

## Lowell students head back to school



Student aide Alice Koster greets students as they exit their buses Tuesday morning.

Tuesday morning Lowell schools welcomed back nearly 4,000 K-12 students for the first day of the 2016-2017 school year.

Students were greeted with warm temperatures and sunny skies as morning

broke at bus stops and drop-off lines throughout the community. Several schools celebrated morning arrivals in special ways including Lowell High School where the class of 2017 was welcomed to

commemorate their final year as Red Arrows with the senior sunrise breakfast on campus.

Students at Bushnell Elementary and Murray Lake Elementary were greeted by brand new

principals upon their arrivals. Murray Lake staff and students welcome Molly Burnett who replaces Brent Noskey and Bushnell welcomes former Lowell Middle School dean of students Erin Walters.

Walters replaces Nate Fowler who was promoted to the district's director of curriculum, instruction and assessment. Candidates to replace Walters at the middle school are still under review.



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## New school year finds new faces, a bit longer schedule and full classrooms

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

Lowell Area Schools are back in session on Tuesday, Sept. 6. The 2016-2017 school year will be slightly longer than previous years after the Michigan Department of Education decided to add five additional days to the school calendar.

"We have a little longer calendar this year, as schools move to 180 student days," said Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt. "The school year is longer due to a mandate from the State of Michigan."

School sports are already underway. The biggest early sporting event during the school year is the Pink Arrow Pride football, volleyball and soccer event. This year it will all be at Bob Perry Stadium, 11700 Vergennes, on Friday, Sept. 16. Lowell's teams will face Ottawa Hills. Admission is free if you are wearing the Pink Arrow Pride IX t-shirt. The shirts and other Pink Arrow merchandise are now for sale at Pep Talk, 207 E. Main.

"Our athletic program is in full swing," Pratt said. "Pink Arrow Pride represents one of the special things that are part of the fabric of our community. The community understands service above self and demonstrates that support at the Pink Arrow event."

There have also been some important staff changes in local schools.

"We have new principals at Murray Lake and Bushnell and a new curriculum director," Pratt said. "Our new curriculum director, Nate Fowler, is replacing Roger Bearup, who left to become the superintendent in Grandville more than a year ago. Mr. Fowler has oversight of professional development, curriculum development, testing and program development."

Molly Burnett is the new principal of Murray Lake Elementary, 3275 Alden Nash NE. She said a growing Lowell has created a need for more elementary classrooms.

"We had pretty high enrollment, so we've added two new classrooms," Burnett said. "We're at capacity right now, all our rooms are full, which is

good. Instead of having three at all grade levels we now have four kindergarten classrooms and four fourth-grade classrooms. We've also added three new

teachers. Max Jablonski is our new fifth-grade teacher, April Simmons is our new

New school year, continued, page 3

## OK White realignment brings changes to Arrow's athletic schedule

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

A brand new season of fall athletics at Lowell High School is underway with some big changes on the schedule due to the realignment of the OK conference.

While Lowell will remain in the OK White alongside Forest Hills Central, this season will mark the exit of key rival East Grand Rapids as well as Caledonia, Jenison and Grand Rapids Christian from the conference. EGR, who Lowell will play in non-conference action on

September 9, will leave the OK White after 31 years for the OK Gold. GRC is making the same trek, while Jenison and Caledonia move to the OK Red.

The newly composed OK White will feature four members of the now dismantled OK Bronze conference and a solo former of the OK Gold. Cedar Springs, Northview, Greenville and Forest Hills Northern high schools will move over from the Bronze and Ottawa Hills from Gold.

Now that the new lines have been drawn, what is

yet to be determined is how, or if, the changes will affect the Red Arrows' chances for conference success. Varsity cross country coaches Clay VanderWarf and Paul Judd both feel like the change could be positive for their programs due to the exit of several dominating teams. "With the new lineup, I think we [will] be able to compete this year and place well in the conference. The

OK White realignment, continued, page 3



**Many sports fans were angry when San Francisco 49ers player Colin Kaepernick refused to stand during the playing of the national anthem before a football game last week, saying, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color." We asked local residents what they thought the NFL should do with Kaepernick and if his protest was meaningful.**

**Noah Moore**

"It was his choice to do it. I think it was a stupid choice, but it's America, so you have freedom of speech. I don't think it was right, but if that's what he wants to do, that's what he wants to do. The NFL can't do anything about it, he has freedom of speech. His protest both did and did not have a point. The people that are getting shot are fighting with the police. If you don't fight with the police, you're not going to get killed."



**Above Emily Clark**

"I feel like there should probably be a fine. It would have to be something substantial. Whatever is a typical fine in football. He should have said something online ahead of time so people knew why he was doing it. Instead, he looked like a jerk."

**Caleb Clark**

"I would like to see him suspended for sure, for at least one game. His protest had a valid point, but I don't think he approached it in the right way."

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**Becky Kooistra**

"Let him go move somewhere else. It's disrespectful. How he can say he's oppressed when he makes millions of dollars a year is beyond me. On some level all protests have a valid point, it's just how far they go with it."

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# New school year, continued

fourth-grade teacher and Rosa Lancioni is our new kindergarten teacher.”

Burnett said the elementary will focus on teaching kids how to affect the world around them in a positive way.

“We have a new theme this year called ‘Make Your Mark,’” Burnett said. “There are posters all over the school. Basically the theme is going to be, what can you do today to make

your mark in the classroom or maybe on the soccer field, or can you help a friend? What can you do every day to make your mark in someone’s life or maybe your own? We make our mark by being safe, respectful and responsible. All of those things go together. If you are safe, respectful and responsible, you will make your mark.”

Erin Walters is the new principal of Bushnell

Elementary, 700 Elizabeth St. Walters was a sixth-grade science teacher for nine years, then dean of students at the middle school for three more years.

“I’ve had 11 years at the middle school so this is a whole different world,” Walters said. “Going from the middles to the littles is what I’ve been saying. It’s going to be a whole different experience for me. It’s just such a different

age group. It’s going to be really exciting for me. I’m really looking forward to this. It’s my first principal role. This year I plan on taking it all in and getting to know the families and getting some experience with the youngest learners in our district. I think it’s going to be a lot of fun. In middle school you’re dealing with a lot bigger discipline issues. What I’m

excited about in this job is teaching these little ones to be good citizens, how to be good friends to each other, how to be in a classroom setting and walk down the hallway.”

Walters said she enjoys the ‘big picture’ aspect of her new job as principal.

“What I like about this job is having the bird’s eye view,” Walters said. “Instead of just having your

classroom relationships, you’ve got the families, the teachers and you’re supporting everybody, all the stakeholders in your building, not just the students. That probably [is] my favorite part of the job. My other favorite part of the job is going into the teachers’ classrooms and seeing all of the incredible things that they do every day.”

## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Ryan Hesche received Sales Associate of the Month in August.

This award recognizes Hesche for his outstanding success and achievements.



Ryan Hesche



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# OK White realignment, continued

past OK White conference was dominated by Grand Rapids Christian and East Grand Rapids in cross country, but I think this one will be a little more leveled out,” said VanderWarf who predicts new member Forest Hills Northern to be a top competitor for the title this year.

Judd concurred his sentiment in regards to the counterpart girls varsity harriers. “Whenever you lose four of the top teams in the state it makes life a little easier. That being said, it will be a big change not getting to compete against EGR, GRC, Caledonia and Jenison as they presented a picture of where we want to go with the program, but we still face FHN, Cedar Springs and FHC which are frequent visitors to the state finals,” he said going on to emphasize the changes

would not alter the team’s focus, “I would not say that the realignment changes what we are shooting for as our goal is to run hard and let the other teams know that they are in a race. That is just as important as fast times as the art of competing truly measures you.”

Varsity volleyball head coach Julie Quist said her group has been busy in the off- and pre-season conditioning and readying for their new competitors with their sights set on a competitive finish. “The newly aligned OK conference is packed with talent and hardworking

teams and we have set our goal to be in the running for conference title.”

The change will also be big on the football field as the dominating Red Arrows will no longer vie with chief rivals EGR, GRC or Caledonia. Though the Red Arrows is still expected to dominate, the season could be competitive with two of the new members coming off winning seasons and the rest in hot pursuit of achieving that task. Cedar Springs shared a portion of the OK Bronze title last season and the FHN Huskies went 7-3 launching the season

with five consecutive wins. Coming off of losing records in 2015 are Greenville and FHC who had matching 2-7 overall records and Ottawa Hills and Northview who came in at 4-5.

Conference games kicked off last week in most sports. Football will see their first challenge of the new OK White when they take on Ottawa Hills on September 16 at home during the annual cancer fighting Pink Arrow event. Boys soccer and volleyball will also compete against Ottawa that day.

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## sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

### New year, new line up!

There's no place like "Pure Michigan" in the summer! I trust that Lowell families have enjoyed unhurried time, made summer memories, and taken time to rejuvenate for the new school year. At Lowell Area Schools, the September air brings much excitement as we open our doors and our classrooms to students throughout the community who will begin or continue their learning journey. We feel honored to welcome new and returning students and partner with families to foster a love for learning in our kids.

We also look forward to seeing our returning and new staff members. On an annual basis, retirements and movement of staff cause us to rethink and make changes to our organizational structure. Lowell Area Schools puts time, effort and

investment in this process in order to hire the very best employees possible. This important work begins with a thoughtful and thorough interview process by teams that represent a cross-section of our district. We also work to retain our talented staff so that we can consider them as internal candidates when opportunities become available. I feel fortunate to inform you that we have done just that and appointed Mr. Nate Fowler to the critical leadership role of Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. Mrs. Erin Walters, formerly our Dean of Students at Lowell Middle School, has accepted the principalship at Bushnell. Mr. Craig Veldman has been selected as the Assistant Principal at the Middle Schools and Mrs. Molly Burnett has been selected as the principal at

Murray Lake Elementary to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Noskey. I am confident that these administrators and members of our school family can and will carry on the mission of Lowell Area Schools so that all students will master essential skills, become lifelong learners, and contribute as responsible members of our global community.

You may have wondered how our school district schedules necessary maintenance projects when our buildings and facilities are heavily used through the school year. It is through the diligent work of our maintenance teams and technology staff who complete summer work on our facilities so that high quality, innovative teaching and learning can forge ahead. It's going to be another fantastic year at Lowell Area Schools. Should parents have any questions or need assistance with your child's back-to-school experience, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our service-oriented staff who are happy to help.

## outdoors

### Transition

Dave Stegehuis

Summers in Michigan seem to be getting shorter. Maybe everyone is just getting busier. September is a month when the season officially changes from summer to fall. Average daily temperatures begin a downward slide. At this latitude this transition has a significant effect on our lifestyle. Football games at all levels of competition pack stadiums across the country. Grass stops growing, and foliage begins to dry up and change colors. Hunting seasons begin to kick in as the weeks pass.

How, where, and when we hunt will dictate the preparations needed. Hard core hunters have been thinking about and preparing for the upcoming hunting season since the end of last years hunts. For those who have not been on top of it, the time to get started has

arrived. By now, choosing hunting areas, signing leases, securing permission, or making reservations should be done.

Archery practice involves muscle tone as well as accuracy. Repetition improves both of these functions. Firearms deserve the same attention. Now is the time to make adjustments or switch out equipment and practice regularly.

Another long term preparation is training and conditioning hunting dogs. Hunting dogs are athletes and, as such, must train to be mentally and physically at the top of their game. Enough about the dog, what about you?

Elk and sheep hunts require an exceedingly high level of physical fitness. Even a blind sitting whitetail hunter may need

to walk, climb, and possibly field dress and transport a deer out of the woods. Being physically up to the task creates confidence and adds more enjoyment to the hunt. Hunters with physical limitations can make adjustments with strategies and equipment to ensure a great hunt.

Early scouting of potential hunt areas is particularly important for big game hunting. Any plans based on original scouting observations will be tweaked by the opener because deer, for example, significantly change routines as time passes due to feeding and rutting activity. Weather affects waterfowl movement so must be considered in planning hunts.

There is still time to get all of this done during the transition period from this season to the next. Good hunting.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### kudos to mayor

Dear Editor,

I understand that a citation was issued against one of our Lowell residents for having too many bird feeders in their yard. This individual is a decorated war veteran who received the Purple Heart and was a prisoner of war for 33 months.

I'd like to compliment our mayor for showing the

kind of person he is. He and friends helped to resolve the problem by helping to clean up the yard. Kudos to mayor Jeff Altoft and friends for stepping up to help their neighbors and prove that Lowell really still is the best place to be.

Thank you,  
Jeane Rockwell  
Lowell

### renewable energy

Dear Editor,

An open letter to neighbors of the Lowell Energy AD facility.

This past month has been a difficult one for those of us living and working near the biodigester. Indeed, the entire summer has been frustrating for residents and challenging for the people who operate Lowell Energy AD (LEAD). The waste-to-energy facility generates electricity by burning methane produced through an anaerobic process which converts liquid waste from Litehouse

Foods, manure from Swiss Lane Farms, FOG (fats, oils and greases) and spent grains from beer production into methane (CH4). The process produces noxious odors that, at times, emanate into the neighborhood. I know because my company is directly across the street from the biodigester.

But my concerns are nothing compared to the residents who live here on the east side of town. Depending upon the prevailing winds, my neighbors have often had

to suffer with the smells of rotting garbage. When the atmospheric inversion is just right, these odors may linger for hours. Residents are angry and justifiably so.

When the biodigester was first proposed I was against it. A group of local neighbors met and I took it upon myself to contact an environmental lawyer to discuss what could be done to stop the project. This guy was very sharp and we were both confident we would win a legal fight to kill the project. He characterized this as a NIMBY lawsuit – short for “Not In My Back Yard.”

**Not in my back yard** - that phrase really got me thinking. Was I being selfish for not wanting this type of facility right across the street? Was it the process that bothered me or just the location? I started thinking about why a biodigester was important and why Lowell needed one.

I knew someone on the Lowell Light & Power board so I called him up to ask what this was all about. Greg Canfield made a special point to visit me at my shop and explain the situation. The State of Michigan and the federal government had a 10 percent renewable mandate.

That is, electrical utilities were required to produce at least 10 percent of their electricity from renewable sources. That mandate would be going to 20 percent in the future and none of the Michigan utilities including Consumers Power were even close to the 10 percent level. To fulfill this mandate, LL&P had to do something.

The people of the State of Michigan had spoken. Renewable energy was a requirement and local electricity providers had to step up to meet the challenge. If I was to be part of the solution, I couldn't take the attitude that being “green” is great as long as it's not in my backyard.

Fast forward a few years – the facility is mostly finished and producing energy. The facility owners (Lowell Energy AD) and Veolia North America (the operators) have proven the system can produce 800kW of electricity, but they are having problems containing the odor leaks. This would be an easy time to say “I told you so,” but how much better would it be to help become part of the solution? A small group of neighbors have been in close contact with the employees and board of Lowell Light & Power, the owners of LEAD

and the operators from Veolia North America since early spring. LEAD and Veolia are chasing down every leak and working to contain all the odor sources. Progress is being made but there are still obstacles to overcome and the odors are certainly the most pressing issue now. These are the types of problems that might divide a community.

However, my belief is that although Lowell is small we can show the nation how a community comes together to solve a big problem. Renewable energy is essential for our children and our children's children. We must work together to solve this problem and we need to do it in our own backyard.

Jeff Dickerman  
Lowell

### about the stench

To The Editor,

About the biodigester, the stench and what we are doing.

After the closed session joint LL&P and city council meeting on August 17th, LL&P general manager Steve Donkersloot hand delivered “Breach of Contract” paperwork to save the time of mail delivery. We get how bad this is and are using 100 percent of all legal enforcement possible and available. In that paperwork was also requested a meeting with the financial partner.

Last Monday, August 29th, Mayor Altoft, city manager Pasquale, city attorney Wendt, LL&P GM Steve Donkersloot and myself as LL&P board chair, met with LEAD operator Greg Northrup and Jay, attorney for LEAD's financial partner, to be sure everyone involved was aware of the level of seriousness. The investor's attorney had visited the neighborhood a few days earlier, stopped a block or two away and got a surprising noseful of “the stench.” I believe this was his first visit since the project started.

A little history (from my perspective).

The board of LL&P supported the project because:

- It provided state mandated renewable energy
- Provided economic benefit to a local food processor and possibly adding local jobs, during construction and subsequent operation, from other food processors who might locate here.
- Returned LL&P warehouse space to the tax roll from tax exempt status

it currently has, along with adding tax base should other businesses locate here.

Increased our ability to generate electricity locally, an LL&P board goal as currently the majority, 99 percent of our power comes in on one line, susceptible to interruption from events beyond our control. Once we solve our natural gas supply problem, (soon?) between our second combustion turbine being completed and a successful biodigester, we would have 90 percent of the capacity to keep the lights on with local generation not depending on “the grid” for delivery.

This is huge. The city council voted unanimously for the project, including the mayor who lives in the area.

On paper and PowerPoint, it looked good. In reality, it stinks.

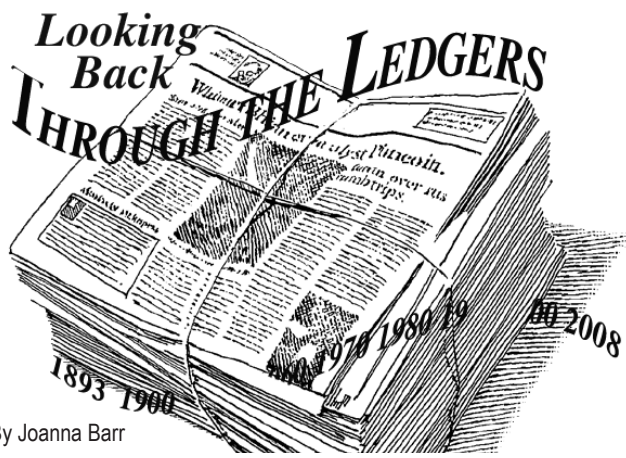
Only temporarily, though. One way or another. We won't do that to the Lowell community. It only works if it works for everybody, period.

Especially the neighbors!

The investor's attorney, LL&P board and the city council have agreed that if it can't be fixed, it will be shut down.

Unfortunately some individuals see this as an opportunity to divide the community and create drama that brings the news cameras and people to public meetings. We will fix the biodigester one way or another. Let's spend our time and energy promoting the positive things in Lowell instead of holding up our setbacks to the spotlight.

Greg Canfield  
Lowell



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal Sept. 9, 1891

School opened Monday morning with a good attendance, a large number of foreign students taking advantage of our most excellent school. As will be seen in the prospectus published last week the Lowell Schools are equal, at least, if not superior to any town in the state of our class. A graduate's certificate admits to the state University.

The baby carriage containing the infant son of Mrs Chas. A. Church was blown off the walk in front of Hudson's store last Friday, throwing the baby out on the stone gutter and bruising, but not seriously injuring him.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger Sept. 7, 1916

Jones sells out – Lowell Meat Market Business to Rufus Gregory. Lee Jones has sold his meat market to Rufus Gregory, who took possession Monday morning and will continue the business at the old stand. Mr. Jones will remain with the new proprietor for a time but expects later to remove to his farm in Keene. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have made many friends during their residence in Lowell who will regret their departure and wish them success and happiness in their rural life. Mr. Gregory is not a stranger to Lowell people having been associated with his brother Percy in the garage and automobile business, which will be continued by the latter. Rufus succeeds to a good business and will have the well wishes of many friends in his new undertaking.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger Sept. 11, 1941

Not a vacant store building in Lowell's business district. If you have never counted the business places here you will doubtless be surprised to learn that the total number is nearly a hundred.

# LHS class of 1956 celebrates 60<sup>th</sup> reunion

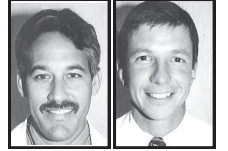
Lowell High School class of 1956 recently celebrated their 60th reunion. A picnic lunch was enjoyed by all at Fallsburg Park on Saturday, Aug. 20 and dinner was catered for the group by The Flat River Grill in the Lowell chamber office.

A special memory board of those who have passed was on display and the evening was spent reminiscing about good old times at LHS. Former teacher Betty Yeiter also attended.



Picture, back row: Bill Muller, John Bergin, Ernie Weigele, Bobby Whitaker, Lil (Byrne) Vroma, Jerry VanStee, Steve Hartley, Lola (Comodore) Doty and Joan (Householder) Link; front row: Connie (Overholt) Falconer, Doris (Johnson) Feasel, Gail (McMahon) Doran, Nancy (Ward) Muller, Mrs. Betty Yeiter, Ken Canfield, Phyllis (Cole) Shaler, Sandra Fonger, Kay Wood, Pat (Balcerzak) Haddad and Pat (Rittenger) Thomet.

# health



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

## constipation

Constipation is a condition we encounter in the office frequently. Constipation involves difficulty passing stools, hard stools, infrequent bowel movements or painful passage of stool. This can lead to bloating, stomach pain and fullness. Common causes of constipation include a poor diet lacking adequate fiber, not drinking enough liquids, lack of exercise, medications, stress and certain medical conditions.

You can prevent simple constipation by:

- exercising regularly 30-50 minutes three to five times weekly.
- eating three well balanced meals daily.
- increasing the amount of fiber in your diet. High fiber foods include beans, whole grain breads or cereals, bran, fresh fruit and vegetables.

• drink adequate amounts of water. We recommend six to eight, eight ounce glasses of water daily.

• go to the bathroom when you first feel the urge.

• adding prunes or prune juice will help maintain better bowel functions.

Over-the-counter products we recommend for simple constipation are fiber supplements and Miralax. These help to increase water within the colon, leading to softer bulky stools. Avoid narcotic pain medications, as prolonged use is frequently associated with chronic complications.

If these simple measures are not useful in relieving your symptoms, you should probably see your physician for further evaluation and treatment.

...

## “Youth is a disease from which we all recover.”

-Dorothy Fulheim

# happy birthday

**SEPTEMBER 7**  
MacKenzie VanDerWarf, Gloria Morris, Karah Baker.

**SEPTEMBER 9**  
Sarah Schalow, Amy Cook, Allison Maholic, Linda Morrison, Charles Gee, Todd Lenneman.

**SEPTEMBER 8**  
Wilma Fairchild, Teresa Kenney, Papa Wilson, Brendan Lobbezoo.

**SEPTEMBER 10**  
Brecken Hendrick, Chris Gerard.



**SEPTEMBER 11**  
Sean Ellis, Justin VanDyke, Susan Barry.

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**SEPTEMBER 12**  
Deborah Claypool, Nathan Propst, Jim Smith, Tyler Bitterman, Bob Lind.

**SEPTEMBER 13**  
Randy McIntyre, Gloria Ossewaarde, Haley Briggs.

# area births

## Doyle



Claire Lindsay Doyle

Regan and Morgan (Lindsay) Doyle, of Lowell, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Claire Lindsay Doyle. Miss Claire arrived at 8:30 am on August 3, 2016, was 19 and one-half inches long and tipped the scales at 8 pounds, 3 ounces.

Grandparents are Brian and Cindy Lindsay of Brookville, KS and Brian and Cheryl Doyle of Lowell. Great-grandparents are Gaylene Lindsay of Brookville, KS; Ed and JoAnn Bass of Tarkio, MO; Greta Parsons of Lowell, and Marie Doyle of Boynton Beach, FL.

Please join us in the celebration of

## Annabelle Wittenbach's 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

Sat., Sept. 10, 2 to 4 p.m.  
at Green Acres  
11530 E. Fulton, Lowell

If you are unable to attend, she'd love to receive a card.  
Annabelle Wittenbach  
c/o Green Acres  
11530 E. Fulton,  
Lowell, MI 49331

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Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.  
Nursery available at both services  
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# area church



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Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
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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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## Michigan Blood donates to Gilda's Club

Kyle Graham of Michigan Blood presents a check for \$1,250 to Jacqueline Scherer and Lyndsey Jousma, far left, of Gilda's Club of Lowell. These funds were raised from the Pink Arrow Community Day blood drive.



## Opinions vary when pro football player refuses to stand for anthem

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

San Francisco 49ers player Colin Kaepernick refused to stand during the playing of the national anthem before a football game on Friday, Aug. 26. During a post-game interview Kaepernick was asked why he did this. He said, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color. To me this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away

with murder." Kaepernick's actions and subsequent statement caused a lot of controversy in a country that takes its flag, its Star Spangled Banner and its Pledge of Allegiance very seriously.

The United States has a "flag code," a long list of etiquette rules stating how to treat, display and handle our flag. Rules in the flag code include a ban on using it to make clothes, bedding or drapes, never displaying it upside down unless you're in extreme danger, not drawing any words or symbols on it, not using it in advertising and never stepping on it. Because of the flag code, the United States is the only country on earth that doesn't "dip" its flag during the opening

ceremonies at the Olympics. However, there are no legal penalties for breaking the rules in the flag code. In fact, thanks to First Amendment free speech rules, it is even legal to burn a United States flag.

Millions of children recite the Pledge of Allegiance every day, but the pledge itself has changed quite a bit over the years. Originally written by George Balch in 1887, it read simply, "We give our heads and hearts to God and our country; one country, one language, one flag." The pledge was revised by Francis Bellamy in 1892 to, "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with

liberty and justice for all." In 1942, Congress officially recognized the pledge for the first time, when the pledge read, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Finally, after a lot of lobbying by the Knights of Columbus, the phrase "under God" was added in 1954. This has caused plenty of lawsuits over the years, but the phrase has remained until the present time.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" was written by

Francis Scott Key as he watched the Battle of Baltimore at Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. It was originally written as a poem called, "Defence of Fort McHenry" and later set to the tune of "To Anacreon in Heaven" by composer John Stafford Smith. Congress declared it our national anthem in 1931. Traditionally, the song is played before sporting events, concerts and other gatherings. People stand up and place their hands over their hearts, the men remove their hats and everybody does their best to sing along,

but criticism that the song is very difficult for amateurs to pull off have resulted in the occasional call to change our national song. Suggestions have included "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" by Samuel Francis Smith, "America the Beautiful" by Katharine Lee Bates and Samuel Ward and "This Land Is Your Land" by Woody Guthrie. In the meantime, all the nonprofessional singers can do is try not to repeat Roseanne Barr's infamous, screechy, crotch-grabbing rendition of the song from 1990.



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T-Shirts are sold at all school open houses

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# PINK ARROW

PROUD PINK



## PARKING

ALL HIGH SCHOOL EVENT PARKING MUST ENTER AT VERGENNES ENTRANCE.

Lower stadium lot is for Handicap and parking pass only. (Must enter off of Alden Nash entrance)



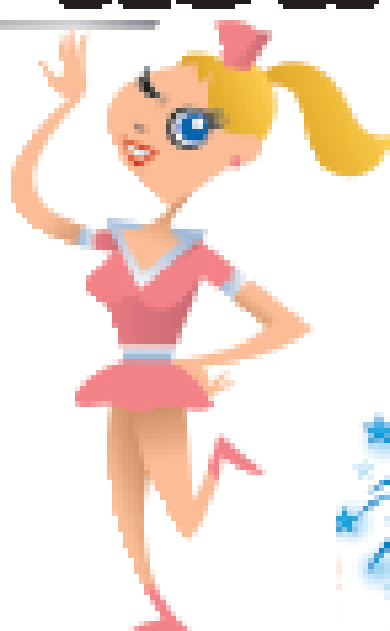
## SHUTTLE PARKING

Is available starting at 4:30 p.m. from Cherry Creek Elementary (Foreman St.) AND Lowell Middle School (Foreman St.) pick-up and drop-off area front entrance, parking in rear off Saffell St. entrance.

Buses will start return trips at the start of the 3rd quarter

## RESTAURANT ROW

- Flat River Grill
- Heidi's Farm Market
- Ice Cream Cabus
- Keiser's Kitchen
- Larkin's
- Biggby Coffee
- The Grist Mill
- Main Street BBQ



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## SCHEDULE

TIME	EVENT
2:30 pm	GATES OPEN
3:00 pm	Boys' Soccer Lowell vs. O'Fallon
3:30 pm	Girls' Soccer Lowell vs. O'Fallon
3:30 pm	Boys' Volleyball Lowell vs. O'Fallon
3:30 pm	Girls' Volleyball Lowell vs. O'Fallon
5:00 pm	Survivor Presentation
6:35 pm	Football Presentation
7:00 pm	National Anthem
7:05 pm	PINK ARROW Lowell Pink

BETWEEN 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTERS Presentation to Lowell G

Between 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTERS Present Kirby T. Dr. Donald Geary

EVERYONE IN THE FIELD TO

FOR HONOREES presentations on SOU

## CONCESSION TICKETS

All concessions - Athletic Borders and Restaurant Row vendors will be accepting PINK TICKETS ONLY in \$1 increments. All items will be clearly priced per number of tickets at each booth. There will be many ticket booths available throughout the stadium. This system will speed the process for fast service.



# LOWELL PRIDE

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...RY GAME -  
...Arrow vs. Ciana Hills Bengals

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- Supports Kathy Talus scholarship
- Supports Dr. Donald Gerard medical scholarships

YOUR SHIRT IS YOUR TICKET TO THE DAY'S EVENTS

- Donation stays local and there is no administration cost.

## THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS

- Elite Electric** - for the stadium elect work *Thanked*
- Sysco and Gordon Food Service** - for the stadium help *Thanked*
- Sylvia Taylor** - for helping the entire Arrow staff *Thanked*
- Mark Johnson Agency** - for sponsoring the cheerleaders *Thanked*
- J&H Family Stores** *Thanked*
- Pep Talk & Springrove Variety** - for selling our T-shirts *Thanked*
- Blue Lake Studios** Family Motion Photographs for professional photos *Thanked*
- Mrs. Kim Stephens** - for the cash box *Thanked*
- Dad's Tent Rental** *Thanked*
- MacBister Rentals** - for the tent *Thanked*
- River Valley Credit Union & Custom Components** - for sponsoring the Arrow *Thanked*
- Ronald E. Palowski, Sr. Family** - for sponsoring the cheerleaders *Thanked*
- Fence Consultants**
- Golf Cart Taxi Sponsors**
- Greenridge** - for the photo *Thanked*
- King Milling & Spectrum Health** - for sponsoring the custom T-shirts for Ciana Hills *Thanked*
- Luc James Music Studio**
- Morgan On The Move Cruise**
- The LHS choir** - for singing the anthem *Thanked*

HELD AT RED ARROW MEMORIAL STADIUM



Red Arrow

- FOOTBALL

# SPORTS

## Arrows shut down Rams for a 21-10 victory

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

For the second week in a row, the Red Arrow varsity football defense shut down their opponents in the second half of play resulting in a 21-10 win over the Rockford Rams.

The non-conference matchup marked the second exhibition game of the season for the Red Arrows and the first for the Rams who had to cancel their opener after a widespread illness benched the team last week. Fans packed both sides of the stadium.

After achieving two first downs and moving 51 yards in the first drive of the game, Red Arrow David Kruse failed to connect his passes three times forcing a surrender to the Rams. On the very next play Rockford quarterback Jason Whitaker threw the ball straight into the grasp of Red Arrow Sterling Anderson who returned it 25 yards for the first score of the game. Lowell entered the second quarter up 7-0 but Rockford had a strong twelve minutes tying the score at the five minute mark and adding a field goal after an interception to grab a 10-7 lead at the half.

Mimicking last week's opening night performance, the Arrows played tighter and stronger on both sides of the line after returning from the locker room. After a first half that saw them achieve only 24 yards rushing the



Members of the Lowell Area Fire family take to the field for the National Anthem prior to the game.

team racked up 152 in the second. The defense stopped every scoring attempt from the Rams holding them at the ten scored earlier. Kruse, who had two interceptions and tallied negative yards rushing in the first, ended the night with 153 solid passing yards and 94 rushing to lead the team.

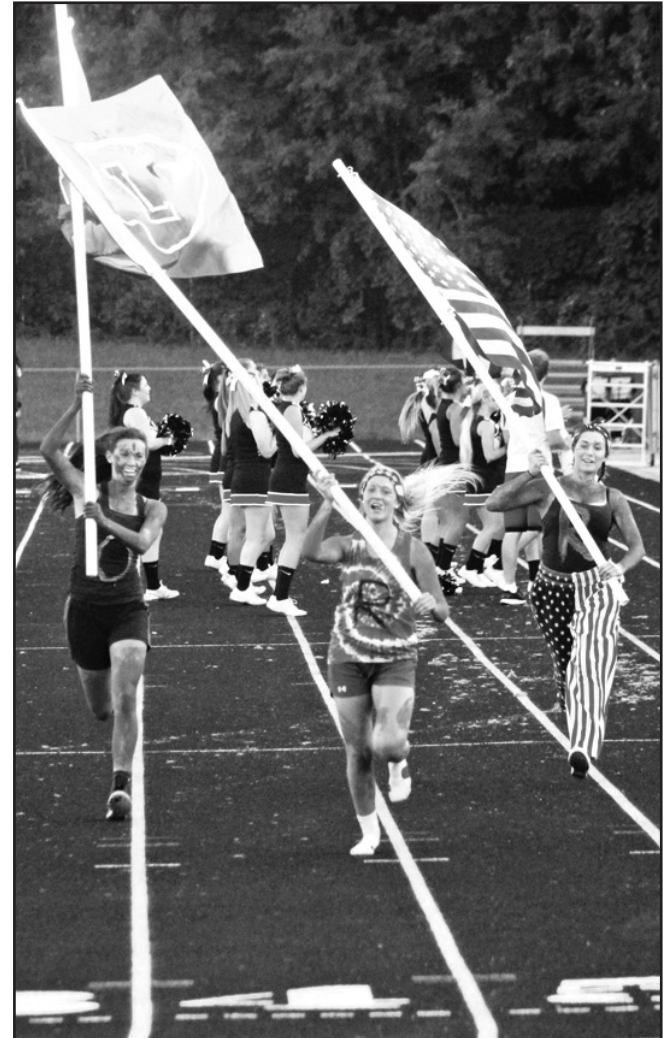
Second half scoring came from Addison Buckius who picked up a 35-yard touchdown pass to put the Arrows up 14-10 in the third with a second successful extra point attempt from George Gonzales and Kruse who brought it in five yards in the fourth to achieve the game winning score of 21-10.

Other Red Arrows leading on the gridiron included Nate Stephens who carried the ball twelve times for 74 yards and Sage Solomonson who moved the ball 12 yards in three carries. Buckius topped the

list of Red Arrow receivers racking up 58 yards in two catches, followed by Hayden Barry who tallied 51 in three and big man

Austin Branagan who made four catches good for 44 yards. Kicker Gonzales went 3 for 3.

Rockford v Lowell		
	Rockford	Lowell
Score	10	21
First Downs	12	14
Rushing Attempts	32	35
Yards Rushing	124	176
Yards Passing	68	153
Net Yards	192	329
Passes Attempted	22	18
Passes Completed	7	9
Interceptions	1	2
Offensive Plays	54	53
Average Gain	3.6	6.2
Fumbles: Number/Lost	1/1	1/1
Penalties: Number/Yards	5/19	4/21
Number of Punts/Yards	4/149	1/21
Average Per Punt	37.2	21
Punt Returns: Number/Yards	0/0	0/0
Number of Kickoffs/Yard	3/154	4/148
Average Per Kickoff	51.3	37
Kickoff Returns: Number/Yards	2/53	2/37
Int. Returns: Number/Yards	2/15	1/25
Possession Time	25:06	22:54
Third-Down Conversions	4/13	4/9
Fourth-Down Conversions	1/4	1/3



Student fans celebrate an early pick six from Sterling Anderson.

This week the Arrows will rekindle the "Great American Rivalry" when they head to former OK White nemesis East Grand Rapids Friday night seeking their third consecutive win of the season and their fifth consecutive win over the Pioneers. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 pm.

## Sports Summaries

### VOLLEYBALL

Lowell's varsity volleyball picked up a third-place finish at the Grand Haven Invitational last Monday in their only competition of the week. The team topped Fruitport (18-25, 25-13, 15-12), Coopersville (25-16, 25-1) and East Grand Rapids (25-18, 26-24) with their only losses coming from Grand Haven (23-25, 14-25) and former OK White conference foe Grand Rapids Christian (25-23, 16-25, 7-15). Stat leaders for the tournament were Abi Mangus with 42 kills, Sydney Powell with 78 assists, Shannon Hoeskstra with 12 blocks, Carly Hoekstra who nailed 14 aces and Jill Fidler who recorded 72 digs.

### GIRLS GOLF

Red Arrow girls varsity golf stepped into conference competition last week Monday at Cedar Springs taking part in the first OK White jamboree of the season. Lowell landed in fourth place at the tournament with a combined card total of 223 points, falling behind Greenville (223), Forest Hills Central (188) and champion Forest Hills Northern (184). The team also competed individually against Caledonia on the road Wednesday falling 210-189. Paige Fosburg was the team's score leader tallying a 44, followed by Kenzie Uhen (54), Taylor Furtaw (55) and Mary Jo Beuchler (57).

### BOYS TENNIS

In a busy week on the court the Lowell boys varsity tennis team picked up a win, a hard fought tie and a loss in competition. Every member of the team picked up wins in their respective positions Monday at Lakewood High School to claim a 8-0 shutout and the team ended with a 4-4 tie when they hosted Cedar Springs for their first OK White competition. Thursday Lowell hosted Jenison and saw doubles partners Nate Bush and Roman Rozell pick up Lowell's only match point in a 7-1 loss.



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## obituaries

### CHITWOOD

Melvin J. (Joe) Chitwood, 52, of Grattan, passed away on August 26, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Gail (Dawson); children, Starla Chitwood, Annika Chitwood, Ashley and Cameron VandenHout, Jennifer McQueen, and Joyce (Quint) DeJong; brothers and sisters, Rich (Jan) Chrzan, Peggy Hedstrom, Becky (Dan) Vandenberg, Ginny (Jim) Vandenberg; along with the Dawson family; grandchildren, Rayan, Emin, Mitchell and Ricardo. He was preceded in death by his parents, Melvin and Mary Chitwood; previous wife, Penny Bennett; sister, Millie; son, Elvin; grandson, Mason; several nieces, nephews and cousins. Mel was a wonderful man with a heart of gold. He will be remembered for his love of music, his Mustang and paving driveways. But most of all his love for his family and friends. A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, September 7 2016, at Larkin's Other Place, 315 W Main St., Lowell. Visitation at 1 pm and service at 2 pm with Rev. William Parker officiating. Per Mel's request this will be a casual attire event. Online condolences may be left at [www.simplycremationservice.com](http://www.simplycremationservice.com)

### FORD

Stefan Ford, 42, of Carmel, passed away on Sunday, September 4, 2016 at his home. He was born on July 23, 1974 to Karon and Jessica (Harshey) Ford in Grand Rapids, Michigan. For 10 years, Stefan worked as a digital solutions specialist for Wiley Publishing. He was a very funny & intelligent person with a great sense of humor. Stefan was a science fiction, computer & history buff, and enjoyed politics & debating. His favorite holidays were Halloween and Christmas; he loved the snow and was a very good cook. Most of all, Stefan loved his children. He is survived by his wife, Christa Ford; mother, Jessica (Gerald) Ponkey; children, Abigail Ford, Wyatt Ford, Evelyn Ford, and Maxwell Karon Ford; siblings, Stephanie (Mark) Butler, and Stephen (Michele) Ford; and grandmother, Edna Ford.



Stefan was preceded in death by his father, Karon Ford; and his grandparents, Oren Ford and Jesse & Virginia Harshey. Visitation will be from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 8, 2016 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville. Services will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, September 9, 2016 at the funeral home with Pastor Brad Ruggles officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Fairbanks Treatment & Recovery Center, 8102 Clearvista Parkway, Indianapolis, IN 46256; or at [www.fairbankscondolences.com](http://www.fairbankscondolences.com)

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### ITEEN

Lee Wayne Iteen Sr., age 71, of Thomas Lake, Gowen, passed away Wednesday, August 31, 2016, at his home under the care of his family and Spectrum Health Hospice. He was born in Flint, September 6, 1944, the son of Clifford W. and Eula E. (Fox) Iteen. In 1952 he became ill with poliomyelitis and began his lifetime goal of success and inspiration for his family and many others. He was a patient of Mary Free Bed for recovery and rehabilitation. He was employed at Goodwill Industries. On April 13, 1968, in Lakeview, he married Catherine F. Hilty. Lee then worked for Steelcase Corporation and retired in 1991. He continued to be a positive influence in many lives with his love for Cathy and their family. He considered himself the #1 U of M fan. He was coach for his family in all sports and himself played wheelchair basketball (Player #44 on the Grand Rapids Pacers) and baseball. He is survived by his wife, Cathy; their children, Scott (Cathy) Iteen, Anne (Jim) Byard, Mark (Mara) Iteen, Leann (William) Paiz, Lee (Jennifer)



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Iteen Jr.; grandchildren, Bryan (Bethany) Byard, Justin Byard, Zackary (Joy) Byard, Carissa Paiz, Austin Iteen, Mallory Paiz, Madalynne Iteen, Alisha Iteen, Joshua Byard; great-grandchildren, Andrew, Aaron, Austin and Timmy Byard, Riley Paiz and Nathan Byard; brother, Guy (Marj) Iteen; sister Sharon Sutherland; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Randy Dick, Luann McBride, Cheryl (Dale) Preston, Gary (Deb) Dick; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial services were held Saturday, September 3, 2016, at Greenville Community Church with Pastor Bryan Savage officiating. Memorial contributions are suggested to Spectrum Health Hospice or Mary Free Bed Hospital. Memories and condolences may be shared via [hurstfh.com](http://hurstfh.com). Hurst Funeral Home Greenville is serving the Iteen Family.

### SHASSBERGER

Douglas Eugene Shassberger, age 73 of Lowell, was reunited with his beloved wife in Heaven on Friday, September 2nd, 2016. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty Ray Shassberger; parents Fred and Ann Shassberger; mother-in-law Betty J. Colton; sister-in-law Kris Shassberger; and son-in-law Craig Davies. He is survived by his daughters Stacy Everett, Melissa (John) Wingett and Kim (Darren) Brown; grandchildren Kayleigh Davies, Dakotah, Gib and Maizy Gleason, Sophia and Brennan Brown; great-granddaughter Karma Dae Gleason; brother Fred Shassberger; nieces Michele (Ken) Harwell and Becky (Ed) Kissinger; nephew Scott (Tracy) Shassberger; great-nieces Katie (Mischa) Cadell and Allison Harwell; great-nephews Jason and Joshua Kissinger and Christian and Branden Shassberger. Douglas was born April 25th, 1943 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He graduated from Creston High School in 1961, where he was a member of the marching band and football team. He joined the United States Army and was stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas from 1964 to 1966. He is a Vietnam Era Veteran. He is decorated with the National Defense Ribbon, the Good Conduct Ribbon, and the Rifle Qualification Badge. He was qualified M-14 in basic training. El Paso is where he met the love of his life Betty. Doug and Betty shared a beautiful, loving marriage for 49 years.



Willard M Smart age 82 of Ionia passed away September 4, 2016 in Ionia. He was born January 29, 1934 in Piggot, Arkansas, the son of Pinkney and Ruth Smart. Willard married Charleen C Schondelmayer March 10, 1962. She preceded him in death in 2012. He loved fishing, hunting and going to the casino. Willard is survived by his children, Beth Smart of Kentwood, Melissa (Richard) Edwards of Ionia and Jeff (Heidi) Smart of Ionia; sister, Marie of Arkansas, 7 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, 2 sisters and 5 brothers. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home of Ionia. Online condolences may be made at [www.lakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomes.com)

### SMART

Willard M Smart age 82 of Ionia passed away September 4, 2016 in Ionia. He was born January 29, 1934 in Piggot, Arkansas, the son of Pinkney and Ruth Smart. Willard married Charleen C Schondelmayer March 10, 1962. She preceded him in death in 2012. He loved fishing, hunting and going to the casino. Willard is survived by his children, Beth Smart of Kentwood, Melissa (Richard) Edwards of Ionia and Jeff (Heidi) Smart of Ionia; sister, Marie of Arkansas, 7 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, 2 sisters and 5 brothers. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services. Arrangements by Lake Funeral Home of Ionia. Online condolences may be made at [www.lakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomes.com)

### WORDEN

Carol Ann Worden, age 73 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord Friday, September 2. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Myrtle Beckett; sister, Helen Cartier; son, Bud; and ex-husband, Ronald Worden Sr. She is survived by her children, Ron (Sue) Worden Jr., Michelle Young, and Tony (Cindy) Worden; 16 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Visitation will be held Thursday, September 8, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held Friday, September 9, 1:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908.



Carol Ann Worden, age 73 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord Friday, September 2. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Myrtle Beckett; sister, Helen Cartier; son, Bud; and ex-husband, Ronald Worden Sr. She is survived by her children, Ron (Sue) Worden Jr., Michelle Young, and Tony (Cindy) Worden; 16 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Visitation will be held Thursday, September 8, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held Friday, September 9, 1:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908.

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# EARTH TALK™

## Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk:** What are “smoke waves” from wildfires and how can they be hazardous for our health? - *Doug Jenkins, Big Sandy, TX*

Smoke waves are just what they sound like: huge waves of smoke. Perhaps more dangerous than the fires themselves from which they radiate, smoke waves can cause health problems for people hundreds of miles around. Forest fire flames licking at homes and neighborhoods are always scary, killing dozens of people and causing billions of dollars in property damage across the U.S. every year. But it's typically the risk from the smoke waves that causes school closures and confines people indoors for days or weeks on end while more frequent and more intense wildfires rage on.

What makes smoke waves so dangerous is that they carry particulate matter (tiny dust particles smaller than 2.5 microns) that people can breathe into their lungs where they can cause respiratory problems and aggravate pre-existing medical conditions. Forest fires and other forms of combustion are the main source of these tiny dust particles—so the more forest fires, the more particulate matter risk. Asthmatic children are especially sensitive to smoke waves; hundreds were hospitalized in California this summer during one of the worst fire seasons on record. The elderly, especially those with heart or lung conditions, are also highly vulnerable to pollution from smoke waves. Smoke waves are most severe for those directly under or in the wave, but pollution can travel for hundreds of miles, poisoning the lungs of people nowhere near the actual fire.

A recent study of smoke waves across the Western U.S. by researchers from Harvard and Yale universities concluded that climate change “will likely cause smoke waves to be longer, more intense, and more frequent.” They



found that between 2004 and 2009, smoke waves affected 57 million Americans—more than 15 percent of the U.S. population. But even more troubling is their projection for that number to ramp up another 45 percent by mid-century as the planet continues to warm up. That will mean about 13 million more kids and seniors will be impacted by smoke waves compared with today.

As the climate changes and most places get hotter and drier, forest fires are projected to increase significantly—and with more fire comes more smoke. Anyone living in fire-prone areas needs to be informed and prepared. Sites like AirNow.gov can give current data on air quality and warn of any dangers from smoke waves or other forms of pollution. If a smoke wave is in your area, stay indoors or wear protective clothing and masking to avoid inhalation.

Because smoke waves are a direct result of human-caused global warming, the best way to minimize them is to slow or stop carbon emissions. While slowing or stopping global warming is a global effort, individuals need to do their part too. Do what you can to minimize energy use and waste, upgrade to more efficient cars, appliances, systems, homes and offices, fly and drive less, walk and bike more... But also vote for carbon taxes and other warming mitigation measures and urge your lawmakers to support sustainability-oriented policy initiatives. If you live in a fire-prone area, you'll be doing yourself and your loved ones a favor.

**CONTACTS:** “Particulate air pollution from wildfires in the Western US under climate change,” [link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-016-1762-6](http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-016-1762-6); AirNow.gov, [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)

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## Looking Back, continued

William C. Doyle was informed by state highway officials on Tuesday that all of the brick pavement between the two Main street bridges will be replaced this season by the Lamb Construction Company, instead of only the bridge approaches as was originally contemplated. The improvement will be duly appreciated.

Wind of considerable velocity hit Lowell about 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, uprooting a few shade trees and breaking limbs off many others. A few electric lines were out of commission for about an hour before repairs could be completed by the Municipal crew. There were a good many late suppers in consequence and interruptions of canning operations in many homes. A falling pole landed on Nelson Stormzand's car which was parked near the rear of the east King Mill doing about \$100 damage. A large limb damaged a portion of the roof on the Charles Doyle home.

The C. H. Runciman elevator received its first car of 1941 bean crop Monday from Kawkawlin in the thumb district.

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger Sept. 8, 1966

School enrollment goes over 2,200. More than 2,200 students flooded the crowded Lowell school buildings Tuesday keeping the system's 96 teachers hopping trying to find places for all of them. With additional students from Mapes, Alton, Moseley and Talbot being absorbed in the local schools this year, all facilities are crowded and four temporary classrooms, at a yearly cost of approximately \$5,000 have had to be provided. In addition to the 96 teachers, this year's staff includes four full time administrators; one teaching principal, Mrs. Ila Swanson of Alto; 11 secretaries; 12 custodians; 12 cooks, and as yet undetermined number of harassed bus drivers, resulting in a payroll of approximately \$800,000. The difficult job of adjusting all transportation routes is expected to be completed Friday, in time for the 200 additional kindergarten students who will begin school on Monday. Applications for bus drivers are still being accepted by the school system.

Council receives petitions to rezone 7½ acres commercial. The Lowell Council was presented with petitions on Tuesday night that had been filed with the cleric. These initiatory petitions call for rezoning of the seven and one-half acre block just west of Calvary Church from residential to C3 commercial. This will enable Lowell Development Co. to sell this land to L. V. Eberhard for a proposed 20,000 square foot supermarket. The clerk told the council that she had checked the signatures and there were 215 valid signatures on the petitions. The petitions were circulated by: Charles Kelley, Emma Covert, Earl Evans, Darlene Spino, Anita Boersma, Darlene Cahoon, Dr. H. R. Myers, Mildred Bellows, Lucille M. Powers. No action was taken by the council to put this question on the November ballot. The clerk also revealed to the council that Herb Kyser, owner of the Village Inn, had attempted to file petitions for a vote on liquor by the glass in the city but failed to have enough signatures on the petition.

Sheridan man brings in first beans. First of the new crop beans arrived at the C. H. Runciman plant this week. They were brought in by Chris Walters of Sheridan. The beans picked 15, with very fine color and dry. Mr. Walters has 22 acres of navy beans and 19 acres of yellow eye beans and 22 acres of light red kidneys. Walters stated that with very good weather conditions for the next 30 days his bean crop will more than meet expectations. Dry weather, he said, did not effect his area as it did much of the state this summer.

Offer to buy land. Members of the Lowell Board of Education have submitted an offer to purchase the property located at 701 West Howard Street. The Board would like the 66' x 122' lot to allow access from the soon to be constructed Bushnell Elementary School to Howard Street and to provide additional parking space for the school. At a special board meeting held Tuesday the following bids were accepted and contracts awarded to: C. H. Runciman for No. 2 Fuel Oil at 11.1 cents per gallon and gasoline at 13.4 cents per gallon, Standard Oil for Motor Oil at 65 cents per gallon. The purchase of a ½ ton pickup truck from Royce Story for \$1,574.42 was also okayed by the Board. The next regular monthly meeting will be held Monday at 7:30 p. m., in the high school library.

### 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger Sept. 11, 1991

Land frustration resolved – Lowell Board of Education announced that it has reached an agreement for Wittenbach land. Roger Kropf, Lowell Board of Education President, simply stated “This is the best feeling this Board has had in six months.” That statement followed the Board's proclamation that it has signed a purchase agreement with Mary Wittenbach Dewey and Stephen James Wittenbach to acquire land as a building site for its new high school project. The 180 acres of property sets approximately 1,000 feet further west and less than 1,000 feet north of the Cooper/Cook property. The school has agreed to purchase the land for a sum of \$450,000. It will cost the school more to run dedicated water and sewer lines onto the property, but the total cost will still be less than the approximate three-quarter of a million dollars that was being asked for the Cooper/Cook properties. Other key elements in the land deal pointed to by school officials included: Wittenbachs did not set any buffers or contingencies; the 180 acres allows for future growth when needed; and the architect's design can remain the same. The land was originally owned by Everett (Steve) Wittenbach, who later deeded it over to his daughter, Mary Ann Wittenbach Dewey, and his son, Stephen James Wittenbach. School officials stated that Steve Wittenbach approached the school board before the condemnation hearing about the possible sale of his land. “The fact that there was not a water and sewer agreement between Vergennes Township and the City stopped any discussion,” said Norm Byrne, Chairman of the Building and Site Committee. When the discussion of land resurfaced after the school lost its condemnation battle with Qua-Ke-Zik, the School got a commitment from the City that it would be willing to run dedicated lines into Vergennes Township. It also received a commitment from the Vergennes Township Supervisor, James Cook and the Vergennes Township Board that while it did not like annexation, the “common cause is too overpowering not to set aside differences for the good of the community.” Steve Wittenbach again mentioned the availability of his land to school board member Ray Quada a few weeks ago. Quada took the information back to the building and site committee. “The agreement between the school and Wittenbachs increases the school's opportunities for the future,” Quada said. “This will allow future Board of Educations to forego having to go through what this Board has. I wouldn't wish that on any school board.” Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch was relieved the land issue has finally been resolved. “I think the cloud that has been hanging over us is beginning to disappear and there may be a silver lining.” Byrne who was instrumental in putting it all together said the Wittenbach land had more usable property, a better road and enhanced building ability. The Board of Education also approved an environmental site assessment for the property. The cost is not to exceed \$7,000. Soil boring and title search still need to be completed. “I don't think we, as a board, can tell you this is the best land until we get soil boring results and the environmental study is completed,” Quada said. David Thaler, chairman of the finance committee for the Neighbors Who Care, was encouraged by the amount of land and what the agreement means to the school. Thaler presented the Board a petition he had signed by residents living along Alden Nash from Foreman to Vergennes. “Of the people living in that area, 80 percent were favorable to the millage renewal,” he said. Thaler was quick to point out that while the 26.1 millage school's state aid and the Headlee are also pivotal. “The Headlee affects the school's state aid and the county allocated funds it receives,” he explained. Assistant Superintendent Gary Kemp explained while the land agreement is reason to be joyous, it means nothing without the renewal being passed. “I have heard from the people in this community over the last 2-3 weeks, don't tell us you're going to get land, get it done.” Kemp added that he believed Wittenbachs came forward out of concern for the direction the school was headed and that they wanted to help in the solution so Lowell's School Board could get on with the education of students. “This will help settle a lot of feelings in this community,” Esch said. “If all the tests are positive and everything comes together, construction should start next March.



# LHS FALL VARSITY TEAMS

## CROSS COUNTRY BOYS

Eric Judd, Kyle Cater, Seth Palmer, Caleb Swartz and Parker Grant are the promising frontrunners of the Red Arrow boys cross country team with just a single competition under their belt. The farriers placed second in their season debut at the

Hesperia Baker Woods Invitational missing first by a mere three points. This season the team will hold two home competitions in September, the first of four OK White jamborees on the 7th and the Bob Perry Invitational on the 24th.



First row, left to right: Dominik Peplinski, Seth Palmer, Korbin Williford, Evan Johnson, Brandon Baker, Eric Judd, Caleb Swart, Parker Grant, Zach Swart, and Lucas Cossar; second row, left to right: coach Clay VanderWarf, Conner Marino, Kyle Cater, Kenny Stump, Thomas Hubert, Mason Winters, Christian Davis, Conner Meyers, Alex Brandt, Riley Nethercott, Calvin Simmet, and coach Paul Judd

## CROSS COUNTRY GIRLS

A young girls cross country team will take to the course this season led by sophomore Lauren Aud, juniors Dawn Kondor, Katrina Droski and Jill Fidler and up and coming freshman talent Audrey Conrad. The team graduated six seniors last fall and features just three upperclassman

this season. Having already won the Hesperia Baker Woods Invitational last week for the second year in a row, head coach Paul Judd expects big things from the team this season. "The future continues to look bright as the majority of our top runners will be back."



First row, left to right: coach Clay VanderWarf, Jillian Fidler, Amber Clouse, Haley Nieuwkoop, Katrina Droski, Marlie Fowler, Kathryn Miller, Audrey Conrad, Abby McDonnell, Dawn Kondor, Lauren Aud, and coach Paul Judd.

## CHEERLEADING

The Red Arrows varsity sideline cheer squad will add their energy and pep to football games this season alongside newly appointed head coach Amanita Fahrni. Lowell graduate Fahrni is a special education teacher at Lowell High School and also a veteran cheer coach in the

district. She replaces former varsity leader Diane Jager who exited from the position at the close of last school year. The team will lead chants and cheers weekly, as well as continue to name a "Fan Spirit" award winner at each game to one supporter in the student section.



First row, left to right: Steven Tripp, Jessica Ohlrich, Paige Anes, Vanessa VanderBoon, Keana Fahrni, Lydia Hull, Sydney Carmichael, and Kenzi Kramer; second row, left to right: Rena VandenBerg, Paige Clouse, Kimmie Clovertone, Amber Brown, Quinne Duhr, Marissa Grover, Autumn McGovern, and Sky Angelo.

## GOLF

Head coach Kim Stevens will lead the girls varsity golf team as they club their way through the new OK White conference this season. Hosting just one event at their home course Arrowhead, the golfers will face a tough on the road schedule that includes several head-to-head matchups

and seven conference jamborees. To date, the team is 3-1 in individual matches, earned a sixth-place finish at the Kent County Classic and a fourth in their first conference competition with Kenzie Uhen and Paige Fosburg leading the way thus far.



First row, left to right: Isabelle Dial and Taylor Furtaw; second row, left to right: coach Carl Bratton, McKenna Creighton, Paige Fosburg, Morgan Allison, Mary Jo Buechler, Kenzi Uhen, Lucy Wade, and coach Kim Stevens.

## GIRLS SWIMMING/DIVING

Coach Stephanie Huyser will lead team members from Lowell, Caledonia and South Christian High Schools in the pioneer season of the co-op girls swim and dive team. Lowell replaced Byron Center High School who withdrew from the alliance last season. The self-funded varsity team

will practice inside the aquatic facilities at Grand Rapids Community College and face a schedule of ten regular season swim meets. Historically, the co-op has won back-to-back conference championships in 2014 and 2015.

(no picture supplied)



Lowell High School Sports brought to you by

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# FALL VARSITY TEAMS

## FOOTBALL

Head coach Noel Dean and a newly reloaded and ever ready Red Arrow varsity football team will tangle with a brand new OK White lineup this season as they attempt to tread the same path as their

predecessors - a shot at the state title. Led by left handed quarterback David Kruse the team has logged one victory and is preparing for their first conference contest against Ottawa Hills at the annual Pink Arrow

event September 16. A week prior the team will face historic rival East Grand Rapids in a highly anticipated contest on the road.



First row, left to right: Ben Lobbezzo, Samuel Russell, Nathan Stephens, Addison Buckius, Sage Solomonson, Andrew Poulton, Ben Smith, David Kruse, Connor Douma, Brady Douma, Hayden Barry, and Sterling Anderson; second row, left to right: Zachary Phipps, Brayden VanAmburgh, Ethan Kaminski, Keegan Redloske, Eddie Heikkila, Jake Rau, Keigan Yuhas, Colton Churches, Christian Beimers, Blake McVey, and George Gonzales Jr.; third row, left to right: Austin Whaley, Austin Branagan, Garrett Pratt, Mitchell O’Gorman, Mike Doyle, Caleb Devereaux, Jarod Willson, John Rogalke, Andrew LeFebre, and Joseph Schaefer; fourth row, left to right: Logan VanderMeulen, Jacob Bishop, Danton Jernberg, Connor Nugent, Aron Mierendorf, Max Bishop, Zach Petroelje, and Cody McGee.

## TENNIS

With a record of 1-2 overall, a tie in the OK White and respectable third and fourth-place tournament finishes so far, the Lowell boys varsity tennis team is on the hunt for more success as they continue to develop on the court. The team, led by head

coach Chris Phillips, has nine competitions remaining on their schedule, including four home events. Andrew de Voest, a 2015 OK White honors athlete last year, has anchored the team thus far turning in good performances in the first singles position.



First row, left to right: Collier Kaufman, Gavin Hoffman, Eric Mooney, Aidan Kelley, Jarrett Duimstra, and Philip Thompson; second row, left to right: Nathan Bush, Andrew deVoest, Marc Langlois, Caleb Kaufman, Jeremy Bergin, and coach Chris Phillips.

## VOLLEYBALL

Six returning and five new players will compose this year’s varsity volleyball team. Led by captains Abi Mangus, Sydney Powell and Shannon Hoekstra, the team has already defeated state-ranked teams this season. Head coach Julie Quist said the team is focused on a conference title as they

take on the newly aligned OK White with topnotch talent on the court. “Varsity has the best team chemistry I have seen in my twenty years of coaching. Their will to win and desire to achieve their goals sets them apart. We are stronger together.”



First row, left to right: Jillian Fidler, Maysen Yaw, Sydney Powell, Maria DeCator, and Emily Stump; second row, left to right: Makyla Branagan, Kendra Wroten, Abi Mangus, Shannon Hoekstra, and Kelly Reitsma.

## SOCCER VARSITY



First row, left to right: Morrison Ismond, Landon Smith, Ryan Noffke, Gabe Bendall, Trevor Sherman, Jay Stadt, Tristian Stephens, and Brenan Conlan; second row, left to right: coach Rich O’Keefe, Sam Hofman, Robbie Dubisky, Jakob Thompson, Collin Bowers, Jonny Draigh, Logan Landman, Jacob Holmes, and Logan Smith; third row, left to right: Ryan Pawlowski, Austin Pollock, Elijah Dixon, Connor Cater, Alex Laird, Jonah Epema, Riley Coxon, and Thad Swart.

Returning senior captains Colin Bowers and Jonah Epema and dynamic striker Elijah Dixon are expected to lead this year’s Red Arrow varsity boys soccer team. With an early winning record of 7-2-1 head coach Rich O’Keefe said the group is off to a good start and that he expects

three standout teams to be their toughest challenges as they navigate through the newly aligned OK White in pursuit of a conference title. “No surprise the team that wins the conference must go through perennial powers Forest Hills Central, FH Northern and Northview.”



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