

## city council meeting



page 7



Lhs sports



start on page 8

# Lowell women participate in historic Women's March in Washington D.C.

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell residents, Sharon Ellison, Nancy Meisner and Cherry Creek Elementary principal Shelli Otten, were among

the thousands of women who attended the historic Women's March on Washington on Saturday, Jan. 21. Millions more women participated in

sister marches all over the world, everywhere from Grand Rapids to Antarctica. According to the march's official website, the event's goal is to "send

a bold message to our new administration on their first day in office, and to the world, that women's rights are human rights." The march was scheduled to take

place on the day after Donald Trump's inauguration as a show of defiance against the new president.

"I'm not a big crowd person, but I think it's important to go," Ellison said. "I immediately said, 'I have to do this because I can't live with myself if I don't do something other than say something.' I am concerned about human rights, especially women's. I think that we need to stand up for them before they're taken away, because that seems to be the agenda. I don't [know] how extreme these people are. If they repeal Roe vs. Wade, if we go backwards... I'm hoping we don't go back to the 40s and have to do this all over again. I'm hoping we don't lose the right to vote. But the Republicans are in control and, unfortunately, their negative views toward women are what



Otten, second from left, Meisner and Ellison in a group pose with their signs during the Women's March on Washington D.C.

Lowell women join march, continued, page 2

# First public meeting to discuss "rebuilding" Lowell's Showboat draws large audience

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Rebuild the Lowell Showboat committee had their first public meeting in front of a packed audience at city hall on the evening of Thursday, Jan. 19. It was the first public event related to the Showboat since the recent announcement of the structure's closure.

Lisa Plank from the Lowell Area Historical Museum kicked off the meeting with a brief historical presentation about the history of the showboat.

"The thing that the Showboat really calls to mind is the history of community involvement," Plank said. "From the very beginning it was the community that put this boat together, it was the community that supported it and maintained it. Lowell became 'the Showboat City.' [...] It really does have

a long history of making Lowell special and unique."

Liz Baker from the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce described the recent history of the Showboat, including the last big celebrity performance on the Showboat (Loretta Lynn and the Smothers Brothers in 1997), the damage it sustained in the 2013 flood, Santa visits and the Sizzlin' Summer Concerts.

"In 2014 the city of Lowell did a study for the Riverwalk Plaza and the Lowell Showboat," Baker said. "The results of that study verified that the people of Lowell wanted to keep and preserve the Showboat. In 2016 the chamber's board of directors made saving the Lowell Showboat part of their goals. The Rebuild the Lowell Showboat committee was formed."

Baker said that Lowell's Rotary club is going to be

the first to donate to the cause.

"The Lowell Rotary club

agreed to use the proceeds of their April 2017 auction to jumpstart our Rebuild the

Lowell Showboat capital campaign," Baker said.

Showboat meeting, continued, page 3

# LCTV grant request deadline

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

LCTV fund grant requests are due on Friday, Feb. 10 at 5 pm.

The LCTV endowment board was created in 2007 after the city sold the city's cable television system that June to Comcast for \$3.5 million. The money from the sale was invested, a board was created and each year the board considers requests for portions of the money. The board has seven members: Barbara Zandstra, Mark Mundt, Dennis Kent, Jim Hodges, Sue Simmonds, William C. Thompson and Tim Wittenbach. According to the board's

rules, the grants are given to projects located in Lowell, Vergennes Township or Lowell Charter Township; requests must come from governmental organizations or tax exempt organizations and they "shall not be used to promote or further religious or political activities."

Last year the LCTV fund donated a total of \$94,420 to various causes. The greatest portion of \$52,590 was given to the city of Lowell for various projects, such as \$27,600 went to a sidewalk replacement program, \$15,990 went toward Creekside Park and for Stoney Lake asphalt

maintenance and repairs; \$5,000 was spent on tree planting and \$4,000 was used for LCTV fund administration expenses. The fund also gave \$41,830 to the Lowell fire and police departments for a portable communications upgrade. In 2015 the only grant was to the city of Lowell to repair city streets, a choice that was controversial at the time.

The form required to apply for a grant is available on the city of Lowell website, ci.lowell.mi.us or at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main.

50 CENTS



# Lowell women join march, continued

concerns me. We cannot go backwards. We cannot lose rights. If anyone loses rights, it marginalizes everyone.”

“I began with the idea that this was something that I wanted to be a part of and that it would be okay if I went alone,” Otten said. “I signed up for an all night bus trip to get there. Along the way I’ve discovered some great women from Lowell who are also attending and they invited me to join their group. It’s going to be a wonderful opportunity to meet new people with similar interests. The estimated number of people participating from

throughout the country is pretty amazing. I’m excited about being with people who are committed to showing their support towards important issues. For me that includes clean climate initiatives, public schools and equal opportunities for women. I’m hopeful that the event inspires people to take action on important issues and to do service in their communities after Jan. 21. That’s the goal I have for myself. I want to actively show that I care about, and want to work for, important issues for women and children.”

This march ended up being very peaceful, but these events can easily turn ugly. With Trump in the White House, no one was sure how authorities would react to the Women’s March.

“They said you should bring a bandana in case there’s tear gas. We’ve been warned,” Meisner said.

“I’m grateful that we live in a democracy that allows us to be both supportive and to challenge ideas that concern us. I’m taking a positive outlook,” Otten said. “I’ve stressed a little about being appropriately dressed for

the weather, whatever it may be! There are restrictions on backpacks and so I hope I’m packed adequately for the day. We all wonder about basic services like toilet facilities and are hoping for the best.”

On the back of the signs they made to bring with them, Ellison and Meisner have written the names of dozens of people who wanted to go to the march but could not make it for various reasons.

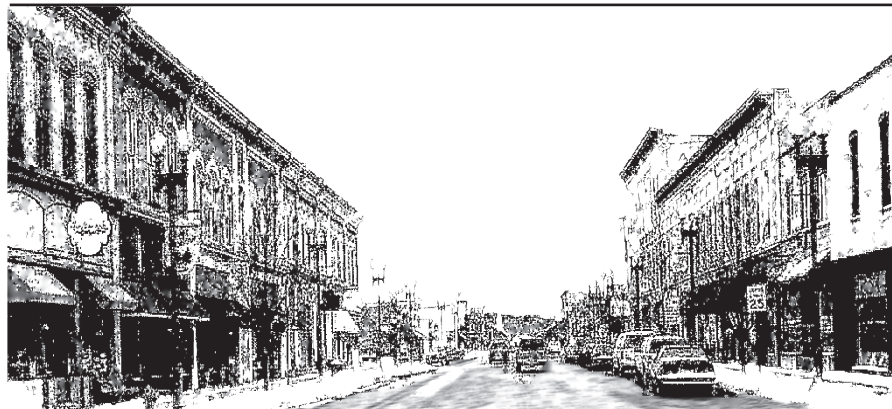
“When I went on Facebook I had so many people that said, ‘I wish I could go,’” Meisner said.

“I said, ‘If you want me to write your name on my sign so I represent you...’ So we’ve been collecting names and now we have about 76 names of people that said they wanted to go but couldn’t. We’re not just there for only ourselves.”

Trump’s post-march Tweet was typical. “Was under the impression that we just had an election! Why didn’t these people vote?” the president Tweeted, ignoring the fact that he actually lost the election by 2,865,075 votes. The number of people who participated in Women’s March worldwide was

estimated by USA Today to be around 2,600,000 people.

After returning from the march, Otten had this to say, “It was great. Most inspiring were the tremendous crowds and how peaceful the group was. Despite the size, which challenged the actual march (streets were completely full), people really looked out for each other. Very positive vibe with multiple issues being represented. I was impressed with the diversity of the group, babies, seniors, men, et cetera. Ready to be active in making a positive change in my community!”



## along main street

### VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Looking for a way to get involved in the community? Want to volunteer, but don’t know what to do? Come to our volunteer orientation and learn about all of our day, evening and weekend opportunities. Our needs range from evening cashiers to daytime donation sorters with lots of options in between. Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries will be Wed., Feb. 1 at 6 pm. Call 897-8260 for more information.

### LHS CLASS OF 2021 ORIENTATION

The Lowell High School class of 2021 orientation will be held on Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This orientation is for parents and students who will be entering high school in the fall of 2017. In addition to an informational session, teachers and club sponsors will also be available for questions. Call the LHS counseling office at 987-2908 with questions.

### PROTECT YOUNG EYES PRESENTATION

The Lowell High School musical and student councils have joined to bring Chris McKenna from Protect Young Eyes to the Lowell Performing Arts Center for presentations

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

about internet safety. He will present to students as part of Be Nice Week on February 14, to high school staff on Feb. 28, and to all community parents on March 15 at 7 pm in the LPAC. Anyone and everyone is welcome. Complimentary babysitting during the presentation will be offered so parents can attend. No charge for the presentation. For more information call the LHS office at 987-2900.

### SENIOR FOOD COMMODITIES

Senior Food Commodities provides low income adults 60 years of age or over with a monthly distribution of food that may include cheese, vegetables, fruit, grains, cereals and canned meats. Upcoming distribution dates are March 15-17 and pre-registration is required and must be completed a month prior to receiving food. Distribution is during regular food pantry hours. For more information or to register, contact Flat River Outreach Ministries at 897-8260.

### TAX ASSISTANCE

FROM is providing free tax preparation and e-filing services (by appointment only) to qualifying families with an annual household income of less than \$62,000. Please call United Way at 2-1-1 to register and verify availability.

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# Showboat meeting, continued

The final speaker was committee chairperson Lou D'Agostino, owner of D'Agostino Construction. D'Agostino said that the new Showboat will be a permanent structure instead of a floating boat; it will have heating and air conditioning so it could be used for events year-round; it will be owned by the city of Lowell; the project could cost anywhere between \$1.5 million and \$2 million and construction could start as early as next spring. D'Agostino said the committee is waiting to hear back from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality about an application before they can take the next step.

"Right now we're at the point with the DEQ where we have submitted a preliminary application," D'Agostino said. "They have to send it back to us with recommendations. Probably in the next couple of weeks, if not sooner, we will address all of those recommendations and send it back as a formal application. We were told by them it could take anywhere from six months to a year to process."

The Rebuild the Lowell Showboat committee has 13 members: Plank, Baker and D'Agostino, as well as Lowell Ledger publisher Jon Jacobs, Betsy Davidson (Lowell Rotary),

Jen Dougherty (Congent Civil Engineering), Rich LaBombard (City of Lowell Department of Public Works), Mark Mundt (Lowell Rotary), Ryan Peel

(Vergennes Broadband), Alan Rumbaugh (personal member), Lorain Smalligan (LowellArts), Ron Woods (citizen at large) and John

Zielinski (Lowell Area Schools).

"We want to build something that will carry on the heritage and history of

the boat and at the same time be more useful for today's society," D'Agostino said. "We need the support of the community."



City hall was packed with citizens for the first public Rebuild the Lowell Showboat committee meeting.

## LowellArts announces the 2017 West Michigan Art Competition

The 31st Annual LowellArts West Michigan Art Competition highlights outstanding artwork by lower west Michigan artists. This year's distinguished juror is Nichole Maury, associate professor in the printmedia area and curator of the university print collection of the Gwen Frostic School of Art at Western Michigan University. Of the artwork accepted to the competition, \$2000 in cash awards will be presented to five artists.

Two pieces of artwork per artist may be entered in the competition this year, only original artwork completed within the past two years is eligible. The competition is open to all visual art media by artists 18 yrs. and older. Artists must reside in one of the 25 lower west Michigan counties. Due to the larger gallery space at the LowellArts new location, the list of eligible counties has increased from 15 last year to include 25 counties this year. Eligible west Michigan counties include (expanded list): Allegan, Barry, Berrien,

Branch (new), Cass, Calhoun (new), Clare (new), Clinton (new), Eaton (new), Gratiot (new), Ionia, Isabella (new), Kalamazoo, Kent, Lake (new), Mason (new), Mecosta, Muskegon, Montcalm, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola (new), Ottawa, Saint Joseph, Van Buren.

The larger gallery space has also made it possible for exhibit organizers to allow larger artwork to be entered into this year's competition. 2-D and 3-D entries may be no larger than 62 inches in any one direction.

There is a non-refundable entry fee, for one

or two pieces, of \$30 (or \$20 for LowellArts members and students with a current ID). Entry fees help fund prizes and programs and services of LowellArts. Artwork must be hand-delivered or shipped to the LowellArts (new location), 223 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331. Artwork drop off is Wed-Fri, Feb 22-24, 10am-6pm & Sat, Feb 25, 10am-5pm. See website for official entry form and full list of rules. [www.lowellartsmi.org/2017-call-for-entries](http://www.lowellartsmi.org/2017-call-for-entries)

The selected entries will be on display at the LowellArts Gallery from March 4 to April 15.

### BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that on **January 16, 2017**, the **Bowne Township Board** adopted **Ordinance No. 16-01**. A summary of **Ordinance No. 01** follows:

**1. Title.** Ordinance No. 16-01 is entitled "An Ordinance to mend Ordinance No. 87-2 Entitled 'An Ordinance to Approve the Development and Tax Increment Finance Plan of the Bowne Township Alto Downtown Development Authority Pursuant to Section 19 of Act 197, Public Acts of 1975, As Amended.'"

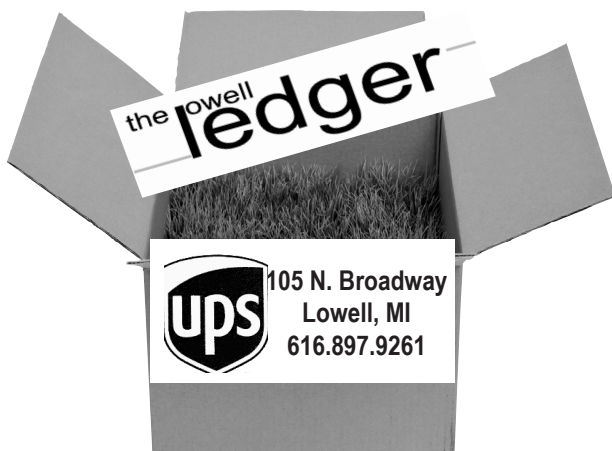
**2. Summary Ordinance.** The Ordinance amends Ordinance 87-2 to read as follows:

"The Township Board of Bowne Township, Kent County, Michigan, hereby adopts and approves the 2016 Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan of the Bowne Township Alto Downtown Development Authority, effective 1-25, 2017."

The Township Board adopted and approved the 2016 Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan of the Bowne Township Alto Downtown Development Authority ("Plan") following the notice and hearing procedures set forth in Public Act 197 of 1975. The Plan updates the prior 2008 Amended and Restated Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan, adds projects to the Plan, describes the tax capture by the Downtown Development Authority including, but not limited to, the capture of Kent County's extra-voted millages, and extends the term of the Tax Increment Financing Plan through 2021.

**3. Effective Date of Ordinance.** Ordinance No. 01 shall become effective the day following the date of the publication of this Notice. Complete copies of the Ordinance and the Plan are available for inspection or copying at the Township offices located at 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., and on Fridays between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk  
Bowne Township



# Lowell's Person of the Year announced

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce announced the winners of their annual awards last week. The awards will be presented to the winners at a special dinner in February.

Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt was named Person of the Year.

"It is an honor to receive this award," Pratt said. "The Lowell community is

filled with very deserving individuals who contribute to our community. I feel extremely fortunate to work and serve in a community that has such a focus on

making our community the best it can be."

These awards are given by the Chamber annually to people and businesses that improve the Lowell area community through volunteering, promotion, innovation, investment and other forms of service. The Business Appreciation award went to Arrowhead

Golf Course, Ability Weavers were the Best Business to Watch, New Union Brewery got the Most Promising Business award, Impact Church received the Non-Profit Spotlight award and Litehouse, Enwork, Green Acres and LowellArts all received Brick awards.

The "Annual Gathering" dinner will

be held at Deer Run Golf Club, 13955 Cascade Rd., on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 6 pm. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$40 each or \$310 for a table of eight. Call the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce at 616-897-9161 or visit their website, lowellchamber.org, for more information.

# business directory

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## LEGAL NOTICES

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

In the matter of JUAN GONZALES

Guardianship File No. 17-200,588-GA Conservatorship File No. 17-200,589-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including siblings of JUAN GONZALES, 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 FEBRUARY 3, 2017, 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: January 17, 2017

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-7201

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

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent In the matter of EDNA SANTOS

Guardianship File No. 17-200,587-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including WILFREDO SANTOS, 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 FEBRUARY 3, 2017, 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.

Dated: January 17, 2017

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-7201

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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Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future, concentrate the mind on the present moment.

~Buddha

# viewpoint

## to the editor

### never heard negative views

#### helpful LPD

Dear Editor,  
Last Tuesday we drove out to the Riverbend East for our haircuts. Had been freezing rain, but we had late appointments. We parked in the back, as the street front was full. As we exited our car we realized it was very slippery. We walked very slowly and out of nowhere this officer, Mr. Lauren, appeared to assist two senior citizens to their destination. Isn't that just like our Lowell police to

appear when needed? We sure appreciated his help. Aren't we fortunate to have a police department who are so thoughtful of their citizens? Thank you Lowell Police and officer Lauren. Your family can be very proud of you.

Lowell Senior Citizens,  
Jeane Rockwell,  
Lowell  
Mary Ann Geldersma,  
Lowell

#### vibrant downtown

To The Editor,  
This letter is in response to the comments made by a local citizen at the city council meeting a short while ago. My husband and I were excited that a brewpub was coming to Lowell, especially in a former business that had been empty for a long time. When we go out to eat in Lowell, we frequently go to the Flat River Grill, JC Barbecue or Keiser's Kitchen, just to name a few of our favorite eateries. We will continue to do so, even if a food truck is available in Lowell, because a food truck does not provide cuisine competitive with these restaurants.

A food truck once or twice a week at a local establishment, such as the New Union Brewery isn't going to hurt local restaurants. Lowell is evolving from a farm and rural community to one that is more vibrant and diverse. I love the idea of a 'vibrant downtown.'

Since the food truck evening was a popular event, I believe others in Lowell feel the same. Let's not put unnecessary restrictions on maintaining and improving the quality of life for those people who enjoy spending time in and around Lowell.

Marcia Kapolka  
Alto

To the Editor of the Lowell Ledger and Buyer's Guide and News,  
I was quite shocked by the January 22 front page article of the Buyer's Guide and News referencing the Lowell women headed to Washington D.C. and its blanket statements about the Republican Party and President Trump. Never have I seen, read or heard anything related to the Republican Party that mentioned a negative view of women or a desire to take away a women's right to vote.

For most of my life I have associated with the Republican Party; however, over the past years I have been as upset with the Republicans in Washington as the Democrats. I believe that the Electoral College elected Trump president because Americans were tired of the corruption and direction of our government... both Republican and Democrat members. The people knew that no Washington insider would or could change the direction of our country. All Michigan electoral votes went to Trump.

How can one say that Trump distrusts or hates women? Trump nominated

two women for cabinet positions. Women will head the National Republican Committee and serve as Ambassador to the United Nations. A woman served as Trump's campaign manager and will serve as his advisor.

While I see Lowell as a friendly, caring and generous community filled with great people, it appears that the people of Lowell are at odds with each other when it comes to their ideologies. It is hard to believe that our expectations and hopes for our country are so drastically different. Are we as divided as the country?

If we communicate, share and become better informed of each other's views, I would hope that we could see things differently and help narrow this great divide in our community and the country. Women throughout history have made monumental contributions and accomplishments. Might we take a step to bridge this great divide?

Your kitchen? Or mine?  
The coffee is hot.

Respectfully,  
Carol Wittenbach Drenth  
Lowell

### outdoors

#### looking ahead

Dave Stegehuis

Mild springtime weather is months away, but there are opportunities to get a head start on the next season and cure a case of cabin fever at the same time. From now until the sun shines again, there will be a variety of shows around the state featuring such warm weather activities like boating, camping, fishing, gardening, and golf. Fall is a long way off, but hunting shows also use the mid-winter down time to whip up excitement within the hunting crowd.

These events provide an opportunity to see what is new and gather information. For people who are considering getting involved for the first time, the shows offer an opportunity to check out a new activity without making a serious commitment. Even if one has no intention of making a purchase in the near future, it is still fun and interesting to check

out what is happening with your favorite pastime. Most of these shows schedule seminars on related topics. Experts in the field share their knowledge and answer questions.

The main purpose of these shows is to provide an off season opportunity for retailers and manufactures to market their products. The consumer benefits by having access to a variety of brands and models under one roof in a warm dry and often festive environment. This makes it easy to compare products first hand without traveling around. Outfitters and resorts are ready to book your next hunt, fishing trip, or golf outing. For popular destinations it is often advisable to book early to get your best dates.

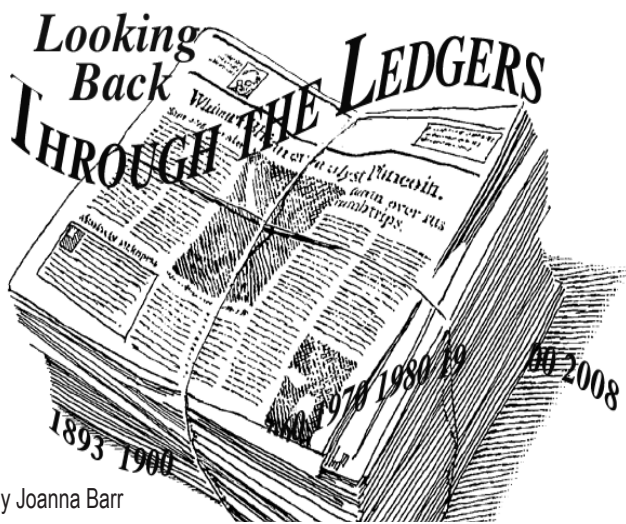
Whether you are a beginner or experienced, the shows are fun and interesting. Keep watch for a show in your area and think spring.

## We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor.

Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher; duplicate comments/authors within a short period may be dismissed. Opinions expressed in "To The Editor" are not the views of the Ledger employees or the publisher. All letters are subject to editing. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: [ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com) ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal Jan. 27, 1892

The Lowell Library has 125 new books, among them the latest successes in fiction. There will be about 100 more put in next week. The people of Lowell do not fully appreciate the fine library they have. It contains over 250 volumes of the best literature, comprising History, Biography, Science and Fiction. It is open Tuesdays and Saturdays, afternoon and evening. If you are short of good reading and have not availed yourselves of

this opportunity, do not fail to do so. Visitors are always made welcome by the librarian.

The masquerade given by the 91-92 club last Thursday evening was the event of the season. There were more maskers than at the Christmas dance and those not in costume did not intrude upon the dancing spice until the maskers had unmasked. The costumes were neat and tasty and some of the comics were irresistably funny, notably Clare Althen, who was dressed as a "one legged tramp," and he carried out the part well.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger Jan. 25, 1917

The ice harvest is now on, furnishing work for many. It is of good quality and thickness and is plentiful enough so that there should be no talk of shortage next summer.

There will be a matinee at 2:30 at the Family theater on Friday showing Mary Pickford in her latest production - "Less Than the Dust." Two hours and a half of enjoyment.

Lowell Literary club will meet Wednesday, Jan. 11, with Mrs. George M. Winegar instead of with Mrs. Watson as announced. Each guest is privileged to

Looking Back,  
continued, page 14

the lowell ledger

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## At Your Local Library

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

### HEART TO HEART CRAFT PARTY -

Roses are red, violets are blue, join our Valentine event, just for you! Celebrate Valentine's Day with snacks and crafts for children and families. Thurs., Feb. 9, 10 am.

### CREATING MANDALAS -

For centuries, people of many cultures have created or drawn mandalas as meditative symbols with many different meanings. This group drawing class will explore a brief history and discover the benefits of drawing mandalas using simple line elements. No prior drawing experience is required and all supplies are provided. All students will take home a hand drawn Mandala. Pre-registration is required. This class is for adults only. Wed., Feb. 1, 6 - 7:30 pm.

...

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~ Jorge Luis Borges

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## area births

### Marble

Jeremy Marble and Ashley Elzinga, of Lowell, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Scarlett Noelle Marble. She was born December 21, 2016 at Spectrum Butterworth, weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz. and measuring 21 inches.

## college news

Benjamin Fox, of Hendrick, Alexander Ada, was recognized for academic excellence on the fall 2016 semester dean's list at Goshen College.

The dean's list includes students earning at least a 3.75 GPA, while completing at least 12 hours of course work for a letter grade. Only grades from the designated semester are included in the dean's list selection process.

Davenport University has announced that several local students have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester. To achieve the dean's list, a student must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in at least nine credits of regular coursework.

Local students that have been named to the dean's list are, of Alto: Thomas

Herriman, Alexis Hoffman, Leesa Hull, Hunter Kramer, Shelby Kresnak, Michael Luetkemeyer, Ronald Maddox, Lauren Marchione, Benjamin Ruhlman, Caleb Snoeyink, Reuben Verburg, and Tracy Wolfe; of Lowell: Peter Baculi, Shandis Button, Lauren Dood, Nathan Luebs, Shannon McBride, Shelby Mitchell, Danielle Ordway, Katie Postema, Nichole Slupe, Kathryn Tichelaar, and Karis VanderLaan.

Elizabeth Pniewski and Breanna VanLaan, both of Lowell, have been named to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2016-17 school year at Hope College. To be named to the dean's list a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Ryan Hesche received Realtor of the Year/Lowell office. This award recognizes Hesche for his outstanding success and achievements.



## health



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

### carpal tunnel syndrome

Carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) is a common nerve condition seen in our office affecting about three percent of the population. The disorder is more often seen in women and tends to increase in severity as they get older. Work activities that require repetitive hand movement or use of vibratory tools increase the risk of developing CTS. Other risk factors for CTS include a history of diabetes, obesity, pregnancy, low thyroid or rheumatoid arthritis.

The carpal tunnel is a space at the wrist where the median nerve and flexor tendons of the forearm pass on their way to the hand. Increased pressure and narrowing of the carpal tunnel causes pressure on the median nerve.

Symptoms of CTS include pain, numbness, burning or tingling of the palmar aspect of the thumb, index and middle finger.

Symptoms are usually localized to the hand but sometimes the forearm and upper arm can be involved. Patients often complain of waking at night with symptoms that require them to get up and shake their hands to get relief. Extended periods of driving, typing or holding a phone will often trigger symptoms.

Diagnosis of CTS is confirmed by performing a nerve test, usually done by a neurologist.

CTS is usually treated by trying conservative measures first. Patients can wear neutral wrist splint at night and during work. Over-the-counter ibuprofen or Aleve may help reduce inflammation. Cortisone injections in the carpal tunnel have been shown to be effective. If conservative measures fail, carpal tunnel surgery is recommended. Surgery will be successful in 75 to 90 percent of cases long term.

## happy birthday



**JANUARY 25**  
Molly Doyle, Dean Olin.

**JANUARY 26**  
Victor Weeks, Steven Uzarski, Andy Nowak, Alex Dommer.

**JANUARY 28**  
Ryan White, Cher Mastenbrook, Amy Newhouse, Renee Peters, Veda Joyce Nearing, Kyle Washburn.

**JANUARY 27**  
Jacqueline (Bay) Saylor, Brittani Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Nancy Roth, Andrea Dewey.

**JANUARY 29**  
Brenda Traetz, Kim Call, Karen Potter, Zach DeBolt.

**JANUARY 30**  
Susan Roudabush, Nicholas Kinsley, Tyler Call, Josh Dietz, Shirley Stevens.

**JANUARY 31**  
Rick Fonger, Brian Rasch.

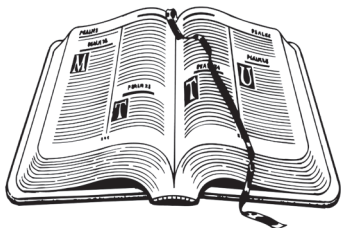
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## area churches



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[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)

Worship Service ..... Sunday - 10:30 AM  
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
Rev. Dr. Paul Mpindi PHD  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Morning Worship..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday School..... 11:20 AM  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM  
Nursery available at both services  
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402 Amity St. • 897-9820  
[www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)

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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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Kid's Crew 11:15 AM  
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# City manager updates council on biodigester

by Tim McAllister  
contributing reporter

Lowell city council discussed the biodigester, crossbows, labor negotiations and painting at their meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 17. The meeting lasted just under half an hour and was attended by about 14 citizens.

City manager Michael Burns presented the council with an update on the LEAD biodigester.

“The biodigester is currently not operational,” Burns said. “The tanks have been cleaned out. There might be a need for a little bit of power washing that may cause an odor; we don’t know. The wastewater discharge permit has been revoked, so at this time they may not operate. [...] This is not a very simple solution. This is very complex. There are a lot of different areas that we have to resolve.”

The council voted 5 - 0 to amend city ordinance 13-112, allowing hunters to use a crossbow.

“Currently the ordinance allows for hunting with a bow and arrow on property in the city where the owner possesses ten acres or more,” Burns said. “This matter has

been discussed at length with [Lowell police chief Steve] Bukala and he has no concerns with the request.”

The council voted 5 - 0 to hire Okemos attorney Stephen O. Schultz to represent the city in upcoming labor negotiations.

“The city has exercised the practice for many years of retaining labor counsel different than the city attorney [Dick Wendt],” Burns said. “Our city attorney does not handle and has not managed labor negotiations for the city. The city has two labor groups, that is the police and the [Department of Public Works] through the [International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers], in which both labor groups have contracts that expire this year, on June 30, 2017. [...] The person I am asking the city to hire has worked with me for many years in this capacity. I am requesting the city to retain the counsel of attorney Stephen Shultz of Fahey, Shultz, Burzych, Rhodes PLC in Okemos [Mich.]. Mr. Schultz is the city attorney for the city of Fenton, [Mich.]

and led negotiations there during my entire tenure. [...] Mr. Schultz’s fee is \$200 per hour. As this is a professional service I did not seek quotations from any other vendor. I am asking for Mr. Schultz to represent us because I do not want to continue the issues that precipitated from the last time the city negotiated in the labor process and the backlash from it. I believe the hiring of Mr. Schultz will end that practice.”

The council voted 5 - 0 to accept a low bid of \$67,400 from Industrial



City manager Michael Burns asked the council to hire Okemos attorney Stephen Schultz to negotiate labor contracts with DPW employees and the police.

Painting of Taylor, Mich. The company will repaint the roof of the 500,000 gallon reservoir at Lowell’s water treatment plant.

“Funds for this activity are available in the water fund capital outlay account,” Burns said. “This activity is a routine asset maintenance project that was previously done in 1994.”

Finally, the council Board of Review, which appointed Martin McPhee, leaves one vacancy on that a retiree who has lived in body. Lowell since 2015, to the

The council’s next regular meeting will be at city hall on Monday, Feb. 6 at 7 pm. The council will hold a “Coffee with the Council” event at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plz, from 8 until 10 am on Saturday, Feb. 4.

...  
The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government.

~ Thomas Jefferson

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Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

## SPORTS

## Girls pick up one win, one loss

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell girls varsity basketball picked up their eighth straight win this season. The 47-36 win over Northview boosted them to 3-0 in conference before, at the hands of the Forest Hills Northern Huskies on Friday in a down to the wire 39-37 loss, marked their second loss this season.

Wednesday, against Northview, the team opened well. They lead 13-9 at the end of the first but saw a downturn in the second.

The Arrows only netted nine in the period and were trailing 26-22 at the half. The team emerged renewed in the third taking back the lead and the win that kept Northview to just ten points in the entire second half. Matching the effort on offense Lowell stacked up 25 points to claim the 47-36 victory.

The Arrow's winning streak was stopped Friday night when the team headed to Forest Hills Northern. Lowell fell 39-37 in the

contest after a slow offensive first half that earned the team only 15 points, leaving them trailing at the half 21-15. Third period defense proved better for the Arrows as they netted ten and kept the Huskies to just five and continued to battle their way back to a slim lead in the fourth. With just seconds left on the game clock the Arrows again trailed by two and missed on a last second shot to drop their first OK White game of the season.

After a season with just five wins last year the Arrows are still on the path to their best season in recent memory. With a diverse offense and deep bench the team boasts a shared effort. Six Lady Arrows added to the scoreboard in the FHN game with Cassie Dean and Regan Coxon both kicking in 11. Riley Conlan added four; Makayla Branagan, five; Emily DePew, three and senior Christina Lyon, two in the loss.



Senior Bridget Garter at the line backed by junior Riley Conlan.

This week the team headed straight back into conference play looking to avenge their loss against Forest Hills Central on Tuesday and will take part in the Lowell basketball program's first Military Salute on Friday night when they face Greenville at home. Players will be joined on court by current and former military for a special honoree ceremony post game. Tip off is scheduled for 5 pm with the military observance expected to begin at 6:45.

## Boys 1 and 1, look forward to Military Salute

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell Red Arrow boys varsity basketball continued their undefeated OK White streak on Wednesday night with a 60-44 victory over Northview. Then watched it crumble on Friday night with a heartbreaking 54-43 loss to Forest Hills Northern.

Wednesday night against Northview the Arrows led the duration of the game getting off to a 10-0 start with quick shots from Austin Branagan and Andrew Poulton, assisted by Matt Beachler who added a three of his own. Beachler added several more clean shots before the close of the first which ended with the Arrows up 18-12.

Branagan and Zach Petroelje launched scoring in the second where the Arrows continued to push their lead to 33-21 by the half. Branagan landed six consecutive two pointers in the third taking the score to 43-25. Northview picked up several free throw shots in the fourth but a series of quick shots from the Arrows maintained their lead ending the game 60-44.

Friday night at Forest Hills Northern, Beachler's 21 point effort was not enough to seal a win against the Huskies who defeated the Arrows 54-43. Lowell led 17-10 at the end of the first but saw FHN gain ground in the second squeezing the margin to just two points despite a buzzer



Points leader Matt Beachler on the court in OK White action.

beater three pointer from Beachler which ended the half 27-25, Arrow favor.

Husky defense dominated the third period

of play as they held Lowell to just four points while earning ten to take a 35-31 lead after the third. While Lowell broke through

some of the defensive oppression in the fourth netting 12 points, FHN put

Boys basketball,  
continued, page 9



Freshman Nolan Cusack lays up amid Northview defense.



# Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

# SPORTS

## Lowell wrestlers continue to dominate OK White

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell wrestlers picked up another OK White conference win last Wednesday, then topped their own tournament last Saturday.

Forest Hills Northern presented the first challenge of the week in road competition. The Arrows topped the Huskies 50-22 with winners in nine weight classes. Six of those victories came by fall, including Jeff Leach at 125, John Russell at 135, Avry Mutschler at 145, Carter Bierling at 152, Grant Pratt at 160 and Zach Weston at 285. Red Arrow Dawson Jankowski won his match at 119 by major decision, along with Austin McKenchnie at 140. Austin Engle picked up his win by forfeit.

Saturday the team hosted the Gary Rivers Memorial Invitational honoring the former coach which featured some of West Michigan's top grapplers. Lowell defeated Allendale, Byron Center and Grandville en route to the finals where they competed against D1 powerhouse Davison.

Lowell dominated Byron Center winning all but one match for a 66-3 win. Winning by fall were Channing Perry at 130, Mutschler at 140, Sam Russell at 145, Keigan



Lowell varsity wrestling celebrating another successful week.

Yuhas at 160, David Kruse at 189, Elijah Boulton at 215 and Jankowski at 112. Garnering decision wins were Leach at 125, Bryce Dempsey at 152, Engle at 171 and James Fotis at 119. Austin Boone and Hunter Browning also picked up wins in the duel.

Allendale High School did not manage a single point

against the Arrows in a 67-0 toppling that included wins from Boone, Mutschler, S. Russell, Dempsey, Yuhas, Engle, Druse, Boulton, Max Bishop, Browning, Jankowski, Leach, Fotis and Perry. Grandville put up more of a challenge earning 19 points against Lowell, but the Arrows topped them 40-19 by game's end.

Mutschler, Yuhas, Kruse, Boulton, Bishop, Browning, Jankowski, Boone and Leach rounded out Lowell winners on the mat. Winning their matches by fall were Dempsey, Yuhas, Engle, Boulton, Perry and Boone. Decision winners were Leach and Mutschler. Bishop claimed victory by tie breaker.

**This week the Arrows will welcome Forest Hills Central on Friday night at 7 pm at Cherry Creek Elementary for OK White action and host the Lowell Super Six Meet on Saturday morning at the high school starting at 10:30 am.**

## Boys basketball, continued

up 19 to cement their 54-43 win. Top scorers for the Arrows included Robby Schneider, Petroelje, Travis Cornell, Branagan, Poulton, Nolan Cusack and Mitch O'Gorman. The win boosts the FHN team to a 9-2 overall record and a 3-2 in the OK White while Lowell fell to 3-1 in conference.

Lowell head coach Travis Slanger said the unexpected loss did not reflect the team's effort, rather a lack of proper

execution. "We were unable to capitalize on opportunities in the second half but the boys played with great effort. We didn't shoot particularly well and our execution wasn't where it needed to be facing a tough conference opponent on the road."

This week Slanger announced that the team, along with the girls varsity, will be hosting a special Military Salute as part of their Friday night action

against Greenville. "Our student-athletes and coaches have a number of family members who have served our country through military service. This is an opportunity for us [to] say thank you and honor the sacrifice they have made for all of us. This event is a way for our student-athletes to give back to our community and play for something bigger than themselves. Through the collaborative effort of Lowell High

School administration, boys and girls basketball programs and the booster clubs we have been able to plan a great evening."

Mirroring the similar varsity gymnastics event both teams will honor a current or former veteran on the court between varsity showdowns, around 6:45 pm, while sharing the honorees' unique military story with attendees. Players will be dressed in special event uniforms and event

t-shirts will be available at the door and serve as your entry ticket. "Attendees can expect another thoroughly planned, first-class event at Lowell High School,"

said Slanger. "We take tremendous pride in every occasion to showcase what makes Lowell such a great community."

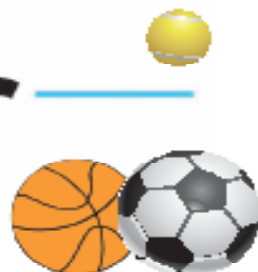
**This week the team faced Forest Hills Central on the road Tuesday night and will tip off at 7 pm on Friday following the honoree ceremony.**



### Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

the lowell

# ledger



# January Staff Members of the Month at MLE

Robin Picarazzi, fourth-grade teacher; and Diane Titche, third-grade teacher; have been chosen as Staff Members of the Month at Murray Lake Elementary. They were nominated for their work in finding, obtaining and providing new and innovative ways for students to learn. Their work with "Genius Hour" and "Makers Space" has been a great addition to the curriculum.

"We are both honored and humbled to be named Staff Members of the Month for our work with Genius Hour. We had

both been thinking about Genius Hour for a while. When we connected with each other, we decided to take the plunge and figure it out together. Our goal is to help the kids develop their skills in collaborating, communicating, creating and problem solving, as well to help inspire and motivate them to become lifelong learners. So far, it's been a great success! The kids are always excited for Genius Hour on Friday afternoons. And our first big project, The Cardboard Challenge, exceeded our expectations. We also

decided to incorporate the beginnings of a Maker Space in our Genius Hour. Thanks to very generous funding from the Lowell Education Foundation and Vergennes Broadband, we are purchasing technology and materials that will really allow the kids to explore making in it's true sense. We're excited to be unleashing the potential of Genius Hour with our third and fourth grade students! We love working at Murray Lake and being part of the wonderful staff," commented Picarazzi and Titche.



Teacher Robin Picarazzi with her class at Murray Lake Elementary.



Teacher Diane Titche with her third-grade class.

## LHS WINTER VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULE

### BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY

\* Denotes a game at the Kentwood Ice Arena  
1/28 time tba Michigan Hockey Showcase\*  
1/29 time tba Michigan Hockey Showcase  
2/1 at 7 pm Kenowa Hills at Walker Ice Arena

### GIRLS VARSITY GYMNASTICS

\* Denotes a meet at LHS aux. gym  
1/28 at 10 am Kenowa Hills Invite  
2/1 at 7 pm FHC\*

### GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

\* Denotes a home game at LHS - main gym  
1/27 at 5:30 pm Greenville\*  
1/31 at 7 pm Caledonia\*

### BOYS VARSITY SWIM/DIVE

1/28 at 10 am Hudsonville Invite  
1/31 at 6 pm at East Kentwood  
2/2 at 6 pm at West Catholic

### BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

\* Denotes a home game at LHS - main gym  
1/27 at 7 pm Greenville\*  
1/31 at 7 pm at Caledonia

### GIRLS VARSITY BOWLING

\*Denotes a meet at The Bowling Alley - Ionia  
2/1 at 3:30 pm at FHN

### BOYS VARSITY BOWLING

\*Denotes a meet at The Bowling Alley - Ionia  
2/1 at 4:30 pm at FHN

### BOYS VARSITY WRESTLING

\* Denotes a home meet at LHS - main gym  
1/28 at 9 am Lowell Super 6 Meet\*  
1/28 at 8 pm Saline Super Duals

## School choice week

National School Choice Week begins in Michigan and across the country. There are 730 events planned in the Great Lakes State to raise awareness about K-12 school choice and 21,392 events nationwide.

The events in Michigan, which are independently planned and independently funded, include everything from information sessions and open houses at schools to rallies, policy discussions and movie screenings organized by community groups. Highlighted events include a large school choice celebration January 27 at 1:30 p.m. at Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History Rotunda.

The cities of Centreville, Chikaming, Columbus, Erie, Fife Lake, Ira Township, Ishpeming Township, Kalkaska, La Salle Township, Lapeer, Niles, Parma Township, Roscommon Township, Vienna, West Branch, and Whiteford alongside Governor Snyder have issued official proclamations recognizing January 22-28, 2017 as "School Choice Week."

National School Choice Week provides families

in Michigan with the opportunity to research and evaluate the K-12 school choices available for their children in advance of the 2017-2018 school year. The week also raises awareness of the importance of providing every child with effective education options.

"It doesn't matter whether a student attends a public, private or online school," said Ben DeGrow of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. "Detroit families need even more access to quality educational options like those represented at our event."

"Michigan families will use National School Choice Week as an opportunity to celebrate the education options available to children, while speaking out in favor of even greater opportunity in education," said Andrew Campanella, president of National School Choice Week.

With a goal of raising public awareness of effective education options for children, National School Choice Week will be the largest celebration of education options in US history.

### SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR MICHIGAN FAMILIES

According to National School Choice Week's organizers, families in Michigan can use the Week to look for K-12 schools for the 2017-2018 school year. Parents in the Great Lakes State can choose from the following education options for their children: traditional public schools, public charter schools, magnet schools, online academies, private schools, and homeschooling. In some parts of the state, open enrollment policies allow parents to select the best traditional public school, regardless of where the school is located.

### ABOUT NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

National School Choice Week is an independent public awareness effort spotlighting effective education options for children, including traditional public schools, public charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, online learning, and homeschooling. The week runs from January 22-28, 2017. For more information, visit [www.schoolchoiceweek.com](http://www.schoolchoiceweek.com)

Red Arrow

# SPORTS

## Sports Summaries

### GIRLS BOWLING

Red Arrow varsity girls bowling dropped an OK White duel with Cedar Springs last Thursday at home in their lone competition of the week. The ladies fell 27-3. Their remaining schedule for the season includes just four contests, three conference and one exhibition, before entering into OK White tournament action in February.



### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

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

January 11, 2017

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Vivian H. Weston, died Nov. 18, 2016.

Mary L. Benedict (P45285)  
4519 Cascade Road SE Ste. 14  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-942-0020

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

William Weston  
10780 100th St. SE  
Alto, MI 49302  
616-813-3949

### ICE HOCKEY

One win and one loss were the results from the ice last week as the Lowell/Caledonia hockey team hosted two home matches. Friday against Byron Center the Arrows netted a 5-1 win after scoring early and keep the lead the duration. First period goals came from Nate Regan and Charlie Hayes firing up momentum. The trio of Ethan Pinto, Owen Radtke and Carter Yon rounded out scoring with assists being credited to Regan, Yon, Austin Whaley, Mitch Brennan and Nick Vantil. Saturday afternoon the team was back at it versus Grand Rapids Christian but with different results. GRC found the back of the net nine times in a losing 9-4 battle. Pinto scored three of the team's four goals with Vantil adding the other. Alex Osborn picked up a pair of assists.

### COMPETITIVE CHEER

Tough competition and critical judging placed the Red Arrow varsity competitive cheer in fifth place at the Rockford Invitational last Saturday. Only the fourth competition of the season for the developing team, they are now at season's midpoint. Their next challenge will take place on the road this Wednesday versus fellow OK White competitor Cedar Springs.

### BOYS BOWLING

Continuing their undefeated OK White conference record, Lowell boys varsity bowling picked up a big win over Cedar Springs last Thursday on their home lanes. Logan Smith led the Arrow charge rolling a 208 while Collin Clark followed with a 205. The 26.5-3.5 win keeps the team atop the conference standings as they head into the tail end of the season next week against Forest Hills Northern and Ottawa Hills.

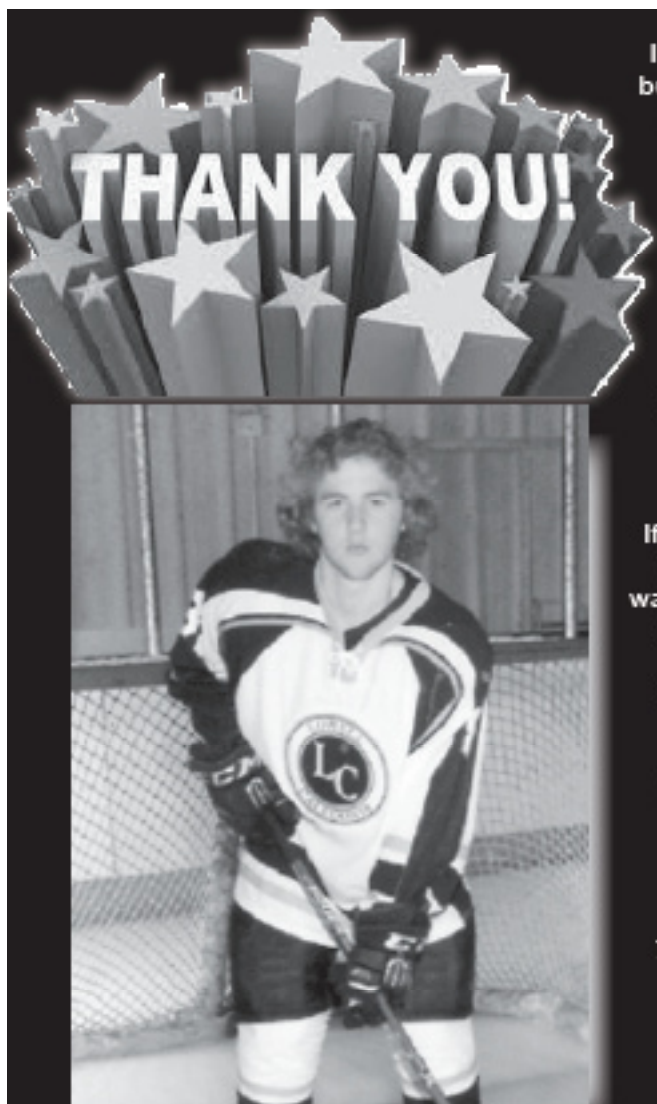
### BOYS SWIM & DIVE

Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian boys swim and dive team split their talent for a pair of competitions last Thursday and came out victorious in both. The first year co-op, led by head coach Andrew Vanderlei, topped Mona Shores 116-46 and Ludington 99-76, improving their premier season record. Earning first-place finishes were Ryan Parsons who claimed the top spot in the 50 freestyle and the 100 fly; Parker Lee who topped the 100 backstroke, 200 individual medley and was part of the winning 400 freestyle relay; Alex Pollock who swam to victory in the 100 breaststroke; and Ren Bykerk who cleaned up in the 200 and 500 freestyle.

## January Volunteer of the Month



Deanna Mears has been chosen for volunteer of the month at Murray Lake Elementary. She volunteers in many ways at the school. She is on the board for Family Links. She helps in the library with Patti Harreld. She does a lot of laminating and volunteers in her son's and daughter's classroom as well. "I have lived here for nine and a half years. I have four children, ranging from 12th grade to kindergarten. I've been married for 16 years. I volunteer because I love to help out. I help with laminating, in the classrooms and in the library. By volunteering, I've also made a lot of good friends," said Mears.



I want to thank the many businesses of Lowell/Ada, and surrounding areas for your support in sponsoring me and the Lowell/Caledonia Varsity & J.V. hockey teams.

Your donations and sponsorship have been well needed and appreciated.

If anyone out there would like to be a sponsor, or wants to donate something, please call Bob Videan at (616) 676-1688 or Nick Vantil at 551-8345.

I hope to see some of you at our games this 2016-2017 season. Game programs will be coming soon!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

See you at the Game!

Nick Vantil #8

## CONNECT WITH US

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**FAX** (616) 897-4809

**E-MAIL** ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

**MAIL** P.O. Box 128  
Lowell, MI 49331

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# obituaries

## HOSKINS

Vivian Louise Hoskins, age 85 of Lowell, passed away peacefully in the presence of her family on Saturday, January 21, 2017. Vivian was preceded in death by her husband Russell and daughter Christine Willard. She is survived by her beloved family; daughter Diane (Pretzel) and her husband Denny; granddaughter Heather (Earls) and her husband Kyle; grandson Michael and his wife Madison; and her great-grandchildren Kaylie, Brayden and newborn baby grandson expected the week of January 24th. Vivian is also survived by her son Gary and his wife Ann; her grandson Christopher and his wife Brittany; granddaughter Alison (Paulson) and her husband Jordan; grandson Jacob and granddaughter Lauren. Vivian retired from Root Lowell Manufacturing Corp. after 26 years of service. She was a member of Alton Bible Church. Vivian was a long time (50 plus year) survivor of multiple bouts with cancer. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Funeral service was held Tuesday, January 24, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Ken Ford officiated. Memorial contributions may be directed to Spectrum Health Hospice and Palliative Care, Spectrum Health Foundation, 100 Michigan St. NE, MC004, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



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## RACINE

John Joseph Racine, born April 9, 1934, passed away January 20, 2017. Preceding him was his wife of 55 years, Betty Lou Mongar Racine. He is survived by his children, Brian, Karla, Denise, and Wayne (Traci); brothers, Richard and Alfred; sister, Rose; five grandchildren, Jennifer, Lisa, Jonathon, Michael (Crystal), and Megan; and five great-grandchildren, Josiah, Emma, Clair, Mason, and Bryson.

## TETZLAFF

Helen M. Tetzlaff, age 81 of Saranac, passed away Thursday, January 19, 2017. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Irene (née Ignasiak) Bielecki. Helen is the beloved mother of Linda (Paul Luna) Young, Laura Mosteller, Kathleen Tetzlaff, Kimberly Horsley, and John (Dawn) Tetzlaff. She dearly loved her 16 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brothers, Robert (Sharon) Bielecki, James (Nancy) Bielecki; and sisters, Jacqueline Armstrong, Bernadette Pearson, MaryLou (Terry) Danning. Helen worked 25 years at Attwood Corporation in Lowell. Memorial Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated Wednesday, January 25, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell. Rev. Aaron Ferris presiding. Visitation will be held 5-8 PM Tuesday, January 24, at Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson St. Lowell, MI, and one hour prior to the Mass, Wednesday at the church. A Rosary will be 7:30 PM Tuesday at the funeral home.



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# Dean Bailey, longtime local religious leader dies

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Dean Bailey, one of Lowell's religious leaders for many years, died on Wednesday, Jan. 18. Bailey was the pastor at Methodist churches all over Michigan for decades. He has preached at local churches since the 1970s, including the ones in Lowell, Alto and Bowne Center. "Dean was really a great part of this area for many years," said Bob Wright, current pastor of Alto United Methodist Church. "He served this church after he had had virtually a complete ministry in other places. Dean served churches in Layton Corners, Sanford, Vicksburg, Lowell, Stephenson, and Traverse City and then he served Alto and Bowne Center after he had taken retirement and

he was here for 12 years. He was everywhere, but his main places that he was at and stayed the longest were in Lowell and also here." Wright said that churchgoers in Alto will miss Bailey deeply. "We're feeling it. There are a lot of sad people because of the many lives that he touched and was a part of," Wright said. "He was very close to the people who are here. He was involved in almost everything that happened in this area for quite some time. He's really been part of many different things within the framework of the ministry in this place." There will be a memorial service for Bailey at Alto United Methodist Church in the spring. The date for this has not been determined yet.

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 17-200615-DE

Estate of **MARLIN EUGENE KAUFFMAN**.  
Date of birth: **MAY 8, 1940**.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Marlin Eugene Kauffman, died Dec. 18, 2016.

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

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

January 10, 2017

Mary L. Benedict (P45285) 4519 Cascade Road SE Ste. 14 Grand Rapids, MI 49546 616-942-0020

Karl Kauffman 13770 60th St. SE Alto, MI 49302 616-890-0326

# CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-112, "HUNTING WITH BOW AND ARROW," TO ARTICLE IV, "OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC SAFETY," OF CHAPTER 13, "OFFENSES," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.**

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 17-01 amending Section 13-112, "Hunting with bow and arrow," to Article IV, "Offenses Against Public Safety," of Chapter 13, "Offenses," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on January 17, 2017. Ordinance No. 17-01 removes the prohibition of hunting with a cross bow in certain restricted areas in the City. A copy of Ordinance No. 17-01 is available for inspection at City Hall, 301 East Main Street in the City during regular business hours of the City.

Ordinance No. 17-01 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Susan Ulery  
City Clerk

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## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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# EARTH TALK™

## Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk:** Do you have any recommendations for vegan health and beauty products?

- Janice T., Brooklyn, NY

The problem with many common personal care items is the toxic load they bear. According to researchers from the Environmental Working Group (EWG), one in eight of the 50,000+ ingredients used in many of our favorite lotions, lipsticks and lathers are industrial chemicals, including carcinogens, pesticides, reproductive toxins and hormone disruptors. Since the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has no regulatory authority over cosmetics, consumers take their chances when they use personal care products.

One way to play it safe is to look for vegan health and beauty products, which are typically made from organic, all-natural ingredients, use earth-friendly packaging and don't contribute to the harm of any animals. While vegan cosmetics tend to be a little pricier than their conventional counterparts, you get what you pay for with regard to your health and your conscience.

A perennial favorite of the eco-minded is Lush, a handmade green-friendly cosmetic company. Lush is famous for its all-natural, organic, vegetarian product line (80 percent of products are vegan-approved) including face and hair masks, cleansers, exfoliates, makeup and bath bombs. A few customer favorites from Lush include Ocean Salt exfoliating scrub and Cup O' Coffee and Rosy Cheeks face masks.

Another vegan-friendly personal care products company is Mineral Fusion. Like Lush, Mineral Fusion has a full line and is also dedicated to using natural ingredients that make you feel healthy and beautiful. Mineral Fusion's tinted moisturizer is elegant yet perfect for daily use with simple yet soft coverage.

Yet another great choice is Andalou, which uses all non-animal based ingredients in its shampoos, lotions, hair treatments, lip balms, masks and exfoliates—90 percent of its products are completely vegan. And unlike many of its competitors, Andalou discloses its full ingredients lists. A few favorites include Andalou's Sponge exfoliator, Vitamin C BB beauty balm and Instant Pure Pore facial mask.

Another great health and beauty product many vegans swear by is organic coconut oil. This all-natural "cruelty-

free" product is inexpensive and widely available and can be used for a wide range of health and beauty applications. You can eat it, use it as lotion on your skin and face, put some in your hair to help nourish dead ends, use as a teeth whitener and even as an organic makeup remover.

For more ideas, Vegan.com's Makeup Guide is an exhaustive list of dozens of cruelty- and chemical-free face, hair, skin, nail and bath products. If you're wondering whether or not a beloved product already taking up valuable real estate on your bathroom shelf contains ingredients that are unhealthy or bad for the environment, look it up on EWG's Skin Deep, a searchable database of toxic ingredients in cosmetic and personal care products. Currently EWG rates more than 64,000 personal care products in Skin Deep.

Of course, there's more to good health than what you put on the outside of your body. Eating fresh and organic ingredients, drinking plenty of water, getting enough sleep and exercising regularly all promote good health and hydration to the skin. Living a balanced lifestyle will keep you energized and feeling fresh everyday.

**CONTACTS:** Lush, [www.lushusa.com](http://www.lushusa.com); Mineral Fusion, [www.mineralfusion.com](http://www.mineralfusion.com); Andalou, [www.andalou.com](http://www.andalou.com); Vegan.com, [www.vegan.com/guides/makeup](http://www.vegan.com/guides/makeup); Skin Deep, [www.ewg.org/skindeep/](http://www.ewg.org/skindeep/).

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•••

**One of the lessons of history is that nothing is often a good thing to do and always a clever thing to say.**

~ Will Durant (1885 - 1981)

## Looking Back, continued

invite a guest to hear Mrs H. D. Jewell who will give a lecture on "Deficient Children I Have Known." Mrs. Jewell has been in this work for a number of years. She has taken three children into her own home and will no doubt tell us many interesting things along this line.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger Jan. 29, 1942

The President has signed the bill passed by the Congress providing for daylight savings time. The clocks of the nation are to be set ahead one hour at 2:00 a. m. on February 9. Inasmuch as Michigan has been operating under Eastern Standard time for several years it seems ridiculous to be obliged to advance Michigan clocks still another hour which would mean that most children would be starting for school in winter nearly two hours before daylight. Farmers and factory workers alike are opposed to the change and with good reason. The Michigan legislature should pass a law changing to Central Standard time then we could advance our clocks one hour which would result in leaving our day the same as now.

The new federal "use" tax stickers are on sale now at your local post office and must be obtained by every owner of a motor vehicle who intends to use it, at any time during the coming year. These stickers must be purchased by February 1. That means not later than Saturday of this week. The sticker will cost \$2.09 which will allow use of the vehicle from February 1st to July 1st, at which time a sticker, good for a full year, from July 1st, 1942 to July 1st, 1943, will be obtainable at the full price of five dollars for the year.

Saving waste paper may not seem important to you, but it is. Your country needs more paper than it will produce in new stock, and the old used paper can be utilized for filling certain indispensable war needs. For instance: Out of a ton of old paper can be made 1500 shell containers, 47,000 cartridge boxes, 47,000 shell caps, or 11,000 mine assemblies. That's how important your waste paper is. It may be waste paper, but don't waste it. Take it to the rear door of the Municipal Garage where it will be baled and the proceeds given to the Red Cross.

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger Jan. 26, 1967

The Headhunters, popular high school musical group, who appeared on the Showboat stage as back-up band for the Vogues last July, have made many

appearances since that time. Their latest was in the Battle of the Bands last Saturday evening, held in Belding, when they captured first place over groups from Cedar Springs, Ionia, Grattan Center, and Don and the Wanderers from Belding. The Headhunters, all of whom attend Lowell High School, were formed in January 1966, and four of the five members are in the high school band. The group consists of Tom Speerstra on lead guitar, Roger MacNaughton playing electric piano, Terry DeWitt on rhythm guitar, Dick Nowak on drums, Tim McLaughlin on electric bass guitar, and Dick Lee, manager.

The days of the oldest bridge on Michigan's state highway system are numbered. The State Highway Commission reported today that construction has started on a new bridge to carry M-91 over the Grand River south of the Kent County community of Lowell. It will replace an 83-year-old iron truss span which will be dismantled when the new \$352,158 bridge is completed later this year. Highway Department records show the iron bridge was built in 1884 by the King Bridge Company. It became part of the state highway system in 1927 when M-91 was established to provide a link between Lowell and old US-18. The old bridge, built to horse and buggy specifications, was financed with funds from the 1850 Swampland Road Act, an early federal-state effort to finance road building in the later half of the 19th century. Under the Swampland Road Act, federal land in Michigan was turned over to the state to be sold and the proceeds to be used for construction of roads, bridges and dams. The new bridge, which is being built by Brown Brothers, Inc., of Lansing, is located just east of the old span. State Highway Director Howard F. Hill announced the appointment of Roy C. Long of St. Joseph as project engineer on the new span.

### 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger Jan. 29, 1992

The Lowell Area Arts Council (LAAC) honored Chris Hodges with its prestigious "Arty," Award given each year to one volunteer who, through the years, has supported and worked for the arts in the Lowell area. Hodges, who works as a part-time paraprofessional, playground supervisor and crossing guard at Runciman-Riverside Elementary, has been an active Lowell Area Arts Council volunteer for many years. She and her husband, Jim, have both worked long hours on a variety of projects. In her six years as a member of the Board of Directors, 1985-1991, Hodges accepted many challenges and responsibilities. These responsibilities included two terms as vice-president and personnel manager of the art center staff, charged

with staff supervision and review. As vice-president she also attended board development workshops, participated in reorganization of committee and officer structure and responsibility and contributed significantly to long range planning and budget development. As a member of the nominating committee, Hodges helped the LAAC maintain its strength and leadership through re-election of board candidates. She also assisted in the development, preparation and annual updating of a board of directors notebook system. Above and beyond her board of directors responsibilities, Hodges has supported the Council through Winter Play committees, box office, costumes, and program ads to name a few.

Lowell Fire Chief Frank Martin thought the new 450 gallon grass rig was custom made. It had many of the needed grass rig features. The only hurdle that stood in the way was the City's bid process policy. The policy was waived after Martin explained the terms. In 1969 the City purchased a Bronco for a grass rig at the cost of \$2,100. After adding needed equipment to the Bronco so it could be of help in fighting grass fires, Martin said the Department had approximately \$6,000 into it. Monday night, Lowell's City Council accepted a bid from Marc Jacqmain of \$5,050 for the purchase of the Bronco. "The vehicle has approximately 6,700 miles on it," Martin said. Jacqmain's bid was one of four considered by the City. The Lowell Fire Chief stated limited water supply and storage space for fighting grass fires, not enough room to carry extra equipment, and no room for a larger pump as reasons for the need for a replacement. The replacement will be a 1983 Chevrolet one ton grass rig at a price of \$3,500. Martin said incidental repairs will run at \$600, bringing the total price to \$4,450. "The rig already has many of the features we would want on a grass rig, including a flat bed, a 450 gallon tank, and a front mounted PTO winch," Martin explained. Martin said with the limited use of a grass rig, a new vehicle was not justified.

Vicki Vogt of Lifetouch National School Studios, Lowell, recently was voted a National Champion in the third Annual Lifetouch Portrait Excellence Competition. The photographs of over 1,000 photographers from more than 150 Lifetouch offices were evaluated for quality craftsmanship. Vogt was one of nine photographers throughout the country recognized as a National Champion for consistently creating outstanding school portraits. Vogt submitted photographs from Pinewood Middle School, Kentwood, for the competition. Lifetouch National School Studios has been photographing school children and providing photographic services to schools for over half a century.

**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: THE GRAMMYS**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Bars on guitars
- 6. Olden-day aerosol can propellant
- 9. Invitation request
- 13. Chinese fruit
- 14. "Say what?"
- 15. Kind of space
- 16. \*8-time Grammy winner and "Climax" (2012) performer
- 17. Victorian time, e.g.
- 18. Mickey Mouse's pet
- 19. \*2017 Grammy host
- 21. \*BeyoncÉ's nominated rap song
- 23. Listening device
- 24. British comedy's Mr. \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. Baryshnikov's step
- 28. Red gemstone
- 30. Good guy
- 35. Amy Winehouse's voice, e.g.
- 37. Same as pleaded
- 39. Chinese silk plant
- 40. Film \_\_\_\_\_
- 41. Rode in a tube
- 43. Insolence
- 44. Dished out
- 46. Observer
- 47. Seed cover
- 48. Like flotsam
- 50. Red-encased cheese
- 52. Chinese "way"
- 53. \*Prince's 1986 Grammy winner
- 55. Spanish sea
- 57. \*Justin Bieber's Grammy nominated album

CROSSWORD														
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72						73				74				



JANUARY 18 - JANUARY 24

- Donald Trump, was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States on Friday, January 20, 2017.
- Chelsea Clinton responded to social media mistreating Trump's son, Barron by Tweeting "Barron Trump deserves the chance every child does -- to be a kid."
- At least 21 people died in tornadoes from Mississippi to Georgia last weekend.
- The same killer storm that hit the south is headed for the east coast. The nor'easter is expected to bring heavy snow, wind gusts and treacherous driving conditions along with power outages.



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- 61. \*Best Rap Song nominee (2017)
- 64. Apathetic
- 65. Ante up
- 67. Reflective thinker
- 69. Ringworm
- 70. Rub the wrong way
- 71. Open-mouthed
- 72. Perching place
- 73. \*1995 Grammy nominee, \_\_\_\_\_ of Base
- 74. \_\_\_\_\_ and rights

**DOWN**

- 1. Work stopper?
- 2. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- 3. Amazon's smart speaker
- 4. Not here
- 5. India VIP
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_ Zhen, played by Bruce Lee and Jet Li
- 7. Hudson's Bay Company's original ware
- 8. Irritate by rubbing
- 9. \*4-time Grammy nominated Ja \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. Part of house frame
- 11. U.S. President's special power
- 12. "Pretty in Pink" formal
- 15. "Once upon a time...," e.g.
- 20. Do like a volcano
- 22. Popular pickup
- 24. Sayonaras
- 25. \*Designer's nominated hit
- 26. Cool & distant
- 27. Motionless
- 29. \*"\_\_\_\_\_ Aint Your Color"
- 31. Hindu serpent deity
- 32. Like TV with browsing capabilities
- 33. Locomotive hair
- 34. \*Adele's multi-nominated hit
- 36. Dunking treat
- 38. \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership document
- 42. Golden Globes' category
- 45. One of Fanning sisters
- 49. "\_\_\_\_\_ the season ..."
- 51. Hairy vertebrate
- 54. Photo tint
- 56. Moulin \_\_\_\_\_, Paris
- 57. Bread pocket
- 58. Inch, e.g.
- 59. Late Attorney General Janet
- 60. A secondary school
- 61. Type of fish net
- 62. Sky defender
- 63. Autumn mo.
- 66. Parabola, e.g.
- 68. Hi-\_\_\_\_\_

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

How do you feel about the Ringling Bros. Circus closing down after 100 years?

- Going to miss it ..... 50%
- It's about time ..... 42%
- Makes no difference to me .... 8%

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thelowellledger.com

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"If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you."

## "You Say it How in Michigan?" offers correct pronunciations of state's unique cities and places

Whether you've lived here all your life, just moved here or happen to be visiting or planning a vacation to this great state, there's now an online directory to help you with the correct pronunciation of Michigan's many unique cities and places. The "You Say it How in Michigan?" guide is the first-of-its-kind comprehensive directory, primarily developed to benefit audio book production for the blind

and visually impaired, will benefit anyone looking to experience Pure Michigan.

"We initially developed the 'You Say it How in Michigan?' guide for narrators across the country during audio book production to get Michigan name and place pronunciations right," said Susan Chinault, manager of the nationally recognized Michigan Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL), where the guide was developed. "Actually the guide is invaluable for anyone, especially since Michigan has so many unique names that can be mispronounced."

The guide includes an audio MP3 and the phonetic pronunciation of more than 2,200 listings from Cohoctah and Kitch-iti-kipi -- to Ypsilanti and Wequetonsing and everywhere in between, including the often debatable pronunciation of "Presque Isle." The guide can be found by visiting [www.michigan.gov/howtosayit](http://www.michigan.gov/howtosayit) or on the BTBL website at [www.michigan.gov/btbl](http://www.michigan.gov/btbl) under "Pronunciation Guide."

The BTBL is a division of the Bureau of Services

for Blind Persons (BSBP). William Robinson, BSBP director praised the BTBL efforts saying, "the 'You Say it How in Michigan?' guide is a perfect example of an innovative outreach that illustrates the creativity of the library team. I have used the guide myself and it is a great resource to bookmark on your web browser."

The BTBL loans books and magazines in braille and audio formats free of charge to those who qualify and serves more than 11,000 patrons annually. More than 556,500 braille and talking books were circulated in 2016, averaging 2,100 – 2,200 per day. There are 30,085 titles available in audio format and 10,275 titles available in braille. These include popular fiction and nonfiction, best sellers, how-to books, and talking book versions of magazines and foreign language materials. The BTBL is located on the first floor of the Michigan Library and Historical Center in downtown Lansing.

The BTBL's Local Recording Studio Program records books and magazines

of Michigan and Great Lakes interest, as well as books by Michigan authors. The recordings are also made available to Libraries for the Blind nationwide through the Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) service provided through the Library of Congress.

For more information about or to apply for BTBL resources, call toll-free 800-992-9012 (TTY 888-864-1212) or visit [www.michigan.gov/bsbp](http://www.michigan.gov/bsbp) and click on the link titled "Braille and Talking Book Library," then "Application." The Bureau of Services for Blind Persons provides training and other services for individuals who are blind or visually impaired to achieve employment and/or independence in the careers of their choice. For more information about BSBP, visit [www.michigan.gov/bsbp](http://www.michigan.gov/bsbp) or call toll-free: 800-292-4200, (TTY 888-864-1212.)

Currently, there are more than 228,000\* citizens in Michigan with a prevalence for vision loss and that number is expected to increase as baby boomers age.

## Governor delivers annual State of the State address

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Gov. Rick Snyder gave his annual "State of the State" address at the capitol in Lansing on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 17. Snyder spoke for almost an hour about topics such as education, healthcare, infrastructure and industry.

Snyder talked about Healthy Michigan, which provides healthcare benefits to people at a low cost.

"We have 640,000 Michiganders in this program," Snyder said. "It has provided over 2.8 million primary care visits, over 400,000 preventative care visits and it's saving us money. From 2013 to 2015 costs of uncompensated care decreased by almost 44 percent on average in our hospitals, a savings of hundreds of millions of dollars. Healthy Kids Dental has been a huge success. Back in 2010 we had over 400,000 kids covered in certain locations in Michigan. Thanks to six years of dedicated work with you, my legislative partners, we [are] now covering, in every corner of Michigan, over a million kids. We should be really proud of that."

Snyder said he plans to take the Healthy Michigan plan on the road.

"Healthy Michigan is a model that can work for

the rest of the country," Snyder said. "I look forward to working with my federal partners to talk about the value of this program, how it may even be enhanced as we go through these difficult and challenging questions and we look forward to reimagining health care for all Michiganders and our entire country with Michigan being a leader in that dialogue."

Snyder talked about the Flint water crisis, calling it "a sad chapter in the history of our state."

"Last year the people of Flint suffered an unacceptable crisis," Snyder said. "I made a commitment to the people of Flint to fix it. We took immediate action and in the following days and months we've worked tirelessly to make Flint's water safe to drink again and improve the entire city of Flint. We're making progress but our work is not [finished] yet. I want to thank Mayor [Karen] Weaver, who is here tonight, the city council and the White House for their partnership. We all owe the people of Flint a solution and we've worked hard to deliver that. We are going to continue to be committed to that. [...] In terms of progress, though, on the water front we have new test results

and by June of 2016 this last year, we provided \$27 million to help with lead pipe replacements to the city of Flint. To date we've seen progress. Over 600 pipes have been replaced and we look forward to working with the city on accelerating the progress of that. We are working hard on that topic."

Snyder said that Michigan is in desperate need for infrastructure improvements.

"We are at risk in every corner of Michigan for aging infrastructure and we cannot take this for granted," Snyder said. "Michigan residents deserve safe, reliable, sustainable infrastructure. That's why I created the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission last year. The commission did tremendous work; they looked for best practice not just in our country but around the world. They concluded that we need to invest more. We need to literally invest billions of dollars of new investment over the next several decades. We need to look at all public and private sources for this, including fees, taxes, grants, bonds. We need to start now working on this issue and we need to stay committed to it."

## Michigan schools can apply for wellness award for promoting health

Michigan schools that are taking action to promote healthy eating, physical activity and tobacco-free lifestyles are encouraged to apply for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 2017 School Wellness Award.

"Healthy school environments help students achieve their academic potential and support the development of lifelong healthy habits by our children," said MDHHS director Nick Lyon. "We

hope that many schools will take advantage of this opportunity to be recognized for making their schools healthier."

The Michigan School Wellness Award encourages schools to establish School Health Teams, complete the Healthy School Action Tools and implementing sustainable policy and environmental changes to create healthier schools. The deadline for schools to submit applications is midnight April 19. The

application and additional information about the award is at <http://swa.mihealthtools.org>

MDHHS presents the award in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, United Dairy Industry of Michigan, Action for Healthy Kids and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Schools taking exemplary steps to improve the health of students and staff will be recognized in May at an awards ceremony at the State Capitol.

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## Sleeping Beauty

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