

STORIES OF perseverance

pages 7-10



sizzlin' concert



page 16

50 CENTS



Vintage baseball - All-American pastime played the same as in 1858

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Since 2007 The Fallasburgh Flats have been playing baseball like its 1858. The vintage baseball club uses bare hands, wooden bats and superb sportsmanship in an attempt to return the all-American pastime to its fun family oriented roots.

Convened by original manager Dan "Scenic Route" Stevens, The Flats were originally known as the Cubs. Stevens spent two years at the helm recruiting members and laying groundwork for the future of the club while experiencing only a small level of success on the field.

According to current manager Scott "Patches" Fitzpatrick, that struggle was mostly due to a shortage in membership. "It was rough early as the team could not



Members of The Fallasburgh Flats, often referred to as The Flats, pose for a retro themed team photo.

always field enough guys to play. However, we now have a core set of players that has helped us improve greatly," said Fitzpatrick.

The team began to experience greater success in the 2011 season under new manager John "Baggy Pants" Kolb. After a losing

2010 season Kolb broke new ground for the club leading them to a second place tie in the league and a championship title at a four

team tournament hosted by the Ludington Mariners.

The Cubs became The Flats in 2012 when the team decided to honor their local history by paying homage to the river that runs through historic Fallasburgh, north of Lowell. The club also developed a relationship with the Fallasburgh Historical Society who granted the team use of the school house field for their home events.

Kolb continued to lead the team successfully until the close of the 2013 season when he handed over the reigns to Fitzpatrick, who says he is proud to be part of an organization that respects the game's origins as opposed to the high profile media driven sport of today. "This brings

Vintage baseball, continued, page 2

Lowell grad mentors former biology teacher

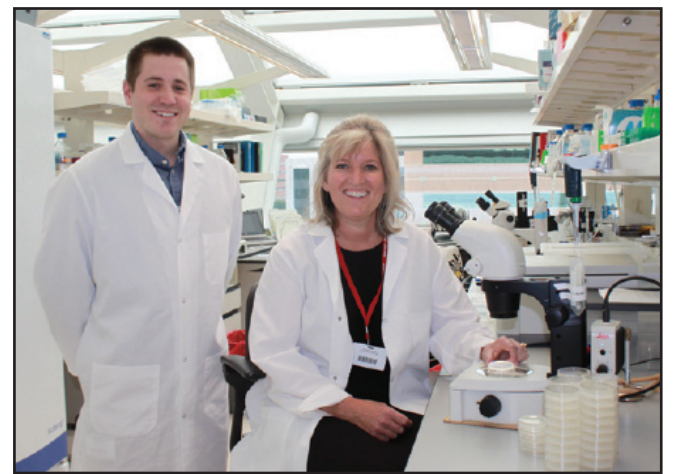
by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

In a unique role reversal, a Lowell High School graduate is mentoring his former teacher during her internship at the Van Andel Institute, 333 Bostwick Ave. NE, Grand Rapids. The Van Andel Institute is also giving LHS a financial grant to build a lab at the high school.

Dylan Dues, a 2009 LHS graduate, works as a research technician in the laboratory of aging and neurodegenerative disease at the Van Andel Institute. He has a degree in neuroscience from Central Michigan University. Heather DeJonge has taught science at LHS since 1990.

Dues was one of her students not too long ago.

"I think we're doing very well with the role reversal," DeJonge said. "Dylan has done a fantastic job being patient with me, teaching me the different techniques that I haven't experienced. The equipment here is much higher-level



Dylan Dues and Heather DeJonge in the laboratory at the Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids.

than what the high school has so learning some of the different techniques and procedures with the equipment has been an amazing experience. Dylan has been very patient and a great mentor for me."

"I'm getting a chance to mentor my former high school biology teacher in the methods of research," Dues said. "I think that the main purpose of the teacher involvement in this program would be to help train teachers in the scientific process so that they can bring the true scientific method back to the science

classrooms in the high school. Heather is one of the first teachers involved in the Van Andel Institute's partners in science program. She is doing her research internship in the laboratory of aging and neurodegenerative disease. She will spend two summers doing an eight week research internship in a laboratory and then some additional educational training with the Van Andel Education Institute."

Lowell grad mentor, continued, page 11

And the winner is...



Robert Woldhuis, is pictured with Sherri Zandstra, office manager at Wittenbach GMC in Lowell, when he arrived to pick up his 2008 Yamaha V-Star 650 custom motorcycle. He placed the winning bid of \$3,000 for the cycle that was donated to Pink Arrow Pride by the late Renee Grant.

Vintage baseball, continued

people to the origins of the game when teams played for fun and sportsmanship. This is much more family friendly than that of other games that are played today. Hopefully we can show kids what the game should be instead of the highlights that we see on television which is self centered instead of sportsmanship," Fitzpatrick said.

The first thing fans will notice about the team's players, called ballists, is their lack of gloves, but

Fitzpatrick says that is just the beginning of the old time style. "We play by the 1858 rule set which has numerous differences. First is the lack of gloves worn. Pitching resembles more of a modified fast pitch or slow pitch style. We play with no tagging up to advance on a fly ball and runners are free to return on a caught fly ball without being put out. Batters can be retired on a ball that is hit and only bounces once as opposed to today where an out can

only occur on a caught fly ball. There is no stealing or walking as strikes and balls aren't called except in times of punishment for delaying the game. The only way to strike out is to swing and miss at three separate pitches during an at bat," explained Fitzpatrick.

Though the style changes are an important historic portion of the

games played, Fitzpatrick says that the true spirit of The Flats is embracing the sportsmanship and creating a fun authentic experience for families, history buffs and baseball enthusiasts. "Anyone who likes the game of baseball will enjoy this as well as anyone that considers themselves a historian of sorts," concluded Fitzpatrick.

The Flats hope to inspire a return to sportsmanship and old fashion fun to today's young baseball fans.



along main street

COFFEE WITH COUNCIL

Come meet and have a cup of coffee with your city councilmembers on the first Saturday of the month from 8-10 am at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce office, 113 Riverwalk Plaza.

SUMMER YOUTH THEATER AT LOWELLARTS!

Shakespeare in the Park, Twelfth Night - for ages 7-18. Aug. 1, Aug. 10-13 and Aug. 17-20 from 6-7:30 pm at Fallasburg Park. To register or for more info visit www.lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., August 5 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

CALL FOR PLAYWRIGHTS

LowellArts! players seeking playwrights to submit a 10-minute play to the *Play Bytes by Playwrights* competition. Plays submitted can be drama or comedy and are to fit the theme: *Things That Go Bump In the Night*. The competition is open to any playwright 18 years and older and the deadline is August 10. For more information contact LowellArts! at info@lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

CALL FOR ACTORS

Seeking adult actors for the Fall Dinner Theater production of *Play Bytes by Playwrights*, October 16-31, directed by Sue Bradford and Ken Parrish. Auditions are Sun. and Mon., Aug. 23 and 24 from 6-8 pm at LowellArts!, 149 S. Hudson. For more information email info@lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

CALL FOR ARTISTS: FALLASBURG FALL FESTIVAL

Artists are invited to apply to be part of the second annual LowellArts! member booth at the Fallasburg Fall Festival for the Arts on Sept. 19 and 20. Selected artists will be provided a display area in an outdoor, tented booth with approximately 20 other artists. Deadline is August 15. For more information contact LowellArts! at info@lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

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.

The Flats have six games remaining on their schedule this season, including trips to Ludington, Greenfield Village and Flint, as well as two home events. The first will take place Sunday, August 30 at 1 pm when The Flats host Kent Base Ball Club. The second, the John Wesley Fallas tournament, is scheduled for September 19. Games take place at 1124 Fallasburg Road just west of the historic covered bridge.

•••

Baseball serves as a good model for democracy in action: Every player is equally important and each has a chance to be a hero
~ Edward Abbey

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Verizon backpack giveaway this Saturday

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

As September draws near the need for school supplies does as well. With the cost of fulfilling a child's annual supply list reaching more than \$100 on average, TCC Verizon Wireless of Lowell hopes to relieve some of that financial burden with their fourth annual "School Rocks Backpack Giveaway" on August 1.

Since its inception the program has given away 260,000 backpacks nationally, each filled to the brim with supplies such as pencils, folders, glue, paper and pencil boxes. The back to school initiative is one of many projects inspired by the "Culture of Good" program run by the company, which encourages service in each city that the company retails.

"We do a lot of community service here in Lowell," explained store manager Denise Hall, who has run the store since this past November. "We recently helped landscape at the area dog park and are super excited to be a part of the backpack giveaway. This is my second year doing it and people are always really happy when they receive theirs."

Hall said this particular project touches base with her on a personal level as she herself was often left without new goods to start the school year due to her family's financial struggles. "It feels really good to be able to help, especially coming from a poor background myself."

This year TCC will hand deliver 100,000 backpacks inside their 600 plus store locations. The Lowell store, located at 11635 Fulton Street, will disperse 200 of those backpacks to the community between the hours of 12-3 or until supplies run out. No proof of residency will be required to receive backpacks. The giveaway will be limited to one per child present.

"We are grateful to be able to play a role in ensuring that as many children as possible are set up for educational success," explained TCC CEO Scott Moorehead. "The backpack giveaway is something that both our employees and customers look forward to

every year. It is our ultimate goal to make a difference equally in the lives of

employees, customers and the communities where we live and this effort is one in

which we accomplish all of these objectives."



TCC Verizon Wireless will be hosting their fourth annual School Rocks Backpack Giveaway in Lowell on August 1 at their Lowell store.

Lowell's showboat status and future

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

In May we looked at the 83-year history of Lowell's Showboat. This month we asked a couple local leaders about the current status of the showboat and its future.

"There are no definite plans to share regarding renovating and updating the showboat," said city manager Mark Howe. "It is something that could happen in the future. Ultimately it is a community discussion and decision."

The current showboat has been there since 1979. It was designed by Jim Hall and built by the late Ivan Blough. It has had minor cosmetic repairs

over the years, but no major renovations.

"After the flood in April 2013, we had a structural engineer come out and inspect it to ensure it wasn't damaged," Howe said. "He noted some needed repairs and we completed those right away."

"The professionals that have inspected the boat would like the structural integrity improved, if the roof level is to be used by the public," Hall said. "Now the boat is in dire need of maintenance. To date, there are no active plans to renovate or update the showboat that I am aware of. The issue has had

some local discussion at a community forum but that is in a very tentative level of discussion."

"Last year, a stage and showboat master plan was drawn up to address the need for a more permanent venue for the summer concert series," Howe said. "As the backdrop to the concerts, the showboat was part of that discussion. There was some talk about whether the showboat could be permanently affixed to the Riverwalk, but it appears the [Michigan Department of Environmental Quality] will not allow that. I've continued to have discussions with the [Lowell Area] Chamber of

Commerce, local businesses and city residents for their input on how the showboat should be maintained and used in the future."

There are no legal requirements about how often the showboat should be inspected, but Howe said the city always makes sure the vessel is safe.

"As far as I know the showboat isn't subject to any law requiring regular inspections, but since we do have people on it at various times of the year, keeping it safe is, of course, a priority," Howe said.

Showboat status, continued, page 4

June LPD stats

Lowell's police and fire departments had a very active June.

According to statistics released this week, Lowell police made 32 arrests during the month of June. The 32 arrests in June include six for drug law violations, 13 for outstanding warrants and ten "other arrests." That adds up to 138 people who have been arrested in Lowell during 2015.

The police department responded to several misdemeanors during June as well. There were ten assaults, ten larceny calls, five dog complaints, one malicious destruction complaint and one breaking

and entering complaint. Lowell police cited 25 people for ordinance violations, which more than doubled last month's total of 12 ordinance citations. They were also involved in 63 assistance calls and were dispatched to 13 accidents. They ticketed 27 drivers at traffic stops and let 98 drivers off with only a warning.

The Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority went on 28 runs in June. They also responded to three vehicle fires, 13 "miscellaneous" fires, 36 medical calls, 10 accidents, and there were two false alarms.

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Showboat status, continued

If the showboat is going to be repaired or replaced, the best bet is through fundraising, like the current "Rebuild Whites Bridge" effort.

"Like everything else, it's a matter of money," Hall said. "The residents of the city should not be expected to fund this kind of undertaking. They helped fund the original boat when it was a community enterprise and we have received our money's worth, which, by the way, was approximately \$70,000 in 1978. If the community at large, including the many surrounding township residents, want to enter into a fundraising effort, then it might be considered."

The showboat is an essential part of Lowell's identity and after 83 years people are still creating memories on it.

"I personally enjoy the summer concerts and would have to say my favorites are usually the blues acts, such [as] The Vincent Hayes Project and our local favorite Alive and Well," Howe said. "As for other showboat related memories, I am looking forward to making a few new ones with my family this year. My daughter and her husband will be moving to Michigan in the summer which means we'll get to take my two-year-old granddaughter to see Santa on the showboat for the first time."

"[My] favorite memories revolve around the local people that all came together to make [the] showboat the fun and rewarding activity that it was and the lifelong friends that we were able to cultivate only because of the personal involvement with the showboat," Hall said. "Sorry so many of you missed it! It was truly great fun while it lasted. If anyone is interested in the history of the Lowell Showboat, the Lowell Area Historical Museum has an extensive collection of showboat memorabilia on display. They'd love to have you visit."

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

What should you know about establishing a trust?

You don't have to be a CEO or multimillionaire to benefit from a trust. In fact, many people gain advantages from establishing one – so it may be useful to learn something about this common estate-planning tool.

Why would you want a trust? For one thing, if you have highly specific wishes on how and when you want your estate to be distributed among your heirs, then a trust could be appropriate. Also, you might be interested in setting up a trust if you'd like to avoid the sometimes time-consuming, usually expensive and always public process of probate. Some types of trusts may also help protect your estate from lawsuits and creditors.

Currently, only a small percentage of Americans will be subject to estate taxes, but estate tax laws are often in flux, so things may be different in the future – and a properly designed trust could help minimize these taxes.

If you decide that a trust might be right for you, you should work with an experienced estate-planning attorney. Trusts can be highly effective estate-planning vehicles, but they can also be complex and varied – so you'll want to make sure you understand what's involved.

One important decision will be to choose a trustee. The trustee is legally bound to manage the trust's assets in the best interests of your beneficiaries, so your choice

of trustee is extremely important. Your first impulse might be to select a family member, but before doing so, consider asking these questions:

- Does he or she have the experience and knowledge to manage your financial affairs competently?
- When called upon to make a decision that may affect other family members, will your prospective trustee act in a fair and unbiased manner?
- Will naming a family member as trustee create a strain within the family?
- Does your prospective trustee have enough time to manage your trust? Does he or she even want this responsibility?
- Do you have other family members who are willing to serve as trustee if your chosen trustee cannot do so?

This last question leads to another key aspect of establishing a trust – specifically, you can name a "co-trustee" to help manage the trust, and also a "successor trustee" who can take over if the person named initially fails or refuses to act in the capacity of trustee. Again, you will want to put considerable thought into whom you ask to take these roles.

And you don't have to stick with individuals, either — you can decide to ask a financial institution to serve as trustee. By hiring such an institution, you will gain its objectivity and expertise, but you still need to ask many questions about costs, services provided, and so on.

Finally, as you develop your plans for a trust, consider communicating your wishes and ideas to your family and anyone else who may be beneficiaries of your estate. When family members don't know what to expect, disappointment and frustration can follow. If you know your loved ones are on board with your estate plans, you may feel even more comfortable in putting these plans in place.

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viewpoint

to the editor

lowell is biker friendly

To The Editor,

My wife, Karen (Wingeier) McPherson and I graduated from Lowell High School in 1964 and promptly went off to MSU and then our careers. Living in nine cities over the next 44 years! We learned a lot about small and large cities.

We are avid bicyclists, joggers and walkers, and have been so in all those nine locations. We moved back to Lowell to live on the family farm 27 months ago and continue to be avid walkers and bicyclists. My editorial comment is how pleased we are with most of the drivers

and how respectful they are of bicyclists. A car should give a bicyclist a five-foot space when passing per Michigan Department of Transportation.

Being an engineer, I occasionally keep track of what percentage of drivers seem to try to hit us or come very, very close. Many of the past towns had a 25 percent near-miss rate, some so close as to tick my mirror.

Lowell, Saranac and Ada have [a] much better rate closer to 10 percent. Most Lowell drivers are very bicycle/walker friendly.

That is very good and we are very appreciative. You can't imagine what objects have been thrown or yelled at us; so far in Lowell, only the very rare roar of a truck as they pass trying to impress or scare.

We also are very

appreciative of the small town feel and energy of the city of Lowell and Lowell schools. A lot is happening in Lowell, yet it still has that small town friendliness. We are happy to be home.

Alec McPherson
Lowell

and most discussions seem to happen in "work sessions" where there is no recording for citizens to hear who says what. Where is the accountability in that?

Meanwhile, there are the majority [of] three councilmembers who

always seem to vote in unison as directed by the city manager, usually with little or no discussion on record. Who is really running this city?

With concern,
Sherry Werdon
Lowell

concern for lowell

Dear Editor,

Our beloved community has been taken over by those who seem totally unwilling to meet the citizens' concerns with honesty and integrity. This is very alarming. The concerned citizens have been gagged with threats, intimidation and political rhetoric.

Most citizens are even unwilling to attend meetings anymore because of the disrespect and attitudes they

meet there. We're losing our community to spin masters that we can't compete with. They even use tax dollar paid attorneys against the best interests of the citizens. Yet where are the results of their efforts for the betterment of the city?

The streets are still falling apart, there's still no listing of "old business" on meeting agendas for citizens to know what is being worked on or to be discussed

government greed

Dear Editor,

It's about extortion:

It's that time again, let's raise some money for nonprofits. I love doing this but in the last two years we have had the health department extort money from these charities. We went head-to-head with them last year and with the help of Dave Hildenbrand, the senior center did not lose \$500 for absolutely no reason whatsoever, except pure greed from the health department.

Here is a heads-up.

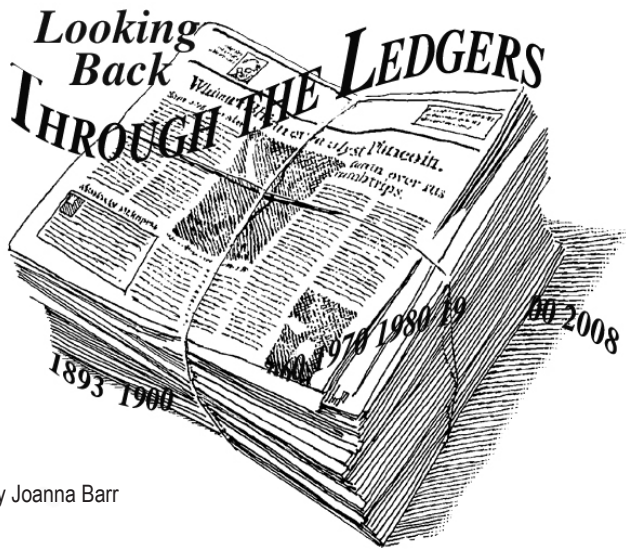
Pink Arrow is in September and we work restaurant row; we donate a percent of our sales to the Pink Arrow and in return they cover the blanket permit for the day from the health department. Well guess what, since Larkin's does a walking taco, we need to get an assembly permit at the tune of \$80.

Chili cook-off, well here we go again, not only do we pay a day permit but they again want \$25 per chili contestant which we have around 25. Do the math, that's \$500.

And on another note, we at the Alto Legion have a golf outing to raise money for our veterans, someone suggested Wounded Warriors. Guess what the CEO makes? \$500,000 per year and about seven percent of the monies raised actually goes to veterans. Well, that one we can control. Every dime we raise is going to Grand Rapids Veterans home. I will be damned if we give one dime to "administration fees."

If anyone could explain the logic of this greed to me, I would love to hear it.

Thank you,
Deb Apol
Lowell



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal July 30, 1890

Congressman Belknap has reported a bill to the House to give pensions to the hospital nurses of our civil war. It is a just, honest measure and one that should have been considered long ago.

A game of Base Ball was played between a club from Caledonia and a picked nine. Results: Lowell 7, Caledonia 6. The spectators say it was one of the best games ever played in Lowell.

In Yeiter & Look's window there hangs the skin of an immense rattlesnake, which was sent to F. D. Eddy by Will Booth, from California. Will killed the snake and the skin is labeled "California Humming Bird."

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 29, 1915

Headline: Wants old school bell used. The following extracts from a letter written from Lakeview, Wash., by Calvin Maynard, a former Lowell school boy, is of interest indicating as it does, the feeling of our old residents, absent and present, regarding the old white school house and its bell: "Tell Mr. Hicks for me if they don't put that old bell on top of the new school house there will be a howl from all parts of the country. The old bell is fit to top off a \$50,000 building or a \$150,000 building. I see Johnson calls it an old relic? It's no more a relic than Old Glory. If Old Gabriel had the ringing of that old bell instead of blowing a trumpet, you would

see 'em coming from all four corners of one place and perhaps both places."

Portland had a deal all closed with Henry Ford for an automobile factory and just as she began turning out cars by the thousand, the pesky bed slats broke and the poor old girl woke up.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 1, 1940

Headline: Great crowd welcomes ninth Lowell Showboat. The Lowell Showboat again retained its weather luck when the big annual show got under way last night under a clear July sky.

The hottest place in town the past two weeks has been the Diesel engine room of the Lowell Municipal light and power plant where the temperature remains around 120 degrees all day long. A man is required to be on duty there all the time the engines are running. The low condition of the water at the dam north of town has made it necessary to run the engines about 15 hours every day to supply the growing power needs of Lowell and vicinity.

A window display that is attracting considerable attention is that of the local Kroger store which depicts in the background the Lowell Showboat coming down the river. Surrounding the picture is a display of Lowell-made products handled by Kroger stores.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger July 29, 1965

Headline: Community effort brings Showboat back to life. Welcomed by John Roth and a large Monday night audience, the Robert E. Lee began its 34th season on a gala note.

New equipment installed at King Milling Company makes it possible to unload as much as 53,000 bushels of wheat in a single day. The quality of the wheat crop is excellent this year... It has been a short crop season in this area this year. King Doyle reported that the 40,000 bushel storage silos of the company are near capacity.

Charles R. Doyle, Lowell, received official word this week of his appointment as acting postmaster in Lowell on September 1st. He will succeed George Hale who has served as postmaster since 1949.

Looking Back, continued, page 12

outdoors

people power

Dave Stegehuis

American citizens have always come together to rally around a common cause. We could start with the Revolutionary War. It seems that in recent years individuals have stepped up to champion a large number of special causes. Right in our local community there are many examples where our friends and neighbors, including young people, pitch in to make a positive impact on the lives of others and the world around us.

Those of us who value land, water, and wildlife must also work together to protect and manage our natural resources for the benefit of people and the wild creatures with whom we share the earth. Many issues have been addressed by private organizations which often partner with governmental agencies. Working together we can make a difference.

Citizen managed organizations have been instrumental in re-establishing diminished game populations, reclaiming lost habitat as well as supporting many other land, water, and wildlife conservation projects. These efforts have expanded or actually made possible opportunities to hunt and fish for all citizens. At the same time, outdoor recreation in general benefits by providing places for hiking, camping, biking, and related outdoor activities. It will take vigilance to maintain what has been accomplished and hard work to reach new goals to insure that future generations can experience nature as we have.

If you are not personally involved with or donate to some kind of organized

Outdoors, continued, page 6

Outdoors, continued

conservation effort, look around and pick one or more that address your concerns for our natural surroundings. There are groups which focus on a particular species such as elk, waterfowl, deer, and upland game, while others have more general

objectives. However, what is good for turkeys is good for deer and good for hikers and photographers. Everyone wins. Be thorough in checking out any organization that requests money. Most are transparent about their mission and

are glad to make their case to you. A few, however, hide their real agenda with misleading titles and rhetoric, so be cautious.

I have deliberately not called out specific organizations. If you have read this far you likely share my concerns and are

motivated to do your own research and make informed decisions. Just remember how much has been accomplished by individuals working together for common causes. Let's get involved and use that power to preserve our natural resource heritage.

★ In The Service ★

Air Force Guard Airman 1st Class Alexander M. Talcott graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen

who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Talcott is the son of Robert and Anita Talcott, of Saranac.

He graduated in 2010 from Saranac High School and earned a bachelor's degree in 2013 from Michigan State University, East Lansing.

college news

Ashley Beauchamp, of Alto, was one of 2,078 students from Saginaw Valley State University named to the dean's list for the winter 2015 semester.

To be eligible for the dean's list, a student must take at least 12 credit hours and carry a semester GPA of 3.4 or better.

Stephanie Forton, of Alto, was among 934 graduates who earned degrees in May from Saginaw Valley State University.

Derek Thebo, of Lowell, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wyoming at the completion of the 2015 spring semester.

Douglas Riley Nordman, of Lowell, was named to the dean's honor list in recognition of outstanding academic achievement for winter term 2015 at Michigan Engineering at University of Michigan.

The dean's honor list recognizes those students who completed 12 hours of credit or more and who earned a grade point average of 3.50 or better for the term.

health



hip fractures

A hip fracture is a break in the top of the upper leg bone near the hip joint, just below the waist. The type of hip fracture depends on which part of the bone breaks. Most hip fractures are caused by a fall in people 65 years or older. People with weak bones, known as osteoporosis, are more likely to break a hip.

The most common symptom of a hip fracture is pain in the hip or groin area. The pain is usually worse when trying to move the hip. There is a lot of pain with walking. Most people cannot walk with a hip fracture. If a hip fracture is suspected, an x-ray can show if the hip is broken and which part of the bone is fractured. Sometimes, if the x-ray is normal, a test

called an MRI is done to be sure there is no broken bone.

The first step in treating a hip fracture is to control the pain. After an orthopedic surgeon evaluation, the most common treatment is surgery. It may involve putting pins, rods and plates into the hip joint. Some hip fractures are treated with a hip replacement. After surgery, physical therapy is needed to regain use of the hip. People practice bending, walking and climbing stairs.

Hip fractures can be prevented by talking to your doctor about a fall-risk assessment. You can learn how to make your home safer, talk about medications that could be causing falls and work on balance and strength.

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- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>JULY 29
Rachael Vegter, Mary Fox, Matt Lee.</p> | <p>AUGUST 2
Carolynn Kline, Hayley Woolfenden.</p> |
| <p>JULY 30
Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberly DeBold, Bill Potter, Paige Rash.</p> | <p>AUGUST 3
Rebecca Heinicke, Kelsey Brenk, Hillary Smith, Becky Lamberson.</p> |
| <p>JULY 31
Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.</p> | <p>AUGUST 4
Irene Willmarth, Scott VanDyke, Cody Bieri, Nick Tykocki, Thomas H. Mahalic, Joann Childs, Kayleigh VanKeulen.</p> |

area churches

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

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell
Pastor Tony Stenaker

9:45 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Fellowship
11:00 A.M. Worship

897-9863
Nursery & Children
Worship Programs Provided

A friend...a family...a mission!

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Worship Service.....Sunday -10:30 A.M.
(Nursery available)

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmarylowell.com

Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 10:30 AM
Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PATE WIGGINS 897-7915
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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
865 Lincoln Lake SE
616.897.5906
Sunday Worship 10:00 A.M
Pastor J. Richard Sherlock

Responding to the Living God, with a progressive voice and working hands, we are called to feed Christ's Community in mind, body, and spirit.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Barrier Free
Internet: <http://www.fbcilowell.org>
Rev. Jon Pickers & Pastor Phil Severn

Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M.
Sunday School, nursery - adult.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA - K-5, during school year.....Wed. 8:15 - 8 P.M.
Youth Ministry - grades 6-12.....Mon. 8:30 - 2:30 P.M.
(Youth Ministry moves to West. during summer)

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street
897-5936
www.lowellumc.com
Barrier-free entrance

SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30
Sunday School.....9:30
YOUTH GROUPS (JR. & SR. HIGH).....6:00 PM
Worship on the Riverwalk begins July 12
Pastor Brad Brillhart

Happy 96th Birthday!

DORIS (Myers) CANFIELD

AUGUST 2

Send Birthday Cards & Greetings to - Doris Canfield

120 S. Division • Lowell, MI 49331

perseverance

A community fighting cancer

Throughout July the Lowell Ledger and the Buyers Guide will once again highlight the stories of area cancer survivors and those who are dealing with grief. Each writer will convey, in their own words, their experiences as they walk through the many phases of their personal journey.

~ All photos taken by Modern Photographics of Lowell

Steve Watson

I am willing this article about my step dad, Steve Watson. Even though he is not my biological dad, I am incredibly grateful "hey dad" he raised my sister and I since we were very young and has always been there for my mom, my sister and I. Our family first changed in July 2008 when my stepmom diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. She has had a long history of chronic back pain due to an injury when I was a child. She has had several back surgeries, nerve blocks and a lot of pain management and medication due to her back pain. In 2012, he finally qualified for disability and was able to retire from his career of residential service. Several months later my other stepmom job cut him. In February 2014, he was working a lot of overtime, that

year someone called to schedule a home visit. After several calls with a scheduling, he then was called to an oncology doctor. Obviously, he was called to a doctor specialist that I went for two operations. During his initial appointment, the doctor had thought my dad had a cancer and then they did a biopsy and the doctor recommended having an MRI done on the shoulder. It was July 2013 and I was at work getting done with the shoulder and diagnosed as "CANCER" on one of the bones. He actually got the best of me and I was shocked when I saw my dad's name and the words "multiple lung cancer" below. I am not a doctor by my own but my knowledge of medical terminology

We were shocked that he is still here with us and I am completely shocked he is here with my mom. My dad is a cancer hero!

gave me all-out love with my mom's back pain to the maximum extent. When he returned many times, including an MRI. After that and a doctor's visit and my level condition, they did not even allow it to come to a doctor and were scheduled for a chronic pain and doctor pain. When he was referred to a neurologist, thinking his

condition is not. I thought to myself this is not good. I gave it to the neurologist and she gave it to the doctor to look at the results. The oncology doctor pulled me aside, showed me his scan and informed me they were going to schedule a full body scan. When we got to the oncologist's office and she was in a meeting, thinking his



Steve Watson with his deer



Custom Components Corporation continues to sponsor the Pink Army Ride. Company CEO Ross Finkler leads Custom Components in 2014. Finkler has the company with Dave Leonard and wife, who his brother Colin Finkler, who is the director of engineering. He does not work directly for the company and all three have had cancer, with Ross at some point. The Finklers had their father's pancreatic cancer in 2007 after having it over years. Colin said that before his father became sick, he had never noticed or felt any symptoms. Colin said that Pink Army helps to raise awareness and draw attention to cancer so he people know that it's not a major issue. Finkler's father was able to see and receive the benefits from the Pink Army and it was a huge help to their family.

perseverance

community fighting cancer

Angie Cohen

It will be 14 years ago this fall that I would be on the sidelines of South Fork standing on the Lowell 2nd Avenue family football team. As we all know, Lowell football didn't have the hype it does today. It was a Friday afternoon, the entire Lowell community consistently showing up to watch the game every Friday night. Whether the team had a winning or a losing season, the cheer was always full. It was a cheer that transcended the football field. I will never forget the cheer that we sang. Even though I would eventually move away from this community, I still remember Lowell my home.

On March 14 of this journey, I would eventually discover that I would undergo a January that has become both a blessing and a curse. I was diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer with metastasizing liver.

Just like I had been struggling with a non-related medical condition, which I just chalked up to being a long season in the back of my busy season at work. After a visit to my primary care physician it was highly likely I would end up with my gallbladder. However, that day I would go to the radiology department and they would tell me that I had a cancerous mass in my colon. I had two more tests done, all of which confirmed what the radiologist had said. I also was experiencing some blood in my stool, but that had been happening for quite a few years and I was



noticed. I went with my gastroenterologist and they were able to find the cancer. It was a relief to get a diagnosis and to get a treatment plan.

the year and would have started as a small polyp. The next year would be a complete life. Being able to see the doctor and have the hospital treatment and have the best of both worlds. I was overwhelmed with joy. The initial diagnosis was that I had colon cancer, metastasizing liver with metastasizing liver. It was a relief to get a diagnosis and to get a treatment plan.

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I am very positive about my prognosis and look forward to life as a survivor of colorectal cancer. PLEASE, if you are over 50 and haven't had a colonoscopy, arrange to get one as a routine to place the call and schedule one.



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I would be another month before I realized that things were just not getting better. The next diagnosis was that I had colon cancer, metastasizing liver with metastasizing liver. It was a relief to get a diagnosis and to get a treatment plan.

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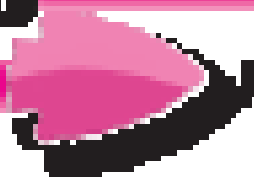
received the last few months. One of the most significant gifts was a call I received with the news about what I had. It was a blessing and a relief to hear from the Lowell community. What the point I had to go to get my medical bills quickly paid, but this was not the case. We have supported South Fork as a family in the past but never would I have imagined being a recipient. Even though we moved away from Lowell it was apparent that the community still cared for us.

The last few months have been quite the journey. In fact, I have witnessed the results of chemotherapy and a visit to receive to receive my team. The

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perseverance



A community fighting cancer

Loise's story, continued

the doubt that she really liked the color of my natural hair and that she loved the way she naturally shined looked so nice. Whether it was the instant wash wash hair she had I thought it was going to take. I started washing hair to wash and washes that she used to do. I really like the look she had hair style that she had hair probably and have doubt to keep it that. The support of friends and family during my cancer journey was overwhelming. From providing rides to chemo with me through treatments about this time it was my sister who supported with support came. While trying to be aggressive for me, my parents was now dealing with my, spiritual care and alternative treatment for my illness. Friends of those who are

in-patient care. I was about four with my dress treatment and my younger sister was diagnosed with breast cancer. I also breast-fed that breast feeding treatment and have had breast cancer. When I started this with my oncologist she suggested that I get a genetic counselor and have genetic testing done. This would be to find out if we started radiation because of her work. "How long was it waiting a breast CT is going to be removed?" Genetic testing, breast removal, my head was spinning. What had happened? Overwhelmed with stress and want to deal with radiation by November I went to my 30th birthday. My mood, always that well could sleep again and that I'm positive that she had been through chemo and my husband

or cancer came. One of my goals was to my younger sister was also tested and she was the same. I was so happy I was making some difficult decisions, so much so. Many doctors didn't see cancerous with breast was back plans. And after discussion with my oncologist and support I decided to have radiation treatment with chemotherapy and targeted therapy including removal of my ovaries. My sister said she was so proud of me. The support was there and my body healed. It was my emotional state that made it happen. I wasn't an expert. I did not know how to be a cancer survivor.

community support from Pillsbury Falls helped in many ways that I can never thank you. What is wonderful how you are going to be able to do all of this and that is my goal. This organization is a wonderful example of love community spirit. The love is every day and I am blessed and thankful to have been out of this town.

For all waiting on what my own "cancer" looks like but the price is getting closer and closer. With God's help, continued support and love from my family, taking it all one day at a time and remembering that I am deserving this. I will do whatever it takes to get you out of this town.

This organization is a wonderful example of love community spirit. You touch so many lives and I am blessed and thankful to have been out of this town.

my cancer journey I was not able to be as helpful as I would have liked for her. We have had two occasions where we have visited I really is so healing, superior to any we have had before in the same way. They were so interesting, loving, supportive. The treatment all worked and the two outcomes of this journey.

What the Gilda's Club was created in the process up to this point is that we were still a total lack of support. I had to create myself in the way of what we had at that time.

The genetic testing was done to help figure out what I could expect. I was told that I would have to wait for my results. I received the results about four weeks later and I was so positive for the BRCA1 gene mutation. This means that I have an increased risk of developing breast and

ovarian cancer. One of my goals was to my younger sister was also tested and she was the same. I was so happy I was making some difficult decisions, so much so. Many doctors didn't see cancerous with breast was back plans. And after discussion with my oncologist and support I decided to have radiation treatment with chemotherapy and targeted therapy including removal of my ovaries. My sister said she was so proud of me. The support was there and my body healed. It was my emotional state that made it happen. I wasn't an expert. I did not know how to be a cancer survivor.



Lowell Program

In This Together...
Learn. Share. Laugh.

Steve's story, continued

Diagnosis. I was born in mid-1960s. My childhood was a mix of joy and sorrow. My parents were always very close and I was always close to them. When the BRCA1 gene was discovered, I was not able to get any genetic testing. This was the first step in my journey. I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it. They said that I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it. They said that I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it. They said that I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it.

long and in several of his years. This was definitely the most difficult because that was my life and my family. It was diagnosed with breast cancer. My parents were always very close and I was always close to them. When the BRCA1 gene was discovered, I was not able to get any genetic testing. This was the first step in my journey. I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it. They said that I was going to have a genetic test but my insurance was not covering it.

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April 2015

Sale of Pink Arrow Pride t-shirts is an important source of funds for helping area families

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

You may not think you need another pink t-shirt in your wardrobe, but those shirts are the source of the money Pink Arrow Pride uses to help families on their cancer journeys. Last year Pink Arrow gave financial gifts to over 80 local families.

“Each year it has increased. It has been growing because more people are becoming aware of the program,” said Pink Arrow Pride volunteer Ethel Stears. “One of the really nice things about that is it’s not based on need,

so we don’t have to ask people about their financial situation. There’s no need for folks to give us a lot of detail. It’s simply a way for the community to wrap their arms of support around the family as they experience cancer. It really comes at a critical time in their life. It’s not only a means of giving them a little bit of a financial boost, but it’s a way for them to know that they’re not alone [in] this journey and that the entire community has been a part of making this gift happen. That is always dependent on

the funds continuing to be there.”

Stears said most, but not all, of the money generated from t-shirt sales is used for financial gifts to local families.

“When Noel Dean had the vision of starting Pink Arrow he was real clear that he wanted the proceeds to stay in the community,” Stears said. “A lot of good is done through research and other efforts, but the money that was being raised in the community, he wanted [it] to stay in the community. We took a pretty serious

look at what was the best way to help families and finally decided that families know what their own need is. We shouldn’t be guessing what kind of a gift would be best for them, but [instead] provide a \$500 cash gift. The gift comes in one of two forms. We either provide Meijer gift cards that they can use for anything Meijer offers or we can provide a debit card that’s loaded with the cash. It gives the family privacy. Of course, all that we do is confidential.”

The money is also used to keep the doors open at Gilda’s Club, educational materials for local schools and for a scholarship.

“I think that Gilda’s Club having a presence in Lowell has done so much good,” Stears said. “When life is feeling pretty hopeless sometimes they find such hope and solid support at Gilda’s Club. There is some money set aside each year for teachers to use for educational experiences that have something to do with healthy living. Teachers can apply for some funds to do some extra kind of experience. There’s also a scholarship fund that was set up initially. As needed, money is put into that fund.”

Getting the Pink Arrow Pride t-shirt every year is a way to show the community that you care, that you helped somebody in need.

“They will be able to wear that countless times in this community and be a part of a grand experience,” Stears said. “I think one of the exciting things about these t-shirts is you see them on everybody all the time all over the place. Everyplace you go in Lowell and around there’s those pink t-shirts, and not just from this year, but previous years. It lets the person get some recognition, without even having to say anything, that they are a donor, a proud sponsor of Pink Arrow and a good citizen.”

Lowell grad mentor, continued

The Van Andel Institute is dedicated to studying the genetic, cellular and

in Parkinson’s disease affect[s] neurodegeneration. Heather’s project is

“The Van Andel Institute has not only provided this opportunity for me to study research, but they have also given LHS a grant to put a research lab in the classroom”

- Heather DeJonge

molecular origins of cancer and other degenerative diseases like Parkinson’s. They also offer various science education programs.

“We study diseases that affect the nervous system, specifically loss of neurons,” Dues said. “We are using a genetic model of [caenorhabditis elegans worms] to study how mutations in a gene implicated

specifically looking at how different genetic modifiers of the aging process affect our disease model of Parkinson’s disease.”

The Van Andel Institute is also providing a grant to LHS for a research lab that will go in the high school. All of the details haven’t been worked out yet.

“The Van Andel Institute has not only

provided this opportunity for me to study research, but they have also given LHS a grant to put a research lab in the classroom,” DeJonge said. “This opportunity was just approved within the last month or so, it’s kind of still in the works. At the beginning of the school year we’re going to get the research mini-lab set up at the high school and facilitate students becoming involved in that. It’s still in the designing phase, but certainly we will have microscopes and we’ll be able to use the [caenorhabditis elegans] worms as a model organism for the students. It’s going to be an opportunity where, kind of like where if a student has an interest in a sport they could do research as kind of their extra curricular activity. We’re going to incorporate it in the biology lessons we do. We’ll use the model organism with that as well. It is fantastic. And the employees here at the Van Andel Institute are the ones who are sponsoring

this. It is pretty amazing that they would take their monies outside of the institute and bring it out to the students and really help in education.”

“This grant to LHS is being made possible through the Van Andel Institute employee impact campaign,” Dues said. “Three times a year they have meetings where employees that donate to the fund vote on different grant opportunities. She [DeJonge] is receiving funding through the employee impact campaign to bring some research equipment to the students at LHS so that they can integrate some science and research methods into the curriculum.”

“I am doing it for the love of science and to bring it to the students,” DeJonge said. “It’s an amazing opportunity for me. I’ve learned so many things. I’m advancing my knowledge base and [I am] going to bring real world experience to the classroom.”

CONGRATULATIONS AILI FISHER



Great job at the Ionia Free Fair!



lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

Flat River Watershed citizen survey Kent, Ionia and Montcalm Counties

The Kent Conservation District (KCD) needs your help to better understand the members of the Flat River Watershed community. If you have received a Flat River survey in the mail please take the time to complete and return it to us in the included prepaid envelope. Your insights are very important and the KCD would greatly appreciate your participation in the survey to learn how to better serve the needs of the community. The survey is your opportunity for public involvement in the watershed plan. The goal of this project is to protect and preserve water quality for today and future generations. Your input is critical to help make informed, accurate objectives to preserve the water quality of this scenic river. More details are available online at <http://www.flatriverwatershed.org/management-plan.html>

The Flat River Watershed encompasses about 564 square miles of land, primarily in Kent, Ionia and Montcalm counties and incorporates three major communities: Belding, Greenville and Lowell. Agriculture is the dominant land use (57 percent) but much of the watershed remains in a relatively natural condition. Kent Conservation’s mission is to protect and enhance the natural resources of Kent County, in partnership with many agencies in West Michigan. Their motto is ‘A Helping Hand for Healthy Lands.’

Contact: Connie Redding at administrator@kentconservation.org; 3260 Eagle Park Dr. NE, Suite 111, Grand Rapids, MI 49525; 616-942-4111 ext. 4; www.kentconservation.org

NOW HIRING

The Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority will be holding open tryouts at the Look Memorial Fire Station. We are hiring for the position of firefighter/medical first responder. Tryouts will be held on August 8 at 12:00 p.m. Applicants must live within 5 miles of the station located at 315 S. Hudson and carry a valid Michigan driver’s license. Applicants will be required to pass a physical agility test.

Applications on-site or available at the Lowell City Hall located at 301 E. Main.

Daytime responders are needed.

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Tuesday..... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday..... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday..... 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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obituaries

BOUWENS

Seymour Bouwens, age 90, of Freeport, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, July 21, 2015, at Pennock Hospital in Hastings. Seymour was born on March 8, 1925, in Alto to Cornelius and Grace (Postma) Bouwens. He served our country during World War II in Hawaii as an MP and firefighter. In September of 1947



he married Caroline Hochstetler whom preceded him in death on July 19, 2004. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and camping with family and friends. Seymour leaves behind children, Stephen (Barbara) Bouwens, Ted (Denise) Bouwens, Laura (Bruce) Fish, and Joan (Jeff) Wigand; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; sisters, Verne (Ken) Goff and Jean Fahrni. Preceding Seymour in death are his parents, wife Caroline, brother Frank Bouwens and sister Ruth Hollinshead. A graveside service will be held on Monday, July 27, 2015, at the Bowne Center Cemetery at 11 am. In lieu of flowers memorials to the Freeport Baptist church in Seymour's name would be welcomed. Online condolences can be left at www.koopsfc.com

MARVIN


Lewis 'Butch' Allen Marvin, age 72 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, July 22, 2015. He was preceded in death by his wife Beatrice and parents Walter and Laih Marvin. He is survived by his daughters Sandra (Jack) Fisk and Sharon Marvin; brothers Gilbert (Nancy) Marvin, Lawrence (Deborah) Marvin; sisters Louise (Louis) King, Shirley Marvin, Kimberly (William) Holworth; grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. A private memorial will be held by his family.



VANDERWALL

Cynthia Ann "Cindy Van" VanderWall, aged 85, formerly of Lowell, crossed over to the other side on Tuesday, July 7, 2015. She was born on June 21, 1930, in Grand Rapids and graduated from Grand Rapids Christian High School in 1949. She was preceded in death by her life partner, Michael Smith, also of Lowell. She is survived by her son, Scott (Cindy) VanderWall, of Sand Lake; daughter, Janet (Paul) Potter, of Rockford; three granddaughters; five great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She worked in the office of Vos Glass for many years. She was a member of the Lowell Women's Club and served on its board of directors, and was also a member of the Lowell Red Hat Group. A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational Church of Lowell, 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. on Saturday, August 8, 2015, at 1 pm.

In Loving Memory of
BOB PERRY
1926-2005



His nature was loving and giving
His heart was made of pure gold
And to us who truly loved him
His memory will never grow old

It has been 10 years and we miss you everyday,
Wife, Velma
Children, Bert & Ruby Baker and Ron & Ann Wittenbach
All of your many grandchildren and now great grandchildren

Looking Back, continued

Doyle is a native of Lowell, graduating from Lowell High School and Hillsdale College, and he served in the U. S. Marine Corps. Mr. Doyle operated a Lowell automobile agency until 1961; for the past several years, he has been on the right-of-way buying staff of the Wolverine Cooperative Electric.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 1, 1990

With the help of a \$578,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, a child development center, a 20-year dream, held by the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, was brought a step closer to realization with a groundbreaking ceremony at the Franciscan Sisters

of the Eucharist farm at 11761 Downes Rd. Sister Colleen Ann Nagel and Peter M Wege, chairman of the Development Center Expansion Program, first unveiled plans for a child development center in October of 1989.

Dancers, animal acts, comedy and music will be only part of the program for the fourth annual Youth Variety Show at 7 p.m., Aug. 8 and 9 at the Kent County Youth Fair. Kent County 4-H members and other youth have been practicing long and hard on the show and hope to dazzle the audience, which is expected to number 500-800.

Class of 1930 reunites at Keiser's. Fourteen members of the Lowell High School Class of 1930, with their guests, met at Keiser's Kitchen for a luncheon on July 28. Of the 49 graduates, 25 are deceased, three whose whereabouts are unknown and seven who did not attend.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Vergennes Township Board has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held during their regularly scheduled meeting on August 17, 2015. The meeting will be held in the township meeting room at 10381 Bailey Dr., located on the corner of Bailey Dr. and Parnell, Lowell MI 49331.

David Steinbrecher is applying for an amendment to his approved 2009 special exception use permit to move in phases the Murray Lake Marina (11319 Lally) from the current Lally St location to 3501 and 3475 Alden Nash Ave north of Lally on the west side. This SEUP amendment phase is proposing to construct a new building of 60' by 100' to contain a new office and boat showroom at the southern end of the 3475 Alden Nash Ave NE property. Residents and Property Owners within 300 feet of the application property will receive this notice by mail.

The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 206, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 (fax 897-5674). Written and oral comments will be received from any interested party until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Township Clerk at the Township Offices. Comments may also be emailed to: clerk@vergennestwp.org.

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 15-03 BOWNE TOWNSHIP

At a regular meeting of the Bowne Township Board held on July 20, 2015 Ordinance No. 15-03 was adopted. The ordinance amended the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary of this Ordinance is as follows:

Amend Article 3 General Provisions to add new Section 3.44 to regulate requests for rezonings with conditions to provide for the following:

1. The Township recognizes that certain instances exist where it would be in the best interests of the Township, as well as advantageous to property owners seeking a change in zoning classification for property, if certain conditions could be proposed by the property owners as part of a request for a rezoning. It is the intent of this Section to provide a process consistent with the provisions of Section 405 of the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act (MCL 125.3101, as amended) by which a landowner seeking a rezoning may voluntarily propose conditions regarding the use and/or development of land as part of the rezoning request.
2. The amendments provide for review of the request for conditional rezoning by both the Planning Commission and the Township Board, with the final decision made by the Township Board.
3. The approved Statement of Conditions or an Affidavit or Memorandum giving notice thereof shall be filed by the Township with the Kent County Register of Deeds.
4. Amend Section 21.05 of the Zoning Ordinance to add new Section A. to provide factors to be considered when reviewing an application for any rezoning.

This Ordinance shall become effective seven days after publication.

Ordinances No. 15-03 is available for review at the Bowne Township offices, 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Alto, Michigan, 49302 during normal office hours on Wednesday & Thursday from 9 AM to Noon and 1 PM to 5 PM and on Friday from 9 AM to Noon or by calling 616-868-6846.

Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

CROSSWORD

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71						72				73				

**THEME:
SOCIAL MEDIA**

ACROSS

- Cockatoo's cousin
- Where you can be wrapped in seaweed
- African migrants
- Bakery smell, e.g.
- Type of English course
- Distinct time period
- Smaller than an SUV
- It marches one by one?
- Memory break
- *Makes it easy to find thematic messages
- *Online self
- Pine juice
- Freight horse cart
- *It hunts on social media for terrorists
- Famous French couturier
- Forty-niner's reward
- Tolkien creatures
- Neuter
- Fruit-peeling device
- Common "pro" follower
- Father of dialectical idealism
- Edible root of Pacific islands
- Soft palate hanger
- RC, e.g.

- Good's counterpart
- More often than not
- Franz Schubert's creation, e.g.
- Snakelike fish
- Type of stalk Jack climbed
- Come into possession
- *Noun now a verb on Facebook
- *Content exchange
- An excuse, especially in eyes of law
- Bugling ungulate
- Australian horse
- MC Hammer's "2 _____ 2 Quit"
- Hawaiian dish
- Dispatch boat
- Bonny _____
- *Throwback Thursday
- Used for raising

- "Monkey _____, monkey do"
- Highlight
- Imitative
- Dread of some parent drivers
- European soldier
- *Discussion site
- "Good job!" to performers
- Sudden occurrence of disease
- Crude group?
- Flight destination
- Final resting place
- Bone-chilling
- *Online troublemaker
- Table mineral
- *Crowd-sourced helper
- *An L in LOL
- Even though
- Japanese capital
- Saint Lawrence _____
- Highly skilled
- Crossbeam
- Dog parasite
- Semis
- Avian wader
- SNL bit
- Pelvic bones
- Famed loch
- Small cave
- Tide alternative
- Tennis shot

DOWN

- *_____able
- Acreage
- Puts one over
- Wet nurses
- Found in classifieds
- Smelting waste
- *Pinterest action
- Rose oil
- Stairway to river in India
- Wine valley
- CCCP

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township Hall located at 10381 Bailey Dr. at the corner of Parnell (Lowell) to hear the following business:

Applicant William Maluski is applying for a variance from the side/front setback (section 201.3075 (E) (1) of a parcel at 11459 Lally St, Lowell that abuts a secondary abutting side street. The parcel is being split and the eastern portion abuts an old street right of way (unimproved) requiring a street front setback. A front setback applies to both street sides of a corner parcel.

Applicant Jalene Rosser is applying for a variance from the street front setback (section 201.3075 (E) (1) to construct a garage addition onto an existing home that is already within the front setback located at 3431 Causeway Dr, Lowell.

Applicant John Staudt is applying for a side/front setback (section 201.305(F) (1) for a parcel located at 21 Kendra Ct, Lowell at the corner of Burroughs that abuts a secondary abutting street (corner parcel). A front setback applies to both street sides of a corner parcel.

The members may review any other business that may come before them as permitted by the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance.

The complete applications can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursdays or on the website at www.vergennesshp.org. Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, email, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Comments may be emailed to: zoning@vergennesshp.org

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE

POLL

WHAT DO YOU FEAR MOST?

- War
- Gun Violence
- Climate Change

TO VOTE IN THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

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LOWELL



The sound of Swiss alphorns fill the Riverwalk

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The Riverwalk was alive with the sound of music last Saturday evening when the Alhorngruppe Alpentraum brought their traditional Swiss music to the Lowell community on the Showboat stage.

The event was underwritten by local Swiss owned companies: Wittenbach's Dirt Cheap Excavating & Landscaping, Heidi's Farmstand and Bakery and SwissLane Dairy Farms. It was also the culmination of the Midwest Alhorn Retreat.

The retreat was held in Lowell for the first time in the event's history at the Franciscan Life Process Center from July 22-26. The five-day camp brought together Alhorn enthusiasts from throughout the Midwest, including the members of the Alhorngruppe Alpentraum who are the largest Alhorn group in North America.

Dressed in a variety of colorful clothing native to Switzerland, encompassing lederhosen and dirndls, the group both entertained and educated the small, yet engaged, group that gathered to watch the free show.

Using only Alpine horns the group performed traditional shepherds' tunes,

European waltzes and a few contemporary versions of the region specific music. The musicians also flanked most of their songs with an educational or historical footnote, including the

process of handcrafting the unique instrument.

"They are generally 12 foot long but they come in three pieces. Each started out as a tree growing on the side of the mountains and as

these trees grow, the snow banks against the bottoms form[ing] the curve of the horn," explained one of the female musicians between songs. "They are harvested, cut and kept for about a year

to see if they will crack. If it has not cracked after that time it is hollowed out and fashioned into an Alpine horn. They are incredible pieces of art."

The concert concluded with an "Alhorn Petting Zoo" where attendees were able to ask questions and try their hand at playing the instrument.



The Alhorngruppe Alpentraum brought their unique Swiss sound to the Riverwalk last Saturday evening.

Lowell student competes in Ninja Warrior competition

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell High School (LHS) senior Drew Struckmeyer recently made his way up the "Warped Wall" to earn a top 15 finish at the Rockford Ninja Warrior (RNW) competition. The contest is based on the professional sport and popular television series American Ninja Warrior (ANW).

Struckmeyer, who began watching the show at the suggestion of his grandmother in 2013, says he was immediately drawn to the physical and mental competition.

"The first thing that interested me was the sense of community between the competitors. Although it is a competition, everyone cheers for each other and gives each other tips. Another aspect of the sport that interested me was that it required a different type of strength. It's not 'weight room strength' where you have to look like a body builder, but rather a mix of agility, grip strength, balance, forearm strength, mental focus, and emotional toughness."

After deciding to pursue the ANW title once he hits the qualifying age of 21, the 17-year-old began to train. He and his family, including

equally competitive younger brother Nick, got to work building a backyard obstacle course for training. The vast setup now includes many of the obstacles known to ANW fans, including the quintuple steps, salmon ladder, jumping bars, cannonball alley, cargo net and the flying numchucks.

"While all these obstacles are fun, some of the best and simplest ways to start training are crunches, pushups, pull-ups, and tennis ball squeezes. Simple but very effective," sited Struckmeyer.

Last summer, the future ninja made his way to Rockford for their first annual community contest. The live-action show welcomes competitors starting at the age of 14 to participate in their professional level course and also hosts several kid's courses for younger fans.

"Rockford Ninja Warrior is all about bringing the Ninja Warrior experience to a different group of people," explained Struckmeyer.

After failing to make his way to the top of the final obstacle last year, he returned to the course in 2015.

After quickly bounding through the first obstacle

he faced obstacle two, the double tilting balance beam.

"I was most worried about this one," he said, "Being a bigger guy, balance isn't necessarily easy, but focus and preparation got me through it."

Moving through the next three obstacles safely Struckmeyer looked up toward the looming wall that kept him from completing the course the year before. The final challenge of the RNW and ANW courses did not stop him this time. Making it up the wall in the second of three allowed attempts Struckmeyer was able to push the finish buzzer with a time of 3:15.724 placing an impressive 12th among the competition.

"I was very happy with my run this year because unlike last year, I was able to beat that wall. Being able to face that wall again and beat it this time felt redemptive. Standing on top, I saw all the training and praying payoff."

Struckmeyer plans to continue his pursuit.

"Meeting some of the pro ninjas was incredible! To have big names like Drew Dreschel, Joe 'The Weatherman' Moravsky, Kevin Bull, Elet Hall, Ryan Stratis and so many

others giving me tips and congratulations on my run was very inspiring. Joe Moravsky commentated my run and said that I had 'veteran moves.'"

Struckmeyer continued,

"I would like to continue to compete in local competitions and start a training group for West Michigan Ninja Warriors which I have already started a Facebook page for. My

ultimate goal though, is to make it onto the real show once I turn 21 and become the first American Ninja Warrior!"



The Ragbirds 'sizzle' and bring audience to their feet

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Up-and-coming five-piece folk rock band The Ragbirds brought concertgoers to their feet last Thursday evening along the Riverwalk during the Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert.

The Ragbirds' high-energy performance was met by warm air, blue skies and a receptive crowd who filled the "dance floor" in front of the historic Showboat like no other concert this season.

Songstress and musician Erin Zindle fronts the five-piece band showcasing her talents on five separate instruments.

Switching between violin, mandolin, accordion, banjo and percussion, Zindle's sweet and earthy tone and introspective lyrics paired well with the catchy hooks and beats provided by the band.

"It's folk-rock music at the heart of it," said Zindle. "But I'm influenced and moved by sounds from all over the world."

The Ragbirds are also comprised of Zindle's husband, percussionist Randall Moore; her brother, guitarist T.J. Zindle; bassist Dan Jones and drummer Jon Brown.



Concertgoers filled the front of the Showboat stage during The Ragbirds concert.



The well-traveled quintet has successfully released several self-marketed albums selling more than 10,000 copies in the seven years since they formed in Ann Arbor. They have honed their craft, playing up to 150 shows a year, while crisscrossing

the nation in their converted diesel bus which runs on recycled vegetable oil, promoting environmental sustainability.

Contemporary folk rock quintet The Ragbirds were the latest to perform as part of the summer music series.

This week's concert will feature the rockabilly sounds of Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys who will kick off their set at 7 pm, Thursday, on the Showboat stage.

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WALK-IN REGISTRATION:
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LAST DAY TO REGISTER:
August 3, 2015

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