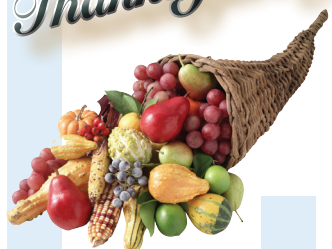


Happy Thanksgiving



From Everyone at the Lowell Ledger

santa cops



page 9

gallery opening



page 16



lhs sports spotlight

page 11

Holiday Market offers unique shopping opportunity

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Each winter the King Gallery at LowellArts! converts to an exclusive holiday shopping destination that features the unique and varied works of more than forty carefully selected local artisans.

The LowellArts! Holiday Market opened Nov. 13 and will continue through Dec. 23 to accommodate last minute shoppers.

The gallery is jam packed with artfully displayed goods ranging from glass to metal work and from photography to pottery.

The collection of handmade gift items includes unique basketry by Laurie Zientek, beautiful beeswax candles, gorgeous jewelry by several artisans and carefully crafted wood working items from artists such as Bob Kleczynski, owner of Bob's Boxes.

Photographer Bruce V. Wilk offers a variety of photo gift options including framed prints and calendars. Watercolor artist Karen Hale is vending her selection of delicate paintings in the form of small prints and note cards and Freeport metal artist Lane Cooper will also be featured in the

gift giving gallery with his fun and unconventional found-object sculpture.

Several of the artists will also be offering public demonstrations of their craft during the month-long event.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, during Lowell's annual downtown Christmas festivities, artist Dianne Bartnick Borton will show attendees how she creates her mosaic work using fused glass.

On Dec. 13, jewelry maker Cindy Allen will

Holiday market, continued, page 8



Doll maker Nancy Wahna's colorful angels are among the broad selection provided by 40 local artisans at the annual holiday event.

City work session creates lively conversation and few solutions

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell's city council had a three-hour 'work session' at city hall on Monday, Nov. 24. Councilor Jeff Altoft had heated arguments with city manager Mark Howe about various topics. Mayor Jim

Hodges and councilors Sharon Ellison and Jim Hall tried to keep peace with Altoft while at the same time supporting Howe. Councilor Matt Mayer was absent.

Three members of the public attended the meeting, along with chief of police Steve Bukala and director of public works Dan DesJarden. One member of the public, Jim Howard, questioned Howe about the union negotiations between the city of Lowell and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The negotiations have been going on for three years, with no end in sight.

The meeting occasionally felt like a psychotherapy session, with references to creating a "safe word" and "bridging the gap." For the record, the

council did not decide what their safe word would be.

A great deal of the meeting was spent on a dysfunctional discussion about how the councilors interact with each other. The focus seemed to be on councilor Jeff Altoft.

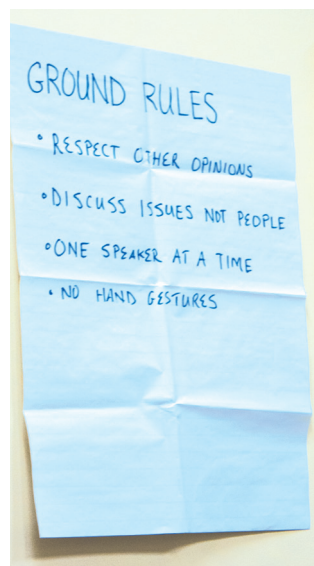
"We're never going to agree on everything, but we have to function," said councilor Sharon Ellison.

"I think the same way Sharon does," Altoft said. "But it's not ever going to happen if someone acts like they're our boss, and not us being their boss."

"What do you mean by that?" Howe asked.

"I mean that if I ask you for something, I want an answer in a timely manner," Altoft said.

Work session, continued, page 2



City manager Mark Howe's "ground rules."



Lowell city council had a work session Monday evening.

Roger MacNaughton and Friends to perform award-winning compositions

LowellArts! will present ArtPrize award-winning composer Roger MacNaughton on Dec. 7. In addition to taking home the 2014 ArtPrize Jazz award for his song "5 Mile Mountain," MacNaughton was also awarded the 2012 Jazz award for the composition "Grand Traverse Bay" from the CD "Michigan Morn."

Performing with the composer will be musicians Charlie Hoats on bass, Jon Montgomery on saxophone,



Michael Hyde on guitar and Eddie Eicher on drums. The combo will be playing a variety of smooth jazz, new age and Christmas music along with the winning entry. MacNaughton will also be joined by Steve VanRavenswaay for several holiday selections as the piano/cello duo "MacRaven."

A dessert reception following the concert at the LowellArts! King Gallery (149 S. Hudson, Lowell). The Roger MacNaughton and Friends, Layin' Low, Lowell CD release concert is scheduled for 3 pm on Sunday at the First Congregational Church of Lowell located at 865 Lincoln Lake Drive.

Tickets are \$12 general admission or \$10 for LowellArts! members. Advanced tickets are available by calling 616-897-8545. Parking is free and the church is handicap accessible.

For more information or to acquire images, please contact Janet Teunis, project director, at 616-897-8545 or janet@lowellartsmi.org

50 CENTS



With the snow coming down again it's time for a few snowblower safety tips

According to weather forecasters, the winter of 2014-15 will see below-normal temperatures for about three-quarters of the nation. That means snow blowers could be getting a workout this winter. The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) offers the following safety tips to assist homeowners, contractors and business owners as they power up their snow removal equipment.



Make sure your snow blower is in good working order, before the first flakes fall

Change the oil. Install a new spark plug and inspect

the belts to be sure they are in good working order. If you forgot to drain the fuel last winter before storing your snow blower, drain the tank now. Check the auger (always in the "off"

position) and adjust any cables. Make sure it starts.

Review your owner's manual

Read your owner's

manual and review safe handling procedures from your manufacturer.

Before it snows, clear the pathways you intend to use

Snow can sometimes hide objects that might clog the chute of a snow blower, or cause damage to the machine or people nearby. Remove doormats, sleds, boards, wires, and other debris from the pathways you intend to clear.

Use the right fuel

It's important to have the proper fuel on hand, as filling stations may be closed

if there is a power outage after a snowstorm. Store fuel properly and buy the type of fuel recommended by your equipment's manufacturer. It is illegal to use any fuel with more than 10 percent ethanol content in outdoor power equipment (for more information on fueling properly see www.LookBeforeYouPump.com).

Handle fuel carefully

Use non-spill containers with spouts. Fill up the fuel tank outside before you start the engine and while the engine is cold. Never add fuel to a running or hot engine. Store fuel in a

Snowblower tips, continued, page 3

Work session, continued

The council argued about a sidewalk report for six minutes. Howe chastised Altoft for sending him a tersely-worded text message at 8:44 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21.

"You want to make it hostile?" Howe said. "Let's light the fire."

Howe presented a print-out of the text message, which read, "Mark did you get my voice mail this morning may be may be not I want that report now."

"Is that an appropriate text for me to receive at quarter to nine on a Friday on my day off?" Howe asked Altoft.

The council spent the next two hours and

45 minutes arguing about sidewalk repairs, the waste water treatment plant, parking downtown, a farmer's market, the city's "strategic plan," the city budget and the LCTV fund, along with more esoteric concepts like trust, respect, communication and education. At times the meeting felt like a college class, with Howe as the professor writing on the dry-erase board and the city council his combative pupils.

The meeting ended at couple minutes after 9 p.m.

The city council will have their next regular meeting upstairs at city hall on Monday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.



along main street

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., Dec. 3 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

FINE ART & CRAFT SALE

Rogue River Artisans 32nd annual juried Fine Art & Craft Holiday Sale will be held Saturday, Dec. 6 from 9 am to 4 pm at Lowell High School. Over 110 of the area's finest artisans and craftsmen. A holiday lunch is available. \$1 admission with proceeds going to Red Arrow special activities. For more information go to lowellholidayartshow.com

FLAT RIVER GALLERY & FRAMING

Watercolorist Debra Hoover will be the featured artist at Flat River Gallery & Framing for the month of December. Reception Dec. 18, 5-7. Public invited.

RSVP PROGRAM

Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) will be meeting at FROM on Monday Dec. 1 at 11:30am.

Luminary Hike

A luminary hike will be held at the Wittenbach/Wege Agri-Science Center on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 6 to 8 pm. As you meander through the forest on a candle-lit path, you'll enjoy the serenity of the forest at night. If there is snow on the ground, snowshoers are welcomed. If you don't have your own, snowshoes can be rented from the WWC for \$4/person. Afterwards, warm up inside with some hot chocolate while making a holiday craft. This event is free and open to the public; however, donations are very much appreciated. For more information call 616-987-2565.

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.



At Your Local Library

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

Gingerbread Lane

Stroll down Gingerbread Lane and enjoy tasty gingerbread stories. Each child will make a simple gingerbread house. Pre-registration is required and participant spots are limited. For all ages. Thurs., Dec. 11 at 10 am.

Countdown to Happy "Noon" Year!

We're giving kids an exciting way to ring in 2015 with a countdown, noisemakers, goodies and fun - at an hour that won't keep them up way past their bedtimes. Sponsored by the Friends of the Kentwood Library. For all ages. Wed., Dec. 31 at 11:30 am.

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2015 LCTV grant to be used for city street repair

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

It's official, the Lowell Cable Television (LCTV) fund will spend the entire 2015 grant on street repairs in the city of Lowell.

While this was decided at a city council meeting in Oct., it was finally presented at the LCTV board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18.

"They passed a motion at the Oct. 6 city council meeting that they were going to use all of the interest from

the LCTV endowment fund for street repairs next year," said LCTV board member Bill Thompson. "Essentially the city council decided to take any of the established process and protocol out of our hands and do it themselves. The [Nov. 18 LCTV board] meeting was simply for the city manager to tell us basically what had transpired. The motion was passed and that's where it sits. There's really nothing

for the endowment board to do this year."

In prior years the board solicited grant requests from the public and spent the money on various projects. Not this year.

"Normally there would be a start date and a date at which the grant requests would need to be in and then we would go through our review process and make recommendations to the

city council as to what we thought should be funded based on the available monies," Thompson said. "This year the process has been short-circuited. I'm trying to be nice about this."

"I'm disappointed," said LCTV board member Tim Wittenbach. "Disappointed there was no communication about it. Disappointed that people like Ivan Blough fought so

hard to be able to use that for community things like music and communication, things for the schools and special projects, not just for roads and stuff."

Wittenbach and Thompson each pointed out that the city council did not break the law, but the council did subvert the spirit of the LCTV fund.

"At the end of the day, the city has a legal opinion that it's all their money and they can do whatever they want to with it," Wittenbach said. "They have definitely made that statement loud and clear. It doesn't bode well for community cooperation or collaboration in my opinion."

"Nothing is going into Vergennes or Lowell Township because the entity that actually owns it and has the rights to the money is the city of Lowell," Thompson said.

Neither man is happy about the turn of events.

"I don't like it," Wittenbach said. "I think it obviates what the original intent of how the funds would be handled as it was originally set up."

"I think they should have allowed it to go through the grant process like they agreed to do when this was set up," Wittenbach said.

In an email sent to the Ledger yesterday, Mark Howe commented "As a reminder, the action took place at the October 6 meeting of the council during which councilmember Jeff Altoft made the motion to use 100 percent of the LCTV Fund interest toward local street improvements projects for 2015. The minutes are on our website for your further review."

Snowblower tips, continued

clean, dry, ventilated area, and never near a pilot light, stove, or heat source. Never smoke around fuel.

Dress properly for the job

Wear adequate winter garments and footwear that can handle slippery surfaces. Put on safety glasses, and avoid loose fitting clothing that could get caught in moving parts. Tie back long hair.

Operate your snow blower in visible conditions

Never operate the snow blower without good visibility or light.

Aim carefully and avoid people and cars

Never throw snow toward people or cars. Do not allow anyone to stand in front of your snow blower. Keep children or pets away from your snow blower when it is operating.

Use extreme caution on slopes and hills

Do not clear snow across the face of slopes.

Be cautious when changing directions on slopes. Do not attempt to clear steep slopes.

Turn OFF your snow blower if you need to clear a clog or repair it

If you have to repair your machine, remove debris or unclog built up snow, always turn off your snow blower. Wait for all

moving parts to come to a complete stop. Disconnect the spark plug wire or power cord.

KEY SAFETY TIP: Never put your hands inside the auger or chute

Use a clean out tool (or stick) to unclog wet snow or debris from your snow

blower. Your hands should never go inside the auger or chute

Know where your cord is

If you have an electric powered snow blower, be aware of where the power cord is at all times. Avoid tripping. Do not run over the power cord.



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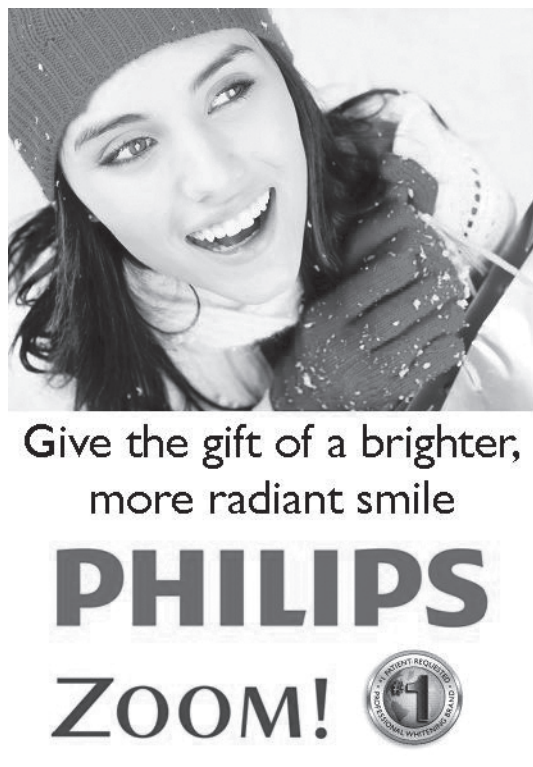
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**GRATTAN
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**Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Synopsis of Minutes
 November 10, 2014**

Motions Approved:

To permanently install pipes for Grattan Vergennes irrigation
 Placing a streetlight on the corner of Murray View and Murray Lake
 Landscaping at Grattan Township
 Approved Wetland By-Laws Resolution #2014-022

Budget Amendment:
 From Fire Equipment Fund Balance 207.000.390 to Fire Department New Equipment 207.336.970 of \$6,200.00 for a heat seeker camera.

Our next Township Meeting will be **December 8, 2014**
At 7:00 p.m.

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

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financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Share your "bounty" with your loved ones

It's almost Thanksgiving, a holiday that once celebrated the harvest season. Although many of us today may not be directly connected to agriculture, we still gather on Thanksgiving with our loved ones to share whatever "bounty" we may have. But this practice doesn't have to begin and end with food. Why not incorporate the spirit of sharing into your overall financial strategy?

Here are a few suggestions for doing just that:

- *Make financial gifts.* You could give shares of stock to your loved ones, or perhaps give them money to help fund their IRAs. (They must have earned income, however, to be eligible to contribute to an IRA.) You can give up to \$14,000 per year, per recipient. If you are married, you and your spouse can each give up to the \$14,000 yearly limit.

- *Invest in your children's future.* To help your children meet the high costs of higher education, you might want to invest in

a college savings vehicle. One option to consider is a 529 plan. When you contribute to a 529 plan, your earnings are subject to tax-free growth potential and distributions are free of federal taxes, provided they are used for qualified higher education expenses. (Keep in mind, though, that Section 529 plan distributions not used for these qualified expenses may be subject to income tax and a 10 percent penalty.) Furthermore, if you invest in your home state's 529 plan, you may receive state tax incentives. Tax issues for 529 plans can be complex, though, so you'll need to consult with your tax advisor about your situation. Another benefit of 529 plans: You control the assets right up to the point at which they are actually used. So, if you have been putting away money for a particular child (or grandchild) and he or she decides against college, you can easily switch to another beneficiary.

- *Review your insurance policies.* If something were to happen

to you, is your life insurance sufficient to take care of your family? In other words, would there be enough money available to pay off your mortgage, send your children to college and help your surviving spouse meet at least some of his or her retirement expenses? A financial professional can help you determine if your life insurance is sufficient for your needs.

- *Consider involving your family with your estate plans.* To help ensure your wishes get carried out the way you intended, consider keeping family members informed of your estate strategy, which could involve your will, living trust, power of attorney and other legal documents. And don't forget to keep your beneficiary designations up to date on your retirement accounts and your life insurance policy. So if you've gone through changes in your family situation, such as a divorce or remarriage, work with your professional team, including your financial advisor and your tax and legal advisors, to make ensure your investment strategy aligns with your estate goals.

Once the turkey is eaten and the football games have ended, Thanksgiving will draw to a close. But consider these strategies sharing your "bounty" with your loved ones all year long — and throughout your lifetime.

kidsView




by Sierra Hieshetter

This week I would like to talk about snow days, or in kids' language, days off from school! I think snow days are fun every once in a while, but having two snow

days before Thanksgiving does not seem normal. Last year we had so many snow days that the school administration decided to make the school year longer. This caused a problem for us since my dad always schedules our summer vacation a year in advance, so we ended up having to miss the last two days of school. It is only November, but if I were you, I wouldn't make summer vacation plans too early. With snow days this early, we just might be in school until July! Plus, when you have two snow days in a row, it means you finish your book and go sledding the first day and then you are left with nothing more to do on the second day off. There is also the fact that parents have to stay home from work and tolerate their kids. I'm not saying that I don't enjoy snow days, I'm just saying that it would be nice to finish the school year on time, instead of staying home and staring at a book or a TV screen, so we can all start our summer vacations as scheduled!

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viewpoint

Report shows need to rein in Wall Street



Sen. Carl Levin

Recently my Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations held the final hearing I will hold as its chairman and one of the most important. Our hearing, and a 396-page report we issued, examined the involvement of three Wall Street banks in the market for commodities like metal, coal, uranium and energy.

These are not activities that banks typically take on. For decades, our laws restricted banks to traditional banking businesses like

taking deposits and making loans, and they were generally barred from commercial businesses like mining coal, warehousing uranium or running power plants. That changed in 1999, when Congress passed a law that weakened that traditional separation of banking and commerce. Our subcommittee spent more than two years examining the impact of those changes, and what we found was worrisome.

While Wall Street's growing role in physical

commodities has been discussed and debated, the scope of this involvement and the potential for abuse have not been widely known.

One problem is that operating things like oil tankers and coal mines exposes banks to immense risks in the event of a natural disaster or a catastrophic accident. A Federal Reserve study we reviewed showed that banks involved in these activities lacked the capital reserves and insurance coverage to cover potential losses. Should catastrophe strike, it could undermine a bank or spark fears that it might fail, which would bring turmoil to the U.S. economy. My colleague on the committee, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, noted the enormous expense of the

BP Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, and asked, "What if BP had been a bank?"

Bank involvement with physical commodities also raises concerns about unfair trading, and in some cases, outright market manipulation. JPMorgan recently paid \$410 million to settle charges by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that it used manipulative bidding schemes at its power plants to elicit \$124 million in excessive electricity prices in Michigan and California.

One case study from our report highlights the risks to manufacturers, consumers and markets. In 2010, Goldman Sachs bought a Detroit-area company called Metro International Trade Services LLC, which

owns a global network of warehouses certified by the London Metal Exchange, or LME, the world's largest market for trading metals. Under Goldman's ownership, Metro mounted an unprecedented effort to dominate the North American market for storing aluminum.

Under the LME's warehouse rules, no matter how many customers want to remove their metal, the warehouse is only required to ship out a limited amount each day. If customers ask to withdraw more metal than the daily minimum, a line or queue forms, and customers have to wait to take delivery. When Goldman bought the warehouses in 2010, the queue in Detroit was just a few days long. But by this year, it had grown to more than 600 days.

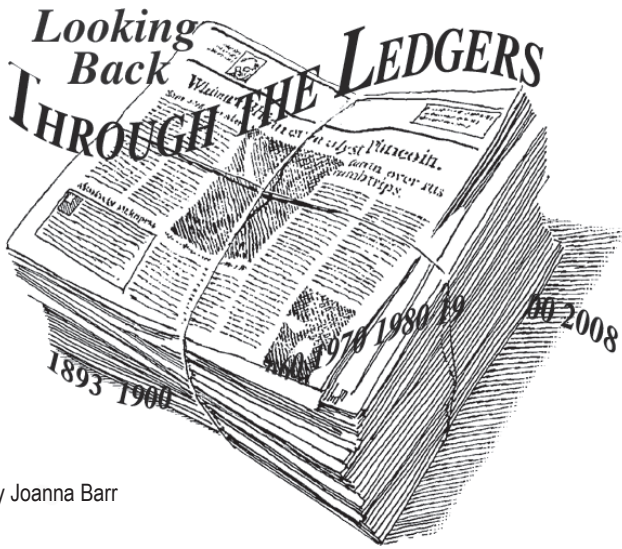
We found that Goldman's warehouse company made a series of complex agreements with some warehouse customers that made it longer. Goldman would pay the owners of aluminum to put their metal in the queue for withdrawal. When that aluminum reached the head of the queue, it was loaded on trucks, but instead of going to a manufacturer, it was shipped a short distance – sometimes just a few hundred yards – to another Goldman-owned warehouse, and placed back in storage. The effect of these deals was that the queue got longer and longer without actually removing

any aluminum from the warehouse system.

The lengthening queue boosted revenue at Goldman's warehouses – the more metal stored in the warehouses, the more rent and fees. But this merry-go-round also affected aluminum prices by increasing the so-called "premium" that customers must pay to cover logistical costs such as storage. Our report found, and expert witnesses confirmed at our hearing, that Goldman's warehouse, by making the queue longer and pushing the premium higher, was hurting manufacturers and consumers by making aluminum more expensive.

Expert witnesses also told us that if Goldman could use its warehouse to manipulate the queue, and therefore affect aluminum prices, it could profit by employing trading strategies to take advantage of that power. And in fact, Goldman rapidly increased its own aluminum trading after it bought the warehouse company.

Our report offers a number of ways to address these issues. The Federal Reserve is considering rules that could limit banks' activities in commodities, and it should do so. We also need stronger rules against improper use of insider information and market manipulation. Until such protections are in place, our manufacturers, our markets and our economy are at risk.



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal November 27, 1889

Advertisement: Drunkenness – Liquor Habit – In all the world there is but one cure, Dr. Hines' Golden Specific. It can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person taking it effecting a speedy and permanent cure, whether the person is a moderate drinker or an alcoholic wreck. Thousands of drunkards have been cured who have taken the Golden Specific in their tea or coffee without their knowledge and to-day believe they quit drinking of their own free will. No harmful effects resulting from their administration. Cures guaranteed. Send for circulars and full particulars. Address in confidence, Golden Specific Co., 185 Race St., Cincinnati, O.

Fire! The shops of the Michigan Cutter Co. burned with contents. Monday night, at about 11:30, a most disastrous fire broke out in the shops of The Michigan Cutter Co. and the two large shops were entirely consumed, together with most of their contents. The shops were full of cutters, irons, trimmings, paint and varnishes and the loss will be at least \$16,000, with insurance to the amount of \$12,450...The loss is particularly disastrous just now, on account of this being the busy season. The factory was running full time and turning out finished cutters at the rate of twenty-five a day and gave employment to forty hands. While they will undoubtedly rebuild, they cannot get ready in time to do anything this season. The fire caught in the east end of the north building where the varnishing room was located and spread with incredible swiftness,

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 26, 1914

Headline: Red Cross Christmas seal on sale. Red Cross Christmas seals will be released to the school children of Kent county Monday, Nov. 30. A spirited campaign is expected to result under the leadership of the teachers of the county. To stimulate the interest in the campaign the usual prizes are offered. The Kent State bank offered \$5 in gold for the first prize to the highest seller outside of Grand Rapids. The Ira M. Smith department store will give \$5 in trade to the second highest and the third highest seller will receive \$2.50 in gold from the Fourth National bank of Grand Rapids. Every boy or girl outside of Grand Rapids who sells twenty-five seals will be awarded a seal button badge as a mark of honor for service to the anti-tuberculosis cause. The Red Cross seal this year is one of the prettiest designs ever issued and will undoubtedly be the most popular seller the country has yet known. The Red Cross society recognized that the ill and wounded from tuberculosis must be cared for and that the campaign of education must progress to prevent others from falling prey to the disease. Every seal sold helps in this great campaign against the white plague.

Guy Tallent had quite a serious runaway one day last week as he was returning home from Lowell. He became cold and thought he'd "walk a way" and his team started to run near the Ware schoolhouse. He

Looking Back, continued, page 14

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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 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.

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

Illness claims UMC pastor

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Vance M. Dimmick, Jr., 76, lost his battle to cancer on Thursday, Nov. 20. Dimmick died at his home in Lowell. The funeral was held Sunday, Nov. 23, at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St.

Despite his cancer diagnosis, Dimmick was a very active Methodist pastor and youth group leader. Over the years he was the

pastor at churches in Ohio, Maryland, Pennsylvania and all over Michigan. He also worked as an emergency room technician at Spectrum in Grand Rapids for eight years.

According to an article Dimmick wrote for the Ledger about Pink Arrow Pride in 2012, "A body at rest is slower to heal and leads to a lethargy not only

of body, but also of mind and spirit. Yes, the time may come when this disease will take over, but that fighting spirit is a testimony to self and an inspiration to others."

Surviving are his wife Ann Prothero Dimmick; son Timothy (Jacqui) Dimmick, Heather and Eric; daughter Betsy (Jason) Tart, Nicholas, Corey and Cody; daughter Jennifer (Jason) Elsenbroek, Joshua and Jesse; daughter Christy (Christopher) Price, Marcus, Trey, Nadeya and Cade; brother David (Betty) Dimmick; sister Susan (Dennis) Harrison; sister-in-law Jane (Jerry) Sinkel; four nephews, four nieces and their families.



Vance Dimmick wrote about his cancer diagnosis in a Ledger story

health

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



impetigo

Impetigo is a skin infection that typically affects infants and children. It usually appears as red sores around the nose and mouth that rupture and ooze. They then develop a yellowish or honey appearing crust. This can then spread to other areas.

It is caused by staph bacteria and is highly contagious. You can get

this by coming into contact with clothing, towels and toys that have been in contact with someone who is infected.

Risk factors include

crowded conditions, warm humid weather, sports that involve skin-to-skin contact, and broken skin. Scarring and wider skin infections can occur with this infection.

Sometimes skin cultures are taken to diagnose this condition, but usually your doctor can easily diagnose this on a physical exam.

Antibiotics are the treatment for this condition. Sometimes topical antibiotics are all that is needed.

happy birthday!

NOVEMBER 26
John Erickson.

NOVEMBER 30
Jason Craig, Todd Ryder, Joe Kiczenski, April McClure.

NOVEMBER 27
Bonnie Vezino, Kim Harding, Marty Chambers, Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Roudabush, Heather Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Josh Spencer, Aiden Malone.

DECEMBER 1
Travis Briggs, Nate Schoen, Deb Anchors, Denny Brenk II, Joyce Watrous.

NOVEMBER 28
Shelly Hildenbrand, Lee Miller.

DECEMBER 2
Chelsey Treglia, Kari Bergy, Karly Batt, Olivia Starkweather.

NOVEMBER 29
Gail Thomet, Kelly Sauber, Scott Swanson, Tara Propst, Ethan Pearson.



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Stabenow co-leads group of eleven women senators urging the administration to make combating heart disease a priority

~ Series of letters ask for increased research, funding that will benefit Michigan women and their health care providers

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, along with 11 other women Senators, urged the Administration to prioritize combating heart disease, which is the number one killer of women in Michigan. In a series of letters to Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell, NIH Director Francis Collins, and CDC

Director Tom Frieden, the bipartisan group of women Senators explained that women's heart disease continues to be under-researched, frequently misdiagnosed, and often left untreated. This is in part because heart distress is more difficult to diagnose in women than men.

"Unfortunately, a majority of women and even some doctors are unfamiliar with the symptoms, diagnoses, and dangers of heart disease in women," said Stabenow. "When we help educate women and their doctors, create more opportunities for women to get screenings, and get more

money for research, we can fight this disease and save lives."

Sen. Stabenow has long advocated for better research, funding, and education around women's heart disease. In 2012, Sen. Stabenow helped pass a provision based on her bipartisan bill, the HEART

(Heart Disease Education, Research and Analysis, and Treatment) for Women Act, which was signed into law by President Obama in 2012. Earlier this year, Sen. Stabenow led a group of 14 women Senators asking the Food and Drug Administration to take concrete actions to increase

the number of women and minorities in clinical trials, which will help make treatments more effective and save lives.

One out of three women die of heart disease, and Michigan is the 8th worst state in the country for deaths from this preventable and treatable disease.

Michigan hunters can help fill food bank freezers with Sportsmen Against Hunger program

With Michigan's deer season swinging into high gear, it won't be long before many hunters are bringing their harvested deer into the local butcher shop to have the venison processed and prepared for the freezer. And thanks to the generosity of those same hunters, thousands of pounds of that venison will end up not in their home freezers, but at local food banks and soup kitchens to feed the state's needy and hungry citizens.

The donated venison is made possible through the Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger program, a collaboration between the Department of Natural Resources and a number of conservation groups, designed to help hunters share their bounty with the less fortunate. Participants can donate an entire deer, a certain number of pounds of venison, or can simply make a monetary donation to support the program.

"We had around 30,000 pounds of venison donated through Sportsmen Against Hunger last year," said Ray Rustem, who coordinates the DNR's participation in the program. "Between the two buck tags and antlerless permits, some hunters are able to harvest multiple deer but don't necessarily want or need that much venison in the freezer. By participating in the program, they are able to help feed the hungry while continuing to enjoy their sport."

Since 1991, Sportsmen Against Hunger has helped connect wild game processors with hunters by providing a list of the processors that participate in the program. Hunters can simply drop off their deer at one of the facilities and the program will reimburse the processors \$1 per pound for the venison that goes into the program.

"What's an average deer

produce for hunters, about 40 pounds of venison?" Rustem asked. "It costs more than \$40 for most hunters to have a deer processed, so not all of the processor's time and expense is being reimbursed with the \$1 per pound they receive. They effectively end up donating

that lost profit and we really appreciate their willingness to do so."

Barb Haveman, who runs Barb's Meat Processing in Comstock Park, said she's already processed five deer for the program this year and predicts it will pick up with firearm deer season.

"There are so many people without food – folks who are disabled or are just trying to make ends meet. Who wouldn't help somebody out like? There are a lot of people who can't afford meat. People are tickled to death to get the venison."

Haveman said she usually charges \$75 to \$80 to process a deer. At the reimbursement rate of \$1 a pound, she barely meets her expenses – let alone makes a

Sportsmen hunger program, continued, page 10

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Holiday market, continued

assist visitors in making their own wishing bracelet. The bracelets take about a half hour to create and will cost \$2 to cover materials. Fellow jewelry artist

Skylar Brez will be on hand for the final demonstration on Saturday, Dec. 20. Brez will show the needle felting process she uses to create and embellish one-of-a-kind brooches.

All demonstrations are free to the public from 12-6 pm inside the King Gallery. The gallery will be open to shoppers during the site's regular business hours, Tuesday through Saturday from 10-6.



At left, Theresa Stysko, owner of "The Garden Within," offers gift items featuring dried flowers and, at right, Whimsical Christmas ornaments made of fused glass by Mary Gail VanSledright.

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Were you pulled over by Lowell's Secret Santa?

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

If you happened to notice an increase in police activity last week, that's because Rob Bliss was in Lowell playing an elaborate "Secret Santa" game for a television show.

"He [Bliss] approached me about doing a 'Secret Santa' type situation through Lowell," said Lowell chief of police Steve Bukala. "He was working with 'Up TV,' a Christian-based TV station."

Rob Bliss is responsible for the "Grand Rapids Lip Dub" video and many other large, unusual events in West Michigan, as well as the recently notorious "a woman walks around New York and gets cat-called" internet video.

How the game worked was, Bukala was the "spotter." Then one of two

other Lowell police officers would make the stop. That's when the fun started.

"Officer Scott VanSolkema or detective Gordy Lauren would stop people for very minor traffic violations that we probably normally wouldn't have time to do," Bukala said. "We were stopping people for headlights being out, dangling objects from the mirror, vision obstructions, tinted windows. One lady was stopped for doing 29 in a 25, which is technically speeding but wouldn't get a second look on a normal day. During the traffic stop officer VanSolkema or detective Lauren's body camera would capture the interior view of the car. There were low-profile camera men stationed in the area filming it from the

outside and as the officer was talking to that person at the traffic stop, they would ask questions like, 'Well, did you get all your Christmas shopping done?' or 'Kids need anything for

Christmas?' We had people from Up TV stationed at Meijer. They would run through the store, grab the item, pay for it, wrap it while driving back from Meijer or whatever store they were buying it from and stick it in

the trunk of the officer's car so that when he got out he could go to the back of the car and get it out and say, 'Can I put these gifts in your car?' and they would film peoples' reactions."

Bliss and his crew

ended up giving thousands of dollars worth of merchandise to dozens of local people.

"We gave away about \$7,800 worth of gifts in two days," Bukala said. "We figure we stopped between 30 and 40 cars. It was a very rewarding and exhausting day at the same time. We received some very nice thank you letters, private messages on our Facebook page. A lot of tears, a lot of happy people."

Bukala said to watch out for the video online and on the "Up TV" cable channel.

"They wanted to air it before the Christmas season, so I would say sometime in December and they said the short YouTube video should be out before that," Bukala said.



Kent Career Technical Center Student of the Month



Robert Schultz

Robert Schultz, 12th grade, has been named "Student of the Month" at Kent Career Technical

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Sportsmen hunger program, continued

profit – when she processes a deer for Sportsmen against Hunger.

“I still do it anyway,” she said. “It helps so many people. It just gives you a good feeling to help somebody.”

Hunters who don't have an entire deer to donate can participate in the program by donating a pound of their ground venison when their deer is processed. Some meat processors only participate in the Give-A-Pound option rather than processing entire deer, so

hunters should check the list of participating locations and what services they offer before bringing their deer in.

Dean Hall, the president of the Michigan Bow Hunters Association, has been managing the Sportsmen against Hunger program for eight years. He's seen the program grow on an annual basis.

“Participation numbers and donations are getting to the level we'd like to see, but of course we hope it will continue to be even more

effective,” he said. “We definitely understand when people want to keep their deer to feed their families, but a lot of hunters will fill one tag for themselves and then take an additional deer – especially if they have doe permits.”

“As awareness of the program spreads we're seeing more participation from hunters, especially those who have harvested more than one deer,” Hall said. “Sportsmen Against Hunger helped feed 150,000 families statewide last year.

Hopefully we'll exceed that this year.”

Hall said there are a handful of areas in the state where participation numbers are higher than others – the Thumb, southern central Michigan, Kent County and Macomb County all particularly stand out.

“Over in Kent County, Barb's Deer Processing really puts a lot of deer through the program, every single year,” Hall said. “The owner and the workers at that facility put 110 percent

effort into making sure that they're there to process the deer that people want to donate.”

There is a fear, Hall said, that because of the reduction of available antlerless deer licenses available in a number of areas this year, that there may be fewer deer donated this season. To make up for the potential deficit, Hall said his group is making an extra effort to reach out to landowners who have Deer Management Assistance Permits, asking them to remember the hungry this season when they fill their permits.

“Keep in mind two things,” Hall said. “The donation of deer is very important to feed the hungry. It's staggering how many people are working but remain below the poverty level and who have to depend on food assistance.

“And the second most important thing is when you purchase a hunting or fishing or trapping license, right then and there you can donate a dollar to the Sportsmen against Hunger program. If the license vendor doesn't ask you if you want to donate, go ahead and tell him you want to donate.”

An administrative change in the DNR's license sales system has made donating at the point-of-sale easier this year, Rustem said.

“In the old days, the system treated the donation as a separate license and vendors had to go back into the system and order the additional license,” he explained. “This year, we reduced the number of steps it takes to make a donation to one. That makes it much easier for hunters to donate.”

Current records show that sportsmen have responded well to the change.

“We think the program will hit around \$70,000 in monetary donations this year,” Rustem said. “In the past we collected about \$25,000 a year. This significant increase will allow the amount of venison that goes into the program to more than double in one year's time.”

“Knowing that the program will provide a minimum of 60,000 pounds of venison to those who utilize Michigan's food banks and soup kitchens this year is pretty astounding, and is something our hunters can be very proud of.”

For more information on the Sportsmen against Hunger program, visit www.sportsmenagainsthunger.org.



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BID PROPOSAL

Sealed bids, in triplicate, for the Lowell Area Schools 2015 Summer Improvements, will be received at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 until 9:00 am local time. Bids received after this time will neither be considered or accepted.

All proposals received by the time and date stated above will be opened and read publicly at 10:00 am local time on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 in Room B100, Lowell Area School Administration, 300 High St, Lowell, MI 49331.

Bids may be mailed to Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Mailed bids must be received prior to the bid due time and date stated above. FAXED OR EMAILED BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

In accordance with Section 1267 of the Revised School Code each bid must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Familial Disclosure Statement completed by the bidder disclosing any familial relationship between the Owner or any employee of the Bidder and any member of the District's Board of Education or the Superintendent of the District.

SITE INSPECTION

A construction pre-bid meeting will be held at Room B100, Lowell Area School Administration, 300 High St, Lowell, MI 49331 on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 starting at 10:00 am local time. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

BID DOCUMENTS

The electronic copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained at www.owen-ames-kimball.com/subcontractors/

Documents can be viewed at the following locations:

- Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. website: www.owen-ames-kimball.com/subcontractors/
- Builders Exchange plan rooms in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Traverse City.
- Dodge McGraw Hill plan rooms in Grand Rapids, Lansing & Southfield.
- Reed Construction Data and Construction Association of Michigan, Detroit.
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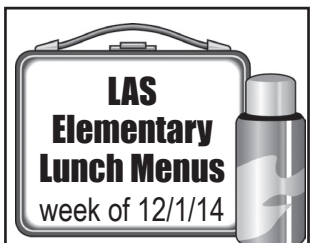
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TUESDAY: Chicken strips, baked beans, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, chilled peaches, applesauce.

WEDNESDAY: French toast sticks served with eggs, hashbrowns, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, apple slices, orange juice.

THURSDAY: BBQ pork ribbie on bun (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), Chicken nuggets (served at Bushnell), mashed potatoes & gravy, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, strawberries, peaches.

FRIDAY: Tony's pepperoni pizza on WG crust, baby carrots, fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, fresh apple, juice.

Red Arrow SPORTS

Player Spotlight

Our Spotlight Athletes This Week:

Dan Onan & Ryan Stevens



Dan Onan

Active LHS senior Dan Onan has been strapping on his running shoes for the Lowell Red Arrows since middle school. A successful member of both the cross country and track teams, Onan is regarded highly by his teammates, as well as his coach Clay VanderWarf who said, "As a result of his hard work, he made the varsity team, as well as [being] one of the team captains. He is also an outstanding student."

How long have you been a part of cross country and what drew you to the sport?

I have participated in all four years of high school and also my 8th grade year during middle school. This will be my first year earning my varsity letter. I had some friends who did cross country and it seemed kind of cool to me. I had previously done football but did not want to continue with it, so I decided to join and have really enjoyed it.

What is your relationship like with coach VanderWarf?

Mr. VanderWarf is a really nice guy and he is a cool coach. We have a good relationship; I like him a lot.

What is your greatest moment?

I wouldn't say that my greatest moment was during the season. In the summer we do cross country camp up in Ludington and we do a ten mile race and I did really well there this past year. It is really fun up there.

Will you be attending college and if so will you continue to run?

I would like to attend the University of Michigan assuming I am accepted. I do not plan to run at the collegiate level, but I will continue to run on my own as recreation.

After a brief stint as a right guard in the sixth grade Ryan Stevens took on the role of quarterback for the Red Arrows and has not looked back since. Now in his junior year the athletic standout is wrapping up his first season leading the varsity squad with a district championship firmly under his belt. Though he has not made any definite post high school plans at this point, it is clear that no matter the path his future looks bright.

When did you begin playing football and what drew you to the sport?

I began playing flag football when I was five years old. Then I began playing tackle football when I was eight years old. I have been playing ever since. When I was younger I was the water boy for the varsity football team. I also grew up watching my brother and cousin play football for Lowell.

What is your relationship like with your coach?

I grew up being friends with coach Dean's son, Zeth. So I have been around him since a young age, which makes me comfortable around him.

Did you expect to be this year's varsity quarterback?

There was a competition between Zeth and I, but I tried not to get caught up in that. We both tried to prepare the best we could not knowing for sure who would be the starter.

How do you cope with the pressure of your position?

Coach Dean always preaches to take one play at a time,

so that is what I try to do. I can't try and make the big play every play so my job is to take what the defense gives us.

How has the Pink Arrow Pride project affected you personally?

I have had several people in my family affected by cancer. My grandfather passed away when I was six years old of kidney cancer. The Pink Arrow Pride project has helped my five-year-old cousin beat stage four neuroblastoma.



What career path are you interested in and why?

I want to study mechanical engineering. Specifically I want to go into something automotive. I have always been interested in both math and science.

What clubs or organizations do you participate in at LHS?

I am the president of the amateur radio club. I participate in the international club where you learn about and experience different cultures. I am also a member of the Lowell High School marching band.

Do you excel academically?

I do. I am a member of the National Honors Society and I am dually enrolled at Grand Rapids Community College right now for Calculus III. My grade point average is a 4.1.

Why do you think youth athletic participation is important?

It is important because you need some kind of competitive edge and something to help push yourselves toward goals.

What have you learned through your athletic participation?

There are no limits; you can keep pushing yourself harder and harder and if you work you will achieve your goals.

What lesson learned through athletics do you apply to your daily life?

Cross country is a very encouraging sport. All the teams cheer for everyone else. It is good to carry that through to your everyday life, just being nice and cheering people on.

Who is your personal inspiration?

I would have to say Batman. He faced adversity at a young age and he made the decision to become a better person and fight for justice to make sure people were safe. He is a strong, courageous leader who doesn't give up. He has shown me that you do not need powers to be a superhero, you just have to fight for what you believe in and work hard to be the best person that you can be.

What do you think is the best part of being an LHS student?

LHS is a great school as far as teamwork and community service. It is a really interactive school and it is a good place to be.

What has been your greatest moment on the field?

There wasn't one single moment, it was the journey of our team coming together this year and being successful.

Do you participate in any other athletics at LHS?

I golf and play basketball as well.

Do you participate in any clubs, activities or groups?

I am a part of the yearbook staff at LHS. I also grew up doing 4-H showing both pigs and steers at the Kent County Youth Fair.

Do you also excel academically?

I would like to think I do. My mom might say otherwise...

Who has been your personal inspiration?

My father is my personal inspiration. He has taught me everything I know about sports. He wasn't always teaching me skills to make me a better player, he also taught me how to carry myself on the field or court.

What is the best part of being an LHS student?

The great support our football team gets from the students and fans every Friday night. Our team appreciates everyone that comes out each week.

obituaries

GRAHAM

Garbutt Keith Graham passed away peacefully Tuesday, November 18. Garbutt was born on November 7, 1955 to the late Keith and Jane Graham. He is survived by his son Kyle (Kenna Jo) Graham, sister Liz (Mike) Baker, nephews, Jake (Jen) Baker, Nick (Erica) Baker and their children. Graduate of Lowell Area Schools, he received a degree in Liberal Art from Ferris State College. Garbutt was a talented athlete and artist. He became known as the local sign painter in the early 80's, as well as the kid that could really throw and hit a baseball! His life was a long journey for family and friends but in the end he is at peace. Memorial donations may be made to the Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation, Ivan Blough Scholarship Fund, PO Box 224, Lowell, MI 49331 or charity of your choice.



HODDINOTT

Mary Potter Hoddinott, aged 93, passed away peacefully on November 12, 2014, after a brief struggle with pneumonia. Mary was born August 30, 1921, in Lowell, the daughter of Mary Jane McKelvey and Edwin Miller Potter. In 1950, Mary married the love of her life, Gordon Thomas Hoddinott. Together they raised three children who survive them, Tom Hoddinott (58, of South Orange, New Jersey), Mark Hoddinott (56, of Euclid, Ohio) and Nancy Hoddinott (54, of Atlanta, Georgia). Mary had four grandchildren, Gregory Hoddinott (26, of Baltimore, Maryland), Jamie Hoddinott (20, of Euclid, Ohio), Dylan Hoddinott (14, of Euclid, Ohio) and Luke Putney (20, of Nashville, Tennessee). Throughout her life, Mary loved her church families at Church of the Savior and Church of the Cross in Cleveland Hts., Epworth-Euclid Church in Cleveland and the First Methodist Church of Battle Creek. She did charitable work with Stephen Ministries at Church of the Savior, as well as with P.E.O., the philanthropic organization for the advancement of women. After the passing of her beloved husband, Gordon, she lived at Breckenridge Village in Willoughby, Ohio and had many friends there. She especially enjoyed traveling to Lowell, where she spent her youth, to visit family and friends. Mary was the valedictorian at her high school in Saranac and she attended both Heaney's Commercial College in Grand Rapids and Cleveland College in Ohio. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent in her name to: Church of the Savior Foundation Music Fund at 2537 Lee Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118, <http://www.chsaviour.org/foundation/>; Berea Children's Home, Now "Ohio Guidestone" at 202 East Bagley Road, Berea, OH 44017, <http://ohioguidestone.org>. A graveside service for family members will be held at Lakeview Cemetery on Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 1 pm. There will be a memorial service celebrating Mary's life at Church of the Savior, Sunday, December 14, 2014, at 3 pm.



VANDERWARF

Terrell Lee VanderWarf, age 68 of Lowell, passed away Monday, November 24, 2014. He is survived by his wife Sharon, whom he shared a life with for 50 years; sons Clay (Karen) VanderWarf and Jason (Amanda) VanderWarf; brother Dick (Teresa) VanderWarf; sister Sherri VanderWarf; grandchildren Dylan, Colin, Jaylee and Nick VanderWarf and Cache Hanson. Terry enjoyed and loved his family, friends and community. He graduated from Lowell High School in 1964. A time to celebrate Terry's life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the organization of your choice.



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Give all to love; obey thy heart.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

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classifieds

for sale

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.

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

COLD WEATHER IS HERE! - & along with it, comes chapped hands! Try something different this year - homemade, all natural hand lotion. Lasts a long time & leaves your skin super soft! Many scents & unscented available. Check out my store at www.etsy.com, search for Nana-Hannahs. For local pickup, use coupon code LOCAL15 & we can arrange a pickup in Lowell.

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.

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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.

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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.

sales

BOB'S 17TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRDHOUSE SALE - great gifts! Bluebird, wren, & bat houses, feeders, wood duck & screech owl boxes. Great prices & top quality. New this year, creches (manger) for your Nativity set. Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St., Alto. 868-6633.

MRS. CLAUS ANNUAL BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW - 100 booths. Sat., Dec. 6, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Ionia Middle School, Union Street & Lincoln Avenue (M21, 4 blocks east of M66). Breakfast, lunch & snacks available. FREE ADMISSION. Door prizes all day. Sponsored by the Ionia County Commission on Aging.

misc.

67 YEAR OLD HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZATION - located in Lowell looking for high energy, money motivated marketing rep/canvasser. Part-time, hourly + commission or full-time, salary/commission. Hiring immediately. Call 987-8110.

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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, 897-9261.

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

GRIEF-ADULT GROUP - Tuesdays, 6-7:15 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Gilda's Club, Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

FLAT RIVER WATERSHED GROUP - Meets 3rd Monday of each month at the Main Street Inn in Lowell at 6:30 p.m. Our purpose is to protect, enhance & maintain land & water quality & other natural resources surrounding the Flat River Watershed. For more information, call Lloyd at 676-1812. Also, "Like" us on Facebook at the Flat River Watershed Council.

LADIES SEWING CLOTHES TO DONATE - First Friday of the month, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Items are made from donated material & fabrics, clothes from newborn to 12 years old. Items are donated to Blodgett Children's Home & St. Johns Home. Join us to cut out patterns, Christian Life Center, Lowell.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Don Aversano at 847-571-8373 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.

KD aLe: BEER TASTING WITH PAULY'S - Wed., Jan. 28, 6 p.m. Brew guru Stacey Faba will help

you choose the right beer. Pre-registration is required. Must be 21 or older. Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. Ph. 784-2007.

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 TREASURE'S THRIFT SHOP HOURS - Wed. & Fri. 10 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. 10-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Food Pantry, 897-8260; Emergency Services, 897-8260.

GLUTEN-FREE LIFESTYLE - Wed., Jan. 14, 6:30 p.m. Chef Terri Rees will share tips, techniques, substitutes & recipes at Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. Ph. 784-2007.

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

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

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Tues. & Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Thurs., 1-5 p.m. Info., call 784-2007.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. 784-2007.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - Dec. 4, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, Lowell.

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

REFASHION IT! - Sat., Jan. 10, 10:30 a.m. See what you can make with old t-shirts & your imagination. For teens & adults at Alto Public Library, 6071 Linfield Ave, Alto. Ph. 784-2007.

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

NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

FREE ALL VETS COFFEE HOUR - Third Thurs. of each month. Bring a friend. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell. Call 868-7426 or 897-8303 for more information.

MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR HAVE HAD - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.

MUSH! - Sat., Jan. 17, 10:30 a.m. Tun-Dra owners will talk about sled dogs & the Iditarod for all ages at Alto Public Library, 6071 Linfield Ave, Alto. Ph. 784-2007.

EARTH TALK™

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I know that some large buildings filter some of their wastewater to irrigate exterior landscaping. Is there an affordable way to do this at home? - *Bill P., Salem, OR*

Now that solar panels are so commonplace on rooftops across the country, reusing so-called greywater—that is, the waste water from sinks, showers, tubs and washing machines—for landscape irrigation may be the next frontier in the greening of the American home, especially if you live in an arid region where water use is restricted. In fact, reusing your greywater may be the only way to keep your lawn and garden healthy without taking more than your fair share of the community's precious freshwater reserves.

"Using water from sinks, showers and washing machines to irrigate plants is a way to increase the productivity of sustainable backyard ecosystems that produce food, clean water and shelter wildlife," reports Greywater Action, a California-based non-profit dedicated to educating and empowering people to use water sustainably. According to the group, a typical U.S. single family home can reduce water use by as much as 30 percent by installing some kind of greywater reclamation system while simultaneously reducing pollution into nearby water bodies by filtering out

contaminants locally. Capturing and reusing greywater can also be part of the battle against climate change, given that you'll be helping grow plants that sequester atmospheric carbon dioxide while reducing demand on a regional wastewater treatment facility that's likely powered by fossil fuels.

The simplest way to get into home greywater reuse is to install a "laundry-to-landscape" system that sends washing machine wastewater outside via a diversion tank and hose that can be moved around to irrigate specific sections of the yard. Equipment costs for such a set-up max out at \$200, but labor and expertise may tack on another few hundred dollars. Handy homeowners can do much of the work in setting up such systems themselves, though those without much home repair or plumbing experience might at least consult a professional. Greywater Action suggests one way to reduce costs is by digging trenches for diversion pipes and mulch basins yourself -- or enlist friends who want to support the effort and learn about residential greywater reuse in the process.

A more comprehensive system can draw wastewater from sinks, showers and tubs, too—and then filter and distribute it to backyard landscaping via a drip irrigation network. Getting such a system professionally installed can run upwards of \$5,000.

Either way, once the greywater diversion system is in place, you'll need to be careful about what goes down the drain, given how it might affect the plants and soils right outside. "In any

greywater system, it is essential to put nothing toxic down the drain — no bleach, no dye, no bath salts, no cleanser, no shampoo with unpronounceable ingredients, and no products containing boron, which is toxic to plants," adds Greywater Action.

For more information on installing a greywater reuse system yourself, check out the resources section of Greywater Action's website, where you'll find diagrams, written instructions and even videos to make the job go smoother. Those more inclined to hire a professional can browse through listings of qualified installers across the country. And if you want to see how it's done first-hand, sign up to attend one of Greywater Action's one-day workshops on how to install a greywater catchment and diversion system in a residential setting.

CONTACT: Greywater Action, www.greywateraction.org.

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Looking Back, continued

tried to get into the wagon but his feet caught in his long fur coat throwing under the wheels which ran over him, injuring him quite badly. The team ran the rest of the distance home and he had another "walk away."

Loveland & Hinyan company is the plaintiff in a suit against the receivers of the Pere Marquette Railroad company to recover for damage to a load of potatoes in shipment. The plaintiff alleges the potatoes were sold at a loss of \$255.99 because of a delay in notification from the railroad company at destination.

Incorporate to run chain of stores. St. Johns, Nov. 21 – The Robert J. Merrill company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$25,000, of which \$15,000 is common stock and \$10,000 preferred stock. The company will conduct dry goods stores in Lansing, St. Johns, Pewamo and Lowell and may extend to other places. Robert J. Merrill is the principal stockholder. – Press.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 30, 1939

Headline: Window night on Main Street to Typify Spirit of Christmas. Local persons and transients driving through Main St. of Lowell during the holiday season will feel that they have arrived in a veritable Christmas land with the holiday greens and colored lights strung above the highway and the usual lighted trees on the lampposts. Many workmen have been busy this week getting the decorations ready for the holiday season.

Workmen have been busy this week putting in new flooring in the Christiansen drug store, the work being done nights in order not to interfere with daytime business. The new flooring is of terrazzo type, elastic underfoot and is pleasing in appearance. The walls and ceiling are also being redecorated.

Reported that a new lunch room will soon open for business here in the store building next to Leonard Studios on the west. The proprietor will be Clarke Adams of Saranac, a nephew of Mrs. E. A. Compagner.

Advertisement: 1940 General Electric kitchen at Smith Electric. The installation of the new 1940 General Electric modern kitchen has just been completed. Housewives and those interested are urged to come in and see the new features that make housework a pleasure.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 27, 1964

C. H. Runciman Company is sponsoring an agricultural scholarship for 4-H or FFA club members, under the auspices of the Teweles Seed Company, in a six-state area. Entry blanks can be secured at the local Runciman Co. on South Broadway Street.

Marcel Kropf, president of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce has received many compliments on the new Christmas decorations put up by the chamber. He has also received some complaints of not having enough for all the light poles. He is now collecting additional funds to raise \$1,000, enough to complete the job. Already, more than \$20 has been given.

A new "Scheduled Delivery" system now permits overnight delivery of ZIP coded parcel post five days a week between Lowell, Michigan and all post offices within a 2,000 square mile area of southern Michigan, Postmaster Hale announced today.

With deer hunting season over, many area residents have managed at least a "pot-shot" nevertheless, it seems that many more have hit the bulls-eye. One hundred and eight deer and one bear have been processed at the Alto Meat Locker as of Tuesday noon. The lone bear was bagged by a party of six hunters from the Freeport area.

Things to come – A new battery that can show at a glance whether it is in top condition or unserviceable is equipped with a litmus indicator that changes color according to battery condition.

New Police officer James Rabbai had a hard time making an arrest of Beverly J. Conklin, 23, of Grand Rapids, on a disorderly charge, Monday morning. She fought, kicked and in general made it real difficult; in fact it took two men to hold her with handcuffs on for the trip into the Kent County Jail.

"Operation Santa Claus," in its thirteenth year, is successfully being conducted by the Moose Civic Affairs Committee of the local lodge. Toys of every description and clothing, every kind and size, have been donated to the project by the residents of Lowell and the surrounding areas. When the toys are repainted and repaired they will be packed in boxes along with the newly cleaned and mended clothing and distributed to over 100 families in this area.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 29, 1989

Headline: Ski Shop Heist. 4 Lowell High School juveniles nabbed in break-ins. Rockford State Police, Lowell school officials and Cannonsburg Ski Lodge owner/general manager, Steve Brown, are still totaling and collecting items stolen from the ski shop on the Nov. 12 & 13 break-ins. "I've gotten a lot of the ski equipment back, but I'm still collecting inventory," Brown said. While Brown refused to speculate on a total, Michigan State trooper Terry VanderLaan added, "If you go by the retail price of what was stolen, we're talking \$35,000 to 40,000 that was taken from the businesses." Lowell High School principal Jim DeWeerd said that roughly two dozen students have returned the ill-gotten goods gained through two break-ins by four high school students. "I'm surprised they had that many. To have that many seems like a sure way to get caught. They were open about selling the items," he said. The four students who allegedly stole the items sold or gave items to fellow classmates. "We've got skis, snow boards, goggles, snow suits, you name it," said trooper VanderLaan. "We've filled three police cars with the stolen items."

The Lowell Area Jaycees, along with Access 6, are sponsoring the project "Everyone Should Be Warm At Christmas." The Jaycees are collecting warm items (coats, hats, mittens, sweaters, blankets, boots, etc.) for the needy and will be participating in this year's Christmas Parade. Jaycee members will be walking beside their float to gather articles along the parade route.

The Thanksgiving Holiday is a time for people to stop, reflect and to show appreciation for the good in their life. Lowell High School students spent three days (Nov. 20-22) showing their gratitude through charity for local people not as fortunate. The Lowell student council, through the suggestion of Lowell assistant principal and student council advisor, Donn Start, sponsored a friendly competition between first-hour classes as to which class could donate the most cans of food to the food pantry at Lowell United Methodist Church.

**THEME:
US STATES**

ACROSS

1. _____ engine
6. Holiday shelf dweller
9. Facts and figures
13. Drug dealer
14. Petting spot
15. Kind of roll in school
16. Ar on table of elements
17. "Those good'ol boys were drinkin' whiskey 'n _____"
18. Cavern or cave
19. *Major peanut producing state
21. *State know for its coffee beans
23. Affirmative action
24. Give one and they take a mile
25. More, in Madrid
28. Covered by a fig leaf?
30. Lao Tzu follower
35. Desert-like
37. *Virginians make this not war?
39. "_____ not, want not"
40. Capri, e.g.
41. Bunch of bees, e.g.
43. Linseed
44. Writer's opus
46. Aquarium dweller
47. Actress _____ Gilbert
48. Tooth covering
50. They denote a belief or principle
52. "____ Robinson" by Simon & Garfunkel
53. Email button
55. Ghostly sound
57. *Purchased from Russia
60. *It means mountain in Spanish

CROSSWORD														
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68						69				70				
71						72				73				



NOVEMBER 19 - NOVEMBER 25

- A St. Louis County grand jury has reached a decision on whether to charge Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown Jr. The officer who fired 12 bullets into an unarmed offender will not be charged. Horrific violence ensued on Tuesday night in spite of the victim's family and President Obama calling for a peaceful response. "To those in Ferguson, there are ways of channeling your concerns constructively," he said. Progress can be made, he said, but "that won't be done by throwing bottles; that won't be done by smashing car windows," said Obama.
- Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has resigned under pressure amid criticism of the president's national security team on a series of global issues, including the threat posed by the militant group known as ISIS.
- One of the most unwelcome Thanksgiving developments is a huge, wintery storm to ruin your travel plans and it might be on the horizon. Rain is expected for the entire East Coast, with rain changing to snow from northern Virginia to New England.

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64. Schroeder's musical instrument
65. Modern form of "ye"
67. True self in Hindu philosophy
68. Celestial hunter
69. Clothe
70. "Don't _____ me!"

71. *North Dakota governor, recalled in 1921, _____ Frazier
72. Da or oui
73. What phoenix did

DOWN

1. Catch
2. Container weight without its contents
3. "Cogito _____ sum"
4. It falls in the fall
5. Golden Horde member
6. *12th Governor of Nebraska, _____ P. Savage
7. Myrna of Hollywood
8. Warm down-slope wind
9. Lady in Spain
10. Not in favor
11. _____ Spelling
12. "We _____ Family" by Sister Sledge
15. Sounds like donkey laugh
20. Kelly Clarkson and Phillip Phillips, e.g.
22. Pre-college challenge
24. Handicapped person
25. *This state name has one syllable
26. Illegal firing

27. Lucius Flavius _____ Nonius Bassus, Masada conqueror
29. ***"Field of Dreams" state
31. Stumblebums
32. A predominant religion of Middle East
33. Bart or Ringo
34. *Former independent nation
36. Regard
38. Units of work
42. Cuban dance
45. It's taught but not always learned
49. Albanian money
51. Beethoven's "Moonlight _____"
54. Dapper
56. Weasel's aquatic cousin
57. Ethereal
58. Past participle of "lie"
59. Happening soon, old fashioned
60. Fictional Griffin and actual Ryan
61. Magazine shells
62. Siestas
63. Pot contribution
64. Campaigner, for short
66. Clod chopper

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1	9	4		5	2			7

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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.

Puzzle solutions on page 12

THIS WEEK'S
ONLINE
POLL

Have you started your Christmas shopping?

- YES
- NO
- BAH HUMBUG!

TO VOTE IN
THIS WEEK'S
ONLINE POLL

WWW.
thelowellledger.com

Flat River Gallery featured artist show opens next month

Flat River Gallery & Framing is featuring artist Deborah L. Hoover in December and January. An opening reception will be held Thursday, Dec. 18, from 5 to 7:30 pm.

In an artist's statement, Hoover said, "Art has always been a part of my life. One of my earliest memories is my dad giving me a pencil and a small note pad so I would sit still

in church. It worked and I filled the pages with little drawings. Looking back it surprises me that at the age of five years old I was recognizing that some pages were (accidentally) better designed.

Kendall College of Art and Design is where I received my training in graphic arts. I worked at a typesetting company and dabbled in painting.

"Retiring" from the typesetting company after the birth of my first daughter, I started painting.

My first efforts were a combination of impression and representational, what I saw was what you got, with some emotion added. As I continued to paint, I found my more successful paintings, whether the subject was landscape, floral, figure or abstract,



Above, "Her Jazz" a watercolor by Deborah L. Hoover and below, "Living Water" acrylic on canvas.

The Thanksgiving Blessings of Pink Arrow Pride

Thanksgiving is a time for being mindful of our blessings and having a thankful heart. Our unique community of Lowell symbolizes the spirit of Thanksgiving. Every year, the Pink Arrow event personifies what it means to be giving and grateful. Pink Arrow captures the essence of what it means to open your heart, give back, and give to others.

For the seventh consecutive year, the student-led Lowell Pink Arrow Pride VII, was held on September 5, 2014 and was an overwhelming success. Once again, the entire Lowell community came together to make life better for individuals and families whose lives are affected by cancer. The Pink Arrow Pride experience not only raised the level of awareness about cancer and its devastating effect on families, but it provided an opportunity for Lowell's student athletes to demonstrate that life is not just about winning competitions, but that there are more important values of family, kindness, honor, and service. In spite of the driving rain, the stadium was filled with meaning and our community members wore pink shirts as a symbol of pride, love and empathy. The storm that night could not prevent fans and supporters from rallying for their neighbors who are walking the cancer journey.

Pink Arrow is all about blessings. In addition to providing plentiful measures of support to families living with cancer, Pink Arrow maintains student scholarships in honor of Kathy Talus, a former Lowell teacher and coach who lost her battle with cancer, and Dr. Donald Gerard who has dedicated more than 30 years volunteering and giving care to student athletes. Of note, is the support that Pink Arrow provides to Gilda's Club of Lowell who provides free cancer and grief counseling for any loss to children, adults, and families. Gilda's is a place to go where everyone understands the impact of cancer for the person with the diagnosis and those on the cancer journey with them. Pink Arrow encourages anyone to take the first step in visiting Gilda's Club to receive the gift of love and support. In addition Pink Arrow makes financial provisions for families who face exorbitant costs related to treatment. It is also important to note that Pink Arrow designates funds for K-12 age-appropriate education related to cancer and wellness for students. Raising student level of awareness and service to others will assure that they too will bless others through giving, and volunteering in their community.

L Pink Arrow VII Net Profit \$128,253.00 L

This Thanksgiving, we give thanks to our community for continuing to participate and support Pink Arrow. The Pink Arrow committee extends a heartfelt thank you to our special partners:

Mercy Health Care - St. Mary's, Meijer, Enwork,
Custom Components, and Fox Motors.

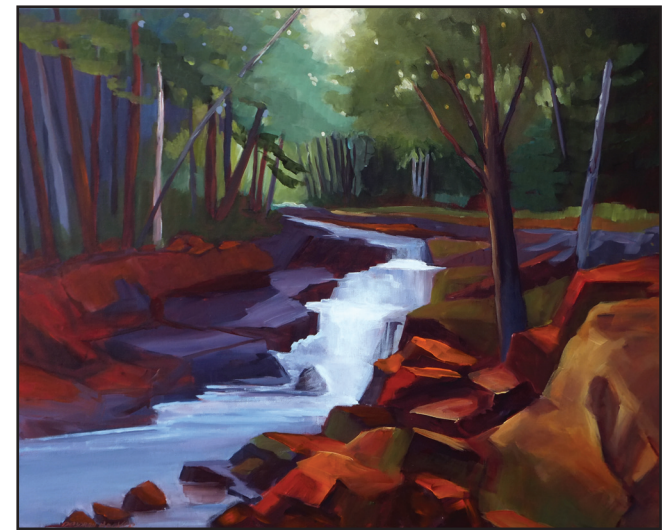
Thank you for the ongoing support, selflessness, and generosity.

Keep Calm and Pink On!

were quite energetic and filled with movement.

My art is a map of where I have been. I have combined design, representation,

impressionism, emotional content and making the "invisible visible to produce paintings that celebrate life."



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