the lowell ger vol. 44 issue 34

wednesday • june • 10 • 2015

for over 120 years • today - tomorrow - your lowell area news source

cursing conundrum



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hole-in-one



page 3

odyssey at state

Blough celebrated for her many hours of volunteering at LAHM

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter

Carolyn Jane Blough recently became the first person ever to hit the 2,000 volunteer hour milestone at the Lowell Area Historical Museum, 325 W. Main St. She was honored at the museum's volunteer appreciation event on Tuesday, June 9. Blough has been volunteering at the museum since it was founded and has played many different roles over the years.

"Both my husband [Ivan Blough] and I worked there when we were first putting the museum together," Blough said. "We did whatever we had to do to get the museum off the ground, along with the other volunteers that were there too. After we got started,

brought things people for us, memorabilia from around town here and the surrounding area. I worked upstairs with about four or five people and whatever people brought in, we had a certain procedure that we had to go through to take this stuff in. We had to number it and write a description of it. I volunteered as a docent along with some other gals that were also docents. I used to do Tuesdays and I found that last year it was getting harder for me to do, so I had to give up my Tuesdays. I also loved to do the school tours. I did those for a number of years, up until last year. I've also volunteered by being on the board. Whatever event we had, I helped out by doing whatever they wanted me

to do. I'm going to keep volunteering as long as they'll have me."

Blough seemed surprised that she had reached the 2,000 hour milestone.

"I didn't realize that I had that many hours in," Blough said. "I know that we have to keep track of our hours for when they write grants. Volunteerism is one of the things that the people that put out grants look for. I knew that they've been keeping track, but I had no idea that it was that many. I'm very humbled and I appreciate the honor. I'll take it!"

Blough has had a lifelong interest in history and her N. Jefferson St. home is stuffed with interesting objects.

Farmers' market opens this week

Local vendors, fresh produce and unique artisan works will be available to shoppers again this year as the Lowell Area Farmers' Market opens for its ninth year on June 11.

The market originally opened in 2006 at the Kent County Fairgrounds and has undergone several hour and site changes over the years in order to better serve the community.

"The farmers' market definitely is changing," said Liz Baker, executive director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. "There will be a nice ambiance to it this year." This summer the market will be open from noon until 5:30 pm every Thursday through September 24. These new, expanded hours make the market accessible to people who work during the day. "We are excited this year because we already have interest from vendors that we couldn't attract before," Baker said. "For instance, John Sterly is going to come with his DIVCO milk truck and do ice cream and Heffron Farms is going to join us this year."

The expanded hours are just one of the changes to the farmers' market this year. It will also be in a new location.

"For almost three years it was held uptown in the Tractor Supply Co. parking lot," Baker said. "We heard constantly from people that it wasn't a really great location and they've always wanted to see a farmers' market in downtown Lowell."

The move downtown allows the Lowell Area Farmers' Market to change and expand what it offers.

"We looked around at the parking lots and we ended up choosing the parking lot behind city hall, at the corner of Monroe and Avery," Baker said. "We're also going to have picnic tables out there."



www.thelowellledger.com

Carolyn Jane Blough had no idea she had accumulated so many hours at the museum.

"I've always had a love for history and I have always had a soft spot for the museum," Blough said. "My house is mostly made up of memorabilia from Ivan's folks, my folks and grandparents and so forth, so I think that I just gravitated toward the museum. Helping get it started and taking part in it. It's about our own history of our own area. It was put together very well for a small museum. The

> Museum volunteer, continued, page 2

Tax "increase" is not what it seems

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter

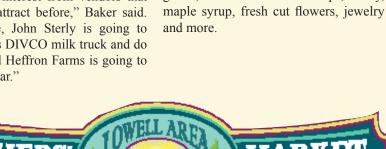
A notice about a "Truth in Taxation" hearing ran on page three of last week's Ledger. The notice seemed to warn residents of an impending increase in taxes. but Lowell city manager Mark Howe says that is not going to happen. "I think the best way to put this is, the hearing is more about what the city council has the ability to do rather than what the council is going to," Howe said. "The law requires that this notice that was in the Ledger uses very specific language that talks about increasing property taxes and raising the millage rate. It's important for people to understand that it's not about what the council is going to do, it's about what they have the ability to do. And they could increase it. They could increase it by 1.7 mils, but they're not. We

don't need to. Bottom line, it's a notice that's required, but the way that it's written would lead people to believe that we're going to increase the millage rate and that is



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The Lowell Area Farmers' Market is open regardless of weather and typically accommodates about ten vendors offering locally grown fruits and vegetables, farm fresh cheese and eggs, homemade baked goods, artisan lotions and soaps, honey, maple syrup, fresh cut flowers, jewelry and more. not what we're proposing."

The Truth in Taxation hearing will take place during the city council meeting on Monday, June 15. It is required by the Kent County Equalization Department because "property tax revenue exceeds the rate of inflation."

"There's a whole set of calculations that the Kent County Equalization Department has to go through," Howe said. "Kent County Equalization is an organization that helps determine whether or not we have to hold these Truth in Taxation hearings. The rate of inflation was 1.6 percent

> Tax increase, continued, page 3



GILDA'S CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

Woodcarving – Tues., June 16, 3:15-4:15 pm. Learn how to make easy and beautiful wood carvings with Doug Shassberger. Beginners are welcome and supplies are provided.

Chitchat Readers Book Club - Tues., June 16, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join Kathy Mieras for a relaxing and cozy book club. This month the club will be reading "The Woman Upstairs" by Claire Messud. Pick up a book to borrow at the parlor desk.

Summer Social – Tues., June 23, 5:30-7:30 pm. Please join us for a fun, festive, sports themed summer social to bring in the season together! We will begin with supper together at 5:30 pm and follow with activities for the whole family, including performance by The 6 Pak Band. The event will be held at the King Building, at the Lowell Fairgrounds, 225 S. Hudson St., SE. Please RSVP by calling 616-897-8600.

Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/ pinkarrow

along main street

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thursday, June 18 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

PONTOON CAPTAINS NEEDED

The Riverwalk Festival Committee is looking for volunteers with pontoon boats on the river willing to donate time to help with the pontoon rides on either Friday evening from 5:00 to 7:00 pm or Saturday from 1:30 to 4:00 pm. Committee will provide a "first mate" to assist with the passengers. Please contact the Chamber at 897-9161.

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.



Alma College has released the dean's list for those students who achieved outstanding academic performance during the 2015 winter term. Students who achieve a 3.5 or better grade point average during a term, while carrying a minimum of 13 credits, at least eight of which are evaluative grades, are named to the dean's list. Local students are Mallory Simon of Ada, Elliot Bates of Alto, and Jason Malling of Lowell.

Erika Ruth Overbeck, of Ada, received her

Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Baylor University during spring commencement exercises May 15-16 in the Ferrell Center on the Baylor campus in Waco, Texas.

Hastings, Allison of Ada, was one of 371 members of the class of 2015 to earn a degree from Wheaton College in Norton, Mass., on May 16, during the college's 180th commencement ceremony. Hastings graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry.

Museum volunteer, continued

people are all wonderful; we get along well. [Executive director] Lisa Plank, [director of education and programming] Luanne Kaeb and [volunteer coordinator] Pat Allchin are very easy to get along with. They're great. Luanne is a wealth of knowledge about this area and the surrounding area and what went on."

Blough's love of history and teaching has even rubbed off on her family.

"I taught elementary school for 30 years," Blough said. "I have a grandson that teaches history and another one that's going to be a museum curator.'

She isn't sick of the museum yet and still has plans for its future.

"What we need is more space in order to keep housing the material that people bring in," Blough

said. "We really need storage space. We have looked, but that is very scarce to come up with. Someday I hope and envision that we could be able to afford an elevator so that we can start to fix one of [the] rooms upstairs into a bedroom for display."

Blough's dedication to the museum stems from her love for the city of Lowell.

"There's something about Lowell," Blough said. "I've developed a love of the area. When you come here, you know you're home. That's the way the town is. There are still people that have lived here for a long time and have never been to the museum, but on the other hand there are many that have enjoyed the museum very much. Everyone in town has a respect for the museum."

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Lowell sophomore earns second hole-in-one

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

A hole-in-one on the golf course is something that often eludes even the most experienced players, but Lowell sophomore Adam Anderson has already accomplished the feat twice.

Anderson earned the first feather for his cap at the young age of fourteen on hole twelve at the local Arrowhead Golf Course. His second came March 23

on the same golf course, this time at hole number thirteen.

avid golfer, An Anderson has been teeing off for eleven years and is a current member of the Lowell High School junior varsity golf team where he has performed well this season. According to coach Kim Stevens, "He was solid all year. He played the one position for most of the year

and was only beaten once in all of our matches by a junior."

Stevens expects Anderson and equally talented teammate Alex Dommer, also a sophomore, to be a big part of the LHS golf program in the next two seasons. "They love the game and get better everyday," Stevens concluded.

Tax increase, continued

and our revenue was going to exceed that."

The hearing at the city council meeting will include a resolution that will ensure the millage rate does not change.

"The role of the city council is to set the millage rate," Howe said. "Our millage rate is at 15.7, plus .24 for the museum. Those values are increasing and because those values are increasing we're required to give notice to the public that it's exceeded the rate of inflation and therefore we're holding a hearing. The resolution that we're presenting to them is not a millage increase. The resolution is already drafted."

that Howe said increased investment in the city will increase city revenue naturally, therefore an increase in property taxes is not necessary. Howe is also making plans that he hopes will decrease taxes in the future.

"With revenue increasing we're looking at putting as much money as we can in streets and replacing equipment and those kinds of things," Howe said. "Long-term, we need to find a way to see values increase and start to reduce the millage rate. We just have to watch it and assess it on an annual basis and if we have enough revenue to be able to cover expenses and improve streets and all of those things, two years ago I think we did reduce the millage rate by a very small amount. The reason we should be doing that is, the city of Lowell has one of the highest, if not the highest, millage rates in Kent County, but average property values are among the lowest. When you take those two things and put them together, the average property tax bill for a Lowell resident is somewhere in the middle. It's actually a little bit below the average when I looked at it a couple years ago, but there's this perception that taxes are high in the city because of the high millage rate. If we can have a long-term strategy, a ten, 20 year strategy of starting to ratchet that rate down as values rebound, I think that will be a very long-term, positive thing for the city. [Property values going up] is a sign that the economy is rebounding, that things are going well in the city, that people are building. The big reason we're seeing this is all the investment that's been going on in the community. King Milling has made a huge investment, you have the B.P. station, you've had Builders Fireplace, there are some brand new houses that have been built, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Litehouse and Root Lowell have made some investments in their properties, so we're seeing a lot of investment in property going on and that's why we're seeing the values increase. That's a good thing."

A copy of the resolution and an explanation of the Truth in Taxation hearing are available on the city of Lowell website, www. ci.lowell.mi.us



Golfer Adam Anderson recently celebrated his second hole-in-one.











By the Lowell Showboat on Riverwalk Plaza in Downtown Lowell

Venue is wheelchair accessible and handicap/senior parking is available. Bleacher seating or bring your own folding chair. Concessions, beer, wine, and margaritas are offered on the Riverwalk Plaza. Family Event! Activities for children during concerts.

Their brand of horn-driven blues appeals to music lovers of all ages







page 4

LowellArts! presents safari exhibit AFRICA!

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

Art lovers are invited on a safari inside the LowellArts! King Gallery where they are presenting AFRICA! - a four artist exhibition focused on the raw beauty of the wild continent.

The show, which will be open to the public until August 15, was created after a call for exhibit proposals solicited answers from both Nancy Clouse and Robert E. Lee.

Lee, a former college professor and avid veteran photographer, submitted a portfolio of pictures captured in both Botswana and Zimbabwe. Clouse, a retired art education teacher. submitted drawings of the same context.

"Although they did not apply together, the gallery committee thought the photographs of Africa and book illustrations about Africa would make a great combination for a show," said LowellArts! project director Janet Teunis.

The same committee then invited two additional artists to be part of the show they titled simply AFRICA! Lowell artists Gary Eldridge and Lori Hough gladly accepted the invitation. "We then invited Gary Eldridge who we knew had done a series of work inspired by his trip to Africa," explained Teunis. "We also knew that Lori Hough creates awesome animal sculptures of paper mache and we were excited that she had a set of rhinos and hippos available to be included in the exhibit."

The collection is available for viewing free of charge during the gallery's regular business hours, Tuesday through Friday, 10-6 and Saturday from 1-4.

Coinciding with the exhibition LowellArts! is also offering a series of classes for students aged 7-12, generously underwritten by the Lowell Rotary Club. The free art workshops will feature

guest artists who will assist students in creating works based on the culture of Africa. The classes will explore techniques such as drawing, fabric painting, mask making, painting and jewelry making.

"We brainstormed together about classes that would tie in well with the work on display," said Teunis. "Instuctors Sharon Brander and Rachel Johnson both live in Lowell and will be teaching several of the classes. We were also able to schedule Clouse for four sessions where kids can be taught her paper-cutting technique. A real treat will also be Josh Dunigan а offering drumming demonstration with dancer Leah Ivory."

A full schedule of classes can be found on the LowellArts! website at www.lowellartsmi.org. Registration is required due to limited space and can be done online or by calling (616) 897-8545.



business **m**atters

Realty announced that Ryan Hesche received Realtor of the

This award recognizes Hesche for his outstanding success and achievements.

O Lord, help me to be pure, but not yet.

~ Augustine (354 AD - 430 AD)



Ryan Hesche



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Lowell

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<u>"l</u>ëdger

ewpoint

to the editor

a caring veterinarian

Dear Editor,

Lately it has been on tv with more controversy regarding Dr. Bruce Langlois and the Animal Hospital of Lowell. I would like to make a positive statement. A few years ago, my miniature pinscher, Tinkerbell, became severely ill. When I came home from work she was vomiting and passing blood. It was obvious that she was gravely ill.

My vet had gone home for the day and advised that I wait until morning and the problem would probably pass or take her to the Plainfield emergency. As minutes passed her condition worsened. I called the Animal Hospital and the doctor waited for us. He

Looking

Back

1941

By Joanna Barr

xrayed and examined her and stated that she would not "make it until morning." Dr. Langlois did emergency surgery that night on Tinkerbell, stayed all night with her and informed me at midnight of her condition. Peritonitis had already set in. A week later (Memorial weekend) she relapsed and he met me at the office for some additional treatment. Tinkerbell has been a great joy and now has lived an additional five years and is going strong in her agility class.

I am very thankful for his concern on saving her life and the great steps that he has done in this community. I am thankful, Janet Twesten

Lowell



what are your excuses for not investing?

We all make excuses. Most of the time, they're pretty harmless. But you could be hurting yourself if you make excuses for not taking action in some areas - and one of those areas is investing.

Not investing, or not investing enough, can have serious consequences. In fact, a lot of people are poorly prepared financially for retirement. Consider these figures from the Federal Reserve: The median retirement account value for individuals between 35 and 44 is just \$42,700; for people 55

to 64, the corresponding figure is \$103,000. These figures are frighteningly low, especially when retirement can easily last two or three decades.

In short, you need to invest. So, what's stopping you? Here are some common excuses:

• "I'll do it later." The longer you wait before you start investing, the less time you have to accumulate money, and the less likely it may be that you'll achieve your goals, such as a comfortable retirement lifestyle. If you

A new tin shop has been opened up in Goodrick Kopf's building, on Bridge St., by C. W. Parks, late of Mecosta.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 10, 1915

The council doings - Report of officers at last meeting. Regular meeting Monday evening, June 7. Meeting called to order by President Anderson. present— Arehart, Henry, Trustees Mange, Winegar. Absent – Lee and Weekes. Auto Police Haysmer gave the following report: Number of persons cautioned for having no lights on autos, 24; exceeding the speed limit, 2; turning around in center of street, 5; standing on wrong side of street, 2. Petition of Milo Johnson and several others asking for light on hill referred to Light and Power committee. Petition of H. W. Smith and several others asking that a walk be built on east side of lot one block 40, R. & W. plat was, on motion by Trustee Winegar supported by Trustee Henry, granted and Attorney and clerk instructed that the walk be ordered built on recommendation of street committee. The president appointed Earl Thomas and Karl McNaughton as members of board of review to meet June 14 and 15, and Ray Hand as dog warden. Justice of Peace A. M. Andrews reported that from September 15, 1914, to June 7, 1915, there had been 106 arrests made. Number of persons fined 38, sentences 33, discharged 14. Amount paid in fines \$168, amount paid to county \$24, amount paid to village \$44. Sidewalk builder's bond of Archie D. Lewis as principal and John Kellogg and Frank Gould as sureties was accepted.

haven't begun investing, do it today.

"I don't have enough money to invest." The cost of living is unquestionably high, and you may feel that you have just enough money to pay your bills before your next paycheck. But if you look for ways to economize, you may well be able to free up even a little money to invest each month. And then, when your salary goes up, you can increase the amount you invest.

• "I'll have Social Security." Social Security benefits generally account for only about 40% of an individual's pre-retirement income, according to the Social Security Unless Administration. you want to scale back your lifestyle greatly during your retirement years, you'll need to supplement Social Security with employer-backed your retirement account, such as a 401(k), plus your own investments, such as those that go inside an IRA.

• "Can I really invest enough money for my retirement?" Consider this: Going back to 1990, if you had invested \$10,000 in the stocks that make up the S&P 500, and simply held on to these stocks, you

We love to hear from you!

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

would have amassed more than \$76,000 after taxes by the end of 2013. Of course, past performance of the market is not a guarantee of how it will perform in the future, and the S&P 500 is an unmanaged index and is not meant to depict an actual investment — but

this illustration still shows that patient, diligent, longterm investing can produce positive results.

• "I don't know where to begin." If you work for a company that provides a retirement plan such as a 401(k) or something similar, you've already got a great place to begin. You only need to sign up for the plan and start deferring a part of your salary, and you're an investor. It's also quite easy to open an IRA, another popular retirement savings account. In any case, if you have doubts about how to get started investing, you will find it valuable to meet with a qualified investment professional.

Don't let excuses get in the way of developing good investment habits. With time, determination and effort, you can overcome many of the obstacles you thought prevented you from becoming a fullfledged investor.

June 11, 1890

125 years ago

Lowell Journal

Last Saturday night some portions of this town and Keene experienced quite a severe frost. In Keene, house plants, left out of doors, were nipped quite severely before 9 o'clock.

Do you notice that whistle every evening, at 8 o'clock, and do you know what it means? It is the water works whistle and Supt. Hendrix blows it to notify you that you must stop sprinkling the lawn.

D. Stocking is in mourning. He was, until last Friday, the possessor of a thoroughbred Setter bitch, the mother of five as fine puppies as you ever saw, and on going out Friday morning, he found that some miscreant had poisoned her. If he can find out who did it there will be a fuss.

Oscar Hogan met with a very unfortunate accident last Saturday morning. He was returning from the depot with a load of freight, when his team became frightened and ran away, throwing him off the load and breaking his wrist. He was takin home by Dan Wood and the fracture was set, but we are informed that the wrist will in all probability be stiff. Ben Soles circulated a subscription, in his behalf, by which quite a sum was realized.

The eighth annual Eighth Grade commencement of the public schools of Kent County will be held June 11 at the Majestic theater, Grand Rapids, at 10:30 am, county athletic contests at Ramona park, Reeds Lake in the afternoon.

Lowell will hold its first matinee race meeting of the season here June 10. Four events are on the program

Looking Back, continued, page 12

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



105 N. Broadway • Lowell, MI 49331 616.897.9261



anniversaries

Neubecker

page 6

June 11 marks the 60th wedding anniversary of Jack and Grace Neubecker. The couple live at Schneider Manor in Lowell. They were married at St. Patrick's on 92nd Street in Bowne Township. They have two sons, Mark (Laura) and David; also three grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. The couple will celebrate with a family gathering.



Grace and Jack Neubecker

college news

Michigan Technological University honored the achievements of nearly 800 graduates at spring commencement May 2,

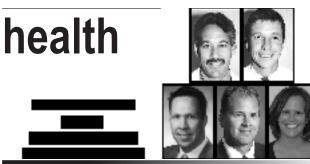
including the following students from this area, Ada: David Entingh, Bachelor of Science in computer engineering,

parents are Greta Entingh and Steve Entingh; Kailey Feuerstein, Bachelor of Science in biochemistry and molecular biology, parents





Nelson, Master of Science in civil engineering, parents are Thomas Nelson; Laura Rudy, Bachelor of Science in medical laboratory science, parents are June Rudy and Brian Rudy; Nicholas Toomey, Bachelor of Science in civil engineering, parents are Bev Toomey and Randy Toomey; Anna Waller, Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering, parents are Penny Waller and Bryan Waller; Alto: Lee Southerton, Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering and Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering, parents are



and IV fluids.

advanced directives

Advanced directives are written instructions that you prepare to help guide your medical care. They apply in certain situations, such as if you are no longer capable of making decisions about your own medical care.

One common directive is a living will. In a living will, you define what medical treatments you want and do not want for yourself. These treatments

are Lori Feuerstein and

Don Feuerstein; Jonathan

can include things like CPR, mechanical ventilation (a "breathing machine"), medications, feeding tubes, artificial nutrition, dialysis,

Another common directive is naming a medical power of attorney. This involves choosing someone you trust to make decisions about your medical care if you cannot make those decisions.

wednesday • june • 3 • 2015

Advanced directives are not just for elderly or very sick patients. Every adult should prepare advanced directives. If you are a young or middle-aged adult and you suddenly become severely ill or injured, your family may have to make difficult decisions about your care. Advanced directives can help make those decisions easier. Your loved ones will know that you are receiving the medical care you would want for yourself.

You should review your advanced directive regularly and you can update them at any time. Even after you prepare advanced directives, continue to talk with your loved ones and your doctor about your goals and wishes



JUNE 10 Stone, Courtney Jim Tulppo, April Decker, Gus Geldersma.

JUNE 11

Jeanne Boss, Terri S. Fonger, Dick Sturgis.

JUNE 12

Benjamin Zoodsma, Jenny Engle, Noah Green.

JUNE 13 Holly Fetterhoff, Vivian Hoskins.



JUNE 14 Kyle Manszewski.

JUNE 15

Joey Hunt Jr., Courtney Baker, Caran Schalow, Rachel Heinicke, Katlin Manszewski, Alice Monks, Sam Richmond.

JUNE 16

Roger Raymor, Michael Pretzel, Orin Comdure, Jean Bishop, Mike Kenney.

- <u>me</u>ledger og gonnit! Be careful what you say in Lowell

by Tim McAllister contributing reporter

According to an ordinance that is still on the books, it is technically illegal to swear in Lowell. City ordinance 13-131 says, "It shall be unlawful for any person within the city to use indecent or obscene language."

It seems rather silly but according to old Ledger articles, Lowell's swearing law has been enforced at least four times. In 1990 a man named Jeffrey Perkins was "given an appearance ticket... for use of indecent language." In 1986 Robert Conrad was "cited into 63rd District Court on Thursday, August 7 for using indecent language in the presence of women and children." In 1971 Allen R. McWatters was arrested and "charged as a disorderly person by

using obscene, immoral and indecent language before a woman or child." In 1900 John Cox was charged with using obscene language and fined \$7.25.

"Most of our infractions require a complaint by a person willing to admit who they are against the person, business or property that is in violation of an ordinance," said Lowell mayor Jim Hodges. "Most adults are tolerant of simple curses as part of conversation, however not so much for heated swearing in a conflict situation."

"I've seen this and wondered whether or not it is even enforceable anymore," said Lowell city manager Mark Howe. "It looks like the ordinance may have been enacted in 1981 and I really couldn't even begin to speculate as to why the city council at that time passed it."

The answer lies in the case of the cussing canoeist.

"The Supreme Court case of the 'Michigan swearing canoeist' in the early 2000s revoked that state law," said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. "The ordinance should be removed from the Lowell city ordinances."

"You probably remember the case of the cussing canoeist up north who was convicted under a similar state law," Howe said. "That was eventually overturned on the grounds that it violated free speech and the state eventually rescinded the law."

The cussing canoeist was a man named Timothy Boomer. He began swearing

loudly when he capsized his boat in the Rifle River in northern Michigan. At the time there was a state law banning "indecent, immoral, obscene, vulgar or insulting language" in the presence of women or children. A sheriff's deputy observed a woman covering her toddler's ears and wrote Boomer a ticket. Boomer was fined \$75 and ordered to spend four days working in a child-care program. In 2002 the state Supreme Court found this to be a violation of his first amendment right to free speech. The conviction was overturned and the state law was struck down.

Lowell's city ordinance could be removed, but it would require some action by the city council.

"All laws can be

changed and for this one, the city council would have to set a public hearing, take comments and then they could vote to rescind it if they like," Howe said. "While I can't speak for the police chief, I would be surprised if they would attempt to enforce the ordinance seeing that the courts have apparently decided swearing is protected free speech. Now, if someone were to

be screaming swear words while committing disorderly conduct then they may take action."

"I am not aware of any enforcement issues, nor charges ever being filed," Hodges said. "I do remember some folks and a council member slipping and using a minor bad word or two, but coming to order quickly when called out on the matter."



Getting married soon? Give Social Security your new name

Every year, June marks the beginning of two busy seasons: summer and "wedding season." With joyful expectation, many of us have already marked our calendars and started wrapping up our plans for the vacations, ceremonies, and honeymoons. While brides and grooms work out the details, Social Security wants to remind them about one detail that's extremely the "record" important: Social Security keeps of your life's earnings.

Weddings often mean a name change is in order, and one task the happy couple should have on that to-do list is to contact Social Security. If you are legally changing your name, you need to apply for a replacement Social Security card reflecting your new name. If you're working, also tell your employer. That way, Social Security can keep track of your earnings history as you go about living your wonderful new life.

If you have reported income under your former or maiden name, we might not have received an accurate

W-2 and your earnings may have been recorded incorrectly. This is easier to fix now — when you first change your name — than years from now when you retire. So, go to our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/ ssnumber, or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to find out what

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specific documents you need to change your name and to apply for a replacement card.

After the honeymoon comes your career, moving to a new home, and a well-deserved retirement. It happens so fast! We hope somewhere in there, you opened your free my Social Security account at

www.socialsecurity.gov/ myaccount.

With your personal my Social Security account, you can make sure your earnings record is correct and that you have the 40 total work "credits" you need for us to pay you the benefits you've earned.



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on Monday June 29, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, NL

The Planning Commission will continue review of a new site plan for a site condaminium hame development (previously



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a platted home development) to be located at 910 Alden Nash Ave SE, east side, north of Foreman. A public hearing will be held on the new site plan at this meeting. The members will also hold a public hearing on a site plan/ special use for Envision Engineering who will construct a new business building in the phase 2 area of the OE Bieri Industrial Park off Godfrey Rd.

The office hours are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and 9:00 am until 12:00 pm on Thursdays. Copies of the site plans and applications are available to review at the Township Office or on the Township website at www.vergennestup.org. Call 616-897-5671 or email zoning@vergennestwp. arg far questions ar comments.

The meeting is open to the public.

- 📲 ledger

Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams perform at world finals

More than teams from around the world traveled to Michigan State University for the 36th annual Odyssey of the Mind World Finals from May 20-23. Students from different cultures and widely varying economic backgrounds proved that creativity is universal by coming together for this event. They all demonstrated their unique creative solution to an Odyssey of the Mind problem while appreciating the creativity of others.

page 8

The teams worked throughout the school year solving an OotM problem and were judged as the most creative in a series of rigorous regional and state competitions. At MSU, the teams represented their state and country in hopes to prove that they are the world's most creative problem solvers. Odyssey of the Mind has teams throughout the United States and 32 other countries, including China, South Korea, India, Japan, Russia, Poland, Germany, Singapore, and Mexico.

Teams came with interesting costumes, original stage sets and innovative inventions – all part of solving an Odyssey problem. The Lowell High School and Murray Lake Elementary teams both competed in the "Lose Your Marbles" problem. In this problem, the teams used only balsa wood and glue to create a structure weighing no more than 18 paper clips and supporting much heavier weights. These seemingly fragile structures are known to hold over 1,000 pounds. Their structure also had to hold five marbles that were released during weight placement as a result of a team-created device removing a piece of the structure.

The Lose Your Marbles problem and other OotM problems were judged on creativity and risk-taking. The students learn to apply their creativity to problem solving. Teams also learn to manage time and money, how to share ideas and negotiate with one another, and to perform in front of an audience. Because the problems provide for divergent solutions, students incorporate their knowledge and interests into their solutions, such as math, science, history, art, music, acrobatics, robotics, and anything else a child can imagine and enjoy.

Although this is a competition to be a world

champion, kids form lifelong friendships with their teammates and opponents. These friendships span the globe. Through Odyssey, they learn to communicate and appreciate different cultures.

Like most kids, Odyssey of the Mind team members

will exceed expectations when given the opportunity to express themselves. At the opening ceremonies held at the Breslin Center at MSU, OotM founder Dr. Sam Micklus, told the crowd of 14,000, "These are the most creative minds in the whole world."

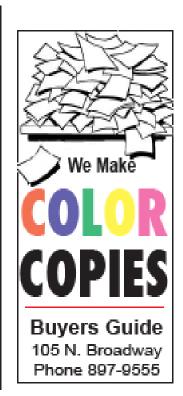


The Lowell High School and Murray Lake Odyssey of the Mind teams on the campus of Michigan State University. Front row, left to right: Luci Foreman, Elly Looman, Hunter Stepanovich, Hayden Lowrie, Nicholas Lothian and Josh Momany; middle row, left to right: Thomas Hubert, Leanna Rose, Chloe Looman, Abigail Kastanek and Leah Bredwell; back row, left to right: coaches Kris Hubert, Mark Looman, Heather Looman, Lori Lothian and Ryan Lothian.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PRIVATE FOUNDATION **NOTICE** The annual report of the Lowell Area

The annual report of the Lowell Area Housing, Inc. Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2014 is available for inspection at its principal office, 725 Bowes Road, Lowell, Michigan during regular business hours by any citizen who requests within 180 days after date of this notice.

Date: June 4, 2015







RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE SATURDAY, JULY 18TH 1PM REGISTRATION 1:30PM SHOTGUN START

\$75 per Golfer (\$300 per Teem) -Includes 18 holes wicert -Gift Beg wielews of golf balls - Award Banquet, wilunch following event \$20 per teem discount 8 regulared by July tab

Sponsorship Levels

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Lowell Middle School students of the third trimester

Teachers at LMS select students who have been outstanding in the categories of academics, citizenship and attitude each trimester. The following students have been selected as Students of the third Trimester, Ashley Anheyser, Ashely Boehr, Dayle Brushaber, Addison Bruwer, Miya Cance, Bridgett Clay, Jacob Cutler, Nathaniel DeWitt, MacKenzie DeRaad, Sam Dougherty, Mariah Erickson, Olivia Ettinger, Aurora Fredricks, Zane Goldsmith, Gabe Hare, Sierra Hieshetter, Hailee Hinerman, Alyvia Holdridge, Aileen Hussy, Blake Jones, Madison Jordan, Rachel Lezan, Natasha Marsh, Gramm McCormack, Josh Meier, Emma Organek, Natalie Paiz, Jenna Perry, Isiah Perysian, Sophia Powell, Toby Robinson, Dianna Roth, Bradley Salgat, Brandon Scott, Luke Skinner, Zach Swain, Carson VanVeelen and Amber Webster.

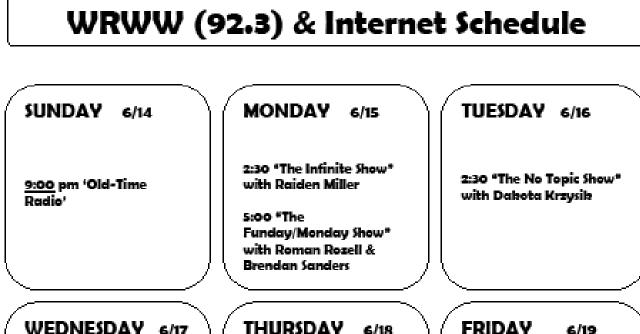




Dear EarthTalk: What are so-called non-human rights? - Richard Montcalm, Jenkintown. PA

Non-human rights is a term coined by animal welfare activist and lawyer Steven Wise, who has campaigned for three decades to achieve actual legal rights for members of species other than our own. His organization, the Nonhuman Rights Project (NhRP), is working "to change the common law status of at least some nonhuman animals from mere 'things' which lack the capacity to possess any legal right, to 'persons' who possess such fundamental rights as bodily integrity and bodily liberty, and those other legal rights to which evolving standards of morality, scientific discovery, and human experience entitle them."

According to NhRP, nonhuman animals are still



considered property in the eyes of the law. Even those animals that we know possess feelings, emotions and higher forms of intelligence-great apes, elephants, dolphins, whales-have no more legal standing than a shoe, a table or a car.

"These are complex animals who have deep emotions, understand each other's minds, live in complicated societies, transmit culture, use sophisticated communication, solve difficult problems, and even mourn the loss of their loved ones," reports the group. "Just like humans."

"But they are still considered property, poached and taken from their natural habitat, separated and held against their will, subjected to cruel experimentation, exploited for entertainment, sold on the black market, used, abused and treated like objects for our amusement and financial gain," says NhRP, adding that such experiences can scar animals for life. "Yet the law affords them no rights, allowing humans to do with them whatever we want."

Wise and company would like to see animals who are confined for use in research or entertainment have the opportunity to live out their days in a wildlife sanctuary with a hospitable climate where they can enjoy "bodily liberty" to pursue their free will. NhRP is working to first establish a legal precedent that nonhumans can have legal rights in the U.S. judicial system. The organization filed its first cases in New York State in December 2013 representing four individual chimpanzees being used in research labs and for entertainment purposes, and hopes to expand its caseload to other nonhuman species in the near future.

In the meantime, NhRP is looking for the help of volunteer lawyers, scientists, mathematicians and predictive analysis professionals interested in lending their expertise to the fight for recognizing the legal

| WEDNESDAY 6/17 | INURIDAY 6/18 | FRIDAY 6/19 |
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| 1:00 "It's Everything Show" with DJ's Mickey & Chapstick 6:00 "The AJ Brandt Show" 7:30 "The Show" with Ryne Clarke & Jeremy Kargl | 2:30 "The Primetime Radio Show with Casey Bramble & Marc Langlois 4:00 "The Ty Grasman Show" 7:00 "The Music Locker" with Connor Smithee | 7:00 "The Sairge Saldivar Show" |
| | | |
| SATURDAY 6/20 | | |
| 3:00 "The Random | (a) = 2000 a Op Top | Hits (9) - Talk Show |
| Explosion Show" with Joe Ryder | The Sizzlin Summer concerts will be rec on our website as a | |
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rights of nonhumans.

"Over the coming years, we will be filing as many cases as we can afford, so contributions are very important, too," reports the group. "We also need funds to help establish sanctuaries for the animals we're working to free from captivity."

Why should we care that animals have legal rights too? Steven Wise is fond of quoting Abraham Lincoln, who said: "In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free." If we don't want to live in a world where humans are enslaved, why should we tolerate similar treatment of our closest animal relatives and other sentient beings great and small? Whether or not the chimps he is fighting for ever get to a sanctuary, Steven Wise will forever go down in history as the Abraham Lincoln of the non-human rights movement.

Nonhuman CONTACT: Rights Project, nonhumanrightsproject.org

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wednesday • june • 10 • 2015

Red Arrow SPORTS Player Spotlight

Our Spotlight Athletes This Week:

Kate Montgomery & Zach Gordon

Kate Montgomery

Determined senior Kate Montgomery has helped propel the Red Arrows' varsity soccer team to a ninth place Division II state ranking and an impressive 11-3 record season. Using a powerful mixture of strong defense and explosive offense the forward captain is currently leading her team with 19 goals.

When did you begin playing soccer? I have been playing soccer since I was three or four years old. I can't remember any time in my life that I haven't been playing.

What was your greatest moment?

The greatest moments on the field are anytime that Bridget Garter, our goalie, has a shutout because that means everyone on the field is doing their job defensively.

What is your coach like?

Coach Dan is a very easy person to talk to about anything, whether it deals with soccer or something personal. I respect what he has to say on and off the field.

What makes for an excellent season? The key components to

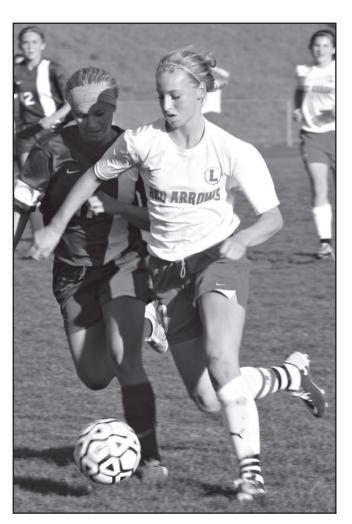
What honors have you received ? In soccer I have received all-district honors and for basketball I was allconference this year.

Do you feel athletic participation is important for students?

Athletics are very important for students to branch out and make new friends. When someone is on an athletic team they have a group of friends right there that they will be spending time with every day.

What lessons learned through athletics that you apply to your daily life? Soccer is a team sport, so on the field players are very dependent on their teammates. I think that the main reason I work well in groups is because I

have that practice from my



Which career path do you intend to pursue? I plan on studying fashion merchandising and design.

Who is your personal inspiration?

My grandparents. They are both very passionate people and they inspire me to be passionate about my athletics and beliefs every day.

What is the key to



What has your relationship been like with your teammates?

At Lowell we have a huge standard of being accountable to [y]our team. It's expected that everyone works hard on and off the field. They hold me responsible and I do the same for them. Beyond that, they're just a fun group of guys that I'm really glad I've got to spend the season with.

What awards have

you received? I earned academic All-State last year, but really I'm most proud of the championships we've won as a team.

What has been your greatest moment?

It's hard to narrow down all of my years on the diamond to one single moment, but when we won districts last year was definitely the most memorable.

I will be attending the University of Michigan in the fall in pursuit of a degree in mechanical engineering. It's hard to say exactly what I'll end up doing, but I'm studying to be a mechanical engineer because I enjoy physics and want to use that passion to help solve problems in the world.

What other sports, clubs or activities have you participated in at LHS?

Besides baseball, I played basketball [my] freshman year. I've been involved in student council, National Honor Society, interact club and I was part of the model United Nations team.

Will you continue to participate in sports? I'm not currently planning on playing any sports at the collegiate level.

Who is your personal inspiration? Again, it's very difficult to narrow this down to one specific inspiration. A sampling of the people who I look up to and am inspired by is Thomas Edison, Dave Dravecky and one of my friends who graduated last year, Nick Hess.

our success this season are how focused and disciplined we have been in practices. In years past we have taken the "fun" route, but this season we knew with our skilled group of underclassmen that we had a lot of potential.

What does next year's varsity soccer team need to do to continue their winning ways? Next year's varsity soccer team will have more talented freshmen coming up that will add even more skill to the team. think practicing how we are now will pay off for them as well.

athletics. What do you think is unique about competing as a Lowell student? What I believe is unique about Lowell athletics is that every team I have been on at Lowell is like a family.

Where do you plan to attend college and will you continue athletics at that level? I'm planning on attending Central Michigan University this fall and I plan on joining intramural sports.

Zach Gordon

Senior slugger Zach Gordon has great stats for the Red Arrows on and off of the baseball field. The dedicated athlete and student has led his team at the plate batting an impressive .408 in the OK

When did you begin playing baseball and what drew you to the sport? I started baseball as soon as I could grip a ball. My two older brothers both played, so I've been around the game for as long as I can remember.

White, propelling the team to their second consecutive conference title. Gordon has also led his classmates academically propelling himself to the position of class of 2015 valedictorian.

What has your relationship been like with coach Miller? It has been great working with coach Miller. He knows I want to succeed and he knows how and pushes me, to get there. He's taught me all about hard work.

success for

Lowell baseball? Baseball is such a game of details. I think whenever we can execute the small things we'll be successful.

What positions have you played and which is your favorite? I've primarily played infield and I also pitch every once in a while. Shortstop is definitely my favorite because I've played there for a long time; I just feel very comfortable there.

What are your post high school plans at this point?

What academic awards have you received ?

I've been on the honor roll all four years; I've taken nine AP courses; I earned the Scholar-Athlete award this year and I'm graduating summa cum laude as the valedictorian for this class.

Looking Back, continued

including a 2:35 trot, 2:25 pace, a half mile running event and a farmers' pitch and go.

State Game Warden Oates sends out warning that the black bass season does not open until June 10 and that 10 black bass a day per person is the limit.

Miss Elsie Thole of Grand Rapids will continue coming to Lowell through the summer, giving pipe organ and piano lessons. Studio at the home of Mrs. Delos Helmer.—adv.

Chevrolet car reduced in price to \$750.00; was \$985.00, the finest car on the market for the money. Call or phone for demonstration. Yeiter & Co., Agts.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 13, 1940

Headline: 76 graduates join ranks of Lowell alumni – Audience of 800 attends diploma awarding Friday night. Seventy-six seniors received diplomas from President of the School Board, C. H. Runciman Friday night, June 7 at Lowell High School amid surroundings which were most beautiful and appropriate. One graduate received his diploma in January making a total of 77, the largest number ever to graduate from Lowell High School in any one year.

Tomato growers for the L. W. Rutherford canning factory have been busy the past two weeks setting

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| decedent, William | CREDITORS: The | | | | | |
| Bouwsema, Jr., died | decedent, Deborah | | | | | |
| May 20, 2015. | Capagrossa-Roskamp, | | | | | |

Creditors the of decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Johan Altena, F. personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

out over 800,000 plants in preparation for the 1940 canning season. John Freeman of Boston Twp., one of the growers, has set out the largest number of plants, covering 60 acres. There is a total of 36 growers, most of them planting from 10 to 20 acres. The tomato season starts late in August and continues for six weeks, employing about 150 people.

Hundreds of visitors and shoppers were in Lowell last Saturday evening from neighboring communities and townships, in fact, the size of the crowd reminded one of homecoming days. Marshall Fred Gramer was a busy man directing traffic at the conclusion of the band concert.

At the first of June there were 614 telephones in service in the Lowell exchange, representing a gain of 13 during May, according to W. P. Heinzelman, manager in this area for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company. The company as a whole had 776,900 telephones in service June 1, a gain of 6,876 during May.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger June 10, 1965

Headline: Tornado forecasts send baccalaureate crowd home Sunday evening. A well-filled gymnasium at the high school on Sunday night heard only the opening and closing phases of the baccalaureate services, when tornado warnings caused school officials to shorten the exercises. The school band played the processional while the 147 graduates marched in. Pastor Henry Buikema gave an invocation and the Rev. Keith McIver, who was scheduled to address the graduates on "Communication," abandoned his talk. Instead he just gave the closing benediction.

Headline: Big crowd sees antique cars. Over 2,000 spectators were in town Saturday morning to see the 11th annual WOODland Antique Auto tour as it stopped here for coffee. Ninety-three old cars and trucks, adorned with their fashionably dressed passengers, arrived shortly after 10 am and remained for over an hour. Members of the tour were treated to coffee

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS G R G Α U С R D Ρ Е R R WE 0 0 1 s к S С 0 А к Т А NN Α L Е US Е М S Т R Т M lυ E s Е Е S М Α Ρ в в А D Е s 0 A С US Е С R н 0 Е s Т U С W D R С Е S s 0 D A Ν А R G С s R А 0 А н L L Μ Ρ R R к S R Е s Е Т W Е А С Е R D в G RIVIE

and donuts by the members of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce and were greeted by the enthusiastic crowd. The vintage automobiles formed a solid line on the south side of Main Street from Washington Street to Lincoln Lake Avenue. A few of the cars sustained minor breakdowns as they entered the city limits. The tour headed for Ionia, Grand Ledge and Lansing after they left Lowell.

Rapid temperature changes caused the flooring platform to buckle on the M-91 bridge over the Grand River this week end. The bridge was closed to all traffic late Sunday until repair work can be completed.

Designs have been layed out for a new east side parking lot calling for 36 parking spaces. The old Forest Mill site will be blacktopped and cement bumpers will be installed to form the parking lot.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 13, 1990

Headline: Headlee passes; Lowell Schools keep \$200,000. Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch breathed a much needed sigh of relief after hearing that Lowell voters approved a waiver of the Headlee Amendment so the district can maintain its authorized operational millage at 37.6 mills for the 1990-91 school year. The passing of the Headlee Amendment helped ease the financial burden of having to order two re-locatable offices for many of the Lowell Administrators. Headlee passed 433-320.

Gerald Bestrom of Middleville looks like Abraham Lincoln. When he dons a top hat and tail coat the resemblance is uncanny. Not only that, but he can act the part, too, and will even sign "autographs" as he tells you about himself. He loves to tell about the doubletake reactions from persons, especially kids. Gerald "Abe Lincoln" Bestrom will visit Fallasburg Pioneer Village on Sunday...He will bring along his "log cabin", an unusual motorhome painted to resemble logs, and be available to answer questions, pose for photographs and greet visitors to the Schoolhouse Museum.

CM Railway proposed pull-out would impact Lowell - The decisions made within the next 30 days on the proposed abandonment of Central Michigan Railway between Ionia and Owosso may have a strong impact on the city of Lowell, its farmers and more specifically a few of its major employers. On Tuesday, May 31, Central Michigan Railroad announced it was planning to file abandonment papers on the portion of its line that runs east from Ionia to just west of Owosso. The King Milling Company and Attwood, two of Lowell's major employers, stand to incur the biggest inconveniences - as both are dependent upon rail service for their successful operation.

Recently Louise Schneider of Clark Home, Grand Rapids, visited her sister, Freida Stanton and brother Oswald Bieri at Lowell Medical Care Center. Together their ages add up to 290. Freida is 99 and will be 100 on Sept. 15; Louise was 98 on April 23 and Oswald, her brother, was 93 on March 2. All were born north of Lowell near the Consumers Pond. Their parents, Christian Bieri and Bertha Roth Bieri, were from Switzerland. They had nine children.

June 3, 2015

Meredith Curless (P78235) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-458-3699

Johan F. Altena 2622 Blaine SE PO Box 7501 Grand Rapids, MI 49510 616-252-9048 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.

died May 23, 2015.

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Nederveld,

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June 2, 2015

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

> Merle Nederveld 1118 Royal Oak, SW Wyoming, MI 49509

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State confirms first cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza in free-ranging geese in Michigan

Michigan The departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Agriculture and Rural (MDARD) Development has announced the state's first confirmed cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N2 in the state. The disease was found in free-ranging Canada geese in Macomb County. Avian influenza is a virus that can infect both free-ranging and domestic poultry such as chickens, turkeys, quail and geese.

Three goslings collected last week in Sterling Heights were delivered to the DNR's Wildlife Disease Laboratory necropsy. Initial for testing was performed at Michigan State University's Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health in Lansing. These tests were positive and the samples were forwarded to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa, for final confirmation. MDARD and the DNR received confirmation Saturday, June 6, that the goslings were infected with highly pathogenic avian influenza,

free-ranging birds only. To date, there are 226 detections of HPAI across the country (affecting approximately 50 million birds), with Iowa and Minnesota experiencing the most cases.

"While this is disappointing news that the H5N2 virus has been found in Michigan's free-ranging bird population, it was not unexpected given avian influenza has been found in a number of our neighboring states and Ontario," said MDARD Director Jamie Clover Adams.

Clover Adams stressed that avian influenza has not been identified in Michigan's domestic poultry flocks. "MDARD will continue to work hand-in-hand with our backyard and commercial poultry farmers to conduct surveillance testing and provide education along with Michigan State University's Extension on implementing and stepping up on-farm biosecurity practices to protect the health of Michigan's domestic poultry," she said.

Keith Creagh, DNR director, said the state's chief focus now is preventing the disease's spread in wildlife from mortality events affecting birds and samples live-caught and hunterharvested wild birds.

Guided by the wildlife HPAI plan, the DNR will:

• Create an avian influenza (AI) Core Area, a 10-mile radius around the confirmed positive cases.

• Create an AI Management Zone, including any counties that touch the AI Core Area. In this case, the AI Management Zone will Macomb include and Oakland counties.

• Change goose relocation activities. The DNR routinely relocates nuisance geese in southeast Michigan to other parts of the state. The AI Management Zone will be under quarantine and roundup/relocation within these counties will be prohibited, except for the purpose of additional testing.

Continue goose roundup and relocation efforts in the rest of the state.

Change goose relocation drop-off sites so none are within a 10-mile radius of a commercial poultry facility in Michigan. Heighten AI surveillance in the twocounty AI Management Zone.

• Increase biosecurity measures for contractors who relocate geese and anybody handling geese, as well as for waterfowl banders.

 Continue statewide AI surveillance, which includes responding to suspicious dead animals, conduct sample testing of geese being relocated, banding ducks and geese, and testing hunter-harvested waterfowl.

With this type of highly pathogenic avian influenza, there may be an absence of many of the routine signs of illness in domestic poultry. Sudden death and high death losses are major indicators of HPAI. However, sick birds may experience neurological signs; difficulty walking; lack of appetite, energy or vocalization; significant drop in egg production; swollen combs, wattles, legs or head; diarrhea; or nasal discharge, sneezing or coughing. Wild birds commonly influenza have avian and sometimes spread it to domestic birds through direct or indirect transmission. Ducks and considered geese are carriers; however, geese generally do not pass it on.

Michigan committed to veterans' role in our continued economic recovery

GM Disney Veterans Seminar highlights the value of veteran skills, experience, dedication in civilian workforce

Michigan once again affirmed its commitment to its veterans and their role in the state's continued economic recovery today, hosting the GM Disney Seminar at the GM World Headquarters at the Renaissance Center.

Sponsored by The Walt Disney Company, USAA and General Motors and presented by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA), the GM Disney Veterans Seminar brought together more than 300 Michigan-based and regional businesses with the goal of creating more veteran hiring programs and helping veterans seamlessly transition into civilian careers.

Highlights of the GM Disney Veterans Seminar included:

Employer Best Practices - The panel discussion included MVAA-certified silver-level Veteran-Friendly Employers GM, Whirlpool and Quicken Loans as well as national veteran-friendly employers USAA and Strategic Staffing. The panel focused on the value veterans bring to their teams and best practices each company put in place to recruit and retain veterans, including rotational programs, mentorship programs, affinity networks and understanding how military skill sets fit into their company's positions.

• Veterans Transitioning Back to the Workforce – The panel discussion included veterans from a variety of backgrounds - both enlisted and officer and panelists explored how they experienced the transition to civilian life and their successes and challenges. Panelists discussed how they perceived fellow employees, as well as how fellow employees' comments and actions affected them. Most notably, they examined how their employers assisted in easing their transition through mentorship and office culture workgroups.

• **Resources Available for Hiring Veterans** – The panel discussion included panelists from the state and federal level. The discussion focused on veteran talent in Michigan and the resources available to employers and their veteran employees to assist them in developing a veteran hiring strategy and recruiting and retaining veteran talent.

"Our service men and women, past and present, put their lives on the line to help ensure our safety at home. This seminar is another important way to encourage support for our veterans during their transition from military to civilian life," Gov. Rick Snyder said. "The veteran community has a unique and impressive range of skills that are a key asset to employers and an important component of Michigan's talent. We owe our returning heroes opportunities that will ensure long-term career success and personal fulfillment."

According to the 2013 U.S. Congress Joint Economic Committee (JEC), the unemployment rate for Michigan veterans was 10.6 percent, with a 13.5 percent unemployment rate for Post-9/11 veterans.

The committee's 2011 report showed Michigan's veteran unemployment rate was 16 percent. However, the unemployment rate for Post-9/11 veterans was 29.4 percent – nearly twice the 2013 rate and the highest in the nation.

"As Michigan's economy continues to recover, we must make sure that veterans have their place in that reinvention," MVAA Director Jeff Barnes said. "Through partnerships with other state departments, local organizations, private companies and our Veteran-Friendly Employers, MVAA is committed to preparing employers to welcome veterans into their workforce."

In response to the 2011 JEC report, MVAA created the Veteran-Friendly Employer program, which recognizes organizations for their commitment to recruiting, training and retaining top veteran talent. Veteran-friendly employers can earn bronze-, silver- or gold-level status, and with each level comes an increased commitment to including veteran talent in their workforce.

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subtype H5N2.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers the risk to people from these HPAI viruses to be low. To date, no human HPAI infections have been detected in the United States. Avian influenza is not a food safety concern and no birds or bird products infected with HPAI will enter the food chain.

Michigan is the 21st state to report a case of HPAI since December 2014. In the other 20 states, the virus has been found in captive wild birds or free-ranging birds, backyard flocks, and commercial flocks. Michigan also becomes the 6th state to detect in wild or

its transmission to and domestic poultry.

"This confirmed positive finding of highly pathogenic avian influenza prompts several steps that are informed by Michigan's Surveillance and Response Plan for HPAI in freeranging wildlife," said Creagh. "The DNR and MDARD are working with other experts and taking advantage of every available resource to ensure a swift, appropriate response that limits the spread of HPAI." The state's wildlife HPAI plan was developed DNR's Wildlife by Division in 2006. The DNR already practices regular examination of carcasses

Since its creation in 2014, 20 organizations have earned the designation, including General Motors.

"Thousands of highly skilled, well-qualified veterans already live and work in Michigan, and we want to continue to attract these talented men and women to our state," Barnes said. "As more veterans transition out of the military and into their civilian careers, we want to engage with them earlier in their transition and let them know about the many Michigan companies who understand the value of their skills."

To view the panel discussions or learn more about MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer program, visit MichiganVeterans.com.



THEME: TOURIST DESTINATIONS

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| 1. India's first P.M. | 16 |
| 6. *Lake Geneva or | |
| LÈman to the | |
| French | |
| 9. "The Fame Monster" | |
| Lady | |
| 13. Soft single in | 25 |
| baseball | 2.2 |
| 14. Go wrong | 35 |
| 15. Like Al Yankovic | 40 |
| 16. Goes with a dagger? | 40 |
| 17 bum, found in mountains | 44 |
| 18. Pavlova and | |
| Karenina | 48 |
| 19. *Bourbon in | |
| New Orleans | |
| 21. *The Smithsonian, | |
| e.g. | |
| 23. Questionnaire | |
| check box | 63 |
| 24. Table hill | |
| 25. " to the Bone" | 66 |
| 28. *You spend it in | |
| Acapulco | 71 |
| 30. Manual calculator | |
| 35. Shade of beige | |
| 37. Grub | n l |
| 39. "That is," Latin | u |
| 40. High or low cards | 80. |
| 41. Echo sounder | Mo |
| 43. Month of Purim | to |
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| 46. Spanish earthen pot | Cal |
| 47. Jesus' first guests? | 4 |
| 48. "Pollock" actor Ed | |
| 50. Varieties | 1.00 |

- 52. Workout unit
- 53. Leave at the altar
- 55. Mama sheep
- 57. *Versailles
- Buckingham
- 60. *London or Golden
- Gate
- 63. It is often wreaked
- 64. Lungful
- 66. Liveliness

40 45 44 45 48 53 57 58 59 53 5

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29. "Go away!" 31. Original rib owner? 32. Mothball substitute 33. Data _ 34. *The ____ in Las Vegas 36. It was Brezhnev's domain 38. *China has a great one 42. Autumn laborer 45. Steal a plane 49. "___'em!" to a dog 51. Extreme agitation 54. Fido's restraint 56. Swelling of human organs 57. Not sun-kissed



JUNE 3 - JUNE 9

A Triple Crown winner at last. Last Saturday jockey Victor Espinoza rode American Pharoah

to victory on his third attempt at the Triple Crown. Pharoah becomes the first horse to win this coveted achievement in 37 years with the time of 2:26.65.



lllinois Republican

Dennis Hastert, a former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, was due to be arraigned Tuesday in federal court on charges of trying to hide large cash transactions and lying about it. According to an indictment he was trying to evade detection of \$3.5 million in payments he had promised to cover up sexual contact with a male, back when he was a high school wrestling coach.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE DOLLA Are you supportive of Bruce Jenner - Caitlin Jenner's decision? • Yes. It is good she can finally be who she is.



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58. Affirm 59. Key receiver 20. Golden parachute 60. Very dry recipients 61. Increased in size 22. *Disney World is 62. December 24 and among its most popular 31, e.g. attractions 63. Pilgrimage to Mecca 24. Like light of full 65. Promise to pay moon 67. " he drove out 25. *Keys attraction of sight...' 26. Capital of Ghana 27. Dismal

Puzzle solutions on page 12

Subscribe TODAY! 616.897.9261 • No. It is just not right.

• I don't care.

• I'm sick of hearing about it.

• No opinion TO VOTE IN THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

WWW. thelowellledger.com

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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.

BOYS AND GIRLS SOCCER!!!

Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization (LASSO)

GRAND RIVER RIVERFRONT PARK

12025 Grand River Dr. SE, Lowell, MI 49331

MAKE UP DATE: Tuesday, June 23, 2015

(Primerity for U15G team due to East Coast Trip. Any others must make arrangements in advance)

Mon., June 15 or Tues., June 16, 2015

GIRLS & BOYS 6-8 Reg. 5:00-5:30 pm Tryout 5:30-6:30 pm

GIRLS & BOYS 9-11 Reg. 6:00-6:30 pm Tryout 6:30-7:30 pm

GIRLS & BOYS 12 & OLDER Reg. 7:00-7:30 pm Tryout 7:30-8:30 pm

Bring a soccer ball, shin guards & a water bottle

LOWELL AREA BELEET SPECER ORGANIZATIO



page 16 ____

LASSO's goal is to provide a competitive club environment where dedicated boys and girls can develop their potential and receive quality instruction in an atmosphere of fun as their commitment to the sport of soccer grows.

For more information go to www.lassosoccer.com