presentation, we went back to the shop for lunch and to think of ideas for this year’s robot. Brainstorming, problem solving, and ideas flew around. We also looked at the kit of parts from FIRST. The kit of parts contains the same basic



Photo of Aerial Ascent Game

lasts for six weeks before we must bag n tag our robot and head into competitions.

This year attending kick-off was surprising, and some of us were guessing on what the game would be like. Welcoming ceremonies started the presentation; we talked about what FIRST is, and finally talked about how it helps us in the world, and in our future careers. Then this year’s game was finally revealed, shocking all of us, as usual.

Aerial Assist is focused on teamwork from the red and blue alliances. Either alliance (which consists of three different teams robots) is trying to score into goals at either end of the 25 foot by 54 foot field. There are the three goals at either end, two higher goals that are worth ten points and a lower goal worth 1 point. The ball you have to score with is 2 feet in diameter.

parts for every team and gives us supplies to build a basic chassis, some motors, etc. Last year’s supplies were torn down and the shop was prepared for this year’s build, starting with the robots chassis, which is a term for its frame.

Please support the Red Arrow Robotics Team this year, we will be meeting every Mon/Wed from 6-9pm, and Sat from 9-4pm during build season at the Lowell Middle School shop. Our upcoming competitions dates are Friday & Saturday March 7th & 8th at Gull Lake, Friday & Saturday March 21st & 22nd at Grand Valley State University, and if we make it to State Competitions, Friday & Saturday April 11th & 12th. Look for more articles to come and please come support us and watch Aerial Assist.