

## little singer big voice



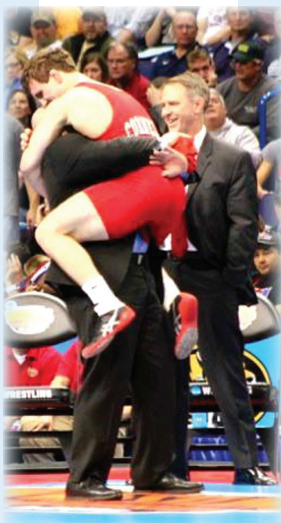
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## new FROM director



page 6

## NCAA champ



page 11

# Lowell this weekend

It is time once again for the Lowell Expo. It will take place at Lowell High School on Saturday, March 28 from 9 am until 3 p.m.

“The Expo is a great place where local businesses can come and talk to folks in the community about what they have to offer and what they can bring to the table,” said Josh Bruwer, general manager of Arrowhead Golf Course and one of the people putting the Expo together. “Sometimes folks will just come to the Expo because it’s something to

do on a Saturday and they’ll stumble upon a service that they’re in need of. It’s a great way for them to get some questions answered and if they’ve got a lot of things going on there’s a lot of folks they can meet up with and talk to there. It’s a great way to see a lot of local vendors all in one place. It’s a way to get a lot done in a short period of time all in one place.”

As always, there will be a mix of old and new sponsors.

“Arctic Heating &

Cooling has been a sponsor for years. They will be back,” Bruwer said. “Harding Enterprises are going to be our main sponsor this year as they were last year. Oak Meadow Tree Service is a new sponsor. We get a very high retention rate, so a lot of the folks that were there last year will also be here this year.”

“In years past we have had the Hall of Excellence,” said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce director Liz Baker. “This year it will have

a new look and theme, ‘Hall of Flame: Red Hot Arrows,’ where the community can see various school clubs in action. The Lowell Area Education Foundation will spearhead the hall.”

Health and wellness will be a hot topic at the Expo.

“Another stop at the Expo is LoWellness, a locally based health initiative using a community wide survey to empower people and change lives,” Baker said. “They will be located in the ‘Hall of Flame’ and their goal is to have Expo participants to take 500 surveys. If you take the survey at the Expo, you will have a chance to win Shop Lowell gift certificates and a Fitbit. [It is] sponsored by Lowell Community Wellness.”

You’ll even be able to

do a bit of grocery shopping at the Expo.

“A small version of the Lowell Area Farmers’ Market will be in the café,” Baker said. “We have a few of our mainstay farm market vendors present and selling their wares. We wanted a bigger presence this year at the Expo and wanted participants of the Expo to get to know the market vendors and learn about our new changes for this year. Additionally, the YMCA Veggie Mobile will be on location from 1 pm to 3 pm.”

There are way too many things happening to list, you’ll just have to head down to the Expo and check it all out.

Expo,  
continued, page 2

## Relay For Life readies for 2015

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Relay For Life (RFL) of Lowell began their tenth year in the community last week when participants gathered at Lowell High School (LHS) for the event’s official kick-off celebration.

The St. Patrick’s Day themed party invited new and former participants to get the information necessary to join the relay.

In Lowell the relay has raised \$550,882 since its inception.

According to committee member Holly Milks, “It funds research from changes in lifestyle to new approaches in therapies to improving cancer patients’ quality of life. They are helping people get well through every step of their



Members of the 2015 Lowell Relay For Life planning committee.

cancer experience. They are helping people stay well by teaching them to take steps to prevent cancer or find it at its earliest and most treatable stage.”

Funds also support important American Cancer Society (ACS)

programming, such as Hope Lodge which provides free and comfortable lodging to patients and caregivers who do not live near their treatment facility. There are

Relay for Life,  
continued, page 2

## Baseball players read to students



To help celebrate March is Reading Month Lowell varsity baseball players showed up at Murray Lake Elementary on St. Patrick’s Day to read students their favorite childhood books. Many of the team members were former Murray Lake students. The students were very excited to have these players read to them. Matt Cooper is pictured reading to his brother Robert’s kindergarten classroom.

## Three city council seat openings for May election

Nomination forms must be in by April 6

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

There will be three seats on the city council up for election on Tuesday, May 5.

The seats currently occupied by Sharon Ellison, Jim Hall and Matt Mayer are expiring. Almost anyone can run for one of the vacancies as long as they meet some specific criteria.

“A person who is interested in running for one of these seats needs to have lived in the city for one year, [is] a registered voter and cannot be in arrears with the city,” city clerk Betty Morlock said in an email. “They need to get nomination forms from city hall and they need no less than 25 and no more than 50 signatures of registered voters of the city of Lowell.”

The length of a councilor’s term will depend on the number of votes each candidate gets.

“Three councilmen shall be elected, two to serve for a term of two years and one to serve for a term of one year,” the city charter says. “The two receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of two years, the one

receiving the third highest number of votes shall be elected for a term of office of one year.”

According to the city charter, councilors “determine all matters of policy of the city and adopt ordinances and necessary rules and regulations, [...] raise revenue and make appropriations for the operation of the city government, provide for the public peace and health and safety of persons and property, investigate municipal affairs and, when it deems necessary, any office or department of the city.”

The pay for a city councilor is \$100 a year. Meetings are held at city hall every other Monday at 7 p.m. The council also has occasional ‘work sessions’ throughout the year. City council elections are non-partisan, which means that whatever political party a potential candidate is affiliated with will not appear on the ballot.

The deadline to get your nomination forms turned in at city hall is April 6 at 5 pm.

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CENTS



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# Expo, continued

"We will have blood pressure checks, \$5 hair cuts, climbing demos, pets and zoo animals, food samples and so much more," Baker said.

"This year's Expo has a lot going on, it's going to be exciting," Bruwer said. "I think we have a good game plan in place to get folks out

there. It's always an exciting time of year and we're looking forward to another great year. I think this is going to be the biggest and

best Expo to date." More information can be found on the Expo website, [www.lowellexpo.org](http://www.lowellexpo.org).



# along main street

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Lowell Area Fire Department's Pancake Breakfast is Sat., March 28, 7 to 11 am at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson. Proceeds to go toward fire equipment.

### CELEBRATE LEARNING

Cherry Creek Elementary staff invites you to attend the annual Celebrate Learning Night on Wed., April 1 from 6-7:30. Student work will be on display throughout the building. The staff will be serving up free sundaes.

*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.*

### FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., April 1 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

### EASTER EGG HUNT

Lowell Moose 809 will be sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on Sat., April 4 at Creekside Park. 1-3 yr. at 11 am, 4-6 yr. at 11:45 am and 7-9 yr. at 12:30 pm.

# Chess Champs



Pictured are the top three finishers in Murray Lake Elementary's annual chess tournament. Over 50 students participated in the double-elimination tournament. From left to right: Patrick DeVoest-champion, David Kaczanowski - runner-up, and third-place finisher Ryan Baker.

# Relay for Life, continued

currently 31 Hope Lodges nationwide including one in Grand Rapids.

Milks added that all these and more are available locally and completely free of charge.

This year the relay is scheduled for June 19-20 on the track at LHS and will feature a new starting

time and a jam-packed entertainment lineup. The 24-hour event will begin Friday at 6 pm and run through 6 pm Saturday.

For more information on being a part of the Lowell RFL you may contact ACS staff partner Kelli Russell at [kelli.russell@cancer.org](mailto:kelli.russell@cancer.org)



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## "She is winding the watch of her wit; by and by it will strike."

~ William Shakespeare (paraphrased)

- CORRECTION -

In last week's story about the city council meeting, Jim Reagan, chairman of the Arbor board, was misquoted. The story quoted him as saying, "Today the Arbor board has authorized the installation of approximately 501 trees along with 200 pine seedlings, so about 701 trees." This was incorrect. Reagan contacted the Ledger and pointed out that he actually said, "To date the Arbor board has authorized the installation of approximately 501 trees along with 200 pine seedlings, so about 701 trees." By "to date," Reagan meant since 2007, when the Arbor board was created.



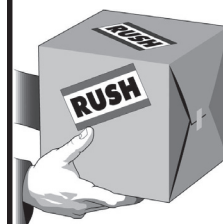
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# Live game show and lots of entertainment planned for expo this year

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

At this year's Expo you'll be able to participate in a live game show and destroy Tokyo as part of a life-sized board game.

"There will be five games and over \$1000 in prizes contestants will have the opportunity to compete for," said Josh Bruwer, general manager of Arrowhead Golf Course and one of the people putting the Expo together.

"This year our new game is Minute to Win It in Lowell, with over \$1000 in prizes that four people can win," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce director Liz Baker. "Sign-up begins at 1 pm and ends at 1:30 pm. You must be present to play the game."

Having a game show at Expo isn't new, but they never tried 'Minute to Win It' before.

"Last year what we did was, we had a game show session toward the end of the Expo," Bruwer said. "Something where folks who had been there all day had something to look for to cap off the experience. It went over really, really well. This year we thought it would be cool and exciting to mimic the game show 'Minute to

Win It' where contestants come in and play various games and they have a minute to accomplish a goal. There are a variety of games. What we're envisioning is, the contestant goes up there, they have a minute, we'll have the crowd, we'll have a big timer up there, and then it counts down and folks can see how the contestant is progressing toward the prize. It's just a way to cap off a great day in an exciting manner."

And then there's the life-sized board game.

"Rookies SportsCard will have a life-sized board game for participants to interact with," Baker said. "Jack Reedy of Rookies SportsCards Plus says board games are very popular. He is bringing King of Tokyo."

To play King of Tokyo, players must choose a monster, such as Cyber Bunny, the Kraken or Meka Dragon. They roll the dice to attack other monsters or heal damage from other monsters. The goal is to be the last monster standing.

Participants in the games will be able to win some interesting prizes.

"Each of our sponsors are giving away a prize and they're really cool

prizes," Bruwer said. "For example, Oak Meadow Tree Service is giving away a chainsaw; Greenridge Realty is giving away a 'Taste of Lowell' basket with a bunch of local goods in it. Arrowhead is giving away a golf membership. There are a lot of really, really cool prizes that contestants could win."

"Some of the prizes that people can win are Shop Lowell gift certificates, golf memberships to Arrowhead and Morrison Lake, a complete furnace checkup,

a carbon monoxide detector, \$400 in asphalt services and more," Baker said. "These games are sponsored by Arctic Heating and Cooling, Arrowhead Golf Course, Rick Seese with Greenridge Realty, Harding Enterprises, Oak Meadow Tree Service and Lowell Area Schools."

"This year we're going to have a lot of entertainment," said Bruwer.

"Entertainment has changed this year," said Baker.

"We're opening up the Performing Arts Center for

additional acts," Bruwer said. "We've had a lot of acts sign up."

"We will have the normal main stage in Gym A with acts representing all the schools, elementary up to high school, as well as community acts," Baker said. "We have added 'Expo Student Groove' entertainment. That will be in Lowell High School LPAC."

"We always have a lot of great local acts," Bruwer said, "whether they're elementary

kids, high school kids or folks in the community that have performed in the main gymnasium. A lot of the groups that will be performing will be student-led groups, like a garage band situation."

All of this free entertainment will last for three hours.

"There will be acts every hour on the hour beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m.," Baker said. "Each act will be 20 minutes."

## New businesses join this year's expo

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

New businesses participate in the Expo every year, but this year there are a lot more than usual.

"We have over 20 new businesses that will join in the fun at the Expo, and many of them signed on as chamber members," said Liz Baker, director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. They include Oak Meadow Tree Service, All Things Medical, Healing Hands Massage, Gless Boards, the Center

for Physical Rehabilitation, Ayers Basement Systems, Great Lakes Paving and Leslie Stougard with Keller Williams Realty."

Two of the businesses participating in Expo for the first time are Oak Meadow Tree Service and Gless Boards.

"We've been in the Lowell community for a while," said Oak Meadow Tree Service owner Andy Niemeyer. "The business started in 2011 and we've been part of the Lowell community the whole time and we thought it would be a good way to get our name out there and tell people about our products and our services, tell people what we do."

"I've been building custom furniture here for quite a while here in Lowell but most of my work ships out of the state and I'm just now kind of starting to get some local recognition," said Amy Gless, owner of Gless Boards. "I thought a good way to kind of let my neighbors know that this is

what I do would be to get involved in the Expo."

Both businesses provide vital, unique services to the Lowell area.

"We do general tree care, so not only do we do pruning, removal, stump grinding, stuff like that, we also get into the fertilization aspect, plant healthcare, tree mulching, insulation, things like that," Niemeyer said.

"I'm a custom furniture designer and builder," Gless said. "Refined furniture, not rehabbed stuff. You would call me if you had a particular size of table that you wanted or an entertainment center to fit your gear exactly, that kind of stuff. Dressers and beds, tables and chairs. I do a lot of dining sets. The biggest dining table I've done was ten feet long, the smallest one was a little three by four dining table. My husband Nick and I have been building furniture for probably 15 years. Didn't really start building it for sale until about five or six years ago. We built for family,

friends and ourselves, and then people started saying, 'Hey, you need to build something for me,' and it just went from there. I left my corporate job and I've been doing it full time now for about 19 months. Nick still works full time, but he's going to go to part time and

Expo businesses,  
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...

**The secret of joy in work is contained in one word - excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.**

~ Pearl Buck  
(1892 - 1973)



## lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

### tutors needed

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled an information session on Thursday, April 2, 2015, for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 pm and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the center and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an

opportunity to sign up for tutor training.

The Literacy Center of W. Michigan is a nonprofit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in the community. Based on the 2003 National Assessment for Adult Literacy and the 1992 National Adult Literacy Survey, up to 14.6 percent of adults in Kent County lack basic

prose literacy skills and have difficulty using certain reading and writing skills considered necessary in everyday life. By training people to be tutors, the center can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

The information session will be held at the Literacy Center of West Michigan, located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand Rapids, MI. Please call 459-5151 (ext. 10) to register.

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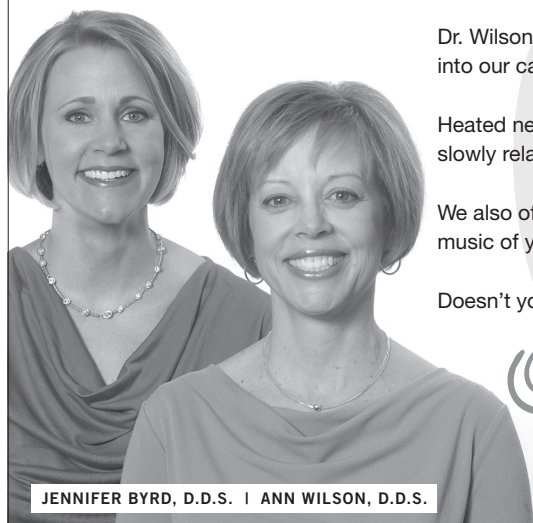
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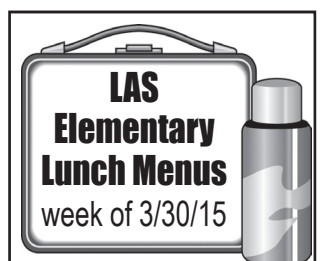
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# CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

**LAST DATE TO FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015 4:00 P.M.**

City of Lowell registered residents of the City interested in seeking election to the Lowell City Council to fill any of the three (3) two to four year term vacancies occurring must obtain nominating petition forms for circulation and return no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2015. Petition forms are available between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday from the Lowell City Clerk, Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk



**MONDAY:** Beef taco on soft tortilla shell, steamed broccoli; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mixed fruit, orange slices.

**TUESDAY:** Chicken strips & French fries (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake); chicken strips w/roll & baked beans (served at Bushnell); fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, peaches, mandarin oranges.

**WEDNESDAY:** French toast sticks served w/eggs, hash-browns; fruit & veggie bar: 2 vegetables, 2 fruits offered.

**THURSDAY:** Tony's pepperoni on WG crust, cheese pizza (served at Bushnell), baby carrots, fruit & veggie bar: 2 vegetables, 2 fruits offered.

**FRIDAY:** Spring Break begins.



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## financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

### Be prepared for those RMDs

You might not think that 70 ½ represents any particular milestone. But when you do reach this age, you will have to make some decisions that affect an important aspect of your life — your retirement income.

Here's the background: Once you turn 70 ½, you will need to start taking withdrawals from your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan and from your traditional IRA (but not your Roth IRA). Actually, you will need to begin these withdrawals — known as “required minimum distributions” (RMDs) — by April 1 of the following year and continue taking them by December 31 each year after that. These RMDs are calculated by dividing your account balance at the end of the previous year by your life expectancy, as determined by IRS mortality tables. If your spouse is your sole beneficiary and is more than 10 years younger than you, you'd use a separate table. Don't worry too much about

the number crunching, though — your financial advisor generally can do the calculations for you.

What you should concern yourself with, however, are the first two words of RMD: “required” and “minimum.” These words mean what they say. If you don't take withdrawals, or if you withdraw less than you should, you could face a 50 percent penalty tax on the difference between what you withdrew and what you should have withdrawn — and then you'll still have to take out the required amount and pay taxes on the taxable portions of those withdrawals. So it's a very good idea to take your withdrawals on time — and without “shortchanging” yourself.

Of course, you can certainly take more than the required minimum amount — but should you? The answer depends on whether you need the money. But even if you have to take larger-than-minimum withdrawals, you'll want

to be careful not to take out *more* than you need — because if you “over-withdraw” year after year, you run the risk of outliving your resources. That's why it's so important, during the early years of your retirement, to establish a sustainable withdrawal rate for your retirement accounts. Your withdrawal rate will depend on a variety of factors, such as your other sources of income — Social Security, earnings from employment, savings, etc.— your lifestyle choices, your estimated longevity, and so on. In any case, once you have arrived at an appropriate withdrawal rate, you'll need to stick to that rate unless your circumstances change.

If you have multiple IRAs, you'll also face another decision, because, once you've calculated your total RMDs for the year, from all your IRAs, you can take that amount from one or more of them. Depending on the investment mix of these individual IRAs, you may find it beneficial to take the money from one account and leave the others intact, to potentially grow further. (If you have multiple 401(k)s, though, you will likely need to calculate and withdraw the separate RMDs for each plan.)

## kidsView



by Sierra Hieshetter

In my opinion, homework is the best thing since sliced bread. Don't get me wrong, this article in no way promotes teachers giving kids more homework and I know a lot of other kids don't share my ideas. But, think about it, homework is a great way to test what you know outside

of school. It is also a way to practice the skills you are learning at school while you are at home.

Now, I do want to say to all the teachers, that when kids have too much homework to do, it can be stressful. When I get home from school, first I do my math homework, then I

practice my cello for 30 minutes and then move on to whatever other assignments I have for science or social studies. After I do that, it is time to do what I want to do...READ!

I think homework is like sugary sweets, best in moderation. Then again, most teachers do give you time in class to work on it, so if you use your time wisely in and out of school, homework should not be a problem. If you don't use your time wisely, well, maybe you should work a tiny bit harder.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### time to stop blocking discussion

To the Editor,  
If you've been following the council meetings (<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflowell>) you've seen how three of the councilmembers bully, harass and ignore the other two who are simply trying to ask questions and open discussions.

It seems that these two are trying to

provide information and transparency for their constituents.

I applaud their efforts in using their time during council comments to at least make their statements and let the public know their positions, but this does not allow for any discussion or acknowledgement from the other three as to where they stand on the issues.

What are they so afraid of that they have to block all suggested discussions?

I commend Diane LaWarre and Marrie Gordon for their recent letters providing definitions for some of the words we've seen used recently and boy do they fit. It's time for the three to stop blocking important discussions and trying to bully the other two into submission.

I also commend the Lowell Ledger for not caving to the intimidation that would try to limit free speech. Thank you to everyone who is paying attention and trying to alert others to what's really happening in the wonderful community of Lowell.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Covert  
Lowell

maybe someone's trying to get people to think for themselves, ask questions and become aware. Maybe it's time to stop shooting the messengers and start taking a hard look at who was in charge when all

of this started; who is the common denominator and who is supporting him in his actions.

Respectfully,  
Marilyn Lambson  
Lowell

### ask why the repetition

To the Editor,  
If the same things are being said over and over

maybe the people, including the councilmembers, should start asking why. Just

House Bill 4078, sponsored by state Rep. Jon Bumstead, approves funds for 69 recreation projects and land purchases recommended by the Trust Fund board last December.

It is now Public Act 7 of 2015.

This year, the Trust Fund board recommended \$18.2 million for acquisition grants and \$6.4 million for development grants. Sixteen acquisition grants were awarded to local units of government for a total of \$8.9 million, while nine acquisition grants went to the Department of Natural Resources for projects totaling \$9.3 million.

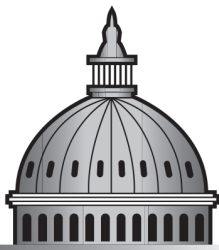
The Trust Fund board also recommended \$5.5 million in 40 development grants to local units of government, while four DNR projects received \$940,000.

In all, the board considered 156 applications seeking more than \$44 million in funding. In a competitive process, all applications were carefully evaluated based on scoring criteria developed by the board.

"Michigan communities experience both immediate and long-term benefits from

Out of Lansing,  
continued, page 6

## out of lansing



Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation creating more outdoor recreation opportunities for local communities and authorizing nearly \$24.7 million in Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grants.

"Michigan is home to some of the most beautiful outdoor spaces in North America," Snyder said.

"These grants will help give local communities the ability to create more quality recreation opportunities that encourage people of all ages and abilities to get outdoors. Every year, these projects boost the quality of life for Michigan residents, enhance local economies and encourage tourism in our state."

improvised for the occasion, that the neighboring houses were saved...

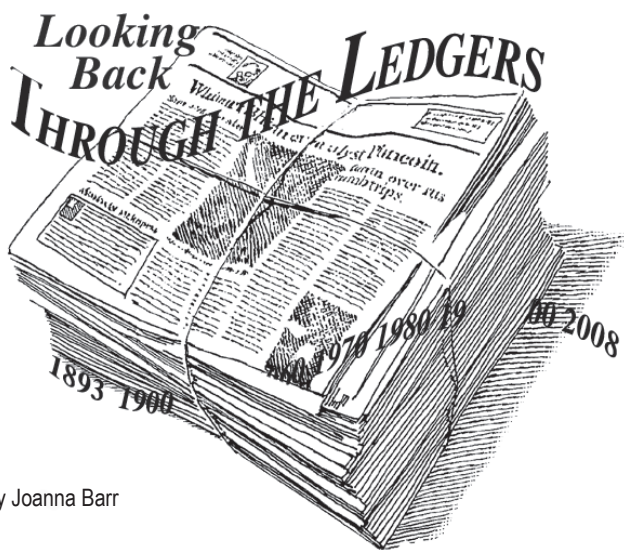
Some time ago it was currently reported around town, that Dr. W. J. Webb, formerly of this place, and now of Chicago, was dead. While the information could not be traced and was not given any great credence, still it takes quite a load off the shoulders of his many friends here, to learn that it was a mistake. We recently received a letter from Dr. L. D. Wood, in which he says that Dr. Webb is not only alive, but is the proud father of a bouncing boy, who is now nearly five months old. Both pieces of information are gladly received by his many friends here.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the defunct Lowell National Bank, held in the parlors of Bowne, Combs & Striker's Bank, Monday, Francis King was elected agent to close up affairs of the Bank and the Receiver, John S. Lawrence, turned over to him the balance of the assets of the concern. The Bank has still outstanding liabilities to the Stockholders of \$6,000.00. and has assets that invoice \$11,000.00. on which enough will be realized to pay off all of the indebtedness and leave, possibly, six or eight per cent for the stockholders.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 25, 1915

Joe Jefferson's rendition of Rip Van Winkle was shown to a small audience at the Idle Hour theatre last Thursday. Undoubtedly scant advertising explains

Looking Back, continued, page 14



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal March 26, 1890

Monday evening, about 6 o'clock, the residence of Frank Terry opposite the Furniture Factory, was discovered on fire and the alarm was given. With a strong wind blowing, it was soon discovered that the house could not be saved and attention was given to saving the contents, but the fire spread with such speed, fanned as it was by the strong wind, that only a small portion of the household goods (only those in two rooms), could be saved. The house was a total loss and it was only by heroic work by a bucket brigade,

## outdoors

give 'em a chance

Dave Stegehuis

Life seems to go by faster the older we get. A young parent tending a fussy baby several times in the middle of the night may not be thinking that the time will come when as a parent they will no longer be needed. You have no idea how soon that time will arrive and in retrospect how brief the parenting experience is. During that relatively short period of time, children develop attitudes, values, and interests which have a significant influence how they live the rest of their lives.

As parents, we want to provide as much guidance as possible to prepare our children for the future as well as enrich their childhood. Our current culture is one which typically places children in a strict framework of organized time, space, and activities. Children must spend a set amount of time in school engaged in prescribed programs. This still leaves time for elective activities. Often the choice will be another kind of organized activity structured and supervised by adults.

Earlier generations of young people were kept busy with a wide range of tasks required for sustaining the family. Spare time was spent in a less restrictive environment independent of direct adult supervision

doing things the child found to be fun and interesting. The activities took place around the homestead and in surrounding woods and fields free of artificial and legal barriers. Their active imaginations led them to explore and interact with nature. Work and play primarily occurred outdoors and children developed a fundamental relationship with nature.

For many children today this won't happen. The result is that kids won't acquire a personal relationship with the natural world and lack concern for the environment as adults and could also miss opportunities to establish a well-rounded lifestyle.

Today then, special effort must be made to introduce children to nature. Auto tours and zoos are fine, but true appreciation and concern for nature is best learned through hands on experience. Camping, hiking, hunting, fishing, bird watching or other outdoor activities where a person must respond to natural phenomenon and make choices teaches lessons not easily forgotten. For most parents and caregivers providing children with these opportunities in our culture is not easy so pay attention and give'em a chance.

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the lowell ledger

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. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.

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



# Spring concert at First Baptist of Lowell

A spring concert will be held Sunday, March 29 at First Baptist Church of Lowell at 1:00 pm. Church members will share their instruments and voices as they perform solos, duets and quartets. Their special guests, Faithful Journey Quartet, (pictured) a local group of men who blend their voices in harmony will also perform.

The church is located at 2275 West Main Street in Lowell. Admission is free. For more information visit [www.fbc Lowell.org](http://www.fbc Lowell.org)



The Faithful Journey Quartet.

# New FROM director looks ahead

Flat River Outreach Ministries formally introduces Dawn Broene as its new executive director. Board chairman Dave Emmette made the announcement saying, "I know Dawn is very excited - as are we - to have her continue to move the organization forward with many great things to come."

Broene has been with the organization for seven years in varying capacities. She started out in 2008 by hanging clothes in the thrift shop, then volunteered in the financial assistance area and helped prepare taxes for the organization's VITA tax program. In 2012 she was asked to be the financial assistance program coordinator and in 2013 she was asked to be the part-time program director. In July of 2014, she stepped in as the interim executive director.

"I am very excited about being given the opportunity of executive director," she says, "I feel that the organization took me in and



Dawn Broene has been officially announced as the new executive director of FROM.

made me part of the family when I became a volunteer. It is amazing how much the organization has grown since I first stepped foot on the premises in 2008. It has been an honor to watch and be a part of the expansion of

the programs and even the facility, and now to be given the opportunity to lead."

The Treasures Thrift Shop (located at 11535 Fulton Street) is open on Wednesdays from 10 am-8 pm; Thursdays and Fridays

from 10 am-6 pm and Saturdays from 10 am-4 pm.

For more information about FROM and any of its programs, visit their website at [www.fromlowell.org](http://www.fromlowell.org) or call the office at 616-897-8260.

# Out of Lansing, continued

outdoor recreation projects supported by these grants," DNR Director Keith Creagh said. "The economic impact reaches far beyond the projects' planning and construction phases and often results locally in new businesses and increased tourism."

The MNRTF is a restricted fund, established in 1976 to provide funding for public acquisition of lands for resource conservation and outdoor recreation, as well as for public outdoor recreation development projects. It is funded through interest earned on funds derived from the development of publicly-owned minerals. Over the past 38 years, the Trust Fund has granted more than \$1 billion to

state and local government organizations to develop and improve recreation opportunities in Michigan.

The Trust Fund board's recommendations are reviewed by the Legislature as part of the appropriations process. The Legislature then forwards a bill for the governor's signature.

A list of the final recommendations made by the Trust Fund board is available at [www.michigan.gov/mnrtf](http://www.michigan.gov/mnrtf).

The MDNR is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)



### MARCH 25

Chris Yeiter, Shirley Carigon, Sari VanKeulen, Andy Quada, Troy Sloan.

### MARCH 26

Margaret Hoats, Carol Maynard.

### MARCH 27

Joel Roudabush, Kelly Geldersma.

### MARCH 28

Amie Thaler, Aaron Kastanek, Beck Butler.

### MARCH 29

John Ellison, Sandra VanWeelden, Judith Schafer Eiseman, Laura Rasch, Robin Burns, Casey Yonker, Brianna Homrich, Priscilla Nearing.

### MARCH 30

Deb Maxim, Erin Wade, Delores Ellison, Laurinda Horsley, Patrick Drake.

### MARCH 31

Katelynn Fonger, Jennifer McCaul, Ben Lobbezoo, Tera Raab, Rudy Smith, Michaela Blough.

# area churches

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
Pastor Rod Galindo  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Morning Worship.....10:00 A. M.  
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell  
Pastor Tony Shumaker  
9:45 A.M. ....Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. ....Fellowship  
11:00 A.M. ....Worship  
897-9863  
Nursery & Children  
Worship Programs Provided  
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10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)  
Worship Service.....Sunday -10:30 A.M.  
(Nursery available)  
Sunday School.....9:15 A.M.  
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
402 Amity St. • 897-9820  
[www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)  
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Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM  
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM  
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Barrier Free  
Internet:<http://www.fbc Lowell.org>  
Rev. Jon Pickens & Pastor Phil Severn  
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M.  
Sunday School, nursery - adult.....11:00 A.M.  
AWANA - K-5, during school year.....Wed. 6:15 - 8 P.M.  
Youth Ministry - grades 6-12.....Mon. 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.  
(Youth Ministry moves to Wed. during summer)

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
621 E. Main Street  
897-5936  
[www.lowellumc.com](http://www.lowellumc.com)  
Barrier-free entrance  
SUNDAY WORSHIP.....8:30 & 10:30  
Sunday School.....9:30  
YOUTH GROUPS (JR. & SR. HIGH).....6:00 p.m.  
Pastor Brad Brillhart

**Good Friday CROSS WALK**  
APRIL 3, 2015

A cross will be carried from Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St., to Oakwood Cemetery. There will be various stops along the way for hymns, scripture readings and prayer.

The walk will be begin at 12 noon. Programs will be provided. Rides will also be available for those unable to walk the route.

Questions? Call Dave Pasquale (897-5044), Dave Deans (897-9186), or First Baptist Church (897-7168).



# LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

**All proposals must be  
submitted online no later  
than April 17, 2015  
to be considered.**

**Visit**

**[www.grfoundation.org/lowell](http://www.grfoundation.org/lowell)  
to submit your applications.**

*The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell Area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.*



# Art was hoppin' last Thursday in downtown Lowell

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

LowellArts! held two big arts' events in town on Thursday, March 19.

At the King Gallery in the LowellArts! building, 149 S. Hudson St., the awards presentation for the 29th annual West Michigan Regional Art Competition took place, while the Downtown Lowell Gallery Hop event was held around town.

The judge for the regional art competition was Jon McDonald, a professor at the Kendall College of Art and Design at Ferris State University. McDonald was

unable to attend the award ceremony. There were about 300 entries, of which about 100 were on display at the King Gallery. The top five winners split \$2,000 in prize money.

First place went to a painting by Larry Blovits, a retired Aquinas College art professor from Grand Rapids.

"The image comes from Maine," Blovits said about 'Trickle Down Effect,' his winning painting. "I was out in Harrington, Maine, on a two-week residency and that was one of the scenes from the area, where the water in



Artists attending the 29th annual West Michigan Regional Art Competition.



The winning painting, 'Trickle Down Effect' by Larry Blovits.

the stream was going down to the lakefront. It struck me with all the beauty of it and I just had to do it. I loved all the different textures that were in it. Water always fascinates me and it's always a challenge to try and paint it. I bet I spent about 100 hours on it."

Blovits was proud of his award-winning pastel painting.

"It's just tremendous," Blovits said. "You never know what the judge is going to decide. You enter your best work and let the chips fall where they may, so if you get the first prize you just go crazy. I'm very honored to get it."

Five galleries and three restaurants participated in the Downtown Lowell

Gallery Hop event. Each of the locations had special sales.

"Anybody that comes in and mentions LowellArts! gets 15 percent off any new jewelry in the store," said Cliff Yankovich, owner of Chimera Design, 208 E. Main St.

Glass House Designs, 215 W. Main St., hosted an out-of-town artist, Casey Bemis from Whitehall.

"What I do is jewelry," Bemis said. "Small pieces. It's all metal, copper, brass, bronze, some silver, with etched-face designs. I've been working on it for fifteen years, but this will be my fifth year full-time.

Bemis's jewelry was metal earrings and necklaces

with intricate designs etched into them.

"I just draw them [the designs]. They come out of my head," Bemis said. "I really liked geometry, it was the only math I understood."

There was more gallery hop action at Flat River Cottage & Night Forest Jewelry, Flat River Gallery and Framing and Toadworks Gallery. Three restaurants, Keiser's Kitchen, Larkin's and Mynt Fusion Bistro, offered 10 percent off the total food bill during the gallery hop.

And the winners were: 1st place - Larry Blovits, Trickle Down Effect, pastel, Grand Rapids; 2nd place - Jason Quigno, Stone Coil,

limestone, Jenison; 3rd place

- David Kuecherer, Working the Edge, acrylic, Rockford; 4th place - Richard Deming Jr., Streetwise, photography, Grand Rapids; and 5th place

- Sean Lancaster, Homeless; not Hopeless, photography, Grand Rapids; honorable mentions: Jan Lucking, Time Will Tell the Story, pastel pencil & acrylic, Kalamazoo; Judi Luptak, Gjallerhorn, photography, Whitehall; Robert Miller, Dancer, mixed media, Ada; Robert Miller, Bye Gone Days, mixed media, Ada; Jeanne Rockett, Morning Has Broken, acrylic, Lowell;

and Ronald Zawistowski, Untitled, welded steel, Grand Rapids.



Larry Blovits collects his first-place award.



Casey Bemis sold metal jewelry at Glass House Designs during the gallery hop.



# Annual Maple Syrup Fest breakfast held at WWC

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

One of the first signs of spring at the Wittenbach/Wege Center (WWC) for more than a decade has been hosting the annual Maple Syrup Fest.

After being forced to cancel last year due to extreme ice on the trails, this year the event celebrated clear skies and great attendance.

"It is an event that brings people out for a great pancake breakfast and a history lesson out on the trails," said center director Courtney Cheers.

Both the outdoor demonstrations and the pancake breakfast started at 9 am. Breakfast featured pancakes with all the fixings and fresh maple syrup donated by Blis Gourmet Foods, Jordan Valley Farms and Melody Bee Farms.

Two historical demonstrations took place along the center's expansive trails detailing procedures used by both pioneers and Native Americans to process and utilize sap.

WWC naturalist Nancy McIntyre led the Native American camp where she demonstrated the hot rock method used to boil sap. This method required one to heat up a large rock in a fire and then relocate the rock to a hollow log where it would boil the sap placed there after collection.

McIntyre also demonstrated several simple children's games popular with Native Americans and shared a freshly made piece of maple candy with those in attendance.



Naturalist Nancy McIntyre demonstrates the hot rock technique used by Native Americans to boil their sap in a hollowed tree log.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum partnered with the WWC at the center's cabin to provide the pioneer demonstration by creating a sugar bush complete with traditional sugar shack treats.

Attendee Laura Bush said that she and her family make the springtime

celebration a part of their yearly routine, "It is [a] great way to get outside after a long winter. The kids always have a great time."

The WWC will be hosting the same demonstrations this coming week for all second graders in the Lowell Area School District, minus the pancakes.



Young learners gather around to try a fresh piece of maple candy during the Maple Syrup Fest held last weekend at the Wittenbach/Wege Center.

## KCTC Students of the Month

Three Lowell High School students have been named Student of the Month at Kent Career Technical Center. Michael Bonney, 12th grade, is enrolled in the Engineering Tech and Site Design Management program; Matthew Anderson, 11th grade, is enrolled in the Diesel and



Michael Bonney



Matthew Anderson

Equipment Tech program; and Nicholas Williams, 12th grade, is enrolled in the Auto Technology program.



Nicholas Williams

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# Celebrate National Arbor Day by planting trees

## Receive 10 free shade trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation

National Arbor Day is Friday, April 24, this year, and the Arbor Day Foundation is making it easy for anyone to celebrate the annual tree-planting holiday. Join the Foundation in April and receive 10 free shade trees.

By joining the Foundation in April, new members receive the following trees: red oak, sugar maple, weeping willow, baldcypress, thornless honeylocust, pin oak, river birch, tuliptree, silver maple, and red maple.

The free trees are part of the Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"These trees provide shade in the summer and vibrant colors throughout the fall," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor

Day Foundation. "Through the simple act of planting trees, one person can make a difference in helping to create a healthier and more beautiful planet for all of us to enjoy."

The trees will be shipped

postpaid with enclosed planting instructions at the right time for planting in April or May. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of

the Foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to TEN FREE SHADE TREES, Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by April 30, 2015, or visit [arborday.org/april](http://arborday.org/april).



## At Your Local Library

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

### KDL Lab: 3Doodler Dream It, Draw It

Make your drawings come to life with our 3Doodler! Create simple 3D objects from your own imagination or use some of the provided stencils. Pre-registration is required and participant spots are limited. For all ages. Monday, April 6, 1 pm.

### Celebrate Spring with Butterflies!

Spread your wings, show your colors and help create a seasonal banner to decorate the library. For all ages. Tuesday, April 7, 1 pm.

### Coffee Brewing and Tasting

Sam Grainger of Rowster Coffee will show you how to brew the perfect cup. Taste locally roasted coffees, discover some unique ways to brew and become an expert. Pre-registration is required. Monday, April 13, 6:30 pm.

### Totally Terrific Trucks

Enjoy books, crafts and activities, all focusing on trucks! For ages 6 and younger. Thursday, April 16, 10 am.

### Money Smart Week Storytime

Come in for a special money-themed storytime, including a reading of The Berenstain Bears' Trouble with Money. Each child will receive their own free copy of the book. For ages 6 and younger. Thursday, April 23, 10 am.

## Expo businesses, continued

he's going to join me in the shop part time in June, so we're pretty excited about that. We're that busy."

Even though they're first-timers, both businesses have very specific ideas about what they'll present at the Expo.

"I'm going to have some of my pieces so that people can see some of my work and I'll have some fliers to hand out, a little bit of information about the company," Gless said.

Oak Meadow Tree Service will have people climbing around in the gym's ceiling.

"We're going to have a climbing demonstration," Niemeyer said. "We are going to have a rope tied in the trusses up in the ceiling and then we're going to have one of our climbers out there and he's going to be showing how you do it and if people have questions and things like that we'll be there to answer them."

# Affordable Care Act anniversary celebrates more insured citizens

On Monday, in recognition of the anniversary of the Affordable Care Act, (ACA) federal officials announced new localized enrollment data and provided specific results from the first five years of the ACA. Nationwide, more than 16.4 million people have gained

coverage since the ACA passed- the largest reduction in the uninsured in four decades.

"Since the Affordable Care Act was signed into law five years ago, over 340,000 people in Michigan have finally been given the peace of mind knowing that they have health insurance,"

said U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow. "While we have more work to do to make sure the law works in the most effective way, it is unconscionable that we would turn our backs on families in Michigan by repealing the law or taking away the tax credits that make premiums affordable."

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released enrollment data for the following cities:

- 12,874 consumers in the Ann Arbor area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 12,954 consumers in the Lansing-East Lansing area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 10,719 consumers in the Kalamazoo-Portage area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 10,949 consumers in the Flint area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 5,747 consumers in the Niles-Benton Harbor area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

Affordable Care, continued, page 16

## WRWW 92.3 & Internet Schedule

### [SUNDAY] [03-29-15]

9:00 pm 'Old-Time Radio'

### [MONDAY] [03-30-15]

2:30 'The Infinite Show' with Raiden Miller  
4:30 'Funday, Monday' with 'Roman the Showman' and Brendan Sanders  
4:30 Varsity Baseball vs Greenville

### [TUESDAY] [03-31-15]

3:00 'The Lovely Beats Radio Show' with DJ Cupid & DJ Heartbeat  
4:30 'Its Everything Show' with DJ Mickey & DJ Chapstick

### [WEDNESDAY] [04-01-15]

2:30 'The Archer Pina Show'  
4:30 'The After Hours Show' with Dakota Krzysik

### [THURSDAY] [04-02-15]

2:30 'The No Topic Show' with Dakota Krzysik & Devin Read  
8:00 'The Night Shift' with Clayton Brown & Jerry Thompson

### [FRIDAY] [04-03-15]

2:30 'The Show' with Jeremy Kargl & Ryne Clarke  
5:00 'The Old World Blues Show' with Riley Nethercott & Chase Miller

### [SATURDAY] [04-04-15]

3:00 'The Random Explosion Show' with Joe Ryder  
7:00 'The Music Locker' with Connor Smithee

**When the programs above are not 'airing', a variety of music is played. WRWW would like to thank the Lowell Ledger for being one of its sponsors/underwriters.**

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## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 15-197060-DE

Estate of JUDITH ANN MALESKI. Date of birth: August 28, 1943.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Judith A. Maleski, died June 20, 2014.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Kenya Maleski, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 16, 2015

John D. Mitus (P31244)  
410 Bridge St., NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-774-4001

Kenya Maleski  
654 - 11th Street, NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504



# Red Arrow SPORTS

## Lowell alumnus Gabe Dean claims NCAA championship

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Former Lowell wrestler Gabe Dean claimed his first National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) national championship last weekend defeating Lehigh's Nathaniel Brown 6-2 in a flawless finals run at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

After a scoreless first period in the finals, Dean earned the only take down of the second and won the round 3-1 with Brown's point being earned by an escape.

Starting on top in

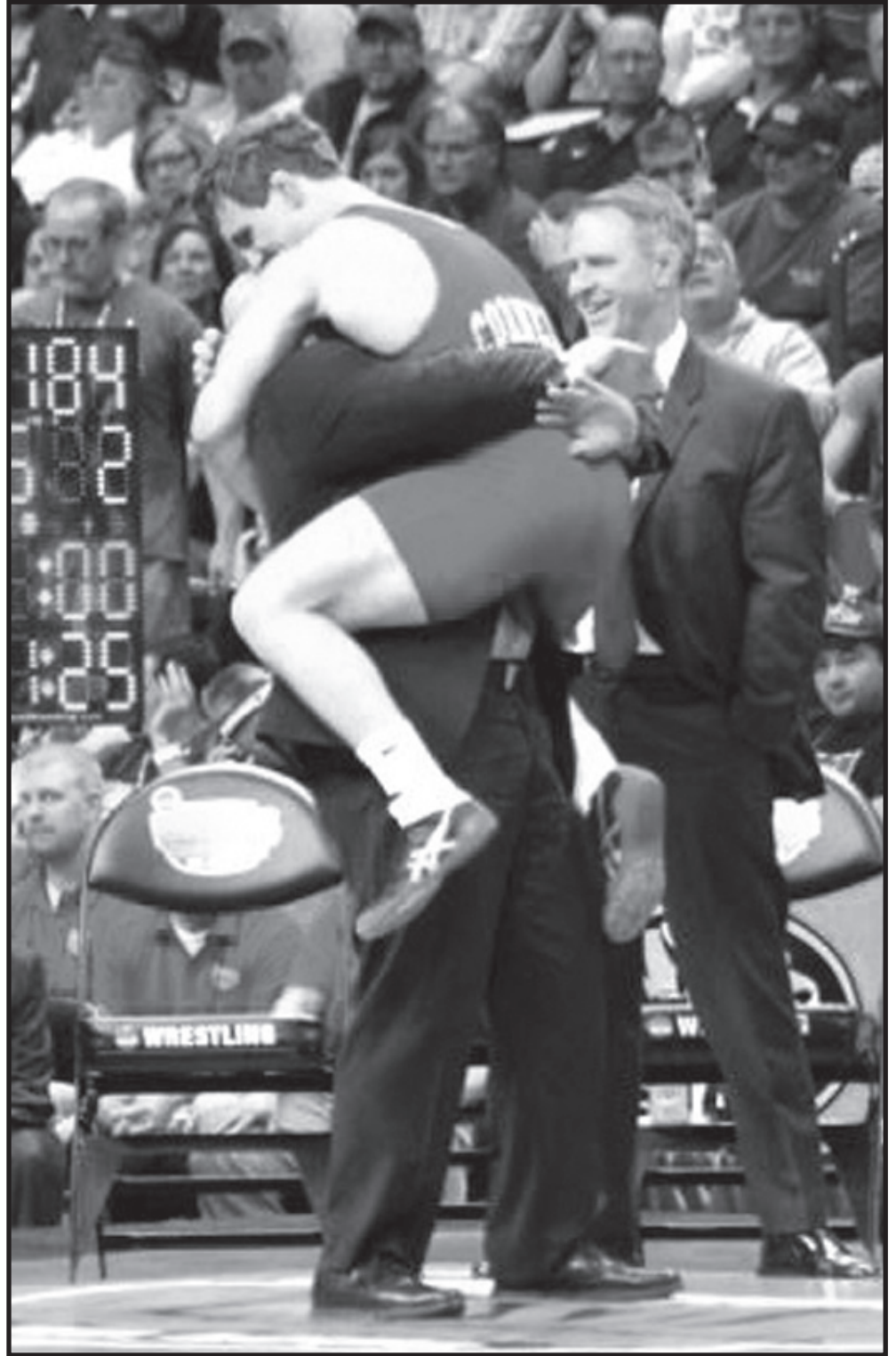
the final round Dean kept opponent Brown down for more than a minute. Once free Brown attacked but Dean avoided his offense, earned a late take down and won the match 6-2 to claim the title. The Cornell squad earned a fifth-place finish overall with 71.5 points and featured four All-Americans including Dean.

The 2012 Lowell graduate was a highly decorated Red Arrow who shared in state titles, won a Division II state championship at 189 pounds

and recorded a perfect 40-0 season as a junior.

Post-graduation Dean has continued his dominance at the collegiate level wrestling for Cornell University. After placing third in his freshman season, the sophomore closed out this season with a winning 43-2 record and first-place honors.

He is the first Cornell wrestler to claim a national title since 2013 and the second ever to win a national title at the 184 weight class.



Gabe Dean celebrates after claiming his NCAA national championship.

## First grader's talent shines when singing anthem before the games

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Talented Elyse Veldman, 7, used her tiny voice and big heart to officially open this past seasons Red Arrow varsity girls basketball games with her rendition of the national anthem.

Veldman is a student at Murray Lake Elementary where she attends with her big brother, Drew, 9. Her parents, Craig and Tara, said that they noticed quite early on that their daughter had a natural knack for music.

"Ever since she was quite little she had really good pitch, remembered lyrics well and picked up on tunes easily," said her mother.

Elyse was born with cystic fibrosis (CF). She was the first child in Michigan to be diagnosed, soon after birth, with CF as part of a now mandatory newborn screening.

CF is a chronic and progressive genetic disorder which mainly affects the lungs but can also damage the pancreas, liver, kidneys and intestines. The incurable disease produces symptoms such as coughing, difficulty breathing and dangerously chronic lung infections spurred on by simple colds.

"Most people don't even know that she has CF and

those who do are incredibly supportive. Especially her brother. He is a great big brother. He is such a good supporter and very helpful with her daily breathing treatments. He is her number one fan."

The staff and student body at Murray Lake also show their support regularly according to Tara, once even all wearing purple, the support color for CF, to show their solidarity and caring.

It was at another event that Elyse performed "The Star Spangled Banner" for the first time, at a CF golf outing at Arrowhead Golf Course established in her honor. The brave beauty could not wait to take the stage again.

Her next opportunity came from Lowell varsity head coach Jake Strotheide who learned of her love of song after asking her and cousin Emma to be the team's water girls.

"Elyse told coach Stro that she liked to sing the national anthem and he told her that she could sing it at their first home game if she would like. She was so excited," said Tara, "She was pretty nervous the first time in front of such a big crowd. She asked me to stay by her so I knelt down next to her and she just went for it."

The Red Arrow home crowd and visiting fans went wild. Strotheide then invited Elyse to sing at every home game.

"We are just so proud of her. She comes in with the biggest smile everyday and is just so happy to be around our girls," said Strotheide.

Elyse recently booked another singing gig kicking off the Lowell Relay for Life.

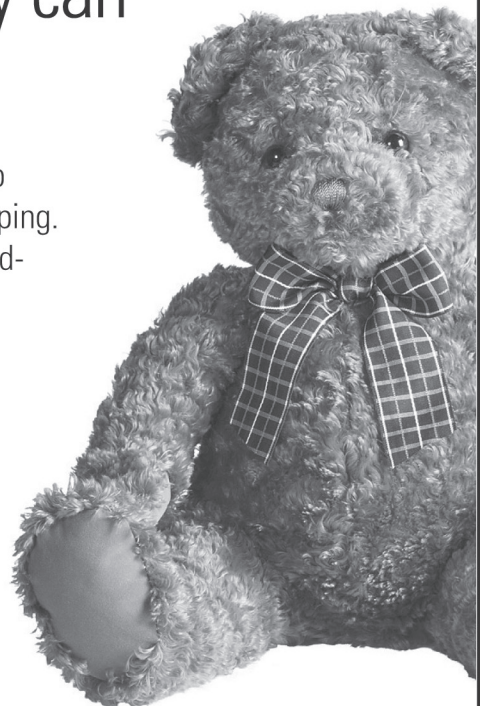


First-grade student Elyse Veldman sang the national anthems at the Lowell girls varsity basketball home games.

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# obituaries

## ACKER

Berfield "Bud" Acker, age 93 of Grand Rapids, passed away from this life on March 22, 2015. He will be greatly missed by all those that knew him. Bud was born April 23, 1921 in Alma, MI to Eva and Charles Acker. He was one of three brothers and one sister. On December 17, 1949 he married Ruby Maxine Bogart and together they raised one daughter and two sons, Karon, Randy, and Gary. He joined the Army and served in the Pacific theater during WWII and was discharged with the purple heart. In 1947 he was inducted into local 70 Plumbers Pipefitters and Service Trades Union. He retired in 1983. After retirement he and Ruby wintered in Mission, TX where they enjoyed warm weather and friends. He was predeceased by a brother, Ronald; a grandson, Billy Kuehle; and his wife of 62 years, Ruby. He leaves his daughter, Karon (Richard) Baird of Greenville; sons, Randy (Ann) Acker, Gary (Cathy) Acker of Grattan. Also missing him will be grandchildren, Scot Baird, Jeff (Jennifer) Kuehle, Tom Cariano, Dennis Baird, Douglas Barid, Tara Cariano, Cody, Kyle, and Connor Acker; and great grandchildren Zackary, Nathan, Wyatt, and Braxton Baird, Maddy Wheeler, and Myles Kuehle. He also is survived by a brother DeWard; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral service will be held Friday 11:00 a.m. at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, 3980 Cascade Rd. S.E., Grand Rapids. Rev. Jill Forton of Cascade Christian Church officiating. Interment Blythefield Memory Gardens. Visitation Thursday 6-8:00 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Cascade Christian Church, 2829 Thornapple River Dr SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.



## MARVIN

Ann Marie Marvin, age 72 of Lowell, formerly of Muskegon, passed away Sunday, March 22, 2015. She was preceded in death by her parents Herman and June Carlisle and sister Phyllis Wilson. She is survived by her husband James; children Timothy Heykoop (fiancée Kathy), Tony (Mindy) Heykoop, Deborah Marvin, Eric Marvin, Patrick (Amy) Marvin and Sherri (Chaz) Dunn; brother Chuck (Judy) Carlisle; sister Sue (Grant) Berghuis; brother-in-law Bob Wilson; 22 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, also several nieces and nephews. A funeral service will be held Saturday 11:00 a.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 10305 Bluewater Highway, Lowell, MI. Pastor Joe Fremer officiating. The family will meet with friends and family one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorial donations may be made to the church.



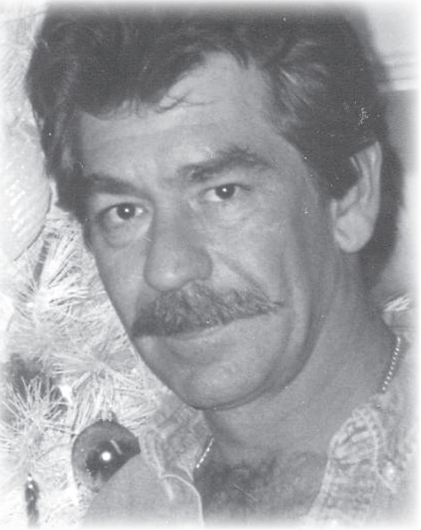
## VOS

Kenneth Gordon Vos, age 62, a lifelong resident of Lowell, passed away Friday, March 20, 2015 after a long and courageous battle with A.L.S. He was preceded in death by his father-in-law, Larry Kelly. He is survived by his wife and soul mate of 37 years, Linda; the apple of his eye, daughter, Shannon (Chris) Goggins; son, Kristian Magro; parents, John and Barbara Vos; mother-in-law, Carrol Kelly, father-in-law, William (Twyla) Schmidt; sisters, Deborah (Jack) Young, Sandra (Andrew) Schutt; brother-in-law, Randy (Connie) Kelly; sisters-in-law, Dawn (Bill) Brown, Jennifer Schmidt; grandchildren, Ryan, and Halle Goggins, Austin, and Jackson Magro. Ken was a one of a kind, son, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. A down-to-earth philosopher who enjoyed helping others. He was Vice President of Engineering at Viking Corporation in Hastings for 35 years. Spoiling his grandchildren brought him so much joy. He was a loyal fan of the Tigers and Lions, and an avid card player. Memorial service will be held Saturday, March 28th at 1:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Lowell, 621 E. Main, Lowell. Rev. Ethel Steers officiating. The family will meet friends and relatives 12:30-1:00 p.m. at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 989 Spaulding Ave. SE, Ada, MI 49301 or Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 Fulton St. E., Lowell, MI 49331.

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www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

## SIMMONDS

Richard "Rick" Lee Simmonds (Sode) age 52, passed away peacefully in the presence of his mom and dad Sue and David Simmonds on Sunday, March 15, 2015. He is also survived by his brother Aaron (Dolores) Simmonds, daughters: Ashley (Jordan) Ryerson, granddaughter Palmer, Kristin Alfien (Rob Perez) and grandchildren Jayden, Nataleigh and Robby. Also surviving are his two much loved aunts, Sally Padley and Elaine Simmonds - Shooks, aunt Diane Simmonds (Gary) Slater and Doug (Ginger) Simmonds, five nieces and nephews and three cousins. Rick was very kind of heart and was always there to help anyone in time of need. He loved "old dudes", "young dudes" and all animals, especially German Shepherd dogs and horses, and oh yes, John Mellencamp. Rick will be missed terribly by all who loved him. "Sleep is not sleep, death is not death"-Tennyson. If you desire, Rick wanted any memorials to be directed to the Lowell Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Webelos. Honoring his wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at a later time. Thank you to his aunts, brother and sister-in-law, friends Joe Fallstrom, Jeremy Howe and Bob Prins for their support and assistance. The compassion of Dr. Mark Campbell, Dr. Sherman Sprik and Dr. Kenneth Dudley is much appreciated as is the excellent care of his day nurse Monica at Spectrum Butterworth. The family is being served by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service 4291 Cascade Rd SE at Kenmoor, E of I-96 www.metcalfandjonkhoff.com



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## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 15-197072-DE

Estate of MARY BETH  
WADE, deceased. Date  
of birth: 7/31/1955.

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS: The  
decedent, Mary Beth  
Wade, died 1/14/2015.

presented to Randal  
J. Wade, personal  
representative, or  
to both the probate  
court at 180 Ottawa  
Avenue NW, 2nd Fl.,  
Grand Rapids and the  
personal representative  
within 4 months after  
the date of publication  
of this notice.

March 13, 2015

Mary L. Benedict  
(P45285)  
4519 Cascade Rd. SE  
Suite 14  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-942-0020

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

Randal J. Wade  
716 High St.  
Lowell, MI 49331  
616-485-8982

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

B	R	O	K	E		E	L	F		S	L	A	P
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**Fri. 8 a.m. - noon**  
**closed Sat. & Sun.**

# classifieds

## for sale

**SLEEP NUMBER BED** - Why pay for name, advertising & mall rent. Queen P-5 Harmony, \$1,499; king, \$1,899; M-7 air cell queen \$2,299; king \$2,799; I-10 Medalion: queen \$2,599; king, \$3,299. Air & Waterbed Store, 616-682-4767. Can deliver.

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

**A CLASSIC OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE** - gives you an independent & self-sufficient lifestyle but only if you buy before EPA rule on or about April 2015. Call today to learn more & for special pricing, SOS your "Stocking Dealer" Dutton, MI 616-554-8669 or 616-915-5061.

**QUEENPILLOWTOPMATTRESS SET** - Plush & thick, new, \$245 & up. Twin, full & king also available. Grand Mattress Co., 616-682-4767. Can deliver.

**2005 JOHN DEERE 6405** - \$14,000, cab, air & heat, 4X4, factory loader. Contact me at shahadew@gmail.com / 231-797-4263.

**1993 BUICK PARK AVENUE** - great drive train, 115,000 actual miles, \$600. Good parts car. Call 897-5728.

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

**10 GAL. FISH TANK** - filled w/fish, new top never used, many extras, \$40; lots of puzzles .50 each; jewelry, four large plants, \$5 each & much more. 897-5828.

**MODULAR HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER** - 64 X 28, 1650 sq. ft. 4 bdrm, 2 full bath, 1996 Redman Riviera. Vaulted ceilings, appliances included if needed. Newer furnace, dishwasher, toilet and bathroom sink. Needs painting. Added closets, pantry, covered porch and shed. \$28,500 or best offer. 616-430-2100.

**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.<sup>TFN</sup>

**2010 MERCURY MILAN PREMIER** - excellent condition, loaded including sun roof. 54,000 miles. \$12,000. Phone 676-9501.

**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.<sup>TFN</sup>

## for sale

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

**DRY CHAPPED HANDS?** - Try something different - homemade, all natural hand lotion. Lasts a long time & leaves your skin super soft! Check out my store at www.etsy.com, search for NanaHannahs. For local pickup, use coupon code LOCAL15 & we can arrange a pickup in Lowell.

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

## help wanted

**NOAH'S PET CEMETERY & PET CREMATORY INC.** - is looking for an outgoing, compassionate & reliable person to work in the cemetery, crematory & driving for pick-up & deliveries. Must be able to lift heavy items. Must have an excellent driving record. Apply in person Mon. - Thurs. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 2727 Orange Ave, Cascade, MI 49546.

**SELL AVON** - Only \$15 to get started. Call 616-897-5086 or sign up now at www.startAvon.com and use ref code SGRIMM

**INSTALLERS NEEDED** - Replacement windows, vinyl siding, metal roofing. Must have own truck, tools, insurance, aluminum brake. Great work ethic & detail oriented. We supply all materials & year-round work. Email resume to: scott@awsweb.com or call 616-648-7036.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** - The North Country Trail Association (NCTA) seeks a multi-talented individual to provide administrative support for a growing national nonprofit organization based in Lowell. This position is one of two supporting a team of professional staff & includes supervision of front office reception area, oversight of volunteer assistants, managing retail operations, member communications, database management & mining, web programming assistance & other duties as assigned. For full position description & details on how to apply, visit northcountrytrail.org/about/employment/

## for rent

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

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

**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.<sup>TFN</sup>

## wanted

**I WANT TO BUY** - Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.<sup>TFN</sup>

## misc.

**ANTIQUE SHOW** - Sat., March 28, 9-4 pm. & Sun. March 29, 10-3 p.m. Great selection of antiques, military & more. On M-37 between Middleville & Hastings at Barry Co. Expo Center. \$4 adm. Buying war souvenirs.

**ALL LOWELL AREA WOMEN** - are invited to a prayer celebration featuring speaker Patsy Lewis Sat., March 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Evergreen Missionary Church. patsyottersclayministry.com to register 897-7185.

## found

**iPAD FOUND** - near Bushnell Elementary, call 616-516-2435 to identify.

## services

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

## services

**GARAGE DOOR & OPENER REPAIR SPECIAL** - \$30 off broken spring or opener repair. Free estimates. Call Global Discount Garage Doors, 616-334-3574.<sup>TFN</sup>

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

**CHALLENGED BY LIFE?** - I can help. Your only local attorney offering legal services, mediation & coaching to help you move forward. We can do it together! Flexible hours & payment terms. Text or call Bonnie at 616-745-0406.

## services

**COUNSELING SERVICES IN LOWELL** - Individuals, couples, families & groups. Age 13+ Life Transitions Therapy, 616-238-2116.

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

**TAXES, PAYROLL, QUICKBOOKS, & ACCOUNTING SERVICE** - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.<sup>TFN</sup>

## services

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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.

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

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

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

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

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

**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.

**BUTTERFLY SPRING WITH BUTTERFLIES** - Tues., April 7, 1 p.m. Spread your wings, show your colors & help create a banner to decorate the library. For all ages. Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. Ph. 784-2007.

**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.

**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.

**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. & Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. 784-2007.

**COMMODITIES** - Thurs., June 4, 9-11 a.m. Distributed at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 Fulton, East, Lowell. 897-8260.

**"STEALING HOME" DOCUMENTARY SERIES** - Sat., March 28, 1 p.m. History of Tiger Stadium & importance of this abandoned field. Director Jason Roche will answer questions & talk about the film. Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell. Ph. 784-2007.

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

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

**ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY 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.

**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.

**LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS** - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

**ALTO LIONS CLUB** - Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. at Keiser's Kitchen.

**COFFEE WITH THE COUNCIL** - Come meet & have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers. First Saturday of each month at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell. 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

**CIVIL AIR PATROL** - Meets the second & fourth Tues. of the month, 6 p.m., Benz Aviation Building at Ionia Airport, teen/ adult programs available, Call Shawna, 616-430-1348 or visit online http://mi222.miwg-cap.org

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



# Looking Back, continued

poor patronage. Surely, the people who criticize the management for ill-advised pictures would have been present had they known. The way to get better entertainment is not alone to censure the bad but to patronize the good.

Dr. R. C. Breece appears on our streets with a new conveyance. That's nothing. We keep one in our tool box to pull us out when we get stuck.

Will and Walter Wingeier purchased a flock of sheep at the McGinnis sale to place on their farm.

Oh ye Holstein, you can not beat the Brown Swiss yet. A cow belonging to Mrs. J. S. Thomas gave birth to twin calves last Thursday and the old cat could not mother them in the nail keg either. How is that, Arthur Clark?

A wee girlie asked for admittance at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy McNaughton March 22 and was accepted as a life long guest. Congratulations.

## 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 28, 1940

Engineers from the State Highway department have been here this week making a survey of the physical condition of Main St. bridge. It is reported as quite possible that a new bridge may be necessary in the not distant future, although the statement is not official.

Beginning last Monday all Class A railroads (which includes both the O. T. and P. M.) went on a two cent

coach fare basis. The rate has been 2½ cents since August 25, 1938.

Gerald Ellis, Dave Condon and Lawrence Potter arrived home Sunday evening on a nine-day leave from the United States naval training school at Newport, Rhode Island. The boys present a fine appearance in their blue uniforms and state that they are enjoying their training. Jack Hale of near Saranac, was unable to come home because of sickness.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger March 25, 1965

Spring arrived in Lowell amidst one of the winter's worst storms and near zero temperatures. School was closed last week Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The busses made their morning pick-up but continuing snow fall forced the school to take the children home early. It snowed Wednesday, Friday and started again Sunday, Monday and Tuesday to pile up more snow on the ground than anytime this winter. There was some 17 inches of snow on the ground on Tuesday and the snow was continuing. March, weathermen said, deposited over 35 inches of snow accumulation to set a new record for the month; previous high they said was 25 inches. Flood danger has threatened twice already this winter, and will have another go at the community if sudden rain should take the new snow away too fast.

Lowell has been bursting with quaint goings on this week end. Friday night an anonymous call sent a Lowell police cruiser speeding to Cumberland Rd. where they

found a '64 Oldsmobile against a telephone pole. The car's lights were on, but no one seemed to be around. The car was not damaged. On Sunday night the police picked up an Ionia woman walking down the center of Main Street attempting to obtain a ride home. After a short discussion, officers persuaded her to telephone a friend to drive her home.

Lowell Police Department are sending four officers to the Michigan State Police sponsored riot training school being held in Greenville this week. Officers will receive instruction on handling unruly crowds and training in the use of special equipment.

An industrial accident at Applied Arts in Grand Rapids Monday evening injured Ronald Grummet of Lowell. Grummet's arm was caught between a heavy cable and 2,000 pounds of steel. He suffered a broken arm, cuts and lacerations.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 28, 1990

Headline: Smith crowned the 1990 Miss Lowell Showboat Queen. The Lowell senior aided by FFA. Jody Renee Smith was encouraged by her mother, Joice Smith, to participate in the 1990 Lowell Showboat Pageant. It was the communication skills learned through her involvement with Future Farmers of America, however, that aided her most in being crowned Lowell Showboat Queen Saturday night at the Lowell Middle School...

The Kent County Road Commission started its federally funded \$650,000 replacement project of the 60-year old Vergennes Bridge Number 30 last Thursday. The completion date set for the project is Sept. 1, according to Kent County Bridge Engineer, Wayne Harrell. Along with the bridge being replaced, the lane width of Flat River Drive will be widened by four feet on both sides from a 1,000 feet south of Vergennes and to 800 feet north of Burroughs. "The primary reason for the bridge being replaced is because of its width. Bridges are required to be a minimum of 30-feet in width," Harrell said. "The Vergennes Bridge is 15-16 feet wide." The bridge was the first reinforced concrete bridge in Michigan. It was built by J.C. Hatch, who did a lot of building in the area, including the elevator at Blue Ribbon Feed.

Construction for a ninth Schneider Manor apartment building is tentatively scheduled to begin this spring. The plans were announced by Lowell Township Supervisor, and Schneider Manor Board of Director, John Timpson at the March township meeting. The new proposed 52' by 142' eight-unit apartment building will border on the east side of Pleasant Street. The proposed landscape improvements will be typical of that which exists around each of the existing eight apartment buildings as well as additional select tree plantings in the immediate construction area...

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2015-2016 BUDGET

Please take notice that on  
Monday, March 30, 2015

At 7:30 p.m. the Bowne Township Board will hold a public hearing on the 2015-16 Township proposed budget. The public hearing will be held in the Historic Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto, MI 49302

"The property tax millage rate of 2.5800 proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing."

A copy of the proposed 2015-2016 budget is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the new township office, 8240 Alden Nash SE., Wednesday & Thursday 9 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 15-197120-DE

Estate of FRANK C.  
SWIECICKI. Date of  
birth: 01/24/1918.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS: The  
decendent, Frank  
C. Swiecicki, died  
02/28/2015.

Creditors of the  
decendent are notified  
that all claims against  
the estate will be  
forever barred unless

presented to Sharon  
Swiecicki-Fay, personal  
representative, or to  
both the probate court  
at 180 Ottawa Avenue  
NW, Grand Rapids, MI  
49503 and the personal  
representative within 4  
months after the date  
of publication of this  
notice.

March 23, 2015

John D. Flynn (P27413)  
1275 Hawthorne Hills SE  
Ada, MI 49301  
616-897-6632

Sharon Swiecicki-Fay  
4000 NE 27th Ave.  
Lighthouse Point, FL  
33064  
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## BOWNE TOWNSHIP M-100 TABULATOR TESTING

The public accuracy test  
of the M-100 tabulator  
Will be held on  
Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.  
In the Historic Township Hall,  
8240 Alden Nash SE  
Alto, MI 49302 in  
preparation for the Special  
Election to be held on  
Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk

## FAXING



1 First sheet  
50¢ each  
additional sheet

the lowell ledger

105 N. Broadway  
897-9261

Mon.-Thurs. 8-5; Fri 8-noon



**THEME:  
EARTH DAY**

**ACROSS**

1. Penniless
6. Hermey the dentist, e.g.
9. "\_\_\_" in the face"
13. \*Experts say sea level does it as planet warms
14. "New" prefix
15. \*Geography class prop
16. Tiny island
17. Contend
18. Kind of space
19. \*Environmental science
21. \*Green car
23. R&R spot
24. Give the cold shoulder
25. College entrance exam
28. Of a particular kind
30. Long John Silver had this
35. \*Deforestation is big issue in this country
37. Brazils or filberts, e.g.
39. Upholstery choice
40. Van Gogh's famous flower
41. "\_\_\_-and-true"
43. Dissolute man in fashionable society
44. Bordered
46. Common hosiery shade
47. Concludes
48. Looked lecherously
50. Like a sharp eye
52. "O say can you \_\_\_"
53. Prejudice
55. X
57. \*Type of bug?
60. Guards and keeps order
64. \_\_\_-Goldwyn-Mayer
65. "Ostrich" of Australia
67. Caf  offering
68. Actor's reward
69. Hanks or Cruise
70. Relating to ohms
71. Light grey

**CROSSWORD**

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71						72				73				

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**ALTITUDE** **dish**

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72. \*Clean Air Act org.
  73. Required things
- DOWN**
1. French hors d'oeuvre staple
  2. Reduced Instruction Set Computer

3. Northern European capital
4. Hull appendage, pl.
5. Impedes by estoppel
6. Green-eyed monster
7. South Pacific welcome
8. Warm down-slope wind of the Alps
9. Talk like a drunk
10. "Laughing on the inside" in text message
11. In the sack
12. p in mpg
15. Chunk of raw meat
20. Like hunger strike victim
22. Uh-huh
24. Performer's gimmicks
25. \*Oil crisis
26. Eagle's nest
27. Father, Son and Holy Ghost, e.g.
29. "Kiss Me, Kiss Me, Kiss Me" band, The \_\_\_
31. \*\*An Inconvenient Truth" author
32. Some have a mane
33. Dodge
34. These in U.S. are often Canadian
36. "Breaking Bad" victim
38. Dried-up
42. Because of
45. Credit card user
49. "\_\_\_ Hard" movie
51. \*Earth Day founder
54. Mountain ridge
56. Specialty
57. It's more, to some
58. A strong desire
59. Cafeteria carrier
60. Wild feline
61. Dog call
62. Children's author Blyton
63. Abbreviated seconds
64. Extinct flightless bird
66. Janitor's tool

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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© StatePoint Media  
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.



March 18 - March 24

- Texas Sen. Ted Cruz became the first major Republican candidate to declare himself officially in the 2016 presidential race.



- A Germanwings Airbus A320 passenger jet crashed in France, 150 feared dead. The debris field has been located and the investigation has begun to determine the cause of the crash.

- Showing tons of class Mo'ne Davis, 13, has asked Bloomsburg University to reinstate baseball player Joey Casselberry, the player who was tossed out of the university's program after sending an offensive tweet about Davis. Davis said, "Everyone makes mistakes everyone deserves a second chance. I know he didn't mean it in that type of way. I know a lot of people get tired of seeing me on TV. But sometimes you got to think about what you're doing before you do it. I know right now he's really hurt, and I know how hard he worked just to get to where he is right now."

**THIS WEEK'S  
ONLINE  
POLL  
RESULTS**

**Do you leave the state during spring break?**

- YES .....20%
- NO .....40%
- What spring break? .....40%

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ONLINE POLL**

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# State police encourage Michiganders to prepare for potential flooding

As Michigan warms up after February's record-breaking cold, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is encouraging citizens and businesses to prepare for potential flooding.

"In Michigan, spring begins the flooding season," said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, deputy state director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. "To be prepared and safe, Michiganders should protect their property against any flooding hazards and double-check to ensure they're covered by insurance."

In April 2014, heavy rains and a rapid snowpack melt flooded rivers in the north-central Lower Peninsula, resulting in a governor's disaster declaration for Isabella, Mecosta, Missaukee, Muskegon, Newaygo, Osceola, Roscommon and Wexford counties. Gov. Rick Snyder approved more than \$1,000,000 from the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund to help the affected counties and their communities recover from the incident.

While flooding is most prevalent near low-

lying areas and bodies of water, it can occur almost anywhere, including near small streams, creeks and even basements.

To prepare for a flood:

- Put important documents and valuables in waterproof containers on the top floor of your home. Consider scanning and storing important documents in an online, cloud-based program.

- Learn how to safely turn off electricity and gas lines in your home.

- Create an inventory of your household items and take photos of the interior and exterior of your home.

- Consider installing sewer backflow valves to prevent flood water from backing up into your home through drain pipes.

- Double-check sump pumps to ensure they are working properly. If possible, have a battery backup system.

- Keep materials like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting and lumber handy for emergency water-proofing.

- Find out how many feet your property is above or below possible flood levels. When predicted flood levels are broadcast, you can determine if you may be flooded.



This stock picture shows how badly the Lowell Fairgrounds flooded in the spring of 2013.

- Raise or flood-proof heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment by elevating equipment above areas prone to flooding. Another method is to leave equipment where it is and build a concrete or masonry block flood wall around it.

- Anchor fuel and propane tanks. Unanchored tanks can be easily moved by floodwaters.

- Create an emergency preparedness

kit with a 72-hour supply of water, including three gallons per person.

In addition to flooding preparedness, citizens are encouraged to purchase flood insurance. Homeowners' or property owners' insurance does not typically cover flood damage.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) estimates that 90 percent of all natural disasters involve

flooding. An inch of water can require a property owner to replace carpet, drywall, floor boards, moldings, doors and other belongings. Additionally, cleanup of mud and residue can be costly, as can repairing any mold and mildew damage that may occur.

To be covered from flood damage, an individual must purchase National Flood Insurance through an insurance broker who works

with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. For more information, go to [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).

For more information about what to do before, during and after flooding, go to the Michigan Flood Ready website at [www.michigan.gov/mifloodready](http://www.michigan.gov/mifloodready) or follow the MSP/EMHSD on Twitter at @MichEMHS

## Affordable Care, continued

- 5,183 consumers in the Saginaw area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 5,067 consumers in the Muskegon area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 4,199 consumers in

the Jackson area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

- 3,882 consumers in the Monroe area selected or were automatically enrolled in a plan

"Five years after passage of the Affordable



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Care Act, access to care has expanded across the country, the number of uninsured continues to drop, and the cost of health care is growing at the slowest rate in five decades," said U.S. Senator Gary Peters. "With more than 340,000 Michiganders now obtaining affordable health insurance through the marketplace, it's clear this law is having a tangible, positive impact on Michigan's families and our state's economy. While there are commonsense fixes that can be made, we cannot afford to roll back this progress and go back to a time when people could get kicked off their insurance plans or denied critical coverage because of a pre-existing condition."

As a result of the ACA, the 4 million Michiganders with a pre-existing health condition can no longer be denied health care coverage. Additionally, millions of Americans, and 2.5 million Michiganders, who already had insurance have seen their coverage improve because they now have access to preventive services like vaccines, cancer screenings, and yearly wellness visits at no out-of-pocket cost. And since the ACA allows

young adults to stay on their parents' plan until they turn 26, 94,000 young adults in Michigan gained coverage.

Nationwide, nearly 11.7 million consumers selected a plan or were automatically enrolled in Marketplace coverage. These enrollments contributed to the 7.1 percent drop in the uninsured rate since the ACA was passed.

In Michigan, 341,183 consumers selected plans or were automatically re-enrolled in quality, affordable health insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace as of Feb. 22, according to HHS. Additionally, eight out of ten Michiganders could select a Marketplace plan for \$100 or less per month, and a vast majority of enrollees received an average tax credit of \$240.

"Nationwide, nearly 11.7 million consumers enrolled or reenrolled in coverage this year. This historic enrollment number shows that the American people know the ACA is working for them," said US Dept. of Health and Human Services Region 5 Director Kathleen Falk. "Thanks to the ACA, people

can no longer be denied health insurance because of a preexisting condition, healthcare spending is increasing at the lowest rate in 50 years, and people no longer need to worry about being one illness away from bankruptcy."

Open enrollment in the Marketplace has ended, but a Special Enrollment Period is now available to consumers who are subject to the fee for not having health care coverage in 2014. If you were unaware of or didn't understand the implications of the new requirement, you have until April 15th to enroll. Consumers can visit [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov) to learn more or call the federally-facilitated Marketplace call center at 1-800-318-2596.

For additional information or to schedule an interview with the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Region V Director Kathleen Falk, please call 312-226-1788 or e-mail [lauren.eiten@hhs.gov](mailto:lauren.eiten@hhs.gov)

About the Numbers:

Open Enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplaces began on Nov. 15, 2014 and ended on Feb. 15, 2015. There are some consumers who were stuck

"in line" leading up to the deadline – today's MSA numbers do not reflect those who were "in line".

The data reported today are preliminary, point in time figures that could fluctuate based on consumers changing or canceling plans, having a change in status such as new job or marriage, or because of ongoing special enrollment periods. Also included in today's figures are a number of individuals who had 2014 coverage but cannot continue Marketplace coverage in 2015 because they did not provide the necessary documentation of their citizenship or immigration status. They will be removed in future reports. To have their coverage effectuated, consumers need to pay their first month's health plan premium (today's report does not include effectuated enrollment).

A number of MSAs cross state lines. In the cases where MSAs cross into states using their own enrollment platforms, only data from the portions of a MSA using the HealthCare.gov platform are included.