

odyssey of the mind



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50 CENTS



Thousands attended and enjoyed the 2017 Lowell Expo

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The 2017 Lowell Expo took place at Lowell High School on Saturday, March 25. Thousands of people attended and enjoyed tons of free samples, entertainment, networking and fun.

“Ninjas on the Move” brought a portion of their obstacle course and let kids climb all over it for free.

“We got part of the course here, it’s about 30 percent of what we have,” owner Drew Struckmeyer said. “We have 11 events coming up this summer and this was a good way to get our name out there and give people something fun to do at the Expo. If you check out our Facebook page it will have all of our upcoming events listed.”

Oak Meadow Tree Service had one of their employees affix children to a rope and pulley system and then climb way up into the air.

“Today we are basically doing a kids climb so that we can give the kids some exposure to fun climbing,” said Oak Meadow owner Andy Niemeyer. “Tree climbing is a good time. The kids love it. We’ve got a line here and they just keep waiting. We’ll do as many as we can get through. We’ve been busy, it’s been



The Lowell Women's Club booth at the 21st annual Lowell Community Expo.

popular. We’re thinking next year we might add a second line.”

Niemeyer said that it’s almost time to start taking care of our outdoor plants.

“It’s been a very good season so far,” Niemeyer said. “We’re getting geared up for plant health care. We’re going to be fertilizing trees; we’re going to be doing all the treatments of sick trees and things like that; plus our usual pruning,

removals, things like that we do year-round.”

“The Expo is good, we are enjoying it,” said Sue Raimer, an independent Mary Kay Beauty consultant from Saranac. “There are lots of people. I have my Mary Kay cosmetics set up on display and I’m taking names to follow up on. I love it here in Lowell. I love the people.”

The city of Lowell had a booth at the Expo where they gave out free water bottles and chatted with passersby.

“We are handing out water bottles, shaking hands and meeting people,” said city councilor Greg Canfield. “It’s a good crowd. The dismal weather brings bigger crowds here, that’s good. There are a lot of

opportunities for businesses to show themselves off to the community.”

“It’s a terrific way for the community to come together and show off what each of us does, all in one spot,” said city councilor Jim Hodges. “So many times we think we know what’s going on within

Expo, continued, page 8

Cherry Creek and Bushnell carnival all about fun, friends and family

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The big top made a special appearance in Lowell last week when the combined Parent Teacher organizations of Cherry Creek and Bushnell elementaries presented their sixth annual carnival event Friday night.

Nearly 100 volunteers manned the carnival midway-style booths that filled the large gym at Cherry Creek which hosted hundreds of students and their accompanying family members for the event. The festivities flowed into

the cafeteria of the school where attendees could participate in the popular cake walk, get their faces painted or enjoy carnival-style fare from the kitchen, including hot dogs, nachos, cotton candy and snow cones. Students exchanged reasonably priced tickets for the games and treats and received prizes at each booth, win or lose.

Coordinated by school employee Jo Salgat in cooperation with the PTO, the event was also headed up by Amanda Rogers who handled games, Jilisa Ghareeb who led in the

kitchen, eager volunteers Amy Videan and Amanda Schrauben and a host of others that included teachers, parents and local middle and high school students.

The event is technically a fundraiser though it raises nominal funds used to cover general gaps throughout the school year. Though the financial assistance does come in handy, Salgat said the focus of the event is really about the enjoyment of the students. “It is a fun night to hang out with your friends. I love to see all the

Carnival, continued, page 2

Fire and emergency services sharing presentation with the public on Thursday

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority is going to give a special presentation at city hall, 301 E. Main, at 7 pm on Thursday, March 30. According to a press release, the program will be “an overview of current and future operations, including equipment, manpower, training, management, affiliated services and funding requirements for the department.”

“[It is] the PowerPoint presentation that we did for our fire authority board just to kind of give them

essentially what our five-year plan is,” said fire chief Ron Van Overbeek. “It’s an informational-type meeting. It’s more like what our five-year plan is, our equipment needs, our personnel needs, what to expect from us over the coming years and our vision of where we think we’re going. The best thing to do would be to come and hang out and listen to the presentation.”

The Lowell Area Fire and Emergency Services Authority covers the city of Lowell, Vergennes Township and Lowell Township.

Carnival, continued

happy little faces. That is what makes all the work worth it.”

Cherry Creek principal Shelli Otten agreed with that sentiment, adding that the experience is especially enriching for the incoming Bushnell students. “Brings together kids, staff and parents from Bushnell

and CCE. It’s a positive experience for our Bushnell students to recall as they transition. Families have a ton of fun together!” said Otten.

Sponsored by the Ada Lowell 5, Coca-Cola, Walgreens and Ace Bernard’s Hardware, the event would not go on

without the generous support of the community and the volunteers, according to Salgat, who wished to thank those helping hands. “Thank you staff and volunteers for graciously giving of your time to make this happen. Our students love Carnival and it would not be possible without all of the help.”

Otten also expressed her gratitude adding Salgat to the list. “The ladies who make this happen work so hard and we appreciate, but they also appear to have a lot of fun! Thanks a lot Jo Salgat for coordinating!”



along main street



Cherry Creek student Savannah Reynolds enjoying face paint fun.

GILDA’S CLUB LOWELL CLUBHOUSE

Tween/Teen Retreat – Tues., April 4, 1-7:30 pm. The Lowell Tween/Teen group will be hosting their fourth Tween/Teen retreat. This is a time for Lowell members to come together to celebrate their connection through FUN. This event is off site and for youth only.

Breast Cancer Support Group – Tues., April 4, 6-7:30 pm. A monthly support group for those diagnosed with breast cancer to learn and share together. We will meet the first Tuesday of every month.

Mindfulness Workshop – Tues., April 11, 4:30-5:30 pm. Join other members to practice the benefits of mindfulness and learn how to incorporate it into your daily life. You will be invited to practice two different meditations. Please dress comfortably. Facilitated by Liz Josey, program intern.

Chitchat Readers Book Club - Tues., April 18, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join other members of Gilda’s Club in discussing a great book. Stop by the clubhouse to borrow a book.

Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Looking for a way to get involved in the community? Want to volunteer, but don’t know what to do? Come to our volunteer orientation and learn about all of our day, evening and weekend opportunities. Our needs range from evening cashiers to daytime donation sorters with lots of options in between. Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries will be Wed., April 5 at 6 pm. Call 897-8260 for more information.

TOTS ALMOST NEW SALE

Curiosity Corner TOTS Almost New Sale is Sat., April 29 from 9 am to 1 pm at Cherry Creek Elementary, 12673 Foreman St. Want to sell child related items? Sign up at www.lowellschools.com/tots-sale

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 May 10-12 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.



Volunteer Vanessa Tessmer mans the basketball booth.

...

Your life story would not make a good book. Don't even try.

~ Fran Lebowitz (1950 -)

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Saturday, April 15, 2017 at Creekside Park

Snacks & Drinks	1-2 years
	11:00 AM
	3 years
	11:00 AM
	4-5-6 years
	11:45 am
	7-8-9 years
	12:30 PM

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 30TH • 7 PM AT LOWELL CITY HALL

The Lowell Area Fire & Emergency Services Authority - serving the City of Lowell, Vergennes and Lowell townships will be presenting for the public, an overview of current and future operations including equipment, manpower, training, management, affiliated services and funding requirements for the department.

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Three Lowell Odyssey of the Mind teams compete at state finals competition

On Saturday, March 18, 135 Odyssey of the Mind teams from around the state gathered at Thornapple Kellogg Schools in Middleville to compete in the 37th annual Michigan Odyssey of the Mind competition. Three teams from Lowell Area Schools were represented at the competition.

Murray Lake Elementary competed in the division I "Ready, Set, Balsa, Build" problem. In this problem, teams had to design, build and test a structure made only of balsa wood and glue that would balance and support as much weight as possible. The team also had to incorporate precision into the theme of their performance. The Murray Lake team held 643 pounds with their 15 gram structure. This was the highest by any team elementary through high school in the state of Michigan. The team finished second in their division advancing them to the World Finals competition.

The Lowell Middle School "To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger" team presented a crowd-pleasing humorous performance that had the judges in stitches. They faced tough competition in their division placing seventh overall out of 16 teams.

The Lowell High School "Odd-a-bot" team secured a first-place finish

in their division advancing them to the World Finals competition. The team had to create a robot that learned movements from watching others. The high school team's robot learned to sweep, sing, play drums, paint, pet a cat, eat, cut vegetables, and send a text message.

Since starting the program in Lowell eleven years ago, this is the fifth time Lowell will be represented at the international world competition to be held at Michigan State University in May.

Over 800 teams from around the world will compete in the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. The competition emphasizes creativity and teamwork and has grown into the largest international creative problem-solving competition worldwide. Millions of kids have been working hard all year perfecting their solutions to OotM problems and competing within their regions and states. Only a few advance to World Finals - these teams



The Lowell High School team after their long-term performance with their props. Pictured, left to right: Chloe Looman, Leanna Rose, Annabelle Johnson, Brecken Pawloski, Hope Winters, Phoebe Looman, and John Lothian.



The Lowell Middle School "To Be Continued: A Superhero Cliffhanger" team after their long-term performance, pictured, left to right: Dustin Richardson, Josh Momany, Max Stoner, Caydence Pawloski, Nick Momany, and Joshua Fabis.

represent the best of the best creative minds. While the competition is fierce, there is also a feeling of camaraderie among competitors. Many students form lifelong friendships that span the U.S. and the globe. At World Finals, the teams have the chance to learn about other cultures through a common goal. . . to be as creative as they can!

The students are beginning to raise funds to participate in the

competition. Each team will need to raise approximately \$5000 to attend the World Finals tournament. Please consider making a donation to help the students who will be representing our community and state at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals competition. If you or your organization would be interested in helping out the teams, please email lowellodyssey@gmail.com for more information.

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ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

Lowell Rotary

Service Above Self

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



QUINNE DUHR

Quinne is an extremely busy person. As a junior at Lowell High School, she is involved with many wonderful activities such as student council, sideline cheerleading, tennis, and school musicals. Quinne is also serving as the Rotary interact vice president and president elect. It is through her involvement in co-curricular activities and leadership opportunities that Quinne has discovered her passion for seeing the positive changes that occur when people live out Rotary's motto of Service Above Self. Lowell Rotary Club commends Quinne for her dedication to making this community and this world a better place to be.

Rotary is composed of people from a variety of experiences and perspectives. We strive to change our communities and our world through service. The Lowell Rotary Club invites you to connect with others and learn more about what we are doing locally in Lowell and globally in places like La Gonave, Haiti. We invite you to join us for lunch during one of our weekly meetings at 12:00 noon on Wednesdays in City Hall.

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LHS March Students of the Month

Alyssa McIntire, 12th grade; Akasha Khalsa, 11th grade; and Marlie Fowler, 10th grade; are the Lowell High School March Students of the Month. In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly department chair meeting. Students are selected based on academic

very hard in AP chemistry while maintaining a great attitude and sense of humor. Her drive to understand and ask hard questions is

is kind to everyone in class, willing to help and wise beyond her years. Marlie has an A in class, asks questions, participates routinely and has a desire to learn much more than what is expected. She is interested in the Spanish language and culture so much that she signed up to travel with our school group to Costa Rica this summer. I've had conversations with her about documentaries that she watches in her spare time, books that she has read and concerns she has about the world. This is just



Akasha Khalsa

refreshing! She will be a force as she grows and I feel honored to nominate her."

Jennifer Lavis nominated Khalsa and she writes, "Akasha is an excellent overall student and an excellent French student. She takes the initiative to learn French beyond what is taught in the classroom. She is diligent and respectful to me and her classmates. Her homework is always complete and on time and she participates in classroom activities.

Fowler was nominated by Sara Ellis and she writes, "Marlie is in my Spanish 3 class. She is a delight to teach and get to know as a person. She is a natural leader, she



Marlie Fowler

one small example of how Marlie takes time to further her learning and grow as a person. Marlie thinks deeply and asks questions about life and culture that only one with a true zest for life would ask."



Alyssa McIntire

achievement, character and work ethic. There are 1,200 students eligible for nomination, so this is quite an accomplishment for McIntire, Khalsa and Fowler. The students receive a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

McIntire was nominated by Trish Maxwell and she writes, "Alyssa has worked

KCTC February Students of the Month

Three Lowell High School students have been named Student of the Month at Kent Career Technical Center. Dakota Bileth, 12th grade, is enrolled in the automotive tech program; Paige Anes, 11th grade, is enrolled in the exploring health careers program; and Bailey O'Strander, 11th grade, is enrolled in the graphic communications program.



Paige Anes



Dakota Bileth

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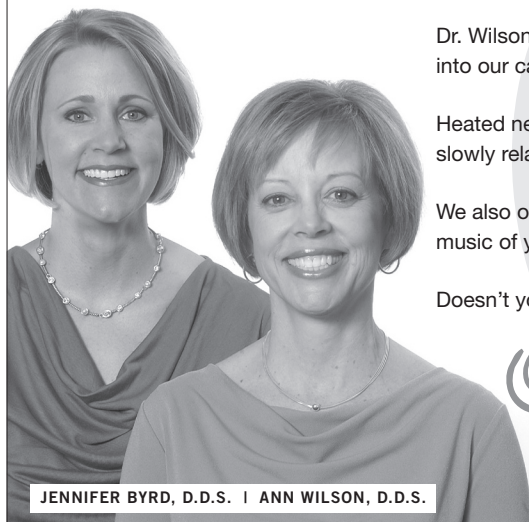
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viewpoint

to the editor

Misinformation correction

Dear Editor:

I am writing to first of all thank you for having Tim McAllister write a story highlighting my new store, North Star Antiques. The feedback I have received so far has been overwhelming and even heartwarming. I am the third generation to have a business in downtown Lowell on my mother's side. My mother Shirley Smith and Dolores Dey had a clothing business for 10 years in the 70s called "That Special Place" located right next door to where I am now at what is now Ability Weavers. Her father and my grandfather, Theron Richmond, owned Richmond's cafe at what is

now Larkin's Saloon before he went into the Real Estate business. My father also owned Smith and Clemenz used car lot on the West end of Lowell for 25 years.

History is important to me and small business owners often do not receive the credit that they are due. So it is with this that I felt compelled to write and correct some of the information that was written in the article to correct some misinformation and confusion regarding the changes on Main Street.

First of all, I did NOT purchase "Dovetail Antiques." The owner, Debbie Haggai, announced a retirement and featured a

"Going Out of Business" unloved." The context of that comment is important. Like Northstar, Dovetail rented the building. It is owned by Jim Reagan. Jim is a fantastic landlord who understands the challenges of small businesses. In the time I have been in this location, I have seen him make some wonderful investments to this property including, but not limited to, new windows, new back doors and a handicapped ramp. He is extremely conscientious about any and all maintenance issues. As I shared with Tim, there were some interior cosmetic challenges that I was blessed to have had help with. The floors in front showcase window and bathroom had indoor/outdoor carpet. Our new dealer, Dale Spitler, kindly offered his skilled labor to help me with building new front window platforms and replaced indoor/outdoor

I was quoted as saying "the store was a little

carpeting with stunning new platforms out of reclaimed barn wood. He also tore out a backroom area that used to be a freezer and has helped me immensely with other cosmetic changes. I have a brother, Tom Smith and son, JP North, who both paint professionally and helped me at little or no cost. The ceilings are quite high in our store making that a difficult job to do.

So the purpose of this letter is simply to both correct the information in the original article and give

acknowledgements to all those who have helped me with this venture. The list is too long to name them all, but I know I would not be where I am without the help of the individuals above and all those that have and are helping.

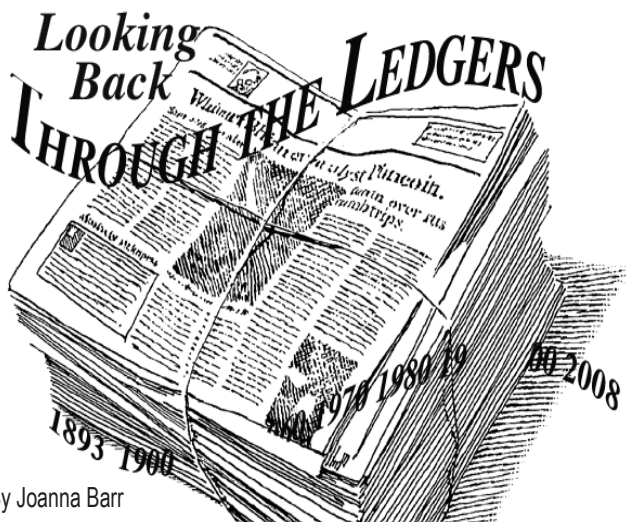
I look forward to finding ways that I can work with and contribute to the Lowell community and downtown shopping experience.

Thank you,
Tonia North
North Star Antiques

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

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 29, 1917

John Dawson's little girl, returning from a bank visit, dropped two \$ 5 bills. A man named Zerba picked them up. Missing the money, the child faced the man and asked if he had seen it. "No." But another man following Zerba said: "I saw you pick it up. Give it to her." "No, it was a piece of paper I picked up and threw away." Officer Taylor was appealed to, went to the house and said: "I want you or the money, which shall it be?" He got the "money." Shame on such a fellow! And bully for George.

The Daughters of Veterans will hold their regular meeting Wednesday evening, April 4. Refreshments will be served. A good attendance is requested. Each one to bring ½ dozen fried cakes, tablespoon of coffee, a little sugar, a plate, cup and teaspoon.

"A Modern Masterpiece," said to be the greatest window poster ever produced is now being shown in the east window of Coons' store. It is a canvas painting, 50 inches wide by 70 inches high, in twelve colors and is well worth your inspection. Don't miss it.

The Grand Rapids Press has very properly closed the war discussion in its Public Pulse column. Some of its story contributors have had more brass than brains or shame. The city papers have exceeded the limit of patience and propriety in giving space to the senseless drivel of these ungrateful adopted citizens, who can be likened only to the miserable cur that bites the hand that feeds it.

Orrin Hyde, 11-year old son of Mrs. Levi Wilson, former resident of Lowell, died at Alma Monday morning of typhoid fever resulting in brain fever. The body was brought here yesterday morning and funeral services were held at the Congregational church at 11 o'clock. He is survived by his parents, one brother, three sisters and many other relatives.

A contract for printing the Citizens telephone directories for 1917 has been placed with The Ledger. All patrons contemplating making changes please notify No. 99 at once.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 2, 1942

Work on the new Main street bridge is now under way in dead earnest with a good crew of workmen and many kinds of bridge building machinery in operation. Local merchants are lending their cooperation by providing the public with every consideration during the construction period. When the job is finally completed we may expect to see military trucks and war material passing through the town in large numbers and huge quantities.

The huge half-million gallon tank on Reservoir Hill has just gone through its annual spring housecleaning and it has been quite a job of washing, scrubbing and flushing. The reservoir is divided into two parts, one-half being cleaned at a time, then refilled. The town's water mains have also been flushed and cleaned. Refilling of the reservoir means a lot of extra pumping from the deep well which has no doubt contributed to an increase in the salt content of the drinking water, but it is expected this condition will soon begin to improve.

The OPA announces that county clerks throughout the country now have 180 million sugar rationing books which will be transferred to schools for registration of commercial sugar users April 28 and 29, and of individual consumers May 4 through May 7.

It is a rare consequence if you have been within earshot of Christiansen's drug store this week and have not heard about the new son born to Mr. and Mrs. Dick Fife on Monday. Although he will be christened William Francis, make no mistake—he will be called "Billy," according to the proud papa, who is doing fine.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger March 30, 1967

Thieves with big ideas struck at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Irwin early Sunday morning. Not content with waiting for the Easter Bunny, they made off with Irwin's 240 lb. St. Bernard, Christopher, and 20

125 years ago Lowell Journal April 1, 1891

Harry Sherman receives the correct time every day at 9 o'clock a.m. and has placed an apparatus in his window giving the general public the benefit of it. The apparatus is an electrical contrivance connected with the L. & H. Ry, station and when the time comes over the line from Detroit, at just 9 o'clock a.m., a large ball, which is suspended in the air, drops. Stop at 9 a.m. and set your watch.

Madame Lovejoy's Concert Co. gave a very fine entertainment at Train's Opera House, last Friday night. Nearly every number was encored and responded to, which gives rise to the only cause of complaint regarding the entertainment, it was too long, Wm. H. Peak's harp solos and the recitations of little Georgia Holly were especially fine.

There are still a large number of the JOURNAL subscribers in arrears and while what each one owes is not very much, the aggregate is large, and the Editor is in need (as what editor is not), so if you will kindly call and liquidate you will confer a favor on yours truly and be able to more fully enjoy the paper, knowing you are not reading one belonging to someone else. A virtuous action is its own reward. Pay up and get a receipt.



lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

Therapeutic riding program needs volunteers

The Kent Special Riding Program, a therapeutic horseback riding program for special needs riders, needs volunteers for a once a week commitment for six weeks. Volunteers must be 14 years old or older. We offer daytime, evening and Saturday classes. Help children and adults with disabilities learn to ride a horse. No experience necessary. It's fun, good exercise and a great chance to get out in the fresh air.

Spring Volunteer Training: Mon., April 3 from 7-8 pm. Taught by a certified instructor and our volunteer coordinator. The evening consists of a general explanation of a volunteer's duties, a video with

information about horse leading and sidewalking and an explanation of how classes and volunteers are scheduled, who to notify if a volunteer must miss a class, etc. Then the volunteers gather in the indoor arena to learn and practice skills, such as grooming a horse, tacking (putting the saddle on), leading a horse and sidewalking (walking next to the rider to assist with balance or reinforce a rider's skills). Safety concepts and practices are taught. Mounting and dismounting procedures are explained and practiced. Volunteers take turns being a leader, sidewalker and rider (if desired) to experience all aspects of the class. Riders

may mount their horse from a mounting block or a ramp. The evening ends with information exchanged with the volunteer coordinator regarding class days and times needing volunteers and volunteer availability. Volunteers may sign up to work as little as two hours once a week or several days each week.

Spring Volunteer Academy: Mon. - Sat., April 10-15. Volunteer academy is scheduled the week before classes begin each spring. This is a time for the volunteers to practice the skills they first learned at volunteer training. Volunteer academy week is scheduled the same as a class week, but there are no riders present. Volunteers should plan to attend the same day(s) and time(s) they signed up to volunteer. The instructor and aide who will be teaching that day and time will go through a simulated class with the volunteers and horses, but without the

students. Volunteers are welcome to attend any of the volunteer academy sessions during the week, but are particularly encouraged to attend the day and time they are scheduled to volunteer. Each instructor teaches a bit differently, so by attending the day and time they are scheduled to work, a volunteer will get used to how the instructor and aide for that class work together.

Spring Classes: Mon.-Sat., April 17-May 27. Work with the riders.

For more information or to let us know you're coming, email our volunteer coordinator Angela at ksrp.dreams@gmail.com or call her at 616-633-3616.

Visit <http://www.kentspecialridingprogram.org/volunteers/> for more information and for the volunteer forms.

health



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

edema

Edema is caused by too much fluid that accumulates in the body, typically noticed in the legs but can also be seen over the entire body. Most people will notice a puffiness or stretched tight shiny skin on the feet, ankles or shins. Sometimes the tissue will actually dimple if you push your finger into it. Swelling tends to worsen as the day progresses for most people. If the swelling occurs with difficulty breathing, shortness of breath with exertion or chest pain, one needs to seek immediate medical attention.

There are many causes of edema. Simple causes include sitting or standing for prolonged periods, eating too much salt, menstrual changes, certain medications used to treat high blood pressure and diabetes, as well as anti-inflammatory medications like Motrin and Aleve. Vein insufficiency is the most common cause. This occurs when veins dilate over time

(varicose veins) and allow blood to pool in the lower extremities.

More serious causes include heart failure, kidney disease, liver cirrhosis, and heart valve problems.

Some complications can occur if edema is pronounced and persistent. The skin may become cracked and lead to infections. Ulcerations may actually occur due to decrease blood flow to the tissues. It may become painful to walk.

Your doctor will need to take a detailed history, closely examine you and may require lab tests and imaging studies to uncover the cause of edema. Treatment of edema is dependent on the exact cause. Certain medications called diuretics may be used to help your body rid itself of excess fluid. Compression stockings are often also used to help mobilize fluid back into the vasculature so the body can remove it.

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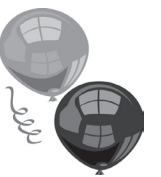
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I have opinions of my own -- strong opinions -- but I don't always agree with them.

~ George Bush (1924 -)

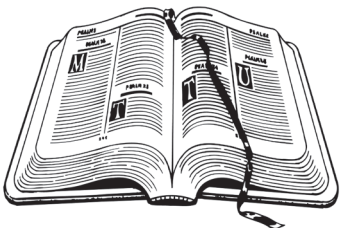
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Sixty-eight students inducted into National Honor Society

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Sixty-eight Lowell High School students entered the academic elite last week when the school hosted their annual National Honor Society induction ceremony inside the Lowell Performing Arts Center last week Wednesday.

LHS principal Amy Pallo led the special ceremony which is a highlight for her each school year, “The NHS induction ceremony is one of my favorite events of the year. We are celebrating hard work and a commitment to service. These students have put forth such a great effort and I feel such pride when they are recognized for their work.”

NHS was founded in 1921 and is the premier organization recognizing the accomplishments of high school students. LHS began their chapter in 1964 and has since inducted more than 1,500 young learners meeting the difficult criteria for admittance, “Gaining



Lowell High School welcomed 68 new members to the National Honor Society. Photo submitted by LHS

acceptance to NHS is not a simple task. A student must demonstrate not only a strong academic standing, but a commitment to leadership and community service,” explained Pallo,

“The students that are inducted have worked very hard and deserve being celebrated. We have such awesome kids at LHS. We are very lucky!”

The criteria for NHS is based on four cornerstone qualities: scholarship, leadership, service and character. In order to join the organization a student must achieve and maintain a high grade point average, show

leadership through their initiative and dependability in their school and community, enthusiastically serve and assist others and demonstrate the positive traits associated with good character. NHS members

also work as a group providing fundraising efforts and community service. Students meeting the requirements are able to submit applications during their sophomore, junior and senior years.

Annual Collage Concert takes the stage at LPAC last week

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell schools’ vast collection of musicians took the stage at the Lowell Performing Arts Center last Tuesday for the districts annual Collage Concert highlighting the talents of middle and high school choirs, orchestras and bands.

The sixteen part performance featured two group performances from students at Lowell Middle School and seven from Lowell High School as well as seven solo acts. The event included a silent auction in the main hallway made up of donated prizes. Proceeds from the auction, organized by the Lowell Music Boosters, will be used for the future programming of the schools’ music department. The shows’ focus was to

highlight the achievements of the musically inclined students, as well as to thank the community for their support of the boosters program.

Divided into two halves, the show began its first act with the unique sound of the Fusion Rock Orchestra. Playing in their signature and trendsetting symphonic rock n roll style, the group began with well-know 70s anthem “Who Are You” by the Who and followed the number with the lesser known “Wrath of Ignacious.” A pair of individual performances followed, featuring trumpeter Jacob Reagan accompanied on piano by Gwen Varineau and Katie Cussimano and Rebecca Hall combining on the marimba and vibes.

Groovin’ Hard played by the LHS jazz band and Zauberspruch sang by the LHS ladies ensemble were next on the line up, followed by a solo violin performance from talented

senior musician Eden Nethercott who passionately played selections from Fiddler on the Roof. The first act closed in the wake of the first of two LMS performances. Members of

the eighth-grade band, led by Kate Bredwell, played the “Prairie Dances.”

The LMS jazz band opened the post intermission act “Playin’ the Blues and Playin’ with Fire.” Pianist Cynthis Haas accomplished next playing Largo from Sonata accompanied by Joseph Oprea on the bass. Kyle Cater resumed on the cello playing Gigue from Suite No. 1 in a solid solo performance.

The LHS concert choir took to the stage performing The Lake inspired by the works of Edgar Allen Poe

and the LHS symphony orchestra performed Millennium by Richard Meyer. Riley Nethercott picked up next playing Cerf-volant on the piano followed by the Arrow Dynamics group who jammed Orange Jam by Jeff Bishop. Wrapping up the show were final solo performer Haley Kenkel who used her vocal skills to belt out Fly Me to the Moon alongside choir director Nathan Masterson on piano and the symphonic band who played a cut from Pirates of the Caribbean.



The Lowell Middle School eighth-grade band performs at the annual Collage Concert.

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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Look Memorial Fund Board is now accepting grant applications for 2017. Applications are available at Lowell City Hall.

Grant applications should be submitted to Susan Ulery, City Clerk, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331. The deadline for submitting 2017 applications is 4:00 pm on Friday, April 28, 2017.

 Susan Ulery
City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

ATTENTION CITY OF LOWELL & LOWELL TOWNSHIP WATER CUSTOMERS

The Water Plant will not be softening the water due to a repair from April 3 through May 1, 2017. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

If you have any questions, please contact the Water Treatment Plant (616-897-5234).

 Susan Ulery
City Clerk

Expo, continued

the community, but here's where we can actually see it and ask the questions."

Some representatives from our state government were at the Expo.

"This is my first time at the Lowell Expo," state representative Chris Afendoulis said. "Hopefully some of my residents from the 73rd district are attending. I suspect they are

and that's why it was very gracious of representative [Thomas] Albert to ask me to come along and we did the Forest Hills Expo last week and but it looks like a great time. People are enjoying it because the weather is bad outside, especially today."

"Lowell's a great community," said state representative Thomas

Albert. "It's great to be here and we're having a great time talking to all the constituents here."

Bruce Matthews, executive director of the North Country National Scenic Trail, which is based in Lowell, was on hand to talk to people interested in Lowell's extensive trail system.

"We are here talking about the North Country National Scenic Trail and getting to meet the folks in the local community, talking about opportunities to use the trail and help volunteer[s] to maintain it," Matthews said. "The trail always needs maintenance. You always have trees falling down or something else that would get in the way. The trail is a community asset. It's something of great value in terms of quality of life in the Lowell community. We have an opportunity to get together in partnership

with the community to help maintain and keep the trail open for everybody. We are part of a larger system that includes rails-to-trails, our North Country Trail, which is a hiking trail; there are water trails; Lowell is a real nexus of trails and is growing as a trail community and we're just grateful to be part of that. It's really cool."

You'll find somebody from the Lowell Women's Club at nearly every event that takes place in or near Lowell. The club was established in 1928. Their goal is to raise funds for scholarships and community gifts and to mentor girls from Lowell High School. Their members are involved in organizations such as FROM, Gilda's Club of Lowell, Pink Arrow Pride, St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis, Schneider Manor, Alpha Women's Center, the Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Lowell Area



Chamber of Commerce. They were at the Expo selling doughnuts to raise money for scholarships for their young members.

"We have ten girls this year," said Lowell Women's Club member Jan Thompson. "They're seniors, they'll be graduating. We're just about to get a new class

coming in. We will be looking at their applications and choosing girls for next year. To be in the Lowell Women's Club we want them to volunteer, we want them to be good students and be a good person. It is an honor to be a woman and to be in the Lowell Women's Club."

"We definitely volunteer a lot and are involved in different activities," said Lowell Women's Club member Darby Fuller. "We volunteer at FROM, at Kids' Food Basket, just several places around our community in order to gain more experience in volunteering. Today is going great. We're selling a lot of doughnuts and it's good." Thompson said the Expo is always a good time.

"Expo is always excellent," Thompson said. "We love being here and supplying coffee to the

Expo, continued, page 9



Expo, continued

vendors and doughnuts to the general public for a dollar, so we can raise more money for our girls.

The Lowell Area Historical Museum had a booth about the history of the showboat and the many ways you can help the effort to rebuild it.

“We are working on restoring the Lowell Showboat by having this display here and encouraging people to check in with the Rotary club auction next month,” said Bev Anderson, Lowell Area Historical Museum board member. “We’re working along with that to get the boat back. It was built during the Depression when they wanted to create something that would be of a happy nature. It was a fun thing to do that would bring more people to town and create a happy feeling in the community.”

Another historical remodeling project was also represented at the Expo.

“We are raising awareness, letting people know that we are in fundraising mode again,” said Nancy Stroosnyder, treasurer of the Whites Bridge Historical Society. “Back in August we had to revise our timber specifications, which doubled the cost of the project. We’ve been writing a lot of grant requests to see what we can get that way.”

The fire department was at the Expo recruiting both kids and adults to become firefighters.

“We are doing fire prevention education; we’re recruiting for our Explorer Post and for our fire department as well,” said Nigel Hefty, paid on call firefighter with the Lowell Area Fire Department. “The Explorer Post is for kids in eighth grade through high school. It gets the youth involved so they learn what

we do, then when they turn 18 they can move to the fire department if they want to.

Great Clips was offering \$5 haircuts; they ended up doing several dozen.

“It’s always a great turn out,” said Molly Cooperwood from Great Clips. “This is my sixth year. It was a little chilly and a little rainy and I thought that might have some effect on attendance but it hasn’t. It’s always a pleasure being here.”

Liz Haan, owner of Marie La Mode, a “mobile boutique,” said she liked how big and diverse the Lowell Expo was.

“We’re a mobile boutique,” Haan said. “We

have a trailer completely built out as the boutique and then we travel to different places, houses, events, all that kind of stuff. We have eight different brands. We have athletic, casual and more dressy clothes. When you book a private event with us, you get 40 percent off your entire purchase. We have a website, a Facebook page and an Instagram page. We’re based in Caledonia; we have a small storefront in Cutlerville, but we travel all the time.”

FROM had a complete bedroom, including TV, bed and dozens of small touches, all from products available at their Treasures Thrift Shop.



“This is all set up with everything from Treasures Thrift Shop,” said FROM volunteer Maureen Lutke. “It’s a nonprofit, when you shop here you help everyone in the Lowell community. We have all kinds of programs at FROM. We have the pantry, the commodities, tax preparation, Lunch Buddies, Neighbor 2 Neighbor and more. It’s a wonderful organization, I love it.”

Real estate agent Michelle Gordon of the Gordon Group said the Lowell Expo was “the greatest Expo ever.”

“I do Expos all the time, I do two or three a year,” Gordon said. “This is the first time that I’ve done Lowell and I’ll never not participate. The community here is probably what makes

it so fun. It was a blast, I don’t want to leave.”

“It’s fantastic,” said Main St. BBQ co-owner Erin VanEpps. “A lot of people want coupons for Main St. BBQ. I’m mostly here to let people know that we cater. We do a lot of rehearsal dinners, weddings, graduation parties, corporate lunches and all kinds of stuff. Orders over \$100 we deliver.”

“It’s going pretty good,” said Donna Cody from Lighthouse Foods. “The crowd seems to come in waves, so it’s feast or famine. We are sampling some of our good products, our homestyle ranch and our blue cheese dressing. They like our products and we’re happy about that.”

“It’s been busy, a steady flow of people,

really good,” said Evert Bek from Arctic Heating & Cooling. “It’s a little busier than usual today and I think the weather helps. Nobody’s outside raking leaves right now, they’re all in here.”

“Good crowd,” said Dr. Jim Reagan, who was passing out free toothbrushes and sugarless gum. “The music is good on the main stage, they’re rotating the acts around.”

“One of us probably knows about every other person who walks by,” said Rick Seese from Greenridge Realty. “We hope for a little rain, but not too rainy. Enough to keep people out of their yards, but not enough that they’ll want to go out somewhere. It’s working. Mother Nature is sometimes on our side.”



Students participate in book swap, wrapping up March is Reading month

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Along with a host of other fun activities this March, students at Cherry Creek Elementary were able to take part in a book swap last week as they reached the tail end of their reading month celebrations.

Coordinated by the school's Parent Teacher Organization and inspired by the idea of CCE principal Shelli Otten, the event served to provide additional reading opportunities and built enthusiasm around the subject. "Multiple research reports tell us that one of the most effective strategies to get students to read and improve their reading, is to give them an opportunity to choose books. Our swap did just that," explained Otten.

Hundreds, possibly even a 1,000 books came through the swap sourced from the students

themselves, as well as the Kent District Library who donated books to the cause according to project coordinator Jo Salgat. "Students bring in

books they are done with to swap out for different ones. We give any leftover books to the Bushnell kids as a reward after they run Mileage Club in May. KDL

donates books too in the second- through fifth-grade reading level."

Open to all students, regardless of their ability to swap, the event was assisted by parent volunteers: Amy Videan, Mary Domer, Mia LaMore and Linda Diesing, who checked children out, restocked the book tables and assisted students in selecting books. Books remaining at the end of the event, not already reserved for Bushnell students, were offered to staff inside the building. According to Otten, "Teachers were able to access the Swap Store at the end of the week and select books for their classroom libraries, too. Our Michigan Education Core tutors were able to access books too and will be distributing them in book bags to the kids they work with. The swap was fantastic."



Cherry Creek students, Kaylee Elve and Jude Johnson, show off their newly swapped books.



At Your Local Library

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

Anatomy – The Human Body

Learn how the human body works through STEAM based activities. Create models to learn how your circulatory system, skeleton and lungs function. Discover what the inside of your body looks like using a human torso model and make your own brain hat to take home. For ages 6 and older. Tues., April 4 at 10 am.

Michigan Reads: *Bubble Gum, Bubble Gum*

Celebrate the 2017 Michigan Reads book, *Bubble Gum, Bubble Gum* by Lisa Wheeler, with crafts and activities. For ages 6 and younger. Thurs., April 6 at 10 am.

Honeybees:

Pollinators, Stinging Insects and Honey Makers

Come learn about honeybees and their amazing abilities with Donald Rewa, seasoned beekeeper of 20 years. Followed by Q&A. For adults. Mon., April 24 at 6 pm.

Create Your Own Henna

Choose your own design and learn how to apply the henna yourself. Pre-registration required. For adults. Mon., April 10 at 6 pm.

Three junior Red Arrows compete as USA men's gymnasts

submitted by
Cindy Johnston

Three junior Red Arrows competed in the USA Gymnastics State men's competition in Brownstown, Michigan, on Saturday, March 18. They

are members of the Grand Rapids Gymnastics Level 4 Division 1 team and all three walked away with medals at the event. Wilson Johnston (left – Alto Elementary School) took second place on the high bar and third

place on the floor exercise, Tate Outman (middle – Alto Elementary School) received twelfth place all-around after successful scores on all events and Morgan Lucas (right – Bushnell Elementary

School) earned an eighth-place finish on the pommel horse, seventh on the rings and sixth on the vault. Their entire team placed seventh in the state. The gymnasts are coached by Emily Albert and Joe Swinehart.



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Sports Summaries

Girls Lacrosse

The lady arrows of the varsity lacrosse team and brand new head coach Jesse Vasquez made their season debut last Saturday in Battle Creek returning home with a 14-5 victory over Harper Creek High School. The team, led by seniors Sela Bauman and Laurel Frederickson, who will both play the sport at the collegiate level next year, will travel once more in competition before hosting their home debut against Comstock Park on April 10 at Red Arrow Stadium with a start time of 7 pm.

Off The Field

Members of the Lowell varsity baseball team visited two of the districts' four elementary schools last week to help celebrate March is Reading Month. Players visited

classrooms inside Murray Lake and Alto elementaries and took turns reading to the pint-sized learners as part of the team's and the school's, continued commitment to service in the community.

Girls Soccer

Red Arrow varsity girls soccer headed into competition for the first time this spring last Friday night in non-conference action against former OK White foe Caledonia High School. The match up ended in a 1-1 tie with Lowell's lone goal coming from freshman Khloe Hayes. Junior Riley Conlan was credited with the assist. Senior goalkeeper Bridget Garter had five saves in the net.

Scholar Athletes

Lowell High School multi-sport senior athlete Collin Bowers recently made a commitment to Albion College to further his education and continue his career on the lacrosse field at the collegiate level. Bowers has been a key player for the Red Arrows on both the lacrosse and soccer fields during his scholastic career at high school.

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Red Arrow

- TRACK

SPORTS

Track and field begins run to season success

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell track and field began their run toward season success last week taking on their first two challenges of the spring in the GVSU Laker Challenge and the Sparta Snowmelter leaving the pair of competitions with individual medalists and top team finishes for both the boys and girls.

The Lady Arrows had an extremely successful outing at both events starting with a pair of medalists at the GVSU Laker Challenge in Allendale. Sophomore Diana Roth placed best coming in the third position in the 200-meter and also earned ninth place in the 60-meter dash. Freshman Julia Pytlik leaped 15' 5" in the long jump, good for eighth place. The novice varsity team member also finished in the ninth place on the high jump. Rounding out the team's five top ten finishes was Corah Kaufman who placed seventh on the pole vault.

The team followed up their strong debut performance of the season with a stellar first-place finish at the Sparta Snowmelter. Finishing with a total score of 640 the team topped host Sparta (617) and

Union High School (378) for the top position. The win included a total of seven first-place finishes. Running their way to first were Roth in the 100-meter and Lauren Aud in the 1600-meter race. Five ladies achieved the same feat on the infield including Amber Brown on the pole vault, Kaufman on the long jump, Sky Angelo in shot put, Alexis Cook in discus and Abby McDowell on the high jump. Angelo, Brown and Roth also brought home medals in discus, 100 hurdles and 200-meter respectively.

Other ladies placing at the podium level were Pytlik on the high jump, Mya Kaywood in the long jump, Kerstin Johnson in the 100-meter, Katrina Droski in the 1600 meter, Jillian Fidler in the 400-meter and Kat Miller and Ashley Boehr in the 300-hurdles. Teammates Callie Ford-Weber, Grace Ostrander, Kaufman, Kyla Dixon, Marlie Fowler, Aud, Haley Nieuwkoop, Brown, Autumn French, Kathryn Miller, Madeline Taylor, Boehr, Kyra Snyder, Pytlik, Angelo, Cook and Laura Lachowski also picked up top-ten finishes at the meet.

After struggling in their debut in Allendale with their best finish coming



Members of the girls varsity track and field team celebrate their first-place finish last week.

Photo by Paul Judd

from Caleb Devereaux who finished 25th in discus, the boys varsity finished an impressive second at the Sparta event with a score of 573. The team fell just behind their host who scored a meet high 669. The team brought home four first-place medals including one from Devereaux in shot put, Will Reynolds who placed first in the 100- and 300-hurdles and the relay

teams of Andy Anschutz, Devin Dietz, Keegan Redloske and Tristan Stevens and Reynolds, Eric Judd, Redloske and Kenny Stump in the 800- and 1600-meter relays.

Several others finished within the top three including senior Judd in the 800- and 1600-meter races, Devereaux and Jacob Bishop in discus, Morrison Ismond in the 2400-meter,

Avery Lupton and Bishop in shot put, Jacob Rau in the 300-hurdles, Stevens in the 110-hurdles, Reynolds in the high jump and Logan Smith in the long jump.

Rounding out top ten finishers in other events were Austin Smith, Lucas Cossar, Dietz, Anschutz, Stump, Parker Grant, Collier Kaufman, Caleb Swart, Kyle Cater, Judd, Camaron Cheney, Rau, Jacob Cutler,

Brett Evink, Casey French, Sairge Saldivar, Dawson Jankowski, Will Kuhns, Lupton, Smith, Thad Swart, Redloske, Caleb Kaufman, Tesfa Woldemichael and Reynolds.

Both teams will enjoy respite until after spring break when they host their home opener against multiple opponents on April 11 with events scheduled to begin at 4:15 pm.

Beachlers honored for accomplishments on hardwood

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

In Lowell the name Beachler is synonymous with basketball. Storied basketball coach Phil Beachler has been inspiring Red Arrow athletes on the hardwood for decades pushing them to grow and inspiring their drive to succeed. His younger counterpart, son Matthew Beachler, has been a four-year varsity standout, breaking records and setting new precedents for the program, finishing his career with a slew of achievements this winter. It seems the maestro found his best student pretty close to home.

Last week Lowell High School athletic director Dee Crowley honored one of the accomplishments of the hoop descendant in an informal presentation at the school. Beachler, a current senior, surpassed the schools' all time career scoring record which had been accomplished by

former Red Arrow superstar Denny Dewitt when he closed his career with 1,250 points. The record had stood 46 years. Beachler busted through the point threshold tallying 1,254 with 15 games remaining in the season this winter. He ended the season with 1,572, more than 300 points in front of his predecessor.

Crowley said she felt that Beachler had earned the recognition after breaking the long-standing record and for his positive representation of the schools' athletic programs, "We enjoy recognizing accomplishments of our student-athletes. Matt was a good ambassador of Red Arrow basketball."

Beachler was humbled by the special memento presented, a personalized basketball and per his kind personality quickly shifted the focus away from himself when asked about the recognition. "Mrs. Crowley and the athletic department

has been very gracious and I am very thankful for that. The recognition of the basketball program as a whole in Lowell has continued to rise over the past few years. Hopefully, we can keep that going moving forward."

The school and Beachler also had the opportunity to honor Dewitt earlier this season when they welcomed him to center court for an unofficial changing of the guard alongside the young record holder. "I thought it was awesome how our school honored his amazing accomplishments as a high school basketball player," said Beachler, "He was very encouraging to me and I was honored to meet a Lowell legend."

Surely to be seen as a legend himself to future generations, Beachler set several other records during his career, including most points in a game, most steals in a season and career three-point leader, among

others. He also helped to guide the team to their first district championship in more than thirty years his junior season on the court. Next year he will take his talent to Division I Central Michigan University where he will chase his next level

of aspirations, undoubtedly with the senior Beachler by his side, "One major goal as a basketball player is to make the NCAA tournament. Gotta' love March," he said with a smile adding, "I hope to continue to grow as a basketball

player and keep in mind what is most important, a collegiate degree."

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

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- Jewelry TV on Basic channel 78 will relocate to channel 162.
- Evine LIVE on Basic channel 19 will relocate to channel 121.

For a complete channel lineup, visit spectrum.com/channels. To view this notice online, visit Spectrum.net/ProgrammingNotices.

Looking back, continued

foot of chain. Chris, described by the State Police as "definitely stolen" is a friendly giant with a very black face. He is the pet of the Irwin's five grandchildren and you can be sure they are five very sad children right now. There is a reward being offered for information leading to the recovery of the dog. Police officials are now on the alert for a robbery where the loot consists of dog food. Dog Found Shortly before Suburban Life went to press we were informed of Chris' safe arrival home. Five very thankful youngsters greeted him. The case is still under investigation.

Last Wednesday night the American Legion sponsored a free skating party at the American Legion Roller Rink. The event was held because of Child Welfare week and spring vacation. We were very pleased when 260 plus skaters showed up for the 2½ hour party. Jack Adams said he would like to have known how many they would have had if they had not run out of skates. This event turned out so good we are planning more of the same in the future.

The problem of all-day parkers on Main Street was brought to the attention of the Planning Commission at their meeting on Monday night by Gordon Hill. The commissioners said they were sympathetic to the situation but enforcement was up to the council and the police department. Two-hour limits make it very difficult to enforce. Tony Zoovas fell while working to open his restaurant last week, broke his wrist and injured his back. The opening will be delayed a few days until he returns from the hospital.

Brian Nisbet, formerly of Lowell, placed second in the 25-yard breaststroke with a time of 20 seconds in the YMCA Western Michigan District Swimming Championship. on March 18, in Battle Creek. He will compete in the State Championship Meet, April 1, in Jackson. Brian also placed fifth in the 100-yard free-style relay. Mark Nisbet was a member of the 200-yard medley relay team that placed fifth in the junior division. Both boys have competed successfully during the year as members of the Benton Harbor St. Joseph YMCA swim team. Maitt will also appear in the State Swim Meet this week when the relay team competes.

Main Street merchants are looking forward to the arrival of the city's new street sweeper. The dirt of the winter is deep on the streets and is a real eye-sore. Regular use of the sweeper should make for a more attractive community.

Lowell fire department responded to a call from Attwood Corporation last Thursday at 11:30 p.m. Chief Baker said that a fire started in an automatic buffer motor. Most of the damage was caused by water.

The Lowell Congregational Church was ransacked by what appears to be juveniles on Saturday night. Sunday school rooms were strewn with papers and books and the office desk contents were emptied on the floor. About a dollar in change was stolen. Police are working on clues furnished by neighbors who saw several youths around the church.

Footprints in the mud quickly brought about the arrest of Daniel Moore, 17, and Dorral Swanson, 17, both of Lowell, on Tuesday morning, by Lowell Police. They pled guilty to breaking a window in the former Lowell Stamping Company plant on Lincoln Lake and destroying the decorative wheels at the home of Mrs. Leonard Rittersdorf at 415 Hunt Street. Moore was also charged with breaking a window in a car belonging to Bill Ormand of Caledonia. They were ordered to pay \$29.00 each and to serve five days in jail on each of the counts for a total of not to exceed 15 days.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 1, 1992

Graham Building may help LAHA's realization of museum. Lowell Area Historical Association President Judy Straub designated the actions as steps toward the realization of a museum. Lowell's City Council approved LAHA's use of the upstairs of the historical Graham Building for the storage of artifacts and documents. While the Council voted to okay LAHA's use of a portion of the upstairs of the Graham building, Lowell Township gave its consent on the usage of Block Grant money in upwards of \$4,500 toward its cleanup. Currently, the organization uses the second floor of City Hall. However, the distractions are many. It does not provide a small area that can be secured. It's upstairs has no heat or electric. The Graham Building will provide the Lowell Area Historical Association with use of three upstairs rooms and the ability to secure the rooms. The Lowell YMCA and the Lowell Library are currently using space for storage also. Straub said the library will be removing most its books. LAHA is in need of money to clean up the second floor of the Graham Building. The second floor is without heat and electric. "LAHA is in the process of looking at cost-wise what it will take to clean-up, improve and restore the upstairs," Straub said. Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale asked the historical organization if it was interested in the use of the Graham Building. Straub said it was an opportunity LAHA has been eyeing. The Graham Building will help enforce and solidify our identity," she explains. "Our long term goal is to establish a museum. It's a wonderful opportunity for us to get our foot in the door." Straub said Leo Pfaller will help the organization access the work that needs to be done. "Initially, it will provide us space to set up an office, tables, filing cabinets and shelves," Straub

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 17-200976-DE

Estate of KIM ALAN
CLEMENSCHAW. Date of
birth: 2/26/1954.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS: The
decendent, Kim Alan
Clemenshaw, died
9/1/2016.

Creditors of the
decendent are notified
that all claims against

the estate will be
forever barred unless
presented to Darlene M.
Clemenshaw, personal
representative, or to
both the probate court
at 180 Ottawa Avenue
NW, Suite 2500, Grand
Rapids and the personal
representative within 4
months after the date
of publication of this
notice.

March 23, 2017

John D. Mitus (P31244)
410 Bridge Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-774-4001

Darlene M.
Clemenshaw
7061 Pine Hill Dr., NE
Belmont, MI 49306

said. Before restoration can begin funding must be secure, quotes and estimates must be attained and a coordinated plan must be drawn up. "We'd like to see work begin in the spring," Straub said of the organization's realization of a museum.

Two Lowell students have received scholarships from Northwood Institute. Chad Sayen, a Northwood junior from Lowell, is recipient of the Jack Case/NAPA United Memorial Scholarship for the 1991- 92 academic year. Sayen is earning a bachelor of business administration (BBA) degree majoring in marketing/management and is also working towards an associate of arts degree in automotive aftermarket management at the business management college. He is the son of Robert & Gloria Sayen of Lowell. Toby Czarnopis, also a Northwood junior, is recipient of the Clifford Roy/Gold Eagle Scholarship, and William J. Menghini - David Wasserman Scholarship(s) for the 1991-92 academic year. Czarnopis is earning a bachelor of business administration (BBA) degree majoring in marketing/management and is also working towards an associate of arts degree in automotive aftermarket management at the business management college. He is the son of Timothy R. and Margaret S. Czarnpis.

"The 1992 Lowell Showboat Queen is contestant number six. Heather Elizabeth Haynes." With that announcement from Showboat Pageant Master of Ceremonies, Gordon Gould, a Friday nightmare was replaced with a wonderful dream on Saturday for Haynes before 252 spectators. "I had a nightmare Friday night that I was late for the Showboat Pageant and they wouldn't let me come on stage," Haynes reflects. Individual interviews with the judges was scheduled to start at 3 p.m. on Saturday. Haynes was 10 minutes early. The Lowell senior not only got on stage but also caught the eyes of the judges with the way she handled and presented herself on stage and in the interview. "I am extremely happy and surprised. I didn't anticipate this," Haynes remarked. "I hope this experience as Lowell Showboat Queen helps me to gain a better understanding of the Lowell Community. I also want to represent Lowell as well as I can." Each pageant contestant was asked two questions. One pertained to Lowell and the second question dealt with a national or international topic. Haynes was asked if she thought Lowell was a thriving community? She responded that she thought the community of Lowell was awesome and that the people in town were close. "Lowell brings people together," she said. Her second question was if she thought the people of the 90s could live by the morals of the 70s? "Yes, I do. The people of the 70s were people for peace. I think we can all still live by that." Members of the Queen's court were second-runner-up Renee Teresa Nugent and first runner-up Lori Esch. Nugent said she entered the contest for fun and because she thought it presented her an exciting opportunity. Esch, who participated in the 1990 pageant, echoed Nugent's comment about the pageant being fun. "It's community work, my participating is a way to give back to the community."

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct a public hearing at its regular scheduled meeting of Monday, April 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Lowell City Hall, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following:

Litehouse, Inc. (applicant) has petitioned for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (P.A. 198) on real and personal property (located at 1400 Foreman Road). The applicant qualifies for twelve years of abatement for improvements of \$6,760,500.00 in facilities and machinery.

Interested persons may submit comments prior to the meeting at City Hall, 301 East Main Street or appear in person.



Susan Ulery
City Clerk



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We asked people at the Lowell Expo what was the greatest April Fool's Day prank they had ever played on somebody, had played on them, witnessed or heard about second-hand.

From time to time our Ledger reporters will pose a question while out on the streets of Lowell. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SPEAK OUT.

If you have a question you think would be an excellent conversation starter, feel free to suggest one.

Send your Street Smart questions to:
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
subject line - "Street Smarts"



Nikki Freel, Lowell

"The only thing that comes to mind is at work they put Saran Wrap over the toilets."



Michael Burns, Lowell

"I can't really talk about an April Fool's joke, but my former city pulled a prank on me when I left. When I was moving into my apartment here, the day my moving truck came they were able to place a "keep out, building condemned" sign on my apartment. It looked official and I called Cascade Township and reamed them, only to find out my people back in Fenton were playing a joke."



Marj Harding, Lowell

"When I was in school in Cassopolis some of the people would take soap, dip it in chocolate, then give it out as candy. I didn't do it but I know some of them who did."



Rachel Mullins, Lowell

"My son thinks the whole idea of putting Saran Wrap on the toilet is very entertaining. We tried it, but his older brother didn't fall for it. He could see the Saran Wrap reflecting. Maybe if you tried it early enough in the morning it might work."



Selina Larson, Alto

"I can't think of one. I've never done it. Nobody's every pulled anything over on me."



Brianna Furlong, Lowell

"My baby was born on April Fool's Day, right in the middle of the afternoon, even though I told him not to. It took two and a half days in the hospital."



Shannon Goodwin, Lowell

"I don't think I've ever done an April Fool's prank on anyone. That's not a holiday I really celebrate. I think I might play one on my kids this year. I think it would be great to convince them that it was a school day when it really wasn't a school day."



Lowell Area Schools' 2017-2018 calendar has several big changes

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell Area Schools released their 2017-2018 calendar last week with several big changes as they move to line up with the Kent Intermediate School District's calendar in an effort to ensure students are able to participate in all of the programs offered by the county's many programs.

Parents received notification of the changes via email from LAS superintendent Greg Pratt who included the following explanation of the changes, "A number of variables were considered when creating this calendar. For several years, state law has required schools to start after Labor Day. In 2015, the State mandated 180 student days, requiring Lowell to add five student days to the year. A second law requires a consistent county-wide calendar for Thanksgiving, winter and spring breaks. To meet these mandates, KISD received a waiver from the Michigan Department of Education allowing districts to start the 2017-18 school year before Labor Day. This gives districts the capacity to align their calendars with KISD programs and with the early and middle-college programs at KISD."

Classes and programming through KISD begin the week of August 21, which led to the decision to begin school this year on the 22nd of August. Currently more than 200 Lowell students are involved in KISD programs and new opportunities through the county are always emerging including the new "Launch U" tech program which kicked off this past winter in cooperation with Grand Rapids Community College.

Other changes included in the new schedule include an expansion of students winter break, extra half days during exams and an earlier than normal exit from school scheduled for June 1. Though the change will shorten this summer, after this transitional year that will not be the case considering the early release date.

Parent reaction has mixed throughout the community with some hailing the decision as a convenience and some crying foul as they scramble to rework already planned vacations now scheduled during the school year instead of the summer. Pratt said he himself feels the impact of the change looking toward his own summer, "I know that this change impacts many people including myself. The district will have to compress much of its business activity of hiring, negotiating, and construction into a tighter summer window. It will definitely narrow the time for sun and fun."

Parent Courtney Willard, of Lowell, said that the new schedule is actually better for her family who

has two sons involved in athletics, "I always figured with the kids having already started sporting events by that time, you might as well already be in school. So it will shrink the summer this year, but next year it will be the same amount of time as always."

Mother of three, Tracy Wolfe, of Alto, agreed saying the schedule better coordinates with her own school schedule. "I'm happy about it. As a college student, it will be nice to have my spring break line up with the kids' schedule."

Those who are less enthusiastic about the change also expressed their opinions on the matter. "I bought a plane ticket before the announcement. Had already changed plans to make sure I would be back in case we started on the 28th. I don't care that we start early, but it's really early and I wish we had known sooner," said Lowell resident Shannon Hanley of the change.

Willow Kramer, who has two daughters currently enrolled, agreed with Hanley saying she would make the necessary adjustments to her vacation schedule but felt concerned about the high August temperatures. "We had a vacation already planned, I wish they would have given us more of a warning. I had no idea. I do think for having schools without air, sending them back to school in the hottest month of the summer is a little silly too, but I can adjust, just wish we had known sooner."

Pratt said he knew that no one schedule would work for all but added the school will try to accommodate

Calendar, continued, page 15

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House Bill 4011 could discontinue Daylight Saving Time in most of Michigan

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The days of “spring ahead, fall back” could be almost over. State Rep. Peter Lucido, R-Shelby Township, recently introduced a bill that would end the observation of Daylight Saving Time in Michigan.

“We’ll have less work accidents, we’ll have people that will show up on time for work and not be late, students that go to school won’t have to be fussing around,” Lucido said in an interview on his website. “Teachers say [Daylight Saving Time] is disruptive to the students. [...] Those

students are very precious. We already know that the teachers have already advocated that by changing the time they are off their game. Let’s keep them on their game. Let’s keep the time one time once and for all.”

If Michigan chose not to “spring forward,” we would be in the Central time zone half the year. This would cause us to have a two hour time difference with Chicago half the year. To cause even more confusion, Michigan already has four counties in the UP that are in the Central time zone. Not everybody is on

board with this plan. Some politicians say it would be bad for business.

“House Bill 4011 is in the very early stages of the legislative process,” said state senator Dave Hildenbrand. “Although I am still researching the intent and consequent impact of the proposed change, I do not support the bill at this time. Michigan would be one of only a few states to not observe Daylight Saving[s] Time which could cause confusion about Michigan for people traveling and doing business here from all around the globe.”

Lucido contends that Daylight Saving Time is a pointless waste of time.

“I used to change the clocks and I used to wonder why. I understand during war times they thought that this would change and save us all a bunch of energy and save us money and it actually didn’t. It actually cost us more. [...] Most importantly there would just be one time for everyone, which means no more wasting time changing the time.”



MARCH 22 - MARCH 28

President Trump’s bill to repeal and replace Obamacare, the Affordable Care Act put in place by Barack Obama, was abruptly pulled last Friday as it failed to pass the majority in both houses of Congress.

Thomas Pesquet, European Space Agency astronaut posts a photo of his friends’ wedding rings, floating in space, on several social media websites on Sunday. Pesquet, who has been in space since November, mentions that he will be back in time to witness the summer wedding.

Authorities in Queensland, urged 30,000 Australians to evacuate their homes as Cyclone Debbie, a category four storm, expects to gather strength before making landfall early Tuesday morning.

In a severe blow, stock markets mostly fell Monday and the dollar slid on concerns that the collapse of US President Donald Trump’s repeal of Obamacare could leave him struggling to push through his promised tax-cut and infrastructure spending policies.

Veterans urged to review benefit eligibility

Like many Vietnam veterans, coming home wasn’t easy for Air Force veteran Bill Arvo.

He returned home to public disdain and suffering from skin issues he later discovered were due to Agent Orange exposure.

“I had cysts all over my arms and they just gave me some cream,” he said “It was kind of disheartening to go to the VA back then. It really left a bad taste in my mouth.”

He avoided VA health care for about 40 years until he developed heart problems and his wife,

Michelle, urged him to reconsider.

“My wife said I should think about going back to the VA, that there might be some benefits that I was eligible for now,” he said. “I went back and received a 30 percent disability rating. Thanks to her determination I now have a primary care doctor at the VA who really cares about veterans and their wellbeing.”

The Arvos are now urging other veterans to review their benefit eligibility in the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency new marketing campaign.

The Southeast Michigan couple is part of a move to alert veterans that the agency is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year to help connect veterans of all eras to benefits they have earned through their service.

MVAA is a state agency that partners with the VA, state and local government and numerous veteran service organizations to provide assistance to veterans.

“New research and medical advances have contributed to numerous changes in benefits eligibility for Vietnam-

era veterans in the last 15 years,” said MVAA director James Robert Redford. “Veterans who haven’t looked back to the VA in a number of years could be missing out on valuable benefits.”

Veterans can be connected to state and federal benefits as well as local resources by calling 800-MICH-VET (800-642-4838) or visiting MichiganVeterans.com

“It’s been a long time coming to be recognized, and I know some have given up,” Arvo said. “But I’m really glad I went back.”

Calendar, continued

problems that arise from the adjustments, “Some parents have scheduled vacations during the end of August and we will certainly honor those family vacations as an excused absence for the students. Family time is very important for all students.”

He also added that

the decision was carefully considered by himself and the board of education and was announced as soon as it was possible to do so, “Portions of the calendar are negotiated and that did take some time to complete. We were able to

announce our calendar just a day after neighboring districts and three weeks sooner than normal.” Pratt reported adding that they will continue to evaluate the calendar in the future keeping the best interest of the students priority.

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Government has the power to force citizens from their homes and decide where to locate hazardous facilities. It has the power to confiscate your property or throw you in jail.

Your government claims it can save money by posting notices about tax increases, property seizure and new spending on its website. That seems well-intentioned. But doing that creates a system where **government is in control of what you know.**

71% of Michigan citizens polled said that they trust a local newspaper/newspaper website.	19% of those polled would allow for Government-site ONLY posting.
72% of Michigan citizens polled said they found their local newspaper/newspaper website to be more effective than posting on a government website.	Only 19% feel that a Government-only website is effective.

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*Contact your state legislators and let them know you feel keeping government notices in a permanent legal format independent of government is important in maintaining your right to know.

Digitized by EPC/NWA, June 2015

Furniture is back in the old Superior building with opening of Mi Hometown Furnishings

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The old Superior Furniture building, 318 W. Main, is becoming a furniture store once again this month with the opening of Mi Hometown Furnishings. Owners Ken and Heather Palcowski have filled the historic space with furniture and accessories for every room in your house.

We pretty much have a style that will fit everybody," said co-owner Heather Palcowski. "There is a mix of contemporary, lots of modern, traditional, the whole rustic feel, some vintage pieces. None of our upholstered furniture is redone or anything. We have some tables here and there from some vendors. We have stuff for the traditional farmhouses, that kind of rustic stuff would go real well in a cabin, log home type feel. We have our custom furniture and all the fabrics that it can come in. We sell Ashley furniture, England furniture, we do Seely mattresses and a lot more. There is a little bit of something for everybody.

They sell brand new furniture as well as some

unique, handmade items from local artists that they are selling on consignment.

"Most of the signs in here are handmade by someone local," Palcowski said. "We work with two ladies, 'Salvage Soul Sisters' is their name, they're pickers and antiquers. They approached us and we talked with them and so we have a lot of their pieces scattered throughout as well. We really don't want to take away from the antique shops in town or anything, but some of the stuff they had just fit here real well."

The couple live and now work in Lowell and Ken is a Lowell native. They planned to open a business in Lowell at some undetermined point in the distant future, but fate interfered by presenting them with an opportunity they could not refuse.

"Ken is from Lowell, he is a 2001 graduate of LHS," Palcowski said. "I am from Byron Center. We got married in August 2016 and then we bought a house here. Ken has always wanted to move back here. He is a Red Arrow through and through. We purchased

a house on N. Hudson and completely renovated it, then this opportunity came up right after we moved into our house in September. We walked through here and we fell in love. We were just like, 'This is it, this is perfect.' We knew

if we were going to live in Lowell that we eventually wanted to open a furniture store here, but were weren't anticipating it being right away, right after marriage and buying a house and everything."

their new business in the historic Superior Furniture building in the middle of downtown Lowell.

"It used to be the Superior Furniture building, they made furniture here," Palcowski said. "We have kept as much original as we

to a different local charity each month, starting with Pink Arrow Pride.

"Lowell has so much community pride," Palcowski said. "I'm not from here, but even if you're just visiting you can see it. Everybody is



Mi Hometown Furnishings co-owner Heather Palcowski said her new 318 W. Main St. store offers furniture and accessories with "a style that will fit everybody."

After graduating from Lowell, Ken has worked in the mortgage business and owned mattress and furniture stores, including one in Grandville. Mi Hometown Furnishings is their fourth location. The couple was happy to locate

could, like the floors. We just had them sanded and put a clear coat on and then the brick and everything, we painted. It needed to be freshened up a little bit."

The couple have decided to donate a percentage of their profits

so welcoming, happy and open. We decided that every month we're going to sponsor a different charity. We're going to give a portion of our sales for the month to that charity. The first one is going to be Pink Arrow Pride. It's good to give a little back."



Dan Mitchell - Commercial Lender, Brian Talbot - Mortgage Lender, Eric Wakaroon - Branch Manager

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REMINDER NOTICE REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2017

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of Boone Township, Lowell Township, Vergennes Township and the City of Lowell, who is not already registered, may register to vote at the city or township offices, at any Secretary of State branch office, or other designated places for the special election to be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017.

THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING REGISTRATIONS WILL BE
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017.

QUALIFICATIONS TO REGISTER TO VOTE:

- Citizen of the United States
- At least 18 years of age on or before May 2, 2017

Sandra Kowalczyk
Boone Township Clerk
616-868-6846
9 am to 12 pm

Sue Ulery
Lowell City Clerk
616-897-8457
8 am to 5 pm

Linda S. Regan
Lowell Township Clerk
616-897-7600
9 am to 5 pm

Heather Hoffman
Vergennes Township Clerk
616-897-5671
9 am to 3 pm