



stories of perseverance

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music on the riverwalk

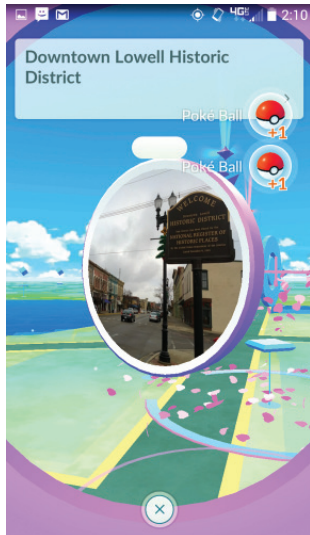


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Pokémon craze abounds in downtown Lowell

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

You would have to be incredibly unobservant not to have noticed a dramatic increase in young people who seem to be wandering around town aimlessly while staring at their cell phones. These people have not been turned into zombies, they are playing Pokémon GO, the most culturally ubiquitous video game phenomenon since the glory days of Pac Man and Donkey Kong.



There are lots of Pokémon characters hanging around in Lowell.

No quarters are necessary to play Pokémon GO; you simply install the free app onto an Apple or Android device and you're all set.

Pokémon GO is an "augmented reality" game. This means that in order to play you have to get off the couch and head outdoors into the real world. The game uses a cell phone's camera and GPS to place little Pokémon characters in real locations, which players must seek out and capture. The goal of the game is to "catch 'em all." Pokémon GO has caused Nintendo's stock price to soar. National parks, museums and other locations have noted a massive increase in visitors who are looking for rare creatures. A quick stroll through downtown revealed that Lowell is completely infested with Pokémon. According to some of the players encountered around town, the Lowell Showboat is a "Poké stop," while the bleachers by the library, the North Country Trail Association and the Lowell



Jordan and Anderson from Tennessee took a break from visiting relatives to catch a few Pokémon.

Area Historical Museum are "Pokémon gyms."

"We have lots of Poké stops in Lowell," said Veronica Honeysette, who was escorting two young Pokémon hunters around town. "We're very fortunate."

"I've been told that different areas have different

things," said Pokémon GO player Caitlyn Sorenson. "Like gas stations will have 'fire' type ones. Then there are other ones that come out that are special; only so many people can catch them and then it goes away until the next day. They have catch limits. Just yesterday I was out here and some

people had caught one of the really rare ones, then by the time we got over there it was gone."

"There are a lot of Pokémon in different places," said player Allison Mallindine. "We found

Pokémon, continued, page 2

Candidate introduces herself to council, odors from biodigester discussed and rail trail resolution passed

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, July 18. The meeting lasted about 35 minutes and was attended by 16 people.

Three spoke during citizen discussion. First, Lynn Mason, candidate for state representative in Lowell's district, introduced herself to the council and passed out some campaign literature.

"I'm from Belding," Mason said. "I grew up there and raised my family there. I'm a retired teacher, a former four-term county commissioner and my husband and I farm approximately 43 acres of apples."

Next, Rick Raimer, owner of Purforms, 615 Chatham, said that the biodigester stinks so bad his employees are quitting. Raimer said the biodigester, located at 625 Chatham, leaves vents and doors open which causes odors to escape the facility.

"I'm in support of the facility, but it's disappointing to me that the minor things that could be done to at least keep the smell inside of that building would be done," Raimer said. "It stinks inside of our plant. We've lost a couple of employees because they're tired of the smell. It's hard enough getting people today. To lose good people because the place that they

work stinks worse than a barn... it's difficult."

Mayor Jeff Altoft, who lives near the biodigester, said that the facility makes his neighborhood smell bad constantly.

"Today it was gut wrenching," Altoft said. "I was outdoors most of the day and I actually

City Council meeting, continued, page 3

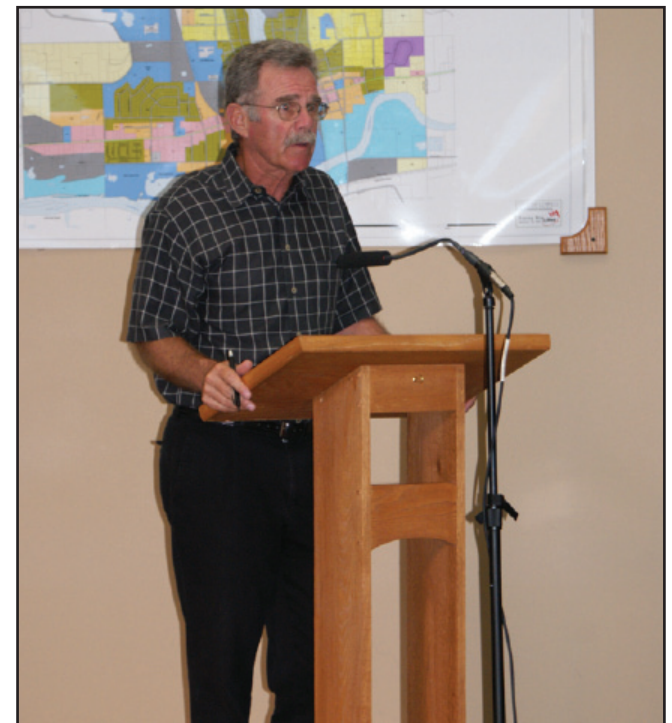
Historical Society raises funds to rebuild White's Bridge

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Whites Bridge Historical Society announced last week that on August 5 the Michigan Department of Transportation will begin advertising for bids to rebuild the bridge. The WBHS has worked to obtain grants and donations totaling over \$475,000, which will pay for the reconstruction project. This includes a \$200,000 grant from Meijer and a \$275,000 contribution from MDOT themselves.

Whites Bridge was built across the Flat River in 1869. It stood for 144 years until an arsonist burned it down on July 7, 2013. The perpetrator of this crime has never been caught. If you have any information about the fire, call the Lowell Police Department.

Contractors interested in bidding on the project should check out the MDOT website at <http://mdotcf.state.mi.us/public/bids>



Greg Northrup, who runs the biodigester, apologized for the nasty odors that emanate from the facility.

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City offers Mike Burns position as Lowell's city manager

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

Lowell city council has offered the city manager position to Mike Burns, the assistant city manager of Fenton, a city about 20 miles south of Flint. Burns, a former Macomb County sheriff deputy, is also Fenton's economic development director and the executive director of their Downtown Development Authority.



Mike Burns pictured just after his interview with the city council.

"I've accepted a conditional offer of

"I'm just really looking forward to coming to Lowell and working with the community."

~ Mike Burns

employment," Burns said. "It's just subject to a background check and approval of a contract. Hopefully, in the next couple of weeks they'll be able to sort those things out."

If he accepts the position it could take several weeks before Burns will sit behind the city manager's desk in city hall.

"I'm required by my city contract with Fenton that once I submit my resignation, which I wouldn't do until a contract [with Lowell] was approved, I have a 28-day period before I can sever ties with the city [of Fenton]," Burns said.

During his interview with the city council Burns

said he is unmarried, he is "sports-minded" and in his spare time he is working to become a referee for the NFL.

"I officiate football at both the high school and collegiate level," Burns said. "I actually also am in the process right now with the National Football League... I'm going through the process right now, about to become an officiating game day assistant for the Lions. I should find out

here in the next couple of weeks whether I get the position. Basically, I'll be on the sidelines on Sundays dealing with some of the duties that the NFL requires, mainly dealing with instant replay and kicking balls."

Burns said he is optimistic about the opportunity to become Lowell's city manager.

"I'm just really looking forward to coming to Lowell and working with the community," Burns said.

Finalists were interviewed for city manager position during public meeting

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

The three finalists for the Lowell city manager job were publicly interviewed by the Lowell city council at city hall on Tuesday, July 12. Mike Burns from Fenton, MI; Tony Graff from Wilmington, IL and Josh Eggleston from Durand, WI were the three men vying for the position. When the interviews were over, after a lengthy discussion the council voted unanimously to offer Burns the job.

The interviews began promptly at 9 am with Burns, the assistant city manager, economic development

director and executive director of the Downtown Development Authority of Fenton, a city about 20 miles south of Flint. Burns' interview lasted 90 minutes. Burns' answers to the councilors' questions emphasized how impressed he was by the Lowell area.

"I've been interested in this city for a while," Burns said. "It's a beautiful city. I'm very impressed with your downtown. There is a lot of opportunity there. [...] One of the things that I've noticed about this community is the pride. I see a lot more pride in this

community. What I saw last night at the meet and greet [on Monday, July 11] is there seems to be a unity in the community. I know there are some issues out there, I've done my homework, but there was a large turnout last night and there were a lot of people who are passionate about the community."

Graff, the city administrator of Wilmington, IL, was the second candidate to be interviewed by the council. Graff spoke extensively about his decades of government experience during his two-hour interview.



Tony Graff

"First of all, I have a skill set and experience that I can bring to the table," Graff said. "I have 35 years in public service. I started off in the law enforcement field, all the way to city manager. [...] I have a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal



Josh Eggleston

Social Justice from Lewis University. I have a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership. [...] I have 15 years' experience in city management."

After a lunch break, the final candidate interviewed was Eggleston, the city

administrator of Durand, WI. The interview with Eggleston was the shortest at 55 minutes long. Eggleston, who grew up in Sparta, MI, said he wanted the job so he could move back to Michigan.

"I have nothing bad to say about where I'm at now, I would be sad to leave," Eggleston said. "However, we're realizing that being closer to family and also being closer to a metro area would give my wife some more opportunity in her profession as well. She's sort of had to put some career aspirations on hold.

City manager interviews, continued, page 11

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Pokémon, continued

some here that we haven't found in other places. We're looking for Pikachu. We haven't found him yet."

"There are a lot more in bigger cities than there are in smaller areas," said player Sidney Page. "If we go to Grand Rapids, there will be a lot there."

"There are a lot of them in Lowell right downtown by the shops," said player Shailynn Page. "There are a lot at churches."

Pokémon GO has inspired video game fans to get outside and enjoy nature and it has fostered a sense of community among players.

"You can see how many people just come out here and walk," Sorenson said. "How many people did you see before? The amount of people in groups hanging out with their friends doing this, it's just such a great thing. It's pretty fun. Even people who don't know a whole lot about Pokémon play it. It just gets everybody out there. It's kind of a family thing, there are a lot of families out there. Everybody helps each other out. People you don't even know look out for you."



Sidney Page, Shailynn Page and Allison Mallindine found Pokémon all over town.

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City Council meeting, continued

invited the [police] chief [Steve Bukala] over this morning because he hadn't experienced it. You can walk past the factory on any given day and not smell a thing. You go a block away and it's horrific. That's the smell that we're worried about."

Greg Northrup, the principal of Spart, the company running the biodigester, apologized to the community for the foul

odors and said they were working to fix the problems.

"I want to apologize to the community for odor issues that we've caused as a result of our facility," Northrup said. "It was not our intention to do that. We've been working on processes to improve odor control as part of our commitment to this community and to our project."

The council passed a

resolution supporting the Friends of the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail; then accepted a \$3,000 proposal for maintenance to the water treatment plant.

"Dixon Engineering provided us with a proposal and a contract for the sum of \$3,000 to prepare technical specifications for painting the white interior of our 500,000 gallon steel tank at the water treatment plant,"

said public works director Rich LaBombard. "It's just a preventative measure and it will ensure the longevity of that tank."

The council said that on Thursday, July 21 they are entering into contract negotiations with potential new city manager Mike Burns. If negotiations go well, Burns could start in early September.

"[Burns] will be coming

here and the mayor [Altoft] and I will be meeting with him this Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock to work out the terms of the contract," said city attorney Dick Wendt. "I think we're looking at probably the first of September for him to start."

"Your council here, I think, worked very well together through that process," said councilor Jim Hodges. "I think we've

picked a terrific candidate and I look forward to moving forward with Mike Burns."

"The process of hiring a new city manager went extremely well," said mayor Altoft. "I think everybody is on board with what we're doing, hopefully."

The council's next regular meeting will be at city hall on Monday, August 1 at 7 pm.



along main street

Christie. The play will be performed at Larkin's Other Place in Lowell on Oct. 28-30 and Nov. 4-6. Auditions are Sat., Aug. 27, 10 am-noon and Mon., Aug. 29, 7-9 pm at LowellArts!, 149 S. Hudson St., Lowell. Casting will include five men and three women. Copies of the script are available at LowellArts!

LHS CLASS OF 1976

40th class reunion will be held Oct. 1. Times and dinner cost will be mailed in August.

OPEN TABLE

Lowell's Open Table is now serving free weekly meals to residents of the greater Lowell community. Join them on Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for a hearty, homemade meal. Located in the First Congregational Church of Lowell, UCC, 865 Lincoln Lake SE.

FROM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) will be Thurs., July 21 at 1 pm. Please call 897-8260 for additional information.

KIDS FISHING DERBY

Free fishing derby for kids aged three to 15 years at Pebble Beach on July 23, 9 am to noon. Everything provided, along with food and drinks.

YOUTH THEATER

Big Top Barry Youth Theater Experience is being offered by LowellArts! for students ages 7-18. The class will meet July 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and August 1, 2, 3, 6-7:30 pm at Fallasburg Park. Students will learn the basics of acting, assist with set design and prepare a short play. For more information or to register, visit www.lowellartsmi.org or call 616-897-8545.

TUESDAY TEEN DRAWING CLASSES

A drawing class for teens ages 13-18. Students may choose graphite or colored pencil. Weather permitting, classes held outdoors to draw the scenes in downtown Lowell. Classes will begin at the LowellArts! facility at 149 S. Hudson Street in Lowell. On July 26 and Aug. 2 from 10 am to noon. Sign up for just the classes you are able to attend or all of them at www.lowellartsmi.org Questions? Contact LowellArts! at 897-8545 or email info@lowellartsmi.org

AUGUST IN ADA

Free event for kids Fri., Aug. 5, 10 am to 2 pm held at Ada Township Park (entrance on Buttrick). Sponsored by Ada Business Association.

CALL FOR ACTORS

The LowellArts! Players are seeking actors for the Fall Dinner Theater production of The Mousetrap by Agatha

college news

James M. Dyer, of Lowell, graduated on April 30, 2016, from Northern Michigan University with a Master's Degree in Arts and Education. He is the son of Jim Dyer of Lowell.

He will be going to Cambodia on July 14 to teach English in a boys school for the Peace Corps.

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www.lowellartsmi.org
www.discoverlowell.org

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Lowell man arrested for car theft and assaulting police

A 31-year-old man from Lowell was arrested Wednesday afternoon after a brief scuffle and Taser deployment in the 200 block of E. Main Street.

Lowell police officers were assisting the Kent County sheriff's office regarding a stolen vehicle involving the suspect. The suspect came into the Lowell Police Department highly intoxicated. He began yelling at the police clerk and a plain clothes

officer taking a report in the station. The suspect attempted lighting his lighter to light a cigarette and began swearing at the officer stating, "Just shoot me you ruined my life!" The suspect then threw the keys and lighter at the officer which slightly injured the officer's hand. The suspect began yelling at the officer to arrest him for the vehicle he had just stolen.

The suspect quickly left the police station and

entered a liquor store on the next block. As the suspect entered the liquor store, he yelled at the clerk, "you're about to get robbed." The suspect then grabbed a beer from the cooler and began to drink it. The officer following on foot used the Taser on the suspect as he exited the front of the store. He was taken into custody without further incident.

The suspect was lodged at the Kent County Jail pending arraignment.

kidsView



by Sierra Hieshetter

Everyone is excited for this year's summer Olympics in Rio. There is nothing better than cheering on team USA while they face off against some of the best athletes in the world. If you have been following the Olympic trials, you'll

know that there are about 394 athletes that have been decided so far. By the time the games begin, there will be about 500 athletes heading to Rio. But, is Rio ready? There has been a lot of speculation about how prepared Rio is to host South

America's first ever Olympic games. From the Zika virus to the introduction of some new sports to the polluted water, Rio has seen its share of challenges. However, a lot can be said for the good things that Brazil has to offer, like beautiful weather and exotic cultures. Brazil has one of the most diverse cultures in the world. The opening ceremony is sure to please with all of the amazing things Brazil has to offer. This year's Olympics will be games to remember, but whether its for something good, like USA winning the most gold medals, or something not-so-good, like kayakers getting sick because of the polluted water, I can't say. All I know is, I can't wait for this year's Olympics and I just hope Rio can pull through.

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viewpoint

to the editor

thumbs up for current mayor

Dear Editor,

For hundreds of years our nation has fought for equal rights and it continues to.

The employees of the Lowell Department of Public Works voiced their need for a just contract similar to the one the Lowell Police Department has. The contract negotiations went on for better than four years without any success. The city of Lowell wants to be the next place to be, but it can't even treat its employees equally.

The problem existed because of a self-serving self-centered city council. But after the last election a self-serving, self-centered city council no longer exists. But there are still some in the community that are committed to their self-serving ways and I believe that's why Mayor Jeff Altoft is being recalled.

Mayor Altoft stands in their way. The outspoken

Mr. Altoft has stepped on some toes and been a thorn in the side of others, but all for the betterment of the community. For that I give Mayor Altoft a thumbs up and I wish him years of longevity as mayor. I'll be voting for Mayor Altoft to finish his term as mayor and I'll be behind a push to see that the employees of the DPW get a just contract. I also believe there's a need to change the way the city fills open positions.

The way it is now, good employees have lost a change to prove themselves. All employees should be given the opportunity to prove themselves and given the opportunity to be certified in the choice of their endeavor. If this community was run the right way, there wouldn't be a need to go outside to hire, not even for a city manager.

Sincerely,
Jim Howard

EARTH TALK



Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I find it hard to believe that Flint, Michigan is the only city or town in the U.S. with lead contamination of its water system. Has anyone looked at where else this could be a problem? - Jason K., Clearwater, FL

A new analysis of data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the non-profit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) found that 18 million Americans live in communities where water systems contain unsafe levels of lead. In "What's In Your Water: Flint & Beyond," NRDC reports that 5,300 different water systems across the country either shirked responsibilities to treat their water supplies to reduce lead levels, failed to monitor water supplies for lead, or neglected to report unsafe lead levels to the public or regulators. "These violations were recorded because the systems were not doing everything that they are required to do to protect the public from lead issues," added NRDC.

"Imagine a cop sitting, watching people run stop signs, and speed at 90 miles per hour in small communities and still doing absolutely nothing about it—knowing the people who are violating the law..." said Erik Olson, NRDC's health program director. "That's unfortunately what we have now."

Even more surprising to NRDC is the fact that Flint didn't even show up as having violations for lead in the EPA's database, illustrating "the serious problem of underreporting and gaming of the system by some water

supplies to avoid finding lead problems, suggesting that our lead crisis could be even bigger."

Of course, Flint is far from the only metropolitan area with contaminated water supplies. Researchers believe thousands of water supplies across the country have been "gaming" the system for decades, with the EPA turning a blind eye to the situation.

"Cheating became something you didn't even hide," Marc Edwards, the Virginia Tech researcher credited with exposing water supply management issues in Washington DC and later Flint, recently told CNN. Some of the most common "bad practices" by water supply managers include testing only homes that are unlikely to have high levels of lead, asking residents to "pre-flush" their taps, and taking water samples slowly to reduce lead levels.

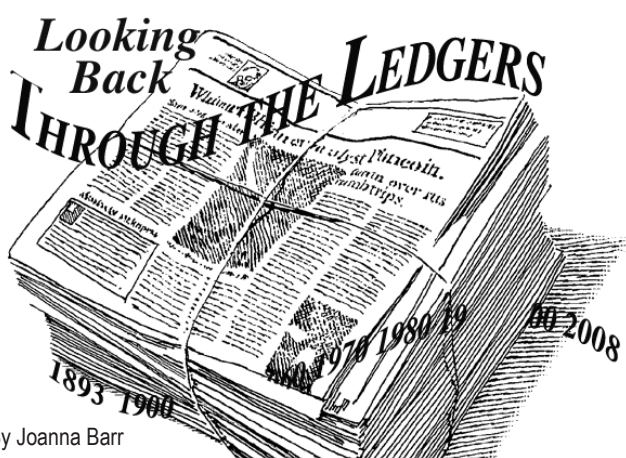
For its part, the EPA says that individual states are responsible for the majority of drinking water enforcement actions and should continue to be "the first line of oversight" of drinking water systems. The agency adds that "many of the drinking water systems that NRDC cites in its analysis are already working to resolve past violations and return to compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act."

So what's to be done? According to NRDC, fixing Flint—with both emergency relief and long-term infrastructure and systemic improvements—should be priority #1. Beyond Flint, NRDC says that the EPA should be taking a hard look at the rest of the country's water infrastructure, removing lead service lines and fixing other water problems, especially in underserved communities.

To find out if your community is affected, check out NRDC's interactive map showing which communities' water systems were in violation of the EPA's "lead action level" of 15 parts per billion (ppb) and which have failed to monitor or report on lead levels.

CONTACTS: NRDC's "What's In Your Water: Flint & Beyond," www.nrdc.org/resources/whats-your-water-flint-and-beyond; EPA, www.epa.gov.

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By Joanna Barr

125 years ago Lowell Journal July 22, 1891

There has been a great deal of careless shooting with sparrow guns, and many complaints have been lodged with me, and I now warn all persons against shooting off fire arms inside the corporation limits, as they will be prosecuted for any violations of the ordinance governing the same. I also call the attention to boys to the ordinance relative to going in swimming, in a nude condition, as both the above practices must be stopped. Theodore Mueller, Marshal.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 20, 1916

Sends skeleton to museum. There will be no contest for the Indian skeleton Supervisor Kent Jakeway

of Grattan township found in a sandy road. Coroner Hilliker and Mr. Hilliker and Mr. Jakeway have turned the bones over to the Kent Scientific Museum and Mr. Jakeway holds a receipt for them. He can have them as his own any time he wishes. It is believed the bones are those of old Chief Wabasis, a Pottawatomie. The curator at the museum has sent some of the bones to an eastern expert who will examine them. It is generally accepted that the bones are a valuable find.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 24, 1941

Greatest Showboat of all offered here next week — 14 star acts, great orchestra, 60-voice chorus, funny end men. "Stars Under the Stars" will be the theme of the 1941 Showboat. Five acts in this year's show may be properly termed "Big Time" in the show business.

Lowell Granite Company secures expert craftsman. J. C. Petty of Kalamazoo is now associated with the Lowell Granite Co., Inc., as memorial craftsman. He is well qualified for this position having spent practically all of his life in this business. He is making his home at the Art Hill residence.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger July 21, 1966

Wheat is starting to roll into King Milling Company here with favorable weather. First to arrive with new wheat was Lewis Gasper of Belding. He delivered 13.5 percent wheat testing 57 pounds a bushel.

Work is underway to move a 1,000 KW oil burning

diesel engine out through an opening into the McQueen building on North Broadway Street, the diesel engine will be shipped to Wisconsin where it will be rebuilt and converted to gas operation. Cost of the rebuilding has \$33,000 and \$40,000.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 24, 1991

Student lunch prices increased for the 1991-92 school year. Stating that it felt Lowell has maintained its high quality at a reasonable price, the Lowell School Board approved an increase in school lunches for the 1991-92 school year. The increase will raise elementary lunches by five cents; middle school and high school lunches by 15 cents and adult lunches by 10 cents. Elementary lunch price will rise from \$1.20 to \$1.25. Middle school and high school lunch prices will increase to \$1.40 from \$1.25. Adult lunches will go up to \$2.10 from \$2. Milk will cost students and adults 25 cents. Lowell High School Principal Jim DeWeerd said, as of last February, Lowell had the lowest lunch prices of all the O-K White Schools. Board member, Chris VanAntwerp, said Rockford and Grand Rapids schools are able to keep their lunch prices down because their lunch programs are underwritten through the general fund.

Bollock to speak on the Fallasburg Cubs, July 25. Bill Bollock, co-writer of the Fallasburg Cub book and team historian will be at Keiser's Kitchen on Thursday, July 25, and will talk to players and fans about the team that put Fallasburg Park on the map. The Kent County Parks Commission dedicated Fallasburg Park as the home of the Fallasburg Cubs on July 3.

Lowell Women's Club junior members



The new 2016-17 Lowell Women's Club junior members are, left to right: Hailey Taylor, Isabel Lillie, Jillian Riney Alyssa McIntire, Haley Godbold, Kara Jeffries, Victoria Fezzy and Katie Peterson. Missing from the picture: Alyssa Roest and Darby Fuller.

happy birthday

- JULY 20**
Cara Thaler, David Thaler
Beth Berry, Amber Brown.
- JULY 21**
Dara Anchors, Stephanie Wade, Carolyn Mercer, Jeff Gurney, Kelly Tulecki, Alexander Stiles.
- JULY 22**
Kelly Marie Roth, Laurie Fonger, Eric Shear, Noreen Myers, T.J. Butler.
- JULY 23**
Dave Fosburg, Nathan Swift, Heather Pretzel, Robert Jahnke.
- JULY 24**
Nathan Bush, Mike Lally.
- JULY 26**
Elaine Gregersen, Eric Baird, Josh Geldersma, Ellen Dilly.



Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal.

~ Henry Ford

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Synopsis of Minutes July 11, 2016

Motions Approved:

- Approval of Fire Chiefs vacation time
- Resolution 2016-019 Round Lake Weed Control
- Resolution 2016-017 New Tax Millage

Our next Township Meeting will be August 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org

Deborah Wilts, Agent
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Bus: 616-887-8227
dwilts@statefarm.com

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(for 3, 5 or 10 months)

Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.

Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play football and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

Make a lifelong friend from abroad. Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, Australia, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Single parents, as well as couples with or without children, may host. Contact us ASAP for more information or to select your student.

Call Whitney at (616) 889-7861 or Amy at 1-800-677-2773 (Toll Free) host.asse.com or email info@asse.com

asse

Founded in 1970 ASSE International Student Exchange Program is a Public Benefit, Non-Profit Organization. The giving season, please donate to our phone-in annual calendar.

A-1 MOBILE ROOF-OVER SYSTEM

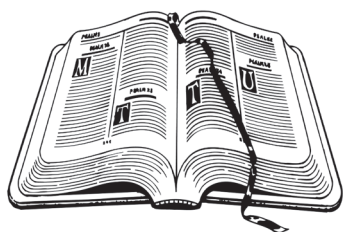
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area church



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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-27
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Worship Service.....Sunday -10:30 A.M.
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
ALL facilities are wheelchair accessible

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
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www.stmarylowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 10:30 AM
Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
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Pastor Dick Sherlock
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Lowell's Open Table - Thursdays 5 - 7 P.M.

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CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)
897-7168 - www.fbclowell.org
Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor
Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries
SUNDAY WORSHIP...9:30 am (Nursery provided)
SUNDAY School.....11:00 am (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM
Middle & High School - Mon-school year*Wed,summer, 7 pm

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897-5938
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance
Worship at the Riverwalk
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July 10 - August 14
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

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July 31 - Aug. 4 • 6-8:30 pm
Grades K through 5th grade
621 E. Main, Lowell

Come & enjoy music, games, storytime, bible challenge, snacks, live animals & much more!

Register online at <https://vbamate.com/events/lowmvbs1/3253> or registration forms are available at Lowell United Methodist Church. Questions?? Call 897-5936

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perseverance



A community fighting cancer



CCC Mission

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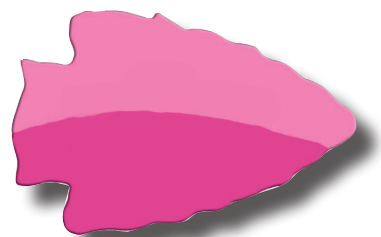


Custom Components Corporation continues to sponsor the Pink Arrow Pride. Company CEO Ryan Pawloski bought Custom Components in 2002. Pawloski runs the company with Dave Leonard and works with his brother Collin Pawloski, who is the director of engineering. All three are very devoted to the company and all three have had cancer touch their lives at some point.

The Pawloskis lost their father to pancreatic cancer in 2007 after

battling for two years. Collin said that before his father became sick, he had never noticed or fully understood cancer.

Collin said that Pink Arrow helps to raise awareness and draw attention to cancer to let people know that it's still a major issue. Pawloskis' father was alive to see and receive the benefits of the first Pink Arrow and it was a huge help to their family.



perseverance

A community fighting cancer

~ Mike Kapteyn

Our family has always loved living in Lowell. The red cross football games on Fridays, Thursday night listening to bands on the river, the festivals throughout the summer... There is strong sense of community here that is very unique. It's easy to see how the citizens of Lowell support one another through Pink Arrow Ride... we never dreamed that we would someday benefit from everything Pink Arrow Ride has worked on.

When my dad went to the emergency department this past March, we were not at all expecting the diagnosis we received. He was having issues with remembering words, since (or so we thought at the time) pressure, and was often confused. He woke up one morning extremely disoriented, and my mom knew something wasn't right. We were shocked when a CAT scan showed a large tumor on the left side of his brain.

He was admitted to the hospital and not long after had emergency surgery to remove the tumor, which was slightly larger than a chicken egg, from the language processing part of his brain. When he woke up in ICU, he was unable to communicate and was in unbelievable pain.

We received the diagnosis not long after. He has stage 4 Glioblastoma Multiforme, an incredibly aggressive cancer with no cure.



My dad has always been one of the most active and fitest people I have ever known. He builds both houses and wooden kayaks, and when he is not working, he is hiking, kayaking, or woodworking. He is active and in great shape, and it was mind boggling not only to see him so sick, but that a healthy 38 year old can get such a vicious cancer in the first place.

It was during this time of

cracked out to us. Their help was truly such a gift. They had heard about what was happening and were there to help us before we even knew what we needed. It was amazing to us that we didn't have to do anything. Pink Arrow Ride heard about a need and reacted to it in a way that was such a blessing to our family. It was that sense of community that made us fall in love with Lowell in the first place, and our appreciation

"When my parents went camping in Ludington, he was determined to hike the trails and kayak the lake just like he used to."



for all that they do has only gotten stronger over the past few months now that we have seen it first hand.

My dad has been recovering fairly well from the surgery. He still struggles to find words when he is talking and doesn't always understand everything he hears. He lost his vision from a stroke not long after the surgery, which has been a challenge to adjust to. He will be on chemo indefinitely and will need an MRI every other month to monitor tumor growth, but the cancer hasn't grown back. He is fighting. When my parents went camping in Ludington, he was determined to hike the trails and kayak the lake just like he used to. He was out

there every day doing what he loved, and it was a challenge for the rest of us to keep up with him!

We are so grateful for all the support we have received from the Lowell community. It is such a blessing to live in a community that reaches out and supports you when your life takes an unexpected turn. Thank you so much for all of your prayers and support over the past few months!



perseverance



A community fighting cancer

~ Sally Sterly

The year was 2012. I had just returned from spending two weeks in Texas with my brother and his wife. Something wasn't right. I could hear people talking but couldn't understand what was being said. I was putting things in odd places and sometimes I didn't know where I was. My blood was pounding in my head... oh, no...not a stroke!!! My greatest health fear was having a stroke. I went to my primary care doctor who took my blood pressure... 100/110. Normal is around 120/70. He told me to go to emergency and he sure they did a CT scan. Tara (my daughter) came to take me to emergency. Doctors at the ER tried to get my blood pressure down with medication. Wasn't working. They ultimately did a CT scan and said I would need an MRI. Well, the results came back showing a tumor. YIKES!! It is not a stroke!! Tara said, "Mom, did you just hear what he said?" Yes, he said it wasn't a stroke.

I stayed in the hospital overnight to monitor my blood pressure. During that stay several doctors talked with me. The first one to come in said, "you are one lucky lady." He continued by saying the tumor was called a meningioma and



Blue Lake STUDIOS

plan. The lesion looked like a narrow bandhead across the top of my head. Meningiomas, like most other conditions, has three stages. Stage 1 meningiomas are benign and never return, stage 2 will sometimes return, and stage 3 always returns. Mine came back stage 2. Recovery was

months would be no problem. I went with surgery scheduled for April 29, 2014. Surgery went well but then on April 29th my worst fear came to be. I had a mild stroke. My entire right side was affected as well as some speech and thought processing. I was transferred to May Free Bed where the worst of times and the best of times began. I had six to seven hours of daily therapy, including occupational, speech, physical and recreational. Recovery was certainly different from

months. Things were going along; I was doing a lot of traveling the summer of 2015 and feeling great. I never did have any indication the tumor had returned until the results of the MRI came back. Of course, I am getting ready to go to Florida again and December 18, 2015, a small spot showed up. I had been sending my bills to a doctor at the U of M because he deals with several stage 2 meningiomas a month. My surgeon in Grand Rapids had only seen two in his career. Very rare tumor. I cancelled Florida, sent all my records to U of M and on January 28th I had a procedure called stereotactic radiosurgery. It is a 45-minute radiation procedure that is directed right at the tumor. Five days later, I was on my way to Florida. My body was starting to rebel. I got tired easily and don't have much energy but age might have something to do with it. My last MRI was inconclusive about the state of the treated spot but it did show another small growth that wasn't there before. Right now the plan is an MRI in October and go from there.

Through all of this, I feel so blessed. I live in an age where medical treatments are everchanging. I have great support from family, friends and strangers. My physical

therapist told me last year I should move to a place that didn't have stairs as I have become a high risk for falling. I looked in Grand Rapids and nothing fit my needs. A Lowell friend invited me to participate in Being for Life. I came out to find a wonderful group of people doing great things for the community of Lowell. I was telling people of my need to find a suitable place to live and was given direction to a place in town that they thought was available. That night I called the number on the for rent sign. The owner came over and I signed a lease right then. I truly believe things happen for a reason and I am proof of that. I am now living about two blocks from where I raised my two daughters. I am back in the church with all the familiar faces I knew after being in Grand Rapids for 14 years. Faith Avenue was just beginning the year I retired from the Lowell school system in 2008. PFOOM was just a little store across from the Methodist Church and now it has grown into an amazing organization with a variety of outreach programs. I am in awe how these ideas have grown and embraced the entire Lowell community. I am so proud to say I live in Lowell.

"Through all of this, I feel so blessed. I live in an age where medical treatments are everchanging."

50 percent were benign. Very common in women my age and had probably been there five or more years. The next person through the door was a medical nurse to make an appointment for the following day with a brain surgeon. Everything was happening so fast. The next day I met with the surgeon, saw the MRI and he confirmed that indeed it was a meningioma. I was given three options: do nothing and monitor it, radiation, or surgery. I elected surgery and the date was set for May 13, 2012.

Surgery went according to

well. My sister-in-law stayed with me for a week as I stayed in the cool, dark family room of my condo. Light and sound were my enemies.

I was having MRIs every six months to make sure some little cell hadn't been left behind. December 2013 MRI showed a recurrence. I had my winter all scheduled... The Keys in Florida!!! It was two weeks before time to go!!! I had started to pack!!! Tara and Lea were with me. The doctor assured me it would be ok to go and have surgery when I returned. He said it was slow growing and waiting four

the first round. I saw progress every day and after six weeks I was released but continued with outpatient therapy.

The biopsy came back showing a large stage 2 tumor. I shouldn't have gone to Florida. Six weeks of radiation followed and the side effect was loss of hair. Permanent loss of hair!!! My clothes are now full of hats. I went to the YWCA after the radiation for a three-month program to gain my strength and on December 18, 2014, I left from the YWCA packing for Florida.

Upon my return, I had follow-up MRIs every three

perseverance



A community fighting cancer

~ Anthony & Sheryl Polise



Blue Lake STUDIOS

My name is Anthony Polise. My wife and I have lived in Lowell for over 20 plus years. We have always been proud of the sports teams the town produces and it seems where ever I go in the state and wear a Lowell shirt, I get comments of how your team really showed us up! As I said, we are always proud of our little town. But I would like to tell you about something else I am proud of in our little town. Recently my wife and I became the guardians of two young girls ages eight and

11. Their father had passed away and the remaining family members were not able to take them in, that left my wife and I. Our son had recently graduated from Lowell and we thought we were home free.

So here we were now with two girls attending Mary Lake Elementary. While the girls adjusted to their new life here in Lowell we realized even though we could provide a loving home for them they

would still need help getting over the loss of their father. The school recommended the Girls' Club of Lowell. For a lot of years I had driven past the house wondering what they do there. At the Girls' Club the

girls found out they weren't the only children that had lost their parents. Each week they have a sit down meal, after which they break into work groups to work on what they are feeling. Sometimes the parent is involved, sometimes the counselor direct them. We have noticed an improvement in the girls' overall quality of life. None of this would be possible without your support of the Lowell Girls' Club. Our sons want to be proud of our little town. Thank you, Anthony and Sheryl Polise and Brock and Molly

"We have noticed an improvement in the girls' overall quality of life. None of this would be possible without your support of the Lowell Girls' Club."

PINK ARROW PRIDE 2016

SAVE  THE  DATE

Friday, September 16, 2016

Lowell hosts Ottawa Hills High School

Volleyball, Soccer and Football!

'Basics, Not Barriers' making a difference

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Teachers and the Lowell community are making real differences in the lives of students at Lowell Middle School by providing them with access to the simple basics. The 'Basics, Not Barriers' (BNB) initiative began at the school after teachers identified a need and the desire to help. The project was inspired by a gift and food delivery for students the staff took part in that was organized by office and counseling staff.

According to LMS teacher Andrea Struckmeyer, "It was so powerful getting to see our kids feel the love their teachers and school have for them. To be known and to know that you matter is an important need in every kid, in every person for that matter."

After discussing the experience as well as some of the needs that students face on a daily basis, Struckmeyer said two teachers, Mike Arnswald and Jenny Cole, asked students in their academic focus class to list things that they needed and wanted.

"We were blown away by the simplicity of their needs. They identified basic needs, everyday needs like personal hygiene supplies, school supplies, sports equipment and clothing," said Struckmeyer. "We read the lists at lunch and it dawned on us that we could probably reach out to others and start meeting some of those basic needs. We came

up with a simple name, 'Basics, Not Barriers,' put out a request for help from people in our community and we were quickly blown away by the willingness of people to help."

The program has since stocked a supply pantry at the school with school supplies and personal goods from the community as well as other initiatives like providing free hair cuts, covering camp fees and supplying athletic shoes. Last fall, they held a back-to-school event and last Christmas, volunteers filled homemade stockings full of goodies.

The response from staff and community has been overwhelming. "I think people want to help others but sometimes they just don't have a vehicle for making an impact. It seems like the BNB program is a simple way to allow people in our community to meet the real needs of students who are in doing everything they can to feel known, loved and valued in their middle school years."

The project has had a positive impact on the students receiving what some would consider basics that they may have had to do without.

"It's been amazing and powerful. Tears and letters of gratitude from some students and families, increased confidence in so many and increased awareness and compassion in so many others," said



The teacher initiated 'Basics, Not Barriers' pantry located at Lowell Middle School supplies students with basic personal and educational needs.

Struckmeyer. "One thing that has been really cool this year is seeing students look out for each other. We had several students talk to us or give us notes about needs that they see others struggling to meet. We've seen students recognize needs in their classmates and then bring us a donation to be delivered to their peers through our BNB pantry."

BNB communicates the needs of their students utilizing a Facebook page which Struckmeyer encourages the community

to check out as they prepare to stock their pantry for the upcoming school year. "Through the BNB initiative, I have gained a greater understanding and love for the students in our building. I am grateful to the people in our community who give us the opportunity to meet the needs of students throughout the school year. If anyone is interested in more information, please check out our Facebook page. We post needs and drop-off points on that page throughout the year."

City manager interviews, continued

I have a responsibility to her at some point in the near future to give her those opportunities."

The council then debated and discussed the pros and cons of the candidates. Each councilor seemed to think Burns was the best choice

and Graff was the second best choice.

"I originally stated that Mike was my number one [choice], but then I doubted it, but the discussion helps to confirm it," councilor Alan Teelander said. "As a council I feel like we're coming

together so well and I'm very proud of these people that I'm up here with."

"Our task here today is to hire the better person, to offer the better person the position," said councilor Jim Hodges. "My feeling on these three candidates

is Mike Burns is the better person."

After 45 minutes of discussion, the council voted unanimously to offer Burns the position. For more on Burns, see the separate story.

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KENT COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

BEAR SWAMP COUNTY DRAIN

NOTICE OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on Tuesday, the 2nd day of August, 2016, at the Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office, 1500 Scribner Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49504, County of Kent, or such place and time, I, William R. Byl, Kent County Drain Commissioner, may adjourn, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the "BEAR SWAMP COUNTY DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT", and the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities in the Drainage District will be subject to review on the above specified date only, from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. Also on this date, the computation of cost for said drain will be open for inspection by any interested parties. You may also review your apportionments by phone at (616) 632-7910.

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 154 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. And also if drain assessments against land are collected by installment, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

WHEREAS, You are further advised that, pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, any owner of land within the Drainage District or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the drain commissioner, may appeal the apportionment within ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment by making an application to the Kent County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review. If there is no appeal, the roll will be confirmed ten (10) days after the Day of Review of Apportionment. The confirmed roll may be slightly different from the roll presented at the Day of Review due to arguments made at the Day of Review.

AS A PROPERTY OWNER WITHIN THE DISTRICT, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT FOR A PORTION OF THE COST OF THIS PROJECT.

The following government units and permanent parcel numbers of the parcels of land within the Special Assessment District of said drain will be assessed

41-24-01-
100-005, -009, -012, -014, -016, -018 thru -020; 200-014;
300-002, -003, -007, -010 thru -016; 400-009, -013; 501-004;

41-24-02-
200-007; 300-004, -017, -024; 400-002,
-004, -005, -007, -009 thru -011;

41-24-11-
100-003, -009, -010; 200-003, -004;

41-24-12-
100-001, -006;

Bowne Township at large, and the County of Kent on account of roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, All unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you: Mary Hollinrake – Clerk of Kent County, Randy Wilcox – Bowne Township Supervisor and Steve Warren - Kent County Road Commission Managing Director, that at such time and place, as stated above, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the Bear Swamp County Drain Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

AND EACH OF YOU, owners and persons interested in the above referenced parcels of land, are hereby given the opportunity to appear at the time and place noted above to review the apportionments and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation to them, if you so desire.

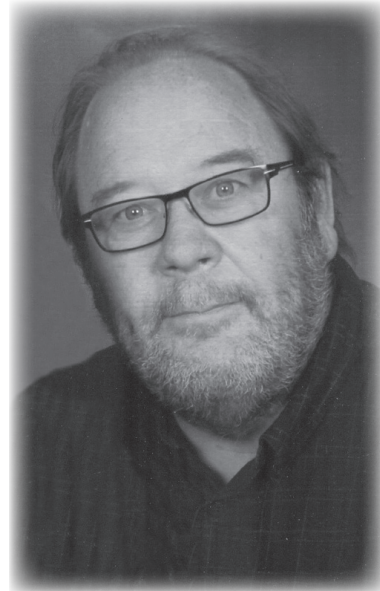
Dated this 15th day of July, 2016.

William R. Byl,
Kent County Drain Commissioner

obituaries

GREGERSEN

Kenneth James Gregersen I, age 62 of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Friday, July 15, 2016. He was preceded in death by his mother Dorthea Gregersen; parents-in-law Edward and Joyce Stormzand. He is survived by his wife of 40 years Elaine; children Holly (Jason) Fetterhoff, Kenneth Gregersen II; father, Everett Gregersen; brother-in-law Edward (Lisa) Stormzand; sister-in-law Elizabeth (James Momber) Raab; grandchildren Lani, Lynsi and Lauren Fetterhoff, Payton and Kayden Gregersen; also nieces and nephews. Ken was a 1972 graduate from Grandville High School, attended Grand Rapids Junior College; and was a local musician playing the Trumpet. One of Ken's favorite places was the Backwater Café. Funeral service was held at Lowell United Methodist Church. Rev. Brad Brillhart officiated. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell United Methodist Church.



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LOWING

Walter Robert Lowing, age 88 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2016. He was preceded in death by his son, Nelson Hoose. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Norma; children Leann (Jesus) Gonzalez and Wanda (John) Elliott; grandchildren Shannon (Abdul Ilah) El Bachri, Angela (Lance Posey) Gonzalez, Nikki Elliott, Justin (Kelsey Schoon) Elliott; great-grandchildren Christiaan, Marc, Sofia, Caleb and Levi; and his best friend & 'brother' Fred Matthews and family. A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 23 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. The family will meet with friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the funeral home chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to the Laurels of Kent, 350 N. Center St., Lowell MI 49331.



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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF
NOTICE OF HEARING

STATE OF MICHIGAN
The Probate Court for
the County of Kent

In the matter of
DAVID MINIX

Guardianship File No. 16-199,401-GA
Conservatorship File No. 16-199,400-CA
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including children and siblings of David Minix, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on **AUGUST 30, 2016**, at 9:00 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: July 13, 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 Van Essen
Wirth (P75001)
3425 Kelly St.
Hudsonville, MI 49426
(616) 633-0196

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college news

Local students Carter Mullins, of Ada, Forest Hills Eastern High School, son of Christopher Mullins and Linda Mullins; Jack Weesies, of Ada, West Michigan Academy, son of Linda Weesies; and John-Luc Richmond, of Lowell, West Catholic High School, son of Benjamin Richmond and Karen Richmond; were among high school students from across the country who recently participated in the Engineering Scholars Program at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan. The highly-competitive

scholarship program is a weeklong look at engineering careers in areas like mechanical, computer, environmental, electrical, chemical, biomedical, geological and materials. The students explored engineering by designing a building strong enough to withstand an earthquake, created an artificial intelligence army and much more. In addition to the hands-on activities, the students got inside information on the world of engineering from role models working in the field.

The students got a taste of college life by staying in residence halls, exploring campus and meeting others with similar interests. In addition, through multiple outdoor activities, they experienced the beauty of Upper Michigan's magnificent Keweenaw Peninsula. The students accepted into this program received a scholarship valued at more than a thousand dollars to cover tuition, room and board supplies.

Madeline Anderson, of Ada, Lowell High School, daughter of Angela Anderson, was among high

school girls from across the country who recently participated in Women in Computer Science at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan. The highly-competitive scholarship program is a weeklong discovery of this fascinating field which is now an integral part of all aspects of our lives. Selected participants experience different areas of computing, including programming, artificial intelligence, robotics, virtual reality, visualization, networks and security.

The young women learned about the many career opportunities in computing and the excellent

job prospects in a wide range of industries.

In addition, they had the chance to interact with Michigan Tech Alumnae and role models to get first-hand accounts of the diverse careers in computing.

The students spent time with other smart young women interested in computing, were exposed to computing on a range of computing platforms, experienced a virtual reality world and learned theoretical computer science concepts while playing games.

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Grand Valley State University announces the names of students who were placed on the dean's list for the winter 2016 semester concluding in April. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits. The honor is noted on the students' official records.

Local students honored for the winter semester include, of Ada: Mitchell R. Ashcraft, Ross H. Barrett, Joshua E. Boonenberg, Shannon J. Bouwkamp, Tyler W. Brewer, Christina A. Byl, Ryan E. Conerty, Mowgli J. Crosby, Rosemary F. Cusack, Jay-Dee Davids, Benjamin J. DeVries, Jacob M. Epperly, Austin D. Erdman, Spencer P. Erdman, Kathryn E. Farmer, Erica E. Fischer, Clayton H. Flechsig, Samantha M. Gann, Lucas H. Gerard, Evan J. Gerondale, Terence A. Gillespie, Lauren R. Homolka, Nicholas J. Hughes, Marion L. Jamet,

Nicole E. Jimenez, Rebecca V. Karl, Kadison D. Klausung, Rebecca A. Koster, Debra J. Kue, Meredith A. Lane, Logan A. LeMonnier, Chiara A. Licari, Samuel A. McKim, Emily R. Noordyke, Macie L. Pasciak, Katherine E. Platt, Monica L. Powers, Ruth I. Rapeyko, Bronte K. Reisinger, Kira N. Rosol, Riley P. Rouse, Tabitha Y. Sherk, Ellyn L. Stasiak, Samantha Stephens, Sara E. Stoner, Grayson D. Sundrla, Jacob W. Theisen, Bradley J. Thomas, Cassandra E. Trapp, Paige E. Vandegrift, Trent R. VanWagoner, Laura M. Vogelsang, Luke A. Vroegindewey, Bryce M. Wallace, Jenna M. Williams, Joshua P. Witherell, Kendra J. York, and Hunter B. Zuk; of Alto: Kellie N. Abraham, Chelsea L. Bromley, Travis C. Brubaker, Carly C. Byam, Jaime M. Canada, Clare G. Carlson, Kendra L. Clark, Sarah M. DeVries, Alison Fielder, Hamilton T. Graham, Zachary S. Jacobson, Jessica E. Lind, Jacob R. Lindale, Leah M. Metzler, Mariah C. Moore, Alexander D. Pavey, Hannah L. Petersen, Gretchen A. Pyscher, Marisa L. Rauch, Kailee N. Schafer, Kimberly R. Sterzick, Jessica K. VanderSloot, Valerie N. Voisin, Reuben P. Wattenhofer, and Thomas J. Williamson; of Lowell: Sabrina M. Antcliff, Casey R. Cahoon, Kayla J. Cook, David A. Crawford, Jordan M. Drake, Allysen M. Dubisky, Alissa M. Ford, Kimberly J. Gannon, John P. Heffron, Elisabeth J. Heikoop, Katie L. Holzhueter, Tracy M. Jones, Mattie M. Kropf, Andrew G. Light, Kristen S. McAlpine, Austin M. McNeal, Brooke N. Mellema, Cassie Miles, Jonathan P. Newsome, Jacob M. North, Anna M. Organek, Megan D. Perkins, Meghan K. Plutschouw, Andrew S. Potter, Robert S. Poulton, Erica M. Raymond, Danielle S. Starkey, Brianna D. Steiner, Jacob D. Stephens, Skye E. Thebo, Madelynn A. Willemstein, Kelsey S. Wittenbach, and Meaghan E. Zech.

KENT COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

BEAR SWAMP COUNTY DRAIN

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Notice is Hereby Given, that on the 2nd day of August, 2016, at the Kent County Drain Commissioner's Office, located at 1500 Scribner Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49504, the Kent County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to hear the proofs and allegations and to carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Bear Swamp County Drain Drainage District. The Drain Commissioner shall determine whether the addition and/or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefited by the Drain, located and established in the Township of Bowne, County of Kent, and whether such addition and/or deletion of lands is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of Act No. 40, P.A. 1956, as amended.

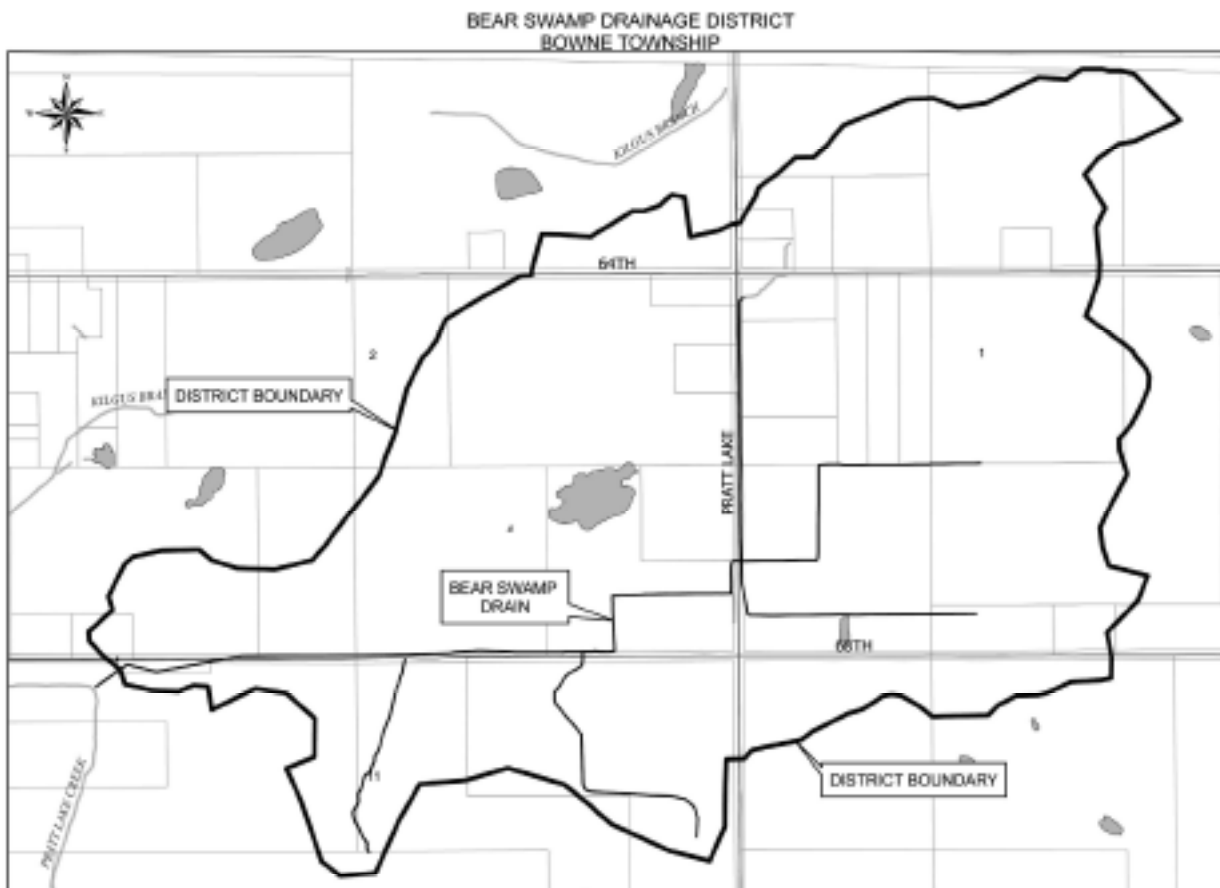
Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the County Drain Commissioner at 616-632-7910 or through the Michigan Relay Center at 1-800-649-3777 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

A map depicting the proposed revisions to the Bear Swamp County Drain Drainage District as recommended by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor is enclosed with this Notice.

You Are Further Notified, that persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner may seek judicial review in the Circuit Court for the County of Kent within ten (10) days of the determination.

DATED: July 15, 2016

William R. Byl
Kent County Drain Commissioner



Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner, William Byl

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Has road construction in the state of Michigan changed your travel plans or hampered your commute?

- Yes - It's a real pain 11%
- No - Glad they're getting fixed. 83%
- I like detours 6%
- No opinion..... 0%

Dancing to the sound of Motown on the Riverwalk

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Eight musicians brought the spirit and sound of Motown to the Showboat Riverwalk last Thursday night for the weekly Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert.

The Soul Syndicate, led by lead singer Diego Morales and guitarist Mike Coon, hit the stage for the fifth installment of the free family show accompanied by Matt Fouts on bass, Mark Mainero on keyboards, Tom Taylor on drums, Tim DenBesten on the trumpet and saxophonists Nate Hansen, Danny Giacobassi and Jim Hayward. The soulful R&B band brought the large audience to their feet for track after track of 60s and 70s Motown standards like The Isley Brothers' feel good hit "Shout" and sing-along favorite "My Girl" by The Temptations.

Honoring the classics with authenticity the of musicianship, vocals and matching sleek attire, the band's effort to revive



Local R&B group The Soul Syndicate fills the Riverwalk with the sound of Motown.

and pay tribute to the musical era was enjoyed by concertgoers, who also heard tracks from influential and popular artists of the day, such as Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye.

Morales gave a powerhouse performance filled with emotion and charisma that truly brought the enthusiastic crowd back in time, which Morales said is his ultimate desire as a performer. "Performing a

song that I love is always a great joy and challenge for me. I want to do it justice, I want to pay tribute to the original artist, but most of all I want to make the listener feel exactly how they feel when they hear the original – that song that means so much, that evokes a hundred feelings. That's the greatest high of all," said Morales.

Next week the series will revisit the Motown sound when it welcomes native Michigan artist Rachel B. Originally from Traverse City, the classically trained vocalist studied at Interlochen Arts Academy and the Berklee College of Music and draws her musical inspiration from the likes of Ella Fitzgerald. The two hour show will begin at 7 pm on Thursday along the Riverwalk Plaza. Bleacher and lawn seating are available, as well as refreshments and adult beverages on the historic Lowell Showboat.



Featured artist The Soul Syndicate keeps people dancing during a soulful evening show.

First load of wheat for 2016 delivered



The first load of new crop wheat for 2016 arrived at the King Milling Company on July 6. This was 11 days earlier than in 2015 when the harvest didn't begin until July 17. According to King Milling, the load was good quality soft red winter wheat with a 59 test weight and a moisture of 16.4 percent. The wheat was grown by George Zmitko of Owosso, sold through Jurry Commodities and delivered by Mike Chapman. The wheat was unloaded by King Milling Company employees. Pictured, left to right: Josh Bartholomew, Mike Chapman of Zmitko Farms, James Ballard, Grant Peterson and Stev



- A huge tragedy occurred during the Bastille Day celebration in Nice, France, when a cargo truck was deliberately driven into the crowds killing 84 and injuring 303 people.
- Within two weeks after the deadly sniper attack on police in Dallas, Texas, that resulted in five deaths and 11 injuries, another attack on police unfolded in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, killing three and wounding three others.
- Donald Trump emerged like a superstar at the RNC's national convention on Monday hopeful that his showmanship will win him the highest office in the land.



- Hopeful First Lady Melania Trump delivers a clearly plagiarized opening night speech (with quotes directly from current First Lady Michelle Obama) at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Do you think the Republican Convention helped urge more undecided voters to come over to Donald Trump?

TO VOTE IN THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL GO TO -

WWW.
thelowellledger.com

LowellArts! enters public phase of renovation

by Tim McAllister
contributing reporter

The LowellArts! renovation of the former Hallmark building at 221 and 223 W. Main has entered what they are referring to as the “public phase.” This means LowellArts! is now looking for donations from local businesses and individuals.

“In August of 2015 LowellArts! embarked on a \$1.1 million ‘Moving to Main’ capital campaign in order to purchase, restore and renovate two historic adjoining buildings to be used as their new home in downtown Lowell,” said LowellArts! executive director Lorain Smalligan. “This new home will provide an expanded gallery for visual art exhibitions as well as a flexible space for intimate musical and theatrical performances. In addition, LowellArts! will expand its arts classes for youth and adults in a new multipurpose room and provide facility rental opportunities.”

The new building is scheduled to open in the fall and they already have big plans for their new space.

“Our plans are to move into the new building the first week of November, with our Holiday Artist Market opening on November

18 and running through December 24,” Smalligan said. “The timing couldn’t be better with the market bringing many people into Lowell to shop the market and visit other businesses in Lowell’s downtown. We will close the month of January to install the performing arts lighting and sound system and reopen in early February with our first play in the new building. Following this production we will then open our popular West Michigan Art Competition in the gallery in late February.”

Donations from the public will supplement grants LowellArts! was able to receive.

“LowellArts! received lead funding from the Lowell Area Community Fund to purchase the buildings and financial support from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs for exterior renovations, including a new roof, brick repair and painting the buildings,” said Gary Eldridge, the “Moving to Main” campaign co-chair. “Today’s announcement, marking the beginning of the public phase of this campaign, will provide the people and artists of Lowell and the surrounding

region with the opportunity to support this wonderful community asset by raising the final dollars from the community during the public phase.”

LowellArts! has been in its current location since the 1970s.

“LowellArts! Hudson Street facility has served it well for 40 years but the lack of adequate parking, disconnect from Lowell’s Main Street events and small gallery space has hindered the economic benefit that LowellArts! can have on the community,” Smalligan said. “For several years LowellArts! has talked with local businesses and community stakeholders about its desire to become an economic partner by bringing the arts, culture and creativity more visibly to Lowell’s downtown. With their encouragement and support LowellArts! is now making this move, which addresses the needs for increased parking and accessibility to LowellArts! programs and its growing demand for increased services.”

For information on how you can help, contact LowellArts! at (616) 897-8545 or check out their website, lowellartsmi.org



LowellArts! executive director Lorain Smalligan is asking for the public’s help to finish remodeling their new Main St. location.

SIGN UP TODAY

LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER



2016 Lowell Youth
Football League

Online Registration:
www.lowellyouthfootball.com

Register by:
August 7, 2016

For More Information:
www.lowellyouthfootball.com
lowellyouthfootballleague@yahoo.com