



Spring Ahead!

Daylight Saving Time Returns March 13!

peter pan at lpac



page 16

odyssey teams at regional tourney



page 8



lps sports



pages 9 - 10

50 CENTS



W

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

A new political action committee called “Forward Lowell” has formed with the intent to recall mayor Jeff Altoft from the city council and from his position as mayor. The PAC had their first public meeting at the chamber of commerce on Monday, March 7 at 2 pm. Fifteen people attended the meeting, including Springrove Variety owner Mike Sprenger, Curtis Cleaners owner Bucky Curtis, Light & Power board member Andrew Schrauben, failed city council candidate Jim Salzwedel and Pink Arrow Pride organizer Teresa Beachum. The Forward Lowell PAC was founded last month by Roger LaWarre, Maryalene LaPonsie, Greg Canfield, Tina Dickerman and Jeff Dickerman, all of whom were also in attendance at the meeting. The PAC has

20 members. They have a website at forwardlowell.org, a Facebook page and a Twitter account. The PAC’s slogan is “The change we need. The voice we deserve.”

The meeting’s first order of business was an update on the recall’s status.

“The recall [paperwork] was presented [to the Kent County election director on

March 3],” Jeff Dickerman said. “I signed for it with the county clerk and got a receipt for it. [...] They have scheduled a clarity hearing for [Wednesday] March 23

at 4 o’clock [at the county administration building in Grand Rapids].”

Forward Lowell, continued, page 2



Fifteen people attended the Forward Lowell meeting on Monday, March 7.

Lowell gymnasts are headed to state meet

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

For the second time in the program’s history and in as many years, the Lowell varsity gymnastics team qualified for state

level competition. Last weekend at the regional tournament eight gymnasts also qualified individually for state.

The Red Arrows placed

third at the tournament with their highest score of the season, 140.35, behind Forest Hills (144.825) and first-place finisher Rockford (148.95). The

team’s two top finishers were regional champions Maura Fitzpatrick and Corah Kaufman, who both earned all-around honors and the right to compete in

all four events at the state competition.

Individually Fitzpatrick tied for first place on the vault with a score of 9.175, placed seventh on the bars with an 8.15, fourth on the beam with an 8.9 and fourth on the floor exercise with an 9.075. Kaufman placed eighth on the vault scoring an 8.75, first on the bars with an 8.975 and second on the beam with an 9.2.

Head coach Michele DeHaan was extremely happy with the duos execution at the meet. “Maura and Corah hit their routines with such confidence,” she said proudly following the meet.

Other Lowell gymnasts advancing to state as individuals include Corah Miller, Karmen Anderson, Alise Forward, Lisa Price, Lauren Browning, and Sarena Wilterdink.

Standout performances included a fantastic team effort on the vault where the girls claimed six top spots. “Amazing vaults today! For



Lowell Red Arrow gymnasts qualified for state meet.

Gymnasts off to state, continued, page 9

Forward Lowell, continued

Dickerman stated the reasons they want to recall Altoft from his position could be found on the PAC's website.

"Mayor Altoft voted 'yes' to hire Katherine Henry on January 19, 2016," Dickerman said. "If you go to our website, it'll give you an explanation why we see this as a problem."

The website says, "Lowell already has a city attorney who works at the rate of \$145 per hour for consulting and

\$90 per hour for ordinance enforcement matters. Hiring Katherine Henry at \$200 per hour shows a blatant waste of taxpayer money. Additionally, attorney Katherine Henry has an obvious conflict of interest in the city of Lowell as explained by police chief Steve Bukala. Video below from the January 19, 2016 city council meeting. So, which is it? \$100 or \$200 per hour? At the January 19th council meeting, the day she was hired, Mrs. Henry herself said she would work for \$100 per hour. Nope, the final bill was \$200 per hour."

That bill from Henry was

sort of addressed by the city council at their meeting later that evening. See that story for details.

After the clarity hearing on March 23, Altoft has ten days to appeal. After those ten days, the PAC must obtain a minimum 274 signatures of registered voters in order to get the recall on November's ballot.

"Part of the reason we're in the mess we're in is because so few voted and people who were recruiting the voters that did turn out, a percentage of those voters were disgruntled, as opposed to having a positive direction for Lowell as a

whole," LaWarre said. "I just think there was some misguided direction that was given and hopefully we can inform that process. [...]"

All the questioning is just sidetracking. That's all that is. Just sidetracking what really, in fact, needs to be done."

The next Forward Lowell meeting will be at the chamber of commerce on Friday, March 25 at 2 pm.



At Your Local Library

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

Five Kent District KDL cardholders can check out a Verizon Jetpack 4G LTE for up to three weeks

at the following branches: Alto, Englehardt (Lowell), Nelson Township/Sand Lake, Spencer Township and Tyrone Township.

All 18 KDL branches recently started offering circulating iPads and this is a great enhancement to that service. Patrons can place a hold on a hot spot using the KDL catalog; however, the hot spots will not travel in delivery to other branches for pick-up. Hot spots can be renewed if there are no holds on the item.

"With so much of everyday life - from plane tickets to product rebates - tied to the Internet, offering this service will make it easier for patrons who live in areas with poor access to get tasks done," said Sandy Graham, branch manager of the Alto Branch. "Along with that, this device is so easy and convenient to use, it will give users the confidence to independently increase their digital skills."

For more information, please call 616-784-2007 or visit a participating branch.

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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.

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thurs., March 17 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

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.

GILDA'S CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

LaughFest Laughter Yoga - Tues., March 14, 4 pm. This is not your typical yoga class - no yoga mat required. Expect to stretch your laugh muscles. Session led by certified laughter yoga teacher Angela Essick Dykes.

Chitchat Readers Book Club - Tues., March 15, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join other members of Gilda's Club in discussing a great book. Stop by the Clubhouse to borrow a book.

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

TEA AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL: LADIES OF THE LIGHTHOUSES

Enjoy an afternoon tea with lighthouse historian Dianna Stampfer. Meet the ladies who kept the lights burning at beacons throughout Michigan. They were women before their time, taking on the dangerous and difficult job of tending to the beacons that protected the shores of the Great Lakes State. In all, nearly 40 women have been found who excelled in this profession. Nearly 50 images have been collected (of keepers, their lights and their families). The program also includes readings from journals, logs and autobiographies from these women. Hosted by the Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Friends of the Englehardt Library. Event will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, March 17 at 1 pm.

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

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Council listens to presentation on city manager search

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, March 7. The council discussed a large legal bill and the search for a new city manager at the meeting, which lasted an hour and seven minutes.

At the beginning of the meeting, when discussing the month's accounts payable, councilor Jim Hodges asked to have a \$9,900 bill for legal services from attorney Katherine Henry tabled until the council had a chance to make sure they were properly billed.

"We have an extraordinary bill from Miss Henry," Hodges said. "She gave us some detail, but 11 of those items are from before she was hired. I would question if that is something we should pay and why were we billed for services when she was not an employee or under contract with the city."

"I have a hard time getting billed for something before... you don't get billed for electricity or cable before you use it, you get it after, so I'd like to look at that a little more," said councilor Michael DeVore. "Also, I was under the impression that, I believe she said it in the meeting here, that before any bills were presented, if



Kathy Grinzinger from the Michigan Municipal League said the search for a new city manager is "the most important thing" the council will do.

it was necessary she would be willing to work on that hourly rate as well."

The council asked for Henry to resubmit a more detailed bill without items from before she was hired by the council and for Henry to be present at the next city council meeting.

"I think if we're going to pay that amount of money, we should be able to ask questions," DeVore said.

The meeting was attended by about 36 residents, three of whom spoke during citizen discussion. First, local business owner Perry Beachum suggested the council hold some workshops to curtail what he perceived as confusion on the council's part regarding issues relating to Lowell Light & Power.

"I would suggest that the board of Lowell Light & Power and the council do a workshop to go over any concerns that you have as a council," Beachum said. "This comes from things that Alan [Teelander], that you've written. [...] I think it would behoove everybody at the council and Lowell Light & Power to have a

workshop together so that we can get all this aired out."

Next, former city council candidate Jim Salzwedel said the council should do a better job answering questions posed to them by citizens. Mayor Jeff Altoft took responsibility for answering Salzwedel's questions.

"Over the last eight or nine weeks there has been at least nine, maybe even ten, questions asked outside the release of Mark Howe," Salzwedel said. "I've asked two or three of those questions, yet I have not been contacted by anybody on the commission."

Finally, Maryalene LaPonsie asked for an update on road work in the city.

"I was just curious if you had a chance to look over the budget and what the plan was for the roads this year," LaPonsie said.

"We are planning on doing repairs on Main St. from Main to Avery, Avery from Monroe to Washington" said interim public works director Ron Woods. "Jefferson is also in

the five year plan."

The council heard a 20 minute presentation from Kathy Grinzinger, lead executive recruiter for the Michigan Municipal League. The council voted to spend a maximum of \$15,000 for the Michigan Municipal League to conduct a search for a new city manager to replace interim city manager Dave Pasquale.

"It takes about four months," Grinzinger said. "This is the probably most important thing you will do. You review budgets, but someone sort of does the heavy lifting on that. You pass ordinances and attorneys give you help so you don't put yourself in court. This one is yours and it is that relationship between manager and council that really sets the path of the community in the future."

The council's next regular meeting will be at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, March 21. There will also be a Lowell Light & Power board meeting at the Lowell Light & Power building at 6 pm on Thursday, March 10.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of KIERRA ARNOLD Developmentally Disabled Guardianship File No. 13-193,913-DD TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on March 30, 2016 at 8:45 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian and Conservator.

Dated: March 7, 2016

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner,

121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 391-1675

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC, Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda S. Van Essen (P75001) 3425 Kelly St. Hudsonville, MI 49426 (616) 633-0196

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This position will report directly to the "Authority" and will be responsible for the preparation and fiscal management of the budget, planning, organization, training and direction of the Lowell Fire & Emergency Department consisting of approximately 24 fire and emergency personnel. This is an exempt part-time salary position requiring a minimum of 16 hours per week at \$455 per week. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume and at least three references to:
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Lowell teachers foster a love for reading among high school students

submitted by James Christians

Visitors to Lowell High School may start noticing some new names hanging out in the hallways this March. Some might be familiar, some may be classic and some may be brand new, but all will hold a special place in the hearts of our LHS students.

These will be the authors of the books students are currently reading and they will be on full display for all to view.

With the assistance of a grant received through the Lowell Education Association, the Lowell High School Book Club is distributing 300 magnetic locker signs to students for the purpose of celebrating and promoting what they are reading.

Currently, each staff member at the school has a larger poster and keeps it updated with what they're reading, so students can see the diverse interests and topics being explored by adults who read. Simply placing these conversation pieces in front of students has had a positive effect on the types of conversations students and adults are having about books.

These exchanges foster an appreciation for reading outside of the classroom as well as nurture positive relationships between staff and students. The idea for student signs was hatched by one of the book club advisors, Mrs. Lindsay Bredin. Any trip down an academic hallway exposes guests to signs promoting activities from

the radio club to athletics. Students recognize that adults read, but do they understand how many of their peers actually choose to read outside of school?

The initiative was intentionally scheduled during March to take advantage with its designation as reading month. Activities abound, district-wide, to celebrate reading. While past efforts at the high school have really focused on the adults celebrating reading, this new endeavor is the most authentic student celebration anyone can remember.

The magnetic boards each come with a dry erase marker, so students can decorate and elaborate on the title and author of what they're reading. They can update when necessary and they can include

supplemental information, so students can learn additional, relevant content.

This purchase reflects the growth and popularity of the High School Book Club. The group meets every few weeks to discuss a common title, banter about individual selections and consume delicious goodies. What began as a noble experiment to engage students in their love of reading has turned into a vibrant organization that reflects and creates student interest in a wide array of books.

So don't be surprised to find the likes of Stephen King, J.K. Rowling or Malcolm Gladwell greeting you the next time you venture in to our high school. In fact, pay close attention because you just might find the title to the next book on your list!



...
Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.

~ Joseph Addison

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Dave Stegehuis

Walking is a convenient and effective form of exercise for those who are able. Do some research to find out all of the health benefits, both physical and mental, resulting from regular walks. There are

many reliable studies which recommend how far, how long, and how often to walk depending on ones health status. Check it out.

The key to walking for exercise is consistency.

Anything is better than nothing, but taking time to get out on most days, adds up. Walking should fit comfortable into ones daily routine; otherwise the best of intentions will fade with

time. Walking because of necessity is the easiest to accomplish, like walking to work or school everyday.

Finding a route in your neighborhood is next best. Public walkways and trails are becoming more common near residential and urban areas. It is surprising that more people don't take advantage of these opportunities.

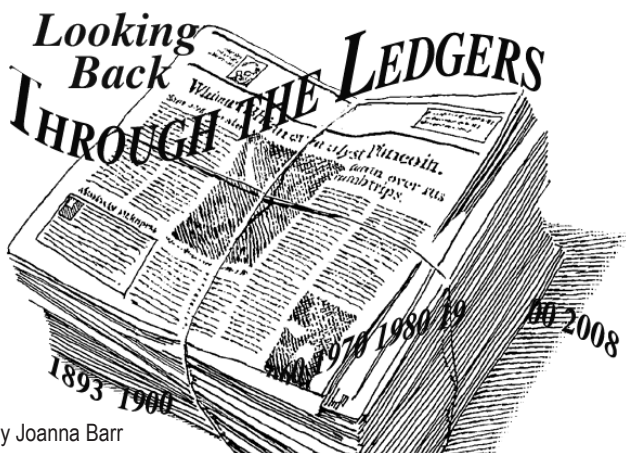
Being away from home for whatever reason need not interrupt a walking routine. Walking on trips away provides an opportunity to get familiar with new places. A scheduled tour may require walking to destinations off the highway.

Whether home or away it is important to be safe. Know your physical limitations. Also, be aware of any danger. Some areas may be unsafe because of unsure footing, traffic, the

possibility to become lost, crime, or adverse weather conditions. Pay attention.

Walking with a partner can provide motivation to stay with the program. It is a time to relax and converse with another without the usual distractions of a busy life. Long walks while carrying appropriate weight is good preparation for a future hike or a tough hunt. Walking helps to maintain ones current lifestyle if what you need or like to do requires a certain level of physical activity.

Getting started on a regular schedule is the hardest part. Once a routine is well established, walking usually becomes a habit. Eventually one will come to feel like something is missing if a day goes by without some sort of exercise. It's time to take a walk.



By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal March 11, 1891

The Morton House, in Grand Rapids, recently put in a dishwashing machine and nearly had a strike in consequence, but has warded the trouble off. Great machine, 'twill be so, pretty soon, that a woman can lie in bed upstairs and do all the house-work, and then life will be worth living.

N. P. Husted, the veteran fruit man, assures us that so far the peach buds are uninjured and there is every prospect for an excellent crop this year.

A good word comes from Chicago about Ernest Graham, an old Lowell boy, and a son of Rob't Graham of our village, who has, for some time, been occupying a responsible position with a firm of architects in the windy city. He has just received the appointment as manager in the office of the World's Fair architects. He will have charge of all the plans for the World's Fair buildings, in the erection of which an expenditure of \$10,000,000 is contemplated. He has rapidly pushed to the front in his chosen profession and his many friends here will be glad to learn of his recent good fortune.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 16, 1916

Our new village president has given fourteen years of faithful and unrequited service on the village council, twelve years of that time as chairman of the responsible and important Light & Power committee. "Fourteen years on the Council." How many of us stop to think what that means in time, worry, sacrifice of private pleasures and evenings at home? Twenty-four regular meetings a year, two hours long, 336 meetings, 672 hours or 74 9-hour days, to say nothing of specials and perhaps as much more time during business hours, when the same attention to his private affairs would have been worth many dollars to his bank account. Certainly Mr. Winegar has earned and richly deserves the honor that has come to him; and he brings to his office an experience that will be valuable to his constituents. Here is hoping that his term of office may be successful and enjoyable.

Postmaster Hunter has received plans from the Department for a thorough remodeling of the interior and fixtures of the Lowell postoffice. An entirely new and up-to-date outfit is to be installed, with a new front and entrance, postmaster's private office in front, delivery windows on one side and lobby on the other,

near the front of the building. The rural route assorting room will be in the rear together with the furnace for the steam heating plant with which the building is to be warmed. The work will be done by the Postoffice Building association, under supervision and subject to the approval of the proper officials. Tracks for the handling of mail bags will be substituted for the old drag-in and drag-out method. Work on the alterations and improvements will begin this spring and be pushed to an early completion. Postmaster Hunter is to be congratulated on the success of his enterprise.

Edison Diamond Disc machines re-create music in its natural tone and a soprano sounds like a woman singing, not like a canary bird. Come and hear these wonderful musical instruments at R. D. Stocking's. adv

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 13, 1941

Ada people disappointed. Much to the disappointment of many in Ada, who had stood on the street to see a large contingent of soldiers from Fort Custer go through the village on Tuesday morning, at the last minute the route was changed. The children had been let out of school for their first glimpse of war preparations and were perhaps more disappointed than others. However, many road guides had been stationed in and about Ada and army trucks. The soldiers seen here were in full winter outfit, wearing heavy overcoats and gloves and seemed to have complete equipment for whatever was ahead for them for they carried rifles, a pack and even a so-called tin hat. It was understood that many hundreds of them would pass through the village on their way to Townsend Park for war maneuvers. Even this brief glimpse of soldiers was exciting and one got the thought that we hoped with all our hearts this would prove to be "just maneuvers" and not preparations for actual war.

Several from Alto went to Whitneyville Tuesday to see the 3,000 troops in the 324 vehicles pass through on their way to Townsend Park for dinner which was prepared on mobile kitchens enroute.

You may get away with a lot of things, but the government will get you on income tax evasion, one fine day. Don't forget that returns must be filed by midnight of this week Saturday, March 15.

The Price-Rite Hardware this week completed the attractive redecoration of their store and the installation of fluorescent lighting system. Another fine improvement to Main St. businesses.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger March 17, 1966

Failure to yield phone caused serious damage to farm home Tuesday. Failure to yield a telephone line for a fire call on Tuesday night, resulted in a minor chimney fire badly damaging the farm home of Jesse Knapp. Firemen arrived at the fire some 30 minutes after the fire was discovered. The roof and attic of the house was gutted by fire. Damage was set at \$1,500 on the building and \$300 on the contents. Knapp told Fire Chief Frank Baker and Sheriff's Department

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In The Service

Caleb B. Grow, an Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadet at Liberty University, Lynchburg, Va., received the George C. Marshall award during an awards ceremony at the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

cadet battalion represent the very best of a highly selective organization. This is a national award and the highest award an ROTC cadet can receive.

The cadets participate in focus groups and round table discussions and lectures on the theme of the national security of the U.S. and the Army's security role in the international arena. Cadets receive formal speeches from the highest echelons of the U.S. Army's leadership ranks, scholars and experts in the area of national defense.

Grow is the son of Stephen B. and Bonnie S. Grow of Ada and cousin of Brandon Cox of Lynchburg, Va.

He is a 2010 graduate of Forest Hills Eastern, Ada.

The award is named in the honor and legacy of General of the Army George C. Marshall, who served in World War II as the Army Chief of Staff and in the post-war era served as secretary of state and secretary of defense. The award is presented annually to the most outstanding senior cadets in military science studies and leadership values in each battalion at host universities or colleges. Top cadets from each

college news

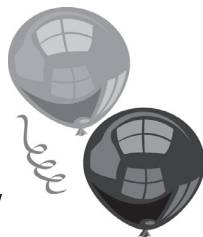
Michael Hanson, of Ada, a senior studying criminal justice made the dean's list for the fall 2015 semester at Spring Arbor University.

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 honored for the fall semester include, of Belding: James E. Bell, Marcella J. Brengle, Carley R. Cahoon, Clarice R. Callahan, Megan E. Eilar, Megan E. Hofman, Elizabeth A. Kazmerski, Tatiana J. Kenny, Arianna M. Leppink, Kyra A. Marks, and Tiffany K. Shepard.

happy birthday



MARCH 9

Bob Vezino, Marsha Roudabush, Mark Richmond, Pam Cebelak.

MARCH 10

Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.

MARCH 11

Pat Ball, Renee Nugent, Larry Martin, Kim Barnes.

MARCH 12

David Baird, Lisa Homrich, Laura Horsley, Julie Idema, Kathy Fyan.

MARCH 13

Sophia Beachum, Dode Dey, Paul Seese, Tyler Schneider, Jack Robert Malone.

MARCH 14

Venita Wheeler, Mike Stevens, Dan Baird, Kari Merriman, Chase Peterson, Shannon Lambert, Sara Schoen, Layla Yeiter.

MARCH 15

Daniel Vegter, Ward Boulard Jr., Brett Hobrla, Margot Miller.

...

Step with care and great tact, and remember that Life's a Great Balancing Act.

~Dr. Seuss

health



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

distracted driving

Distracted driving can have disastrous consequences. In the last 10 years there has been a significant increase in deaths related to motor vehicle crashes as a result of distracted driving.

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- taking your hands off the steering wheel for tasks other than driving; and
- not being fully focused on the task of driving.

In 2012, 421,000 people were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver. About one in five crashes caused by distracted driving involved a driver using a cell phone. This number is even higher with teenage drivers. Distracted driving is a



serious public hazard and lawmakers in many states are taking action to limit cell phone use while driving.

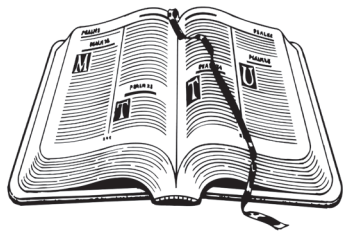
Safe driving habits include:

- avoid all cell phone tasks while driving;
- do not program GPS devices or use portable music or video players or computers while driving;
- ask a passenger to handle telephone calls and text messages for you; and
- set a safe example for teens by not using a cell phone or other mobile devices while driving.

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Cherry Creek student buzzes to top in regional bee

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Cherry Creek Elementary fifth-grade student Jeremy James buzzed by the competition to a first-place finish in both his school and regional spelling bees. These wins grant James the right to move on to the state competition later this month.

“It was nerve racking,” he said of his very first spelling competition held at Cherry Creek. “Afterwards my jaw hurt because I was so nervous and shaking.”

The payoff though was big as he edged out classmate and fellow regional qualifier Elisha Peters for top honors.

“I was super excited,” said James of the victory.

When asked what word won the competition James answered in expert spelling bee fashion, “It was larynx, l-a-r-y-n-x.”

Both James and Peters are students of Kori Grooters, who James credits for some of his success, along with his grandmother who serves as his study partner. “I’ve always been really good at spelling but Mrs. Grooters is an excellent spelling teacher. I almost always study with my grandma at home,” he said going on to describe the strategies used by both of his top spelling supporters.

At the regional competition in Grand

Rapids, competing against students through grade eight, the word Orwellian sealed the soft spoken student’s trip to the Greater Grand Rapids Spelling Bee scheduled for March 22 at the Grand Rapids Ballet Wege Center in Grand Rapids. “It’s pretty exciting. Making it to state is awesome.”

As he prepares for the bee, where he looks to earn the right to move on to the Scripps National Bee in Washington D.C., James says he already has a plan in mind for the possible adventure.

“I would probably bring my friend Mason. It would be awesome.”



Regional spelling bee runner-up Elisha Peters, teacher Kori Grooters and winner Jeremy James.

Relay for Life kickoff slated for March 10

It’s a bird! It’s a plane! It’s...Lowell Relay For Life 2016!

Now in its eleventh year in the community, a superhero themed Lowell Relay For Life is kicking off their season and celebrating their brand new format with a free public pizza party. It will be held Thursday evening, March 10, at BC Pizza in Lowell from 6-8 pm.

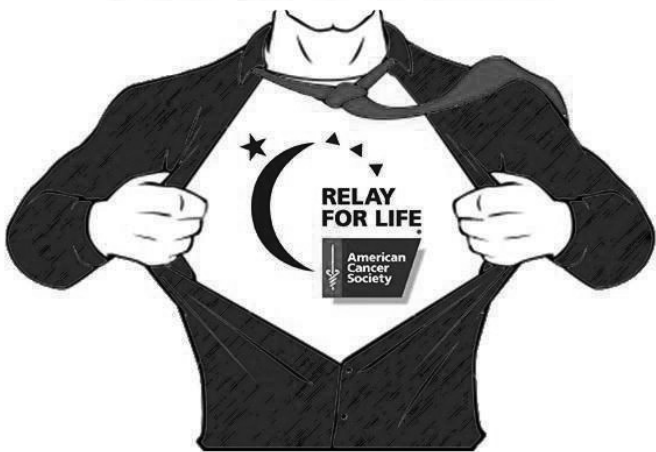
space and will provide a fantastic atmosphere for the event. We scaled back the time to make the event more accessible to the public as some struggled with the 24 hour commitment.”

Additional changes and improvements to the event include live music on the Showboat stage throughout the day, a Relay Recess

pizza party which will also feature salad, homemade desserts and drinks, along with more information, fundraising supplies and

a superhero themed photo booth. Superhero attire encouraged. Cape and tights optional.

SUPERHEROES WANTED



RFL will be held on June 25 with two huge changes to the ten-year-old format. According to event chair Kathryn Atwood, “This year we have changed the location of the event to the Riverwalk in downtown Lowell from Lowell High School and cut the schedule from 24 hours to just 12.”

The changes are in an effort to continue the growth of the successful cancer fighting event by providing increased visibility and more fun.

“We absolutely love the new location and are grateful to the city for its use,” said Atwood. “The Riverwalk is a gorgeous

area for kids featuring a bounce house, a Superhero Training Academy, local food vendors on site and fun contests and activities for all ages.

“In addition we will have a Pink Arrow Power Hour where all participants are asked to don their Pink Arrow gear in celebration of the tremendous work they do,” added Atwood, “RFL purple is the perfect compliment to LHS pink. We are all in this fight together.”

Those interested in learning more about Lowell RFL are encouraged to attend the free Thursday night

...
A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.

~ Nelson Mandela

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Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams compete at regional tournament

Imagine driving a team created no-cycle, recycling vehicle; problem solving from the perspective of three different animals; encountering an object as it comes to life when touched by a magical item and balancing and supporting as much weight as possible - twice!

These are all parts of solutions to problems used by Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams at the Region II competition at Greenville Middle and High School. Lowell was represented by seven teams made up of students from all four elementary schools, the middle and high school. The teams competed by presenting their solutions to a problem they have been solving since early in the school year, as well as solving a problem that was unknown to them until one minute before they had to solve the problem. The teams are scored, by how well their solutions solved the problem, how creative their solutions were and how well they worked together as a team.

John Lothian, from Lowell Middle School, was the recipient of a Ranatra Fusca award, the highest award given in Odyssey of the Mind for his special effect device. The Ranatra Fusca Creativity award represents the essence of Odyssey of the Mind. It is presented to teams or individuals who exhibit exceptional creativity, either through some aspect of their problem solution or an extraordinary idea beyond the problem solution. A successful problem solution is not a criterion for winning the award; rather, the award is a way to acknowledge and encourage creative thinking and risk-taking.

Securing first-place finishes and qualifying for the State Finals tournament was the Division I "Stack Attack" team from Murray Lake Elementary, the division II "Stack Attack" team from Lowell Middle School and the division III "Stack Attack" team from Lowell High School. For this win, the teams designed and built a structure made of only balsa wood and glue

weighing no more than 15 grams that balanced and supported as much weight as possible - twice! The team also had to make a team created device that produced effects that were able to be seen or heard by the judges and audience. The testing of their structure was presented in a performance that integrated placing and removing the weights and the special effect device.

The Lowell division I "No-Cycle Recycle" vehicle team finished in fourth place and received the highest spontaneous score in their problem and division. The division II "Furs, Fins, Feathers and Friends" team from Lowell Middle School finished in sixth place at the tournament.

Other teams that performed at the competition were the division I "Furs, Fins, Feathers and Friends" performance team and the

primary division "Stir the Pot" team.

The complete list of scores can be found online at www.miodyssey.com under the Region II competition page.

The State Finals competition will be held March 19 at Thornapple Kellogg Schools in Middleville. Teams that do well at the state competition will be invited to compete at the World Finals Competition May 25-28 at Iowa State University. The Odyssey of the Mind program fosters creative thinking and problem-solving skills among kindergarten through college level students from around the world. New teams will be forming in the fall if you have a student that may be interested in participating. Watch for information at your school building in the fall.



John Lothian talking to judges after his team's long-term performance about the special effects device that he created.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

C	A	R	G	O		B	I	Z		R	A	M	P		
B	R	A	U	N		A	C	E		S	A	M	O	A	
S	E	T	A	E		N	E	B		U	N	I	A	T	
	S	A	V	I	N	G		R	E	B	I	R	T	H	
		A	D	O			H	A	L	T					
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U	S	E	S		E	D	G	Y		E	N	V	O	I	
L	I	S	T		D	E	G	A	S		T	E	R	N	
I	D	I	O	M		S	A	L	T		S	A	M	E	
P	E	N	P	A	L		R	E	A	D		S	A	D	
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D	A	T	E	D			D	A	D		O	M	A	N	I
A	D	O	S				E	W	E		N	O	R	S	E



The Lowell Middle School "Stack Attack" team, front row, left to right: coach Lori Lothian, Cole Weston, Jared Sweet, and Phoebe Looman; back row, left to right: coach Mark Looman, John Lothian, Brecken Pawloski, Jake Cleaver, and coach Ryan Lothian.



The Lowell High School "Stack Attack" team, left to right: Leanna Rose, Hope Winters, Annabelle Johnson and Chloe Looman.



The division I "Stack Attack" team, front row, left to right: Dalton Charon, Caydence Pawloski, and Lily Richards; back row, left to right: Logan Smith, Victor Preiss, Ari McFarland, and Nicholas Lothian.

Red Arrow SPORTS

-GYMNASTICS

Gymnasts off to state, continued

Lowell to take six of the eight vault places to advance to state was so great! Especially proud of Lauren Browning who came off an injury earlier this year and proud of freshman Corah Miller who has proven she can shine under pressure," said DeHaan.

The team also scored very well on the beam after having a lackluster performance on the event at their last competition. "Such a better day on beam than at conference. Freshman Joslynn Battle was one of the last girls this season to qualify to regionals and I'm so glad she did since she hit today and we counted her score. Also proud of Paige DeHaan, she added

more difficulty to her beam routine this year and had a great routine at the right time for us to count her score too. Joslynn and Paige were only 0.1 and 0.2 away from qualifying individually to state."

Lisa Price finished second on the floor exercise captivating those in attendance during her performance. According to DeHaan, "We made some changes to some of the connections in her routine and it paid off. She is an amazing dancer, so watching her floor routine is mesmerizing, she just draws everyone in. When her music comes on people stop to watch her."



The eight state qualifiers are, from left to right: Maura Fitzpatrick, Corah Miller, Corah Kaufman, Alise Forward, Lauren Browning, Sarena Wilterdink and Karmen Anderson. Missing from picture is Lisa Price.

Friday the team will compete in the state finals at Rockford High School starting at 1:30 pm and then the individual state tournament on Saturday kicking off at 11:30 am.

VAULT

Maura Fitzpatrick.....	9.175
Corah Miller.....	9.025
Alise Forward.....	9.0
Lauren Browning.....	8.95
Karmen Anderson.....	8.9

BEAM

Corah Kaufman.....	9.2
Maura Fitzpatrick.....	8.9
Joslynn Battle.....	8.45
Paige DeHaan.....	8.35
Sarena Wilterdink.....	8.3

BARS

Corah Kaufman.....	8.975
Karmen Anderson.....	8.3
Sarena Wilterdink.....	8.25
Maura Fitzpatrick.....	8.15
Amber Brown.....	8.0

FLOOR

Lisa Price.....	9.175
Maura Fitzpatrick.....	9.075
Joslynn Battle.....	8.7
Alise Forward.....	8.675
Sarena Wilterdink.....	8.55

- BASKETBALL

After winning first round of playoffs boys move on to semifinals

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow boys varsity basketball picked up large margin wins in their last regular season game of the year against Ionia on Tuesday and in the first round of playoffs versus Rockford on Monday night.

Tuesday at home the boys welcomed the Bulldogs from Ionia where they dominated both sides of the ball. Lowell topped Ionia in every quarter running the ball well in a offensive effort that showcased some of the teams deep bench talent. Defensively the Arrows kept the Ionia squad at bay of the basket most of the night allowing only 25 points for the Bulldogs in the heavily lopsided battle that ended with he Arrows on top 56-25..

Putting points on the board in the win were top scorers Matt Beachler and Marcus Malling who both

earned 11 points, Ethan Bates who netted nine, Alex Anschutz and Austin Branagan who contributed six each, Gabe Steed and Mitch Davis who popped in four, Ryan Stevens with three and Carter Noskey with two.

Leaving behind a winning season record of 15-5 the team wiped the slate clean on Monday night when they headed into the district quarterfinals. Lowell welcomed Rockford to the first round of district action on the hunt for the squads first district title since 1984, and got one step closer.

After a close first quarter that had the Arrows up by only three 16-13 Lowell began to pull away out shooting the Rams in the remaining three quarters 45-28. Lowell point guard Stevens pushed through multiple defenders to top all scorers with 17.

Beachler added 13 to the points total, Branagan ten, Steed and Anschutz eight, Malling three and Andrew Poulton two from the line to close the game with a twenty point advantage 61-41.

With the win the Arrows move on to the semifinals to be held at Northview High School on Wednesday starting at 7 pm. With another victory the squad will move on to the district finals, where they would likely face conference nemesis Grand Rapids Christian, on Friday with the same location and tip off time.

A solid 13 point performance from junior Matt Beachler helped lead the Arrows to a 61-41 playoff victory Monday night



Go Red Arrows! Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports
the lowell ledger

Red Arrow SPORTS

Sport Summaries

BOYS BOWLING

Lowell's regional champion varsity boys bowling team completed another top notch season this past Saturday with appearances in both the team and individual Division II state finals. The bowlers placed 14th in team tournament with a combined pin fall of 3,063. Sophomore Carson Clark represented the Arrows in individual competition placing 21st out of a field of 60 bowlers with a score of 1,158. The successful team will graduate just one senior this year in Tim Buechler.

GIRLS BOWLING

Senior Ally Stockreef wrapped up competition for the Lowell varsity girls bowling team last Saturday with her performance in the individual Division II state finals. Stockreef, who led the team much of the season, finished 24th out of 60 bowlers with a total pin fall of 1,021.

ICE HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian ice hockey capped off a winning season that included a Tier 3 conference championship and a hard fought loss to Kalamazoo United in the first round of regional competition. Kalamazoo scored twice early before Logan Propst and Nick Vantil found the back of the net for one apiece to tie the game at 2-2 moving into the second. The back-and-forth battle continued in the second with LCSC landing on top 5-3 moving into the third after goals from Brian Hoekzema, Propst and Owen Radtke. Despite a goal from Austin Whaley in the third, Kalamazoo stormed back with four goals to claim the 7-6 victory. LCSC hockey ends the season with one of the program's top finishes at 15-8-2, just shy of the club season record set in 1977.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lowell's Lady Arrow varsity basketball team wrapped up their season last Wednesday on the road at Greenville High School losing their district bid to Cedar Springs by just two points 46-44. Standout senior defender Ally Frederickson led all scorers netting 19 points. The team finishes the season with a 6-13 record overall and a 2-8 finish in conference. The young squad graduates just two seniors in Frederickson and teammate Bailey Reitsma.



WRESTLING

Arrows end season on a high note at state finals

A grand champion, sixth-place or better finishes and Boudro receives coach of the year

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow wrestling headed to The Palace of Auburn Hills over the weekend to support 11 individual qualifiers at the Division II state finals and returned with eight wrestlers with sixth or better finishes, a Division II Coach of The Year award for head coach R.J. Boudro and a grand champion in 189 pound senior Max Dean.

Dean kept his perfect season alive finishing at 37-0 after topping Marysville's Dan Bell, Nick Humphrey of Monroe, Kane

Williams of Clio and Brad Wilton of Mason en route to the championship that caps his high school career.

After winning a state title his sophomore year at 171 pounds, Dean was forced to sit out his entire junior season due to a wrist injury sustained during football season. The difficult year of watching instead of winning made the Cornell University bound wrestler savor the victory even more. "Obviously it was really difficult being sidelined and just not having that privilege to compete and go out with

my teammates and wrestle. It was really hard on me because I love wrestling, that's why I do it. It was definitely satisfying this year to come back and get a title."

Other Arrow grapplers making appearances at the competition were Keigan Yuhas, Sam Russell, David Kruse, Lucas Hall, Avry Mutschler, Danny Kruse, Eli Boulton, Zeth Dean, Jeff Leach and Bryce Dempsey. Those eight wrestlers placed sixth or better in the finals.

Second-place finishes were earned by Danny

Kruse at 171 after losing a 4-1 decision to Warren Lincoln's Jelani Embree; Eli Boulton who fell 9-2 to Landon Pelham of Tecumseh at 215 pounds; and future Michigan State wrestler Lucas Hall who surprisingly lost 10-4 to Drew Marten of Tecumseh at 125 ponds.

"Lucas is the most exciting wrestler to watch in the state of Michigan... period," said Lowell head coach R.J. Boudro of the successful senior grappler. Hall tore through Armada's Robert Nowik in 17 seconds and Stevensville Lakeshore's Tony Williams in just 14 seconds at the tournament.

Other notable moments included senior Zeth Dean picking up his 150th career win with a 19-4 victory over Brady Schulz of Gaylord and coming home with a third-

place finish; and freshman talent Avry Mutschler who ran his novice season all the way to the semifinals and a fourth-place state finish. Also placing in the tournament were Dempsey in sixth and David Kruse in fourth.

With a strong finish in the individual tournament and a top team finish, the Red Arrows have continued their legacy of success, something Boudro, who also picked up top honors as the Division II Coach of the Year, says is a credit to many. "We have an awesome group of coaches, parents, fans, and wrestlers that make up the Lowell Wrestling club. Winning a state championship is a very difficult task and winning three in a row is crazy. Everyone worked extremely hard and I'm happy for our club."

LAS
Elementary
Lunch Menus
week of 3/14/16

MONDAY: Cheeseburger on bun, baked beans, Bunsell: cheeseburger on bun & seasoned corn; fruit & veggie bar; spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mandarin oranges, apple.

TUESDAY: Chef salad w/ cucumbers & dinner roll, seasoned corn; Bunsell: Chicken taco on soft tortilla shell, refried beans; fruit & veggie bar; spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, mixed fruit, peaches; Bunsell: strawberries.

WEDNESDAY: French toast sticks served with eggs; Bunsell: served with sausage, warm cinnamon apples; fruit & veggie bar; spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, applesauce, orange slices.

THURSDAY: Pasta w/meatballs & sauce, seasoned broccoli; Bunsell: WG breaded chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes & gravy; fruit & veggie bar; spinach & romaine side salad; Bunsell: cucumber coins, broccoli bites, peaches, grapes.

FRIDAY: Homemade cheese pizza on WG crust, side salad; fruit & veggie bar; spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, applesauce, juice.

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“Dig Into Reading” at Alto Elementary

Alto PTO welcomed paleontologist Joseph Kchodl, better known as Paleo Joe, last week to start off “March is Reading Month.” The theme this year is “Dig Into Reading.”

Paleo Joe shared stories of his explorations in the field of paleontology with students during a pair of assemblies highlighting some of his special finds. These included his discovery of an 11 million year old rhino in Nebraska, the bones of a triceratops in Montana and a rare Camarasaurus in Utah.

“Our goal is to help our teachers provide experiences for their students they might not otherwise have,” said Alto PTO president Cindy Johnston. “Paleo Joe combined science, reading and writing into an amazing package for our students.”



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Dear EarthTalk: How is it that big game hunting can actually be good for wildlife? -- *Ronnie Wilson, Ft. Myers, FL*

When Minnesota dentist Walter Palmer killed Cecil, a much-loved wild 13-year-old black-maned lion, with his bow and arrow in July 2015 outside a protected section of Zimbabwe’s Hwange National Park, animal advocates were outraged. The University of Oxford’s Wildlife Conservation Research Unit team had been studying Cecil and his family—protected as long as they stayed within the invisible borders of the park—at the time. In response to the extensive media coverage and public fury following the incident, Delta, American and United airlines announced in August that they would no longer allow hunters to transport big game trophies, including buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion or rhino, on their flights.

Cecil’s death also helped draw attention to big game hunting and its effects on wildlife populations and their ecosystems. Globe-trotting big game hunters imported more than 1.26 million “trophies”—the part of the animal they keep for display—to the U.S. between 2005 and 2014, according to a new report by Humane Society International (HSI). That’s an average of 126,000 trophy imports a year, or 345 a day.

But hunting proponents found the sudden backlash over Cecil’s death unsubstantiated. Dr. Alan Maki, conservation chair at the prominent hunting group, Safari Club International (SCI), argued that, considering that Africa’s human population is projected to double to two billion in the next 25 years, more and more land will be needed to support this growth, resulting in lots of lost wildlife habitat. Safari hunting, a \$200 million annual industry, provides substantial value to wildlife, he said, by paying for anti-poaching patrols, national park operations and conservation programs that support local communities.

“We’re too busy showing everyone what great hunters we are, and we’re not doing enough to show what kind of conservationists we are,” says Ivan Carter, an African hunting guide and host of Carter’s W.A.R. on the Outdoor Channel. “We have to change the perception that we are just trophy killers and we’ve got to focus on the fact that we’re

conservationists, and we do that by having and sharing the right information and research, and taking the time to post properly on social media.”

Of course, not everyone agrees that trophy hunting is benign, let alone beneficial. HSI maintains that widespread corruption in some of Africa’s most sought after big game destinations means that money raised from trophy hunting in places like Tanzania and Zimbabwe is more likely used to line officials’ pockets than to help ailing wildlife populations. (This unavoidable corruption was part of the reason Kenya banned trophy hunting altogether within its borders some four decades ago.) HSI also points out that trophy hunting may be more about ego-stroking than conservation, with wealthy American hunters willing to pay top dollar to compete in contests to kill the most wildlife for awards (such as the “Africa Big Five” that includes lions, elephants, rhinos, leopards and Cape buffalo).

HSI, which has published several reports detailing the negative effects of trophy hunting on wildlife populations, is working to get additional airlines to refuse passage to hunting trophies, and has helped introduce legislation to Congress calling for a ban on the importation of large animal trophies altogether.

While it appears that the debate is not going to be settled anytime soon, animal advocates maintain that upholding laws protecting species does much more to protect animals than killing them ever can.



CONTACTS: Oxford Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, www.wildcru.org; SCI, www.safariclub.org; Carter’s W.A.R., www.outdoorchannel.com/showvideos.aspx?show_id=33240; HSI, www.hsi.org.

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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



obituaries

BOERSMA



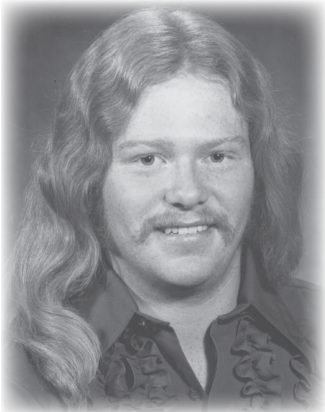
James Alan Boersma, age 67 of Lake Odessa, went to be with the Lord Thursday, March 3, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents, Julius and Evelyn Boersma; brother, Tom; and his companion dogs,

Colt, Beretta, Truck, Remington, Angel, Dixie, Michael, and Zach. He is survived by his daughter, Amanita (Robert) Fahrni; granddaughter, Keana Fahrni; brothers, Jack (Loie) Boersma, Tom's wife Jo Boersma, Rus (Mary) Boersma, Dale (Sue) Boersma; also many nieces and nephews. Jim proudly served with the US Marines as a Helicopter Crew Chief in the Vietnam Conflict. Funeral service was held at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, Grand Rapids. Rev. Rus Boersma officiating with military honors under the auspices of the Kent County Veteran Honor Guard. Interment Cascade Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Ionia County Animal Shelter, 3853 Sparrow Dr, Ionia, MI 48846 or Barry County Animal Shelter, 540 N Industrial Park Drive, Hastings, MI 49058.



ROTH

Michael Alan Roth, age 58 of Lowell, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, Thursday, March 3, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents Juanita (Red) Baker-Czpek and Dick Roth; brother Rick Roth and sister Tootie Comdure; and Sandy Brown Roth. He is survived by his children Kelly (Ben) Roth and Emily Roth; brother Bryan Roth; sister Brenda (Eric) Traetz and many nieces and nephews. A funeral service was held. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the family to assist with funeral expenses.



TAP

Shirley Jean Tap, age 67 of Lowell, passed away Friday, March 4, 2016. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jules and Sarah Erler; sisters, Julie Lyon and Beulah Doyle. She is survived by, and was the loving and faithful wife to her husband of 47 years Kerry; children, Nick (Lesa) Tap, Heather (Brad) Sprague; grandchildren, Justin Corwin, Jacob, Zachary and Luke Sprague; brother and sister-in-law, Keith and Marlene Tap; niece, Bridget (Ron) Coe; nephews, Brion (Jen) Doyle, Kevin Doyle, Cameron and Vaughn Tap, and Dan Lyon. Shirley worked as a Licensed Nurse in Lowell for 35 years and built many lasting friendships with her many co-workers and doctors over the years. Her grandchildren brought such joy and delight to her life and she loved watching them grow up at each stage of their life. She was a very involved "Grandma Shirl", as her grandchildren would affectionately refer to her, and will be greatly missed. Shirley also had many friends whom she loved to visit, go out to lunch and go shopping with. She also enjoyed daily morning mass followed by coffee with a special group of ladies. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Friday 11:00 a.m. at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell N.E., Ada. Rev. Mark Peacock presiding. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 2-4:00 pm and 6-8:00 pm with vigil service at 7:30 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick Catholic Church.



WALTHORN

Ronald Joseph Walthorn, age 73 of Grand Rapids, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family after a lengthy illness on Saturday, March 5, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents Donald and Dorothy; brothers Patrick Walthorn and John Reynders; brothers-in-law Howard Vroma, Jay Smith and Jim Smith; sisters-in-law Sr. Annette Byrne RSM and Nancy Walthorn. He is survived by his wife of 52 years Bess; children Debra Tulecki and Donald Walthorn; grandchildren Emily & Claire Tulecki, Kaelynn Walthorn; brother Larry Walthorn; brother-in-law Norm (Rosemary) Byrne; sister Dorothy (Howard) Lapekes; sisters-in-law Avis Rose (Frank) Noor, Lil Vroma, Zeta Smith, Rose Smith, Margie (Gene) Smith, Leona (Mike) Scott, Rose Walthorn; and many wonderful nieces and nephews. Ron was a member of the AOH (Ancient Order of Hibernians) and the Creston Rod and Gun Club. He was an avid fisherman and hunter. Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Interment St. Patrick Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Holland Home's Van Andel Pavilion, 2100 Raybrook SE, Ste. 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.



Looking Back, continued

Deputies that when he tried to call the fire department for assistance someone on his rural line told him to "let it burn." The firemen were also delayed by a mistake in pronouncing the street name, which took several minutes to solve.

Arrest two youths for local thefts [A] 17- and a 16-year-old juvenile, were arrested Tuesday morning by local police in the connection with several local thefts and breaking and enterings. Lowell Police said that one of the youths has admitted his part in breaking into the Superior Furniture Company, Wittenbach Sales and Service, the Edwin Wittenbach home on Grindle Drive, a trailer stored at the King Milling Company, and several places in Ottawa County. The stolen articles included lawn mowers, guns, tires and other household items, valued at several hundred dollars. The boys had been living in a trailer stored at the King Milling Company. They gained entry by breaking a window.

Showboat organizes for '66 show July 25 - 30. The successful 1965 Showboat was credited to the outstanding cooperation of community groups and organizations that donated their labor to keep Showboat going. A profit of \$5,908 was reported and was only possible because of community support. Plans for the 1966 Showboat were revealed at the annual meeting held last Thursday. President William S. Doyle told the hundred in attendance that Bob Newhart and Molly Bee have been signed for the headliners on the July 25 to 30 dates of the '66 show.

You may not think so, but spring is going to be a little late this year, when it arrives at 8:35 p. m. Sunday, March 20. That's the time the sun will reach the vernal equinox, crossing the equator on its way north. And officially, this date of the start of the spring season is nearly six hours later than last year.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 13, 1991

School offers \$442,000; Qua-Ke-Zik repeats "Not For Sale." Following a closed session with legal counsel, the Lowell Board of Education resumed its regular meeting on March 11 and voted unanimously to offer the Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club \$442,000 for its 121 acres of property on Foreman Road which the district has identified as the prime location for its new high school complex. "I can't say whether the club will accept the bonafide offer. If it is turned down, then it goes back to discussions between the Board and the club," Esch said. However, the school does have deadlines and Esch would not comment on how long the school could privately continue to try to reach an agreement with the Club. "I would like to see this thing resolved as smoothly as possible." According to school officials, the offer was based upon a recent certified appraisal of the property by Charles Green, MAI, SREA, of Lansing, who is recognized across the State as one of the most knowledgeable and respected appraisers in the business. Esch said the bonafide offer was to be delivered to the Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club attorney on Tuesday (March 12). The Club will then have seven days to respond to the offer.

Four Lowell Seniors vie for the 1991 Lowell Showboat crown. The second annual Lowell Showboat Pageant will come to the Lowell Middle School Saturday night at 7 p.m. Reigning Showboat Queen Jodi Renee Smith will relinquish her crown to one of four high school senior contestants. Hoping to earn the crown are: Rebecca Hovey, 17, daughter of Lee and Joann Hovey; [Laura Marie Trowbridge, 18, the daughter of Jack and Kay Trowbridge; Erica Hackenbruch, 17, the daughter of Lynn Hackenbruch; and Megan Bernet Odell, 17, is the daughter of Roger and Vicki Odell.]

School Board agrees on new logo for district. In an effort to expand the image of the Lowell Area Schools, Gary Eldridge, an area artist, and a committee of 10 spent an immense amount of time over the last several months working on a new district-wide school logo. The time and effort put into the project was rewarded at the March Lowell Board of Education meeting as the board approved the new school logo.

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MSP troopers take aim at left lane drivers

All motorists would agree that one of the most frustrating situations on a freeway is being caught behind a left lane driver. This is not the person who is attempting to actively pass,

but the person who believes the left lane is for general travel.

The MSP Sixth District Headquarters has been receiving numerous

complaints about this violation in West Michigan and has planned an education and enforcement initiative to address the problem. Now through the end of April, troopers from the Lakeview and Rockford posts will be on the lookout for these “south paw drivers” on all of West Michigan’s major freeways.

The thrust of this initiative is education; many people simply don’t realize that the left lane is reserved for the passing motorist, said F/Lt. Chris McIntire of the Rockford Post. Besides being generally disruptive to traffic flow, this violation can actually be dangerous, as frustrated motorists attempt risky maneuvers to get around the log jam.

A motorist stopped for this violation during the enforcement period, can expect at the very least a short lesson on the law and how their actions disrupt traffic flow. We just want motorists to understand the

law and work on developing courteous driving habits.

Excerpt Michigan Compiled Laws

MCL 257.634 covers lane use. Specifically, subsections (2) and (3) apply to the use of the left-hand lane by traffic.

(2) Upon a roadway having 2 or more lanes for travel in 1 direction, the driver of a vehicle shall drive the vehicle in the extreme right-hand lane available for travel except as otherwise provided in this section. However, the driver of a vehicle may drive the vehicle in any lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the same direction of travel when the lanes are occupied by vehicles moving in substantially continuous lanes of traffic and in any left-hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the same direction of travel for a reasonable distance before making a left turn.

(3) This section shall not be construed to prohibit

a vehicle traveling in the appropriate direction from traveling in any lane of a freeway having 3 or more lanes for travel in the same direction. However, a city, village, township, or county may not enact an ordinance which regulates the same subject matter as any provision of this subsection. The driver of a truck with a gross weight of more than 10,000 pounds, a truck tractor, or a combination of a vehicle and trailer or semitrailer shall drive the vehicle or combination of vehicles only in either of the 2 lanes farthest to the right, except for a reasonable distance when making a left turn or where a special hazard exists that requires the use of an alternative lane for safety reasons.

(4) A person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction.

On a non-freeway road, or a freeway with only two lanes in one direction, all

traffic is limited to the right-hand lane with the following exceptions:

- For a reasonable distance prior to a left turn
- When passing another vehicle traveling in the same direction

- When traffic is heavy enough that the use of additional lanes is necessary

On a freeway with three or more lanes in one direction, traffic may use any of the lanes available with the exception of large trucks, which are limited to the right two lanes except when preparing to exit to the left, or when avoiding a hazard.

Additionally, MCL 257.676b prohibits a vehicle from impeding the flow of traffic. Under this section, a driver that intends to be in the left lane through one of the exceptions above still needs to allow traffic to flow and that driving in the left-hand lane below the prevailing speed of traffic would be a violation.

With warmer months approaching, cases of legionnaires’ disease possible

While legionnaires’ disease can happen at any time of the year, it is more common during warmer months when temperatures are ideal for growth of the bacteria that cause this disease (Legionella). That is why more people tend to get legionnaires’ disease in the summer and fall.

“To continue the joint efforts to protect the health of residents of the city of Flint, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Wayne State University are working to ensure that residents are aware of the potential for disease spread as the warmer months approach,” said Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive with the MDHHS.

Legionella is a type of bacteria commonly found in the environment that grows best in warm water, such as hot tubs, cooling towers, hot water tanks, drinkable water systems, and decorative fountains. When people are exposed to the bacteria, it can cause legionnaires’ disease, a respiratory disease that can infect the lungs and cause pneumonia. In general, legionnaires’ disease is not spread from one person to another. However, this has been documented in extremely rare cases.

Most healthy people do not get sick after being exposed to Legionella. Being 50 years or older or having certain risk factors increases the chances of getting sick. Other risk factors include being a current or former smoker; having chronic lung disease, such as emphysema or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; having a weakened immune system from diseases like cancer, diabetes, or kidney failure; or taking medicine that weakens your immune system. legionnaires’ disease in children is not common.

MDHHS and WSU are issuing this statement because Genesee County had increased cases of legionnaires’ disease in 2014 and 2015. MDHHS cannot conclude that these increases were related to the water switch in Flint nor can rule out a possible association at this time.

Looking ahead to the coming warmer months, MDHHS is working with buildings with large water systems, such as hospitals and nursing homes, hotels and motels, and buildings with more than 10 stories to help protect people from legionnaires’ disease. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has

been working with MDHHS in identifying buildings at increased risk for Legionella growth and spread and developing tools to support Legionella prevention. Further, chlorine (a water disinfectant that inhibits Legionella growth) levels will continue to be closely monitored throughout the municipal system.

“As part of the U.S. Government response in Flint, we are collaborating with MDHHS and the Genesee County Health Department to make sure as many legionnaires’ disease cases as possible are prevented in the future,” said Nancy Messonnier, deputy director of CDC’s National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases.

Additionally, WSU has developed a protocol that includes rapid interviewing of patients reported with Legionella infections, promotion of appropriate specimen collection and testing for Legionella and chlorination levels in the homes of people who are confirmed to have legionnaires’ disease. Testing will help us understand if the water treatment process is adequate.

Finding Legionella in a water system is not

uncommon. Studies have shown that Legionella bacteria can be found in anywhere from six to 33 percent of sampled homes, however, even if it is found, the risk of the average person acquiring legionnaires’ disease from their home water system is very low. If Legionella is found in someone’s home, the specimens will be compared with the clinical specimens from the patient to try to understand where the patient’s infection came from, as well as work with residents who have Legionella detected in their homes to improve the safety of their water.

For any resident that develops pneumonia symptoms, you should see a doctor right away. Signs and symptoms of pneumonia can include cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, headache, and high fever. Be sure to tell the doctor if you have used a hot tub, spent any nights away from home or stayed in a hospital in the last two weeks. Legionnaires’ disease requires treatment with antibiotics and most cases can be treated successfully.

For more information about legionnaires’ disease, visit www.cdc.gov/legionella

NOTICE BOWNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet in the new Township Office Building located at 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alb., Michigan on:

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2016 - 1:00 P.M.
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
9:00 A.M. - NOON
AND 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016
1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
& 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.**

**(NOTE - THE EVENING HOURS
ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS. YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE OF (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 6, 2016 OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS.

THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE:

AGRICULTURAL RATIO	48.21	MULTIPLIER	1.0371
COMMERCIAL RATIO	55.99	MULTIPLIER	.8930
INDUSTRIAL RATIO	50.74	MULTIPLIER	.9854
RESIDENTIAL RATIO	47.64	MULTIPLIER	1.0495

**DENNIS MCKELVEY-ASSESSOR
RANDY WILCOX-SUPERVISOR
BOWNE TOWNSHIP**

**STATEPOINT
CROSSWORD**

**THEME: THINK
SPRING**

ACROSS

1. Boat load
6. Line of work
9. Stairway alternative
13. Hitler's mistress
14. High or low card
15. Country on Samoan Islands
16. Stiff hair or bristles
17. Kan. neighbor
18. Holy See loyalist practicing different rites
19. *Daylight ____ time
21. *Spring is a symbol of this
23. Much of this about nothing?
24. "Stop!" to marchers
25. Feather glue
28. World's largest continent
30. To show off
35. Functions
37. Jittery
39. End of a poem
40. *Before you spring clean you make one?
41. Manet's and Gauguin's contemporary
43. Seaside bird
44. *"Spring to mind" or "Spring into action," e.g.
46. Table mineral
47. Equal
48. Correspondence friend
50. Part of ROM
52. *Spring is a cure for ____, acr.
53. As opposed to "want"
55. Pine juice
57. *Vernal event
61. *Japanese spring blossom

CROSSWORD													
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72						73				74			



MARCH 9 - MARCH 15

- Former first lady Nancy Reagan died of congestive heart failure on Sunday. She was the wife of 39th president Ronald Wilson Reagan and will be buried along side him at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California.



- Norwegian police are very close to solving the case of the lost goldfish, which was found abandoned in a shopping bag at a soccer stadium. The "well looked after" goldfish is in a jam jar at the local police station waiting for its rightful owner.



- According to Forbes, there is only one surprise in their annual report of the richest people. Shooting up the rankings is the 31-year-old founder of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg. With an estimated net worth of \$44.6 billion (up \$11.2 billion last year) he is one of the youngest people in history to earn a billion dollars.
- All-time great football player Calvin Johnson, age 30, has officially announced that he is retiring from the Detroit Lions.

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 64. Knucklehead | 73. Mama sheep | 29. * ____ of March, or March 15 |
| 65. Wear and tear | 74. Relating to Scandinavia | 31. "The ____ Go Marching" |
| 67. Made cow noise | | 32. Part of eye containing iris, pl. |
| 69. Old hat | | 33. Marilyn Monroe's given name |
| 70. June honoree | | 34. Pronged, as in three-____ fork |
| 71. Muscat resident | | 36. "Cut that out!" |
| 72. #23 Across, pl. | | 38. Ivy League school |

DOWN

1. *Masters Tournament network
2. Mars, to the Greeks
3. "Pro" follower
4. Exotic jelly flavor
5. Iroquois tribe
6. "More ____ for the buck"
7. *It dissipates in spring
8. Striped equine
9. Raja's wife
10. Gulf V.I.P.
11. Castle's line of defense
12. Beaten by walkers
15. Difficult to detect
20. Red-____ like Rudolph
22. Hermy the dentist, e.g.
24. Wasted-looking
25. *Popular spring flower
26. Comment to the audience
27. Pine product

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ONLINE
POLL

Did you vote
in Michigan's
Primary?

Yes

No

TO VOTE
GOTO

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thelowellledger.com

Lowell High School presents Peter Pan this Friday

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell High School will be flying off to Neverland this Friday when the theater department premieres their annual spring musical "Peter Pan" at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at 7 pm.

A cast of triple threats that both act, sing and dance were assembled by director Heidi Kolp for the

production based on the work of Scottish novelist J.M. Barrie. Leading that cast is student Megan Ritchie who will delight in her role as the eternal child Peter Pan. "We were just floored by her audition. I enjoy her innocence and playfulness as Peter; this role fits her like a glove," said Kolp.

Peter encounters all of

the people and groups from the classic tale including personal fairy Tinkerbell, his group of motherless Lost Boys, novice flyer Wendy (Keara Anderson), the other Darling children, a tribe of friendly Indians led by Tiger Lily (Salem Grody) and Captain Hook (Tiana Petricevic) and "her" band of swashbuckling buccaneers.

Kolp said that the different groups of actors in the large cast have worked well together producing top notch results. "They react to each other and move together so well. It has been a pleasure watching these groups take initiative on their scenes, their songs and their dances. They have really supported each other. I am so proud of them."

The hour-and-a-half stage production will feature special effect lighting, a built-in performance from the LHS drumline, a beautiful nighttime set and some familiar references from Kolp's interpretation of a modern day Neverland. "Peter says it best when he says, "I am youth! I am joy! I am freedom!" The subtitle for Peter Pan is "Broadway's Timeless Musical," so I decided to take them at their word and brainstorm about the modern Neverland of youth, joy and freedom," explained Kolp, who also directed the school's productions of Hairspray and Annie Get Your Gun. "I decided the modern Neverland is

technology. We incorporated a lot of current references to Minecraft, Zelda, Star Wars, Tetris, and Super Mario that people my age and younger will quickly relate to."

Peter Pan and the Darling children will even literally take to flight on stage during the show ensuring delight for the entire audience from little kids to grandparents in what Kolp calls the "epitome of the all ages show."

Tickets to Peter Pan are \$10 at the door or online at www.seatyourself.biz/lowellhs. Showtimes in addition to the Friday premier are March 12, 18 and 19 at 7 pm and March 13 at 2 pm.



The Darling children (Keara Anderson, Aidan Lane, Ryan Noffke) react to their new friend Peter Pan's (Megan Ritchie) special flying abilities.



The Lost Boys listen carefully to their new "mother" Wendy (Keara Anderson).



Pictured, from left to right: Dr. Jim, Patty, Lacie, Carrie, Gail and Becky.

From *Dr. Reagan & Staff*

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Tiana Petricevic as Hook alongside her loyal band of pirating buccaneers.