

lines of love



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l's sports



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Traveling poker game returns for fast-paced fun

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce had a “Pub Poker Run” traveling poker game event on Tuesday, Jan. 24. Participants raced between several local restaurants, collected a playing card at each stop and tried to collect the best poker hand.

“I think it’s great. I think it’s a great opportunity for all the businesses to showcase what they have going on,” said event organizer Betsy Davidson. “New Union Brewery opened recently and there are a lot of people who haven’t been there yet. They are normally closed on Tuesdays, but they opened just for this event. That’s our goal, to get people to go visit these establishments. Tuesday isn’t the busiest night for restaurants and

bars. We encouraged people to do food and drink specials. New Union Brewery is having a dollar off, Larkin’s has some nachos on special. We want people to shop, eat and drink in Lowell and have a good time.”

“It’s always fun, it’s been great. It’s a good group,” said event volunteer Matt Davidson. “We doubled the number of participants from last year, we have 42 players. I think everybody is running a drink special to entice the people to support the business while they’re there. All the business owners that I talked to have been nothing but supportive and excited about it.”

“It was really fun,” said player Lecia Selzer. “We went to all six places [Larkin’s, Sneakers, Flat

River Grill, Main Street BBQ, New Union Brewery and Century Post]. I have not been to all of them before. My favorite was Main Street BBQ, the food was really good. We started out at the New Union Brewery and had a beer there. I liked it. I had a wheat beer with some kind of fruit in it. It was very good, that was my favorite.”

“My hot wife Karen Mulder brought me out here tonight,” said player Fred Mulder. “It was fun, we had a good time. We traveled all down Main St. It was good exercise. We had beer at probably 50 percent of the places, otherwise we would be stumbling down Main St. Main Street Brewery was

Poker Run,
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Volunteer Matt Davidson registered participants and dealt playing cards.

Council and LLP hold joint special meeting to discuss future of line shack

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council and the Lowell Light & Power board of directors, along with city attorney Dick Wendt, had a special meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 24 to discuss the sale or lease of the 1,900 square foot “line shack” building at 115 Riverside Dr. The meeting lasted an hour and 16 minutes and was attended by one member of the public.

“[Lowell Light & Power general manager] Steve [Donkersloot] and I have been approached by an entity, who will remain nameless at this time, about possibly redeveloping the line shack in to a restaurant,” city manager Michael Burns said. “This building has been used for really nothing but storage. The cost for maintenance is little, if any, right now. [...] Lowell Light & Power hasn’t used it for the last 13, 14 years and at this time we have no use for it. The building is blighted, it’s an obvious blight.”

City councilor Greg Canfield said that he tried to buy the property a few years ago but there was no interest in selling. He said



Lowell city council and the Lowell Light & Power board had a joint special meeting to discuss selling or leasing the “line shack” building.

the building should be used for a public purpose rather than for private profit.

“I actually approached the Light & Power board three or four years ago anonymously through a local real estate agent, Greenridge, with some interest in the building, to lease it,” Canfield said. “There really wasn’t any interest on the Light & Power board. I don’t think

Special meeting,
continued, page 3

Muskegon-based auto dealers purchase Grand Chrysler Dodge Jeep

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Muskegon-based automobile dealers Betten Baker have purchased Grand Chrysler Dodge Jeep and plan to purchase Wittenbach Pontiac GMC. Betten Baker now owns seven West Michigan dealerships, including locations in Coopersville, Muskegon and Twin Lake.

“Both owners [Bryan Betten and Chris Baker] grew up in the Grand Rapids area and have

many connections within the trade area of the Grand dealerships,” said Pete Ricards, Betten Baker division director. “Lowell is a great community and it is an honor to provide needed services to the residents of Lowell and the surrounding areas.”

Ricards said to watch for some development on the sites soon.

“We anticipate remodeling and/or new

construction very soon,” Ricards said. “All of the Betten Baker dealerships feature very modern facilities with customer amenities that are among the industry’s best. We believe our Lowell area customers deserve that same level of experience.”

Ricards said that current employees jobs are safe, they do not plan to take over and fire everybody.

“We are pleased to be able to retain the same great people,” Ricards said. “Our customers should expect to see familiar faces. We will strive to maintain the high level of service that has been provided by Grand, while improving the experience through facility enhancements and increasing the capacity to serve greater numbers of customers.”

50 CENTS





along main street

Ways to commemorate Black History Month

(SPM Wire) February, which is Black History Month, is a great opportunity for schools and individuals to turn their focus toward an important aspect of American history.

There are many ways citizens can commemorate the month across the country. This year, many are planning trips to the nation's capital to visit the newly opened National Museum of African American History and Culture. This Smithsonian Institution museum features exhibitions on slavery, emancipation, social justice, cultural traditions and more.

Another way some are choosing to celebrate the

month is to see the new film, "Hidden Figures," which tells the story of a trio of African-American women mathematicians whose behind-the-scenes calculations made several NASA missions possible.

Families and students also can take trips to their local libraries this Black History Month to check out classic texts like "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave," as well as such contemporary literature as "Between the World and Me," by Ta-Nehisi Coates. Ask your local librarian for help in making age appropriate suggestions for your family.

...

In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

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.

SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES

Free smoking cessation classes begin Tues., Feb. 21. Tobacco Free For Good class meets for six weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6-8 pm at Lowell Family Medical Center, 2550 East Main Street. Each participant creates their own individual quit plan. The curriculum follows a strength based approach and is led by a Mayo Clinic trained and certified facilitator. Friends and family members are welcome to attend for support. Registration encouraged. Call 616-446-7058.

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 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.

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.

Strive for a Safer Driver

More than 54,000 students at 50 Michigan high schools will soon benefit from efforts to make teenagers better, safer drivers.

Strive for a Safer Drive (S4SD) is a public-private partnership between Ford Driving Skills for Life (DSFL) and the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning that seeks to reduce traffic crashes; the leading cause of death for teens. In 2015, there were

41,961 crashes in Michigan with a driver age 15-19. Those crashes resulted in 84 fatalities and 477 serious injuries.

As part of the S4SD program, schools receive \$1,000 for students to create teen-led traffic safety campaigns to educate their fellow classmates about distracted driving, seat belt use, speeding, underage drinking/impaired driving or winter driving.

The S4SD schools for the 2016-2017 school year are: Antrim County: Central Lake Barry County: Lakewood Berrien County: Benton Harbor Calhoun County: Harper Creek Grand Traverse County: Traverse City West Hillsdale County: Jonesville and Reading Kent County: Lowell Leelanau County: Glen Lake Lenawee County: Adrian Livingston County: Fowlerville and Hartland Macomb County: Henry Ford II Marquette County: Ishpeming Mason County: Mason County Eastern Midland County: Herbert Henry Dow Monroe County: Dundee, Ida and Monroe Muskegon County: Mona Shores Oakland County: Clarkston, Holly, Lake Orion, Lamphere, Pontiac Academy for Excellence, Troy Athens, University and Waterford Kettering Ontonagon County: Ontonagon Area Osceola County: Pine River Ottawa County: Spring Lake Presque Isle County: Posen Sanilac County: Crosswell-Lexington Shiawassee County: Ovid-Elsie St. Joseph County: Three Rivers Van Buren County: South Haven Washtenaw County: Dexter, Lincoln Senior, Skyline and Ypsilanti Wayne County: Benjamin Franklin, Carlson, Edsel Ford, Flat Rock, Golightly Career & Technical Center, John Glenn, Lincoln Park, Plymouth

Schools will submit a video or PowerPoint outlining campaign activities. The top five campaigns will be selected as the winning schools and win a cash prize ranging from \$500-\$1,500.

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Special meeting, continued

anybody ever knew that it was myself who was interested. That is such a unique spot and if that building is ever removed you'll never be able to put anything back there. My intentions were to maybe do a kayak launch and some things with the Main St. Inn, put public bathrooms that would be open during the day... There is so much recreation on the river and nothing on this side. I think it would be a huge mistake to take it down, because

once it's gone you can never put it back. [...] There's a restaurant in the vicinity, pretty close to that, that's in pretty rough shape but still gets a lot of business. It's the location."

"If, in fact, this is property that I think I'm hearing you want to lease rather than sell, the way to do that would be to put together a request for proposals and in that request for proposals put in the parameters under which you are willing to accept proposals and see

what kind of response you get from that and evaluate those proposals," Wendt said.

After some more discussion the two bodies decided to direct Burns to create a request for proposals from people and entities interested in leasing and developing the property.

"You could get ten proposals and you could say you don't like any of them and you reject them," Burns said. "The power is in your hands."



This building at 115 Riverside Dr. was described as "obvious blight" by city manager Burns.

Church hopes to build on land pending zoning approval

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Sam Noon, owner of Noon Equipment, 11930 E. Fulton, wants to sell his property to Impact Wesleyan Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake. Both sides have agreed to the sale and the church has plans ready for a new building that will double their current seating capacity. However, Lowell Township zoning restrictions might make the sale impossible.

"We are in the process of purchasing the Noon property," said Ryder Jones, Impact's worship and arts director. "Right now we're working with the township to make an amendment for us to be able to be there. It was partially zoned commercial, the front three acres are zoned commercial, so they have to make an amendment for it to be used as a general use property."

Noon said the Lowell Township planning commission does not want the sale to go through because a church would not pay any taxes.

"The township won't let it go through. They're holding me up," Noon said. "It looks like it could be as long as four to five months before I'm going to get it okayed. This is commercial property. This piece of

property gives a lot of tax. I don't pay a lot of tax but if anybody else comes in here, whatever they put in here is going to be taxed pretty high. Churches don't pay taxes. They don't want to let me sell it to the church because they don't want to lose the tax."

Nobody from Lowell Township would speak

Land sale pending, continued, page 16

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Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one.

~ Albert Einstein

December LPD stats

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

According to recently released statistics, Lowell police department made 19 arrests during December. These arrests included four for drunk driving, four drug law violation, two for driving with a suspended license, three for outstanding warrants and four that are described in the police department's information as

"other arrests." That brings the total number of arrests in Lowell during 2016 to 281.

Lowell police also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during December. There were five larceny calls, two breaking and entering complaints, two calls for malicious destruction, one disorderly conduct call, three dog complaints and five assaults.

Lowell police issued 28 citations and notified 17 residents about ordinance violations. They were called to "assist" 82 times and were dispatched to 11 accidents. Out of 113 traffic stops they let 98 drivers go with just a warning. During 2016 Lowell police made a total of 1,130 traffic stops and let 1,001 of those drivers go.

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Poker Run, continued

excellent. I had a blackberry wheat beer and it was very tasty. That was my favorite beer of the night. I have been there before and I will go there again. It's very good."

The event raised a few hundred for LowellArts and gave out some nice cash prizes.

"The chamber collected \$420 and donated that back to the top five places and had 42 people registered," Betsy

Davidson said. "Andy Peal ended up with the winning hand of Full House Queen High. He won \$220 and donated \$100 of that back to the LowellArts. People were able to buy an extra hand at Larkin's for \$5 and those monies collected went to LowellArts."

"Deb Apol from Larkins, another winner, donated \$40 back to LowellArts," said Liz

Baker, executive director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. "It was a wonderful night and everyone that participated had fun."

"Everyone seemed to have a great time and it was an opportunity for the restaurants to have more traffic on a Tuesday night," Betsy Davidson said. "We do plan on doing it next year."



Larkins was full of traveling poker players last Tuesday for the "Pub Poker Run" event. Photo submitted by Betsy Davidson

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viewpoint

to the editor

touching ceremony

To the Editor:

This note acknowledges "A Hats Off to the Lowell Public Schools" which comes from nearly fifty military Veterans who were honored by the girl's and boy's basketball teams last Friday, January 27, 2017. Between the two varsity games, each Veteran was escorted into the gym by a member of the girl's or boy's varsity team. Lowell athletic director, Dee Crowley, read the names and a brief description of each honoree's military background as they were introduced to a packed gym. We were especially touched to have these student athletes acknowledge the service of Lowell Veterans which covers nearly seventy

years from post-WWII to today. The audience, which chose to stand throughout the entire ceremony, was also very moving.

To us, it was further evidence that our Lowell schools (and its students) have not forgotten the sacrifices Veterans and their families have made to keep us a free and prosperous nation. It was an amazing night and, speaking for all Veterans in attendance, we thank everyone involved.

The thoughtfulness and patriotism shown by our school's administration, faculty and students reminds all of us that we are indeed fortunate to live in such a truly exceptional community.

God Bless our schools and students and God Bless America.

Dave Thompson,
Lowell
US Navy, retired
Past Commander,
Lowell American
Legion, Post #152

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 ("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 Feb. 3, 1892

C. V. Coates, of Greenville, and Bert E. Quick, will fill the places with C. J. Church & Son made vacant by the removal, to other fields, of John Q. Look and Phebe Headworth.

Dr E. D. Mc Queen. V. S., attended the tenth annual meeting of the State Veterinary Surgeons' at Grand Rapids yesterday (Tuesday). The association has been incorporated under the state laws and the association is now in position to protect itself and its patrons from quacks and imposters.

Dela Bayne, a 10 year-old Muskegon girl, captured the heart of a Dr. Hanum, an excentric bachelor, who offered to take her with him on a tour around the world and give her a good education. Her mother consented and Dela went from Muskegon to San Francisco alone to meet the doctor. While there she wrote a letter to her mother in which she called the doctor a crank. He read it and she started back for Muskegon last Friday.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger Feb. 1, 1917

The C. E. Jakeway elevator property and business so pluckily carried on by Mrs. Jakeway since the tragic death of her husband, has been sold to C. H. Runciman for \$8,000; and the new proprietor is now in charge of the business, and his opening announcement to the farming public appears on the last page of this issue. Mr. Runciman is a pleasant appearing young man and as principal in this important business will be intimately connected with the future prosperity of Lowell and vicinity. A brief statement regarding him will not be out of place. He was born on a farm at Chelsea, Mich., 27 years ago; and attended and graduated from the Chelsea High school. Took a business course at Ferris

institute in 1908-9 and graduated from the Michigan State Normal college in 1911 as president of his class. He has been superintendent of school at Millington two years and at Grosse Isle four years; is married and has two children. Will move his family here at once. We bespeak for Mr. Runciman a cordial reception by the good people of Lowell and vicinity.

Two well-known Lowell young people were united in the holy bonds of matrimony Monday evening at 6:30 in a quiet wedding at the home of Mrs. Thomas F. Doyle in this village, her daughter Miss Bertha Ellen and Mr. Roland Marcus Shivel, the successful attorney-at-law. Rev. Charles Bolte of Greenville officiated in the presence only of family and intimate friends. Of the groom's people only his sister, Miss Helen Shivel, was present, their parents being detained by the illness of Mrs. Shivel. The happy couple left on an evening train on a wedding trip to Pittsburg. On their return they will visit Mr. Shivel's people at Constantine; and afterward will make their home with the bride's mother, Mrs. Doyle.

Complaint is made of children being sent to school unwashed and with heads in a condition unfit for association with other children. Parents in such cases are more to blame than the children. Water, soap and combs have not reached a prohibitive price and are much more important than many things for which money is freely spent. Children who go to school in an uncleanly condition must be sent home for cleaning; and offending parents need not be surprised if this is done without notice.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger Feb. 5, 1942

This all-out war for the preservation of the American way of life has put a severe crimp in almost all lines of business. Among those hardest hit are the retail car dealers and the retail tire dealers, but to the credit of both let it be said that they are taking it on the chin manfully. Local stations report of gas sales have declined from 33 to 50 per cent since car and tire rationing became effective.

Michigan will go on War Time (Daylight Saving Time) at two o'clock next Monday morning, Feb. 9, as the result of action taken on Tuesday by the state administrative board, thereby accepting the provisions imposed upon the nation by an act of Congress. This means that Lowell clocks are to be advanced one hour in spite of the fact that we are already operating on New York time. For the time being, at least, Lowell schools, the State Savings Bank, the Pere Marquette and the Grand Truck railroads, bus schedules, etc., according to information available at this writing, will operate on the new War time pending whatever future

developments may occur. There is some possibility that the state legislature which will convene in another special session called by the Governor for next Monday, may decide to go back "to Central Standard Time. If such action is taken it would mean that advancing our clocks one hour would have the practical result of leaving our time the same as at present. Local factories report that their clocks will be advanced to war time. The Lowell Manufacturing Company will take a vote of its employees today, leaving it to them to decide their working hours. Michigan's attitude to the war time plan was questioned because the state years ago quit its traditional place in the Central Standard time zone and advanced its clocks an hour under a state law adopting Eastern Standard time as the official standard. Arguments were advanced the federal act in effect merely brought the rest of the United States in line with Michigan, and the state should not be expected to advance its clocks again. The administrative board's resolution made it clear that some upper peninsula communities which still operate on Central Standard time need advance only to Eastern Standard, which will be an hour behind the time prevailing in Michigan.

Theo Bailey of Vergennes Twp. was elected vice president of the Grand Rapids Guernsey Breeders' association at its annual meeting held in Grand Rapids January 28. Fred C. Bowen of Lowell was elected a director. The new president of the association is Ernest W. Ruehs of Caledonia.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Feb. 2, 1967

Snow storm paralyzes area. Lowell was digging out Monday after the paralyzing storm of last Thursday and Friday dumped 19 inches of snow on the area. While the brunt of the storm was to the south, high winds blew the snow into huge drifts and closed off many of the roads faster than the road commission trucks could plow them out. Few cars and trucks could move Friday with Saturday conditions not too much better until late in the evening. Lowell Area Schools closed at 2 p. m. Thursday afternoon, and were unable to re-open until Tuesday morning when road conditions proved safe for the buses to go out. No deaths because of the storm were reported here and only minor accidents. On Friday morning, some people were walking, but most just stayed home. Factories had only a few employees on-the-job and they closed at noon. Some business places in Lowell never opened; some opened and then closed when the snow kept coming. Two reports of buildings damaged by the heavy snow were confirmed. The awning on Curly Howard's Club

LUMC parishioner promotes "Lines of Love"



by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

With negativity running at an all time high, one local church is making a rather colorful positive gesture that they're calling "Lowell Lines of Love."

"We are trying to get people to put their names out on flags in order to make sure that people know how much love there is in Lowell, what a wonderful community we are and that good things are going on in Lowell," said Lowell United Methodist parishioner Harriet Graves, who came up with the idea. "We're inviting everyone in the community to put their names out there or the name of someone they love. It can be their boyfriend, their girlfriend, their husband, their neighbor, their kid, anyone, just to express the love that we have in our community."

"On one end you put the name of yourself and on the other end you put the [name] of someone you want to pray for and love and care about," said LUMC pastor Brad Brillhart. "It's just a way to express care and love for others and for the community."

The church's goal with Lowell Lines of Love is to create a sort of antidote to the nastiness that seems to have taken over American culture.

"We had been talking a little bit about our need to minister to and help others and Harriet came up with this idea," Brillhart said.

"Sometimes we, as a society, are focusing too much on the negative aspects of where we are and we don't realize all the wonderful, good things that

we have," Graves said. "I think our community has a lot of love for each other. It's good to accept that."

Graves said her inspiration for Lowell Lines of Love came from the Pont des Arts bridge in Paris.

"There are lots of places all over the world where people will put up signs of love," Graves said. "There is a bridge in France that has 'Locks of Love.' People would write their names on a padlock, then put the lock on the bridge as a declaration of love. Unfortunately that got too heavy and they had to cut the locks off."

If you want to add your name or a loved one's name to a flag, head to Lowell United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main or call 616-897-5936.

"Come to the office on a weekday, we have all the supplies," Brillhart said. "If they just want to call the church and tell us what to write, that's fine too."

"If it goes well then maybe next year we can approach the city and try to do it as a bigger thing, maybe decorate the bridge," Graves said.

happy birthday



FEBRUARY 1

Lila Grummet, Chris Vezino, Ryan Teelander, Sommer Mercer, J. Johnson, Monica Burt, Ryan Peel, Lydia Koeppel.

FEBRUARY 4

Jo Hill, Kelsey Scheider, Alan Lally.

FEBRUARY 5

Ann Mulder, Colleen Myers, Mandy Schneider, Mike Conklin.

FEBRUARY 2

Marie Wade, Sarah Baker.

FEBRUARY 6

Donna Oesch, Reed Stormzand, Norm Johnson, Angie Blough.

FEBRUARY 3

Dale Phillips, Clarice Poisson, Sana Bryant, Cassandra Thomas, Chris Dennie, Olivia Dennie, Jon Jacobs.

FEBRUARY 7

Margaret Peckham, Gordie Barry, Peggy Covert.

LUMC pastor Brad Brillhart hopes the Lines of Love with help promote the good things about the area.

...

"To a brave man, good and bad luck are like his left and right hand. He uses both."

~ St Catherine of Siena

health



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

RSV season

This is the time of year that we see a lot of RSV infections. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) causes infections of the respiratory tract during the winter months.

RSV is spread by respiratory droplets when someone coughs. Young children and infants have the highest risk of getting the infection. Children are exposed to the infection in school and daycare.

Common symptoms of RSV include fever, runny nose, cough, wheezing, chest congestion and difficulty breathing. Very old people and young infants can develop severe infections. Symptoms usually start three to seven days after exposure.

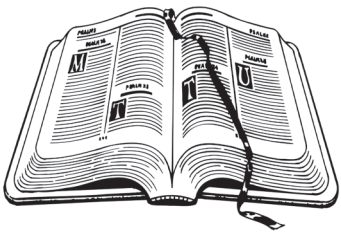
Diagnosis of RSV is usually made in the office after obtaining a history

and performing an exam. Sometimes a rapid test to detect RSV will be done by swabbing the nose.

Treatment of RSV is largely supportive. Antibiotics are not useful because this is a viral infection. Bronchodilator medications may be prescribed via a nebulizer or hand held metered dose inhaler. Symptoms usually resolve over one to two weeks. Some patients will develop severe symptoms requiring hospitalization.

Common sense practices will help prevent spread of RSV infections. Cover your mouth when you cough, wash your hands often, don't share drinking cups, and avoid close contact with people who have colds. Currently there is no vaccine for RSV.

area churches



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
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
Barrier-Free

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmarylowell.com

Weekend Masses: Sat 5 PM; Sun. 10:30 AM
Saturday Confessions: 3-4:30 PM
Prayer & Adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH 393, EWTN FOR 24HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

865 Lincoln Lake SE • 616.897.5906
Pastor Dick Sherlock

Worship Service - Sundays 10:00AM
Lowell's Open Table - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM
Serving meals and providing fellowship to the greater Lowell community

OPEN AND AFFIRMING
www.lowellucc.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)
897-7168 - www.fbclowell.org

Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor
Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries
SUNDAY WORSHIP..... 9:30 AM (Nursery provided)
SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM
Middle & High School - Mon-school year/Wed, summer, 7 PM

LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

discover. grow. share
621 E. Main Street
897-5938

www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

WORSHIP
9 AM - Traditional • 11 AM - Contemporary
Kid's Crew 11:15 AM
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart



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Deborah Williams, Agent
11827 Fabian St E
Lowell, MI 49331
Bus: 616-897-8227
deborah@statefarm.com

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2016 Water Quality Report for City of Lowell and Lowell Charter Township

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from 4 groundwater wells, each over 87 feet in depth, and drawing from the Grand River watershed. They are located at 1596 Bowes Road in Lowell behind the water plant.

Source water assessment and its availability

The state performed an assessment of our source water in 2003 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our source is moderate.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, can reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of some contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity: inorganic chemicals, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharge, and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; organic chemicals, including synthetic and natural organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum products and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radionuclides, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Lowell City Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI. Lowell Township meetings are held at 7:00pm on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Lowell Township hall, 2910 Alden Nash s.e. Lowell, MI. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Brian VanVeelen at 897-5234. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.

Variance and Exemptions

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these

contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 to December 31, 2015. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year,

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Lowell is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants

2016 Water Quality Report, continued, page 8

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) City of Lowell	NA	80	15.0	2.0	16.0	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) Lowell Twp.	NA	80	9.8	1.0	9.8	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acid (ppb) City of Lowell	NA	60	2.0	ND	2.0	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acid (ppb) Lowell Twp.	NA	60	<1.0	ND	1.0	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm) City of Lowell	4	4	.465	0.26	0.64	2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm) Lowell Twp.	4	4	.421	.21	.58	2015	No	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.95	0.8	1.1	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.72	0.6	0.8	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (optional) (ppm)		MPL	13.5	12	15	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	0	0	NA	NA	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform/R. coli - in the distribution system (positive samples)	0	0	0	NA	NA	2015	No	Human and animal fecal waste
A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or R. coli positive.								
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.7	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Looking Back, continued

Diner was broken down and several sections of the awning on Eberhard's store fell from the weight of the heavy snow. Many of Lowell's residents spent some of their free time shoveling snow off roofs or bracing overhanging awnings. Some local citizens who were working in other parts of the state were unable to get home on Friday or Saturday. Bud Thurtell was stranded in Flint from Thursday to Saturday. Bud was one of the lucky ones who found a motel to stay in. Charles Houseman was snowed in in Kalamazoo from Thursday to Saturday. Every accommodation was filled down there so Charles, along with eight other stranded travelers, bunked at the Associated Truck Terminal in Kalamazoo. With main highways blocked going to Lansing, Flint and Kalamazoo, communications of all types were shut off. Lowell stores reported that bread supplies ran low on Saturday for much of the baked goods for this area comes from Detroit. Mail service came to a halt on Friday with some rural carriers not even able to get their cars to the post office. City carriers were unable to walk in the residential area. No mail trucks made it in from Chicago to Grand Rapids, so little mail was finding its way into the Lowell post office. Mrs. Trenis Devener was one of the residents of the area who found her car had completely vanished by the time the storm blew out. Only the antenna was still visible. Of course, babies are no respecters of storms. Mrs. Louise Torian, who lives near Lake Odessa, had to have the help of the Ionia County Road Commission crews when it became apparent that the birth of her child was imminent. The baby arrived at the height of the storm at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. Mrs. George Miles of Lowell, who is awaiting the birth of her sixth child anytime now, suffered labor pains about midnight Friday night. Mr. Miles, with the help of a neighbor, braved the storm and drifts to bring Mrs. Miles to Lowell on the assumption that she might have to go to the hospital. She spent the night at the home of Mrs. Helen Ford. The labor pains subsequently proved to be false and Mrs. Miles is still waiting. Road crew members as well as independent snow plow operators were easily recognized by Monday due to the tired and hollow-eyed look they wore. Many of the Kent County Road Commission men went as high as 24 hours without sleeping.

Last week two ladies found themselves locked in the City Hall and had to be released by Lowell Police who were called by a passerby. Remember, the city hall locked up at 5:30 p.m. each evening when the city office is closed.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger Feb. 5, 1992

Site opposition doesn't see fairness or practicality in financing water for condo project. Lowell's City Council got what it wanted, informative conversation between itself and the public regarding a proposed water, sewer, streets program in the Grindle Drive neighborhood. The 70-plus people in attendance at the public information session Monday night, made it clear that helping to finance a water program for the proposed Highland Hills Condominium site is not what they want. Tom Reedy stated, "It is not fair or equitable to ask us to finance water for the condo site." Reedy pointed out that a \$10,000 lot he owns would be assessed at \$20,000 and in order for him to cover cost he would have to sell the lot at \$30,000. "That is not practical. I would never be able to regain that loss." John LeFevre of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber presented the proposed cost estimates for water, street and sewer improvements on the northeast (Grindle Drive) area. The water pumping station required is to serve residents in the higher elevations in the northeast area of the City. Inadequate pressure is currently observed in the area of High Street and James Street. The system in its current configuration cannot be safely expanded and was identified as a high priority in the 1989 water reliability study. "The booster station, according to LeFevre could serve a maximum of 155 residences. The apportionment for the cost of the booster station attempts to evenly share the cost by all potential beneficiaries. That cost would be \$1,077 per user. Those who already have water in some areas would only be assessed for road improvements. Jack Misner questioned why the Council was even having another meeting on the issue. "I didn't hear anything positive from the first discussion. I haven't heard anything positive in the community about the project either," he said. "I get the feeling citizens don't matter, but developers do. Is this already a done deal?" Mayor James Maatman assured him that it was anything but a done deal. "That is why we are having this discussion tonight. So that the Council can hear from the public in regards to the matter." Chuck Myers raised the concern that special assessments could be made to property owners who do not want the project in the area in the first place. He added that the City could proceed considering the long-term payback of 77 new

tax base units, "but what if the demand for \$80,000 condominiums in Lowell stops the development after only three units are built. The City would then have no opportunity to recover their cost of improvements," he explains. Myers also passed out a petition for neighbors at the meeting, who oppose the condo project. A little over 60 signatures were tendered. Maatman said the Council wants to find the best possible solution. Most of those in attendance, whether residents of James Street or not, agreed those people need something to be done to fix their water pressure problem. The question was raised if road improvements could be held off until later? "For some of us it would be cheaper to give our land to the City, than to pay the assessment." Reedy said.

Board agrees to update communications of athletic standings. Due to a miscommunication between all parties during the fall sport season, the method for monitoring student athlete's academic standings has been updated by the Lowell Board of Education. A Lowell High School fall athlete had to be told just prior to the start of a league event that he was not eligible. The Lowell Personnel Committee of the Board of Education upon reviewing the situation agreed that the method of monitoring student athlete's academic standings need to be updated. Therefore the following changes were instituted: 1. All students placed on the ineligible list for any seven day period will not be allowed by their coaches to dress in uniform. 2. A "paper trail" including student and parent signatures on the newly developed forms will identify athletic status (warning or ineligibility) will be required to insure the parent, teacher, student, coach and athletic director understands the academic status of the students. "The Board and I feel badly that this situation occurred with a Lowell athlete and we hope that by updating our internal communication system it will serve to avoid miscommunication between all parties in the future," said Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch.

D.A.R.E. to say "No." Stating the D.A.R.E. bumper stickers did not hamper or distract from the sight of the black and yellow school buses, federal regulators waived a no sticker school bus policy so it could aid in the D.A.R.E. Program's fight against drugs. Michigan's D.A.R.E. Association went to the Motor Carrier Division of the State Police asking for the waiver. There are currently seven D.A.R.E. instruction programs in Kent County. The anti drug program came to Lowell two years ago.

2016 Water Quality Report, continued

were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring levels; these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing a contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb) City of Lowell & Lowell Twp.	0	15	ND	6/13 thru 6/14 2016	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppb) City of Lowell & Lowell Twp.	1300	1300	ND	6/13 thru 6-14 2016	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Water Plant Superintendent: Brian VanVeelen
Address: 1596 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331
home: (616) 897-5234
E-Mail: bvanveelen@ci.lowell.mi.us

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Lowell girls 5-1 record in conference

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing report

Lowell suffered a loss to Forest Hills Northern that marred a flawless conference record but did not slow down the Red Arrows. The girls varsity basketball team returned to the court last week improving their season record to 5-1 with wins over Forest Hills Central and Greenville and advanced them to the top of the OK White.

“We went back to work in practice; we have to keep it in perspective.” said Lowell head coach Heath Kent of the jarring loss. “We lost by two to a really good team, on the road without one of our scorers. We will have some people in some new roles over the next few weeks so it’s an opportunity for someone to step up their game. As we talked about, as a team, it’s a “next man up mentality” and we’ve got to be ready each week.”

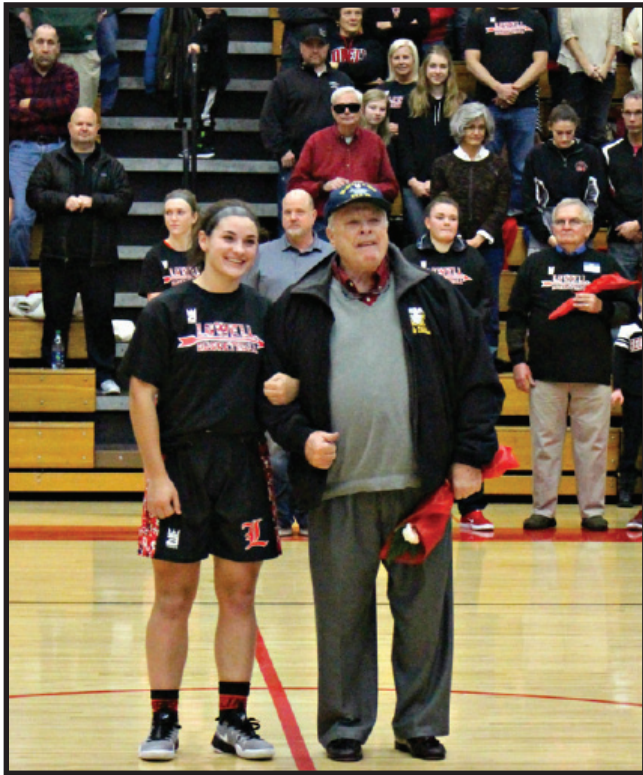
The team proved their renewed readiness Tuesday when they welcomed the Forest Hills Central

Rangers to their hardwood with the Arrows emerging on top of the action 56-41. Lowell took an early lead going up 12-4 in the first and matching that twelve-point performance in the

second to lead 24-20 after some fight back from the Rangers. Extending their lead by just two in the third, the game remained close for the Arrows moving into the final period of the game.

Rallying for victory, the team produced 17 points in the period, while allowing only five from the Rangers to gain their fourth conference win. The team’s effort was led by sophomore Regan Coxon who has been a big asset to the team this season on both sides of the ball. Fellow sophomore Emily DePew produced 15 points to place second in Arrow scoring proving the strength of the team’s underclassmen.

Friday the team went back into action against Greenville and pulled out a 46-42 win after three low scoring periods left them clutching tightly to a 24 point first as the clock ran dry. The Arrows’ ferocious first put them up by twelve at the close of the first but Greenville amped up their defense for the remainder of the game holding the Arrows to a combined 22 points while moving their own score to within four in



Junior Darby Dean with retired Navy commander David Thompson.



Sophomore Regan Coxon gives her all for a layup.

Girls basketball,
continued, page 10

Arrow boys win two and also improve record 5-1

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow boys varsity hoops logged one slim margin win and one wide in action against OK

White rivals Forest Hills Central and Greenville, improving their conference record to 5-1 and took

part in the program’s first Military Salute on the court last week. Tuesday on the road against the Rangers of Forest Hills Central the upswinging Lowell team beat out their opponent 68-63 in a “to the last second” battle. The tight game had the Arrows trailing by two, 16-14, after the first period. Fighting their way to the lead by the half the Arrows went into the locker room

30-27. They maintained their lead in the third staying up by just one point, 46-45, then went on a big scoring run in the fourth that left the Rangers climbing back but ultimately falling short as Lowell claimed the win 68-63.

Red Arrow seniors Austin Branagan, Matt Beachler and Andrew

Boys basketball,
continued, page 10



Senior Andrew Poulton.



Siblings Austin and Makyla Branagan with U.S. Marine Larry Branagan.



Points leader Matt Beachler goes airborne for one of his 21-points.

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Girls basketball, continued

another nail-biting finish for the Arrows. The win pushed Lowell into first place in the OK White as they trailed only the losing Greenville team by half a game heading onto the court.

Junior Cassie Dean was the leading scorer dumping a phenomenal 23 points in the bucket in the win. Coxon rose to the top of scorers again chipping in double digits with 11. Coach Kent said that the two girls have been a force

for the team recently, but quickly added that their bench is ripe with eager talent. "Cassie has been playing really well lately, as has Regan. We have got such a deep team that we've had different people stepping up each night. A couple of games ago we were in a funk until Makyla Branagan and Kenzie North came in and gave us a good lift and really got us going. The other night it was Darby Dean and Carly Hoekstra

who came in and gave us a lift. The kids understand that we are going to run with the kids who are on that night and who are giving us some good energy. We don't have any superstars, just some hard nosed kids who are hungry to be successful and I wouldn't have it any other way."

Following the win the team took part in the basketball program's first Military Salute which took place between varsity

games in a doubleheader with the boys varsity. Each member of the ladies' team stood center court with a current or former soldier in honor of their service. A special program, jerseys and personal histories of each of the honorees were created for the event. The special salute was inspired by the varsity gymnasts who have been holding their own tribute for the past three years.

Now 10-2 overall and 5-1 in conference, the Arrows took a break from the OK White on Tuesday when they faced Caledonia in exhibition play and then will launch into the second half of the conference season when they face Cedar Springs on the road Friday.



Boys basketball, continued

Poulton each scored in the double digits. Branagan led all scorers netting 24, followed by Beachler with 18 and Poulton with ten. The trio put up a big fight defensively which continued on Friday at home against Greenville.

The winning 67-44 contest against Greenville kicked off with a special Military Salute. A first-time event for the Lowell varsity basketball program, the special ceremony was

intended to thank those who have given or are giving their commitment to service in the United States armed forces. According to head coach Travis Slinger, the event was created as a way for the students to give back to the community as well as honor American heroes. The players did that by inviting one honoree from their life and bringing them center court while athletic director Dee Crowley shared the story of their service with

the jam-packed gymnasium. The ceremony, which also included the girls varsity team, concluded with the National Anthem sung by the school choir. Breaks during the doubleheader included performances from the pep band and varsity gymnastics team.

Senior fire was on full display after tip off with the trio of Branagan, Beachler and Poulton making big moves on the court both offensively and defensively.

Steals, tips and sharp shooting put the Arrows up 22-4 after the first period. The team saw Beachler jam a slam dunk and maintain a 17-point lead to end the half 38-21. A big scoring run from Poulton and plenty of support around the basket pushed the score to 58-31 after the third. Greenville put up a fight in the fourth holding Lowell to just 10 points and putting up 13 of their own, but were unable to overcome the earlier

deficit and saw the Arrows claim their fifth OK White victory. Beachler was the night's leading scorer producing 21 points while

Branagan added 15. The win keeps the team on the top of the conference with a record of 5-1 and an overall record of 7-5-1.

This week the team hit the road for Caledonia on Tuesday night for exhibition play and will face Cedar Springs Friday as they enter the second half of the OK White season. Tip off is scheduled for 5:30 pm.

Sports Summaries

BOYS SWIM & DIVE

Two first-place finishes and a fifth-place invitational finish highlighted a busy week in the pool for the Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian boys varsity swim and dive team. Tuesday at Grand Rapids Union High School the team dominated the competition with a score of 105-45. Earning individual first-place honors were Parker Lee in the 200 freestyle and 100 fly; Ryan Parsons in the 200

individual medley and 100 breaststroke; and Mike Johnson in the 100 backstroke. The team also picked up relay wins in the 200 medley, freestyle and the 400 freestyle. Thursday against the Hastings/Thornapple Kellogg co-op the swimmers won 109.5-66.5 with wins in the 200 and 400 freestyle and the 200 medley. Topping solo races were Lee in the 100 and 200 freestyle; Parsons in the 100 fly and the 200 individual medley; and Ren Bykerk in the 50 and 500 freestyle. The win puts the team at an undefeated 3-0 in conference competition. The team wrapped up their week at Hudsonville High School where they finished in the fifth position with 90 points.

...

One man practicing sportsmanship is better than a hundred teaching it.

~ Knute Rockne (1888 - 1931)

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ICE HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia Hockey hit the ice for a weekend tournament and returned with two wins improving upon an already winning season. The team defeated Macomb Dakota High School by 5-3 and trumped Midland High School with a score of 5-2. This week the team will hit the road twice for competition traveling to Kenowa Hills on Wednesday and visiting Portage Northern on Saturday.

GIRLS BOWLING

Lady Arrow varsity bowlers visited the Northview Wildcats Wednesday for their lone competition of the week falling 25-5 in OK White action. This week the bowlers will travel to Forest Hills Northern on Wednesday with only four regular matches remaining on their schedule this year.

BOYS BOWLING

The Red Arrow varsity boys bowling team maintained their undefeated conference status with a considerable win over Northview in competition last week Wednesday. Logan Smith and Carson Clark bowled twin 237 games to lead the 22-8 win. The team currently tops the OK White and has only suffered one loss, against non-conference foe Jenison, this season.

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Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

SPORTS

Gymnasts earn a pair of wins, place fifth at invitational

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The Red Arrow varsity gymnastics team earned a pair of wins and a fifth-place finish on the road at the Kenowa Hills High School Invitational on Saturday.

Monday the team squared off against East Kentwood winning the match 132.125-105.30. Leading the team on the vault was Maura Fitzpatrick who earned an 8.65, followed by Amber Brown (8.35), Emily Lothian (8.15) and Tori Miller and Paige DeHaan who both finished with a 7.9. Corah Miller placed best on the bars for Lowell earning an 8.4. Her score was followed by those of Karmen Anderson (8.3), Lothian (7.875) and Hadyn Nash (7.85).

Over on the balance beam Alise Forward took top honors for the Arrows scoring an 8.075. Brown (7.85), DeHaan (7.7) and Nash (7.625) also scored well on the apparatus. Lisa Price performed best for the team on the floor exercise coming in with a 9.075. Fitzpatrick (9.075), Forward (8.85) and Brown (8.4) rounded out the Arrows' top scorers in the event.

Wednesday the team honored their senior members when they hosted both Kenowa Hills and Rockford. Head coach Michele DeHaan said the night was emotional with seven ladies bidding farewell after this winter season. "All seven of these girls have been with me since elementary school. It

is crazy to think after this year they will move on to the next stage of their life, so we are just trying to accomplish all we can so they leave with some great memories."

Alise Forward, Corah Kaufman, Lisa Price, Paige DeHaan, Sela Bauman, Allison Fuller (Ionia) and Karmen Anderson were highlighted in the small ceremony. DeHaan said the group holds a special place for her as they have been through a unique time for the program. "These senior girls were freshman when we made it to state as a team for the first time in school history. They are a special group for sure, I have no doubt they will finish this team with broken records and making more history."

The team went on to top both of their opponents in the meet finishing with a 139.30 ahead of second place Rockford (136.5) and Kenowa who pulled up the rear with a 130.7. "Rockford is the reigning two time state championship team. We haven't beat them in a few years," explained DeHaan, "They are a strong program so that's definitely a great accomplishment for us."

Fitzpatrick earned a 9.125 on the vault to lead the team, followed by Miller (9.0) and Forward and Nash (8.8). Fitzpatrick also picked up top scoring for the Arrows on the balance beam with an 8.8. Her finish was followed by Anderson (8.425), Lisa Price (8.4) and Forward (8.35). This was only the second time Price

has competed in the event during her four-year career according to DeHaan, who said she was impressed with her effort. "She is so graceful, she can be missing a few requirements and still score higher than others due to how well she is doing the skills in her routine."

Price also placed well in the floor exercise tallying a score of 9.125 to lead Lowell. Fitzpatrick (9.025), Anderson (8.825) and Forward (8.7) added

to the top scorers in the event. Anderson topped her teammates on the uneven bars scoring an 8.675, while Forward (8.5), Fitzpatrick (8.4) and Miller (8.35) followed.

Over the weekend at the Kenowa Hills Invitational the ladies placed fifth overall with a score of 135.25. Fitzpatrick placed on all four events earning her third-place all-around honors. Other individual

placers were Miller on the vault along with Price on the floor. Lowell earned five of the ten top places on the bars with Forward leading the way and Anderson, Brown

and Miller also placing. Landing behind Fitzpatrick in the all-around category were Anderson in seventh and Forward in ninth.

The gymnasts, now 4-1 in conference, will host their last home meet of the season on Wednesday night against Forest Hills at Lowell High School. Action is scheduled to begin at 7 pm.



Seniors- Senior gymnasts Alise Forward, Corah Kaufman, Lisa Price, Paige DeHaan, Sela Bauman, Allison Fuller (Ionia) and Karmen Anderson.

- WRESTLING

A conference win, a fifth-place tourney finish and one last dual before conference meet

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow varsity wrestling team competed in an OK White meet and an elite tournament last week.

On Friday night Lowell hosted conference rival Forest Hills Central, who was the only team remaining after this season's realignment apart from Lowell. Topping their opponent 63-13 the Arrows saw just three losses on the mat coming in the 152-160 and 171 pound weight classes. Winning their contests by fall were Jeff

Leach who won against Mitchel Strawser at 125 pounds, Austin Boone at 135 pounds who beat Jason Ross, Sam Russell who beat John Samsell at 140 pounds, David Kruse at 189 taking down BJ Franovic, Elijah Boulton who defeated Harrison Engler at 215 and heavyweight Max Bishop at 285 who trumped opponent Trace Schirmers.

Claiming win via forfeit for the Arrows was Nick Korhorn at 103 pounds, Hayden Lenard at 112, Dawson Jankowski at 119

and Avry Mutschler at 145. John Russell earned a win in the 130 pound weight class by a 12-1 major decision against FHC competitor Cole Kaminski.

Saturday the Arrows welcomed three number one-ranked Michigan teams, two nationally ranked and more than 50 elite ranked wrestlers for the Lowell Super Six Duals where they finished in the second position behind Division I Detroit Catholic Central. Leading to the finish the Arrow boys topped Eaton

Rapids 53-9 in their first dual and fell to Mason High School, out of Ohio, 33-22. In their win 12 Lowell grapplers won their contests including Boone, S. Russell, Bryce Dempsey, Austin Engle, Max Bishop, Jankowski and Jeff Leach who each won by decision. Claiming victory by fall were Keigan Yuhas, Kruse, Boulton, Hunter Browning and James Fotis.

Only five Red Arrows were victorious against tough opponent Mason in dual two which the team lost

33-22. Dempsey claimed a win at 152, Kruse at 189, Boulton at 215, Bishop at 285 and Jankowski at 112. In the finals round Lowell once again ended the dual with a score of 22 falling to Detroit Catholic Central

who scored 37 on the mat. Six Lowell wrestlers emerged victorious with Dempsey, Yuhas, Kruse, Boulton, Fotis and Mutschler winning in their respective weight classes.

This week the team will take on their last OK conference dual of the season when they travel to Greenville on Wednesday evening beginning at 7 pm. Their eighth consecutive OK White title might begin at the conference meet on Friday at Ottawa Hills.

obituaries

BAILEY

The Rev. Dean Irwin Bailey, age 81, of Lowell, MI, passed away on Wednesday, January 18, 2017. Rev. Bailey was a gifted preacher, a dedicated and caring pastor, a loving father, husband, and grandfather, a loyal friend, and a role model to many. His ministry touched countless lives through thousands of worship services, weddings, funerals, baptisms, and quiet conversations. When Pastor Bailey walked into a room, no matter how many people were present, you felt noticed, cared for and accepted. He mentored and guided others with grace, kindness, and humor. He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Janet Joyce Bailey; parents, Glenn and Iva Bailey; and his sister, Margaret Forester. He is survived by his children, Glenn Bailey (Catherine Cookson) of Salt Lake City, Utah, Tod Bailey of Lowell, Jill Bailey (Erich Nus) of Bow, Washington; seven grandchildren, and one great grandson. Rev. Bailey served as a United Methodist minister for 58 years. He and Jan served Michigan United Methodist churches in Leaton, Sanford, Vicksburg, Lowell, Stevensville, Traverse City (Central), Alto, and Bowne Center. He graduated from Central Michigan University (1957), and received his Masters in Divinity from Drew University (1960) in New Jersey, where he also served as a student pastor for the Community Church of Mountain Lakes. He was born and raised in Muskegon and Muskegon Heights. A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 8, 2017, 11:00 a.m. at Alto United Methodist Church, 11365 64th Street, Alto. Visitation will be from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Contributions in memory of Dean may be made to Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 Fulton Street E, Lowell, MI 49331, Alto United Methodist Church or Bowne Center United Methodist Church, PO Box 122, Alto, MI 49302.



KELLEY

Marilynne (Dilly) Kelley, 3/11/1933 - 12/24/2016, of Grandville and Florida. Marilynne was an avid bowler, gardener and card player. Marilynne was preceded in death by her husband, D. James Kelley and her brother, Robert Dilly. She is survived by her children, Ken (Deb) Kelley of Kentwood, Terri (Mark) Grinwis of Caledonia, Kevin Patrick Kelley of Salinas, CA, Michael Kelley of Grandville, and K. Sue (Dorrell) Priest of Lowell. Also survived by her siblings, Gert Dilly of Rockford, Richard (Mary) Dilly of Grandville, Barbara (Reg) Nelson of Kingsville, MO, Donald (June) Dilly of Lowell, and Donna (Gary) Laux of Lowell. She also has left behind seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. A memorial service and cremation have taken place. Memorial contributions may be made to: Christian Rest Home, 1000 Edison, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

LESKY

Melissa Lynn Lesky was born September 10, 1977, in Seoul, South Korea and was adopted by Michael and Sharon (Frye) Lesky of Lowell. Melissa passed away on January 12, 2017, at the age of 40 years. She is survived by her three children, Devan, Brenan, and Jordyn; parents, Michael and Sharon Lesky; siblings, Chris (Kathy) Lesky, Sara Lesky and Amanda Lesky; nephew, Jon Lesky; nieces, Taylor and Ana Lesky; and special friend, Derek Hoag. She is also survived by Aunt Gayle and husband, Glen Hartley and Uncle Gary and wife Lynne Lesky; and numerous cousins. Melissa was preceded in death by her grandparents, Robert and Arbutus Frye, Theodore and Blanche Lesky. Melissa attended Lowell High School and received her GED from Grand Rapids Schools. She got her Medical Tech degree from Ross. She loved singing, dancing, spending time with friends and being more than the life of the party. But most of all she loved her three children. A celebration of life service in honor of Melissa took place on January 15, 2017 at Evergreen Missionary Church in Lowell. In lieu of flowers, a trust is being established to provide for the care of her children by Mike and Sharon Lesky.



lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

tutors needed

The Literacy Center of West Michigan has scheduled information sessions for Thursday, Feb. 2 at 2 pm; Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 10 am; Monday, Feb. 13 at 6 pm; and Friday, Feb. 24 at 2 pm for prospective volunteer tutors. These sessions last one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the center and its literacy programs. At the end of each session, there will be a chance to sign up for tutor training.

The Literacy Center of W. Michigan is a nonprofit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in the community. Based on the 2003 National Assessment for Adult Literacy and the 1992 National Adult

Literacy Survey, up to 14.6 percent of adults in Kent County lack basic prose literacy skills and have difficulty using certain reading and writing skills considered necessary in everyday life. By training people to be tutors, the center can offer one-on-one reading help to adults asking for assistance in reading or English as a Second Language (ESL). You do not need to speak another language to tutor ESL.

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

•••

A creative man is motivated by the desire to achieve, not by the desire to beat others.

~ Ayn Rand

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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 **JAVIER GARCIA** Developmentally Disabled

Guardianship File No. 16-200,180-DD

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Karen Garcia, whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on February 15, 2017 at 8:45 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court,

180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian.

Dated: January 30, 2017
Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 391-1675

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

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

In the matter of **RUBEN GARCIA** Developmentally Disabled

Guardianship File No. 16-200,179-DD

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Karen Garcia, whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on February 15, 2017 at 8:45 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court,

180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian.

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



Judge says state 'slow-walking' Flint water delivery

(DETROIT) -- Attorneys representing the state conceded in federal court Monday that there is no plan in place to deliver bottled water to Flint residents that need it, while also arguing the state should not have to comply with the court order that mandated it because lead levels are below federal limits.

Federal district judge David Lawson was hearing arguments on two motions that could not be more opposed -- one to have the preliminary injunction dissolved and another that would force the state to meet its requirements.

He chose not to rule from the bench on either of them, but said he was "not all that persuaded by the state's argument" to throw out the injunction.

Lawson also was clearly not buying the argument that the state was doing all it could to comply with his preliminary injunction as the plaintiffs, a coalition of activists, sought to have the defendants held to it.

"The defendants are basically slow-walking their effort," Lawson said. "By next week I expect to receive a plan of compliance that is certainly more robust than the one I heard today."

The injunction mandates the state and city inspect all occupied homes in Flint and either document installed and properly functioning filters, install filters for them or ensure they are receiving four cases of bottled water per resident each week, delivered to their doorstep.

The state has argued the injunction would require a "herculean" effort and insisted that the task would be far too expensive and logistically complex.

The injunction was originally issued in early November, but a status report from the state in mid-December showed that the state had barely made progress.

Assistant attorney general Michael Murphy admitted they had "no set plan to deliver any water to residents of Flint." He claimed the six private vendors the state had reached out to so far didn't have the capacity to take on the task. When Lawson asked about employing multiple vendors, Murphy had no reply.

The state is also behind in hiring workers to inspect Flint's homes for properly installed filters. Despite a benchmark of 120, Murphy admitted they currently have 87 Flint residents working to check filters, with another 34 in training and an ultimate goal of 180 inspectors. He wasn't able to say when they would reach that number.

He said they had completed about 15,000 visits to homes thus far, but in a confusing follow-up, said all homes had been reached out to, but inspectors will have to return to roughly 28,000 because "they didn't contact

anybody on the first go-around."

Murphy said about 3,000 filters had been distributed, with close to 1,000 of those installed by inspectors.

Lawson said he wanted an updated plan of compliance to include "benchmarks, hiring targets, quotas, delivery options" and vendors, among other specificities.

In the first motion to be heard, which was to have the injunction dissolved, assistant attorney general Richard Kuhl said that because the state had been consistently below the federally-mandated lead action level of 15 parts-per-billion, it should not be bound by law to take additional action.

A press release just before the hearing from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) trumpeted the fact that the city's water was in compliance with federal regulations and the story received coverage from national outlets.

Kuhl said the government's advisement that residents should still not drink Flint water without a filter -- which was in the last paragraph of the DEQ release -- was "a political decision, not a compliance decision."

Lawson called Kuhl's focus on the Lead and Copper Rule, without

admitting the unfiltered water was safe for Flint residents to drink, "an interesting dodge."

Natural resources defense council senior counsel Dimple Chaudhary countered that regulations also require optimized corrosion control and stabilized levels of lead that are the lowest possible, before it could consider itself fully in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

"Just being below 15 parts-per-billion doesn't mean corrosion control is optimized," she said. "The data has not bottomed out."

Chaudhary later told MIRS she was unconcerned by the state's argument, saying the legal basis for her interpretation of the law was "well-established."

Kuhl maintained the lack of compliance thus far was not for lack of will.

"We have limited resources," he said. "We want to focus on other things to help the people of Flint."

Kuhl referred to health and educational programs and when Lawson asked if infrastructure replacement was included in that, Kuhl said it was "part of it."

He said 600 lead service lines were replaced thus far and expects the state intends to have every line removed "within three years."

Chaudhary was

insistent the state is not interested in complying, saying they "made no effort," were "stalling on the injunction" and were simply interested in "maintaining the status quo."

The case, Concerned Pastors for Social Action et al v. Khouri et al, has become the most prominent Flint water crisis suit to date.

Attorney general Bill Schuette attempted to take a personal stance on the case, siding with the plaintiffs in a brief that was filed without permission and which Lawson called "superficial posturing."

Lawson had ruled the brief created a "troubling ethical issue" because it could entitle the state agencies the AG's office is defending to new counsel and potentially delay the case. The attorneys though said their clients were not concerned with their representation, avoiding the snag.

Schuette, on Frank Beckmann's radio show Tuesday morning, defended his brief.

"I'm going to ignore the personal attack. Maybe he has a bias against me. I'm not everybody's cup of tea," Schuette said. "It's not posturing. I try to have good posture when I stand up for the citizens of Flint, but it's nothing about politics. It's about the people."

Michigan champions specialty crop issues on national stage

Michigan's delegation at the American Farm Bureau Federation's (AFBF) 2017 Annual Meeting secured some key policy provisions beneficial to the state's vital specialty crop sector. Two national-level policies were augmented with language supporting the expansion of fruit and vegetable options in school lunch programs.

Policy 111, School & Government Food Purchasing Programs and 239, National Farm Policy, now reflect the priorities and best interests of Michigan's specialty crop sector, which produces countless fresh and processed fruit and vegetable products.

"These changes give Michigan producers a greater opportunity to sell more produce through different marketing channels," said Ben LaCross, a Leelanau County cherry producer who represents District 9 on the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) Board of Directors and was among MFB's voting delegation at AFBF.

With these refinements now codified in national-level Farm Bureau policy, the

organization can prioritize working with the national academic community to explore opportunities for incorporating all forms of domestically produced fruits and vegetables in schools across the country.

"Michigan came here and made sure our specialty crop industry's voice would remain prominent in future farm bill discussions," said John Kran, MFB's national legislative counsel. "Whether that's guaranteeing access to research or increasing our marketing opportunities, we're committed to keeping our fruit and vegetable growers' priorities on the national agenda."

Other Michigan priorities addressed in Phoenix included the so-called "right to repair" and several safety-net components of the next national-level farm bill.

Concern over the right to repair—referring to the widening gaps between increasingly technical equipment and the humans operating it—turned out to be common ground

Michigan shared with state Farm Bureaus across the nation.

Farmers in all parts of the country are seeing fewer options for repairing their own equipment and concern is mounting about third-party access to the proprietary and farm-specific information that accumulates in onboard computers.

"Time will tell how this issue will manifest itself at the ground level," Kran said. "Codifying these concerns in policy was a first step—our members are expressing their concern about how evolving technology could impact their day-to-day operations on the farm."

"Overall we're excited about technology, but we're starting to see some unanticipated side effects—some growing pains—related to that technology with respect to data access and ownership."

MFB hopes the next farm bill will refine and strengthen the dairy industry's safety net.

"Now we have a framework in place to

build on and work toward improving those risk-management components that aren't yet performing optimally for our farmers," said Ernie Birchmeier, MFB's livestock and dairy specialist. "Now we can start building a better safety net."

Kran said that while dairy policy is always among the more complex issues the organization addresses, MFB will continue working with its advisory committees, county Farm Bureau leadership and rank-and-file members to make sure the next farm bill provides the soundest possible protections for Michigan's farmers.

Altogether more than 100 agriculture industry leaders represented Michigan's farming community at AFBF's 98th annual meeting, Jan. 6-11 in Phoenix, Ariz. Attendees included MFB leaders, select county Farm Bureau presidents and staff members, half a dozen Young Farmer contestants and several rank-and-file

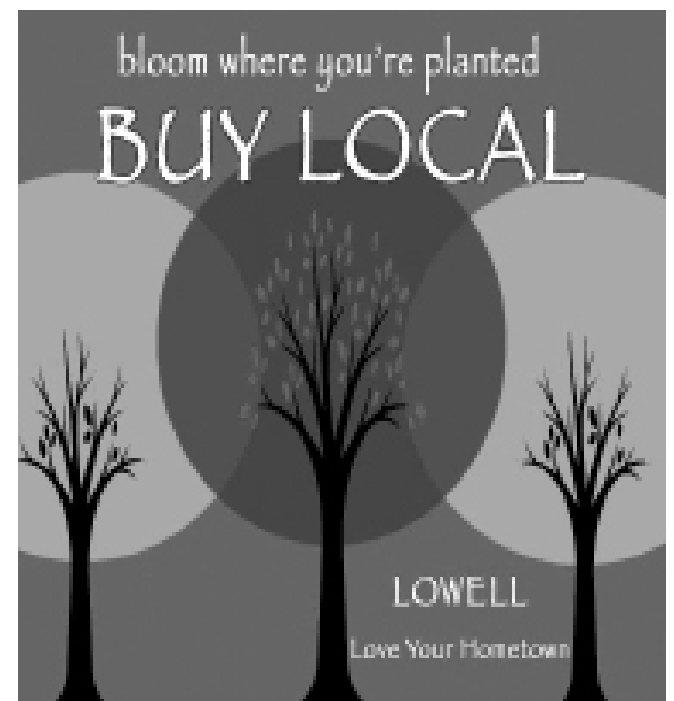
farmers from across the state.

In policy deliberations, Michigan was represented by 11 voting delegates and six alternates, who together comprise the MFB board of directors, led by President Carl Bednarski.

"I wish all of our members could come to an AFBF Annual Meeting to see how the process they start at the local level

culminates in this national event," Bednarski said. "Every year, Michigan earns the respect of every other state represented here, and that's a high compliment to every active member of Michigan Farm Bureau."

"Without their involvement, Farm Bureau's voice at the national level wouldn't be nearly what it is today."



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ACROSS

- 1. a.m. slice
- 6. "___ humbug!"
- 9. French Sudan, today
- 13. Opposite of bonjour
- 14. *Jesse Owens' team
- 15. Take exception to
- 16. Brightest star in Cygnus
- 17. Snowmobile runner
- 18. On the rocks
- 19. Highest level
- 21. *"Hidden ___," movie (2016)
- 23. ___ Luis Obispo
- 24. Goes with rave
- 25. Scepter's partner
- 28. Heat in a microwave
- 30. Greek poet from Lesbos
- 35. Road shoulder
- 37. Irritate
- 39. Lively olden-day dance
- 40. Diva's delivery
- 41. *Public ___ hip hop group
- 43. Wild ox of India
- 44. Tropical smoothie flavor
- 46. Charades, e.g.
- 47. ___ Pound, poet
- 48. Chest pain
- 50. Pop group "N ___"
- 52. Mary Kay's last name
- 53. A long walk
- 55. To boot
- 57. *Emancipation Proclamation President
- 61. *Dodgers' Rookie of the Year in 1947
- 64. Perfect
- 65. Lennon's wife
- 67. Hop-drying kilns

CROSSWORD											
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JANUARY 25 - JANUARY 31

- Joseph Perez, 7, asks New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, "Many people think you're their hero, but who's your hero?" Brady apparently choked up and answered, "I think my dad is my hero because he's someone I look up to every day." The little boy exclaimed, "my question made him cry!" With all of that Joseph is a Dallas Cowboy fan.
- A 27-year-old French-Canadian student, Alexandre Bissonnette, has been charged with killing six people in a Quebec mosque. He was not known previously to police but several activists knew him for his anti-feminist positions and on Facebook, liked: President Donald Trump, Jean-Marie Le Pen (a French right-wing politician), the band Megadeth, Israeli Defense Forces and Katy Perry.
- The Boy Scouts of America will now allow transgender children who identify as boys to enroll in their boys only programs. They now accept what gender is filled in on their form, not what is on a birth certificate.

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- 69. Facial growth
- 72. Fill beyond full
- 34. *Philanthropist
- 70. "Is," no longer
- 73. Indefinite degree
- Winfrey
- 71. Express a thought
- 74. Seventh month of Hebrew calendar
- 36. Gaspar, Balthasar and Melchior

DOWN

- 1. Little bit
- 2. Lyric poem, pl.
- 3. Hokkaido native
- 4. "___ Like Old Times"
- 5. *Railroad conductor
- 6. Portrait sculpture
- 7. Pose a question
- 8. Israeli port
- 9. Carte du jour
- 10. Gulf V.I.P.
- 11. Playwright Clare Booth ___
- 12. Wraths
- 15. Soldier's ID
- 20. Habituate
- 22. Opposite of outs
- 24. ___ News announcement to the press
- 25. *44th President
- 26. Was rebroadcast
- 27. Carry something
- 29. *Espoused civil disobedience
- 31. 1950s pin-up Bettie
- 32. Eloise's residence
- 33. Meryl Streep's "The ___"(2002)
- 42. Gossipmonger
- 45. Wait on a phone
- 49. Be unwell
- 51. Pupa's shelter
- 54. "Little ___ fact"
- 56. Giraffe's cousin
- 57. "Mad ___" word game
- 58. Lightbulb over head?
- 59. Whiskey without water
- 60. Nurse's attention
- 61. *___ Gibson, "the black Babe Ruth"
- 62. a.k.a. The Islamic State
- 63. Europe's highest volcano
- 66. *1831 slave rebellion leader
- 68. *Obama before becoming President

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.

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with the executive order to ban refugees from entering the United States?

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Land sale pending, continued

on the record. While the property is zoned commercial, this could be changed. The Noon property comprises about 40 percent of the commercial frontage in Lowell Township, already the home of tax-exempt organizations Flat River Outreach Ministries and Fountain View of Lowell. The traffic count in the township is not high enough to spark interest from a national chain, but a megachurch could increase traffic, which could draw businesses to the area.

"I think it's going to revitalize that whole area,"

Jones said. "I grew up in Lowell and that's always been the junkyard end of town. It will be nice to have a more welcoming entrance into Lowell and hopefully that will bring in more of what the township has been wanting to see. That was their primary reservation. They're losing some of that land where they would want a Chick-fil-A or a Culver's to come in."

Impact Church is confident the issues will be resolved.

"Our goal is to be breaking ground in early

May," Jones said. "A new building, a new facility, about an 800 seat worship space, as opposed to the 430 seats we have here. It will be a bit of an expansion, but we're packed to the beams here. It's going to take about a year and a half to get it all complete."

The church has deals in place that will allow them to break even on the property purchase, construction and move.

"It's likely that we are going to sell this property," Jones said. "We went through our building campaign last

fall and with the help of an anonymous donor who gave us a matching grant, it's looking like we're going to be able to get out of this project debt free. The figure is about a \$7 million facility over there and it looks with what we were able to raise, the matching grant and the sale of this building, we'll be able to do that debt free, which will put us in an even better place."

At this point the sale is on hold until the Lowell Township planning commission consults a lawyer.

"The planning commission is seeking further legal opinion," said planning commission chairman David Simmonds. "The planning commission received a legal opinion previously, but it didn't answer a lot of questions. Then we had a closed meeting, had a long discussion, came out of the closed meeting, went to the open meeting and made a motion to seek a further legal opinion. We're leaving it up to the folks in the township office to decide from whom to solicit the legal opinion.

The supervisor, the clerk, those people. They're the ones who pay the bills. It's up to them. Obviously they won't go back to the same attorney that they got the initial opinion from, but it has not been determined yet. The planning commission is not moving forward until we receive this second requested legal opinion."

The matter will be discussed at the next Lowell Township planning commission meeting at Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, at 7 pm on Monday, Feb. 13.

college news

Jonathan Vincent, of Ada, was among the more than nearly 350 graduates honored at Michigan Technological University's midyear commencement held on the Houghton, Michigan campus on Dec. 17.

Vincent graduated with a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering.

Hannah Anderson, Miriam Brooks, Megan Brownley, and Melissa Henry, all of Ada, were named to the dean's list for the fall 2016 semester at Saint Mary's College.

To earn academic honors at Saint Mary's, a student must achieve a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale, have at least 12 graded credit hours, no incompletes and no grades lower than a C.

Alto resident Amanda Smith earned a spot on the University of Dayton's fall 2016 dean's list, which honors undergraduate students achieving a minimum 3.5 GPA for the semester.

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