

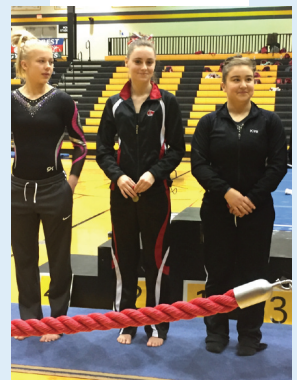
riding therapy



page 9



lhs sports



pages 8, 10 & 11

50 CENTS



Chamber events give back to the community



Recently the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce hosted their annual networking event, Souper Thursday Lunch and a brand new event called the Pub Poker Run. The Souper Thursday Lunch is a fun way to network with other business people and to allow them to promote their business. The chamber asked for a \$5 donation at the door and they raised \$400 for Flat River Outreach Ministries. The Pub Poker Run raised \$160. They chose to donate this amount to the Alpha Women's Center. Pictured above with donations checks are, above left, from left to right: Betty Morlock, Liz Baker, Christa Wetzel, executive director of Alpha Women's Center; Betsy Davidson and Cutter Phillips. Above right, Baker with FROM's Dawn Broene.

Council approves severance agreement with former city manager, fireworks and breweries

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell city council approved a severance agreement with former city manager Mark Howe during their meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 16. More council business was attended to during the meeting, including approval of fireworks for an upcoming event and some news about a couple new breweries that are coming to town.

The agreement between Howe and the city was originally meant to be confidential, but when mayor Jeff Altoft asked



Alan Teelander was criticized for saying rude things online before he was on the council.

the council to adjourn to a closed session to discuss the issue, the other councilors refused.

"This is an important topic," councilor Jim Hodges said. "Could we discuss this in open session?"

"The request was actually made by Mark Howe, through his attorney, according to the settlement negotiation with regard to a settlement agreement," said attorney Katherine Henry. "It was his request that this be done in closed session. It was out of respect for his request that was made through his attorney that I brought the request here

tonight and asked you guys to make that motion to be able to go into closed session and talk about the matters as brought forth."

"I have had a conversation with Mr. Howe recently," Hodges said. "It was my impression, I could be wrong, it was my impression that it was okay to discuss this in a public meeting."

"That's not his decision to make," said city attorney Dick Wendt. "At this point it's your decision whether you want to go into closed

session or not. It's up to you to make that determination. There's nothing wrong with discussing it in public session."

"We tried the closed session route," councilor Mike DeVore said. "I think now everybody's entitled to know exactly what he wants and exactly what we all want."

"Sure, that's your choice, Mike," Wendt said.

Council approves severance agreement, continued, page 3

Hockey team clinches first place in tier III competition



by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Championship dreams came true for the Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian hockey team last Friday night when they clinched first place in tier III competition after an 8-5 win over the Wildcats of Grand Rapids Northview.

Caledonia's Alex Osborn earned a hat trick, including two goals during the action-packed third period. Up 5-3 with a little over fifteen minutes on the clock, LCSC saw the Wildcats find the back of the net to narrow their lead to one. Osborn fired back earning his third goal of the night leaving the game at 6-4.

Northview took advantage of a power play opportunity to put the game within one again before Osborn sealed the 8-5 win with his fourth goal of the night. Other icemen contributing to the scoreboard were Lowell's Logan Propst and Nick Vantil, South Christian's Brian Hoekzema and Caledonia's Owen Radtke.

The team will next face Grand Ledge on Saturday in their last regular season match up with the puck scheduled to drop at 2:30 inside the Kentwood Ice Arena. Regional level competition will kick off next Tuesday.



along main street

Lowell Police Department stats for January

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell's police and fire departments saw quite a bit of action in January.

According to recently released statistics, the Lowell police department made 26 arrests during January. These arrests included four drug violations, two for drunk driving, five for outstanding warrants and nine that are described in the police department's information as "other arrests."

The police department responded to plenty of misdemeanors during January as well. There were four larceny calls, three calls for malicious

destruction, two instances of breaking and entering, three disorderly conduct calls and nine assaults. Lowell police issued 25 citations and notified five residents about ordinance violations. They were called to "assist" 43 times and were dispatched to 15 accidents. Out of 98 traffic stops they let 90 drivers go with just a warning.

The Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority responded to 58 incidents in January. Among these were three fires, 40 rescue and emergency service calls, four that are described as "good intent calls," and six false alarms.

CALL FOR ACTORS

Auditions for "Sex Please We're Sixty" will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 10 am - 12 pm and on Monday, Feb. 29, 6:30-8:30 pm at the former River Hollow storefront, 221 West Main Street. The LowellArts! Players is seeking actors for the spring Dinner Theater production to be performed April 22 through May 1. Cast will include two men and four women. Copies of the script are available at LowellArts! For more information, see www.lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., March 2 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

WEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL ART COMPETITION

The West Michigan Regional Art Competition will be held from March 4 through April 16 at the LowellArts! King Gallery, 149 S. Hudson St. This year's distinguished juror is Caitlin Doherty, curator and deputy director of curatorial affairs at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum MSU. Pieces are selected in all visual art media by artists 18 yrs. and older who reside in a 15 county region. Cash awards are presented in five categories. For more information go to www.lowellartsmi.org

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.

...

Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.
- Satchel Paige

DOWNTOWN LOWELL GALLERY HOP

LowellArts! and nearby galleries on Main Street will be open March 10 with special evening hours. Participants: Flat River Cottage & Night Forest Jewelry, Chimera Design, Glass House Designs, and Flat River Gallery and Framing. Area restaurants will also participate by offering special one-night-only discounts for event-goers. LowellArts! invites the public to view the West Michigan Regional Art Competition, meet the artists and enjoy an art-filled evening in downtown Lowell. And, take a sneak peek - tour the pre-renovated space and future home of LowellArts! at 221 and 223 West Main Street. More details at www.lowellartsmi.org

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Lowell High School seniors - General local scholarship applications are available in the counseling office. To be fair to all students, applications will not be accepted after 3:30 pm on Friday, March 11. Don't forget to include two letters of recommendation, transcript and personal statement. For more information please call Mrs. Nauta at 987-2913.

CELEBRATE 160 YEARS


First Congregational U.C.C., 865 Lincoln Lake, will be celebrating 160 years on March 13 with a free luncheon following the 10 am service. All are welcome.

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CITY OF LOWELL
PUBLIC NOTICE
ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

The City Clerk will be available at the Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street on Saturday, March 5th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for any registered voter in the City of Lowell who would like to apply for or return an absentee voters ballot for the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary Election.



Susan Ullery
City Clerk

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Should Apple help the FBI to hack into the iPhone to aid in the investigation of gunman who killed 14 people in California?

TO VOTE GOTO
WWW.thelowellledger.com

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Synopsis of Minutes
February 8, 2016

Motions Approved:

1. Allow 60 days for Slosser, Riney and Holt to go to arbitration and bring back a recommended solution for zoning violation.
2. Appoint Phillip Rolfe as Alternate for Zoning Board of appeals
3. Create Absentee Voter Counting Board (Resolution 2016-009)
4. Cover costs of a grinder pump up to 2500.DOL

Our next Township Meeting will be March 14, 2016 At 7:00 p.m.
The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org

the lowell ledger

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Council approves severance agreement, continued

“We want healing in this community,” said councilor Alan Teelander. “I want Mark to move on and the city to move on.”

“The original separation agreement which was written into his contract when he was hired was based on a separation, not a firing, not a public humiliation, not the way that it was done,” Hodges said. “He’s willing to not sue the city. He has legal council that has directed him that he could sue the city for defamation of character, loss of pension and loss of future earning abilities based upon the way he was dismissed. [...] There’s a



Opetec, Inc. owner Jeff Dickerman called for councilor Alan Teelander’s resignation.

difference between what was offered in his original hiring contract and the way things transpired.”

“What would you guys like to do,” Altoft asked.

“[Howe] has provided us with a signed separation agreement,” Hodges said. “It’s on the table for us.”

“I would like to have this all done,” Teelander said. “I don’t know if we need any further discussion, but I’d like to make a motion that we accept the contract for the full payout as presented tonight. I would like to just have this done. I would like to have Mr. Howe be able to move on and the city be able to move on.”

The council voted 5 - 0 to approve the agreement with Howe. He will receive a lump sum of \$53,144.02 in exchange for not suing the city. \$50,744.02 of the money represents six months of lost wages. Howe will also get \$2,400 “in lieu of health insurance.”

The meeting room in city hall was once again full of spectators and several citizens approached the council with comments, complaints and suggestions.

Local business owner Jeff Dickerman, owner of Optec, Inc., criticized the council’s “hubris,” particularly that of councilor Teelander. Dickerman said that Teelander should resign because he made inflammatory statements on the internet before he was elected to the council.

“Resign from this council,” Dickerman said. “Restore some respect and honor to the city of Lowell and help heal the community.”

Another local business owner, Shawn Bowne of the Bowne Construction Corporation, expressed his support for the council.

“This council has done a good service by trying to

clean up a mess that was created for the citizens of Lowell,” Bowne said.

The council approved Riverwalk Festival street closure and fireworks permit requests from the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, approved Pasquale’s interim city manager contract, renewed their agreement with property tax assessors Jeffrey and Debra Rashid, approved a liquor license for the upcoming Big Boiler Brewery and approved a plan to build the New Union Brewery at 400 W. Main.

The council’s next meeting will be at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, March 7.



Shawn Bowne said the council “has done a good service.”



Attorney Katherine Henry was again on hand to help the council work through the Mark Howe situation.



This building at 400 W. Main will become the New Union Brewery.

EMPLOYMENT POSTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Lowell (population 3,783) is accepting information from applicants for the position of Director of Public Works for the Department of Public Works. The City of Lowell is a vibrant and progressive West Michigan community located in the metropolitan Grand Rapids area with a diverse economic base and an excellent school system.

The Director works under the general direction of the City Manager and is responsible for planning, organizing and directing the operations of the Department of Public Works.

Required Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor’s degree in Public Administration, Business Management, Engineering, or a related field; five years of high level professional experience in public works, utilities, engineering; or any combination of experience, education, or training that demonstrates the applicant has the leadership competencies as described in the job description; valid Michigan Driver’s License.

Successful candidates must also demonstrate strong supervision, communication, interpersonal, mathematical and technology skills.

Desired Qualifications: Master’s degree in public administration, business management, engineering or a related field; possession of at least level IV certification in water treatment or water distribution; experience working in a small community.

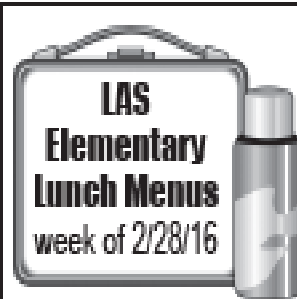
Salary range is \$60,103 to \$73,623 per year depending on qualifications. The City of Lowell also offers a competitive benefit package.

Interested applicants should submit cover letter, resume, salary history and at least five references to:

City of Lowell
Director of Public Works Review Team
Attn: Lori Gerard
301 East Main Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331

For complete job description visit website: www.ci.lowell.mi.us

Applications will be accepted until March 4, 2016.



MONDAY: Chicken strips, baked beans, Bismolt; also includes a dinner roll, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mixed fruit, orange slices.

TUESDAY: Beef taco on soft tortilla shell, steamed corn Bismolt; Beef taco on soft tortilla shell, steamed broccoli, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, peaches, mandarin oranges.

WEDNESDAY: French loaf slices served with eggs; Bismolt; is serving with sausage, hashbrowns, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, apple slices, orange juice.

THURSDAY: BBQ pork ribble on bun; Bismolt; Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes & gravy, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, fruit, Bismolt; baby carrots, strawberries, peaches.

FRIDAY: Tony’s cheese pizza on WG crust, baby carrots, fruit & veggie bar, spinach & romaine side salad, red pep-

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**GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC NOTICE 2016
BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS**
The Grattan Township Board of Review will meet at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd, Belding, MI 48809 on:
Monday March 14, 2016 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday March 17, 2016 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Call 616-691-8450 for appointment
Frank Force, Supervisor
Matt Frain, Assessor

business directory

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outdoors

anticipating the season Dave Stegehuis

Ice conditions were a little dicey this year, so we didn't get out ice fishing early but are looking forward to last ice bluegills. I am getting hungry for pan fried gills. Winter is not over, and to avoid a case of cabin fever, it is O.K. to think about spring and a new fishing season. There are fishing related activities one can engage in before the ice melts.

Outdoor shows provide an opportunity to get out and see the latest in boats, rods, reels, and about anything else coveted by the well-equipped fisherman. Fishing seminars hosted by well-known anglers provide helpful tips for beginners. Experienced fishermen can compare notes with the experts. It is possible to find deals on the stuff you are looking for, if you shop wisely. Its fun to talk fishing with fellow anglers and participating exhibitors.

Equipment repair and maintenance is easy to put off for another time, but the best time to complete these tasks is well before getting on the water when it is convenient. If the boat was not serviced before storage in the fall, doing it now will allow time to schedule professional service if required during a slow time for marinas. Parts can be ordered if needed. Batteries always require attention.

Reels are often neglected because they tend to be very dependable, but will perform better and last longer if regularly cleaned and lubed. Many anglers change out line every season. Inventory the tackle box and stock up on missing items. Some baits are hard to find if you are fussy about type, size, and color.

Traveling anglers should firm up reservations at resorts, camps, or

campgrounds. Fish populations, like game, tend to vary from year to year. Maybe its time to do some research and locate a new place to try this year.

Check the expiration date of your current fishing license. Time passes quickly and it is easy to lose track of when your last one was purchased. Regulations are always changing, so study up on what may affect you. Invasive species continue to show up in our waters. Learn how to avoid introducing unwanted species to our valuable waterways and how to minimize the damage if already there.

Everyone fishes differently for a variety of species, so one should think ahead and use the time between now and the opener to get prepared and be excited about future fishing adventures. Anticipation is half the fun.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF LOWELL
2016 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2016 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St SE, on the following dates:

Organizational Meeting:
Tuesday, March 8th, 11:30am

Appeal Hearings:
Monday, March 14th, 9:00am to 3:00pm
Wednesday, March 16th, 3:00pm to 9:00pm


Meetings are by Appointment, to schedule, contact: City Hall @ ph. 616.897.8457

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2016 assessments
By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 8th 2016

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2016 are as follows:

Commercial	48.62	1.0284
Residential	45.96	1.0879
Industrial	52.65	0.9497
Personal Property	50.00	1.0000

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days' notice.
Contact: Dave Pasquale - City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457



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viewpoint

to the editor

celebrate lowell's leadership

Dear Editor,

I write as a member of the community and a Rotarian who has enjoyed serving our community and our nation/world through Rotary. All this only to say that I have come to appreciate good leadership that works from fairness, truth, goodwill and better friendships.

I was overjoyed to read two very important articles in the February 3, 2016 Ledger. The first was an article highlighting the late Ron Wenger and the headline read "Ron Wenger inducted Michigan fair hall of fame." The second, entitled "Smalligan honored to be recognized as a 'newsmaker' for the arts," gave tribute to the leadership of our own Lorain Smalligan.

The article highlighting the LowellArts! and Lorain's leadership as executive director, informed us that our

LowellArts! was nominated for a Grand Rapids Business Journal "Newsmaker of the Year" award in the arts & entertainment category. Though they did not win, this nomination is proof positive that the arts in general and the LowellArts! specifically make a huge impact to our cultural, educational and business climates.

We can remember with love and pride, the great leadership given Lowell and the Kent County Youth Fair by the late Ron Wenger. That leadership has been honored and permanently memorialized as an inductee to the Michigan Association of Fairs & Exhibitions Hall of Fame. The quote from Steve Thelen included in the Ledger article by McAllister says it all, and I quote: His (Ron's) devotion to the fair and its youth, along with his big hearted spirit, touched multitudes of lives

... both on the board and as a manager. Ron always told us from around the state to remember that it is all about the kids.

When leadership such as that given the community of Lowell by these two people is embedded into a community, we must recognize that we have been

and are being challenged to follow their example. We are challenged to be pioneers rather than seeing ourselves as survivors; to be architects rather than victims. We can do this!

Sincerely,
Roger La Warre
Lowell

nothing rotten here

Dear Editor,

Under the Viewpoint section of the February 17th edition, I read with interest Mr. Stephen Thurtell's suggestion that "the time is not only ripe it's rotten for a forensic audit of the city of Lowell and Lowell Light and Power." I was under the impression that all public municipalities and utilities must undergo an annual independent audit of their financial records.

Being curious, I called the LL&P office for clarification. I was referred to Mr. Steve Donkersloot. I don't know Mr. Donkersloot personally, but was impressed with

his presentation at a recent city council meeting. Unfortunately, he was attending a meeting in Lansing at the time but did call back before the end of the day. He explained in an eight-minute conversation that, yes indeed, independent annual audits are required and are standard practice. He offered to send me additional details and links to the michigan.gov website where all such records are reported.

Next, I did a 30-second Google search to find the relevant documents. I'm no accountant, but all seemed in order to me. Certainly a

more knowledgeable person such as Mr. Thurtell would be able to decipher these audits.

I thought, now why didn't he just call like I did? Perhaps Mr. Thurtell is shy and doesn't like to speak with strangers. Another 30-second Google search revealed that the most recent LL&P financial audit was reported at the November 16, 2015 city council meeting. What luck! Mr. Thurtell's good friend, councilmember Teelander, happened to be sitting at that very meeting. In fact, it was his very first meeting as a new councilmember. You see, Mr. Thurtell often wrote on Mr. Teelander's blog site, so I knew they were good friends. I'm sure Teelander would share the information that was reported.

So if you look up the proceedings from that meeting, you can see for yourself under Section

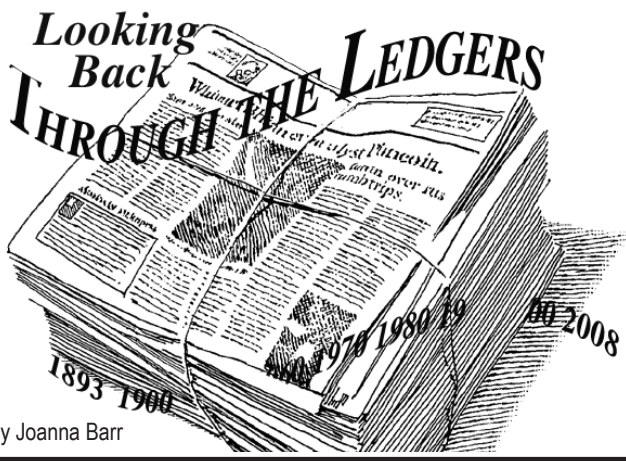
7 New Business, Peter Haefner from Vredveveld Haefner presented the city and Lowell Light and Power's audit. According to the minutes, "He then presented the Independent Auditor's Report for LL&P" which he said "present fairly the financial position of LL&P as of June 30, 2015."

Of course, Mr. Thurtell suggested a "forensic" audit was needed implying there was some sort of fiscal malfeasance. However, if he hadn't even reviewed the independent public audit, I wonder what basis he used for his demand for a far more costly audit?

Mr. Thurtell, do you have a reasonable basis for such an examination of the LL&P books? Did you read the independent audit? If not, you can probably rest assured that the LL&P books are not, in fact, rotten.

Jeff Dickerman
Lowell

To the Editor,
continued, page 7



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal February 25, 1891

Last Thursday night we had the worst storm of the season and the wind put up a good many drifts. Friday all day it rained and the sidewalks should have been cleaned. They needed it and the result was that Saturday and Sunday the walks were in a most terrible condition. If there is no contract for cleaning walks on the east side, the Council had best hire some one to do the work.

The Lowell Creamery will commence operation again on or before the 1st of April. All parties desiring to sell cream this season who have not their ice secured it will be greatly to their advantage to do so at their first opportunity.

Henry McGraw, of Hyde Park, Chicago, performed a heroic act last week. He saw a mad dog making for a group of school children on the street and he seized and held it until the children were safe, although his hands were frightfully bitten by the dog.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 2, 1916

Buy a box of Prussian poultry tonic, none better, and get a silver spoon free at Henry's drug store. adv

As a measure of marked economy of operation, the Board of Education is seriously considering vacating the East ward building and housing the pupils in the new High school building, where accommodations are ample. A large saving of expense in fuel and other expenses would result, more effective supervision given and doubtless the central location would insure the greatest good to the greatest number.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 27, 1941

Lew Morse, in his new uniform, is a walking display what the well-dressed postman should wear. However, much discussion centers on the point of whether it is Confederate gray or Airforce blue.

The last evidence of Norm Borgerson's dream was destroyed Monday of this week when the crane working on the new bridge pulled out the foundation of the beautiful Showboat fountain which held the town enraptured for the brief weeks of its existence. Village residents still talk of the big flood of 1935 which carried it away. No evidence has been uncovered as to the whereabouts of the main section of the fountain since the last report several years ago.

This paragraph is to remind Lowell housewives that electric power will be shut off next Sunday, Mar. 2 from two to five in the afternoon because of the changes being made at the Municipal plant. Plan your Sunday dinner accordingly.

Looking Back, continued, page 12

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.

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.

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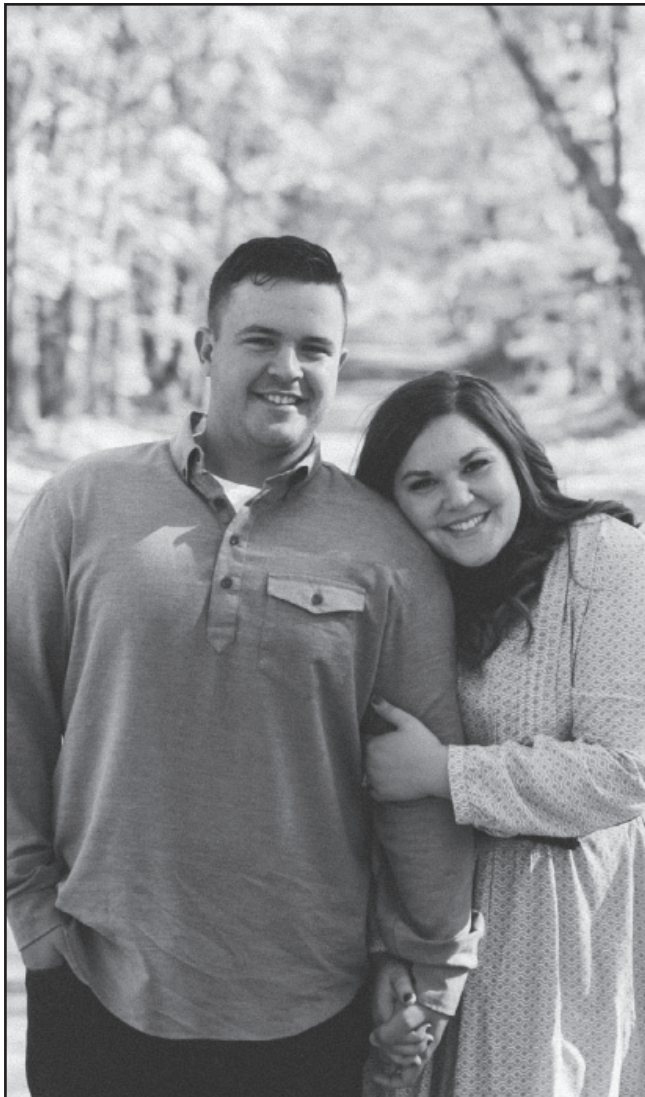
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Foster/Dudley



Jay Dudley and Krista Foster

Krista Breanne Foster and Jay Patrick Dudley are engaged to be married and the wedding date is this summer on July 23, 2016.

Parents of the couple are Kim and Cheryl Foster of Belding, Dan and Shari Ebidon of Frankenmuth and Jay and Patti Dudley

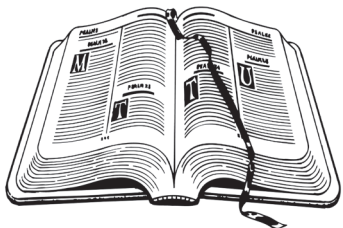
of Holt. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lowell High School and Central Michigan University and is a teacher in Mt. Morris. The future groom is a graduate of Holt High School and is employed with Consumers Energy in Groveland Township.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday:
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Friday: 8 am - Noon
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area church

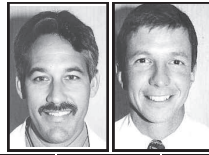


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SUNDAY School...11:00 am (Nursery Adult)
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Middle & High School - the school year only, 7 pm

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Pastor Brad Brillhart

health



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

preventative healthcare

Many people visit the doctor's office when they are sick or have a chronic medical problem. Did you know that it is just as important to visit the doctor's office when you are healthy? A visit to the doctor when you are healthy is a proactive approach to staying healthy as you age. A preventative service might be recommended to you based on your age, gender, risk factors or family history. A preventative service might consist

of a test, measurement, immunization or advice.

Children should have regular well-child exams (physicals) to monitor their growth and development. In general, young children should be seen for well-child exams at one, two, four, six, nine, 12, 15, 18 and 24 months after birth. Older children should then be seen yearly. Immunizations are one of the most important preventative services offered in this age group. In addition to monitoring

growth and development, advice may be given on topics such as diet, exercise, seatbelts, tobacco, and peer pressure.

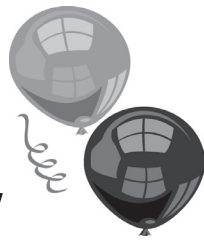
Adult males should have regular complete physical exams every three to five years until age 40, every two years in their 40s and then yearly once they turn 50. Preventative services covered typically include blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and testicular cancer screening. Prostate cancer screening usually begins at age 40. Colon cancer screening begins at age 50 and typically consists of a colonoscopy every 10 years from then on.

Adult females should have regular complete physical exam every one to three years until age 40, every one to two years until age 50 and then yearly. Services typically covered include blood pressure, weight, cholesterol, and breast and cervical cancer screening. Pap smears are performed to screen for cervical cancer and should be done yearly on all sexually active, unmarried females. Females who are sexually

active, but in a long-term monogamous relationship (marriage), should have pap smears done every two to three years. Breast cancer screening is typically accomplished with breast exams with each physical, along with a mammogram. Mammograms are typically recommended for women every two years in their 40s and then yearly at age 50. Women should be screened for colon cancer at age 50, typically with a colonoscopy and then every 10 years afterward.

There may be circumstances which place a person at higher risk for certain disease states. This may require them to start preventative screens at an earlier age and to be screened more frequently. Lifestyle choices, such as smoking and unprotected intercourse increase a person's risk of cancer. A family history of certain types of cancer may also increase a person's risk for cancer. If you have a family member with colon, prostate, breast or ovarian cancer, you should start your preventative screens earlier.

happy birthday



FEBRUARY 24

Cliff Mulder, Tarah Essich, Lizzy Decker.

FEBRUARY 25

Mike Nearing.

FEBRUARY 26

Jeremy Goff, Barry Vezino, Bob Ford, Nancy Porter, Leslie Rash.

FEBRUARY 27

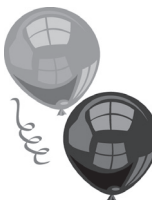
Joshua Soyka, Justin Soyka.

FEBRUARY 28

Mark V. Ritzema, Connie Roth, Scott Denton, Claresa Guastavino, Skylar Brown, Sarah Hoag, Ed Lamberson.

MARCH 1

Barak Brown, Jill Callihan, Laura Christiansen.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following request from Walter Price:

A request for an amendment to a Special Land Use Permit to expand an existing self-storage facility. The expansion would consist of three self-storage buildings and an enlargement of the outdoor storage area.

LOCATION & ADDRESS: The property is located at 5980 Alden Nash SE which is the location of the Price storage facility. PP# 41-20-34-300-027.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

Any person is welcome to attend this meeting and to offer comments or ask questions regarding the proposed amendments. Information regarding this project is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday. Phone 616-897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission

college news

Alma College has released the dean's list for those students who achieved outstanding academic performance during the 2015 fall 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, including the following students from the local area, of Ada: Mallory Simon, and of Lowell: Jason Malling and Quinn Summerfield.

Keley J. Taylor of Lowell graduated on Friday, December 18, 2015 from Lancaster Bible College (LBC). Taylor earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies. Taylor was

among the 153 graduates who received degrees or certificates from the college at the graduation ceremony held in Lancaster, PA. Lancaster Bible College is a premier academic institution offering a full range of collegiate programming from non-credit biblical enrichment courses to undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degree programs. Since 1933, the college has prepared both traditional students and adult learners to proclaim Christ by serving Him in the Church and society. LBC graduates students from six sites in seven states, graduates are geographically and culturally diverse, serving as ministry leaders worldwide.

To the Editor, continued

council was elected for change

Dear Editor,
This present council was elected for change. They were put into office to make some difficult changes that this city has desperately needed and the voters saw that. They are now having to make the tough decisions that the previous council wouldn't make. This is what they were voted in for – to make these kinds of necessary changes. They are trying to bring Lowell back

to the great city it used to be when we were respected by the citizens of Lowell as well as outsiders. It may take some time to see the true outcome and reasoning but let's see where they are going with this. All the conflict is accomplishing nothing.

Sincerely,
Betty Olson
Lowell

freedom of speech stifled

To the Editor,
It seems that a few people in Lowell and surrounding areas would like to stifle freedom of speech. Lowell is better than this. These men on the city council were elected according to the democratic process. People have the right to express their opinions in support of them

even if certain people don't agree. The supporters don't deserve to be ridiculed, criticized or patronized because of their support. I'm very encouraged by the professional way the councilmembers are handling their meetings.

Sincerely,
Jeane Rockwell
Lowell

Success is not final, failure is not fatal:
it is the courage to continue that counts.

~ Winston Churchill

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at Lowell City Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 PM concerning a proposed amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance. The following provides a summary of the proposed amendment and its regulatory effect:

- It allows for "Removal and processing of topsoil, stone, rock, sand, gravel, lime or other soil or mineral resources" as a special land use in the I-General Industrial District
- It amends various sections of the F-1 Floodplain District to clarify that this district is an overlay district, to allow only those uses permitted in the underlying zoning district, and to clarify several provisions relating to standards for development within the Floodplain District.
- It amends Section 17.04(c) of relating to special land use provisions for "Removal and processing of topsoil, stone, rock, sand, gravel, lime or other soil or mineral resources" such to clarify that earth removal shall not alter predominate drainage patterns or cause drainage impacts to adjoining properties, and to require an applicant to propose an end use plan for a property on which mineral resource removal activities are proposed.
- In addition, the amendment rezones all properties currently zoned F-1 Floodplain to other zoning districts in order to be consistent with the language of the Zoning Ordinance. The following table illustrates the extent of the proposed rezonings.

Parcel ID	Address	Current Zoning	Proposed Zoning
41-20-10-100-015	2104 Bowes Rd	F-1 Floodplain	I-General Industrial
41-20-11-106-002	812 Bowes Rd	F-1 Floodplain	R3-Multiple Family Residential
41-20-11-126-002	680 Bowes Rd	F-1 Floodplain	R3-Multiple Family Residential
41-20-11-251-001	499 Dansville Ave	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-11-203-001	925 S Hudson St	F-1 Floodplain	SR Suburban Residential
41-20-11-227-006	2091 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-11-227-003	2097 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-11-230-001	2089 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-11-501-001	13527 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-02-440-003	504 Front St	F-1 Floodplain	PF-Public Facilities
41-20-01-351-004	351 S Jackson St	F-1 Floodplain	PF-Public Facilities
41-20-01-307-007	125 S Division St	F-1 Floodplain	R3-Multiple Family Residential
41-20-01-305-009	125 S Grove St	F-1 Floodplain	R2-Single or Two-Family Residential
41-20-01-305-010	950 E Main St	F-1 Floodplain	R2-Single or Two-Family Residential
41-20-01-308-003	920 Railroad St	F-1 Floodplain	R2-Single or Two-Family Residential
41-20-01-308-009	1001 Railroad St	F-1 Floodplain	R2-Single or Two-Family Residential
41-20-01-376-004	1275 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential
41-20-01-376-003	1245 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	PF-Public Facilities
41-20-01-376-005	1295 Grand River Dr	F-1 Floodplain	SR-Suburban Residential

The parcels above, as well as any other parcels in the City within the 100-year floodplain, are subject to the requirements of the Floodplain Overlay District in the City's Zoning Ordinance.

At the above time and place, all interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Written comments concerning the proposed amendment may be mailed or delivered to the Lowell City Clerk, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 up to the date of the public hearing. Copies of the proposed ordinance amendment may be viewed at City Hall at the address noted above during normal business hours.

The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon three (3) days' notice to the City Clerk. Individuals who require such services should contact the City at the address listed above or by telephone at 616-897-8457.



Susan Ulery
City Clerk



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Red Arrow - WRESTLING SPORTS

Red Arrow wrestlers pick up sixth straight OK White championship

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Number one ranked Red Arrow varsity wrestling monopolized regional competition last week picking up their sixth straight title propelling them to the Division II state finals and qualifying eleven individual wrestlers to compete for top honors in their respective weight classes.

Wednesday night the team had to move through Greenville and host Sparta to earn their regional title. Lowell picked up a 53-12 win over Greenville in the semifinals with wins coming from Avry Mutschler, Sam Russell, Bryce Dempsey, George Gonzales, Zeth Dean, Danny Kruse, Max Dean, David Kruse, Eli Boulton, Hunter Browning, Max Bishop and Lucas Hall.

In the championship match the grapplers faced the eighth ranked team in the state in Division II, Sparta, who came in to the match up with an undefeated 26-0 record. Lowell head coach RJ Boudro said going in he knew the Sparta team posed some challenges. "Sparta matched up pretty well



Both Lucas Hall and Sam Russell qualified for state individual competition.

with us. The strongest part of their lineup is where we have struggled, so I knew they were going to be able to get some wins in certain places," said Boudro.

Sparta did pick up two wins but Lowell commanded the rest of the match coming up with a 43-23 victory. "We were able to overcome their strengths by getting bonus points where we needed them," explained Boudro, "Our seniors stepped up when we needed them to; guys like Zeth Dean, Max Dean, [and] Lucas Hall were able to get big pins for our team."

Also claiming victory in their matches were Mutschler, both Kruses, Eli Boulton and Jeff Leach. Lowell's two losses by decision were by Brian Dempsey and Hunter Browning.

Lowell coaches also picked up a win at the event. Coach Boudro, now in his third year at the helm of the successful team, was awarded the title of Regional Coach of the Year. Assistant coach Matt Bishop picked up Regional Assistant Coach top honors. Boudro credits much of the team's strength to that of his extensive and dedicated assistant coaching staff. "Our coaching staff is one of the best assets to our program. Matt Bishop, Matt Dood, John Kargbo, Chris Ebrom, Nate Spieth, Josh Cooper and Kyle Slocum work extremely hard all year. Our coaches care a great deal for our wrestlers and help them in so many ways," stated Boudro.

In individual regional competition on Saturday at Byron Center High School the Arrows qualified 11 of 12 wrestlers for the state finals claiming six championships and three runners-up positions. Landing in third place were Boulton at 215 and Keigan Yuhas at

160. Placing in the second position was Sam Russell at 125, Bryce Dempsey at 145 and David Kruse at 160.

Claiming championships were defending 119 pound state champ Hall at 125, defending 130 pound champ Z. Dean who claimed victory at 140, freshman Mutschler at 130, Max Dean who claimed an 11-8 decision over Byron Center's Ryan Vasbinder at 189, 171 pounder Danny Kruse who topped Ryan Ringler of Cedar Springs and Jeff Leach at 103 who topped Jacob Osmolinski of Sparta 12-10 for his regional title.

"I am really excited about this team's individual accomplishments," said

Boudro. "Eleven state qualifiers is huge and I am confident that all eleven will represent us well at the individual state championships."

Moving on to state competition this weekend, Boudro said the team is focused and ready to claim their third consecutive state championship, "I think we are heavily favored to win in the quarters, but none the less we are going to prepare for them like any other team we have wrestled this year. Our guys are very good at not overlooking an opponent and are excited about the opportunity to wrestle for another state championship."



Defending state champion at 130 pounds Zeth Dean qualified this year at 140.



Jeff Leach battled for a victory at 103 pounds and is now bound for individual competition.



Freshman Avry Mutschler earned his first bid for a state championship.



**Good Luck
at State!**

Number one seeded Lowell will face eighth seeded Sturgis this Friday in the Division II state quarterfinals which are scheduled for 6 pm at the McGuirk Arena in Mount Pleasant on the campus of Central Michigan University. With victories, the team will advance to the semi and final rounds to be held Saturday beginning at noon. Individual competition will take place at the Palace of Auburn Hills March 3-5.

Adaptive vaulting lessons a unique opportunity for area children and adults with special needs

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

A stable in Lowell is the home of a unique opportunity for special needs children and adults to take “adaptive vaulting” lessons.

“Adaptive vaulting is a combination of dance and gymnastics on the horse while it’s moving,” said Pete Senn, who teaches the classes. “Vaulting can be done by anybody at any age or ability level. Any person has the ability to do it. A lot of parents of special needs children have always been told their kid can’t do this, they can’t do that; we tell them to try it. They’re not going to get hurt.”

Senn lives in Caledonia, but is a native of Verona, NY, where he ran another adaptive vaulting program. A change in ownership at the facility in New York where he worked led him to seek employment elsewhere. He eventually ended up at Rivendell Stables, 11555 W. Grand River, two years ago. When he isn’t teaching, he runs adaptive vaulting clinics all over the country, spreading the word about the adaptive vaulting program.

“I learned about it from a gentleman in California named Rick Hawthorne,” Senn said. “He lost an arm to cancer when he was seven and later developed a vaulting team. Me and my wife Kim used to go back and forth to Los Angeles and learn from him, then we created our own program.”

In adaptive vaulting, students ride around on a horse while performing various moves, such as “flag” (left arm and leg extended as far as possible, right arm and leg supporting the body), “basic seat” (sitting facing forward with arms extended) and “tall kneel” (kneeling on horse with arms extended). The horses used in adaptive vaulting classes have been specially trained to be patient and tolerant.

“Students perform the same, exact moves as the advanced world level vaulters do,” Senn said. “They’ll actually stand on the horse while it’s moving, no hands. Each move has its own merit, such as balance, coordination, strength, independence, all that. You’d be surprised some of the moves they can do. Even people who have had trouble walking, riding on a horse strengthens the muscles they need. We basically adapt the moves to their abilities. It gives them confidence and it gives them a sport

that they can call their own and do on the same level as world class vaulters. It’s all one-on-one the whole time. We can change the moves. If there’s something they [don’t] feel safe with, we can modify it and eventually work up to it. It gives them the empowerment of being in control.”

While it might seem risky to place somebody who already isn’t completely sure of themselves on the back of a horse, Senn said that he’s never had a student get hurt and doesn’t ever expect to.

“Safety is our top priority,” Senn said. “We don’t want anyone getting hurt. They don’t wear helmets. The motion of the moves they’re doing, the helmet could fall over their eyes. Or else if they fall forward, the brim of a helmet could break their nose. It’s one of the safest sports, because it’s done in a controlled atmosphere. Somebody is controlling the horse. You don’t have to steer the horse or worry about the speed, you’re only concentrating on your moves.”

Last week Senn had a lesson with Oscar, a student from East Grand Rapids. Oscar spent 45 minutes doing adaptive vaulting on the back of Acarra, a horse from Germany. Oscar’s huge grin during the lesson showed just how positive the experience was for him. Adaptive vaulting has made Oscar more confident, stronger and has improved his social interactions.

“He has ridden horses therapeutically since he was two, so he is real comfortable on horses,” said Oscar’s mother Jen. “He’s super happy about it. It helps him understand where his body is in time and space. He’s never fallen. His comprehension for understanding what Pete says and then making his body do it has made a huge difference for him. He’s more patient and understanding. Oscar and Pete have a good connection. I don’t think he’s ever been to a male therapist, so he thinks it’s pretty neat to have a male figure there. He’s certainly proud of himself when he comes and does this. Sometimes we take pictures or movies of him doing it and he can show them to people at school. It helps him have something to talk about with other kids. He doesn’t initiate communication, but



Adaptive vaulting lessons are Oscar’s favorite sport and it’s something he excels at.

if people come up and ask him stuff, then he can do that. Plus it’s fun.”

Oscar’s mother said that adaptive vaulting is also one of the most cost-effective physical therapies out there, which is very important in the United States, one of the very few modern countries without a universal healthcare system.

“We come year-round because Oscar needs the repetition of it to do his best, but some people don’t want to drive out here in the winter,” Jen said. “It’s the cheapest thing I’ve ever done for Oscar on an hourly basis. Gymco is more expensive, therapy is definitely more expensive.”

If you’re interested and want more information, Senn said people should call him at 616-915-9255 or email him at petesenn@hotmail.com

“A lesson is 45 minutes long, once or twice a week, year-round,” Senn said. “Each lesson costs \$30. They can call or e-mail me and we can set something up. If somebody didn’t have enough money, I wouldn’t turn them away. The first lesson is just an evaluation, so it’s free.”

Senn said that adaptive vaulting is his life’s work.

“I just think it’s what I was meant to do,” Senn said. “There aren’t a whole lot of people who do this. I just do it for the love of doing it.”

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Red Arrow **SPORTS**

Red Arrow boys boast 7-1 OK White record

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow varsity basketball improved their OK White conference record to 7-1 last Friday night when they out shot Forest Hills Central by a massive 32 points 76-44 in front of a home crowd.

After a back-and-forth first quarter that left the two teams separated by just three points, the Red Arrows took control of the game keeping the Rangers to just six points in the second and then racking up 16 points putting the score at 37-24 at the half.

Lowell continued their offensive dominance in the third and fourth nearly doubling their opponent's scoring totals and oppressing FHC to just twenty more game points. The 76-44 victory was led by senior point guard Ryan Stevens who netted 18 points. Matt Beachler followed with 17 and fellow junior Austin Branagan, dubbed SuperBran on social media, returned to the court in top form scoring 16.

Head coach Kyle Carhart said the team was glad to have Branagan

back in play. "It was great to get Austin back out after missing a couple of games," said Carhart.

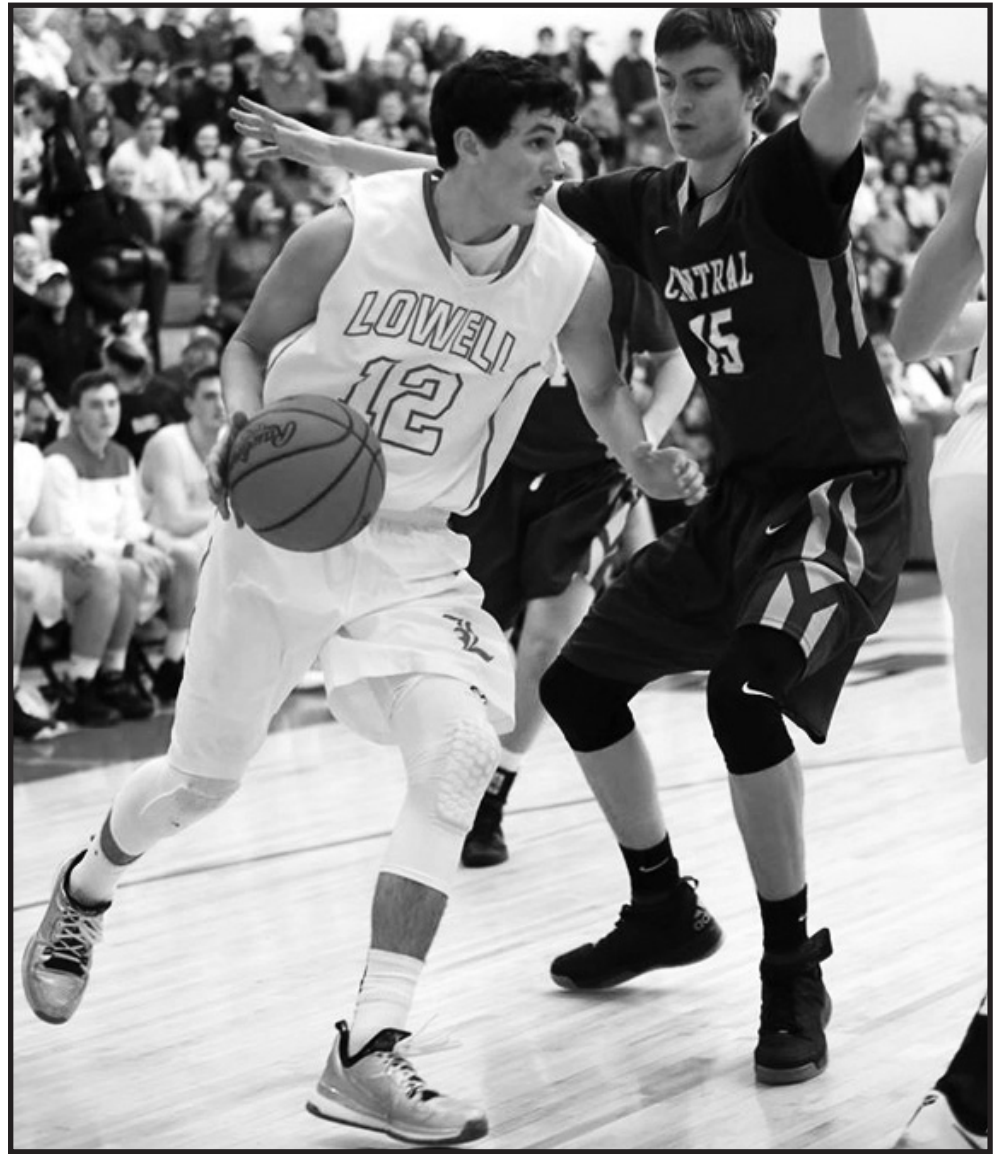
Carhart added that he was very pleased with the win and his team's effort, "It was a great team win. The guys worked well together to get great shots by screening and running hard in transition. Our success is a direct result of our guys' hard work. They have a great drive to improve and continue to work together towards a common goal. That leads to a great recipe for success."

Others contributing to the winning game total in a widespread offensive effort were Andrew Poulton with six, Mitchell Davis, Avery Buckius and Alex Anschutz with four apiece; Marcus Malling and Zach Petroelje each with three; and Gabe Steed who chipped in one.

The Arrows have a

chance to share in the conference title if they pull out wins in both of their remaining regular season games next week. Carhart said that the squad is looking to Tuesday night's away game against East Grand Rapids first. "Our focus is always on the next game. East has a tremendous amount of talent and we have not had much success in their gym in recent years," Carhart stated.

The team will end their conference play on Friday at home when they take on conference leader Grand Rapids Christian in what is arguably the most important and challenging game of the season. "Friday we will have to really execute flawlessly on both ends of the floor. We can not afford to make many mistakes and will need to play near perfect basketball," added Carhart.



Point guard Matt Beachler rounds an FHC defender.

Tip off on Friday is scheduled for 7 pm inside the main gym.

- BOWLING

Bowlers top EGR and GRC; place third at conference tournament

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

After topping both East Grand Rapids and Grand Rapids Christian in conference play earlier in the week, the Lowell varsity boys bowling team placed a respectable third at the conference tournament over the weekend.

The Arrows topped EGR on Monday 24-6 with

Landon Smith and Logan Smith leading the Lowell field with scores of 192 and 190 respectively. The team then faced GRC on Wednesday earning a 17-13 win.

At the conference tournament on Saturday the team placed third with several individual bowlers achieving excellent results.

Landon Smith earned tenth place overall, Tim Buechler placed ninth and Carson Clark finished seventh.

Pictured are Clark and Logan Smith, left to right respectively, receiving conference honors. Clark was named all-conference and Smith received an honorable mention.



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Go Red Arrows!

Red Arrow - GYMNASTICS SPORTS

Gymnasts place fourth at conference tourney

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

After a tough day on the balance beam last Saturday at Kenowa Hills High School, the Lowell varsity gymnastics team settled for a respectable fourth-place finish in the always difficult OK conference tournament.

"I had hoped to finish third but we had too many falls on beam and Kenowa stayed on the beam so that was the difference," explained head coach Michele DeHaan following the meet.

Red Arrow Karmen Anderson led all Lowell scorers on beam with an 8.2 but no other gymnast was able to pass the eight point threshold. Despite the struggle on that event DeHaan said the day was excellent elsewhere. "I am so proud of how the girls

did on vault today. This is how we want vault to go at every meet. Freshman Corah Miller really stepped up today and didn't let the pressure of a big meet get to her," said DeHaan.

Miller scored a 9.025 on the event and was one of four team members to score over nine, including leader Maura Fitzpatrick whose 9.15 earned her an eighth-place overall finish on the event.

Corah Kaufman placed seventh all-around on the bars with a score of 8.7 and Lisa Price and Fitzpatrick led Lowell and placed sixth overall on the floor with scores of 9.225 rounding out Lowell's top event finishers. Earning all-around honors, figured by tallying all event scores, were Fitzpatrick and Kaufman who placed

Go Arrows!

Rockford	149.025
Forest Hills.....	141.475
Kenowa Hills	138.225
Lowell.....	137.45
East Kentwood.....	123.55

VAULT		BEAM	
Maura Fitzpatrick	9.15	Karmen Anderson	8.2
Corah Miller	9.025	Sarena Wilterdink	7.9
Lauren Browning	9.0	Paige DeHaan	7.85
Alise Forward	9.0	Maura Fitzpatrick	7.85
Karmen Anderson	8.85	Corah Kaufman	7.8
Corah Kaufman	8.675	Sela Bauman	7.6
BARS		FLOOR	
Corah Kaufman	8.7	Lisa Price	9.225
Sarena Wilterdink	8.3	Maura Fitzpatrick	9.225
Karmen Anderson	8.275	Sarena Wilterdink	8.825
Lauren Browning	8.175	Corah Kaufman	8.8
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.15	Alise Forward	8.675
Alise Forward	7.85	Joslynn Battle	8.35



Before moving on to regional competition on March 5 the team will host their final home event of the year, the Dawn Fisher meet, honoring a former Lowell bus driver. Action on the mat is scheduled to kick off at 7 pm.



Lauren Browning received all-conference honors.

ninth and tenth respectively. Fitzpatrick was also awarded all-conference honors at the event with Kaufman earning an honorable mention.

"Overall it was a pretty good day for us. We have changed some routines around and were able to see

how they will score. We are focused on regionals now, so we are carefully going through all the routines to see if there is anywhere we can get another few tenths in our team score," stated DeHaan.

2016 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
Lowell, MI. 49331

2016 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2016 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 9 a.m. =
Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
&

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2016 assessments. By board resolution, residents are allowed to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 14, 2016.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2016 are as follows:

Agricultural.....	47.41	1.0546
Commercial.....	52.37	.9547
Residential.....	47.37	1.0555
Industrial.....	48.45	1.0319
Personal.....	50.00	1.0000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice.

Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale,
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
616-897-7600

Board of Review Members, Sandra Graham, Nancie Matthews & James Foerch.
Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor,
Secretary of Board of Review.



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college news

Grand Valley State University announces the names of students who were placed on the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester concluding in December. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.

Students from the local area honored for the fall semester include: of Ada: Jacob M. Anderson, Ross H. Barrett, Bryce A. Boverhof, Tyler W. Brewer, Clare G. Carlson, Karissa K. Cloud, Alexandra L. Cookingham, Amber M. Covert, Jay-Dee Davids, Benjamin J. DeVries, Justin A. Emery, Jacob M. Epperly, Austin D. Erdman, Spencer P. Erdman, Daniel B. Faasse, Kathryn E. Farmer, Erica E. Fischer, Emily M. Fries, Kendall J. Frimodig, Samantha M. Gann, Lucas H. Gerard, Evan J. Gerondale, Terence A. Gillespie, Adam J. Heiss, Lauren R. Homolka, Nicholas J. Hughes, Marion L. Jamet, Nicole E. Jimenez, Rebecca V. Karl, Meredith A. Lane, Claire E. LeBlanc, Logan A. LeMonnier, Christopher A. Lenderink, Chiara A. Licari, Heather R. Loser, Sage A. Moore, Emily R. Noordyke, Katherine E. Platt, Brittany B. Poppen, Matthew S. Posthuma, Ruth I. Rapeyko, Bronte K. Reisinger, Kira N. Rosol, Riley P. Rouse, Rachel L. Rye, Collin T. Schlosser, Kaley E. Shaheen, Claire V. Shymanski, Kevin R. Stefan, Samantha Stephens, Sara E. Stoner, Drake D. Strehl, Grayson D. Sundrla, Bradley J. Thomas, Rachel

A. Trisch, Shanyne R. Van Strien, Trent R. Van Wagoner, Amanda J. Vietzke, Laura M. Vogelsang, Jeremiah J. Vroegindewey, Luke A. Vroegindewey, Bryce M. Wallace, Joshua P. Witherell, Tyler J. Woodard, Taylor A. Youngs, Hunter B. Zuk; of Alto: Kellie N. Abraham, Lindsey A. Bohr, Joshua P. Chandler, Kendra L. Clark, Sarah M. DeVries, Alison Fielder, Luke T. Ganzevoort, Zachary S. Jacobson, Jacob R. Lindale, Leah M. Metzler, Mariah C. Moore, Alexander D. Pavey, Hannah L. Petersen, Gretchen A. Pyscher, Marisa L. Rauch, Paige E. Redner, Kailee N. Schafer, Laura I. Shinavier, Kimberly R. Sterzick, Natalie A. Storrer, Valerie N. Voisin, Reuben P. Wattenhofer, Thomas J. Williamson; of Lowell: Kayla J. Cook, Daniel E. Cowden, Lindsey A. Crawford, Jordan M. Drake, Allysen M. Dubisky, Alissa M. Ford, Kimberly J. Gannon, Elisabeth J. Heikoop, Kallie S. Holzhueter, Katie L. Holzhueter, Claire E. Hopkins, Jennifer A. Huffman, Philip R. Janowski, Amanda J. Kooy, Benjamin D. Kraft, Mattie M. Kropf, Kristen S. McAlpine, Austin M. McNeal, Cassie Miles, Jacob M. North, Shelby L. Perkins, Jessica M. Piell, Andrew S. Potter, Robert S. Poulton, Erica M. Raymond, Tyler J. Roth, Brianna D. Steiner, Jacob D. Stephens, Skye E. Thebo, Jake W. Will, and Madelynn A. Willemstein.

Teen awarded MSU pre-college scholarship

Ellie Stoller has been awarded a \$2,000 Michigan State University Pre-College Achievement Scholarship. Students in eighth to tenth grades for 2015-16 who attended an MSU summer pre-college program last year were eligible to apply for this award last fall. Ellie participated as a session helper at 4-H Exploration Days, one of six pre-college programs offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development.

MSU pre-college programs are great for

helping youth explore possible career interests. They are great fun, very educational and help connect young people with university faculty and other resources. MSU pre-college programs also help youth envision their future so they can wisely choose their high school classes and prepare for college.

Selection for this scholarship is based on academic ability and potential, demonstration of extra-curricular and community service

experience, demonstration of leadership and teamwork skills, ability to overcome obstacles, teacher and program director nominations and strength of student essay. The scholarship is applied toward the student's first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student.

The pre-college programs annually offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development are: 4-H Capitol Experience, 4-H Renewable Energy Camp, 4-H Exploration

Days, 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp, 4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp, and the Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council. For more information on these 4-H pre-college programs as well as other MSU pre-college programs, please visit Spartan Youth Programs at <http://www.spartanyouth.msu.edu>. You'll find a multitude of programs that can help youth develop valuable skills, make new friends and taste college life.

Lacrosse coach visits elementary schools to help promote the sport

Lacrosse continues to be the fastest-growing sport in America and at Lowell's elementary schools the next wave of players got an introduction to this fast-paced sport. For over a decade, Lowell lacrosse has seen the sport grow, with boys and girls programs

offering team level sports from kindergarten through 12th grade. At the leading edge of this continued growth is the new boys' high school lacrosse head coach Eugene Talbot.

Talbot is working with the staff of Murray Lake and Cherry Creek elementaries

to introduce lacrosse to the students. Helping the coach are high school players: Sawyer Olesko, Ryan Hessler, Jon Stewart, Brennan Battle, Max Bishop and Jon Berklich.

The players and students were able to spend several hours together working

through the basics and in true Red Arrow fashion the students showed they had what it takes. If you have any questions about the game or would like information on the upcoming season, please contact coach Talbot at eugenetalbot@gmail.com



Coach Eugene Talbot goes over the basics with some elementary students.

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CROSSWORD**

**THEME:
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ACROSS

1. Peyton Manning signal
6. *Lindsey Vonn's tool
9. Pressed on the gas
13. Synthetic fabric
14. Manhole cover, e.g.
15. "Peanut Butter ____ Time"
16. Emergency pedal
17. Beehive State native
18. Use blunt end of pencil?
19. *Raunchy Amy
21. Conjoined
23. *Sir ____-a-Lot
24. Distinctive flair
25. Symbol of strength
28. Top of Kilimanjaro, e.g.
30. *Oscar Madison's employer, "New York ____"
35. Major-leaguers
37. Part of McDonald's logo
39. 2 halves of a diameter
40. "____ what you sow"

CROSSWORD														
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71						72				73				



FEBRUARY 17 - FEBRUARY 23

- A picture of a Connecticut woman and her newborn baby was used in a fake news story saying she had 14 children with 14 different fathers. A different name was used but the new mother grew increasingly upset when she was tagged on Facebook by a former coworker and was being harassed. She finally spoke out on YouTube.
- The winners in the South Dakota primary are Hillary Clinton (D) over Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump (R) with Jeb Bush dropping out of the race and Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio still hanging in there.



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41. Scrabble pieces
43. The Destroyer in Hinduism
44. *Ayn Rand novel, "____ Shrugged"
46. "____ of Eden"
47. Rubber bulb on an old bike

48. Card game
50. Osiris' wife
52. Shining one in "America the Beautiful"
53. Attention-getting interjection
55. Fleur-de-____

57. *Playboy octo-genarian
60. *Homemaker extraordinaire
64. Like ricin
65. Legal org.
67. *Annie Oakley starred in it
68. *"Independence Day" star
69. High craggy hill
70. Alex Haley's "saga of an American family"
71. *Lassie and Rin Tin Tin
72. Kimono tie
73. Church recesses

22. Morse Code dash
24. "...I heard him _____, ere he drove out of sight..."
25. *Media mogul, actress and trend-setter
26. Mountain ridge
27. Aussie "bear"
29. Famous canal
31. Poison ivy symptom
32. "Bye" to Banderas
33. Book in Paris
34. *Honoree of "Candle in the Wind 1997"
36. Practice in the ring
38. Deputy F,hrer Rudolf _____
42. Circus prop
45. Stop the flow
49. Female pronoun
51. *Bogart, star of "The Treasure of the _____ Madre"
54. Muse of love poetry
56. One clean one?
57. Main Web page
58. Off-ramp
59. If the shoe does this?
60. Delhi wrap
61. Commotions
62. Network of nerves
63. Coin throw
64. Medicinal amt.
66. *Jamaican Ras Tafari follower

DOWN

1. Globes and balls, e.g.
2. Painter ____ Chagall
3. Indian nursemaid
4. Nonsense
5. Low hemoglobin
6. Talk like a drunk
7. American Girl ____ Kittredge
8. Utopian
9. Evening in Italy
10. Surveyor's map
11. "Do it, or ____!"
12. Food coloring, e.g.
15. *Caitlyn nËe Bruce
20. An American in Paris, e.g.

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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.

LAST WEEK'S
ONLINE
POLL
RESULTS

The Constitution calls for the president to appoint a new supreme court justice. Do you think he should appoint a judge or wait and allow the next administration to do it?

- He should appoint a judge now 80%
- He should wait..... 20%

the lowell ledger

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm	P.O. Box 128
Friday: 8 am - Noon	Lowell, MI 49331
Closed Sat. & Sun.	897-9261

Middle school kids hold bake sale to help Sudan

submitted by Kim Taylor

Everyone deserves to have clean drinking water and after reading the book "A Long Walk to Water" the seventh grade social studies students at Lowell Middle School have set out to provide just that. "A Long Walk to Water" tells the story of the hardships faced by Salva Dut, a Sudanese refugee. The story shared the unthinkable challenges in Salva's fight to survive. Salva walked over a thousand miles to flee the war and search for a safe place to live. He eventually ended up in the United States. However, after learning his father was ill from water-borne disease, he returned to Sudan in order to bring clean, fresh water to the people of his country. The students were so touched by Salva's story that they were inspired to help.

The cost of drilling a well in a village in South Sudan is \$15,000. This was more than the students thought they could tackle, so in their quest to help the people of Sudan, the students started with a more attainable goal of \$1,000. In just 10 days they organized a bake sale during parent teacher conferences that raised \$673.50. They also created a Crowdrise page that brought in another \$355, surpassing their original goal of \$1,000. After realizing just how easy it was to raise the first \$1,000, they decided they were up for the challenge to raise the full \$15,000 so that a village can be provided with a well to supply clean, safe drinking water to the people of Sudan.

For Valentine's Day they organized a Candygram sale at school in which they raised \$611 and their Crowdrise page has brought in another \$275. This has put their total to just over \$1900. The students will continue to find creative ways to raise more money and would also like to invite the whole community of Lowell to get involved by visiting Crowdrise.com and search the event profile "LMS 7th Grade Iron Giraffe Challenge" to make a donation.

Lowell has always been a very generous community and what better way to share our community spirit than by sending a village in Sudan the gift of clean water from the city of Lowell, Michigan.



Sierra Hieshetter, McKenna Grody and Kate Wilson at the bake sale.

...

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

~ Mahatma Gandhi

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
 Will start at 3pm at:
 Witt's Inn
 2534 Alden Nash Ave NE
 Lowell MI 49331

The March board of review of Vergennes Township will meet at the Vergennes Township Hall to hear appeals on:

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2016
 Hours from 3 pm to 9 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016
 Hours from 9 am to 3 pm

The Board will meet for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all appeals.

You may appeal assessed valuation one of two ways:

- 1) To appear at the Board of Review, call on Monday or Wednesday from 9 am to 3 pm, (616) 897-5671, to schedule an appointment.

OR

- 2) * By letter addressed to:
 Vergennes Township/Assessor
 10831 Bailey Dr.
 P.O. Box 208
 Lowell MI 49331

***MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO MARCH 4, 2016**

Mari C. Stone
 Vergennes Township Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the following amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance:

1. An amendment to the definition of Front Lot Line which will read as follows: The right of way line of the street abutting the lot. A corner lot and through lot have more than one front lot line.
2. An amendment to the definition of Road Frontage which will read as follows: The length of a single continuous front lot line.
3. The addition of language for measurement of the road frontage.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

Any person is welcome to attend this meeting and to offer comments or ask questions regarding the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments are available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday. Phone 616-897-7600.

The amendments may also be viewed on the Township web site at www.twp.lowell.mi.us

Tim Clements, Secretary
 Lowell Charter Township
 Planning Commission

CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE OPTICAL SCAN TABULATING EQUIPMENT FOR THE MARCH 8, 2016 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public accuracy test of the Optical Scan Tabulating Equipment for the March 8, 2016 Presidential Primary Election will be conducted on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.



Susan Ullery
 City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will hold a public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 to consider the following request:

119, 121, 125 and 127 Monroe Street SE – The City of Lowell has requested a special land use permit to construct a public parking lot. The Zoning Ordinance requires that off-street parking lots are a special land use within the C-2 zoning district, thus, a special land use permit is required.

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



Susan Ullery
 City Clerk