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50 CENTS



Chamber serves up awards during 2017 Winter Gathering membership event

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce held their annual Winter Gathering of the Membership dinner and awards banquet at Deer Run Golf Course on Thursday, Feb. 23. The awards are given by the chamber annually to people and businesses that improve the Lowell area community through volunteering,

promotion, innovation, investment and other forms of service.

After dinner and live bluegrass music from the Easy Idle Band, the awards were presented by Rick Seese from Greenridge Realty and Cliff Yankovich of Chimera Design. The first award of the night went to Impact Church, who received the Non-Profit Spotlight award.

"It's very nice to be recognized, but we're humble, awards are not what we do it for," said Bob Rogers from Impact Church. "We just do it out of pure kindness. For 'Love Week' we had 30 projects around town. We painted the chamber of commerce building, we cleaned the showboat, we did something at all of the schools, something at all of the parks, we



Nicole Wilterink accepted the Best Business to Watch award on behalf of her employer Ability Weavers.



Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt won the award for Person of the Year.

painted a hangar at the airport, we washed the windows up and down Main St., that kind of stuff."

The Business Appreciation award went to Arrowhead Golf Course.

"It's a great honor just

to be here with these other businesses and folks that are being recognized," said co-owner Josh Bruwer. "It's a tremendous honor for us. I don't know if we're the most worthy. I don't know why someone felt

compelled to recognize us. We do try to get involved in the community. Often when the sports programs have fundraisers they come to us and we really enjoy that."

Ability Weavers were the Best Business to Watch. The award was accepted by Nicole Wilterink, one of Ability's best employees.

"It feels good," Wilterink said. "I work at Ability Weavers on Tuesdays and Thursdays making beautiful rugs. I make a lot of rugs and I like doing it."

New Union Brewery got the Most Promising Business award.

"I think it's pretty cool," said co-owner Ryan Stoepker. "We've been in business for three months, so this is pretty good. We can hardly keep up. I'm brewing as fast as I can and we still can't keep up."

"Everything feels very good," said co-owner

Chamber awards dinner, continued, page 8

Red Arrow wrestlers win fourth consecutive Division II State Title



Max Bishop, Sam Russell, Bryce Dempsey and Eli Boulton carry Lowell's flag during the finals parade.

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

When asked if there was a moment of a doubt as his team worked toward their fourth consecutive Division II State Title last weekend at Central Michigan University, head coach RJ Boudro had a very simple answer: Never.

Red Arrow grapplers proved his confidence correct as the team tore through three competitors over two days to nab the "fourpeat" victory inside the McGuirk Arena. "The moment of victory was truly awesome," said Boudro, "I think that all of the years I have experienced a different feeling when winning because each year different people are involved."

This year four seniors shared in the thrill of victory

State champs, continued, page 11



along main street

LPD January stats

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

According to recently released statistics Lowell police department made 27 arrests during January. These arrests included two drug law violations, two alcohol law violations, five for driving with a suspended license, 16 for outstanding warrants and two that are described in the police department's information as "other arrests."

Lowell police also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during

January. There were three larceny calls, one call for malicious destruction, two disorderly conduct calls, one dog complaint and six assaults. Lowell police issued 23 citations and notified ten residents about ordinance violations. They were called to "assist" 66 times and were dispatched to nine accidents. Out of 102 traffic stops they let 93 drivers go with just a warning.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

General local scholarship applications are available in the counseling office for Lowell High School seniors. To be fair to all students, applications will not be accepted after 3:30 pm on Fri., March 3. Don't forget to include two letters of recommendation, transcript and personal statement. For more information please call Mrs. Pratt at 987-2913.

BULLYING WORKSHOP

Cherry Creek Elementary invites interested parents to attend "Bullying: What We Know and What We Can Do" on Tuesday, March 7 at 6:30 pm. This workshop will be led by Dr. Michele Coyne, a consultant specializing in positive school climate, the reduction and prevention of bullying, the impact of poverty on education and educational leadership. Free childcare will be provided.

FOOD COMMODITIES

Food Commodities provides Kent County families at or below 200 percent federal poverty level or in need of food. If you or a family you know could use this assistance please have them stop by the food pantry Mar. 9-10, Thurs. 9 am-11 am and 2-4:30 pm and Fri. 10 am - noon (no need to pre-register). Please call 897-8260 with any questions.

PROTECT YOUNG EYES

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 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 April 12-14 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.

Troopers take aim at left lane drivers

All motorists would agree that one of the most frustrating situations on a freeway is being caught behind a left lane driver. This is not the person who is attempting to actively pass, but the person who believes the left lane is for general travel.

The MSP Sixth District Headquarters has been receiving numerous complaints about this violation in West Michigan and has planned an education and enforcement initiative to address the problem. Now through the end of April, troopers from the Lakeview and Rockford posts will be on the lookout for these "southpaw drivers" on all of West Michigan's major freeways.

The thrust of this initiative is education; many people simply don't realize that the left lane is reserved for the passing motorist, said F/Lt. Chris McIntire of the Rockford Post. Besides being generally disruptive to traffic flow, this violation can actually be dangerous, as frustrated motorists attempt risky maneuvers to get around the log jam.

A motorist stopped for this violation during the enforcement period, can expect at the very least a short lesson on the law and how their actions disrupt traffic flow. We just want motorists to understand the law and work on developing courteous driving habits.



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Council approves law enforcement spending, briefly discusses biodigester and showboat plans

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Tuesday, Feb. 21. The council sat through a presentation about retirement, approved some law enforcement spending and briefly discussed the biodigester and the showboat. The meeting lasted an hour and 20 minutes and was attended by about 16 citizens.

City manager Michael Burns offered a quick update about the biodigester.

“Since our last meeting myself, city attorney Dick Wendt and [Lowell Light & Power general manager] Steve Donkersloot have been in communication with LEAD regarding the directed action of the council back in December,” Burns said. “I can inform you that they have submitted a proposal for us to consider to resolve the issue. We are still working out the information in that proposal. We should have something here, I think, pretty soon that us three and LEAD can meet on. And then I believe we probably will have something shortly thereafter that for the Lowell Light & Power and city council in a joint meeting of that nature. We are moving forward toward a solution on it but at this point I really can’t speak too much to the proposal at this point because there are still a lot of things that have to be worked on.”

The council discussed how to handle the money that is being raised to rebuild and then maintain the showboat. After Burns presented them with a few possibilities, they decided to create an ordinance that will dictate how the money will be handled.

“I would be very much in favor of there being an ordinance that the funds be within the city accounts,” said councilor Jim Hodges. “In the end it’s the city’s piece of property and so that makes sense to me.”

“It sounds like a better way to protect it, I think,” said mayor Michael DeVore.

The ordinance will be created and then voted on at a future meeting.

The council approved the purchase of two vehicle scales by the Lowell police department. They will be used to enforce the weight limits on trucks that drive on Lowell’s streets. Police chief Steve Bukala said that many truckers with overweight trucks drive through Lowell to avoid the weigh station on I-96, a practice that is literally tearing up the streets. These scales will be completely paid for with money set aside from fees collected as a result of salvage vehicle inspections done by the Lowell police.

“For the last three years since I’ve taken over as chief all I’ve been hearing



Mike Overly from MERS gave a long presentation about retirement to the council.

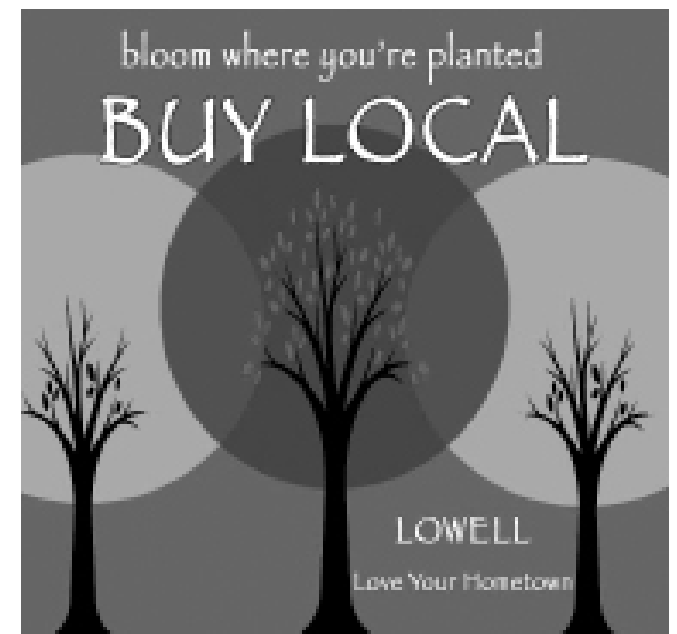
is, ‘Roads, roads roads,’” Bukala said. “We are going to start enforcing the length, width, registration and the vehicle weight. [...] The road system quality would be greater because of the enforcement of overloaded trucks, there is less possibility of commercial

vehicle crashes within the city limits, it will lower the truck traffic in the city limits.”

Mike Overly from the Municipal Employees Retirement System gave the council a 37 minute presentation about funding retirement for city workers.

“There are about 820 municipalities of all shapes and sizes, just in the state of Michigan, that participate in the MERS system,” Overly said. “We have about \$10 billion in total assets from communities as small as one person up to hundreds and hundreds of employees.”

The council’s next meeting will be upstairs at city hall on Monday, March 6 at 7 pm. There will also be a Coffee with Council event at the chamber of commerce from 8 am until 10 am on Saturday, March 4.



BOOK SIGNINGS

By local author Laura Hansen

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MARCH 11 • 1-3 P
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Lowell Scouts achieve Arrow of Light ranking

Nicholas Lothian and Hayden Davis from Murray Lake Elementary Cub Scout Pack 3189 satisfied the requirements for Cub Scouting's highest rank: The Arrow of Light. This rank in Cub Scouts is earned by Webelos that have been active participants in their den and are ready to join a Boy Scout troop. Many of the requirements for the Arrow of Light are intended to lead each boy into their next step in scouting – the Boy Scout trail.



Pictured, left to right: Hayden Davis and Nicholas Lothian.

Gilda's LaughFest to create West Michigan's biggest mannequin challenge on March 9

The nation's only community-wide festival of laughter, Gilda's LaughFest, announced its plans for the festival's annual community kickoff, slated for March 9 at 5:30 pm. LaughFest invites the community to don their yellow or LaughFest gear and join in the celebration as the organization records West Michigan's biggest mannequin challenge at Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids.

"We had a great time doing the mannequin challenge for our ticket package sales and thought doing it again on a larger scale would be a fun way to start LaughFest 2017," said Joanne Roehm, director of strategic initiatives and

LaughFest. "We're excited to have the support of Downtown Grand Rapids Inc., the Grand Rapids Art Museum, Deep End Films, Brian Kelly Photography and the city of Grand Rapids to make this year's kickoff a success."

LaughFest will be giving door prizes to the first 100 participants to register for the event. Brian Kelly will be taking a group shot of participants at the iconic Rosa Parks Circle at 6 pm before Deep End Films records the mannequin challenge video. Following the filming will be opening night events and activities, including a free preview show at Dr. Grin's at The B.O.B. Laughter is

Good Medicine at MSU and Not From Here/Crawlspace Eviction at Dog Story Theater. LaughFest Central will be open during the event. And new this year, food trucks will be on site.

Participants are encouraged to register in advance at LaughFest Central, located at 101 Monroe Center. This event is family friendly and large groups are welcomed!

WHEN: March 9-
LaughFest Kickoff
Registration opens at 5:30 pm.
Group photo and program begins at 6 pm.
Event concludes at 7 pm.
WHERE: Rosa Parks Circle
135 Monroe Center St NW
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viewpoint

to the editor

persistant issues

To the Editor,
I am writing again in regard to the January 22, 2017 Buyers Guide and News article about the Women's March in Washington D.C. and the blanket statements that the Republican Party wants to take the right to vote away from women and that President Trump disrespects and hates women.

In response to that article and Susan Seime's letter of February 8, I did a Google search to see what facts supported the statement that the Republican Party wanted to eliminate the right for women to vote. My Google search led me to information about

Nate Silver, an American statistician and writer, who analyzes baseball and elections. I found that he wrote an article in October 2016 stating that if only men voted in the 2016 presidential election Trump would win and if only women voted Hillary would win. The article led to hash tags (#repealthe19th) and reached social media; and then news agencies picked up on it. I did not find that it was a part of the Republican Party platform. Then again, that remark may have referenced the states that have or hope to have laws that require voter ID in an attempt to eliminate voter fraud. That again is not a

targeted movement against women.

Also, I and others agree with Susan Seime that Trump makes inappropriate, insulting and rude remarks toward women (and we do not like them); but he does not only single out women. Many men were the target of his inappropriate remarks. However, despite his rudeness, it was and continues to be his message that resonates with Americans. Trump supporters did not want more of the Democratic agenda, the leadership and corruption of the Washington establishment and were in fear of losing their Constitutional rights.

In response to Marcia Kapolka's letter of February 15, I wish to acknowledge that it is a real concern that there are women who feel disrespected by this

administration and unsafe. However, I assure you that Republican women also feel disrespected and unsafe from actions and policies of the left.

For one example, many Americans feel that the democratic election process is not being respected and many Americans, both men and women, were and still are afraid to speak up for Trump's agenda to "Make America Great Again" for fear of intimidation and retaliation by Democrats and Progressives towards themselves or their family, business or property. Is this right?

I am thankful for the letters to the Editor on February 22, 2017 from both Karen Thomure and Beth Pfaller. They both spoke for so many women who were dismayed by how women portrayed themselves and

spoke at the Washington D.C. Women's March and are fearful of other larger issues such as Shariah Law and the safety of our nation.

Yes, our nation is divided. Can we come together with open minds, open hearts and a desire to work not fight, to be diplomatic not antagonistic, to inform ourselves of the issues and to respect our Constitution? Might we make a difference for each other, our children, our

grandchildren and future Americans? What an example we could make for all!

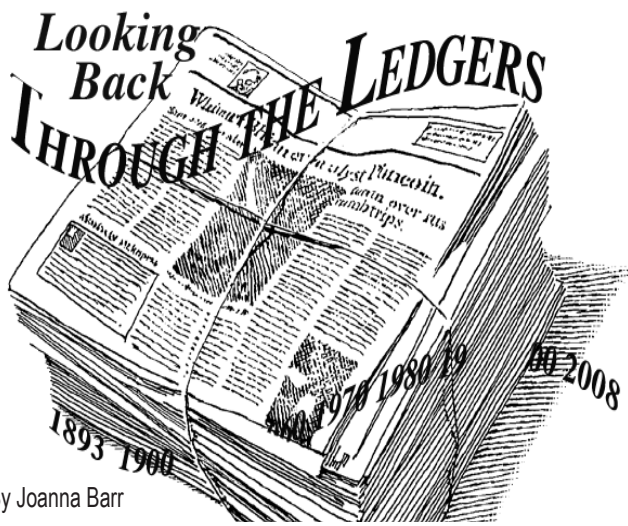
If you would like to get together in hopes of finding common ground, please email me at clwdrenth@gmail.com Please share your name, email address and/or phone number and when is a convenient time for you to meet.

Respectfully,
Carol Wittenbach Drenth

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 March 2, 1892

John Gardner turned into the village treasury, Monday, sixty-five dollars. This is the amount he received for alleged injuries, but which his conscience would not permit him to keep.

Two thirteen year old Shelby boys attended a spelling school in the Blooming valley school house, and at a moment during the evening when the proceedings seemed to need enlivening they playfully pulled revolvers and began plugging away at the teacher's desk. The mild-mannered school board allowed the boys to settle by paying over \$15 apiece.

W. W. Reid was arrested in London, Ont., charged with stealing a trunk full of clothes from Florence Hill, and was taken to Paris, in response to a telegram. When he was brought before a magistrate the girl testified that she gave him the clothes as they had planned an elopement and Reid was discharged. After the charge had been dropped Reid opened the trunk, took out a marriage license and the magistrate before whom he had been arraigned married, the couple, after which they left for Grand Rapids, Mich., their future home.

Mrs. G. W. Crosby has sold 559½ lbs of butter that was made from Oct. 8th until Feb 8th (four months). She had four cows three months, (one of them had

given milk over a year) and then had the milk of a young heifer the other month and there was four calves vealed in that time, besides making butter for the family. Has she done well?

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 1, 1917

C. H. Runcimun, recent purchaser of the Jakeway elevator, has sworn out a warrant for two boys, O. Sinclair and H. Gould, sixteen and nineteen years old respectively, on a charge of larceny, the offense being the theft of eight bags of hand-picked beans and three bags of clover seed. Both lads are in custody of the sheriff. Tuesday at one o'clock, a. m. Nightwatch Walker hearing a motor car on the street and seeing no light, turned his flash light on the occupants and its load of filled bags and following them to their temporary stopping place asked for an explanation. The boys claimed that a farmer's wagon had broken down and he called them to go after his load. Not satisfied the officer pressed the boys for and secured a confession; but promised through sympathy for their people if the property were restored to its owner not to arrest them. The boys agreed and took the beans and clover seed and stacked them up against the rear wall of the elevator. When business was resumed that morning, the night work was soon revealed. Deputy Sheriff Pohl of Grand Rapids in company Mr. Runciman traced the track of the operation by means of a peculiar combination of tires on the motor truck, the same one having been at the elevator on the day before. Spilled beans from a busted bag completed the chain of evidence. Then the nightwatch was called and told what he knew. Sinclair, and O. Taylor, who was with the boys after the theft and was to have driven with them to Grand Rapids, were taken in charge by the Grand Rapids officer. Yesterday, Young Gould, who had gone to Detroit returned and gave himself up—refusing to avail himself of the aid of a man (name not given) who had a car ready to spirit him out of town - and was taken to the city this forenoon. Mr. Runciman, very considerably, dropped the charge of burglary, which carries an extreme penalty of fifteen

years imprisonment, and the boys will answer only to the charge of larceny. Taylor was released.

Farrell W. Anderson, 23 years old, of Campbell township, Ionia county, was shot and killed Saturday afternoon by a gun in his own hands, as he was attempting to end the life of a dog which had been the family pet for years. Anderson led the dog into a field near his home and wounded it with a charge from the double barreled shotgun. The dog, with a wound in its side, came slowly crawling to him. Anderson sized the barrell of the gun mid swung it, evidently intending to strike the dog over the head with the butt. The second charge exploded and entered Anderson's body. He died five hours later.

This week's Ledger is delayed by the non-arrival of our paper stock. Freight service is exasperatingly bad and express is none too good. 'Don't shoot the editor. He's doing the best he kin.'

The Muir Tribune has suspended publication on account of the high price of print paper. Which is better, good people, to divide the burden among a thousand people or ruin a good public servant with the entire burden?

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 5, 1942

Mr. and Mrs. Glendon Swarhout not heard from since boarding blacked-out ship at Trinidad. Where are Glendon and Kathryn Swarhout, the travelers who have been writing letters of great interest to the Ledger every week for the past 18 weeks? That is the question that is naturally causing concern and anxiety to their parents and many friends. The last letter to reach here came by air mail and was published in last week's Ledger, that letter having been written on February 11. The writers had been detained for weeks on an island in the Caribbean Sea, unable to get a ship bound for Brazil although they had their tickets in their pockets. They then decided to take ship for the Isthmus of Panama but at Trinidad their blacked-out ship was re-routed, but they were not told to what port. That was three weeks ago today and not a word

★ In The Service ★

A Saranac High School graduate and Saranac native is serving in the U.S. Navy with Commander Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet (CSFWP).

Petty Officer 2nd Class William Pflugradt works as an aviation ordnanceman and operates out of Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore, California.

Pflugradt is responsible for handing the uploading and downloading of weapons on aircraft and is a quality assurance safety observer.

"The camaraderie of being aviation ordnance is the best rate in the fleet," Pflugradt said.

"Lemoore has been home to the Navy's west coast strike fighter community since 1980, when strike fighter squadron VFA-125 was the first squadron established to



William Pflugradt

train Navy and Marine Corps aviators in the F/A-18 Hornet," said Vice Adm. Mike Shoemaker, Commander, Naval Air Forces.

The strike fighter wing, headquartered at NAS Lemoore, ensures that each squadron is fully combat-ready to conduct carrier-based, all-weather, attack,

fighter and support missions for the Pacific Fleet.

"The best thing about the command is they look after their people. I know that in an emergency, we have each other's back. We once all chipped in to benefit a co-worker's welfare," Pflugradt said.

With the CSFWP consisting of more than 20 squadrons, highly specialized jobs range from

training new aviators to maintaining airframes and engines, to handling and flying aircraft.

"The most important thing that I have learned in the Navy is that you are given opportunities for schooling, for expanding skill sets, for extensive travel, and exposure to various cultures," Pflugradt said.

U.S. Air Force Airman Taylor J. Hiemenga graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

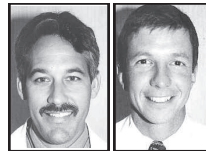
The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Hiemenga is the brother of Bayle R. Hiemenga of Ada and nephew of Vonda K. Sillman of New Era.

He graduated in 2015 from Shelby High School, Shelby.

health



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

acute bronchitis

Acute bronchitis is a common cause of cough. Swelling and redness in the large tubes of the lungs (bronchial tubes) lead to coughing, shortness of breath, wheezing, chest pain and fever. The cough can last for three weeks or longer. Acute bronchitis is almost always caused by a virus. The same viruses that cause colds can also cause bronchitis. You can think of bronchitis as a "chest cold." There are several treatment options for acute bronchitis. Antibiotics are usually not helpful because they don't work against viruses. But, if you were exposed to someone with pertussis (whooping cough), then let your doctor know, because antibiotics may be helpful for that infection.

Otherwise, antibiotics are rarely needed for coughing. With time, your body can usually get rid of the infection on its own. There are medicines that can make you feel better. Your doctor may recommend ibuprofen or acetaminophen for fever, or other over-the-counter medicines for cough, mucous production or wheezing. Over-the-counter medicines should not be used in children younger than four years old. Honey may be helpful for coughing in children older than one year. You should call your doctor if you are short of breath, have a persistent high fever, have chills and sweats or begin coughing up bloody or rust-colored phlegm.

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FROM is providing free tax preparation and e-filing services to qualifying families with an annual household income of less than \$62,000. All volunteer tax preparers are IRS certified.

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To verify your eligibility and register for this program please call United Way at 211.

•••

The most dangerous strategy is to jump a chasm in two leaps.

~ Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881)

happy birthday

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>MARCH 1
Barak Brown, Jill Callihan, Laura Christiansen.</p> <p>MARCH 2
Mary Vezino, Roger MacNaughton, Anna Kline, Lisa Schoen.</p> <p>MARCH 3
Sarah Newell.</p> <p>MARCH 4
Scott Vashaw, Bryce Tulppo, Patrick N. Johnson, Jared Brzezniak, Dawn Emelander.</p> | <p>MARCH 5
Don Silvis, Michael Nearing, Brandy Washburn.</p> <p>MARCH 6
Pat Covell, Darlene Waldron.</p> <p>MARCH 7
Carrie Metternick, Marshal Mooney, Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.</p> |
|---|---|

area churches



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Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries

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SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) **Wednesday, 6:15 PM**
Middle & High School - Mon-school year*Wed,summer, 7 PM

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Three Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams advance to state finals

submitted by Lori Lothian

The Region 13 Odyssey of the Mind tournament was held at Northview High School. A total of 61 teams gathered to show off their creativity. Lowell area schools sent five teams to the competition. The top teams in each problem and division qualify for the state finals competition to be held on March 18 at Thornapple Kellogg schools.

Advancing to state finals are:

The Ready, Set, Balsa, Build Division I team from Murray Lake Elementary, placing second out of five teams. Team members include Nicholas Lothian, Ari McFarland, Lily Richards, Mitchell Swint, Hudson Newell and Evan Berrington.

The To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger

Division II team from Lowell Middle School placing third out of eight teams. Team members include Josh Momany, Nick Momany, Joshua Fabis, Grace Fassett, Caydence Pawloski, Max Stoner and Dustin Richardson.

The Odd-a-bot Division III team from Lowell High School with a first-place finish. Team members include Chloe Looman, Phoebe Looman, John Lothian, Annabelle Johnson, Hope Winters, Brecken Pawloski and Leanna Rose.

Also participating at the competition were:

The To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger Division I team narrowly missed advancing to state finals by only six points overall. Team members include Natalie Bray, Evan

Bray, Madison DeSmyter, Tristan Tyler, Rylan Bartnick and Victor Preiss.

The Movin' Out primary division team. The primary problem is for performance only, so our youngest students can gain knowledge and understanding about the program. Team members include Olivia Lothian, Weston McFarland, Brooklyn Jackson, Adelle Krueger and Jacob Fassett.

The Lowell High School Division III team also competed in the It's Time Omer problem finishing in third place. This team took on a larger challenge by solving and competing in two different problems at the Division III level. Team members include Chloe Looman, Phoebe Looman, John Lothian, Annabelle

Johnson, Hope Winters, Brecken Pawloski and Leanna Rose.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international program that fosters creative thinking and problem-solving skills among kindergarten through college level students around the world. Teams work to

solve any one of a number of long-term problems, from building mechanical devices and balsa wood structures

to creating a unique interpretation of a literary classic. New teams will be forming in the fall.

The To Be Continued team-A Superhero Cliffhanger team, from left to right, back row: coach Erin DeSmyter, Victor Preiss, Tristan Tyler, Rylan Bartnick, Evan Bray and coach Jamie Bray-Merritt; front row: Madison DeSmyter and Natalie Bray.



The Movin' Out primary team, from left to right: coach Lori Lothian, Weston McFarland, Olivia Lothian, Brooklyn Jackson, Jacob Fassett and Adelle Krueger.

Library of Michigan announces 2017 Michigan Notable Book Awards

Time and space are major themes for the list of Michigan Notable Books for 2017, released by the Library of Michigan.

A fictitious account of John F. Kennedy's presidency; real and imagined post-World War II stories; and fiction set in the near-future are among the wide-ranging topics found on this year's list of 20 titles.

The acclaimed books encompass the entire Great Lakes basin from the far reaches of the Upper Peninsula to the dense suburbs of Detroit, and even include an island-hopping journey across the largest freshwater lakes on Earth.

"This intriguing collection of books represents a spectrum of Michigan's people, places and the history that makes our state unique,"

State Superintendent Brian Whiston said about this year's list. "I'm continuously impressed by the ever-increasing strength and popularity of the Library of Michigan's Michigan Notable Book list. The abundance of quality writing generates more interest every year among bookstores, writers, libraries, and readers from all walks of life."

Each year, the Michigan Notable Book (MNB) list features 20 books, published during the previous calendar year, which are about, or set in, Michigan or the Great Lakes region, or written by a Michigan author. Selections include a variety of genres, both fiction and nonfiction, that appeal to many audiences and explore topics and issues close to the hearts of Michigan residents. The 2017 list includes histories, memoirs, poetry and short

story collections exploring current events, family dynamics, music, design and architecture and true crime.

MNB is a statewide program that began as part of the 1991 Michigan Week celebration, designed to pay tribute and draw attention to the many people, places, and things that make Michigan life unique and vibrant.

"The MNB selections clearly demonstrate the rich subject matter Michigan offers to writers," said State Librarian Randy Riley. "Everyone will find something of interest that speaks to their lives or experiences in our great state." For more information or questions about the Michigan Notable Book program, contact the Library of Michigan at 517-373-1300, visit www.michigan.gov/notablebooks, or email librarian@michigan.gov.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL 2017 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2017 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St SE, on the following dates:

Organizational Meeting:
Tuesday, March 7th, 11:30am

Appeal Hearings:
Tuesday, March 14th, 3:00pm to 9:00pm
Thursday, March 16th, 10:00am to 4:00pm

Meetings are by Appointment. To schedule, contact: City Hall @ ph. 616.897.8457

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2017 assessments. By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 7th 2017

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2017 are as follows:

Commercial.....	48.74	1.0259
Residential.....	46.97	1.0645
Industrial.....	53.60	0.9328
Personal Property.....	50.00	1.0000

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days' notice. Contact: Michael Burns - City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457



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Chamber awards dinner, continued

Tyler Velting. "It's quite an honor to be here in the community and be part of this. Everybody has been so receptive, it's just wonderful. We've been swamped. We really appreciate it."

Litehouse, Enwork, Green Acres and LowellArts all got Brick awards. Finally, Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt was awarded Person of the Year.

"The Lowell Area Schools board of education, our administrative team and our staff, I couldn't be more

proud of [them]," Pratt said in his acceptance speech. "They are the heart and soul of our organization. [...] Without their support a job like this can't get done."

"It was very much an honor," Pratt said in an interview. "It's outside of my personality to be taking awards, but so many people here in Lowell do so many things for the community. I'm honored and happy to be part of a community that has so many great things happening."



Cliff Yankovich presented some of the awards.

Bob Rogers from Impact Church with their Non-Profit Spotlight award.

New Union Brewery co-owner Ryan Stoecker poses with his award for Most Promising New Business.



Kristen Bruwer and Josh Bruwer, owners of Arrowhead Golf Course, won the Business Appreciation award.



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CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks to everyone who reached out to us after the loss of our mom **GLADYS ALEXANDER** and our "Grandma" and "Great-Grandma Snowball"

Thank you for the many calls, cards, flowers, food gifts and memorials. Special thanks to Kim Stevens for the awesome tribute; Julie Dykhouse for the luncheon and to Mark Gerst & Ruth Gerst Funeral Home for their extra support and compassion. Also, thanks to the Ford family for feeding our whole crew after the visitation.

We are sincerely grateful,
Doug & Karen Ford;
Ken Alexander;
Bill & Carol Grommet
Ray & Lisa Alexander;
Tom & Judi Alexander;
Grandchildren &
Great-Grandchildren

...

Laughter is an instant vacation.

~ Milton Berle
(1908 - 2002)

2017 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE
LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
 Lowell, MI 49331

2017 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2017 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 9 a.m.
 - Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 13, 2017
 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon &
 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 &
Tuesday, March 14, 2017
 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. &
 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2017 assessments. By board resolution, residents are allowed to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 13, 2017.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2017 are as follows:

Agricultural.....	50.21.....	9958
Commercial.....	43.87.....	1.1397
Residential.....	46.79.....	1.0686
Industrial.....	51.50.....	9708
Personal.....	50.00.....	1.0000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
 The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice.
 Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale,
 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
 616-897-7600

Board of Review Members, Sandra Graham, Nancie Mathews & James Foerch. Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review.

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Girls capture conference championship

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

After taking a 57-47 loss at the hands of the Forest Hills Central Rangers Tuesday night last week the Red Arrow girls varsity basketball team went on to defeat OK White rival the Greenville Yellow Jackets Friday night capturing the first conference title for the Lady Arrows in 11 years.

“I was excited that the girls accomplished the goal that we set for ourselves at the beginning of the year,” said first-year Lowell head coach Heath Kent of the drought-ending win. “I am especially happy for our seniors who get to have their team honored by putting up a banner in the gym. I challenged them to be remembered for years to come by being the first team in 11 years to win a league championship. All the girls worked so hard this season to accomplish this and I’m proud of them. To see their smiles and excitement as the clock ticked down is what it’s all about.”

Despite boasting a winning season with a 14-5 overall record and 8-3 in conference entering the game, the outcome was not as certain as one might think. The team was coming

off of a losing streak after back to back losses to Forest Hills Northern and Central within the OK White. Add to that the fact that in a previous outing, the Arrows had only topped the Yellow Jackets by a mere four points and it appeared that it was anyone’s game.

The first and second periods would echo that sentiment as the score remained tight throughout. The opponents were tied at six after the first and the Red Arrows picked up a four-point lead at the half which ended 18-14. Lowell edged out even further in the third netting 14 points to the Yellow Jackets eight to increase their lead to 32-22 moving into the final period of play. Staving off a late aggressive effort, the Red Arrows maintained and extended their lead adding 11 to the scoreboard and secured the win from the free throw line, 43-28. Sophomore Regan Coxon led the Arrows offensive effort with 14 points, followed by Cassie Dean who put up nine. The two also led the team’s effort against Forest Hills Central earlier in the week.

Kent said that he hopes the win is the first of many



Lowell girls varsity basketball celebrates their OK White championship.

and that it pushes future Red Arrows to reach the same heights. “I hope the girls see what dedication and hard work can do. We talk about the grind that you need in order to be champions, it’s a lot of hard work and dedication, especially on the days when you don’t feel well and you just have to continue in order to accomplish what you want.

These girls bought it from day one and it paid off, hopefully this sets the tone for future teams.”

Now 15-5 overall and 9-3 in conference, with a championship under their belt, the Lady Arrows will step into district competition this week to add another trophy to the case inside Lowell High School. “We aren’t satisfied with just

one piece of hardware. We would like to follow up the league title with a district one. It won’t be easy, we’ve

got a tough road ahead of us, but we will grind every day like we have been,” said Kent.

District championship games begin on Monday. In the first round of playoffs Lowell plays Rockford and with a win, they’ll move on to semi-finals. Finals are on Wednesday and Friday at home with all games scheduled to begin at 7 pm.

Boys have a shot at conference title on Thursday

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow boys varsity basketball watched a 12-point lead dissipate along with their shot at clinching the OK White conference title last Friday night when they faced the Yellow Jackets of Greenville falling 61-59 after missing a buzzer beating three.

After trailing slightly after the first period 16-12 Lowell outscored Greenville by ten in the second to pull out a 31-25 halftime lead. Pushing their lead to 12 in the third, the Arrows put 20 points on the scoreboard to take the score to 51-39. But pressure on top shooter Austin Branagan limited him to just four points total and an untimely foul while Greenville swished a series of threes to tie the game at 59 with just 45 seconds remaining on the clock.

Making good on a free throw opportunity the Yellow Jackets took a two-point lead leaving the Red Arrows with just one possession to nab a game

winning three or an overtime inducing bucket. Pushing the ball to senior guard Matt Beachler, the team and fans in attendance were on their proverbial seat edges as he broke through traffic launching one last shot from the sideline hoping to seal the win and the first OK White conference title in nearly 40 years. He missed.

The Central Michigan University commit immediately hung his head but was just as quickly surrounded by the support of his equally devastated teammates. Head coach Travis Slanger faced a disappointed crowd in the locker room after the team trailed off the court. “I told them I loved them and I had as much faith in them at that moment as I did before the game started. A game was lost, not a season. We have plenty of success ahead of us,” said Slanger following the loss.

The night, in fact, had some amazing highlights according to Slanger,

starting with a fantastic effort from Beachler. The senior was the points leader racking up a massive 37 points, more than 62 percent of the total score. The team also saw a wide spread offensive effort representing the other percentage. Seniors Andrew Poulton and Zach Petroelje added three and two points to the board respectively, juniors Addison Buckius and Mitch O’Gorman added two apiece and freshman Nolan Cusack knocked off a single bucket as well. The night’s second leading scorer, sophomore Robby Schneider, continued to look like a hot prospect for the future of the Arrows chipping in seven points and adding a fiery effort on both sides of the ball.

“He is pound for pound the toughest player in our league,” said Slanger of the up-and-coming underclassman. “Night in and night out opponents intentionally attack him because of his size. He is willing to answer the call

each time and put his body on the line for his teammates. His success is a direct result of his relentless effort and growing confidence and I look forward to his growth as a player and as a leader.”

The team, currently 12-7 overall and 8-3 in the OK White, can still clinch the conference title with a win over Forest Hills Central on Thursday night at home. It would be the first title for the program since 1978.

Slanger said that the game is a ‘must win’ for the team, not just to earn the title but also to prepare for the post-season. “This is a ‘must win’ game regardless of record. It is important

to close the regular season strong heading into the playoff. I absolutely believe in our ability to earn a

conference championship. The confidence I have in these young men has never wavered.”



Andrew Poulton goes airborne for two during the loss to the Yellow Jackets.

Tip off for th next game is scheduled for 7 pm this Thursday at Lowell High School in the main gym.

Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

SPORTS

Gymnasts host annual Dawn Fisher meet

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Red Arrow varsity gymnastics completed their regular season schedule last Friday night at the Runciman building in downtown Lowell when they hosted their annual Dawn Fisher meet. The meet honors a devoted supporter who cheered on the fledgling program long before their current success.

“This was our annual Division III Championship meet celebrating Dawn Fisher, former Lowell bus driver and former Lowell gymnastics parent,” explained coach Michele DeHaan. “Dawn was an avid gymnastics supporter back when Lowell’s gymnastics team was still struggling to be competitive. She sat at so many meets back in the day proudly cheering us on when we all knew we would come in at the bottom.”

Since that time the team has accomplished many previously thought unattainable goals. They have consistently broken their own individual and team records each season leading to impressive state qualifications and multiple state medalists. This season the team has qualified eight gymnasts for the upcoming regional competition

where the Lady Arrows will compete for another appearance at the state level.

DeHaan said the success is a tremendous point of pride but also bittersweet as Fisher, who passed away after a battle with cancer, is not here to bare witness. “I just wish she was still here so she could see where the program is now. I know she would be so proud! That’s why we honor her every year to celebrate the girls and to remember her unconditional support of our program.”

Championing the underdog as Fisher did, the meet focuses on gymnasts who did not make the cut for the regional and offers them the chance to win medals.

The hardware was awarded to the top-scoring gymnasts by Fishers daughter Aili who represented the family. Schools participated this year including: Coldwater, Kenowa Hills, Grandville and Potter House high schools. Lowell gymnasts placed on both the balance beam and the floor exercise with sophomore Olyvia Johnson placing first on both. Red Arrow junior Marissa Grover took the podium in the second position for her performance on the floor exercise.



Lowell’s Olyvia Johnson and Marissa Grover claimed first and second on the floor exercise.

This week the entire team will head to Kenowa Hills on Saturday morning to support the eight teammates who qualified for participation in the MHSAA regional meet.

Vault	Beam
1st.....Jorry Amondson.....Potter House	1st.....Olyvia Johnson.....Lowell
2nd....Tara Davis.....Coldwater	2nd....Nicole Dunneback..Kenowa Hills
3rd....Eliana Brinkerhoff ..Potter House	3rdEliana Brinkerhoff...Potter House
Bars	Floor
1st.....Nicole Dunneback .Kenowa Hills	1st.....Olyvia Johnson.....Lowell
2nd....Tara Davis.....Coldwater	2nd....Marissa Grover.....Lowell
3rd....Jorry Amondson.....Potter House	3rd....Tara Davis.....Coldwater



The Red Arrow varsity gymnastics team with Aili, daughter of meet namesake Dawn Fisher.

Sports Summaries

ICE HOCKEY

Lowell Caledonia (LC) ice hockey took a second shot at rival East Grand Rapids last week Saturday at the Kentwood Ice Arena falling for a second time this season and wrapping up their regular season schedule. The 5-1 loss mirrors the team’s earlier contest with the Pioneers which they lost 5-2. LC’s lone goal came from the stick of Nolan Winterburn assisted by Alex Osborn. The team, 13-10-1 on the season, will compete this week in the two-stage MHSAA pre-regional competition in Kalamazoo.

FOOTBALL

Lowell High School athletics recently received the news that varsity football will kick off the season next fall by taking part in the Prep Football Classic at Wayne State University on Friday August 25. The football showcase will present six other games featuring elite teams selected by the Detroit Sports Commission. Lowell will face Warren De La Salle at 7 pm. Also invited to the three-day event is Walled Lake Western, who beat the Arrows out in the state semifinals last season; and Detroit Martin Luther King, who is the two-time reigning Division II state champion.

BOYS SWIM & DIVE

The first-year Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian boys swim and dive co-op wrapped up their OK season with success last week, earning a second-place finish Thursday at the Tier II conference competition in Hastings. This week they will take part in an exhibition meet at East Kentwood High School.

VOLLEYBALL

Lowell varsity volleyball hosted their first annual Powderpuff volleyball tournament last Wednesday at Lowell High School with proceeds benefiting the volleyball program. Four teams, consisting of junior and senior boys from the school, took part in the bracket-style competition. Juniors were led by student coaches, Jill Fidler and Sydney Powell, while the seniors were coached by Shannon Hoekstra and Kelly Reitsma. Team Shannon topped team Kelly 2-0 and team Sydney beat out team Jill 2-1 in the semifinals to advance to finals action where team Shannon claimed the victory with a 2-1 win.

JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

Lowell JV girls basketball wrapped up their regular season last week with a huge win over Greenville completing a nearly perfect 19-1 season. The team’s only loss came in game one when they fell 42-35 to Covenant Christian.


CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at a special meeting on **Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331** to consider the following request for Special Land Use approval:

1351 Boves Road – Dan Ronda is seeking to construct an automobile repair facility at 1351 Boves Road. The proposed use (vehicle repair facility) is permitted only with special land use approval in the Light Industrial district.

Information regarding this request and the Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan, during regular business hours. Written comments will be received at City Hall until the time of the hearing.

**Susan Ulery
City Clerk**



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Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

SPORTS

State champs, continued

once again. Max Bishop, Bryce Dempsey, Sam Russell and Eli Boulton do not know what it feels like to lose at this level having never left the contest without the title in hand during their high school careers. In their last appearances on the mat as a team, two of the talented wrestlers brought particular leadership and fire to the finals with Boulton leading the effort.

Number one-ranked Boulton (215) logged a technical fall in the quarterfinals, a 9-1 major decision in the semi round and a thrilling and quick fall in the finals that would be the only of the dual. Bishop (285), who fought through major illness to participate, put together a pair of victories topping his quarterfinal Tecumseh opponent by fall and then earning a hard fought 3-2 decision in the finals.

On the other end of the spectrum, freshman Austin

Boone (135/140) made his very first appearance at the state competition and went three for three on the mat in a huge endeavor for the underclassman. Boone shut out Tecumseh quarterfinal opponent Kyle Yuhas 16-0 claiming a technical fall, earned the same outcome in the semis with a score of 16-1 and then logged an important 13-5 major decision to open the finals round. He was joined by fellow freshman James Fotis (119), Dawson Jankowski (112) and Nick Korhorn (103) who each earned a win over the weekend and then avoided pins in the finals to help propel the team to victory.

Friday's quarterfinal bid against Tecumseh High School was won 41-20 and included wins by decision from Fotis, Jeff Leach (125) and Austin Mckechnie (135). Garnering falls were Boone with the technical and Keigan Yuhas (160),

David Kruse (189), Boulton and Bishop. Austin Engle added a 5-1 decision.

Saturday in the semifinal round the Red Arrows met with undefeated Marysville winning the bout 42-22 with seven Lowell grapplers earning wins. Kruse, Nick Korhorn (103), Jankowski, Avry Mutschler (140) and George Gonzales (160) won by fall. Boone added a technical while Boulton and Fotis won by 9-1 and 5-0 decisions respectively.

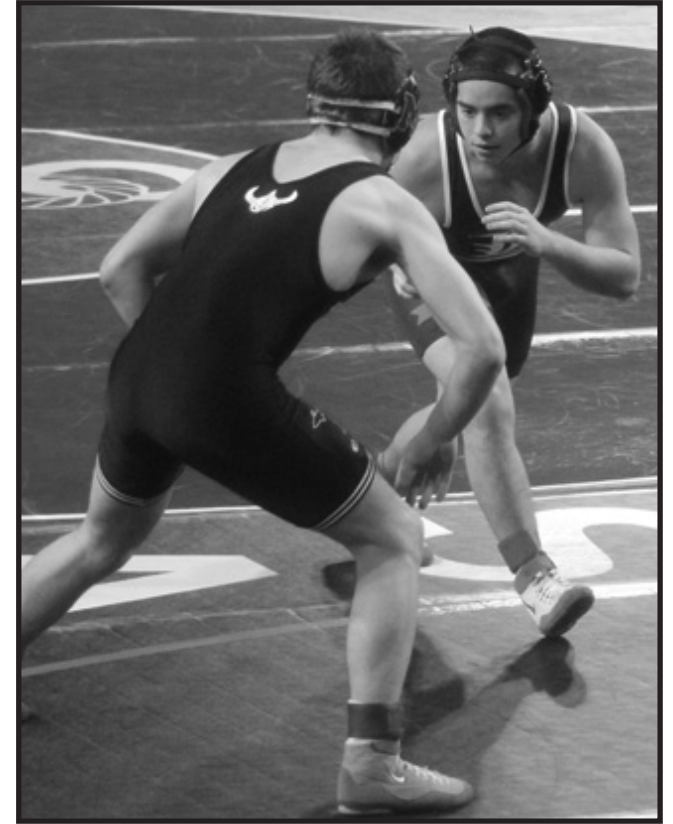
In the final on Saturday evening, Lowell met first-time state-level competitor Warren Woods Tower who entered the match with a flawless 28-0 season record. The Arrows quickly took control of the match going up 7-0 after the first two matches, "I feel like we had control from the beginning when Austin Boone got us started with a major decision followed by Avry Mutschler's performance

in beating the top-ranked wrestlers in the state," said Boudro.

After dropping matches at 145 and 152 the dual stood at a tie. Yuhas, Austin Engle, Kruse, Boulton and Bishop then earned five consecutive victories to change the tide. With Warren at their heels just four points behind after wins at 112 and 119, Leach mathematically sealed the win inciting cries and celebrations of victory as his hand was raised on the mat. Channing Perry (130) added more points in the final match adding up to the 32-21 win.

On the sidelines the embraces, tears and smiles of joy appeared to be of brothers celebrating their victory. "This year's team was very special. They take care of each other and truly care about one another," said Boudro of the winning wrestlers. "It took a lot of sacrifice by our team to win this title. Because we were

so sick down the stretch we had to ask different guys to step up and help the team and they did it without hesitation. They really like being around one another."

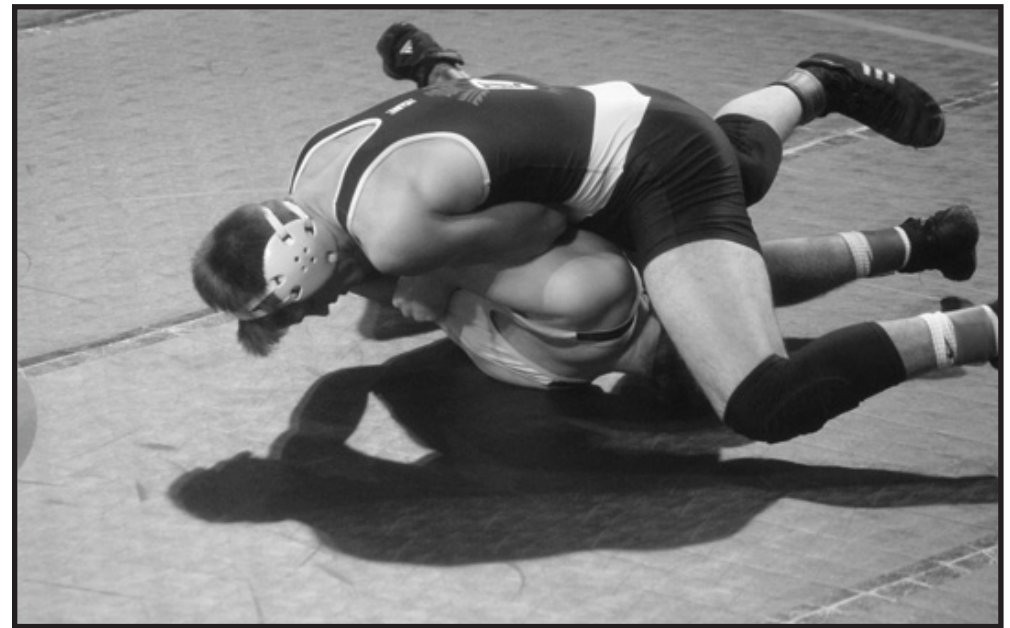


George Gonzales picked up a semi-final victory by fall over his Marysville opponent.



The varsity wrestling coaching staff reacts to the action on the mat.

This week the team will wrap up their championship season with the MHSAA State Individual finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills where 13 Red Arrows will be on the hunt for state medals. Action kicks off at 2 pm on Thursday and 8:30 am on Friday and Saturday.



Senior David Kruse takes down his Marysville opponent in the semifinal round.

- BOWLING

Bowlers have excellent showings on the lanes

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell boys and girls varsity bowling had an excellent showing on the lanes last week, capping off their regular seasons by claiming a regional championship and a team state bid and also advancing four individual bowlers to the state meet.

Tuesday on the road both girls and guys finished off their regular season schedule with an exhibition match against Hudsonville High School. The ladies

team was defeated 29-1 in the contest, with bowler Brianna Lachowski leading the Arrows with a score of 182. They end their season with a record of 7-8-1 overall. The boys team improved their season record to 15-1 with a 21-9 win that featured top scores from Logan Smith who rolled a 245 and Ben Stewart who came in with a 237.

Friday the teams headed to Northway Lanes in Muskegon for the MHSAA 2017 team and individual

regional tournaments. The boys, fresh off of their second OK White conference title in three years, clinched the regional crown with a 3,994 pin first-place finish. Their combined score beat out their next closest competitors, Northview (3,754) and Cedar Springs (3,738), by more than 200 pins. The dominant showing was led by sophomore DJ Simpson who scored a 235 and junior Carson Clark who rolled a

211 to propel the Arrows to the state finals.

The young ladies team placed ninth at the competition with a pin total of 2,999 completing their season. Moving on to the team state competition for the girls are top-three finishers Sparta (3,373), Northview (3,342) and Cedar Springs (3,279).

Saturday the bowlers competed independently and advanced four bowlers to the individual state finals.

Junior Morgan Allison, who has consistently led her team on the lanes this season, earned a sixth-place finish to earn her state bid. The boys claimed three of the top four individual spots to move on to the state level. Placing

first was Logan Smith who rolled 1,279, followed by regional runner-up Ben Stewart who recorded a pin fall of 1,242 and fourth-place finisher Clark who tallied a 1,200.

The Division II state finals will take place over two days this week in Canton at the Super Bowl. The boys team will vie for a state title on Friday and individual qualifiers will bowl on Saturday. Both events are scheduled to begin at 8:25 am and will run through to approximately 4 pm. Public entry is \$8 per day.

obituaries

DRAKE

Patricia K. Drake, age 87, of Lowell, passed away Sunday, February 26, 2017 in the comfort of her home with her husband by her side. The daughter of Peter and Evelyn (Robbins) Karel, she was born in Grand Rapids. Patricia is preceded in passing by her parents; sisters, Iris Allen and Janice Barr; as well as her brother, Leslie Karel. She will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Brian; sons, Dan (Sally) Pierce and Jeff (Linda) Pierce; grandchildren, Kevin and Kelly Pierce; step-children, Tim Munday and Kerri Drake; as well as many step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. Patricia was a graduate of Central High School and Michigan State. She was a first-grade teacher at Lowell area schools for 27 years. Following her retirement she enjoyed gardening, reading, going bird watching and spending time at local coffee shops with her friends. Visitation is from 1:30-3 pm on Friday, March 3, 2017 at the First Congregational Church of Lowell, 865 Lincoln Lake S.E., Lowell, where memorial services will take place at 3 pm on Friday. Memorial contributions may be directed to Kindred Hospice, 625 Kenmoor Ave. S.E., Suite 115, Grand Rapids. To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Patricia's online guest book; or to share a favorite memory, please visit: www.MichiganCremation.com Arrangements are entrusted to Michigan Cremation & Funeral Care, Grand Rapids.

JOHNSON

Janet Y. Johnson, age 86 of Lowell, passed away Monday, February 20, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, Phillip, in 2004. She is survived by her two sons, Blake (Rosalie) Johnson, Brook Johnson; sister, Cara Croninger-Young; grandchildren, Frankie (Jennifer) Munizzi, Joseph Munizzi, Jimmy (Pamela) Munizzi, Skylinn Johnson; great-grandchildren, Dominic, Vincent, Victoria, and Angelo; and many nieces and nephews. Janet was born in Caledonia in May of 1931, where she lived on a farm with her sisters and brothers near Kettle Lake. She graduated from Caledonia High School in 1948. She continued to pursue a career in art at the Kendall School of Design, where she met her husband, Phillip Johnson. Janet continued her education at the Ringling School of Design in Sarasota, Florida. Over her career in the arts, she was an art teacher and a free lance artist. She was a publication designer and retired from Amway as an Art Director in 1994. She was amazingly active in the local arts community. She was one of the founders of Lowell Arts and was a charter member of the Flat River Gallery. She was a member of the Grand Valley Artist Association. She had many amazing friendships with this community. Funeral will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at the First Congregational Church of Lowell, 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE, Lowell; with a visitation one hour prior to the service. Rev. Roger LaWarre officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Congregational Church of Lowell; or LowellArts, 223 W. Main St., PO Box 53, Lowell, MI 49331, <https://www.lowellartsmi.org/> donate.



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www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

KAZEMIER

Allegonda "Connie" (Wouters) Kazemier, age 75 of Lowell, MI, passed away Saturday, February 18, 2017. She is survived by her three daughters, Oranda (Jay) May, Cathy Kazemier, and Sheila (Douglas) Kelly; 10 grandchildren, Tara May Tesimu, Tabitha (Dan) Lyon, Justin Kazemier, Tad Rodgers, Madison Rodgers, Fiona Kelly, Gavin Kelly, Gwynneth Kelly, Jessica and Jocelyn Johnson; and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sjouke "George" Kazemier; her son, Theodorus "Ted" Kazemier; and twin granddaughters Alisabeth and Merideth Kelly. She was blessed with numerous brothers and sisters, and a loving family in the Netherlands, as well as many lifelong friends all over America and Canada. Connie emigrated from the Netherlands to America to start a new life with her husband and son in 1963. They lived in Grand Rapids for several years before moving to Lowell and joining St. Patrick's Parish, which became the basis for their long friendships in the Parnell area. Connie lived an active and full life. She played Bunco at the church, weekly volleyball games, and exercised at the YWCA. She was an avid knitter, joining a knitting group in Lowell and creating beautiful sweaters and hats for her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many families in need. Connie loved spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, including jumping on the trampoline and tending to her flowers in the yard. She enjoyed traveling to Texas every winter to be with her friends. Connie and George loved dancing together their entire lives and passed on their love of music and dancing to their children and entire family. She will be greatly missed by the local community, too many close friends to name, and her family the world over. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance. More information can be found at www.mioca.org. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Church, 4351 Parnell NE, Ada, MI 49301, on Friday, March 3rd at 11 a.m., with a small visitation before at 10 a.m. After the funeral, there will be a procession across the street to St. Patrick Cemetery for a burial, with a Celebration of Life immediately following in the church multi-purpose room.



ROTH GERST
www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

MCCUSKER

Jane B. DeVries-McCusker, age 79 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, February 22, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, Frederick DeVries Sr., and daughter-in-law, Carolyn DeVries. She is survived by her husband, Donald McCusker; children, Frederick "John" (Tonia) DeVries, Carl Richard DeVries, William (Sherry) DeVries, Camilla (Glen) Thornburg, Gene McCusker; brothers, Chester Sheren, John Sheren; sister, Flossie (Bob) Johnson; 8 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren. Visitation will be Friday, March 3, 6-8:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Funeral will be Saturday, March 4, 11:00 a.m. at Calvary Christian Reformed Church, 1151 W. Main St., Lowell. The family will meet with friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 1550 E. Beltline S.E., Suite 250, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.



ROTH GERST
www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

VANDERSLOOT

Glenn William Vandersloot, age 62 of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, February 26, 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter Sr. and Laura Vandersloot. Glenn is survived by his wife of 42 years, Jeanne; son, Nick (Missy) Vandersloot; brother, Walter (Kathy) Vandersloot Jr.; sister, Patty (David) Tryc; grandchildren, Jaron and Kenzie Vandersloot; father-in-law, Edwin Roth; brother-in-law, Steven (Barb) Roth; sister-in-law, Nancy (Michael) Moore; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral will be Thursday, March 2, 7:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell; with a visitation prior to the service from 5-7:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Frederik Meijer Gardens Tribute Program, 1000 East Beltline Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525; or Grand Rapids Public Museum Annual Fund, 272 Pearl St. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.



ROTH GERST
www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

"Snowball" Alexander
6-12-27 to 2-28-07

Dad -
It's been 10 years since we said goodbye. So many changes. Mom has now joined you. She's probably still filling you in on how the family has grown with weddings, nine great-grandchildren and also how loud we are!

Continue to watch over us - we will continue to love and honor you both.
*Till we meet again,
Your family*

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
Regular Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Synopsis of Minutes February 27, 2017
Motions Approved:

1. Reappoint member Scott Vaughan to Fire and Safety Committee.
2. Resolution 2017-011 Acceptance of Sewer Payments by Financial Transaction Device
3. Wittenbach PA-116

Budget Amendments:

1. To: Building and Grounds From: Elections = \$ 4,841.00
2. To: Cemetery From: Elections=\$ 2,000.00
3. To: Building Inspection From: Permit Revenues=\$ 10,000.00
4. To: New property From: Reserves=\$55,000.00
5. To: Big Pine Island Contract Services From: BPI Revenue Carry Forward=\$12,988.00
6. To: Big Crooked Lake Contract Services From: BCL Revenue Carry Forward = \$2,774.00

Our next Township Meeting will be March 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday:
8 am - 5 pm
Friday: 8 am - Noon
Closed Sat. & Sun.

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Lowell, MI 49331
897-9261

Looking Back, continued

has been received since, either by this newspaper or the parents here, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Swarhout. The re-routing of their ship was doubtless taken as a safety measure as it is well known that German U-boats have been active in the waters of the Caribbean. Wherever they are there is reason to believe and hope that they are safe and when the next letter arrives Ledger subscribers may expect to have some mighty interesting reading—unless the censor gets too busy with his pencil.

An acoustic device has been installed this week in the lobby of the State Savings Bank. The device, which is attached to the ceiling helps to do away with sound vibrations such as the clackety-clack of typewriters and other business machines. Conversational tones are readily absorbed and the clankety-clank of silver coin is barely discernible. Most of us, however, have never felt that that sound was disagreeable.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger March 2, 1967

Thieves who broke a rear window at the House of Townsend Friday night or Saturday morning stole \$36.00 from the cash drawer and three automatic pistols. The three foreign made automatics were the only guns missing from a large number of hand guns, rifles and shotguns in the store. The robbery was reported by the owner. Ralph Townsend, discovered the break-in when he opened Saturday morning. A window in Curtis Dry Cleaning Plant was also broken to gain entrance. Thieves evidently stole some money from a coin operated machine but nothing else was taken. The glass door of the Legion Bowling Alley was broken but no entry to the building was made. A

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS and ASSIGNS OF NAOMI BUNCH and PLEAS BUNCH

P.O. Box 811
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(231) 796-5900

NOTICE is hereby given that the above captioned Quiet Title Action has been filed with the Kent County Circuit Court to quiet title in Plaintiffs regarding the following described lands:

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

JAMES M. VANDERWOUDE and SHARON L. VANDERWOUDE, husband and wife, Plaintiffs,
Vs

Township of Lowell, County of Kent, State of Michigan:
The East 330 feet of the North 660 feet of West 1/2 of Southeast 1/4, also that part of East 330 feet of West 1/2 of Northeast 1/4 lying South of centerline of Grand River Drive, Section 9, T6N, R9W, Lowell Township, Kent County, Michigan.

PLEAS BUNCH, and NAOMI BUNCH, husband and wife, TAMMY POLLICE, TRACY BUNCH, BEANNA HOSKINS, HARVEY BUNCH, and the UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF PLEAS BUNCH AND NAOMI BUNCH, Defendants.

Defendants' unknown heirs, successors and assigns of Naomi Bunch and Pleas Bunch shall have twenty-eight (28) days from the last publication of this Notice to file an answer in this action.

Honorable Dennis B. Leiber

Case 16-08077-CH

ROBERT D. STANTON, P.C.
By: Robert D. Stanton (P22977)
Attorney for Plaintiffs
115 Ives Avenue,
Suite A

Dated:
February 27, 2017
Robert D. Stanton (P22977)
P.O. Box 811
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-796-5900

window in the Ledger office was also broken and the window opened but no entry was made. Police are investigating the robbery and any information citizens may have of unusual movements observed on Friday night or on Saturday morning should be communicated to Police Chief Block.

Pvt. David Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Rogers has been home for a short leave before reporting in California to go to Viet Nam. Pvt. Rogers received his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He took advance training in handling the big trucks and will go overseas as a replacement driver. His brother, Pfc. Jas. Rogers, is now in Germany working in an ordnance unit.

Police brought to a halt what might have been a serious affair Thursday evening. Two local juveniles were picked up after a fight started between the two Lowell boys and some Middleville youths here for the basketball game. Police brought the short battle to an immediate halt, there was no further trouble.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 4, 1992

Over 400 eighth-grade students and parents attended the second annual Educational Fair at the High School gymnasium. The Fair served as an informational night for both students and parents. It introduced them to what's ahead for the incoming freshman next year. Each high school department and local clubs and organizations had tables set up with displays of what each has to offer. "It gives us the opportunity to talk to students and parents about the different class offerings available to them," Lowell High School guidance counselor Barb Pierce explains. "It provides students with an opportunity to anticipate and prepare for their four years of high school." Pierce says in 1992-93 there will be 250 freshman. The graduating senior class has approximately 172 students. "I fully anticipate we'll have more than 250 freshman," Pierce states.

Stoney Lakeside Park will be on daylight swimming time. The outlook for swimming at Stoney Lakeside Park this spring and summer is looking rather bright. Swimmers will be allowed to take to the water during daylight hours. Stoney Lakeside Park is scheduled to

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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4	6	8	3	1	5	9	7	2
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open to the public on May 15 and remain open through Sept 15. The Parks and Recreations Commission, at its Feb. 15 meeting, reviewed proposed rules for Stoney Lakeside Park. The rules were then reviewed by the City Attorney, Dick Wendt. At Monday night's meeting the City Council adopted the rules for the park after a few adjustments. The Council changed the permitted swimming hours to daylight hours only. Originally the rules stated 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Council added fishing to the rule which stated no boats allowed within the swimming area. The Council also asked that having a lifeguard on duty be looked into. "I think having a lifeguard on duty means something to the public," Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale said. "Funds will be allocated for a lifeguard in the proposed budget. Councilman Jim Hodges questioned how realistic the rule minors under 18 who are swimming must be accompanied by an adult. "You'd better start picking the kids up now," Hodges said. "I think enforcing this will be difficult." The rest of the Council agreed not having such a rule would be risky. Lowell Police Chief Barry Emmons said enforcement of the rule will be carried if a complaint or concern levied. Other park rules would include: Swimming within the buoy lines; Glass, cans and picnicking will be prohibited on the beach; Dogs, cats or other animals prohibited in swimming or beach area; Fires in grills only; All trash must be placed in designated containers; No loud noises permitted such as automobiles, radios, fireworks, etc.; Hunting and trapping is prohibited; No intoxicating beverages will be permitted; No gas motors will be allowed on lake; Swimmers will swim at their own risk.



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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2017

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

TLP Contractors has made application for a variance from Section 4.1.2 of the Bulk Table of Regulations of the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance to allow for building a 22' by 24' garage on property owned by Robert and Joy Shattuck. The property is zoned R-1 - Low Density Rural Residential. The building would be five feet from the rear lot line where 40 feet is required, and 20 feet from the front lot line where 40 feet is required. The property is located at 13099 Grand River Avenue, Lowell, Michigan 49331. Permanent Parcel No. 41-20-11-177-004.

The application is available for review at the Township Hall during regular office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: MARCH MADNESS

ACROSS

- 1. Dust jacket promo
- 6. The NHL's Stanley _____
- 9. "The Sun _____ Rises"
- 13. Petroleum tanker
- 14. *Top March Madness seed
- 15. Sigourney Weaver's 1979 box-office hit
- 16. Kind of ray
- 17. Expert
- 18. Mother, lovingly
- 19. *NCAA's fill-in-the-blanks
- 21. *Final Four location
- 23. _____ B or _____ C, at the doctor's office
- 24. Russian monarch
- 25. "Gross!"
- 28. Double Dutch gear
- 30. "_____ of all trades," pl.
- 34. Found in a racing shell
- 36. Mountain goat terrain
- 38. What Pinocchio was doing?
- 40. Margarita garnish
- 41. Before "pocus"?
- 43. Roofed colonnade
- 44. Type of acid
- 46. Roman public space, pl.
- 47. One of President's two _____
- 48. Follow
- 50. Bathtime froth
- 52. "Get it?"
- 53. *Three pointer
- 55. Carry, as in suitcase
- 57. *Shared name of Kentucky and Villanova, sing.
- 61. New Norwegian language

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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FEBRUARY 22 - FEBRUARY 28

- Pricewaterhouse Coopers says, "Last night we failed the Academy," after mistakenly announcing that La La Land had won best picture, when in fact the award was meant for Moonlight. The accounting firm has now issued a second apology, while the Academy is announcing that it will conduct an investigation of the way the envelopes are handled at the Oscar ceremony.



- The Biggest Loser host, Bob Harper, 51, suffered a heart attack during a workout. He was unconscious for two days and spent eight days in the hospital.



- Bill Paxton, who starred in some of the biggest blockbusters of the 1980s and '90s and began a new TV series just weeks ago, died from complications after heart surgery. He was 61.

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- 65. Willow twig
 - 66. Tiller's tool
 - 68. _____ Salivate uncontrollably
 - 69. Like a good singer
 - 70. Old fashioned "before"
 - 71. Ancient marketplace
 - 72. Ballet's pas
 - 73. *St. John's _____ Storm
 - 74. Red Sea nation
- DOWN**
- 1. Fat Man or Little Boy
 - 2. Baron Munchhausen, e.g.
 - 3. Long forearm bone
 - 4. Throw up
 - 5. Worker who rolls dough for baked goods
 - 6. Painter's layer
 - 7. *Tar Heels' home
 - 8. Circle of friends
 - 9. Medicinal succulent
 - 10. Sketch
 - 11. 18-wheeler
 - 12. December stone
 - 15. Libertine
 - 20. Unit of geological time
 - 22. Pilgrimage to Mecca
 - 24. Tea pot warmer
 - 25. *School with most basketball titles
 - 26. Filth
 - 27. Surround
 - 29. University teacher, for short
 - 31. Benign lump
 - 32. "The _____ Runner," pl.
 - 33. Annoy a bedfellow
 - 35. Skin cysts
 - 37. Spiritual leader
 - 39. *Opening round, a.k.a. Play-In _____
 - 42. Lamentably
 - 45. Public disapproval
 - 49. Chapter in history
 - 51. *March Madness selection day
 - 54. Early anesthetic
 - 56. Narrow valley between hills
 - 57. Courts
 - 58. Is not
 - 59. Facebook button
 - 60. Like a billionaire's pockets
 - 61. Scholarship criterion
 - 62. Move over and "make _____!"
 - 63. Sight for what eyes?
 - 64. Third K in KKK
 - 67. _____ Metal-bearing mineral

Puzzle solutions on page 14



LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm
 Friday: 8 am - Noon
 Closed Sat. & Sun.

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

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Are you beginning to feel less stress or more as the new administration approaches its first 100 days?

- LESS 6%
- MORE 94%
- ABOUT THE SAME 0%
- WHAT? ME WORRY? 0%

WWW.
thelowellledger.com

Local author publishes latest novel and holds book signings

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell author Laura Hansen recently published her latest book, a novel about death, romance and ghosts called "Angel Wings."

"It's about a girl whose mom gets cancer and passes away," Hansen said. "She finds her mom's unfinished bucket list and decides to set out and finish all the things her mom never got to do. She meets somebody along the way who has suffered a loss of his own. The similarities of the things they went through bond them. It's kind of a love story with some sad stuff and with a twist in it too."

Hansen's latest novel was inspired by aspects of her personal life as well as a favorite song.

"My mother-in-law got breast cancer this past year

so I was inspired by that and I heard a song on the radio by Leona Lewis that gave me the idea," Hansen said.



Laura Hansen

"I work in nursing [at Porter Hills Assisted Living] and I've dealt with a lot of people passing away so I put a lot of that in my book."

She has been interested in writing since childhood, again taking inspiration from her personal life and music. And, unlike

many authors, Hansen has managed to avoid being unduly influenced by other peoples' books.

"I started writing when I was in sixth grade," Hansen said. "My parents got divorced and that kind of triggered my writing. I am not a big reader. I used to read Danielle Steele when I was younger, then I got into writing and I didn't read as much. I love poetry. Music inspires me to write poetry. I have put my poetry to music. I used to write songs and sing them, but the only instrument I play is the flute and you can't play the flute and sing at the same time."

As a parent, Hansen does not have an excessive amount of time to devote to her writing, but she manages to work it in.

"I write every chance I

get," Hansen said. "I have a child at home so I don't get to sit down for eight hours and do it. I do it a couple hours here and there. Before I go to bed at night I've got a couple hours where I can sit down and get my thoughts on paper. Sometimes I go to work a half hour early and write."

Hansen's books and calendars are available for purchase online at Barnes & Noble and Lulu.com, including a book of poetry and what she calls "a fun book" entitled "I Am Not A Crazy Female."

"You can get them on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Lulu," Hansen said. "Right now I have a few books at Brenda's Hair Design [1002 W. Main] and a few books at Village Floral West [1004 W. Main]."

Her biggest goal is to get her work into the hands of a major New York City publisher.

"My next goal is, I'm sending some of the books to New York because I want to get them on the shelves," Hansen said. "That is my next step. I am doing everything by myself. It's a lot of work, but I have had some buyers. It's a start."

Hansen has lived in Lowell for the past seven years. She is married with one child. She said that no matter how much success she achieves as an author she has no intention of moving somewhere else.

"I love Lowell, I would never leave Lowell," Hansen said. "I love the people around here. I love the festive holidays. I've lived a lot of places and I

think that Lowell has the best community. People get together more here than other places."

If you can handle waiting or can't buy her books online, Hansen has three book signing events coming up in the near future.

"I am doing one at Red Barn Market [3550 Alden Nash NE] on March 11 from 1 until 3 pm," Hansen said. "I'm providing chips and salsa and raspberry jalapeño jam on cream cheese and crackers. My next book signing is Friday, April 14 at Barnes & Noble in Woodland Mall at 7 pm. Then I'm doing another book signing on May 11 at Brenda's Hair Design in Lowell. I'll be giving out free carnations with a book purchase until I run out."

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Happy St. Patrick's Day

Pictured with Dr. Jim, Patty, Lorie, Julie, Carrie, Gail and Becky
Missing from the picture: Jean and Susan

From Dr. Reagan & Staff

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE 2017 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

The Grattan Township Board of Review will meet at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809 or:

Monday March 13th, 2017 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday March 16th, 2017 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Call 616-691-8450 for appointment
Frank Force, Supervisor
Matt Frain, Assessor