

soothing toys



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## Big hats were the theme as GNO models this year's event after the Kentucky Derby

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Warm weather and colorful budding trees greeted shoppers last Thursday for the Lowell

Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored spring Girls Night Out event themed this year after the Kentucky Derby.

Both downtown and uptown businesses participated in the local shopping celebration



Staff at the Station Salon dressed in their derby best and brought along their own thoroughbred for the event.



originally created by chamber director Liz Baker to draw traffic to the city's historic business district. Since its inception, the event's reach has crept down Main Street expanding to include businesses like BC Pizza, Fry Daddy's, Walgreens, and organizations such as Flat River Outreach Ministries on the west end of town.

Once again shuttle service was provided by the Lowell YMCA and the Main Street Inn. Attire for the historic event, known as the "Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports,"

is as much a part of the production as the race itself. Shoppers at the GNO event were encouraged to dress the part by wearing their derby best and show stopping hats.

Those shoppers enjoyed discounts, prizes and treats along their shopping track, including reduced price appetizers at Main Street BBQ and Larkin's Fine Food and Cocktails, 20 percent discounts at Dovetail Antiques and Flat River Cottage, free admission and a prize drawing at the Lowell Area Historical Museum.

## ForwardLowell's efforts to recall Altoft underway

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

The Forward Lowell political action committee is getting closer to their goal of removing mayor Jeff Altoft from his seat on the Lowell city council. The PAC must obtain a minimum of 274 signatures of registered voters in order to get the recall on November's ballot.

"The next step for the recall will be to get the signatures necessary to bring it full circle," said Forward Lowell founder Roger LaWarre. "When we have the signatures of the community, the recall will be official."

Forward Lowell was founded in February by LaWarre, Maryalene LaPonsie, Greg Canfield, Tina Dickerman and Jeff Dickerman. They currently have about 20 members, including Springgrove Variety owner Mike Sprenger, Curtis Cleaners owner Bucky Curtis, Light & Power board member Andrew Schrauben, former

city council candidate Jim Salzwedel and Pink Arrow Pride organizer Teresa Beachum. They have a website at forwardlowell.org, a Facebook page and a Twitter account. The group will begin collecting signatures at an "open house" at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, from 4 until 8 pm on Thursday, April 28.

"It will be an open meeting for the community," LaWarre said. "That will be our official launch to get the signatures. We'll also be encouraging people to register to vote if they're not registered. Families are welcome, children are welcome."

According to the official recall language they are recalling Altoft from the council because, "Lowell city councilmember and mayor Jeff Altoft voted yes to hire Katherine (aka Kathryn) Henry as special legal counsel on January

19, 2016." Forward Lowell also seems to have some unofficial reasons they want Altoft off the council.

"If the city decides that the way he is leading is not what they want, then his term of office will be over," LaWarre said. "This is not a negative thing. It

can easily be put in negative language and I don't want you doing that. What we really believe is there's a good chance that, by virtue of the awareness that is being created by having this recall, mayor Altoft will work on his relationships and work on his contact and

his involvement within the community so that he can become the leader that we want. His leadership has not been adequate or even good. Actually, it's been abominable. Anybody that

Recall efforts, continued, page 2

## Search for new Lowell DPW director continues

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

Lowell briefly had a permanent public works director. Scott Poyer was hired to replace interim director Ron Wood on April 11. Poyer quit almost immediately for reasons that remain vague.

"He resigned on his second day for personal reasons," said city manager Dave Pasquale. "Basically, that's what he said, so we have to accept it."

Eleven people applied for the position. Poyer was the superintendent

of the city of Eaton Rapids, Mich. The position could be filled soon though.

"We're in the midst of offering the position to a person," Pasquale said. "Hopefully we can announce that soon. At this point we have a person that has been given a job offer, it is just a question of whether he is going to accept it or not."

Pasquale said he is waiting for the results of Plan B before he devises a Plan C.

"That's to be determined," Pasquale said. "We're looking at several options."

# Recall efforts, continued

puts himself in this kind of position, you would think that he would start to improve his leadership, start improving getting in contact with people and start talking with a lot of people instead of just a couple. It really isn't about his style. He's becoming a little more comfortable working with an agenda. He's not as clumsy working

with an agenda. What we're really concerned about is the leadership values, the lack of professionalism, the lack of respect for people, the lack of transparency and the lack of accountability that he has displayed. We haven't seen much change in that."

Since Altoft has only been mayor since January, some have said that it is far

too early for a recall. Others have said that the recall is a way for Forward Lowell members to re-do the Nov. 2015 election after they disagreed with the results or that the Altoft recall is revenge for the council's firing of former city manager Mark Howe.

"I don't know where that even comes from," LaWarre said. "I would love

to have you tell people that that's not true. We're not upset about the election results, we're upset because the people who said they were going to lead with transparency aren't doing that. I think all of us would love to know the real reason that they went about doing what they had [the] perfect right to do, which was to fire Mark. Nobody questions

that they had the right to do that. But the way they did it and when they did it, without working with him, with no accountability and no transparency, just showed at that time a major problem that we're still working with. He's a good guy in a lot of ways, he just hasn't shown any integrity in leadership at this point. We haven't seen the kind of

quality leadership that you would expect from the face and the voice of a mayor for the community. He is our face and voice in other communities and it's been a terrible face and voice at this point."

Jeff Altoft was contacted for this story but did not respond to questions.

# Local woman victimized by creation of false Ashley Madison account

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

After several strange men showed up at a Lowell woman's house, two other women were arrested for posting her name on "Ashley Madison," a website for married people who want to have affairs.

"This lady had these strange men showing up at her home," said Lowell chief of police Steve Bukala. "Unbeknownst to her there was a profile created for her

on Ashley Madison that she didn't know about. These guys were showing up from all over West Michigan and she didn't understand why this was happening. The only thing she could think of was that there was a coworker whose wife was very jealous. They [Allen's husband and a female coworker] would have conversations at work and he would tell her personal things about their marriage

and their life. She [Allen] took that as they were getting involved and out of jealousy created this account on Ashley Madison."

Gwen Toni Eddy, a 54-year-old woman from Wyoming and Teresa Lynn Allen, a 46-year-old woman from Grand Rapids; created the account, which resulted in three incidents of men showing up looking for sex between Nov. 13 and Dec. 8, 2015. The case was

cracked by Lowell officer Scot VanSolkema, one of the very few local law enforcement officers who are trained to forensically examine electronic devices.

"Special agent John Edwards of the U.S. Secret Service had talked to the Kent County chiefs of police about this program that sends local police officers from all over the country to Alabama for forensic training on small electronic devices,

mainly cell phones, iPads and Macbook computers," Bukala said. "There [is] a need for it. Right now in this area, there is only one from the Kent County Sheriff's Department and one detective from the Ionia County Sheriff's Department that does it. It's an all-expense-paid training, all we had to do was send the officer. Officer VanSolkema has got a background in computers, so I asked him

if he would be interested in going to that and he said, 'Absolutely.' Since then he's broken down some devices for us, a couple computers."

At 63rd District Court in Grand Rapids on Friday, April 22, Eddy and Allen each pled guilty to "attempted unlawful posting of a message," a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$2,500 fine.



## along main street

...  
**Friendship is always a sweet responsibility, never an opportunity.**  
~ Khalil Gibran

### SCRAP METAL

The Alto Cub Scouts are collecting scrap metal at the dumpster located at 4994 Alden Nash Ave. SE through May 15.

### FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Wed., May 4 at 6 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

### FORWARD LOWELL OPEN HOUSE

All Lowell residents are invited to stop by the chamber office on April 28 between 3 - 8 pm to learn about ForwardLowell, grab a snack and exchange ideas you have to make the community a better place. The whole family is welcome; there will be a kids' activity table. Information on how to register to vote and sign up sheets where you can indicate areas of interest in the community will be provided. There will also be information on the showboat restoration project.

### LFWC PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

There will be a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Lowell Farm and Wildlife Center hosted by ZooRehab on Saturday, April 30 from 8 to 11 am. All proceeds from this event will be put directly toward the second phase of the LFWC project. For further details or to make a donation visit [www.zoorehab.org](http://www.zoorehab.org). This is an outside event so dress for the weather.

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.

## business matters

Dave Emmette, agent and risk manager at AIC Insurance of Ada, recently was recognized as a Certified Professional Insurance Agent (CPIA), a professional designation conferred by the American Insurance Marketing and Sales Society.

Emmette successfully completed three Insurance Success seminars. The CPIA designation stands for professionalism, commitment to sales training and results, and technical knowledge. The CPIA title does require a bi-annual continuing education update. Emmette also holds two additional professional designations CIC (Certified Insurance Counselor) and LUTCF (Life Underwriter Training Council Fellow). He is also working on his fourth professional designation - CRM (Certified Risk Management).

Kristin Johnson and Mark Johnson  
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# Sexton publishes books about Lowell history

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

The city of Lowell's sexton has published two new books about local history. Volumes three and four of Don DeJong's series "If These Oaks Could Only Speak" are now available for purchase at the Lowell Area Historical Museum, 325 W. Main.

As sexton, DeJong spends a lot of time in Oakwood Cemetery, which is the focus of the book series. DeJong digs all of the graves and maintains the cemetery grounds. As he worked in the cemetery, he began to get curious about the lives of the people whose final resting places he was paid to keep neat. The books contain hundreds

of deeply-researched stories, photos and other ephemera documenting lives that might otherwise be forgotten. One example is Abraham Lincoln's buddy Levi Edson.

"Levi Edson was a Civil War veteran," DeJong said. "When he was 85 years old [in 1933] he held a special assembly at the high school on Abe Lincoln's birthday. He knew Lincoln personally and he talked to the students about him. I thought that was just huge, I was so excited when I saw that. Edson died three years later. He was walking on Main St. when he walked out between two cars onto the street and he got hit by

a car. His body couldn't recover from the stress of the accident and he died at the age of 88. His headstone is just a little bit down from the cannon."

Sarah Pletcher is another Lowell citizen with a bit of Lincoln experience.

"I found a story about her remembering when she was a young person going to Niagara Falls with her dad on a horse and a wagon to get some supplies, when they saw a tall, gaunt-looking man standing on the porch talking to people at a big hotel in town," DeJong said. "He was registered under the name Abraham Lincoln. It was when he was running for president [in

1860]. That's tying a local story of history to the bigger picture of history."

Researching and writing the books is a source of great joy for the sexton.

"It's been really fun," DeJong said. "There are some cool stories. They're for sale at the cemetery or the museum's got them. It's \$25 for both of them, for the set. It's been a labor of love. I really enjoy the process."

DeJong said that there will probably be a few more volumes to come.

"Sometimes people will stop me and ask if I'm working on another one," DeJong said. "You wouldn't believe how many stories I've got."



The grave of Levi Edson, a Civil War veteran who knew Abraham Lincoln.

## KCTC Students of Month

Lowell High School announced that five LHS students have been named Student of the Month at Kent Career Technical Center. Brandon Smit, 11th

grade, is enrolled in the graphic communications program; Allyson Stockreef, 12th grade, is enrolled in the certified nursing assistant program; Brett Maxim,

12th grade, is enrolled in the automotive technology program; Karson Murley, 12th grade, is enrolled in the diesel and equipment

technology program; and Madison Stephens, 11th grade, is enrolled in the graphic communications program.



Brandon Smit



Brett Maxim



Karson Murley



Madison Stephens



### lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled information sessions for Wednesday, May 4 at 10 am;

Monday, May 9 at 2 pm; and Wednesday, May 11 at 6 pm for prospective volunteer tutors. These sessions last

one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the center and its literacy programs. At the end of each session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training..

The information sessions

will be held at the Literacy Center of West Michigan, located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand Rapids, MI. Please call 459-5151 (ext. 10) or email [info@literacycenterwm.org](mailto:info@literacycenterwm.org) to register.

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## health



With Drs. Paul Gauthier,  
Jim Lang,  
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John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

### infectious mononucleosis

Infectious mononucleosis (“mono”) is an infection that causes a sore throat, fever, swollen glands, and tiredness or fatigue. Mono is transmitted by exposure to saliva, so it can be spread by kissing, sharing glasses or silverware and by droplets spread by coughing. Mono is usually caused by the Epstein-Barr virus. It most often affects children, teenagers and young adults. Other diseases that cause similar symptoms include viral infections, strep throat and cytomegalovirus.

Most patients with mono have a sore throat, fever and headache and feel tired or fatigued. Most also

have swollen glands in the neck, behind the ears and even toward the back of the head. Some also have pus on the tonsils and small red dots on the roof of the mouth.

There are some blood tests that can help diagnose mono. A complete blood count can show an elevated amount of a certain white blood cell called a lymphocyte. This is a common finding in mono. A test can also be ordered to check for the antibodies that the lymphocytes make to fight the infection, called a monospot test.

Treatment for mono consists mainly of rest. Patients can take medicines,

such as acetaminophen, ibuprofen or naproxen. Corticosteroids are sometimes prescribed in severe cases or in patients with complications. Patients should get as much rest as they need, but being confined to bed is not necessary and does not improve outcomes. Many patients with mono have an enlarged spleen, which is part of their body’s response to the infection. Because an enlarged spleen is more likely to rupture, patients with mono should avoid contact sports and activities that could result in blows to the abdomen until they have recovered. It may take three months or longer to completely recover from mono.

**LAS Elementary Lunch Menus**  
week of 5/2/16

**MONDAY:** Yogurt parfait w/granola & cheese stick; Breakfast: yogurt parfait w/ Goldfish granola & strawberries; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, celery sticks, applesauce, raisins.

**TUESDAY:** sweet & sour popcorn chicken over brown rice, green beans; Breakfast: popcorn chicken w/roll, seasoned green beans; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, cucumber coins, mandarin oranges, grapes.

**WEDNESDAY:** Cinnamon glazed French toast w/sausage, hashbrowns; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, applesauce, orange slices; Breakfast: broccoli, instead of salad.

**THURSDAY:** Beef & cheese nachos, refried beans; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, blueberries, pineapples, apple.

**FRIDAY:** Tony's pepperoni pizza on WG crust, baby carrots; fruit & veggie bar: spinach & romaine side salad, baby carrots, mixed fruit.

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 15-197228-DE

Estate of ELIZABETH  
A COLUNGA. Date of  
birth: 12/01/1936.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Elizabeth A. Colunga, died 02/28/2015.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

forever barred unless presented to Theresa Marie Colunga, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

April 25, 2016

Thomas E. Lane  
(P36477)  
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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### the way it works

Editor,  
I'm a lifetime city resident (if you don't hold the two years in the Cascade Township wilderness against me). My heart has always been here. We have a very divided and confused city currently. One of the ways we are being confused is in our collective misunderstanding of the role of the mayor in our form of city government. Whether on social media, in print, in person, or unfortunately in the council chambers, I read and hear many people each day who are confused by how our city really works. There are two main forms that city government takes in Michigan: strong

mayor in most larger cities (Detroit, Flint) and council/manager in the smaller cities. Lowell uses the council/manager form. This is often referred to as the weak mayor system. The term weak mayor is because the mayor is selected by the council for a specific term, not elected mayor directly by the voters. The mayor has no more power than any other councilman, having one vote on council and no veto power. The mayor is expected to chair the council meetings and is the ceremonial figurehead of the city. The council as a whole is charged with setting

the policy or legislative direction of the city. They also appoint for an indefinite time the city manager, the attorney, the clerk and the treasurer. They set or approve their compensation and these officers serve at the pleasure of council. The council is also responsible for the ultimate approval of the annual city budget. The city manager is the head of the city government at the executive level. The city manager is responsible for all day-to-day operations. He and the treasurer submit an annual budget for approval. All city departments/managers report to the manager with one exception. The exception is Lowell Light and Power. LL&P is a stand alone department that is run by a superintendent who is hired by the Light & Power board of directors. They set the superintendent's

compensation. The city council appoints the members of this board. City manager has no say in day-to-day operations of LL&P. Council has no say in day-to-day operations of the city or LL&P. This format was chosen and agreed upon by our citizens in 1960 when we ceased being a village and became a city. The charter has been tweaked from time-to-time, but the essential form of government has NOT changed. We have a responsibility as citizens to make this a city of laws rather than of men. The wheels of city government were designed to move slowly so as to avoid costly errors. Our city fathers (and mothers) gave us a representative form of government, expecting each councilmember to vote their conscience for the best

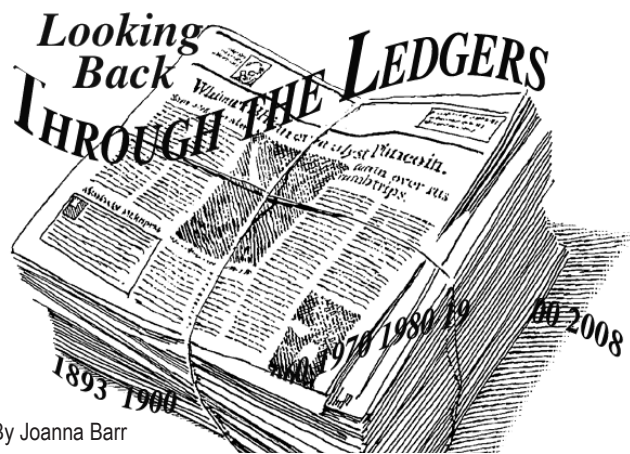
interests of Lowell. They did not expect the council's decisions to be swayed by the prevailing winds of emotion and opinion, but for each councilmember to weigh their decisions based on what was best for the city, both today and in the future.

I realize this is a lot to digest but please read the whole thing and understand that this form of city government has served us well for 56 years.  
Sincerely,  
Don Green  
Lowell City Councilmember 1991-2000

### corrections

To the Editor,  
My name is Dawn Broene and I'm the executive director of Flat River Outreach Ministries. I would like to briefly address a portion of the blog and now letter to the editor that was published on April 13th in the Lowell Ledger and to correct several inaccuracies made by Councilman Teelander. The only purpose is to inform you, Mr. Teelander and the public, so that you know about the meeting of the coalition of services that was called to address the possible displacement/potential homeless issue of some of the city's residents and what Flat River Outreach Ministries involvement is with this initiative.

from the Kent County Essential Needs Task Force, with whom FROM is a partner. Mayor Altoft called me the day before the meeting to make me aware that it was going on. The initial meeting was attended by many Kent County agencies, including The Coalition Against Homelessness, Kent County ENTF, Salvation Army, ICCF, Dwelling Place, DHHS, Community Rebuilders, United Way and Michigan Works!. The meeting went well and it was decided that more information was needed. Flat River Outreach Ministries was assigned one of the tasks for information gathering. To make it clear, we at FROM have not assumed the lead nor taken over control of this initiative. It is a project that is currently being spearheaded by Jessica Vail from The Coalition Against Homelessness, which we are more than happy to assist and lend our local services and expertise toward. The Coalition Against Homelessness has scheduled the next meeting for April 25th at 3 pm and has asked if the meeting can convene at FROM. As the executive director of FROM, I see some possibility of positive outcomes from the awareness generated in Councilman Teelander's mentioning of homelessness in Lowell, as written in both his blog and the 'letter to the editor.' However, the inaccuracy of Councilman Teelander's statements and the implication that FROM has sought to exclude the city or any agency of the city is very disconcerting. FROM welcomes community input and involvement in any program



By Joanna Barr

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 1, 1941

The Common Council is leaving it up to the Board of Trade to settle in a cooperative manner, if possible, the difficulties that have arisen concerning certain aspects of the parking problem. An opportunity will be given them to iron out the difficulties and if this does not work the council will step in and pass an ordinance pertaining to the parking on all streets in the business section. The Board of Trade will endeavor to settle the matter at the next meeting on May 13. Hour parking on Saturdays will be discussed and decided by members who have businesses on Main St.

Defense savings bond and defense postal savings stamps went on sale this morning throughout the entire country. Postmaster Hosley states that the first bond buyer at the Lowell post office was State Tax Commissioner M. B. McPherson.

The work of erecting the new 1,200 h. p. Diesel engine was started this week at the Municipal plant. The remodeling of the plant will require several weeks time.

The temporary approaches to the new Main St. bridge were given a blacktop dressing the first of the week by the State Highway Department. The improvement is appreciated.

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger April 28, 1966

A ruptured diaphragm in a 4 inch gas main at the Lowell distribution station of Consumers Power Company, near the east city limits, Monday caused a critical situation. The noise of the gas break was heard for blocks, around the station, and lucky for the town a west wind carried the escaping gas out of town. The break was repaired within an hour by men from Consumers, who came from Grand Rapids; but the company official said that enough gas escaped to heat the town for three weeks. Lucky the break was in an auxiliary line or most of the gas pilot lights in the town would have been extinguished and it would have

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal April 29, 1891

There are lots of fish being caught in the river this spring, especially Saturdays when the school boys are turned loose.

The loss by the burning of M. Story's barn, which was caused by a hen flying against a lantern, was adjusted at between four and five hundred dollars.

The L. & H. trainmen were hauling S. Towl's oak logs from Pratt's lake to Foster brothers mill the first day of this week.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 4, 1916

Silva, two-years-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rice, was knocked to the pavement by an automobile driven by a stranger Saturday evening, but fortunately escaped serious injury, the car passing over her as she lay between the wheels. The driver is said to have been speeding and bystanders got his number.

Our mail carrier, Will Loucke, brings us our mail now in a brand new Ford.

This week the Lowell Granite & Marble Works will set three monuments in the Marble cemetery, for George Raymond, Hiram Hull and Mrs. Helen Higgins.

Robert Jones is quarantined in at a Belding hotel with small pox.

# Partnership aims to raise 10,000 food items and \$10,000 for FROM

submitted by Dawn Broene

Are you ready to rumble? Lowell High School's interact club and Amway are ready to take down hunger and despair. Partnering with Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM), they aim to raise a lot of money and food, before the official start date of June 1st for FROM's 8th annual Food Fight.

Dawn Broene, FROM's executive director, says, "Interact takes the Lowell Rotary's motto to 'serve above self' seriously. They are a group of kids trying to make a difference." And that they do.

Last year, interact club and the student council raised and donated 7,123 food items to FROM. Impressed, Amway upped the ante this year. They will match \$1.00 for every food item interact collects, up to \$10,000. "Amway is

proud to partner with Flat River Outreach Ministries to help fight hunger in our local community," said David Madiol, Amway Community Relations manager. "Supporting organizations like FROM who focus on the nutritional needs of families reinforces our commitment to serving our local community -- an important value to our company and employees." This additional support has led to interact's largest goal in history, 10,000 food items.

Greg Pratt, superintendent of schools, says, "Nobody knows how to step up to the plate when a need arises in the community like the students and families of Lowell."

Through food and monetary donations, FROM will be able to continue expanding their food programs, as well

as financial management classes, employment assistance, home repair, utility assistance, and children's programming, such as Lunch Buddies, backpack distribution and Christmas toy distribution to families in need.

In 2015, for example, the food pantry gave out 2,807 boxes of food to families in need. The Lunch Buddies program gave out 12,175 meals to children over school breaks. The Neighbor to Neighbor program assisted 29 families with home repairs and projects. Three hundred fifty-four children received Christmas gifts. And now that FROM has opened a West Michigan Works! site, they are seeking to expand their employment services.

Every little bit helps, from food to dollars.

For more information, contact Dawn Broene at 616-897-8260 ext. 21.

# Preschoolers enjoy tour of local ice cream shop



Forty Lowell United Methodist Preschool students visited Ball's Softee Crème for a behind-the-scenes tour. The kids enjoyed seeing the walk-in refrigerator, the hot table and, of course, the ice cream machines. Owner Jim Ball led the tour and answered the preschoolers' many questions including, "Why do you have so many shelves?" and "Why are there so many cleaning things?" A highlight was watching Ball or one of his employees 'pull' a cone. At the end of the tour Ball treated the students to a small cup of lemon and orange twist in honor of their Yellow and Orange Day celebration at preschool.

**National Day of Prayer THURSDAY MAY 5 2016**

Area churches will be hosting the 2016 National Day of Prayer observance in Lowell. Prayer will be offered for several areas of concern in our community and country, including: Government, Military, Business, Education, Church, and Family. Please join us in this community effort.

**When:** Thursday, May 5, 12:10 - 12:40 pm  
**Where:** The Lowell Riverwalk Plaza, by the Showboat.  
*In case of rain, we will meet in the Community Room at the Englishardt Library.*  
**Why:** We need the blessings of God!

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**Spring Into The Past!**

**SUNDAY, MAY 1**

12 - 6pm OPEN HOUSE

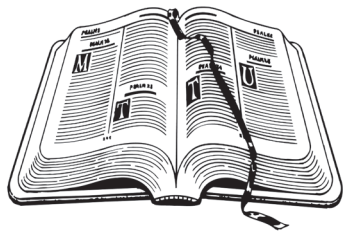
• 6pm ~ Old Fashioned Hymn Sing with "Easy like String Band"!!

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## happy birthday

- APRIL 27**  
Janice Ryder, Dennis Pretzel, Debbie Burrows, Ashlyn Karp.
- APRIL 28**  
Terese Brown, Timmy Vezino, Shawna Austin, Kattie Hildenbrand, Beth Weston.
- APRIL 29**  
K.J. Vezino, Bryan Roth, Lucy Wade.
- APRIL 30**  
Carmen Roudabush, Stacey Irwin, Shawn Dulin, Nancy Leary.
- MAY 1**  
Dennis Anchors, Mark Christiansen.
- MAY 2**  
Melinda D'Agostino, Tim Mastenbrook, Madison Briggs, Glen Bryant, Jaclyn Batt.
- MAY 3**  
Wilma Roudabush, Melissa Merriman, Mimi Mitchell, Rich Bieri.

# area church



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 Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
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 Pastor Phil Zeeman - Pastor of Health Ministries  
 Cheryl Beale, Director of Children's Ministries

**SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:00 am (Nursery provided)**  
**SUNDAY School.....11:00 am (Nursery Adult)**  
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 New Contemporary Worship.....11 a.m.  
 Kids Crew.....11:15 a.m.  
 Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

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# To The Editor, continued

or initiative including homelessness in Lowell. These needless speculations leading to untruth could be avoided if you, Councilman Teelander, would talk with me before accusing FROM through ill-advised blogs and inaccurate letters to the editor.

If there are any concerns or questions about Flat River Outreach Ministry services

from now on - please contact me, Dawn Broene, anytime. I've brought along some information that list our services and contact information on them.

Thank you,  
Dawn Broene  
Executive Director  
Flat River  
Outreach Ministries  
Lowell

## weather the storm

Letter to the Editor,

The new mayor and the new city council have been attacked verbally ever since they took office. Some of these constituents belong to a political action committee formed to recall the mayor.

An April 20 letter to the editor said that "they formed Forward Lowell because we want potential city managers to know that the citizens of Lowell are doing something about our current city council. *"Any potential city manager will do an Internet search and find the old city manager was fired without any sort of review or explanation. Who wants that type of job security? However, if potential candidates see Lowell citizens aren't about to let a tyrannical council rule unchecked, they may be more likely apply."*

Here's how I look at that statement. The DPW (Department of Public Works) negotiated for almost five years with the old administration for a fair and just contract that would allow them to have job security similar to the contract the police department has, but the administration spent approximately \$150,000 in lawyer fees making sure

that the DPW didn't get it. The city manager was part of the negotiations. Where was the political action committee then? I'll tell you where - nowhere to be found. But when it comes to the city manager now, that's a different story. They crawl out of the woodwork in his defense.

As far as I'm concerned, the political action committee and their recall is just a sham. I believe the recall is all about retaking control of the city council. Ask yourself if this is the kind of community you want to live in where recalls will be the norm when one side or the other doesn't get their way. I say to the city council that you did what you were supposed to do by being voted into office, you replaced a worthless administration.

You will weather the storm. Stand your ground, don't be allowed to be bullied and don't be sucked in. Answer questions with the best of your knowledge and move on. Your first obligation is to the people that voted you into office, not to the ones trying to get you out.

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard  
Lowell

## stop destruction now

Dear Editor and Citizens of Lowell,

If you have read the negative letters to the editor, signs and blogs lately you might think Lowell is falling apart. Just the opposite is true. Lowell is a wonderful city! Many people work to do great things - LowellArts!, FROM, the chamber of commerce, Pink Arrow, LARA Trails, LoWellness, and Lowell schools to list a few.

Unfortunately, Mayor Altoft and city councilmembers Teelander, DeVore and Phillips have tarnished our community's reputation by practicing poor leadership, making

questionable decisions and engaging in unethical practices. In response Forward Lowell was formed. This group wants local government to be honest, transparent and fair. They want citizens to be educated, involved and have a choice.

The new mayor and new councilmembers are counting on the "give them a chance" mentality to give them time to "tear this town apart." Please learn the facts about what is happening, protect our future and get involved - the destruction needs to stop now.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Ellison  
Lowell

## feeling silenced

To the Editor,

Through a concerted effort of psychological warfare this Forward Lowell group has successfully silenced the majority of those who do agree with the actions of this duly elected city council.

This group has done a great job of generally shutting down any opposing or differing opinions by criticizing, belittling, condemning or discrediting anyone who has dared to express a differing opinion

or even just appreciation for the efforts of this council. This certainly is not moving Lowell forward.

In recent weeks I've heard several people say they will never write another letter to the editor or attend another council meeting for fear of this group's reaction. Isn't this a terribly sad commentary on this wonderful community of Lowell? We still live in the United States of America where free speech is protected by law.

If you have any

concerns about this group that has been organized to fight against your newly elected city council or just want to acknowledge the good job your council is doing please contact them personally for a confidential conversation. They want to hear from the silenced majority as much as this loud, outspoken negative group who perform so well when the cameras are rolling.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Covert  
Lowell

## NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that at the regular meeting of the Lowell Charter Township Board held on April 18, 2016, Ordinance No. 03-2016 - Lot Lines, an amendment to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance was adopted, a summary of which follows:

**Section 1 - Article 2 - Definitions - Amended to amend the following definitions:**

**Lot Line, Front** - The right of way line of the street abutting the lot line. A corner lot and through lot have more than one front lot line.

**Road Frontage** - The length of a single continuous front lot line.

**Section 4.44 - Amended to add: Measurement of Road Frontage.** Road Frontage shall be measured in the following manner:

**A.** For an interior lot road frontage shall be measured along the front lot line between the side lot lines. In the event that a lot line has more than one front lot line only the greater of the front lot lines shall be used to meet the minimum road frontage requirement of the zoning district in which the lot is located. Two or more lot lines shall not be combined to meet the minimum road frontage requirement.

**B.** For a corner lot or through lot the road frontage shall be measured along the front lot line of each street abutting the lot. Only the greater of the front lot lines shall be used to meet the minimum road frontage requirement of the zoning district in which the lot is located. Two or more front lot lines shall not be combined to meet the minimum road frontage requirement.

**C.** For cul-de-sac lots see Section 4.23.

**Section 4.23 - Cul-De-Sac Lot Regulations** are amended to change "lot" to "road".

This ordinance shall become effective May 4, 2016. A copy of the complete text of the ordinance can be obtained at the Lowell Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI, 49331 during regular office hours or viewed on our website: [www.twp.lowell.mi.us](http://www.twp.lowell.mi.us).

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

## NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Vergennes Township Board has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held during their regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 PM on Monday, May 16, 2016. The meeting will be held in the township meeting room at 10381 Bailey Dr., located on the corner of Bailey Dr. and Parnell, Lowell MI 49331.

Roger Kropf has applied for a special exception use permit to place a directional sign on the southwest corner of Lincoln Lake Ave NE and 4 Mile Rd NE on the property address of 3391 Lincoln Lake Ave NE. The sign will include the logos of the several businesses on Alden Nash Ave NE with an arrow pointing westerly to 4 Mile Rd. The application is regulated under section 201.403 (E) (2) Modifications of Sign Requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

Residents and Property Owners within 300 feet of the application property will receive this notice by mail.

The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671 [fax 897-5674]. Written and oral comments will be received from any interested party until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Township Clerk at the Township Offices. Comments may also be emailed to: [clerk@vergennestwp.org](mailto:clerk@vergennestwp.org)

Mari Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk



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# Red Arrow Varsity

# Spring SPORTS TEAMS

## Baseball



First row, left to right: Garrett Pratt, Sage Solomonson, Anthony Pollock, Nolan Yahmarkt, Sterling Anderson, and Connor Douma; second row, left to right: Brady Douma, Matt Cooper, Nicolas Perry, Trevor Shurlow, and Nathan Stephens; third row, left to right: Kyle Liddle, Trevor VanDyke, Joseph Schaefer, Jake Wosinski, Jarrod Melle, Andrew deVoest, and Maxwell Majnska.

Currently 5-9 overall and 0-3 in conference, the Lowell varsity baseball team is poised for a big comeback this season with strong hitting expected from returning senior Matt Cooper. Top-notch pitching from up and coming junior Sterling Anderson, three year pitching starter and

designated hitter Jarrod Melle and versatile Cooper Perry are also expected to be key to the team's success. According to head coach Justin Miller, "Pitching is the key at every level of baseball and we hope that returning key starters from last year will be a positive for us."

## Tennis



First row, left to right: Kara Jeffries, Elena Bishop, Rachel Fox, Kalie Kopecek, Addie Grohman, Jasmine Peters, and Abby Green; second row, left to right: Marta de Miguel, Sydney VandenHout, Giulia Pappalettera, Juliette Maury, Laura Michelsen, and coach Chris Phillips.

Three returning players and nine new, including four exchange students, are competing on the court for the Red Arrow varsity girls tennis team this season. With several matches already under their belts, head coach Chris Phillips said that team leadership has already emerged. "Rachel

Fox and Elena Bishop, both seniors, have been on the varsity team since they were freshmen. They know exactly what to do at practices and matches and I can count on them when I need them to get things done." The pair will serve as captains as they look to lead the young team to victory.

## Softball



First row, left to right: Miah Ransom, Corah Miller, Shelby Mutschler, Regan Gravitt, Kylee Stephens, and Kenzie North; Brooke Steffen, Kenzie Huver, Tess Richardson, Emily Depew, Madison Jordan, and Megan Summerfield; third row, left to right: coach Greg Foster, coach Bill McElroy, and coach Terry Wieland.

Five seniors, three sophomores and four freshmen make up this years Lowell Red Arrow varsity softball team. Currently 6-5 overall and 0-2 in the OK White conference, the youthful team will be looking to the leadership of Tess Richardson, Kenzie Huver, Brooke Steffen, Regan Gravitt and

Shelby Mutschler according to head coach Bill McElroy, who took over for Kim Griffith this year. McElroy said the team has one goal for the season, "Our goal is to get better every day. We want to compete every time we step on the field, whether for practice or for a game."

## Soccer



First row, left to right: Katherine Kroll, Darby Dean, Darby Fuller, Bridget Garter, Hailey Hoeuenaar, Katie Clemenshaw, and Kayleigh Striplin; second row, left to right: coach Dan Lipon, Alyssa Roest, Ally Laird, Jaki Hayes, Amber Curtis, and Maura Fitzpatrick; third row, left to right: Regan Coxon, Lucy Wade, Christy Lyon, Riley Conlan, Olivia Nurmikko, and Delaney Bierlein.

The Red Arrow varsity soccer team is looking to build on the success of their super 2015 season. As they work through some early inconsistency toward that goal, the team, currently 3-3 overall and 1-1 in conference and ranked thirteenth in Division II, is being led by emerging team

captains Darby Dean, Riley Conlan, Amber Curtis and Christy Lyons. Head coach Dan Lipon expects each to play key roles on the field. "Our success this season will weigh heavily on the leadership of our emerging underclassmen captains. I'm confident they will help this team get to the next level."

## Golf



First row, left to right: Patrick Travis, Nicholas Kloosterman, Alex Dommer, Ethan Bates, and Tyler Kapcia; second row, left to right: Adam Anderson, Andrew Poulton, Collin Hieftje, Alex Powell, and coach Gary Fredline.

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



# Red Arrow Varsity

# Spring SPORTS TEAMS



*Track*

First year Lowell varsity boys track coach Jacob Henige said that the talent at Lowell is both very youthful and extremely driven. "We have five seniors that are leading over 30 underclassman towards a successful season. They are a group of hardworking individuals that are focused on improving everyday."

Early success from senior Drew Struckmeyer on the hurdles and impressive senior leadership from Collin McGee, Richard Misak, Reece Karns and JJ Johnson show great promise for a successful season in the always tough OK White competition, according to Henige.

First row, left to right: Cody McGee, Keegan Redloske, Josh Havey, Johnathan Johnson, Collin McGee, Drew Struckmeyer, Tim Buechler, Richard Misak, Chase Miller, Colton Churches, Clayton Gregory, and Connor Smithee; second row, left to right: coach Jacob Henige, coach Paul Judd, Brandon Haree, Samuel Misak, Kevin Hadley, Riley Coxon, Thomas Hubert, Eric Judd, Will Reynolds, Ben Noffke, Ryan Noffke, Larry Patrick, and coach Rich Grant; third row, left to right: Kenny Stump, Zachary Vatter, Conner Meyers, Frank Buchmueller, Alex Brandt, Parker Grant, Matthew Harrison, Jacob Bishop, Alex Taylor, Mason Winters, Evan Johnson, Kyle Cater, and Riley Nethercott.

With more than half the team composed of underclassmen and only 27 members in total, the Lowell girls varsity track team will need to work hard to earn victory this season. Head coach Paul Judd said he expects they will with several leaders expected to emerge in competition. "I would expect our leading scorers to be Diana Roth in the sprints, Cora Kaufman in the field events, Jordan Mixon in the throws, Breanna VanLaan in the mid distance and Tori Hewitt in the distance races." Judd said he also expects wins from the versatile Megan Khodl and Callie Ford-Weber.

First row, left to right: Lauren Aud, Selena Doty, MeKare Elliott, Victoria Hewitt, Sarah Mayhew, Jordan Mixon, Breanna VanLaan, Megan Khodl, and Diana Roth; coach Jacob Henige, Maria Hart, Kendra VanOverloop, Dawn Kondor, Abby McDowell, Callie Ford-Weber, Katrina Droski, Elizabeth Kuhns, and coach Paul Judd; third row, left to right: Autumn French, Agnes Astrand, Kyla Dixon, Alexis Cook, Kathryn Miller, Amber Brown, and Corah Kaufman.



*Track*



*Lacrosse*

First row, left to right: Jamie-Lynn Urban, Haley Engels, Ella Dougherty, Irene Trierweiler, Nichole Anheuser, and Justine Anes; second row, left to right: coach Ellery Alexander, Stephanie Carlson, Maddie Kaminski, Laurel Frederickson, Sela Bauman, and assistant coach Kale Alexander; third row, left to right: Tiana Petricevic, Bethany Blattner, Hana Steinebach, Ally Frederickson, Nicole Paulus, Claire Gossman, Marlae McKinney, and Anna Litchfield.



*Grew*

First row, left to right: Paige Clouse, Elisabeth Tricquet, Tessa Micho, Hailey Boggs-Osman, Devon Siciliano, Sydney Riffle, and Jessica Barrett; second row, left to right: coach David Cadwallader, Alyssa Cadwallader, Katie Brim, Olivia Kamadt, Bailey O'Strander, coach Madalynne Heen, and coach Sara Cadwallader; third row, left to right: Noah Hawkins, Jason Cazier, Nate Hawkins, Jacob Beke, Steven Tripp, and Logan VanderMeulen.

## Red Arrow

TRACK

## SPORTS

## Track teams fall to Caledonia; place in relays

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Both the boys and girls Lowell varsity track teams participated in dual events last week taking on the Caledonia Scots Thursday at home and then traveling to Caledonia on Saturday for the Soderman Relays.

In one-on-one action Thursday both teams fell to the Scots with the boys losing by a margin of 105-32 and the girls 97-40. The boys had five competitors place in the top three at the meet. Keegan Redloske claimed first in the 400m with a time of 55.43 seconds while teammate Kenny Stump placed third. Will Reynolds and Reece Karns placed second and third on the 300m hurdles while fellow Arrow Drew Struckmeyer claimed first on both the 300m and 110m hurdles.

Boys head coach Jacob Henige said that Struckmeyer, a senior, is literally hurdling toward success in the event with his unselfish attitude and commitment to team success. "Drew Struckmeyer is emerging as a conference contender in both the 110m high hurdles and 300m low hurdles," said Henige.

The ladies hit the track short two of their top scorers

but still managed to meet their points goal at the meet despite their loss. Senior Arrow Megan Khodl placed first in the 400m, freshman Diana Roth picked up wins in both the 100 and 200m and the relay team of Callie Ford-Weber, Lizzy Kuhns, Autumn French and Roth topped all competitors in the 400m relay. Two runners achieved personal bests in the relay and Roth broke into the top eight in the school's record book with her performance.

Girls head coach Paul Judd said the squad is working every day to keep achieving those personal benchmarks and find success as a team. "These Lady Arrows are expected to compete and remind other teams that they are in a race. If we do that each week and in practice we will have both a successful season as a team and as individuals," said Judd.

Other top performers on the track include Tori Hewitt who placed third in the 1600m and second in the 3200m with teammate Lauren Aud, just behind landing in third. On the hurdles French placed third on the 100m and Kat Miller earned third in the 300m.

The team also found

success off track claiming second and third in shot put with throws from Jordan Mixon and Alexis Cook respectively. Abby McDowell placed second on the high jump and Kuhns landed in third on the event. Amber Brown picked up third-place finishes infield on the pole vault and long jump.

Saturday at the Soderman Relays the boys team finished third in a field of seven, improving on their earlier week performance with a final score of 48. Relay teams placing in first included Tristan Stevens, Sam Misak, Cody McGee and Collin McGee in the 800m and Karns, Stevens, Colton Churches and Struckmeyer in the 110m hurdles.

Karns and Richard Misak teamed up for a second-place finish on the pole vault and the sprint medley team of Redloske, McGee, McGee and Stump placed third. Landing in fourth were Collin McGee and Caleb Deveraux in discus, Struckmeyer and Stevens on the long jump, Stevens, Misak, Misak and Churches on the 400m and Karns, Eric Judd, Stump and Redloske in the 1600m.

Lowell also earned two



Drew Struckmeyer, right, claimed first on the 110 and 300m hurdles in OK White competition.

fifth-place finishes from the 3200m relay team of Parker Grant, Ben Nofke, Keagan Barnes and Alex Taylor and the shot put duo of Cody and Collin McGee. Coach Henige had great things to say about senior Collin who placed well in three events of the day. "Collin McGee is a great example for our underclassmen on how to bring your lunch pail to work everyday. He has been improving every year," said Henige.

Placing fifth at the same competition with 29 points,

the ladies were unable to nab a first-place finish. Their team leader of the day was the duo of Corah Kaufman and Amber Brown who placed second on the pole vault. Coming in third was

the hurdle team consisting of French, Brown, Roth and Miller. The squad also claimed fourth in the 400m, 6400m and the distance medley relays, as well as in the high jump.

**This week both teams will venture twice into the difficult OK White conference when they travel to Forest Hills Central on Tuesday and welcome East Grand Rapids on Thursday beginning at 4:15. Saturday the teams will travel to the Grand Rapids Public Schools Invitational.**

## - SOCCER

## Arrows beat Jenison, 2-1

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell varsity girls soccer went 1-2 last week as they welcomed three teams to Red Arrow Stadium last week picking up their sole win against the Jenison Wildcats.

That win came Monday when the team topped Jenison 2-1 on the back of goals from Amber Curtis and Regan Coxon. The duo also picked up a pair of assists in the victory that also featured great defense, especially from Alyssa Roest and goalie Bridget Garter. Garter picked up six saves for the team and staved off a late push from the Wildcats to maintain the Arrow lead.

Wednesday against Caledonia, in their second conference showdown of the season, the team came up short dropping the contest 2-0. Garter made five stops in the box on defense while the offense struggled to find the back of the net.

Lowell faced the same

fate on Friday getting shutout for the second time in a row 1-0 when they faced Thornapple Kellogg. Garter made four saves, but the Arrows continued to experience difficulty achieving goals.

"The consecutive shutouts at home was disappointing, but we played two really good teams in Caledonia and Thornapple Kellogg," said head coach Daniel Lipon after Friday's loss. "We really struggled to establish a rhythm in possession. We need to be better under pressure in the midfield and have more involvement of our back line in possession. We have the athleticism and skill offensively, but the girls need to be more dynamic in the offensive third."

Lipon said he was impressed with the team's effort despite the tough losses, "I was pleased with the girls resilience and work rate. They never gave up in both contests and we were a bit unfortunate not to score."

Recently ranked number thirteen in Division II, it seems that others recognize the talent on the field for the Arrows as well. "I believe the coaches in the area know the potential of our squad," said Lipon of the acknowledgement. "We have a talented group of student athletes and we certainly challenged the girls with a quality nonconference schedule. The recognition was nice, but our focus needs to be on conference play and improving daily."

**Looking to improve their conference record to 3-1 this week, Lowell will face a pair of OK White competitors in East Grand Rapids at home on Wednesday at 6:45 pm and Forest Hills Central on the road Saturday beginning at noon.**



Junior Bridget Garter tallied more than a dozen saves for the Red Arrows on the field.

# Red Arrow **SPORTS**

## Two and two last week for Arrow softball

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

A pair of doubleheaders added up to two losses and two victories for the Red Arrow varsity softball team last week.

Tuesday at home the team faced OK White conference rival Jenison on their home field behind Cherry Creek Elementary. Game one saw the Arrows get nine hits at the plate but their effort fell short dropping the game 6-3. Sophomores Megan Summerfield, Miah Ransom and Kenzie North each earned two hits each in the contest. Ransom earned the only hit for the Arrows in game two with a two run double before surrendering to a 12-2 mercy loss.

The Arrows went on to sweep a doubleheader at Livonia's Franklin High School on Saturday topping their opponent 15-4 and 9-8. Hot bats led to an eleven run sixth inning and fourteen total hits for the Arrows, including a three run home run in the first inning from Kenzie Huver who had three hits and three RBIs.

Tess Richardson, who earned the win from the mound, also added a trio of hits and RBIs. The team's leading hitter in the victory was Summerfield who racked up four hits and four RBIs including a home run grand slam.

In game two the Arrows produced fifteen successful hits leading to a 9-8 win. This time Maddi Jordan was the leading player both at the plate and on the hill. Jordan went 4-5 in the batter box and earned three RBIs and a three run home run

over the fence in the first. Richardson claimed the victory for the second time working the pitch for the Arrows. Currently 6-5 overall and 0-2 in conference, the young team shows a lot of promise. According to head coach Bill McElroy, "I think we are going to have an exciting team to watch this spring. We have three quality pitchers in Tess Richardson, Maddi Jordan

and Emily DePew. Our infield should be solid, led by seniors Shelby Mutschler and Kenzie Huver, along with the addition of Kylee Stephens and Miah Ransom. Megan Summerfield and Kenzie North solidify the catching spot. Our outfield has plenty of speed with Regan Gravitt, Brooke Stephen, and Corah Miller. North and Summerfield will also see some time in the outfield as well."

**A pair of midweek double headers are slated at home when Lowell welcomes conference rival Caledonia on Tuesday and non-conference challenger Hudsonville on Wednesday. Both competitions are scheduled to begin at 4:15 pm. The team will also travel to Otsego on Saturday for tournament play.**



Megan Summerfield earned a home run grand slam.

## Tough first three conference games for Arrow baseball

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The Lowell Red Arrows were punished by the Jenison Wildcats on the diamond last week dropping all three games in their first OK White challenge of the season and went 1-1 in non-conference action against Forest Hills Eastern on Friday.

Game one against Jenison was played on the road Tuesday and ended in a 5-4 victory in eight innings for the Wildcats. The Arrows started strong taking a 1-0 lead at the top of the first after Matt Cooper doubled scoring junior Sterling Anderson. Jenison answered with two runs in the same inning to grab a 2-1 lead.

Cooper hit a single run homer in the third and singled in the fifth in a standout day for the slugger whom head coach Justin Miller expects to be a big hitter this season. "We hope to have a strong year as he begins his third year on varsity," said Miller.

Tied 4-4 after the seventh, the teams were forced into an extra inning where Jenison earned the advantage scoring on two

ground outs for the 5-4 victory.

Cooper went 2-3 at the plate for the Arrows on Wednesday at home in game two, but his effort was shadowed by hot bats from Jenison who took the win 17-7. The Wildcats earned 11 hits and 13 RBIs in the win easily outmaneuvering Arrow pitching. Kyle Liddle was charged with the loss allowing seven runs during his time on the mound.

Thursday, still on their home field, the Arrows were shutout 11-0 giving the team an early 0-3 OK conference record. Top notch pitching from the Wildcats led to cold Arrow bats as they racked up five no hit innings. Anderson ended up on the losing end of the pitching decision allowing eight runs, walking two batters and striking out one in three innings.

Friday at FHE the Arrows broke even, winning game one of the doubleheader 9-2 and losing the second 10-0. Jarrod Melle had a big day for Lowell in game one making base four times on a pair of singles and a fifth inning double producing one run

and one RBI for the team.

A Melle single in the first was plated by a triple from Trevor Shurlow giving the Arrows an early 1-0 advantage. The Arrows added another run in the first and one in the second when Cooper plated Brady Douma with a single for a 3-0 lead.

FHE earned runs in the second and third to tighten the gap to 3-2 before the Arrows surged in the fourth inning scoring five runs.

Lowell scored on an RBI single from Trevor VanDyke, a two run single from Shurlow, a passed ball and a home plate steal from Nate Stephens. Garrett Pratt got the win on the hill in the 9-2 victory tallying six strikeouts while allowing only one earned run and one walk over six innings.

Lowell did not fare as well in game two suffering their second shutout of the week in a 10-0 loss. The Arrows struggled to make contact suffering another five innings of pitching. Nolan Yahrmart was charged with the pitching loss for the Arrows allowing eight runs in two innings

**This week the Arrows will have a five game schedule kicking off on the road against Caledonia on Tuesday and returning to Lowell Wednesday and Thursday at 4:30 pm for the completion of the three game OK White series. Saturday they will welcome Grand Haven for a doubleheader kicking off at 10 am.**

## Sports Summaries

### BOYS LACROSSE

Three consecutive victories were the results of last week's Red Arrow boys varsity lacrosse schedule. Lowell earned a late 12-7 victory over Northview High School on the road Tuesday. Thursday the team traveled to Caledonia where they tallied an 8-5 victory. At home on Saturday the squad put together a third win over Portage Central whom they beat 9-7. The team will play twice at home this week welcoming Grand Rapids Christian Tuesday and Forest Hills Eastern Friday both at 7:30 pm.

### GIRLS TENNIS

Red Arrow varsity girls tennis fell to Jenison 6-2 and placed second at their own invitational last week. Wednesday the team welcomed Jenison to their home court earning a pair of points in the 6-2 defeat. Laura Michelsen earned a dominant 6-1, 6-0 win at first singles and fourth doubles partners Addie Grohman and Sydney VandenHout earned their first victory as a pair 6-1, 7-6. Saturday the Arrows placed second at the Lowell Invitational, six points behind winner Holland High School with a 14 point finish.

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Lowell girls varsity lacrosse team went 1-2 last week but picked up an important conference win in the process. The squad fell 15-4 Monday at Grand Haven before taking on conference competitor Grandville on Wednesday. The 8-6 win over the Bulldogs was led by scorers Nikki Pualus and Maddie Kaminski who each found the back of the net three times for the Arrows. Sela Bauman and Justine Anes also added one apiece to the scoreboard. Friday the team hit the road for the third time to face Spring Lake who defeated the Arrows 17-9. Anes, Haley Engels and Anna Litchfield each scored twice in the loss.

### BOYS GOLF

Varsity golf hit the course twice in OK White competition last week in the first two jamborees of the season. The team placed sixth on Tuesday in the first, hosted by Forest Hills Central with low scores recorded by Alex Dommer (44), Adam Anderson and Ethan Bates (51) and Nick Klosterman (53). Jamboree two was hosted by Jenison at the Meadows where Lowell once again landed in sixth. Anderson and Dommer both carded a 46 to lead the Arrows. Alex Powell came in at 47 and Tyler Kapcia rounded out low scorers with a 49.

**Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports**

Go Red Arrows!

the lowell ledger

# obituaries

## LANE



"Jack" Lane passed from this life on April 21, 2016, at his home. Born John Fuller Lane in Grand Rapids to George R. Lane and Mildred [De Bree] Lane, he was a three sport "All City" athlete at Creston High School, where he made accomplished, life-long friends and from which he graduated in 1949. Jack enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard during the period of the "Korean Conflict" and served in Maine, Sault Ste. Marie, and Grand Haven. His service with the "Coasties" re-enforced his love of the lakes and respect for the natural world. Jack Lane married Norma Ann Troeger on November 8, 1952, at St. Mary's Church in GR. They have five children and lived a "charmed life" of work; time with family, relatives and friends; service; and travel, including all 50 states. As his family frequently noted, Dad was an explorer who always seemed to find obscure, quiet, beautiful spots at the end of dirt roads! Jack Lane earned an undergraduate degree in education from Western Michigan University and a masters in educational administration from Michigan State University. Throughout his life, Jack instilled a deep sense of history, character, and integrity. He was an avid scholar of the American Civil War, inspired by the letters of his great-uncle, a casualty in the war. Copies of these letters, believed to have been transcribed by his great-grandmother about 1867, were donated to Western Michigan University's Waldo Library and have inspired further extensive study of "The Glorious Old Third [Michigan Infantry]." Jack volunteered for and was a member of veterans' organizations. In addition, Jack became a "loon ranger" to document the "common loon" on the Sauble Lakes. He enjoyed family pets and birding as well. Jack spent many years as a teacher, coach, counselor, and assistant principal at Ottawa Hills and Central High schools in Grand Rapids. He helped establish Forest Hills Northern High School and was its first principal. An award is given annually in his name which reflects his devotion to young people and education. Instrumental in bringing international exchange students into schools, Jack said, "When this school is finally torn down, it will have donated to the world young men and women who have learned to love all peoples of the world." Jack was preceded in death by his parents and his son-in-law Dirk Koning. He is survived by his wife Norma; brother Tad; daughters, sons, and their spouses Mary Lane and Amar [Ourchane], Virginia [Lane] Koning, Jack and Denise [Davidson], Tom Lane, Linda Lane and Charles Devries; grandchildren, Shaun Koning; Tarik Ourchane; Kelly Koning-Ramic and Azur Ramic; Adam Ourchane; Anna Lane; Jillian Lane; Nadia Ourchane; Meredith Lane; Clayton Devries; Colby Devries; and greatdaughter Zoey Doner-Koning; many dear friends and relatives with whom he shared his life's journey. A visitation memorial at which the family will receive visitors will be held at the O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, 3980 Cascade Rd. S.E., Grand Rapids on May 1, 5-8:00 pm. A visitation and Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Robert of Newminster Church, 6477 Ada Dr., Ada, on May 2, at 10 and 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to support the "Jack Lane Husky Award" at FH Northern High School (3801 E Leonard, GR 49525).



## MILLER

Teddy Miller passed away at his home in Shelby Township, on April 18, 2016. Teddy was born in Huntington, West Virginia, on August 3, 1959, to Earl and Betty Miller. Teddy is the beloved husband of the late Yvonne Miller; loving step-father of Ryan (Christy) Kaczorowski and Jamie (Matt Hallett) Kaczorowski; proud grandfather of Kylie and Kevin Osborne and Alexis and Ava Hallett; beloved brother of Brenda (Jerry) Cole, Linda (Mike) Willard, Glenna (Mark) Blanding, Joan (Charlie) Pfishner, and Georgia Howe; dear uncle of Maggie (Ray) Duimstra, Abbie Blanding, Katelyn Sorenson, Jason (Courtney) Willard, Jordan Willard, Joshua (Annie) Blanding, Paul and Matthew Mochmer and eight grand nieces and nephews. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at [www.wasikfuneralhome.com](http://www.wasikfuneralhome.com)

## MISKE

Miske, Lorena Helen (Williams) – age 86  
Lorena Helen Miske, age 86, a long-time resident of Barryton, MI, passed away April 23, 2016 at Clark on Keller Lake Assisted Living. Born May 26 in 1929, in Barryton, MI, Lorena graduated from Barryton Agricultural School in 1947. Lorena worked on the family farm, as a butcher at Mackersie Brothers, on the line at Evert Products and at the Michigan State Home in Mt. Pleasant, MI. She moved to Mt. Pleasant in 1978, working briefly at the Union Township offices until moving to the Grand Rapids, MI area and working at the Plainfield Township offices until her retirement. Lorena loved good food and socializing, enjoyed traveling throughout the United States and internationally. She delighted in playing games, the organ, painting, flower arranging and interior decorating. She rarely passed up a chance to go shopping or to spend time with family and friends. Her vibrant personality quickly engaged anyone she met and her warm smile would light up any room. She was preceded in death by her father and mother Leonard and Rena Williams and spouse Gerald L. Miske of 25 years. She is survived by her siblings Eva Lumbert, Kenneth (Linda) Williams, Janice (Dick) Coppock, Helen (Gene) VanArman; her children Marsha (Fred) Ray, Steven (Cristina) Stanley, Leon (Deb) Stanley, step-daughter Dr. Shirley (David Lump) Miske; grandchildren Michael (Sharon) Ray, Fred Brian (April) Ray, Nicholas (Rebecca) Stanley, Jessica (Regis) Shuck, Kyle Stanley, Travis Stanley, Ashleigh (Jeffrey) Campbell, Jesse Kennedy, Courtney Kennedy; and 13 great-grandchildren who brought her great joy. A funeral service will be held Thursday 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell MI 49331. Rev. Brad Brillhart officiating. Visitation Wednesday 6-8 p.m. at the Chapel, and one hour prior to the service on Thursday. Interment Brown Cemetery. Memorial gifts may be made to the Lowell United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331 or Clark Retirement Community, 1551 Franklin St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.



## POWERS

Arlis Kay Powers, age 69 of Grand Rapids, went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, April 19, 2016. She was preceded in death by her parents Aris VanderPloeg and Katherine Melvig, sister Karen DuVerney and brother Daniel VanderPloeg. She is survived by her husband of 22 years Calvin; brother Don (Barb) VanderPloeg; sisters Kathy Lipscomb, Jan (Ron) Pearce, Patricia VanderPloeg; and many nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook Ave SE # 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.



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# Lowell Police Department incident summaries

*This weekly list of the most notable incidents that took place in the Lowell area has been compiled by the Lowell Police Department.*

Lowell Police arrested a 41-year-old female from Lowell this weekend for operating while intoxicated and child endangerment. The driver had two 15-year-old passengers. Lowell Police received a tip about the vehicle, which was pulled over in the 2000 block of W. Main. The driver had a blood alcohol content of .15 and was taken to the Kent County Jail.

Lowell Police responded to the 1500 block of Sibley for a mentally disturbed person after he called 911. The subject was loud and boisterous to the responders. Medical, fire and rescue assisted. The person was taken to the hospital for a medical evaluation.

Lowell Police responded to Meijer to assist to the sheriff's department with a suicidal female. She was transported via ambulance for an evaluation.

Lowell Police responded to a disorderly subject at the Moose Lodge. The 50-year-old subject is no longer a member of the Moose and was refusing to leave. The subject left just before Lowell Police arrived. According to the Moose, the subject was agitated and verbally aggressive to the bartender and staff of the establishment.

Lowell Police arrested a 32-year-old male from Lowell early Sunday morning in the 1000 block of W. Main. The subject was under the influence of alcohol and had an open container in his vehicle, as well as marijuana. The man was taken to the Kent County Jail

An 18-year-old man from Lowell, with several arrest warrants, was captured by Lowell Police. A brief foot chase occurred after the man dropped the bicycle he was on when the officer stopped him. The man ran through several yards as the officer observed from the vehicle. When the subject was located in a yard with a tall fence, the officer was able to quickly exit the vehicle, pursue him on foot and take him into custody before he could get over the fence. The man was taken to the Kent County Jail.

•••

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~ Dalai Lama

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## SPRING SPORTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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### BOYS & GIRLS TRACK

*\* Denotes a meet at Red Arrow Stadium*  
4/28 at 4:15 pm EGR\*

4/30 at 9 am GRPS Invite at Houseman Field

### BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

*\* Denotes a game at Cherry Creek Field*  
4/28 at 4:30 pm Caledonia\*

4/30 at 10 am Grand Haven\* - - doubleheader  
5/3 at 4:30 pm FHC\*

5/4 at 4:30 pm at FHC

### GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

*\* Denotes a game at the Red Arrow Stadium*  
4/30 at 9 am DeWitt Playday Invite  
5/2 at 7:30 pm GR Christian\*

5/4 at 7:30 pm West Ottawa\*

### BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE

*\* Denotes a game at the Red Arrow Stadium*  
4/29 at 7:30 pm FHE\*

4/30 at 12:30 pm at West Ottawa  
5/3 at 7 pm at Zeeland East

### BOYS VARSITY GOLF

*\* Denotes a meet at Deer Run Golf Course*  
5/2 at 3:30 Jamboree #5 at Quail Ridge  
5/4 at 3:30 pm Jamboree #6\*

### GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

*\* Denotes a game at Cherry Creek Field*  
4/30 at 9 am Otsego Don Knight Tournament  
5/4 at 4:15 pm at FHC - doubleheader

### GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

*\* Denotes a game at Red Arrow Stadium*  
4/30 at noon at FHC  
5/2 at 4:30 pm GR Christian  
5/4 at 6:45 pm at Jenison

### GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

*\* Denotes a game at LHS Tennis Courts*  
5/2 at 4:15 pm at FHC  
5/4 at 4:15 pm EGR\*

## “Mr. Larry” named Staff Member of the Month



Your pencil sharpener is broken? Your carpet has a stain? The swing is broken? Leave it to Mr. Larry! Larry Wenger is Murray Lake's Staff Member of the Month for March. He was nominated by several staff members who say he helps them with any of their maintenance needs. "Larry is a man of many talents. I have never seen anything he can't fix. Teachers are always extremely thankful that Mr. Larry can help them with all of their 'fix it' needs. It is great to have him out here at Murray Lake," commented MLE principal Brent Noskey.

Wenger and his wife Mary live just a few miles from Murray Lake. He has been employed at Lowell Area Schools for 22 years. His first 15 were spent working at Bushnell Elementary and his last seven have been out at Murray Lake. Wenger and his wife have a son (Steven), daughter-in-law (Janet), daughter and two grandchildren.

"Murray Lake is a great place to work. The parents, staff and students are all very friendly," said Wenger.

When Wenger is not working, he enjoys woodworking, spending time with his family and camping.

## Looking Back, continued

taken hours to put the gas appliances back in service.

Dr. Robert Reagan resigned as a member of the City Planning Commission on Monday night. He has accepted an appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Kenneth Blough, 44, of Alto, was seriously injured Monday, April 18, near Belding, when a log accidentally rolled off a truck, throwing him to the ground and rolling over him. Blough, a well-known saw mill operator in the Logan Lake area, was reported slightly improved over the week end. He is at Blodgett Memorial Hospital in Grand Rapids.

The annual "lights on" house to house Cancer Crusade in the City of Lowell and Kent County will be held Thursday evening, April 28. Over 8,500 volunteers, working on behalf of the Kent County Unit of the American Cancer Society, will call on Kent County residents asking them to "give more to save more" lives from cancer. The army of volunteers will also distribute literature on cancer prevention. Lowell's crusade will be sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Club, under the direction of Mrs. James Topp, president of the organization. A total of \$59,060 was raised during the house to house canvas last year. County chairman, William Hoffhines, expects the total to exceed this year. The goal of the month long crusade has been pegged at \$120,500. Volunteer workers raised \$1,500 in the City of Lowell last year.

### 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 1, 1991

Attwood employees do some spring cleaning. Volunteers clean up Riverside trash. It's fair to say that Attwood Corporation has excellent housekeeping habits for a manufacturing firm of their size. A view of the large plant from the bluffs across the Flat River reveals neatly mowed lawns, attractive landscaping and well-maintained buildings. There is seldom any debris in the form of old pallets, barrels or dumpsters. If such material accumulates it is quickly removed.

Last Call! Showboat talent deadline nears. The Lowell Showboat Talent Search '91 is back! The Talent Search Show '91 will take place Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18. The winners selected will perform one evening of the Lowell Showboat, June 20, 21 and 22. Start preparing your acts and send your applications in. Application deadline is May 8 for auditions. All applicants will be notified by May 8 as to what night they will be on the schedule to audition.

The Lowell High School Class of 1976 is looking for these classmates: Martha Beach Koole, Bill Biers, Dave Brown, Jan Chapman, Carol Chriss, Dave Franklin, Barb Nelson Ferri, Joy Singh, Jean Smith Whitsel. Class reunion is July 13 at Deer Run Golf Club. Any information call, Carol at 897-5506 or Chris, 897-8901.

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- 1. Model material
- 6. Kind of story
- 9. Ginger-flavored cookie
- 13. \*Severus Snape, \_\_\_\_\_ provocateur
- 14. Romanian money
- 15. Upholstery choice
- 16. Give sheep a haircut
- 17. Bruin legend Bobby \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. Unlawful firing
- 19. \*11-year-old spy
- 21. \*Velveteen creature
- 23. Common inquiries
- 24. \*Master gave it to Harry Potter's Dobby
- 25. Home of "Today" show
- 28. One of deadly sins
- 30. Dogma
- 34. Spanish earthen pot
- 36. Prayer leader in a mosque
- 38. Jet setter's ride
- 40. "\_\_\_\_\_, Born is the King of Israel!"
- 41. \*Rabbit's first name
- 43. Talk like a drunk
- 44. Inundated
- 46. "The Way We \_\_\_\_\_"
- 47. Exhibiting good health
- 48. Holy water holder
- 50. TV classic "\_\_\_\_\_ Make a Deal"
- 52. Jordan Spieth's helper
- 53. Roentgen's machine

CROSSWORD													
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68						69				70			
71						72				73			



APRIL 20 - APRIL 26

- The pop star Prince (full name Prince Rogers Nelson) died unexpectedly on April 21, of as yet undiscovered causes.



- Sesame Street in Afghanistan has a new muppet, she's a six-year-old celebrity who is breaking down boundaries on television and speaking to children there about education, exercise and peace. Zari is the first female muppet on Afghanistan's version of "Sesame Street." The show is called "Beghch-e-Simsim." She speaks Dari and Pashto, on the show, and spoke in English during her first American interview and said "I love learning about other cultures, and other languages. It's all just so interesting!"
- With Donald Trump way ahead in the Republican Primary, John Kasich and Ted Cruz refuse to give up and are still hoping to "Stop Trump" at all cost, with the latest elections Tuesday it is yet to be seen if the end is near. Hillary Clinton is way ahead in the Democratic delegate count but Bernie Sanders isn't throwing in the towel until there is without a doubt no path for him. Even though his chances are also slim. Tenacity seems to be the theme for the 2016 elections.

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- 55. Gear tooth
- 57. \*Green \_\_\_\_\_ of Avonlea
- 60. \*Norton Juster's "The \_\_\_\_\_ Tollbooth"
- 64. Shrewdness
- 65. Tint
- 67. "Door," ‡ Paris
- 68. Orderly arrangement

- 69. Young newt
- 70. Gives off
- 71. Word on a door
- 72. Numbers, abbr.
- 73. Audition tapes

**DOWN**

- 1. Loud get-together
- 2. Turkish honorific
- 3. Suggestive look
- 4. Eat when very hungry
- 5. Relating to a heart chamber
- 6. Vegas bandit
- 7. Over, in poems
- 8. Donkey in Latin America
- 9. Acid gritty-textured fruit
- 10. Not final
- 11. Sir Mix-\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_
- 12. \*Charlie Brown's friend, Pig\_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Cursor-moving button
- 20. Provide with gear
- 22. Part of a play
- 24. Formal and imposing
- 25. \*This Strega was a \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. What chinook does
- 27. Sole traction aid
- 29. Old World duck
- 31. \*Ogden \_\_\_\_\_ of iThe Tale of Custard the Dragon's fame
- 32. Audience's approval
- 33. Car rack manufacturer
- 35. "The Sun \_\_\_\_\_ Rises"
- 37. BÈBÈ's mother
- 39. \*Shel Silverstein's generous plant
- 42. Throw up
- 45. "Brave New World" author
- 49. "Before" prefix
- 51. Like lathered hands
- 54. Anemic-looking
- 56. \*Earthman in iThe Chronicles of Narnia's
- 57. Buddhist teacher
- 58. What snob puts on
- 59. Ho-hum
- 60. \*Winn-Dixie and Ribsby, e.g.
- 61. Barbershop request
- 62. \*Anne Frank's father
- 63. \_\_\_\_\_ hall
- 64. Between generations
- 66. Flying saucer acronym

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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ONLINE  
POLL**

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# Church to donate collected stuffed animals to police and fire departments

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

The congregation at Unity Center for Spiritual Growth, a non-denominational Christian church located at 6025 Ada Dr. SE in Ada, has been collecting stuffed animals for the past two months. Now that they have about 60, they are going to donate them to police, fire and ambulance departments in Ada and Lowell, who will then pass them on to children who are upset during an emergency.

“This is something they know about,” said Unity member Karen Perkins. “This has been going on for a long time. They carry them in their cars and when they come upon an accident, if there are children involved, they can give them these animals to hug and it’s so

comforting to them. That is a very traumatic time for children.”

“Karen had the brilliant idea to collect these stuffed animals and distribute them to fire department and ambulance departments,” said Unity’s minister, Rev. Gy Ludvig. “We asked the community to bring them in for the last two months. The stuffed animals were here in our church and people would pick them up and hold them and give them some good juju.”

It has not yet been determined how the stuffed animals will be distributed among local emergency services departments.

“I spoke to [Steve Bukala] the Lowell police chief some time back,” Perkins said. “I told him

about it and he said, ‘Wonderful.’ We’ve got a lot of them. I don’t know how they’ll be distributed exactly, but the police chief said that they would use about a third of them and to give the other two thirds to the fire department because they get more emergency calls.”

Rev. Ludvig has heard many first-hand accounts of accident scenes.

“My partner is an paramedic,” Ludvig said. “They often get calls that are just horrendous. When any of these departments go out to calls where children are distressed or in trauma, they can give them a little stuffed animal to hold onto. It helps. It calms them down and gives them a little bit of comfort.”



Unity Center for Spiritual Growth in Ada has collected about 60 stuffed animals for local emergency services organizations to give to children involved in traumatic incidents such as accident scenes.

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