

little artists



page 3



lhs sports



pages 8,9 & 11

5k run, music, chili contest and cleanup day all a part of Lowell's annual Harvest Festival

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Events and activities took place all over town during this year's Harvest Festival.

In the downtown area, very early in the morning Lowell Community Wellness had a 5k run/walk. A little later, at 10 am Laurels of Kent held a pet parade. As the morning progressed, Lowell Light & Power had an open house, bucket rides and pumpkin painting. They provided free hot dogs and chips.

The big party downtown was at Larkin's "Chili Madness" chili cook-off. A whole block of Broadway was cordoned off and completely packed with people eating chili, drinking beer and partying. There were 22 contestants, some serving both red and white chilis. Each booth made about five gallons of chili.

"I set this whole thing up 13 years ago," said Mark Schmaltz of the 'Big C Chili' team. "This is what it's become. Our first year we had four entries. We had the Michigan state

champions here five years in a row cooking with us. They were a lot of fun. I handed it off to Larkin's and then they just developed it into this. They've done a fantastic job. Everybody that works at Larkin's works all day here and it's about a 14-hour ordeal. The whole point of this is to [do] have some fun and something for charity."

"We raise money every year for a different charity," said Larkin's manager Deb Apol. "This year it's the Lowell Senior Center. We have 22 contestants this year. Last year we gave \$2,800 to the Veterans and they put up a flagpole and a flag in the cemetery. In the 13 years that we've done this we've given almost \$30,000. We pick nonprofits that don't have the fundamentals to raise money for themselves. We've given to the volunteer fire department, the Flat River Outreach Ministries, Alpha Women's Center and St. Mary's Pregnancy Center because they don't really have ways of raising money. We keep it local. It doesn't go out of here at



The band, "Homebrewed" hailing from Battle Creek supplied the music downtown at the Chili Cook-Off.

all, it stays right in Lowell. The contestants pay \$50 to enter, plus they pay a couple hundred dollars of their own money [for chili ingredients]."

This year's winning team was "Dragon Spit," who were sponsored by the Holiday Bar, 801 5th St. NW, Grand Rapids.

"It's a very meaty chili," said Dragon Spit's Craig Williams. "Twelve pounds of meat in a four-gallon pot of chili, chorizo and top sirloin."

Harvest Festival, continued, page 16

Bridge slide delayed



This past weekend was intended to be the end of construction for the M-50 Alden Nash Avenue overpass utilizing the cutting edge "bridge slide" method which allows construction workers to simply slide the newly constructed bridge into place without obstructing traffic significantly. Unfortunately, due to unanticipated problems with equipment the construction was delayed. It is now expected to wrap up this coming weekend. For those interested in further information about the M-50 Bridge Replacement project, including a Bridge Slide demonstration video, check out www.michigan.gov/bridgeslide.

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Students at Lowell High School will once again be participating in the State Farm Celebrate My Drive Campaign in an effort to promote safe driving among their peers and the community with the opportunity to win up to \$100,000 in cash for the school.

The campaign encourages teens to enjoy the freedom and to respect the responsibilities of driving. It will award a total of \$3.25 million dollars and two private concerts by The Band Perry this year to the 100 schools throughout the United States earning the most online safe driving commitments.

Last year, local State Farm agent Deborah Wilks was able to present a check for \$25,000 to LHS. LHS

achieved more than 15,000 commitments through the efforts of the student body and community at large.

Funds earned were split evenly between athletics, the arts and technology enabling purchases such



as iPads, a track and cross country timing system and a theater marque. Ten percent of the money awarded was reserved by the group to fund this year's safe driving initiative.

"The students once again have taken the lead on

Celebrate My Drive, continued, page 2

50 CENTS



Murray Lake students celebrate Health Week

The week of October 6 was Health Week for Murray Lake Elementary School. Various educational health and nutrition activities were offered to the students. The week culminated in their 4th annual Mustangs on the Move fundraiser.

Metro Health presented a germs away program that was a fun and educational way for students of all ages to learn the essentials and importance of proper hand-hygiene, healthy lifestyle choices and illness prevention. Demonstrations included a glow box to display germs on student hands, a balloon to show how germs spread from a sneeze and proper hand hygiene techniques.

During second recess, exercise classes were offered to the students. The students had a chance to participate in boot camp, yoga and other healthy exercises. They were also offered extra incentives for running during mileage

club on Thursday. Tim Bergy, Lowell grounds maintenance and an EMT volunteered to teach the fifth graders CPR and what to do if someone is choking.

Healthy smoothies were provided by the food service from the high school to all the students during lunch. The health class at the high school also got involved with our Health Week by making posters about germs, CPR, choking and exercise. As a special treat, United Dairy donated chocolate milk for all the children.

Not only did our students have fun, they now have the knowledge of prevention of germs and influence their attitude toward being healthy, active and eating nutritiously. The finale was Friday with an all School Fun Run that included a creative class poster contest presented by Family Links. The students raised over \$20,000 for the school.



Students enthusiastically question the Metro Health speaker.



along main street

Celebrate My Drive, continued

planning this year's project. We have six dedicated students in our group who have been responsible for all of the Celebrate My Drive planning," according to advisor Chaye Klomprens.

Students have planned several driver safety awareness events that will coincide with the weeklong commitment drive that kicks off October 15.

"This year we are taking it up a level and providing more opportunities for driver safety awareness," said Klomprens.

"The whole Lowell community needs to be involved, going to the

website daily in order to win this. We will probably need 50,000 to 100,000 commitments to safe driving to win the big prize. With Lowell Arrow Pride, I know we can do it," said Wilks.

Anyone age 14 or older is eligible to make the safe driving commitment and can do so each day of the campaign, October 15-24. To participate go to www.celebratemydrive.com or visit their Facebook page. Simply select Lowell, MI, answer a few driving safety questions and then make the commitment to be a safe driver.

to the clubhouse to learn about our adult grief support program. Please register in advance. Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow

MUSEUM FOR TOTS

Explore the Lowell Area Historical Museum with your child, participate in hands-on experiences and create a take home activity. For young children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. The second Monday of the month October-April 10:30-12:30. Stop in any time during these hours, activities typically take 30 minutes. For more information call 616-897-7688.

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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Preschoolers get opportunity to create with ArtPrize artist

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Local preschool students recently had a unique chance to enjoy an inside look at ArtPrize thanks to a grant from the ArtPrize Education Days Foundation.

Students from the Lowell United Methodist preschool made their way to the Grand Rapids Children's Museum (GRCM) last Friday for a special event. Teacher Rachel Mullins said that the opportunity was a surprise.

"We received an email from Angela De Luca Placencia, the director of education for ArtPrize, inviting us to apply for an early childhood art experience field trip."

After filling out a simple application Mullins received the news that her class had earned the grant.

Besides exploring the whimsical and educational museum designed just for children, the students also participated in two mini

classes. The first focused on the performing arts and explored dance, singing and pantomime.

The second class was led by ArtPrize artist Corey Van Duinen. Van Duinen's own art, an enormous mosaic, graces the front of the GRCM building.

After learning about Van Duinen's own mosaic technique, the students created their own masterpieces to take home.



Preschool student George Parsons creates a mosaic butterfly during a recent ArtPrize field trip.



James Dykehouse works with a museum employee to create a mosaic butterfly. Lilly Onan is shown in the background.



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Special Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Synopsis of Minutes
October 8, 2014

Motions Approved:
Resolution 2014-019
New Comcast contract.
Resolution 2014-020
Sewer Conditional Issuance.
Acceptance of Bid for sale of property

Our next Township Meeting will be October 20, 2014
At 7:00 p.m.

The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org

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sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

promises made, promises kept

As you know, last November the Lowell community approved a 1 mill building and site sinking fund for the purpose of maintaining district facilities for the thousands of students and community members that use our schools on a daily basis. As good stewards of our community tax dollars, the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education works to ensure that the promises they made in the ballot proposal have been kept. By way of your support and successful passage of a building and site fund, the district addressed the critical needs for our facilities. The original promises made by the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education were as follows:

Safety and Security

The Lowell Area Schools completed the work to reconfigure our entry vestibules at all elementary schools to create more secure visitor access control. In addition, security camera and buzzer system upgrades were installed. If you have visited our elementary schools, you know that all

visitors must be granted access to the building by a school official during specified hours of the day by way of a buzzer system. As planned, work on security vestibules at Lowell Middle School and Lowell High School will be complete next summer, as well as infrastructure additions at Bushnell Elementary.

I am pleased to note that we exceeded our goals in the area of safety and security. In addition to the infrastructure enhancements, Lowell Area Schools has contracted a Kent County Sheriff's Department school resource officer through a generous grant from the Lowell Community Foundation. The Kent County Sheriff's Department offered this service at a reduced rate from previous years to all school districts across the county. School resource officers work to protect students and staff, as well as promote safer schools and safer kids. Our deputy, Officer Todd Summerhays, is on duty developing positive relationships with our students, assisting the district with effective

strategies to increase overall school security, and helping to improve response plans to potential incidents. Officer Summerhays is housed at Lowell High School. The district is fortunate to have a proactive law enforcement official on our team to focus on crime prevention and serve as a role model for Lowell students. This position will enrich our existing partnership and strong working relationship with the City of Lowell Police Department.

Energy Savings - Infrastructure Repair and Maintenance

Lowell Area Schools is proud of our facilities and we are dedicated to preserving our building infrastructure. That's why dollars from last fall's ballot proposal are reserved to address building roofs that are years beyond their warranties. The process necessary for collecting bids is scheduled for this fall into early winter so that roof repairs can begin at Lowell High School next summer. A complete renovation of the parking and drop-off/pick-up area was done at Alto Elementary. Alto Elementary also was the recipient of a substantial gift from the Alto DDA which provided dollars for a significant expansion project on the parking lot.

Promises Kept

Trustworthiness and responsibility are two of the core values we hold as an organization and as public servants. The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education and administration share these values. We believe that our community and families deserve no less than modeling the trustworthiness and responsibility that we work to build in students every day. Our buildings are important, but more important are the people in them who work to successfully deliver on the promises we make. We know that our town of Lowell and our schools take pride in our rich history and embrace the boundless possibilities of the future. The Lowell Board of Education and administration is privileged to care for and enhance the community's resources so that we can all enjoy the places that matter to us.

Thank you for your support, your investment in kids, and for your trust in Lowell Area Schools. As a result, we are positioned to remain a vibrant school district that is focused on providing meaningful learning experiences and extra-curricular opportunities to students for years to come.

Go Red Arrows!!

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viewpoint

to the editor

support for candidate

To the Editor:

I am not a political activist. I am not a confirmed and anointed Republican or Democrat. I am, however, a disabled combat, former U.S. Marine (Vietnam era), long-time retired principal of both Runciman Riverside and Bushnell Elementary schools and by that admission, you also know I am a senior citizen.

The only other letters to the editor with political undertones that I have written came as a result of our local legislator, Lisa Lyons, coming out in support of arming teachers in the classroom as a result of the Newtown, Conn. killings a couple of years ago.

Being a Veteran, I receive services at the V.A. clinic in Grand Rapids (glasses, hearing aids, medications and the like) as do many of my fellow Veterans. I have also had the opportunity to visit and speak with Veterans who are residents at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans located at the same facility.

Colonel Sam Yeiter, one of Lowell's most respected and admired WWII heroes, was called home from there not too long ago.

If you want to know how some of your most needy heroes spend their declining years, I would urge you to take the time for a short visit and bring cookies, lots and lots of cookies.

Did you know that, in an effort to balance the state budget, our governor cut 4.2 million dollars in funding for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans? Our local legislator Lisa Lyons voted to approve this measure. She must think a leaner V.A. home is a better V.A. home. That's why I said bring lots of cookies if you visit. The real reason for the funding cut, as I see it, was to break the union which provided caregivers for the Vets. Many union workers were replaced with temps who make less money.

As a senior citizen, I am continually amazed at how my age group votes. We

seem to continually shoot ourselves in the foot by putting people in office who make no secret about voting for things which are contrary to our best interests. Lyons supports taxing senior pensions, eliminating the \$1800 senior tax credit and the elimination of the \$600 per child tax credit. Many of us spend a great deal of money helping our kids and their families, so the child tax credit affects us personally.

I am a very proud educator of some 31 years, now long retired. Teachers spend hundreds of dollars a year purchasing supplies for their students without complaint because of budget shortfalls. Teachers' salaries have remained stagnant or have been reduced. Teachers

pay more for health care and retirement plans and yet Lisa Lyons, a ranking member of the House Education Committee, a short time ago, referred to public school educators as "pigs at the trough." I'm sure the meaning is clear to you.

I have someone in mind for state representative who will get my support and she happens to be a Democrat. Her name is Lynn Mason from Belding. Lynn is a 30-year plus teacher and is currently serving as a county commissioner. Lynn Mason is a consensus builder who will work for seniors, Veterans and our children. I urge your support.

Louis Dudeck,
Lowell

of the Department of Public Works even after the union brought the facts to the forefront and asked for the public to be included in the negotiations.

I recently brought my concerns over the contract negotiations to a Sept. 15 city council meeting and then asked councilmember Jeff Altoft if he believes that there should be a public hearing over the contract negotiations and he said yes. But the mayor quickly interrupted by saying that we are not going to respond to any questions. You can address the chair here, Jim Hodges said. The mayor has the bully-pulpit and he uses it to his liking or should I say his own discretion...

I'm suggesting that the city council be the servant for which they were voted into office to be and

answer all comments and questions brought before them at council meetings that pertain to the city with the best of their knowledge and to set a date at the next council meeting to have a public hearing over the contract of negotiations.

I would like to make a brief statement on the Oct. 6 council meeting. I went to that council meeting and the council spent the greatest share of the meeting on a safety problem that should have been taken care of months ago. Having this problem on the agenda for any length of time only shows the incompetency of the council when it comes to solving the simplest of problems.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard, Lowell

council needs to listen

Letter to the Editor,

Many constituents have stood before the council only to go away empty handed.

When you go to a council meeting and there are public comments on subjects that are not on the council's agenda, the council reserves the right not to comment. But the

council is the servant and should be responding to all comments and questions pertaining to the city with the best of their knowledge at the time the comments or questions are made...

The council has failed to publicly debate the contract negotiations between the city and the union representing the employees

waiting for answers

To the Editor:

I find it difficult to believe Lisa Posthumus Lyons' claim in a recent interview that she has been knocking on doors all summer and got optimistic reports about her actions and voting record as 86th District representative.

As one of her former teachers, I sent her a letter on June 26, 2013, after she (as chairperson of the House Education Committee) referred to Michigan teachers as "greedy pigs and hogs" on the floor of the

House of Representatives. I am still waiting for a response. I also know other people who contacted her office during the past year with questions about her voting record to cut school funding, eliminate tax breaks for working parents and increase taxes on retirees. They are also still waiting for answers to their questions. Isn't it her job to "represent" all of her constituents?

Sincerely, Peter F. Siler
Bowne Township

real leaders

To the Editor,

In the October 8, 2014 Ledger, the mayor submitted his answer to the previous week's Letter to the Editor.

He attacked this person and other unnamed people including the local paper for false accusations and misrepresented facts regarding the employees who have decided to not join the union.

He offers no solutions as he goes on to say that "we are all better than that... And that we can agree to disagree to work our way to solutions to make our community a better place."

He forgets that it is about more than a segment of workers, it is about policy and procedure abuse, hidden agendas and capital funding abuse by two city managers

as they twist facts and truth in a shell game they play as they hide their mistakes.

He forgets that "we the people" have been trying to expose the corruption, dangerous policy abuse and wasteful spending as he dismisses us from meetings when we dare to speak against these abuses.

He forgets that we as citizens and reporters are then forced to use this forum to try to wake up those who were supposedly voted into office "to serve" and should therefore be listening to our questions and then be in charge of this city earnestly working to protect it.

He forgets that he willingly ran for his position by collecting the required

To The Editor,
continued, page 7

disposed of most advantageously. This town stands first on the Grand Trunk system for fruit shipments.

Mrs. John Hatch met with a serious accident last night. In some way she got her thumb in the cog gearing of a cutting box, mangling the flesh and crushing the bone. A physician was called who dressed the wound and will endeavor to save the thumb from amputation.

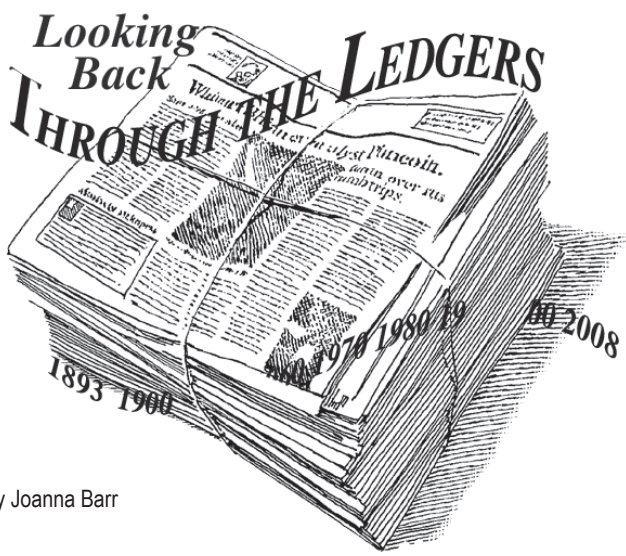
100 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 15, 1914

Ada, Oct. 9 - Ada's high school building was burned to the ground at 4:30 this morning by a fire believed to have been started by tramps who had been sleeping in the building. The loss is \$15,000, with only \$4,000 insurance. Twenty-five tons of coal had just been stored in the basement. The building was of brick and had been in use for forty years. About 250 pupils were enrolled this fall. Already plans are being considered for a new building and work in its construction will begin at once.

Glen Ford, Mr. Aldrich and Arthur Bibbler met with quite an accident last week while returning from Grand Rapids in his new motor, it getting the start of him while descending a hill near Grand Rapids. Mr. Ford had some ribs broken, Mr. Aldrich getting hurt about the head and Mr. Bibbler got an arm broken. The car was wrecked. We are glad that the quarantine has been taken off of Salisbury's house and hope to see them out soon.

Bean threshing is the order of the day now. The

Looking Back, continued, page 14



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal October 16, 1889

The threshers came to Silas Toles' Monday evening intending to thresh for him Tuesday, but about midnight the barn and stacks of grain were discovered in flames and were totally destroyed. It was with the utmost difficulty that the threshing machine and engine were saved. The loss was about \$1,500 with light insurance.

The Michigan Cutter Co. started up Monday and today opened up "full blast" for the fall and winter, turning out cutters at the rate of thirty a day, finished complete.

Lowell is one of the best markets in the state for all kinds of farmer's produce. As an apple market it leads them all. There are seven buyers of first-class fruit, besides two evaporators where the "outs" can be

MacNaughton bests ArtPrize jazz category

For the second time, home the winning prize for Lowell native Roger MacNaughton has taken his entry in the ArtPrize Jazz Music category.



Roger MacNaughton

MacNaughton first won an ArtPrize award in 2012 with the original composition "Grand Traverse Bay" from the CD "Michigan Morn." This year's winning composition titled "5 Mile Mountain" features an instrumental trio consisting of Charlie Hoats on bass, Eddie Eicher on drums and the composer on piano.

With eight instrumental CDs to his credit, MacNaughton's discography includes works for solo piano, piano and cello, and jazz ensembles including piano, guitar, saxophone, bass, drums, and at times violin. In addition to operating the project recording studio Acoustic Arts Music L.L.C., the musician teaches at Aquinas College and serves as director of music at Bostwick Lake Congregational Church in Rockford. MacNaughton also performs regularly for private, corporate and public events with various groups covering a range of material from smooth background music to classic rock. A cash award of \$2,000 accompanies the recognition.

health



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

e-cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes, are designed as a substitute for cigarette smoking. Some believe they help smokers quit smoking. Operated by a battery, they work by turning nicotine into a vapor that is inhaled. Their use has been increasing in the US as new products have entered the market.

There are some potential benefits of e-cigarettes. Tobacco is what makes regular cigarettes so harmful to health and the e-cigarettes do not contain tobacco. Nicotine itself is not healthy, but it probably does not contribute nearly as much to smoking-related diseases as tobacco

does. Other types of "clean nicotine," such as patches, gums, lozenges, and nasal sprays, have been used to help people stop smoking for nearly thirty years. Although e-cigarettes may contribute nicotine vapor to the air, the vapor is much less toxic than secondhand smoke.

There are, however, many concerns about e-cigarettes. Much of the concern comes from a lack of information about the product. There is also a lack of standardization and quality control among all the brands. It is difficult to draw conclusions when there are so many varieties of nicotine solution,

additives and flavorings, and potentially toxic substances in the vapor. It is not known if there is a "safe" level of toxins in the vapor. Manufacturers advertise e-cigarettes as a way to stop smoking. Some evidence suggests that they may help people reduce their use of or quit smoking cigarettes. However, the evidence is not very solid, as there are no actual scientific studies regarding this.

People may start using e-cigarettes simply because they are less harmful than tobacco cigarettes. This may be especially true for young people, who are the targets for e-cigarette marketing. They might start with e-cigarettes and then add or switch to tobacco cigarettes or other tobacco products. E-cigarettes look like real cigarettes. Therefore, their use might increase the social acceptability of smoking in general, which is not what physicians would hope to see.

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happy birthday!

OCTOBER 15
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OCTOBER 16
 Paula Blough.

OCTOBER 17
 Collin Kaeb, Kurt Telman, Jason Nearing.

OCTOBER 18
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OCTOBER 19
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OCTOBER 20
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OCTOBER 21
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To The Editor, continued

signatures and “the people” voted him into the office he holds and that by their votes, he now works “for the people.”

He forgets that the people do not serve and report to him, he is supposed to serve, protect and report to the people.

The mayor has a fiduciary responsibility to do what is best for the people and our fine city and to not turn his back to the sweet-talking and long-term damaging actions of the two city manager(s) as they spend city capital unwisely and without accountability for their wasteful actions.

He forgets that over \$100,000 has been wasted on fighting a union (that was not necessary before the current city manager came here), on attorney fees to a firm in Novi.

A mandated five-year contract for the wastewater treatment plant was wrongly turned into a \$26,000 a month windfall 10-year contract. Think of this, over \$300,000 a year to have two non-Lowell employees paid by an outside contractor to run our treatment plant. The new contract is up next year. Will the bidding process be done in accordance to the City Charter rules or will this be hidden by secret meetings and agendas?

\$200,000 wasted on decommissioned generators at the LL&P plant; \$300,000-\$400,000 diverted from the funds set up to maintain and repair our crumbling streets.

The expense of a trip for LL&P board members to Germany to look at a biodigester when we had one to look at here in Wyoming, Michigan.

Maybe our mayor is a leader of the type that Ed Koch was when the people of New York City

ousted him and Koch, in his arrogance said, “The people have spoken and now they must pay.”

It seems that our mayor and Koch forget that leadership starts at the “top.”

Real leaders lead from the front as they enter a campaign or battle and do not hide behind their subordinate officers as this mayor does so well with the city and LL&P manager(s), twisting policy and capital down their rabbit hole of money shuffling.

Real leaders do not discredit, dismiss and shut down citizens and fellow councilmembers in public city council meetings with an underhanded wave and words telling them “they are dismissed and done on that point.”

Real leaders take the time to listen and consider differing viewpoints while “not interrupting and shutting down” citizens and fellow councilmembers as they speak their individual concerns.

Real leaders take real consideration of thoughts and criticisms with an open mind and consider that just maybe a better solution is being offered in what the people are saying.

Real leaders do not take potshots at our local paper as this entity works to make sense of and reveal all of the angles, questions, truths, falsehoods and hidden agendas.

Real leaders step aside when they realize that they are in over their heads.

Leaders who are not real and in over their heads are replaced by their bosses (remember “We the people”).

Judging by our mayor’s behavior during his tenure, he is not a “real leader.”

Alan Teelander

officials must be informed

Dear Editor,

Serving on the city council is an enjoyable and sometimes challenging way to serve the community. Making difficult decisions and dealing with sensitive issues are part of being on the council – along with lots of reading and lots of meetings. Elected officials must be willing and capable of performing these functions and more to fulfill their obligation to

the citizens of Lowell. That being said, there is a learning curve to holding public office. The best sources of information are our city manager Mark Howe and our mayor Jim Hodges (senior councilmember), who are always available for a meeting or a phone call when needed.

It is an elected official’s (not the city manager’s or anyone else’s) responsibility

to seek reliable information when required. It is irresponsible to serve without being properly informed. When members of the public evaluate the council they should consider whether or not councilmembers are making informed decisions in the best interests of the entire community or are just being influenced by a few.

Support from the silent majority in our community is appreciated, but public support is also welcome. City council meetings are the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 pm in city hall.

Sincerely,
Sharon Ellison
mayor pro tem

Fire department debuts new fire engine at annual open house

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell Area Fire Department debuted their massive new fire engine at their annual open house on Wednesday, October 8.

Children swarmed the new fire engine and an Aero Med helicopter and enjoyed fire truck rides. They were also provided free smoke detectors and Rockford Ambulance put on some demonstrations.

“This is a 2014 Rosenbauer Pumper/Rescue,” said fire captain Shannon Witherell. “Instead of replacing one truck we actually replaced two trucks.”

They retired a 1988 truck and are going to retire a 1996 truck once the new one gets up and running.

“This truck has jaws-of-life tools, rescue tools, EMS equipment, medical equipment and fire fighting equipment on it,” Witherell said. “So any call that we get, this truck is built to be able to handle it. It’s two trucks in one.”

The new truck will improve the department’s capabilities when responding to emergencies.

“This truck is capable of going on medical

emergencies,” Witherell said. “Anything we get, we can handle it in this truck. It’s also capable of medically treating people on scenes of car accidents. We’ve utilized pretty much every available space that we could to get as many tools and as much equipment on it as we could. Our rescue tools are mounted in the front bumper along with a section of fire hose, so if we pull up on the scene of a car accident, somebody’s pinned inside and we have a car fire, we have all the tools we need to be able to fight the fire, cut them out of the car and be able to work on it from there.”

The new truck is gigantic and it had a hefty price tag.

“It is the tallest truck we have in our fleet at ten feet, six inches tall,” Witherell said. “It’s a foot taller than any of our other trucks because of the light tower on the top and the light tower extends above the truck [another] ten feet. It has a 28-inch front bumper. It cost roughly \$560,000. Somewhere thereabouts. It was funded by a big donation from the Lowell Area Community Fund; we got a grant from them and then by each municipality: Lowell Township,

Vergennes Township and the city of Lowell.”

A big, expensive truck like this is an investment that will last a very long time.

“The recommended life for a fire truck is anywhere between 15 to 20 years,” Witherell said.

Residents will see the truck in use in about a week.

“We haven’t had it in service yet; we’re still putting some equipment on it,” Witherell said. “We’re planning on it being in service on October 20. We have done some training on it.”



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Red Arrow - VOLLEYBALL SPORTS

Red Arrows drop one to EGR in conference play

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell's varsity volleyball squad fought hard against conference competitor East Grand Rapids last week in home action.

The Lady Arrows started off strong against the Pioneers putting up an impressive nine-point win, 26-16, in the first game of the match up.

In game two EGR rallied back to dominate and earned the win by a margin of 14 points.

Tied 1-1 heading into game three, Lowell pushed hard and narrowed the scoring gap but failed to come up with the win earning only 19 points to EGR's 25.

Entering game four two games out from a victory, Lowell was in a must win situation, needing to tie up for the opportunity at a game five. Despite the fiercely close final showdown, the Pioneers put up a third consecutive win to seal off the win 3-1.



Tara McQueen, Grace Quiggle and Rachel Fox prepare for action in the first game of last week's home match.

The girls will hit the road twice this week to battle Grand Rapids Christian in the OK White on Thursday and to take part in the Sparta Invite on Saturday.



Rachel Fox serves during the team's first game against conference rival East Grand Rapids.

- CROSS COUNTRY

Cross country runners earn personal bests at Kent-Ottawa Invite

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Both boys and girls varsity cross country teams braved chilly temperatures and frost to participate in the Kent-Ottawa Invite at Calvin College's Gainey Fields this past Saturday morning.

Grand Rapids Christian boys dominated the field putting five runners in the top ten to best second-place finisher East Grand Rapids by nearly 50 points. Lowell boys placed in the middle of the pack coming in at ninth among the 16 competing teams.

Coach Clay VanderWarf said, "The boys ran a terrific race. Most of them ran personal bests. I was particularly pleased with Zach Diamond who broke

into the 16.00s for the first time."

Diamond led the team finishing with a time of 16:55, a personal best and just shy of the school's record. He placed 19th overall in a field of 141 runners.

Nick MacDonald and Eric Judd also contributed great runs coming in with times in the 17-minute mark according to VanderWarf, who feels this strong finish will lead to good things in the postseason. "I think this race will give the team the confidence they need as they prepare for the conference finals."

The lady Arrows finished just two places behind their male counterparts landing in the

11th position in the female competition, which was also won by Grand Rapids Christian. Fourteen of the eighteen Lowell runners ran their best times of the season with five achieving personal bests.

Desiree Striplin led the pack once again with a time of 21:33 which placed her in 56th place overall. Breanna VanLaan followed clocking a 22:03 with freshman Katrina Droski just three seconds behind. Emily Judd (22:21) and Megan Khodl (22:42) rounded out Lowell's top finishers.

Head coach Paul Judd said he is pleased with the team's finish in this extremely difficult competition.

"Kent-Ottawa is one of the larger invitationals that Lowell participates in and running it at the end of the season matches us against the strongest teams in the country as they are entering postseason form."

The ladies' squad will welcome back junior Haley Engels for the postseason after she was sidelined due to an injury for most of the season.

Both cross country teams will participate in the final OK White conference meet of the season this week at Riverside Park in Grand Rapids beginning at 4:45.

L
Go Red Arrows!



the lowell



ledger



Red Arrow - GOLF SPORTS

Girls compete in regional finals, two move on to state finals

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell's lady golfers competed in the Division 2 regional finals last week poised to be the first girls varsity golf team to advance to state level competition but fell short by a mere eight strokes.

"Heart-breaking is the phrase I would use to describe the regionals," said head coach Kim Stevens, "Our goal all year long was to make it to state, so we are obviously disappointed."

Muskegon Mona Shores claimed the top spot in the competition

carding a combined 361. They out stroked second-place finisher and OK White conference rival, Forest Hills Central by 25.

Lowell finished in fourth with a 399 just eight strokes behind Greenville who claimed the third and final spot in the state finals, their seventh time in as many years.

Despite falling short of their bid for state, the team did manage to make school history at the competition. For the first time two players qualified to advance to the state finals.

Anna Organek and Danielle Krajewski both landed in the top three for individual qualifiers carding 94 and 95 respectively.

"I am so happy for Dani to return to state. She has been a four-year starter for me. Anna came out of nowhere to earn her place. What a great day for her. It just goes to show that you don't have to hit it far to be successful. She controls her shots and takes advantage of her strong chipping and putting."



Danielle Krajewski and Anna Organek will both compete in the state finals after claiming two of the top three spots at regionals.

The pair will compete in the Division 2 state finals at Forest Akers West on the campus of Michigan State University October 17-18.

- SOCCER

Soccer team heads to districts



by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Varsity soccer competed against two conference rivals last week traveling to Forest Hills Central (FHC) and hosting their final home game of the year versus Caledonia.

First-half action was scoreless against FHC on Monday as both defenses worked hard to block scoring opportunities. FHC went on to score two goals in the second half, shutting out the Arrows and propelling themselves to first-place in the OK white conference with a 7-1 record, one game ahead of Grand Rapids Christian.

Tuesday at Red Arrow stadium the team kicked off the night by honoring their three outgoing senior players: Brandon Cole, Isaac Henderson and Collin Pawlowski. The three players were introduced on the field alongside their parents as part of senior night.

In game action, the Arrows went scoreless the first half while the Fighting Scots from Caledonia managed a single goal putting them up at the half. Caledonia continued to dominate in the second half scoring three goals to blow past Lowell with a score of 4-1. Collin Bowers put up the only goal for the Arrows while goalkeeper Trevor Sherman had 11 saves.



Brendan Paulus bumps a header.

The squad will visit East Lansing this week to participate in the first round of the Division 2 district competition.

Trevor Roest drives the ball down the field.



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Annabelle is premiere horror movie of Halloween season

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing reporter

“Annabelle” is a horror film featuring a doll named Annabelle that serves as an earthly conduit for a terrible demon. The character and concept of Annabelle were

originally introduced in the 2013 instant classic “The Conjuring,” tying this film into the most significant horror film movements in years with James Wan and Jason Blum’s series

of *Insidious*, *Insidious: Chapter 2* and *Oculus*. This cinematic mega franchise crept quietly onto the scene only to become the benchmark that all subsequent horror films are measured against.

At the beginning of the film, Annabelle the doll enters the lives of young married couple Mia and John Gordon as they are expecting their first child. Immediately, a series of strange horrors begin to take place, each of which seems to either put Mia’s pregnancy at risk or threaten the life of their child. To the Gordon family’s horror, the demon and the doll have decided to meddle in their lives, a fact that bodes poorly for the future of this young family.

Annabelle embodies most of the basic tenets that have made other films in the Wan/Blum horror sandbox successful. First and foremost, the film focuses on story, the story of the Gordon family but perhaps more importantly the story

of Annabelle and her demon companion. Second, there is an important focus on world building. While most of the groundwork in this sense was laid in *The Conjuring*, Annabelle spends some time focusing on the fear of the occult in the 1960s. Mia watches news footage describing the activities of murder cult “The Family” (better known as The Manson Family). At first this seems like a gimmicky introduction to the fact that this film is a period piece, but as the film develops and the idea of cults becomes more important to the central plot it serves as more of a Zeitgeist indicator.

For the most part, Annabelle measures up to its predecessors, which is impressive considering it is the first film of the series that wasn’t either directed by James Wan or produced by Jason Blum. The music composed by Joseph Bishara (of both *Insidious* and *The Conjuring*) is impressive, harkening back to the work of horror great Dario

Argento. Bishara jumps from utter silence to a loud, frightening din often and with great effect. Director John Leonetti is a perfect James Wan substitute, presenting horror that does not disappear at close range, horror that challenges your personal space.

Annabelle is not some derivative “Child’s Play” clone featuring a doll that scurries around the house with knife in hand saying unwholesome catch lines as it comically murders its family. Though it had the benefit of a push off from *The Conjuring*, it is a strong film in its own right. It was not without its negatives, however. While the demon haunting Annabelle looks terrifying from afar, it looks silly up close. Of course, the wildly successful *Insidious* had the same problem with a demon that looked a great deal like Darth Maul of the Star Wars franchise. This movie is great and it is positioned to be the best horror movie of the Halloween season.

As for the future of Annabelle, it appears to be wide open. Enough of the doll/demon’s origin is left open that a sequel would not be ridiculous. Furthermore, Annabelle joins a cinematic universe with *The Conjuring* and possibly also *Insidious*, *Oculus* and some of Wan’s early works. This further expands sequel possibilities because people love cinematic universes like the Marvel cinematic universe (*Iron Man*, *Thor*, *Captain America*) and the *Alien/Predator/Bladerunner* universe.

Finally, expecting parents and those with a newborn baby in the house might think twice about seeing this film. Some of the events may simply be too disturbing for those caring for a new life to witness. It provides depth and terror for the average filmgoer, which strengthens the film, but it might strike a little too close to home for new parents.

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Questions & Answers
About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: What’s the latest on efforts to ban plastic bags? How many U.S. locales have instituted some kind of ban, and have these initiatives made a dent in the amount of plastic litter? -- *Melinda Clarke, New York, NY*

California made big news recently when it announced the first statewide ban on plastic shopping bags set to kick in during the middle of 2015. Beginning in July, large grocery stores, pharmacies and other food retailers in the Golden State will no longer be able to send shoppers home with plastic bags, while convenience markets, liquor stores and other small food retailers will join the ranks a year later.

Back in 2007, San Francisco became the first U.S. municipality to ban plastic shopping bags. In intervening years upwards of 132 other cities and counties in 18 states and the District of Columbia instituted similar measures. Of course, Americans are late to the party when it comes to banning plastic bags: The European Union, China, India and dozens of other nations already have plastic bag bans or taxes in place.

But the trend here toward banning plastic shopping bags comes in the wake of new findings regarding the extent and harm of plastic in our environment. Since plastic isn’t biodegradable, it ends up either in landfills or as litter on the landscape and in waterways and the ocean. Plastic can take hundreds of years to decompose and releases toxins into the soil and water in the process.

Littered plastic is also a huge problem for the health of wildlife, as many animals ingest it thinking it is food and can have problems thereafter breathing and digesting. The non-profit Worldwatch Institute reports that at least 267 species of marine wildlife are known to have suffered from entanglement or ingestion of

marine debris, most of which is composed of plastic; tens of thousands of whales, birds, seals and turtles die every year from contact with ocean-borne plastic bags. A recent European Commission study on the impact of litter on North Sea wildlife found that some 90 percent of the birds examined had plastic in their stomachs.

Another reason for banning plastic bags is their fossil fuel burden. Plastic is not only made from petroleum—producing it typically requires a lot of fossil-fuel-derived energy. The fact that Americans throw away some 100 billion plastic grocery bags each year means we are drilling for and importing millions of barrels worth of oil and natural gas for a convenient way to carry home a few groceries.

It’s hard to measure the impact of pre-existing plastic bag bans, but some initial findings look promising. A plastic bag tax levied in Ireland in 2002 has reportedly led to a 95 percent reduction in plastic bag litter there.

And a study by San Jose, California found that a 2011 ban instituted there has led to plastic litter reduction of “approximately 89 percent in the storm drain system, 60 percent in the creeks and rivers, and 59 percent in City streets and neighborhoods.”

Environmental groups continue to push for more plastic bag bans. “As U.S. natural gas production has surged and prices have fallen, the plastics industry is looking to ramp up domestic production,” reports the Earth Policy Institute. “Yet using this fossil fuel endowment to make something so short-lived, which can blow away at the slightest breeze and pollutes indefinitely, is illogical—particularly when there is a ready alternative: the reusable bag.”

CONTACTS: Worldwatch Institute, www.worldwatch.org; Earth Policy Institute, www.earth-policy.org.

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Beginning in July 2015, large grocery stores, pharmacies and other food retailers in California will no longer be able to send shoppers home with plastic bags; convenience markets, liquor stores and other small food retailers will join the ranks a year later. Pictured: a collection of not-yet-reused plastic grocery bags.

Red Arrow **SPORTS**

Red Arrows undefeated after victory over Wildcats

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell rallied past the Jenison Wildcats last Friday after a slow offensive start to maintain their undefeated season record and their place at the top of the OK White conference.

Quarterback Ryan Stevens connected with receiver Gabe Steed for the first score of the game with just under six minutes of

play left in the first quarter. The 65-yard touchdown pass put the Arrows up 7-0 with a successful extra point by kicker Daniel Bieri. Stevens completed 10 of 18 in the game for a total of 162 yards.

The Wildcats were unable to answer to the Lowell score until the second quarter when a long

pass put them in the end zone tying the game up 7-7 at the half.

In the third, Lowell's Sawyer Olesko picked up a 23-yard punt return in Jenison territory that the Arrows quickly converted into a 5-yard touchdown run by junior Max Dean. A failed 2-point conversion run by Anthony Alderink

left the score 13-7 to Arrow's advantage.

Lowell's defensive line continued to dominate Jenison for the duration of the third and the offense managed an additional score from Dean on a 21-yard touchdown run. Dean ran for a total of 102 yards in the game on 20 carries.

Ahead 19-7 the entire fourth quarter, the Arrows maintained their lead and finished out the game victorious pushing their season record to 7-0 overall

and 3-0 in the OK White. They are currently holding sole possession of first place in the conference, one game ahead of both Caledonia and Grand Rapids Christian.

The Arrows will fight to hold onto that position this Friday when they face Caledonia on the road with first place on the line.

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Open enrollment: A great time to review your retirement plan

If you work for a medium-to-large company, you may now be entering the "open enrollment" period — that time of year when you get to make changes to your employee benefits. Your benefit package can be a big piece of your overall financial picture, so you'll want to make the right moves — especially in regard to your employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Take a close look at your 401(k) or similar plan, such as a 403(b), if you work for a school or a nonprofit group, or a 457(b), if you work for a state or local government. And keep these possible moves in mind:

- Boost your contributions. If your salary has gone up over the past year, or if you just think you have a reasonable "cushion" in your disposable income, boost your contributions to your employer-sponsored retirement plan. Even if you can't afford to contribute the maximum amount — which, in 2014, is \$17,500, or \$23,000 if you're 50 or older — to your 401(k) or similar plan, try to put in

as much as you can afford. Remember the key benefits of these plans: Your money can grow tax deferred and your contributions can lower your annual taxable income. (Keep in mind, though, that you will eventually be taxed on your withdrawals, and any withdrawals you take before you reach 59½ may be subject to a 10 percent IRS penalty.)

- Don't miss the match. Try to take full advantage of your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. Your employer may match 50 percent of employee contributions, up to the first six percent of your salary. So if you're only deferring three percent of your income, you are missing half the match — or leaving money "on the table," so to speak.

- Rebalance, if necessary. You may be able to change the investment mix of your employer-sponsored retirement plan throughout the year, but you might find that the best time to review your holdings and

rebalance your portfolio is during open enrollment, when you're reviewing all your benefit options. Try to determine if your investment allocation is still appropriate for your needs or if you own some investments that are chronically underperforming. And always keep in mind the need to diversify. Try to spread your money around a variety of investments

within your plan, with the exact percentages of each investment depending on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. As you near retirement, you may need to lower your overall risk level, but even at this stage of your career, you'll benefit from a diversified portfolio. While diversification can't guarantee a profit or protect against loss, it can help reduce the impact of

volatility on your holdings.

- Review your beneficiary designations. Your retirement plan's beneficiary designations are important and, in fact, can even supersede the wishes you express in your will. So if you experience changes in your life — marriage, remarriage, a birth or an adoption, etc. — you'll need to update the beneficiary designations on your 401(k)

or similar plan. It won't take much time today — and it can help prevent a lot of trouble tomorrow.

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LAS Elementary Lunch Menus
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MONDAY: Yogurt w/ Goldfish graham & cheese stick, strawberries; Fruit & Veggie Bar: spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, applesauce, pineapple.

TUESDAY: Beef & cheese nacho, refried beans; Fruit & Veggie Bar: spinach & romaine side salad, salsa, banana, mixed fruit.

WEDNESDAY: Pancake & scrambled eggs, hashbrowns; Fruit & Veggie Bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, grapes, applesauce.

THURSDAY: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup; Fruit & Veggie Bar: spinach & romaine side salad, broccoli florets, mandarin oranges, fruit goop.

FRIDAY: Homemade cheese pizza on WG crust, side salad; Fruit & Veggie Bar: spinach & romaine side salad, fresh baby carrots, pineapple, juice.

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Looking Back, continued

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75 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 19, 1939

Michigan is included in the 21 states which will observe Thursday, Nov. 23rd, as Thanksgiving Day this year. The remainder of the states will stick to the last Thursday in the month.

Nearly all the new automobiles being brought out by manufacturers include the new sealed beam headlights which will give fifty per cent increase in light power and will illuminate the right side of the road and reduce the glare. Such an improvement will undoubtedly save many lives because half of the fatalities occur at night and the presumption is that lights have something to do with these casualties.

Sheep-killing dogs are again reported on the rampage in the surrounding community. One night recently, 14 valuable sheep on the Orlando Odell farm in Vergennes Twp. were killed outright, including three which had been so badly mutilated that their lives could not be saved. It will be remembered that about a year ago, dogs killed 22 sheep on the Odell farm and about that same time a number of sheep were also killed on various farms in South Boston and other nearby townships. Under these circumstances, it seems right to expect that all persons owning dogs

see to it that they are kept properly corraled on their home premises, especially at night time...

Near death from hunting accident – Myron Kyser, 44, of Boston Twp., is recovering in Blodgett hospital, Grand Rapids, from wounds received Sunday when accidentally hit by a shotgun charge while hunting on his farm. It is reported that shot was lodged in both lungs, left shoulder, arm and legs. Mr. Kyser was given a blood transfusion by his nephew, Albert Kyser. Mr. Kyser was accidentally shot by G. F. Price, 21, of Lansing, who was hunting on the Kyser farm. It was a miraculous escape from death and Mr. Kyser's many friends hope for his speedy and complete recovery.

Witches, goblins, black cats and ghosts will ride high Tuesday evening, Oct. 31, in Recreation Park, where members of the Board of Trade, American Legion and Rotary club will sponsor the annual Hallowe'en party for the boys and girls of Lowell and surrounding community. Many exciting games and lots of appetizing refreshments have been planned and it is hoped that every child in the community will plan to attend and make it the best Hallowe'en ever.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 15, 1964

Headline: Grover and Kropf will reign at Homecoming. Paul Kropf and Louise Grover were

elected King and Queen of "Autumn Ecstasy," Lowell High School's 1964 Homecoming. The Homecoming royalty was announced at the annual Snake Dance Tuesday night and they will reign over the '64 festivities.

Mother saves son from river. Mrs. Kenneth Anderson, [of] Ada, plunges into Flat River above the dam on Main Street, Saturday afternoon and saved her six-year-old son, Douglas, who had fallen from the bridge into the river. Mrs. Anderson took her two sons with her into Wepmans. While shopping, she did not miss the children until two little girls, holding the 4-year-old called in the door that a boy had fallen in the river. Mrs. Anderson ran from the store and could see her son just coming up to the surface of the water. He cried out, "Help me mama!" before going under again. The frantic mother leaped the fence and waded out neck deep in the river channel, nearly to the old posts, to grab hold of the boy and pull him ashore. She cannot swim, but said there was no one else on the street to help, so she plunged into the river. The boy was wrapped in a blanket and rushed home. He suffered no ill effects from his near fatal accident. He told his mother, when questioned how he fell in, that he was leaning over the railing watching the ducks when he lost his balance.

Charles Doyle and Harold Dawson were busy this week getting Democratic Headquarters for Lowell set up at 115 West Main Street. The new headquarters will have volunteer workers on duty over the weekends to distribute information on the Democratic candidates. Everyone is invited to drop in and secure information on the candidates or the election.

Showboat is not forgotten in Lowell. Everyday as we walk down the streets we see the Showboat signs still hanging from the light posts. At the October meeting of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce board, they voted to reaffirm their support of the show.

A Republican "bandwagon" will visit Lowell on Wednesday, October 21. This is part of a tour which will cover 50 cities in Michigan. Aboard the ten car caravan will be Mike Goldwater, son of the Republican presidential candidate and Phillip Crosby, one of Bing Crosby's popular singing sons.

Lowell's football team with a 3-0-1 record dropped from 4th last week in the Associated Press poll to 11th among the Class B Schools in the state due to its tie with Class A Grandville.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 18, 1989

Headline: 3-car accident delays M-21 traffic. Minor injuries were incurred in a three-car accident at the intersection of Main and Center streets on Wednesday, Oct. 11. Ruth Prentice, 76, of Lowell, struck the rear of a car driven by Angela Eickhoff, 22, of Lowell, who was stopped in traffic. The passenger in Eickhoff's car, Lois Eickhoff, 45, of Lowell, received injuries. The force of the impact sent Eickhoff's car into a third car stopped in traffic and driven by Angela Watters, 40, of Grand Rapids, who also suffered minor injuries. Both Watters and Lois Eickhoff were transported to Butterworth Hospital by Lowell Ambulance. Prentice was cited for violation of the basic speed law. Responding to the call were Lowell Police, Ambulance and Rescue.

Kyser among those who are exploring Fallasburg's colorful past. The physical reconstruction of historical buildings and activities during an era can be recanted through people's memories and written records. Both, however, are incomplete. "Two people could give you two very different descriptions about the Fallas house back in the early 1900s," explained Wayne State anthropology and history student, Chris Kyser. "That's why archeologists have a theory that states – People lie, but the ground doesn't." Kyser is spearheading an archaeological dig on the property that the John Wesley Fallas house [which] was built in the early 1840-50s. "Some may say the Fallas house had a white picket fence up around it. Instead of just putting any white picket fence back up, it's possible through an archaeological dig I will be able to tell the size of the wood used and its height."

FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

BOYS & GIRLS

VARSITY CROSS COUNTRY

- * Denotes a game at the high school campus
- 10/24 Regionals at Grand Traverse Resort
- 10/25 Regionals location to be determined
- 11/1 State Finals location to be determined

BOYS VARSITY FOOTBALL

- * Denotes a game at Red Arrow Memorial Stadium
- 10/17 at 7 p.m. at Caledonia
- 10/24 at 7 p.m. Forest Hills Central*

GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

- * Denotes a game at Lowell High School
- 10/16 at 7 p.m. at GR Christian
- 10/18 at 8 a.m. Sparta Invitational
- 10/21 at 7 p.m. Jenison*
- 10/23 at 7 p.m. Caledonia*
- 10/28 at 5 p.m. Lowell Quad*
- 10/30 at 7 p.m. at Forest Hills Central

**THEME:
HALLOWEEN**

ACROSS

1. Excel grid, e.g.
6. TV monitor, acr.
9. Bonnie one
13. Of the Orient
14. One from Laos
15. Marked ski run
16. Unfriendly looks
17. Giant Hall-of-Famer Mel
18. Wedding singer?
19. *Popular Halloween pumpkin tradition
21. *Predecessor of pumpkin as jack-o-lantern canvas
23. ___ Baba
24. Owl's hangout
25. Blah-blah-blah
28. Shade of beige
30. Like Scandinavia
35. Shaded
37. Not easy
39. Prince William's mother
40. Eye up and down
41. Money or Murphy, e.g.
43. Genesis garden
44. "She ___ seashells..."
46. Fly like an eagle
47. "___ of the Flies"
48. "Planes, ___ and Automobiles"
50. *Like Freddy Krueger's glove or a bird's foot
52. Pig's digs
53. Sound on Old MacDonald's farm
55. Mad Hatter's drink
57. M in ROM
60. *No hands allowed for this on Halloween
64. Drink like a cat
65. Filmmaker Spike

67. Dugout vessel
68. *"The ___ ville Horror"

69. Bonanza find
70. Fancy tie
71. Ancient Rome's distance unit
72. Siesta
73. Stands for

DOWN

1. Barber's supply

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
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44				45		46				47				
48					49		50			51		52		
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	57	58	59					60				61	62	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

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OCTOBER 8 - OCTOBER 14

- A U.N. worker dies of ebola in a German hospital, and a nurse in Spain, the first to be infected outside of Africa, is said to be making progress. Extra screening is being done in at least five major American airports as the World Health Organization continues to be concerned over future outbreaks of the commonly fatal disease.
- Apparently, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie is pretty sure he doesn't want to be a senator. He was quoted as saying, "When I say I'm never running for public office in New Jersey again, I mean I'm never running for public office in New Jersey again," Christie said during a speech at the annual conference of the New Jersey NAACP Saturday. "The only job left for me to run for is United States Senate, and let me just say this: I would rather die than be in the United States Senate."
- John Hawkey, 56, won this year's Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-off in Half Moon Bay south of San Francisco. The gourd weighed 2,058 pounds. The runner-up was beat by more than 300 pounds.



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

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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.

2. Between ports
3. Coffin stand
4. Early form of what becomes a butterfly
5. Store as fodder
6. Beat or lash
7. *A black one is popular as Halloween decoration
8. Terra ___
9. Sketch
10. American Society for Clinical Investigation
11. Big first for a baby
12. Get the picture
15. Popular anise-flavored liqueur
20. Specialty
22. Large coffee pot
24. Bur-producing plant
25. *White sheeted one?
26. Hole-borer
27. ___ Swan of the "Twilight" series
29. X-ray units
31. Cambodian currency
32. Carpenter's groove, pl.
33. Dead to the world
34. *It flows freely on Halloween
36. Supermarket section
38. *" ___ M for Murder"
42. Muse of love poetry
45. *Red Baron's Halloween opponent
49. Paul McCartney, e.g.
51. Skyping device
54. Leg cover
56. Belittle
57. Mommy
58. Larger-than-life
59. Remote option
60. Car onomatopoeia
61. Machu Picchu group
62. High ___
63. Understands
64. Often found under a napkin
66. Victorian, e.g.

Puzzle solutions, page 12



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Harvest Festival, continued



Broadway was totally packed with chili connoisseurs. Over 100 gallons of chili were consumed by the crowd.



“I love this, it’s a great time,” said Dragon Spit’s Ralph Kendall. “I think we’ve won it three years in a row. We’ve had good success. Usually an hour to prep it and about three hours to cook it. An hour. And that’s serving it in little cups.”

Out at the fairgrounds the Greater Lowell Community Vision Alliance put on a ‘community clean-up day,’ where people

safely recycled appliances, batteries, electronics and other unwieldy, potentially dangerous items. There was an Autumn Marketplace out there, with food, crafts, antiques, a pet expo, a scarecrow workshop, live entertainment and more. The fun continued into the night with two classic movies, “Casper” and “The Goonies,” screened for free in the Foreman Building.



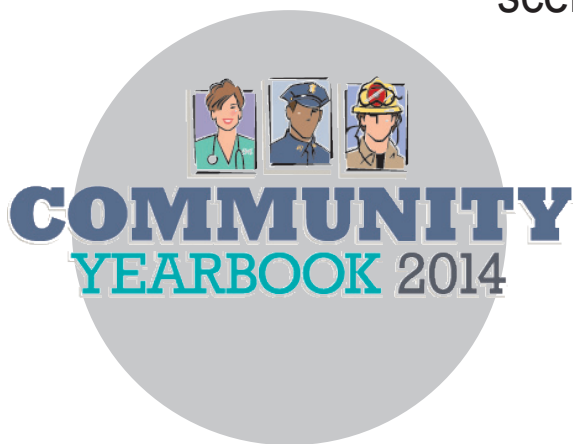
The winning Dragon Spit team: Craig Williams, Ralph Kendall and their friend.



A judge adding up the scores and picking a winner.

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