

**Behind The Scenes**



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## Two new officers join Lowell's police force

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

Lowell Police Department has hired two new police officers. Dan Wheeler started in April and Wil Smith will start May 11.

"Their duties are general patrol shift coverage on weekends, holidays and vacation [or] training coverage for full-time officers," said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. "These officers are replacing officer Randan Burkall and officer Jason Pattok who recently received full-time employment at other police agencies. We currently have two more part-time officers in the background investigation process with Grand Rapids police, so we could possibly lose two more officers by the start of summer."

Both of the new officers are well-educated.

"Wil Smith is a graduate of Penn State University with a [bachelor's] degree in labor relations," Bukala said. "He is currently working on his master's degree. Wil has been employed with the Kent

County sheriff's department for the past 13 years. He is assigned to court transfer and courtroom security. Wil has always wanted to do road patrol, but the timing was not on his side. He has that opportunity to do that here."

Wheeler has military experience. "Dan Wheeler is a 15-year Marine Corps veteran who was a military police K-9 handler and [Criminal Investigation Division] while completing seven deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan," Bukala said. "He is a 2014 graduate of Grand Valley State University Military Academy and is currently working on his Bachelor of Science degree with Grand Valley State University."

Budget cuts the past several years have caused Lowell's police department to shrink.

"Since 2007 the Lowell police department has endured budget cuts like any other police agency in Michigan," Bukala said. "At that time we had seven full-time officers, ten

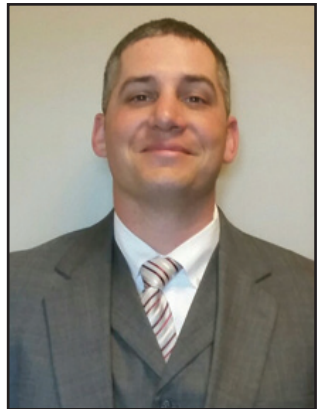
part-time officers and two civilian clerks. Fast forward to 2015, we have cut down to five full-time officers, eight part-time officers and one civilian clerk. We rely heavily on our part-time officers for special events and additional patrol coverage since we reduced our full-time staffing."

Bukala said that it can be difficult to keep their part-time officers because larger law enforcement agencies hire them away.

"We run a lean operation here, however we are able to hold onto and maintain quality police officers in our part-time ranks," Bukala said. "Unfortunately for us, part time officers are a sought after commodity for larger agencies because they are getting quality candidates with some police experience. We have a great tradition of success over the years, going back to the Jim Valentine years, of our former part-time officers going off to full-time jobs and having successful



Wil Smith



Dan Wheeler

careers at other agencies. Kent County probably received the lion's share of our part-time officers and this includes two lieutenants and two sergeants that were

former part-time officers from Lowell. I'm proud to carry on this tradition for the city of Lowell and the Lowell police department."

## Lowell says no to Proposal 1

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

Proposal 1, the controversial constitutional amendment that would have raised sales tax to fix roads, was soundly defeated in the election on Tuesday, May 5. Statewide only 20 percent of voters were in favor of the proposal. The margin was slightly closer in Kent County, with 27 percent of Kent County voters in favor of it. In Lowell there were 262 yes votes and 1028 no votes.

According to the ballot language, Proposal 1 was, "A proposal to amend the state constitution to increase the sales/use tax from six percent to seven percent to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees. The proposed constitutional amendment would eliminate sales/use taxes on gasoline/diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads, increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund, expand use of SAF to community colleges and career/technical

education, and prohibit use for four-year colleges/universities. [It would] give effect to laws, including those that increase sales/use tax to seven percent, as authorized by constitutional amendment, increase gasoline/diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes, expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects [and] increase earned income tax credit."

"There is no one to blame, there is no one to fight with," Snyder said during the Tulip Time Governor's Luncheon at Hope College's DeVos Fieldhouse in Holland. "We saw democracy in action. We are older and wiser and we go back to work. It's as straightforward as that, folks."

The proposal had bipartisan support by politicians, including governor Rick Snyder, who pushed it particularly hard. Supporters of the proposal said that Michigan's roads are crumbling and Proposal 1 was as good a solution as any. Opponents pointed out that Proposal 1 was a regressive tax, meaning the lower your income, the more of the tax you would have to pay.

## LMS chess champs



Lowell Middle School has concluded its 2015 chess tournament. Twenty-two Lowell Middle School students participated in the double elimination tournament that lasted several weeks. Pictured, left to right: Ian O'Strander, third place; Brandon Baker, first place; and Ryan Roest, second place.; awarding the trophies, Kohl Goldsmith, Chess Club president; and Dan Vandermuellen, LMS principal.

50 CENTS



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# FROM about to begin seventh year of Food Fight

The seventh-annual Flat River Outreach Ministries' Food Fight, where the north side of Main Street vs. the south side, in an effort to fill the food pantry shelves will begin next month.

The South team has pulled out the win for the last three consecutive years. And some are wondering if this will be the year the North team will once again seize the winning bragging rights.

The annual FROM Food Fight begins throughout the Lowell area on June 1 and ends during the Riverwalk parade on Saturday, July 11. The Food Fight has grown over the years and is recognized as a friendly competition with a purpose. Lowell Area Schools held

its own competition for this event, from April 20 - May 15, having fun raising awareness for the students about FROM's service within our community.

Food Fight started as a way to help fill the pantry shelves and supplement FROM's budget to meet the needs of the community. The reception from the community has allowed FROM to offer this event each year, realizing a growth of \$8400 in food items and donations in 2009 to nearly a 400 percent increase in 2014. The committee has set a goal for the 2015 event at \$50,000 in food items and monetary donations.

To help upgrade the Food Fight FROM has hired a fundraising consultant.

The Food Fight committee is currently seeking underwriters and sponsors to be a part of this year's stepped-up commitment. A newly incorporated underwriter level includes a matching component designed as an incentive to new participants

- both corporate and individuals.

As an underwriter of Food Fight, your gift of \$1000, \$2500 or \$5000 will be split evenly on the North and South scoreboards. All underwriters will receive signage for display at their business or home, a featured listing in Food Fight ads and scoreboard ads, and

recognition with a link on the FROM website if you are a business owner.

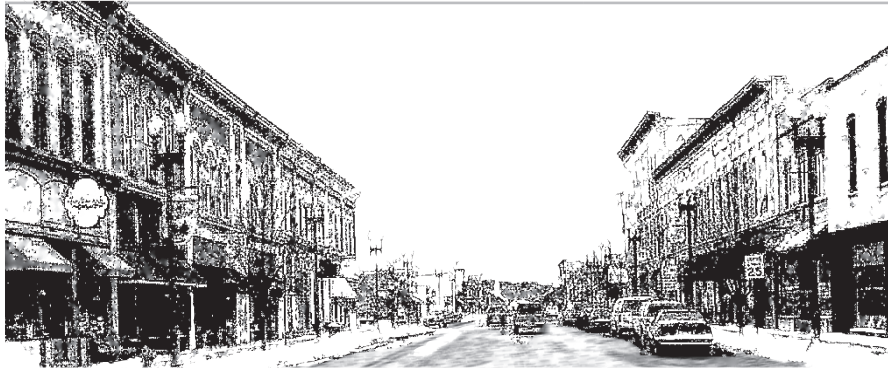
Basically, an underwriter will agree to a level of commitment but also to an amount that will be used to match all new donors to FROM's Food Fight this year. This will allow new donors to have

a bigger impact, thanks to matching funds. Some community leaders have already stepped forward as underwriters. Individuals and businesses can sign on at any time during the seven-week competition.

Dawn Broene, executive director for Flat River Outreach Ministries noted, "We are amazed at

the unending generosity our community displays and especially to this annual FROM event. That's why Food Fight has become the primary, signature fund development tool for Flat River Outreach Ministries."

For more information you can contact Broene at 897-8260.



## along main street

### RECEPTION

There will be a reception for DesJarden at the chamber of commerce building from 4 pm to 7 pm on Wednesday, May 14.

### FRIENDS OF THE

#### LOWELL AREA TRAILWAY MEETING

A meeting of the Friends Group for our local community trailway will be held at 6 pm on Wed., May 13, at Lowell City Hall in the upstairs meeting room. You are needed to help and guide our future growth and maintenance! This is an open meeting, so please share this invitation with anyone you think would be interested. For further information please contact Mari Stone at [clerk@vergennestwp.org](mailto:clerk@vergennestwp.org)

### PERENNIAL PLANT FUNDRAISER

Donations of your extra perennials are being accepted now at 520 N. Monroe St. and anytime during the event. Sat. 8-5, Sun. 10-5 and Mon. before and after the Memorial Day parade. All proceeds go to the LMS and LHS robotics club. If you need help digging, call Karen at 897-7808.

### FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

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

### LEGION REQUESTING VETERAN'S NAMES FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Each year during Lowell's Memorial Day ceremony at the Oakwood Cemetery veterans who have passed away during the previous year are honored. If you have a family member who was a veteran and passed away in 2014 would you please contact the Legion Post commander, Dave Thompson, at 897-2533 or email [rivercommander@aol.com](mailto:rivercommander@aol.com) with the name, branch of service and the approximate time of his or her service (if you know) your family member may be honored in the Memorial Day ceremony.

Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations. The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

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# Credit union raises funds for Food Fight



**Cutter Phillips** presents a check for \$2,558 from River Valley Credit Union to Flat River Outreach Ministries. The funds were generated from the credit union's Holiday Skip-a-Payment promotion and earmarked for the 2015 FROM Food Fight. Pictured, left to right: Dawn Broene, FROM executive director; Cutter Phillips, of River Valley Credit Union; and Rick Seese, FROM Food Fight co-chair.



## At Your Local Library

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

### Summer Reading at KDL

This year's Summer Reading at Kent District Library program, sponsored by Consumers Energy, runs from Monday, June 1 to Saturday, Aug. 8. With reading activities and prizes for babies, kids, teens and adults, Summer Reading at KDL offers something for everyone.

KDL is also offering an exciting line-up of free summer programs, including Hooper Heroes, Jibber Jams, Magic to the Rescue, DIY Spa, Cupcake Wars, De-stressing Techniques at your Fingertips and so much more.

Studies show that students typically score lower on standardized

tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of summer vacation. Kent District Library's summer reading program is an important step in helping to prevent what's known as summer reading loss by providing programs and activities that encourage learning while children and teens are away from school. It's a great way for families to *Celebrate Heroes* this summer.

Sign up for Summer Reading at KDL starting June 1 at any of KDL's 18 branch locations. For more information, call 784-2007 or visit [www.kdl.org](http://www.kdl.org)

# Kent Career Tech Center principal named top Michigan administrator

As principal at Kent Career Tech Center, John Kraus leads a more-than-100-member staff for more than 20 career-focused programs. He also oversees the education of some 2,400 students on the center's campus and four satellite sites.

In the four years he has been at the helm of the Tech Center, the Akron, Ohio native has turned around morale among staff, created a leadership team for students and become known as an educator who is willing to partner with area businesses to meet the need for skilled employees.

Kraus has been named the 2015 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Administrator of the Year by the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP). He was surprised with the award on Friday, May 8, by Colin Ripmaster, associate executive director of MASSP.

"John has done so much in his short tenure here," said Kent ISD superintendent Kevin Konarska. "He's connected students and staff, and morale has never been higher. The whole atmosphere at the Tech Center has been transformed. He's brought in the business community and colleges, and is constantly seeking

opportunities for students. His leadership is a real benefit for Kent ISD and the broader community."

Kraus was selected for the award, given annually for more than a decade, because "it was clear to the selection committee that he is not only a visionary, but also someone who's not afraid to roll up his sleeves and get the job done," said MASSP executive director Wendy Zdeb-Roper.

"John's energy and positive spirit have earned him the overwhelming respect and trust of his staff, students, colleagues and the community; and in today's educational landscape, this speaks volumes of both his character and ability," she continued. "John is the epitome what an effective leader should be and is very deserving of this honor."

In the 16-page nomination packet for the award, Kraus' staff repeatedly lauded him for energizing and motivating them, for insisting the word "fun" coexist with "excellence," for empowering students by encouraging their input directly to him and their participation in leadership and recognition efforts, and for his ties to area businesses that help strengthen Tech Center programs.

Kraus got his start in education in the Forest Hills Public Schools district in 1997. He also worked for Sparta Area Schools and Grandville Public Schools. He joined Kent ISD in 2011 after serving as principal at Comstock Park High School and North Kent Alternative High School.

His accomplishments while at the Tech Center include developing a way for students to fulfill increased math requirements in order to remain in tech center programs and instituting a leadership team comprised of students who help drive school programs and policies.

"Mr. Kraus has made a lasting impact on my life, as a learner and a young professional," wrote student Hasani Hayden in his recommendation for the award. "I believe he

sets the gold standard for expectations and that every principal could benefit from observing his leadership techniques."

William Smith, assistant superintendent of instructional services, called Kraus, "the perfect selection as the state's best CTE administrator."

"He brings to his role, experience as a successful traditional high school principal combined with the capacity to empower the talented staff around him," Smith said. "He honors student voice, engages staff, builds strong authentic and relevant programs through his skills and connects program advisory boards to our classrooms and instructors. Most importantly, he just wants everyone around him to be successful."

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## financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

### goodbye, child care costs ... hello, college savings opportunities

If you're a working parent, you know firsthand about the difficulties of finding quality, affordable care for your children. But eventually, your kids head off to school, and those child care bills go away, or at least diminish greatly. When that happens, you could start putting away money for another one of your children's milestones: college.

Just how expensive is child care? Costs vary greatly among the 50 states, but the national average for a 4-year-old at a child care center is approximately \$7,880 per year, according to Child Care Aware of America, a child care resource and referral agency sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. What could you do with this money once your child enters kindergarten?

Of course, not all schools provide all-day kindergarten, so you still may have some child care costs. For the purposes of illustration, let's presume you can finally say "goodbye" to child care costs when your child is in first grade, and let's

also assume your child is attending a public school. If you invested that \$7,880 every year for 12 years, until your child reaches 18, you could accumulate more than \$150,000 in a tax-advantaged college savings account, such as a 529 plan — assuming the money was placed in a hypothetical investment that earned 7% per year. (Keep in mind, though, that the word "hypothetical" means exactly that, because whenever you put money in any variable investment, there are no guarantees.)

Actually, earnings in a 529 plan accumulate and are distributed tax free, provided they are used for qualified higher education expenses. (529 plan distributions not used for qualified expenses may be subject to federal and state income tax and a 10% IRS penalty on the earnings.) Also, your 529 plan contributions may be deductible from your state taxes. However, 529 plans vary, so be sure to check with your tax advisor regarding deductibility.

A 529 plan offers other benefits, too. For one thing, the lifetime contribution limits are generous;

while these limits vary by state, some plans allow contributions well in excess of \$200,000. And a 529 plan is flexible: If your child decides against college or vocational school, you can transfer the unused funds to another family member, tax and penalty free.

A 529 plan is a widely used choice for college savings, but it is not your only option. You could also consider a Coverdell Education Savings Account, which, like a 529 plan, can generate tax-free earnings if the money is used for higher education expenses. You can typically only put in a maximum of \$2,000 per year to a Coverdell account, but it lets you use the funds on K-12 and college expenses.

Whichever college-savings vehicle you choose, it will take discipline on your part to continue investing in it, year after year. And after freeing yourself from those child care bills, you can certainly think of other ways to use this "found" money. That's why you might want to automatically move money from your checking or savings account to your 529 plan, Coverdell account or other investment earmarked for college. As your income rises over the years, you can increase the amount of these automatic transfers.

In any case, once those child care bills stop, you can put that money to work on your children's behalf. Make the most of this opportunity.

## kidsView



by Sierra Hieshetter

Since this past Sunday was Mother's Day, I wanted to take the opportunity in this column to give a late

Mother's Day gift to my mom and all the moms who read the Lowell Ledger.

I realize that raising my brother and I cannot be easy. We argue and test our mother's patience quite a bit, but we also know that without you we could not be where we are today.

Not only did you bring us into the world, you support us through the thick and thin. Whether it's a scraped knee or problems with a friend, I always know my mom will be there for me.

In honor of the sacrifices you make every day, I wrote a poem for my mom and I would like to share it with you.

*Everything I've dealt with  
plus a lot more too,  
none of it is possible  
without you.*

*Thank you for the love you  
gave to me this year,  
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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### voters have spoken

Dear Legislators,

The people of Michigan just sent you a message that couldn't be anything less than loud and clear!

80 percent of the voters rejected the "roads bill" and it was not because we think the roads are just fine. I think I can speak for the majority of those "no" votes when I say that it was because we were misled into believing it was a true roads bill. It didn't take long

for us to figure out this was no roads bill! Schools got a chunk. Earned Income Credit would be reinstated. Dollars for "transportation" (not necessarily roads) took a piece. (Don't forget the idle railcars costing taxpayers \$3,000.00 per day.) Proponents for this stuffed proposal used scare tactics to try and sway the vote. Not once was there a commercial touting the fact

that schools would reap benefit, along with the other pieces that were crammed in.

People are tired of the Lansing "business as usual" politics and we made that known! Many erroneously believe this proposal was better than nothing and was our last chance to do anything about roads. I'm not sure how they can even think that. There are a few other plans out there. Tuesday's vote was just the wake up call. Now is the time for those same voters to continue the pressure on their legislators. Calls, letters and emails

and possibly new jobs for some of them later this fall. Present us a bill that we will feel good about!

A news report/poll stated that 64 percent of the 80 percent would have passed the measure had it been a tax increase dedicated specifically to road repair. Our legislators know what they have to do and it's a simple fix. Unfortunately, \$10,000,000.00 was spent to produce this election. Millions were spent on advertisement promoting this failure. That would fix a lot of roads.

Nancy Stroosnyder  
Lowell

### praise from rotary

Dear Editor,

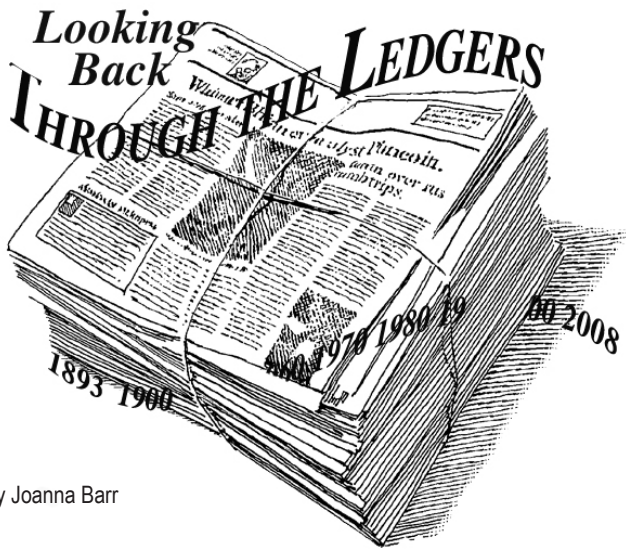
We are blessed in so many ways in our small community and I would like to share with your readers about one of the resources we have right here in our own backyard. This location has been a place our Rotary Club has used many times over the past few years. It is a place that outsiders marvel at when they arrive for the first time. It is a place with a staff that strives to meet every customer's need. It is a place we are fortunate to have at our disposal when a special occasion arises.

We have used this resource twice in the past couple of weeks and have been extremely pleased with the professionalism, value and attentiveness to our

needs from every one of the staff members. "Over and above" is a way to describe the customer service environment. Many of us drive by this special place every day and don't think about the opportunities that might exist inside. Often we notice that it is packed on a weekend evening.

The Grand Volute Ballrooms meet and exceed our expectations every time we book an event. Kent McKay and his staff have earned our respect and our appreciation for providing us the venue and attention to detail one would expect from a first class operation.

Sincerely,  
Jim White  
Lowell Rotarian



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal May 14, 1890

Too much rain of late to please farmers, who are all very busy plowing when the weather permits.

Charley Richmond found a bee tree in the woods. He cut down the tree and cut off the limb, which took four men to carry and brought it home, bees, "honey" and all. He has boarded up one end and the bees seem contented. Charley thinks he will have a log full of honey this fall.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 13, 1915

I. A. Anderson and son Irving of Grand Rapids were in town Tuesday, after an absence of 10 years, since the old Lowell & Hastings railroad closed out to the P. M. and the Anderson and Clark families moved to Grand Rapids. They were exhibiting a motor car engine invented by Will H. Clark's son Lewis.

Notice: As I have bought the Lowell Central school house and am wrecking it anyone wanting second-hand lumber I can fit out with anything they will need.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 16, 1940

With this issue the Ledger begins its 48th year of continuous publication. It is hard to realize that in just two more years the Ledger will be able to celebrate its golden anniversary. In Latin they say "Tempus fugit" which in any man's language means that time flies.

Good morning! Have you parked parallel yet? Street commissioner Fred Gramer says that parking spaces are to be marked off 7 feet wide by 20 feet in length.

Construction of concrete curbing is now well under way on several streets with a crew of 25 or more men at work. Blacktopping will probably begin within a week or two.

The sight of deer around Lowell during the past few months has become quite commonplace. Deer have been seen in the rivers and Chauncy Hardy reports deer tracks in his garden. A doe was killed by a motorist on M-21 just west of the Himebaugh farm Sunday night. The carcass was dressed out by Mr. Himebaugh and the meat turned over to a charitable organization.

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger May 13, 1965

The 126th Infantry National Guard Unit of Ionia will be conducting a simulated anti-guerrilla exercise in the Lowell area this Saturday evening, May 15, Armed Forces Day. Residents should not be alarmed by the passing of armed convoys with reconnaissance aircraft overhead. It will only be a part of a drill to test the unit's ability to respond, move and communicate against an elusive enemy.

Don't worry if the local police cruiser stops you and gives you a ticket Tuesday. The crew will be stopping passing motorists and issuing them with tickets for free coffee and doughnuts in local restaurants. This will be part of the chamber of commerce's Hospitality Day program.

Lowell Industries will display samples of their products in the Schlernitzauer building on West Main Street during Michigan Week. The West Michigan Historical Society will exhibit historical items in another window of the building.

The Lowell Granite Company have begun a series of public messages this week to remind area residents of the significance of Memorial Day. They feel that many people observe the day as a holiday and forget the original purpose of the day.

Mayor and Mrs. Ray R. Jasin of Harper Woods, Michigan, will exchange posts with Lowell's mayor Arnold A. Wittenbach for Mayor's Exchange Day Monday. The visiting mayor accompanied by his wife and councilman and Mrs. Paul Bracke will be feted at a luncheon at the Masonic Temple at noon and given products manufactured in local industries.

Looking Back,  
continued, page 12

## health



### tummy time

Parents of newborns are encouraged to keep their babies on their backs while sleeping. This has been shown to reduce the incidence of sudden infant death syndrome or SIDS. Unfortunately some babies may spend too much time on their back and develop a condition called positional plagiocephaly also known as a positional head deformity. This occurs because the infant develops a preference for laying their head in a certain position. When they lay in one position for too long, they can develop a flat spot on one side of their head. Over time this flat spot may resolve as the child grows older, but there is a chance that it may persist throughout their life, causing a misshapen head.

The best way to prevent infants from developing this condition is to begin "tummy time" exercises early. "Tummy time" refers to time spent on their tummies when they are awake and alert. This allows them to strengthen

their postural muscles as well as neck muscles. By developing these muscles early, they will be able to turn their heads much easier when sleeping on their backs. They will also reach developmental milestones, such as rolling over and sitting up, sooner.

"Tummy time" should only be performed when the infant is awake, on the ground or on a parent's chest. The infant must be observed closely to prevent accidental injury from rolling over or objects blocking their airway. Initially, infants may not tolerate "tummy time" for very long, as they may tire easily and cry. However, if you start slowly and gradually increase the time spent on the tummy, they will become stronger and enjoy it more.

For those infants that do develop a positional head deformity, there are treatments available. Those treatments may involve physical therapy and possibly a cranial helmet for a few months.





# anniversaries

## Parsons

Clark and Greta (Nash) Parsons of Lowell will observe 60 years of marriage on May 14, 2015. The happy couple have five children, Angie (Dave) Young, Cheryl (Brian) Doyle, Merlene (Mike) Baker, Jeff (Kristin) Parsons, and Carmen (Matt) Tawney. They have thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Clark and Greta (Nash) Parsons, today and on their wedding day 60 years ago.



# area births

## Klahn



Ruency Snow Klahn

Eric and Cori Klahn of Clarksville are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Ruency Snow Klahn. She was born February 23, 2015, weighing 6 lbs. 2 oz. and measuring 19 inches.

She was welcomed home by her big sister Eric and Cori Klahn Finley who will be two June 6.

Grandparents are Sue and Steve Hess and Kathy and David Hoeseth, all of Lowell. Great-grandparents are Dorothy Catalano, Mae and Bruce Patten, all of Grand Rapids; and John and Gail Doran, of Belding.

## Sweeney

Maddox William Sweeney was born at St. Mary's Hospital on April 23, 2015 at 7:43 pm to John and Annette Sweeney of Hastings. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and measured 20 inches. Proud grandparents are Martin and Theresa Morris of Sunfield and William Sweeney of Middleville.

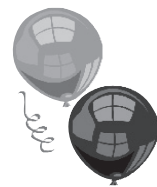
# college news

Jacob Gould, a 2010 graduate of Lowell High School and the son of Angela Hoffman and Ryan Gould, is graduating from Olivet College with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice on May 16, 2015.

**A rumor without a leg to stand on will get around some other way.**

~ John Tudor

# happy birthday!



- MAY 13**  
Melanie Ligman, Jean Daverman, Ed Roth III.
- MAY 14**  
Winnifred Snieder, Kathy Thomas.
- MAY 15**  
Maxine Gasper.
- MAY 16**  
Richie Ford, Kristi Ford, Angela Dixon, Ryan Phillips, Janet Boerema, Lila Crandall.
- MAY 17**  
Maurice Hannah, Andy Dibble, Shawn Witherell, Blake Yeiter.
- MAY 18**  
Ashlee Patnode, Robin Hewitt, Karen Patnode, Cody Sokolowski, Nola Beth Bristol, Karen Kennedy, Kristin Hufstader, Phil Dibble, Melissa Borton, Mike Ordway.
- MAY 19**  
Helen Tetzlaff, Kathy (Tetzlaff) Williams, James Young, Debbie DeHaan, David Main, Andrew Kiczenski, Ken Stager.



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# area churches

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Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
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3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell  
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10:30 A.M. ....Fellowship  
11:00 A.M. ....Worship  
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(Nursery available)  
Sunday School.....9:15 A.M.  
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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Internet: <http://www.fbcloell.org>  
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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)

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Sunday School.....9:30  
YOUTH GROUPS (JR. & SR. HIGH).....8:00 p.m.  
Pastor Brad Brillhart

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# EARTH TALK™

## Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk: What is the Great Green Wall of China?** - *Jacob Williston, Tempe, AZ*

Unlike the Great Wall of China, a 5,000-mile fortification dating back to the 7th century BC that separates northern China from the Mongolian steppe, the Great Green Wall of China—otherwise known as the

Three-North Shelter Forest Program—is the biggest tree planting project on the planet. Its goal is to create a 2,800-mile long green belt to hold back the quickly expanding Gobi Desert and sequester millions of tons of carbon dioxide in the process. If all goes according to plan, the completion of the Green Wall by 2050 will increase forest cover across China from five to 15 percent overall.

The Chinese government first conceived of the Green Wall project in the late 1970s to combat desertification along the country's vast northwest rim. Soon thereafter, China's top legislative body passed a resolution requiring every citizen over the age of 11 to plant at least three Poplar, Eucalyptus, Larch and other saplings every year to reinforce official reforestation efforts.

But despite progress—according to the United Nations' most recent Global Forest Resources Assessment, China increased its overall forest cover by 11,500 square miles (an area the size of Massachusetts) between 2000 and 2010, with ordinary citizens alone planting upwards of 60 billion trees—the situation is only getting worse. Analysts think China loses just as many square miles of grasslands and farms to desertification every year, so reforestation has proven to be an uphill battle. The

encroaching Gobi has swallowed up entire villages and small cities and continues to cause air pollution problems in Beijing and elsewhere while racking up some \$50 billion a year in economic losses. And tens of millions of environmental refugees are looking for new homes in other parts of China and beyond in what makes America's Dust Bowl of the 1930s look trivial in comparison.

"The desertification of north and western China is arguably the most under-reported environmental crisis facing China today and is little understood outside the circles of NGOs [non-governmental organizations] and groups of scientists who are desperately fighting against it," reports Sean Gallagher, an activist with Greenpeace. While climate change is certainly a big factor, Gallagher adds that overgrazing, water mismanagement, outdated agricultural methods and the swelling of human populations are also contributing to this wholesale conversion of the region's once arable and habitable landscapes into sand dunes. "In China, approximately 20 percent of land is now classified as desert or arid, and desertification is adversely affecting the lives of over 400 million people in China alone."

More recently, the Green Wall project has taken on additional importance for its potential as a "carbon sink" to store greenhouse gases that would otherwise find their way into the atmosphere and exacerbate global warming. But critics point out that it's hard to quantify just how much carbon the Green Wall can store, and that plantations of fast-growing non-native trees going in as part of the project don't store as much carbon as more diverse, naturally occurring native forests.

Regardless, the Chinese government is already talking up the Great Green Wall as key weapon in its arsenal to fight global warming and as proof to the rest of the world that China is taking strong steps to mitigate carbon emissions. With completion of the Great Green Wall still 35 years out, only time will tell how effective it will be as a solution for some of China's (and the world's) most vexing environmental problems.

**CONTACT:** UN Global Forest Resources Assessment, [www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1757e/i1757e.pdf](http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i1757e/i1757e.pdf).

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## Kistler named Volunteer of the Month

Murray Lake Elementary named David Kistler as its Volunteer of the Month for March. Kistler, whose two sons Zach and Morgan attend Murray Lake, spends many hours planning and teaching Junior Achievement lessons to Murray Lake's third-grade students.

"Dave took time out of his career as an agricultural banker to be trained as a Junior Achievement instructor and taught five lessons on economics to our entire third grade. He taught our students about entrepreneurship, profit and loss, interdependency,

natural/human and capital resources and risk/rewards in business. Dave did a fantastic job and our third graders learned a great deal," commented third-grade teacher, Sue Wilterink.

Kistler has been married to his wife Nancy for 20 years. He graduated from Central Michigan University and received a master's degree in business administration from Western Michigan University. He is currently the vice president of business banking for PNC Bank.

"Teaching Junior Achievement was a very good experience for me. I want my kids to know that I am invested in their education. I want them to know it is important to give back to your community. The third graders at Murray Lake were great. I believe it was a very worthwhile experience for all involved," says Kistler.

When Kistler is not busy working or volunteering, he enjoys spending time with his family on Murray Lake, golfing, playing basketball, and reading (mostly Shakespeare).



Dave Kistler with sons Zach and Morgan.

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## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council, sitting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will hold a public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 to consider the following variance request:

1427 West Main Street SE – O'Reilly Auto Parts has applied for a variance to increase the front wall sign on their building to 100 square feet. Within the C-3 District, a wall sign cannot exceed 20% of the wall area to which it is attached, or 50 square feet, whichever is less, thus a variance was requested.

Information regarding this request and the Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan, during regular business hours. Written comments will be received until the time of the hearing.

Susan Ulery  
Deputy City Clerk



# Liz Fahrenstiel



**Position:** Owner, Pawsitive Canine Training Center  
**Residence:** Lowell  
**Education:** Grand Rapids Community College (Associate's), Ferris State University (Bachelor's), Central Michigan University (Master's)  
**Experience:** 15 years in marketing for Buick, dog trainer for 9 years  
**Hobbies:** cars, therapy dogs  
**Pets:** Justin (golden retriever), Dylan and Macy (Portuguese water dogs)



## Trainer trains owners to train dogs

Liz Fahrenstiel is the owner of Pawsitive Canine Training Center, 555 Lincoln Lake Ave.

A well-trained dog will more easily integrate into a home.

"You want your dog to fuse into your family, your setting and your activities," Fahrenstiel said. "That's what we're going to help you do. Your dog will be more obedient. If somebody rings your doorbell, you'll be able to tell your dog to chill out or go to her mat or whatever. It's just to have a better life with the owner, basically. If you choose to have your dog get into some sports, agility, rally obedience or formal competition, we can guide you on those roads too. Probably seventy to eighty percent of our folks just want a dog that behaves better at home, a dog they can take camping or take on a walk without pulling the leash."

They train dogs at Pawsitive, but sometimes the humans need training too.

"Actually, we train the owners to train the dogs," Fahrenstiel said. "Usually the dogs get it, it's the owners that need a little bit of guidance."

They will train a dog of any age or breed.

"We do everything from 10-week-old puppies up through seasoned dogs," Fahrenstiel said. "The oldest one that we had come in here for a class was eight years old. You can definitely teach an old dog new tricks. They usually want to know, it's just their atmosphere where they've been hasn't allowed them to do so, like maybe an older dog adopted by a new family. A

untrainable dogs, but there are some dogs that are maybe a little bit harder to train," Fahrenstiel said. "They have to be managed. We've got ways to help the owners manage the dogs throughout the rest of their life. If they're fearful or don't have a lot of confidence, those dogs need to be managed a little bit differently."

One industry secret is that anybody can become

by the American Kennel Club.

"That's the interesting part about dog training," Fahrenstiel said. "You could be a dog trainer tomorrow. In order to train dogs there is no official certification, but we do have trainers that are certified through the American Kennel Club. They had to go through testing, they had to have so many hours of training



lot of those folks come here because they want to bond with a dog."

Fahrenstiel said that you can train any dog.

"There aren't really

a dog trainer simply by declaring "I am a dog trainer." Pawsitive, however, only hires trainers that were officially certified

before they could get that certification. Currently I've got two trainers, but it fluctuates. Sometimes I have four, sometimes I have five."

Fahrenstiel's first career was in the automotive industry.

"I was in marketing with Buick Motoring Division for 15 years," Fahrenstiel said. "They did a lot of reorganizing, so I decided that if I was going to do something different I would switch at that time, in 1998. I started doing this in 2006, so I've been doing it for nine years now. It was kind of a fluke. Our family has owned this land since the early 70s. I used to store my cars in this building before I renovated it."

It's important to start training a dog early in its life.

"The first year of a dog's life is crucial, kind of like the first few years of a child's life," Fahrenstiel said. "It's going to form their behavior for the rest of their life. We have a lot of folks that will come and they'll take a puppy class, then they'll take the basic, then the intermediate, then the advanced. They'll take all those classes back-to-back. We suggest that, and there are a lot of folks that do, and they become our family. Some folks will just take one class, then they'll do it on their own, which is fine too. It all depends on the owner."

There are two commands that are essential for every dog to learn.

"Come" is the most important word, out of everything," Fahrenstiel said. "Once you have that

and you reinforce it once in a while, that's number one. If a dog knows that, they'll be able to live a happier life. And then, 'leave it,' because dogs can get into like ibuprofen or something. Tell them to 'leave it,' and they'll freeze."

Once your dog passes the basic courses they can get into more challenging stuff such as agility training.

"We've got a 10,000 foot fenced in area outside, and just like on the channel 'Animal Planet,' the dogs go through a tunnel, go over the jumps, go up an a-frame, go over a dog walk," Fahrenstiel said. "It's kind of like a gym. They go out and we teach them. The teeter-totter is one of the higher-level things, because that's scary, even for a human, to go up and then all of a sudden pivot down. It's just something to help bond with your dog. Just another thing to keep their mind busy."

Pawsitive offers classes year-round, but they are pretty busy so if you need a class you should book as soon as possible.

"All year long we offer six-week courses," Fahrenstiel said. "It's four nights a week now, but that varies. The people that come here know about it. Our classes are full all the time so I don't advertise much. I don't like turning people away, so it's kind of word-of-mouth with the folks that come here."

The ultimate goal of the classes at Pawsitive Canine Training Center is a happier dog and a happier owner.

"We want to help folks enjoy their dogs more," Fahrenstiel said. "It just makes their life more enjoyable."

To get your dog enrolled, visit [pawsitivecaninetraining.com](http://pawsitivecaninetraining.com) or call 897-9694.

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# Buyers Guide Mother of the Day enjoys a day of pampering

Saranac mother of four, Barb Estes, was selected as the 2015 Buyers Guide “Mother of the Day” after her daughter sent in a heartfelt letter on her behalf. She emphasized how her mother sacrificed for her children, made every situation look bright along with her ability to pass her own positive qualities on to her children.

Part of her entry read, “When I was little I remember there was only one can of food in the whole house. She split it between us kids and went without [herself]. I did not even realize we were poor because my life always felt so rich. She instilled a strong sense of perseverance in us. When we got frustrated about anything she made us keep trying,” said daughter Karen who nominated Barb for the honor.

Recently diagnosed with lung cancer and having undergone surgery to remove the growth and a portion of her lung, Estes is on the road to a speedy recovery and continues to exhibit those same signs of self-sacrifice Karen remembers from her childhood.

“All she is worried about is other people and how we are handling things,” said Karen.

Estes modestly accepted the honor of being crowned the Mother of the Day noting that she had seen the ad in the Buyers Guide.

“I was hoping one of my daughters would think enough of me to nominate me for that,” said Estes.

“When I go and visit her I always read the Buyers Guide. This time I just grabbed it and took it home with me and read it later and that is when I saw the Mother of the Day ad and decided to nominate her. Then I just happened to be at her house when they called and told her she was selected. I think it took her a little while to really process it,” explained Karen.

Estes is the proud mother to four daughters and grandmother to ten grandchildren.

“They are coming up just as nice as my daughters,” said Estes.

“She really taught us to stop and smell the roses,” said Karen. “Even now I see her with her grand kids and she just takes the time to enjoy the little things that other people just rush by and don’t even notice.”

The two daughters and Estes started their Mother of the Day tour at Grand Wittenbach GMC where they left her vehicle for a full detailing and hopped

into a brand new GMC Denali. Excited about the comfort and technology aboard, the group drove in the luxury vehicle for the duration of their Mother’s Day celebration thanks to the generosity of the dealership.

Dave Vandenburg of Snow Avenue Greenhouse greeted Estes, on her second stop of the day, where he offered her a hanging flower basket of her choice. Estes, who had never visited the greenhouse before, was overwhelmed with all the colorful options. “I don’t know how I am going to pick,” she exclaimed.

Vandenburg took the time to help Estes narrow down the perfect variety for her taste and at-home conditions and threw in a plant stand for her to display the basket.

The Main Street Inn was Estes’ third stop of the day. Greeted by front desk clerk Denise Kropf, the trio was charmed by the well-appointed rooms and gathering spaces, as well as the view of the Flat River outside the balcony doors.

“Isn’t this just beautiful,” said Estes’ daughter Karen, “I have seen the signs and thought about going but have never made it in.”

Barb received a free night’s stay at the inn and plans to use it sometime this summer to spend some quality time with her sister.

All Weather Seal was the next stop for the Mother of the Day. A gift certificate for \$500 good toward windows, roofing and siding and other services was presented to Estes along with a bonus gift.

“We figured you would be ready for a meal later today when you get done with all this excitement so we threw in a gift certificate for the Gilmore Collection,” said All Weather employee Cindy Kelsey.

Chimera Design owners Julie Claire DeVoe and Cliff Yankovich welcomed Estes next and allowed her to select three shiny tennis bracelets composed of Swarovski crystals. After browsing the gallery Estes proudly displayed her “bling” for the rest of the afternoon joking that it was her day to shine. Her daughters wholeheartedly agreed.



Tanning. There they introduced Estes to the variety of services available at the salon which include red light therapy and fit body wraps and offered her a gift certificate for future use.

Bernards Ace Hardware was the final stop of the day. There Estes was welcomed by staff and she received a \$50 gift card. Estes said the money will be easy to spend, “They have a large variety of items here to choose from.”

Wrapping up the day, back at Grand Wittenbach GMC, Estes got back into her clean vehicle and thanked all the participating sponsors for their amazing gifts and sincere generosity. “This has been amazing! I just feel so blessed,” stated Estes.

**Barb Estes** enjoyed the day with her daughters.

Lowell Floral owner Leighanna Mongar offered up two gifts from her flower and gift shop and offered a sincere thanks to Estes for the years of hard work she put in as a mother.

“It was so nice to meet you. Thank you for being a great mother,” said Mongar.

Estes left with a fresh and beautifully arranged, basket bouquet and her choice of gift from the unique gifts and decor available at the shop.

When Estes reached her next stop of the day there was a reserved table with fresh flowers awaiting her arrival. Ella’s offers breakfast, lunch, baked goods and a wide variety of beverages prepared with care and was the official lunch stop of the Mother of the Day celebration. Each enjoyed the simplicity and unique flavors of the menu selections and daughter Deb especially appreciated the large variety of gluten-free options available at the quaint and cozy cafe.

Following their much appreciated lunch break, the ladies headed to Cher’s

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# Red Arrow LACROSSE SPORTS

## Boys win 17-11 in play-off action against Wildcats

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Conference play-off action started for Lowell boys varsity lacrosse last Tuesday when they welcomed the Northview team for round one and ended with a 17-11 Red Arrow comeback victory.

Both teams scored three goals in an evenly matched first quarter, but Northview outplayed the Arrows in

the second scoring five to Lowell's two and claiming a 10-5 lead at the half.

Lowell went on to outscore Northview 11-5 in the second half to earn the 17-11 win. The winning momentum was spurred on by a suddenly hot offense along with good outcomes from midfielder Ryan Hessler in the face-offs.

Senior Jason Nagy

was the night's leading scorer logging in six goals. Collin Bowers netted four points, Hessler earned three, Addison Buckius chipped in two and both Sawyer Olesko and Brendan Paulus added one to round out Lowell scoring.

Assists were credited to Olesko, Nagy, Hayden Barry, Paulus and Brennan Battle.



Sophomore defenseman John Rogalke is pursued by the Wildcats during the Arrows' 17-11 victory game.

Double teaming attackman Collin Bowers did not stop him from netting four goals in at-home playoff action last week.

The team will hit the road this week for the conference finals on Tuesday at Caledonia High School in hopes of an OK White title.



**LAS**  
Elementary  
Lunch Menus  
week of 5/18/15

**MONDAY:** Cheeseburger on bun (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), mini corn dogs (served at Beshnell), baked beans, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mixed fruit, peaches (grapes served at Beshnell).

**TUESDAY:** Roasted turkey & gravy sub/sandwich, washed potatoes (served at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), Bosco sticks w/ dipping sauce, seasoned corn (served at Beshnell), fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, applesauce, banana.

**WEDNESDAY:** Cinnamon glazed French toast w/ sausage, warm cinnamon apples, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, cherry tomatoes, peaches, applesauce.

**THURSDAY:** Homemade macaroni & cheese (served with dinner roll at Alto, Cherry Creek & Murray Lake), seasoned broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, carrots, fruit group, apple (pears served at Beshnell).

**FRIDAY:** Homemade cheese pizza on VNG crust, side salad, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, orange slices, (marmalade oranges at Beshnell) juice.

## TRACK Track wraps up season; boys place fifth, girls place sixth at OK White championships

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell's varsity track teams wrapped up their regular season at home last week with losses against tough opponent Grand Rapids Christian High School (GRC).

Red Arrow boys racked up some decent finishes

against four-time defending OK White champions GRC but fell by a large margin, 99-38.

Zach Diamond led his team with first-place finishes in both the 800- and 1600-meter runs. Other successful individual runners were Derek Massey

and Kenny Stump who placed third in the 200- and 400-meters respectively.

Placing for the relay teams were Richard Misak, Sam Misak, Reece Karns and Dawson Chapman

Track, continued,  
page 11



Lauren DeHaan won conference champion in the high jump with a personal best jump of 5'2".



Red Arrow Breanna VanLaan placed first in the 1600-meter race.



Red Arrow

SOCCER

# SPORTS

## Girls shut out the competition in play last week

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell girls varsity soccer earned a pair of matching 4-0 shutouts last week when they took on East Grand Rapids (EGR) and non-conference foe Forest Hills Eastern (FHE).

“Defensively the girls have been nearly perfect. A lot of our success has been attributed to our defensive organization and fantastic goal keeping,” said coach Dan Lipon.

Wednesday, the girls looked to improve their conference record when they faced EGR. Sophomore Bridget Garter recorded her fifth clean sheet of the season earning eight saves and shutting down EGR’s offensive power for the Arrows’ 4-0 win.

Senior captain Kate Montgomery led the way offensively netting three goals and freshman standout Darby Dean contributed one. Assists were credited to Tara McQueen, Riley Conlan and Dean.

Friday at home the ladies welcomed FHE and turned out another commanding 4-0 victory.

Garter commanded the box once again, saving five to earn her sixth shutout of the season. Assists were earned by McQueen, Katie Clemenshaw and Darby Fuller, while goals were scored by McQueen, Amber Curtis and Montgomery who earned two, including a header into the net in the second half of play.

“Kate has tremendous pace and has been our most dynamic attacking threat,” said Lipon of the team’s top scorer.

Kate had earned 18 goals this season, nearly doubling her offensive statistics from 2014 and has worked in nearly perfect unison with fellow senior McQueen. “Many of Kate’s opportunities have been made possible by Tara McQueen, who leads the team with nine assists,” explained Lipon.

The Arrows are currently ranked ninth in the state in division II by the Michigan High School Athletic Association with

winning records of 11-3 overall and 5-2 in the OK White. With just four more regular season games on the schedule, Lipon hopes

that the girls continue their excellent season. “Collectively the girls have improved across the board

this season and I hope that trend continues through our remaining games,” said Lipon.



The team celebrates with senior captain Kate Montgomery after a header turned goal.

The team will welcome both Jenison and Kenowa Hills this week in Wednesday and Friday home games starting at 6:45 pm.

## Track, continued

who finished second in the 4x100; Misak, Misak, Chapman, and Collin McGee finished third in the 4x200; and Diamond, Stump, Ben Noffke and Karns claimed the top spot in the 4x400.

Senior Josh Branagan placed second in the 110 high hurdles while Karns and Drew Struckmeyer took second and third in the 300 low hurdles.

Infield in the shot put competition, Justin Everitt

took second place while Austin Branagan placed third. Everitt also finished second in discus, followed by McGee in third. R. Misak earned a first-place finish in the pole vault.

In ladies’ action Alon Watson led her team with a win in the 200-meter and second-place finishes in the 100-meter as well as the long jump, but her efforts did not add up to a win for the ladies who fell 91-42.

Other top individual finishes were earned by Megan Khodl who placed second in the 400-meter; Emily Judd and Holly Race claimed second and third in the 100 hurdles; and Judd and Jule Schweb placed first and third in the 300 hurdles.

Breanna VanLaan added a first-place finish in the 1600-meter and the team of Judd, Abby McDowell, Autumn French and Haley Engels were the only relay

group to place earning second in the 4x400.

The boys went on to place fifth at the OK White championships on Thursday and Friday with Everitt earning fourth place in both the shot put and discus. The Lady Arrows placed sixth with senior DeHaan earning a personal best and the championship in the high jump.



Zach Diamond earned first-place finishes in both the 800- and 1600-meter races.

## OK conference overhaul in 2016

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

A brand new OK White is in store for Lowell Red Arrow fans and athletes beginning the 2016-2017 school year due to an overhaul of the entire OK conference.

A sixteen person committee consisting of one principal and one athletic director from each conference drew up the proposed realignment which was then passed 15-1 by the committee and 40-8 by the participating schools’ principals.

The change will cut the number of conferences from eight to seven with the elimination of the OK Bronze and feature fifty

schools with the additions of Spring Lake and Fruitport.

Lowell will remain in the OK White, where they have competed since 1984, but will face an almost entirely new conference lineup under the change.

The OK White currently consists of Lowell, Jenison, Caledonia, Grand Rapids Christian (GRC), Forest Hills Central (FHC) and East Grand Rapids (EGR) but after next season only Lowell and FHC will remain. They will be joined by Ottawa Hills, Northview, Greenville, Forest Hills Northern and Cedar Springs in the battle for conference titles.

Lowell’s most notable

nemesis EGR will be moving to the OK Gold which has upset fans of the historic rivalry, especially when it pertains to football. Lowell athletic director Dee Crowley said that while there are no guarantees, the two schools are already in talks about adding the match up to their non-conference schedules post realignment. “We have had beginning discussions between the athletic directors about this possibility, but we need to wait until the schedule has been determined for the OK conference overall as cross-over games still need to be decided by the scheduling committee,” stated Crowley.

Beyond football,

which Lowell is already anticipated to dominate under the new lineup, the changes could mean better seasons for other Lowell sports as some have been more successful against the OK White newcomers in non-conference action during past seasons.

“The realignment brings in teams that are very similar to us as far as demographics and the amount of foundation allowance funds received from the state,” explained Crowley.

The changes may also spark some previous rivalries for the Arrows as they are rejoined by Greenville and Cedar

Springs who competed with Lowell in the Tri-County conference and as part of the OK White in the past.

“Over the years, there has been specific sport rivalries between many

of the schools that will be making up the OK White realignment that will look for renewed rivalry interest,” said Crowley.

### BOYS GOLF SCORES

OK White jamboree #5 .....	5th place	OK White jamboree #6 .....	5th place
Nate Kyburz .....	42	Alex Bohr .....	37
Christian Rosenfeldt .....	42	Josh Buechler .....	41
Alex Bohr .....	45	Christian Rosenfeldt .....	43
Jake Hays .....	47	Jake Hays .....	44



# obituaries

## HOLWERDA

Sietse John Holwerda 12/17/1927 - 05/03/2015  
S. John Holwerda, age 87 peacefully passed at his home on Murray Lake, Lowell, Michigan, entering into eternal life on May 3, 2015. John was a graduate of Godwin Heights High School, veteran of Korea and worked 37 years at General Motors, where he retired as an electrical supervisor. He continued his ambition as an electrician working several years at Litcher (Crescent) Electric and spent countless days and nights for anyone who needed his assistance. John valued hard work, and enjoyed others with similar ambitions. John was a Mason and life member of the Scottish Rite N.M.J., USA. As a Shriner he gave tirelessly to benefit those in his community. John was especially passionate about serving children and those who are hungry. John's hobbies were many. A life member of Madison Square Sportman's Club, John was regularly found shooting skeet & trap and playing cribbage with friends and family. A great teacher, he enjoyed games, a good puzzle, and encouraged great sportsmanship. An avid outdoorsman, John made an annual trip to Canada's "Fish Camp," and spent much time at the cabin with the boys and his dog. At day's end, John could be found reading a book of American poetry or the Bible. He traveled around the world with his books, fancied the imaginary escapes. John raised a loving family, and is survived by his wife Dorothy A. (Vincent) "The Sunshine of his Life." Daughters: Margaret E. Lampen (Michael V. DVM) of Jones, MI, Cathleen Cooley-Wedow (Dale) of Traverse City, MI. Judith L. Hall (Steven M. DDS) of Jenison, MI. Cynthia S. Begerow of Ada, MI. His son John S. Holwerda (Nancy) of Grand Rapids, MI. Grandchildren: Joshua V. (Sarah) Lampen, Cameron P. Lampen, Charles S. Hall, Chelsey L. Hall, Alison M. Hall, Andrew J. Hall, Dale J. Begerow (Nikki), James D. Begerow, Travis J. Holwerda and Taylor H. Holwerda. Great Grandchildren: Xochitl Begerow, Jax J. Begerow and Ryleigh R. Begerow, and numerous Nieces and Nephews. John was preceded in death by his Mother Elizabeth Holwerda (Haan). John has been buried at Oak Grove Cemetery. Donations commemorating John's life as a selfless, humble man may be sent to The Children's Shrine Trust, 233 E. Fulton, Suite SC102, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-942-1570 Ask for Judy



Headline: Light-hearted Lock-up activity aims to put cancer behind bars. The American Cancer Society volunteers need your help! There are five jail sites in Kent County that need to be filled to capacity in order to help arrest the growth of cancer. The Great American Lock-up is a light-hearted activity aimed at putting an end to a very serious disease. Arrestees raise money by calling friends to "bail" them out...  
Phillip's Garden Center at the west edge of Lowell was a busy, busy place Saturday morning. AWCUZ live remote broadcast featuring Andy Rent was in progress as throngs of people swarmed over the premises buying spring plantings and flowers for Mother's Day. Kids were offered balloons and free lemonade while adults enjoyed complimentary coffee and donuts. Six year old Alecia Daggett of Lowell was the lucky winner of a 36 sq. ft. sand box given away as a door prize. The sand box was provided by Phillips Garden Center and Dirt Cheap Excavating.  
Headline: City Fathers ponder use of aged buildings.

# Looking Back, continued

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 16, 1990

Spring is here and with it have come decisions, decisions and more decisions for Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale and the City Fathers. The decisions concern: Where's the best location for the Lowell museum? Should \$40,000 be spent to renovate the Lowell Police Station, if in the capital improvement plan approved as a guide by the council, it calls for the construction of a new facility anywhere from 2-6 years down the road? Is the need for a new library greater than the need for a new city hall and police station? The Graham Building has housed the Lowell Public Library since 1922 in the west hall of the Robert W. Graham home of 1873. The library building is in memory of Herbert E. Graham.

The Lowell Showboat Talent Search '90 this Friday, May 18, will narrow down 30 acts to the nine that will appear on the deck of the Robert E. Lee on Showboat nights, June 19, 20 and 21. The 30 acts that were chosen from the initial 45 acts at the Search '90 auditions held in April, will participate in Talent '90 at 7 pm to determine the final nine acts that will appear on Showboat. The Showboat will feature three amateur acts each night.

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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## WRWW (92.3) & Internet Schedule

### [SUNDAY] [05-17-15]

**2:30 'The Devon & Kelsie Show' with Devon Siciliano & Kelsie Jurmo (3)**  
**9:00 pm 'Old-Time Radio'**

### [MONDAY] [05-18-15]

**2:30 'The Infinite Show' with Raiden Miller (8)**  
**4:30 Funday, Monday with Roman Rozell & Brendan Sanders (2)**  
**6:45 Girls Soccer: Lowell vs Caledonia**

### [TUESDAY] [05-19-15]

**3:00 The Lovely Beats Show with DJ Cupid & DJ Heartbeat (8)**  
**4:30 The 'It's Everything Show' with DJ's Mickey & Chapstick**

### [WEDNESDAY] [05-20-15]

**4:30 The After Hours Show with Dakota Krzysik**  
**6:30 Emily & Haley's Show**

### [THURSDAY] [05-21-15]

**2:30 The No Topic Show with Dakota & Devin (3)**  
**5:00 The Daily Life Show with Caleb Pickens & Geoff Fleener**  
**8:00 'The Night Shift' with Clayton Brown & Jerry Thompson (1)**

### [FRIDAY] [05-22-15]

**11:00 Varsity Baseball**  
**1:00 Varsity Baseball**  
**2:30 'The Show' with Jeremy Kargl & Ryne Clarke (1)**  
**5:00 The Old World Blues Show w/ Riley Nethercott & Chase Miller (6)**

### [SATURDAY] [05-23-15]

**11:00 Varsity Baseball**  
**1:00 Varsity Baseball**  
**3:00 'The Random Explosion Show' with Joe Ryder (9)**  
**7:00 'The Music Locher' with Connor Smithee (2)**

(1) = Classic Rock (2) = 2010 & Up Top Hits (3) = Heavy Metal (4) = Country (5) = Dubstep/Dance (6) = Jazz/Blues (7) = Glam Rock (70's) (8) = 2000 & Up Top Hits (9) = Talk Show  
**We're (WRWW) recording the LMS orchestra concert on 5/18, the Senior Honors ceremony on 5/19, the LMS Jazz/8th Grade Band Concert on 5/20, the Elementary Concert on 5/21. These will be placed on our website as a podcast for download the day after the event.**



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# Red Arrow

BASEBALL

# SPORTS

## Arrows tie with Caledonia for conference first place

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The Red Arrows dropped two games in a three-game series against the Caledonia Fighting Scots last week, forcing a first-place tie between the two in the OK White.

Sophomore Jarrod Melle had a fantastic showing on the mound in the series opener Wednesday but the Arrows could not get in at the plate falling to Caledonia 2-0.

Melle allowed only two runs off of four hits over his six innings on the hill, while striking out five batters and allowing no walks. Despite the top-notch effort Lowell recorded the loss.

The Arrow batters were silenced by Caledonia pitcher Caleb Sleeman who pitched seven shut-out innings while striking out ten.

In game two on Thursday the teams combined for 25 runs on 27 hits in an offensive showdown that ended with Lowell on top 15-10.

Lowell took the early lead scoring in the first after singles from Matt Cooper and Zach Gordon plated Matt Milstead, who had been hit by a pitch during his turn at bat.

Tied 1-1 at the top of the third the Arrows took the game lead for good, scoring eleven runs on four singles, a two-run triple from Gordon and a two-run double from Trevor Shurlow.

The Arrows added one run in the sixth and two in the seventh when Shurlow singled plating Cooper and

Colin VanNoord singled to score Cooper Perry.

Perry was also the winning pitcher of the game despite allowing six runs over five innings in the high-scoring game.

The Arrows fell to Caledonia again on Friday at home as the Scots topped them 6-1 in the final game of the series. Lowell's lone score was credited to an RBI single from Cooper. VanNoord struggled from the mound allowing five runs in just over five innings.

Despite the difficult week, head coach Justin Miller said he is happy with the performance of the team, now tied with Caledonia for first in the OK White at 9-3 with East Grand Rapids (EGR) just one game out at 8-4. "My seniors have done a great job in helping our underclassmen raise their game to the level that allows us to compete at a high level in the OK White," said Miller.

Looking forward, Caledonia will take on Grand Rapids Christian, EGR will face Jenison and Lowell will take on



Senior Colin VanNoord on the mound against Caledonia.

Forest Hills Central (FHC) in the final conference title deciding series of the season.

on worrying about the next out and at the end of the week we will look to see how it all plays out."

"FHC is a young team like us, but has shown the ability to play ball at a high level. They were also able to beat Caledonia one game in their series," said Miller. "Right now we are focused

The series with FHC will begin Tuesday on the road and finish up at home on Wednesday and Thursday at Cherry Creek beginning at 4:30 pm.



Senior Matt Milstead rounds second

### CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

City Operating Budget for 2015-2016. The document outlines proposed revenues and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The General Fund has a total of \$2,883,654 in proposed expenditures.

Copies of the 2015-2016 Budget are available for inspection during normal business hours at City Hall, the Englehardt Public Library and the City web page [www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us)

Interested persons may submit comments to the Lowell City Hall, Attn: City Clerk prior to the meeting or appear in person.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

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- Future State Champs Camp: Second grade thru sixth grade June 8, 9 & 10
- High/Middle School Camp: Seventh grade thru 12th grade June 1, 2 & 3

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**THEME:  
THE '80s**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Inhabitant of Aleutian Islands
- 6. "\_\_\_ alive!"
- 9. William McKinley High School's famous club
- 13. Caterpillar to butterfly
- 14. Ribonucleic acid
- 15. Members of Christian community
- 16. More so than fine
- 17. Banking convenience
- 18. Matter of debate
- 19. \*Elected twice in the '80s
- 21. \*Popular along with shoulder pads
- 23. \* \_\_\_ Zeppelin, broke up in 1980
- 24. Mountain lake
- 25. \*Blake Edwards comedy with Julie Andrews
- 28. Editor's oversight
- 30. Fate
- 35. Like a devoted fan
- 37. \*1981 flick with George C. Scott and Timothy Hutton
- 39. Clingy one
- 40. Famous French couturier
- 41. Highest point, pl.
- 43. Greek god of war
- 44. Clown act
- 46. Japanese stringed instrument
- 47. Stretched ride
- 48. Twinings package
- 50. Fill to excess
- 52. Goes with sin and cos
- 53. Argument
- 55. \_\_\_-been
- 57. \*Often carried on shoulder
- 61. \*19080s Olympic city
- 64. Sac enclosing embryo, pl.

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**DOWN**

- 65. Anger or wrath
- 67. Less wild
- 69. Soil for cultivation
- 70. Sailor's assent
- 71. Clear the blackboard
- 72. Eye affliction
- 73. Albanian money
- 74. As opposed to owns
- 1. \*TV's friendly alien
- 2. Den
- 3. Marine eagle
- 4. Relating to uvea
- 5. Walmart competitor
- 6. \*Location of hostage crisis
- 7. \*Ted Turner's TV addition
- 8. Brazilian dance
- 9. Deep wound
- 10. \* \_\_\_ Whelchel of "Facts of Life"
- 11. Purse to match a gown
- 12. Ogler
- 15. Woody polymer
- 20. Temples' innermost sanctuaries
- 22. Aggravate
- 24. At or near the top
- 25. \*Assassinated Egyptian President
- 26. Sheep-like
- 27. Plants and animals
- 29. \*\*Brat \_\_\_"
- 31. Navy commando
- 32. Like Boy Scout's badge
- 33. Organ swelling
- 34. \*Youngest heavyweight champ
- 36. Small quantity, especially of a liquid
- 38. Stiff hair
- 42. Bantoid language
- 45. \*\*"Rock the \_\_\_" by The Clash
- 49. Government Printing Office
- 51. Resurrection Sunday
- 54. Relating to axis
- 56. Close call
- 57. \*\*"Harvey's Wallbangers" were good with them
- 58. Bypass
- 59. \*\*"For Your Eyes \_\_\_"
- 60. Dust allergy trigger
- 61. They will inherit the earth?
- 62. Middle Eastern sultanate
- 63. Used to be wild?
- 66. Marbled bread
- 68. Hi-\_\_\_

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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



MAY 6 - MAY 12

- 94-year-old Anthony Brutto studied on and off for 75 years and he will be one of the oldest graduates in the history of West Virginia University when he receives his Regents Bachelor of Arts degree on Sunday. Brutto, a machinist by trade, says graduating from college was always important to him.



- Straight out of the "here we go again file" George Zimmerman is involved in yet another shooting incident. But this time Zimmerman was the target. He was not hurt badly.



- Terrifying a nation already shell-shocked and struggling after a devastating quake nearly three weeks ago, a less violent quake kills dozens of people Tuesday in Nepal. The quake was centered midway between Kathmandu and Mount Everest. The latest magnitude 7.3 earthquake hit hardest in districts northeast of the capital.
- According to the African Wildlife Foundation, authorities in Ethiopia have arrested more than 700 people for smuggling ivory. Just two weeks after Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta set fire to more than 30,000 pounds of confiscated ivory at Nairobi National Park, the Ethiopian government destroyed its own ivory stockpile in Addis Ababa.

LAST WEEK'S  
ONLINE  
POLL  
RESULTS

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your mother  
on Mother's Day?

- YES .....38%
- NO .....62%

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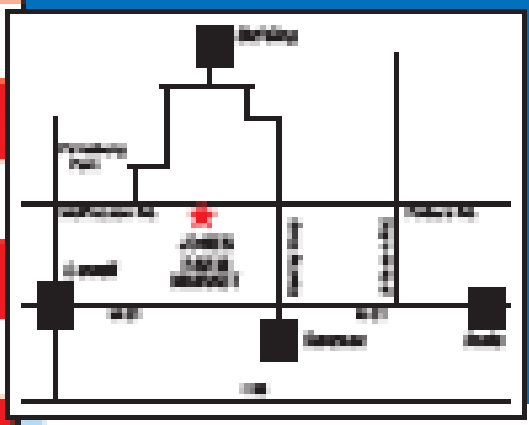
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- Boneless PORK STRIPS..... \$2.99 lb.
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- SAUSAGE LINKS (5 lb. boxes)..... \$30.00 box
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