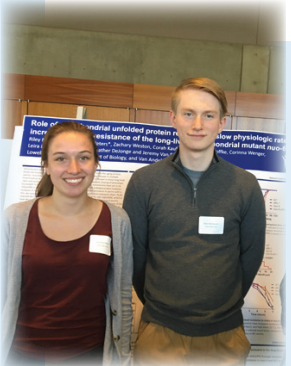


**young scientists**



page 8

**first book**



page 7



**Lhs sports**



pages 10 & 11

**50 CENTS**



## Speed limits increased on hundreds of miles of Michigan roads effective this month

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The speed limit just went up on hundreds of miles of Michigan roads effective May 1. On over 600 miles of freeway and 900 miles of non-freeway, the speed limit increased from 70 to 75 miles per hour and the limit for trucks went from 60 to 65. New signs are going up, a project that will be completed by November. The change is the result of a law passed by the legislature and signed by the governor in January.

“Ensuring that all Michiganders are safe while operating vehicles on our state’s roadways is critically important and these bills allow for appropriately increased speed limits on certain roadways after safety studies are conducted,” Governor Rick Snyder said in a press release.

Increasing from 70 to 75 mph and from 60 to 65 for trucks:

**I-75:** Bay City to US-23 in Mackinaw City (Bay, Arenac, Ogemaw, Roscommon, Crawford, Otsego, Cheboygan, and Emmet counties) and St. Ignace to Sault Ste. Marie (Mackinac and Chippewa counties)

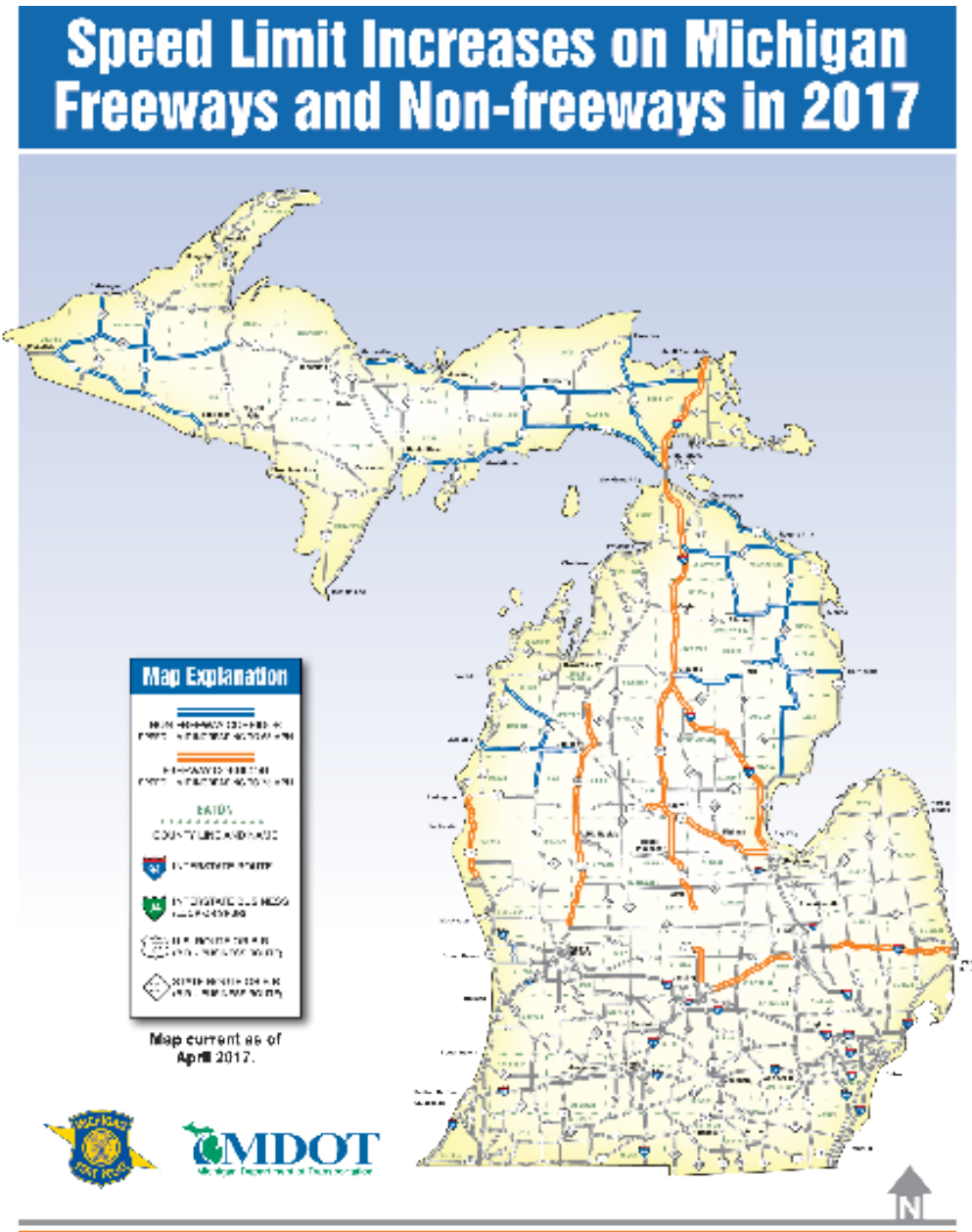
**US-127:** I-69 to the end of the freeway at St. Johns (Clinton County) and the beginning of the freeway at Ithaca to I-75 (Grafton, Isabella, Clare, Roscommon, and Crawford counties)

**US-131:** M-57 to the end of the freeway north of Manton (Kent, Montcalm, Mecosta, Osceola, and Wexford counties)

**I-69:** I-69 Business Route (Saginaw Highway) to Swartz Creek (Clinton, Shiawassee and Genesee counties)

**I-69:** From the Genesee/Lapeer county line to I-94

New speed limits, continued, page 2



## Any decisions on Lowell’s biodigester still up in the air

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

There still is no final agreement between LEAD, the company that runs the biodigester, and the city of Lowell.

“The city attorney [Dick Wendt], [Lowell Light & Power general manager] Steve Donkersloot and I have been going back-and-forth with LEAD toward a proposed resolution, but nothing has been formalized to be presented to the city council and/or Lowell Light & Power,” said Lowell city manager Michael Burns. “We are hoping to have something on that in the near future.”

There should not be any odors emanating from the facility because the biodigester is not operational and the tanks were power-washed in December 2016.

“To my knowledge there has been some dismantling of equipment,” Burns said. “However, they have not submitted a wastewater discharge permit nor have I approved one. They cannot operate the biodigester without that permit, which they are not currently.”



## LMS crowns chess champs



Lowell Middle School principal Dan VanderMeulen with the 2017 chess champions, from left to right: Avery Miller, first place; Travis Boyd, second place; and Ryan Baker, third place. Students competed in a double elimination tournament that took four weeks of after-school play to complete.



# New speed limits, continued

(Genesee, Lapeer and St. Clair counties) US-31: South Oceana County line to US-10: M-115 to I-75 10 (Oceana and Mason counties) (Clare, Isabella, Midland, and Bay counties)

Increasing from 60 to 65 mph for all vehicles: River (Gogebic and Iron counties) US-2: Wakefield to Iron US-2: St. Ignace to

Rapid River (Mackinac, Schoolcraft and Delta counties)

M-64: M-28 to Old M-107 (Ontonagon County) M-65: US-23 to M-32 west junction (Arenac, Iosco, Alcona, and Alpena counties)

US-23: East of Cheboygan to east of M-65 (Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties)

M-65: M-32 east junction to US-23 (Alpena and Presque Isle counties)

US-45: North of US-2 to M-26 (Gogebic and Ontonagon counties)

M-68: I-75 to US-23 (Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties)

M-28: East of Harvey to Christmas (Marquette and Alger counties)

M-72: Grayling to Mio (Crawford and Oscoda counties)

M-28: Munising to I-75 (Alger, Schoolcraft, Luce, and Chippewa counties)

M-72: Fairview to M-65 north junction (Oscoda and Alcona counties)

M-28: Wakefield to US-41 (Gogebic, Ontonagon, Houghton, and Baraga counties)

M-72: M-65 south junction to Harrisville (Alcona County)

M-32: Atlanta to Alpena (Montmorency and Alpena counties)

M-77: US-2 to M-28 (Schoolcraft County)

M-33: Atlanta to Onaway (Montmorency and Presque Isle counties)

M-115: Benzonia to Mesick (Benzie and Wexford counties)

M-37: Mesick to Wolf Lake (Wexford and Lake counties)

M-123: I-75 to Paradise (Mackinac and Chippewa counties)

M-55: US-31 to Cadillac West (Manistee and Wexford counties)

M-231: M-45 to M-104 (Ottawa County)



## along main street

### SCRAP METAL DRIVE

Drop off your unwanted scrap metal through May 5 at the Lowell fairgrounds, enter off Hudson St. at Bowes Rd. Metal only. No TV's, plastics or furniture. Sponsored by Boy Scout Troop #102, Lowell.

### A DINNER THEATER EVENT

LowellArts Players presents Tony n' Tina's Wedding by Artificial Intelligence on May 5-6 at Larkin's Other Place. Audience members are the guests at the nuptial celebration of Tony Nunzio and Valentina Vitale in all its tacky and hilarious glory. Tickets: lowellartsmi.org

### 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 June 14-16 and pre-registration is required and must be completed a month prior to receiving food. Distribution is during regular food pantry hours, May 10-12. For more information or to register, contact Flat River Outreach Ministries at 897-8260.

*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.*

### BLUE WATER RAMBLERS CONCERT

The Blue Water Ramblers play a wide range of diverse folk music styles, many include lyrics about Michigan and the Great Lakes region. The concert will be held Friday, May 12 at 7 pm at LowellArts, 223 W. Main St. Moving to Main Campaign updates will be shared and a hat will be passed during intermission for donations. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$10. Call 897-8545 or visit www.lowellartsmi.org

### SATURDAY VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Sat., May 13 from 10-11 am FROM will host two volunteer orientations and one will be geared specifically to students interested in volunteer opportunities at FROM.

### THE PRESERVERS

This local rock band was nominated for the 2017 WYCE Jammie Awards, in the category of listeners choice, Best Album by a New Artist and Album of the Year. The Preservers will play at LowellArts, 223 W. Main St. on Sat., May 13 at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Tickets at the door only, suggested \$5 donation. www.lowellartsmi.org

### WHO'S WHO? MEMBERS EXHIBITION

In celebration of the recent move to Main Street in downtown Lowell, LowellArts members are invited to display their art in a members exhibition through June 3 at LowellArts, 223 W. Main St. Just for fun, the names of the artists will be hidden and viewers will be invited to guess "Who's Who" in the exhibition. Open to all artist members age 14+ in any media. Gallery hours are Tues.-Fri. 10 am - 6 pm, Sat. 10 am - 5 pm. www.lowellartsmi.org

### TRIBUTE EXHIBITION

LowellArts presents a celebration of the life and art of Janet Y. Johnson through June 3 at LowellArts, 223 W. Main St. Jan's artwork is currently available for sale at Flat River Gallery & Framing, 219 W. Main St., right next door to LowellArts. Seventy percent of the proceeds from the sale of her artwork will go to support the LowellArts Moving to Main Campaign. All are welcome to an open house event on Sunday, May 21, 2-4 pm. Gallery hours are Tues. - Fri., 10 am - 6 pm and Sat., 10 am - 5 pm. www.lowellartsmi.org

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 17-201151-DE

Estate of CHARLES M.  
GRABINSKI. Date of  
birth: Feb. 4, 1965.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

April 25, 2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Charles M. Grabinski, died April 28, 2016.

the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Laura M. Usakowski, 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.

John D. Mitus (P-31244) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-774-4001

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

Laura M. Usakowski 1332 - 4th Street NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

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### THE CITY OF LOWELL

is accepting applications for seasonal workers within the Parks and Streets Departments. Salary \$10.00/hour. Duties include park maintenance, asphalt work and heavy lifting (50 pounds). Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (not more than 30 hours per week). Must be 18 years of age with a valid Michigan driver's license. Applications are available at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI, 49331 and may be submitted up until May 17, 2017, 4:00 p.m. Selected candidates must undergo a criminal background check prior to start date.

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# Council covers issues from signage and biodigester to police chief

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, May 1. The meeting lasted 28 minutes and was attended by 11 local residents. The council discussed the biodigester, signs, law enforcement and more. You can watch the whole meeting on the city's YouTube page.

There was a brief update about the biodigester. City manager Michael Burns said a story has been circulating around town that claimed the biodigester would be reopening. The city and LEAD are currently in negotiations and Burns said the issue could be resolved as soon as next month.

"There are rumors in the community that the biodigester is going to start back up," Burns said. "I am actively involved in those negotiations and so is [Lowell Light & Power general manager] Steve Donkersloot and we are not aware of that. We are

working with LEAD and Litehouse. There is an issue with the pretreatment of waste from Litehouse, as in the past it did go to the Chatham St. site where the biodigester is. We are still trying to find a solution for that. However, there has never been any discussion regarding reopening the biodigester. At this time they do not have a wastewater discharge permit, so they couldn't operate without that."

There was also a brief update about the investigation into possible misconduct by Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. Burns said that Bukala's absence has caused some staffing issues, so they moved part-time officer Mike Stephens to full time.

"I will not disclose, at this time, as to what he is being investigated for, but I will tell you what he is not being investigated for," Burns said. "He is not being investigated for any sort of

sexual deviancy, he is not being investigated for any sort of embezzlement, he is not being investigated for any sort of bribery and he is not being investigated for any sort of fraudulent activity. We are cooperating with the Michigan State Police, myself and chief Bukala, and hopefully we can have this matter resolved in a very short period of time and the police department can return to normalcy."

In 2013 the city received a \$53,500 grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund to create "wayfinding signage" in Lowell but nothing has been done yet. The project is estimated to cost \$59,000 in total.

"This is directional signage to the many different areas in our community," Burns said. "A plan was put in place by my predecessor [Mark Howe] on this and no movement has occurred.. This has been problematic for both the Department of



Lowell city manager Michael Burns updated the council about the biodigester and the situation with police chief Steve Bukala.

Public Works director [Rich LaBombard] and I because we are new and really were not aware of what was being done. However, we have been receiving quarterly action reports on the grant and had no understanding or direction on this matter. We are at the point where we need to decide if we would like to move forward in planning this or may have to return the money."

The council directed Burns to meet with Andrea Ketchmark of the North Country Trail Association for further guidance and the council will discuss the issue again at a future meeting.

The council will have their next regular meeting at city hall on Monday, May 15. They will also have a 'Coffee with Council' at the chamber of commerce building on the Riverwalk from 8 am until 10 am on Saturday, May 6.

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The Township Board is seeking applications for an appointment to Township Clerk. The appointment will be effective until the electors choose a Clerk in November of 2018. Interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume to the Township Board by Monday May 8, 2017 at 5:00 pm.

More information is available on the Township website @ [www.twp.lowell.mi.us](http://www.twp.lowell.mi.us)

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### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 17-201040-DE  
Estate of DALE T. FASS.  
Date of birth: 1/29/1953.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Dale T. Fass, died 3/5/17.

Creditors of the decedent are notified

that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Shelley Owens, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 437 Barker Ave., Grand Rapids, MI 49504 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

April 26, 2017  
Shelley Owens  
437 Barker Ave. NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-259-2106

## Lowell Moose Lodge 809

wishes to thank the following sponsors for making the "2017 Easter Egg Hunt" a huge success. Our Easter Bunny and his good friend the Lowell Riverwalk Duck were on hand giving hugs and posing for pictures.

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## outdoors

the flood

Dave Stegehuis

Spring rains brought an unusual amount of high water this year. A flood of outdoor activity also occurs after a long winter once the ice goes out and the sun stays up longer.

Anglers wade into streams that are open for fishing all year as soon as steelhead trout find the water temperature comfortable for spawning chores. A few steelhead are in these waters all winter but the majority of fish and fishermen wait for more favorable conditions to do their thing. Designated inland trout streams open for fishing in April. Lower Peninsula waters that were closed to walleye and pike fishing open up again in April, but U.P. anglers must

wait a little longer. Bass anglers can begin keeping fish if they choose in most water by the end of May. Panfish are fishable year around, but open water allows easy access from docks and boats.

Turkeys begin to gobble about the time wild flowers begin to bloom and Morell mushrooms begin to pop up. Turkey hunters can get out their calls and look for birds and hope to fool a tom into shotgun range. Mushroom hunters will need a good eye to find their quarry.

Many public and private campgrounds are open early, but don't get real busy until after school is out for the summer. Gardeners and wildlife food

plotters can begin to work on their plans for the new growing season. Waterfront folks with cottages and those owning cabins in the woods are preparing them for summertime adventures. Soon all around the state golfers, boaters, beach people, and tourists will have the opportunity to follow their interests.


Considering that all of these activities require different levels of preparation, most of us get very busy once the seasonal dam breaks, and we are flooded with a torrent of opportunity. Because there are a lot of other things to do during the Michigan summer, we all can find a reason to look forward to the season.

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

### trail clarification

I'd like to offer some clarification to the article in the Lowell Ledger on Wednesday, April 19th, titled North Country Trail updates. Although the title of the article and the first paragraph reference the North Country Trail, the content of the article focused on other local and regional initiatives by the Lowell Area Recreation Authority and the Friends of Fred Meijer River Valley Trails. Lowell is lucky to have multiple trail networks. Each trail offers a different recreation opportunity and all of them provide Lowell residents an avenue for

health and wellness and will make Lowell an attractive destination for visitors. I wanted to take this opportunity to let Lowell know a little more about the National Scenic Trail right in our own backyard.

The North Country National Scenic Trail stretches from New York to North Dakota. It explores National and state forests and parks and travels right through the heart of communities like Lowell. A simple hiking path, it offers the opportunity to unplug from your devices and from our hectic lifestyles to get back to the things

that matters most in life. The North Country Trail is administered by the National Park Service and managed in partnership with the North Country Trail Association, both of which are proud to call Lowell, Michigan, our headquarters and home. The route of the trail in Michigan is 1,150 miles long. Locally, we have a great seven mile stretch from Lowell up to Fallasburg Park and Lowell was officially named a North Country Trail Town a few years back.

We have plenty of opportunities for volunteers to get involved. If you want to work on the trail, volunteer in our office, join us on our Trail Town committee or help us remotely by donating your professional services, please contact our office at 616-

897-5987 or stop by at 229 E. Main Street in downtown Lowell to meet us.

As Lowell and the surrounding community grows, it's incredibly important that we build in the infrastructure, funding mechanisms and community support to nurture a culture of outdoor recreation. All of our trails, rivers, public spaces and parks will be important places to protect and promote. I invite you to take a hike on the North Country National Scenic Trail, walk or bike the Lowell Area Trailway or to explore the Fred Meijer Flat River Valley and Grand River Valley Trail networks. You won't regret it.

Sincerely,  
Andrea Ketchmark,  
Director of Trail Development  
North Country  
Trail Association

### biodigester questions

Letter to the Editor,

What's up with the biodigester? The biodigester has been shut down since early January. I've been watching and listening to Lowell's city council meetings over YouTube and haven't seen any updates about the biodigester for several months. What was said in the meetings between the people representing Lowell and the people representing the biodigester? I heard that there was some

kind of proposal made and if so, what was the proposal? What is the city's obligation financially and otherwise when it comes to the biodigester? Is the city stuck with a large truck that was financed to haul product to the biodigester? Is the biodigester going to be dismantled or will it be started back up?

Sincerely,  
Jim Howard  
Lowell Township

## sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

### national teacher appreciation

Educators seem to be under the scrutiny of the public more today than ever before. However, people always say how the children of the world are our future. But without educators how could this be? Where would we be without educators? Without educators, how would children learn to read, write, do math, and much more? How would we have doctors, inventors, firefighters, builders, or presidents? When people throw stones at schools through political attacks or make statements devaluing educators, I wonder if they realize they throw their favorite teachers in the mix. When others seemingly are casting harsh criticism on public education, the continual barrage can wear on a person. Because of teachers, students at Lowell Area Schools are achieving at the highest levels, in healthy and safe learning environments, and we continually raise our

expectations for all students. The National PTA has stated "teachers are real-life superheroes. They educate, innovate, encourage and support. Every day they touch the lives of millions of children and their work and impact extends far beyond boundaries of the classroom."

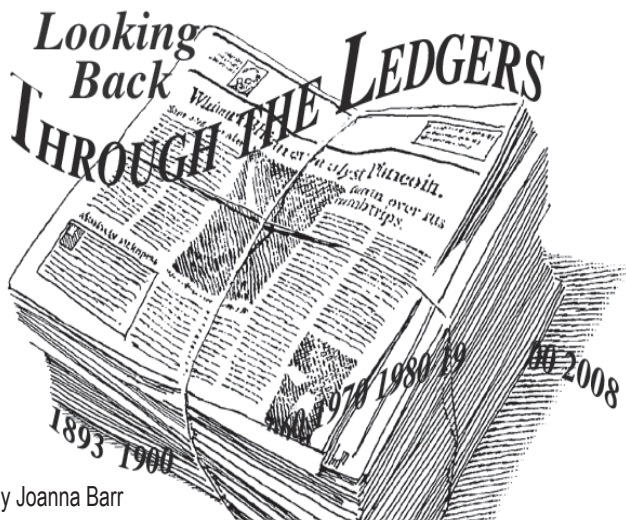
I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our teachers at Lowell Area Schools for their dedication to our students, commitment to partnering with our parents, studying and networking to further their own professional development, coming in early and staying late to prepare and plan, and the personal financial investments they make to create a classroom that truly is a second, loving home for your students.

Thank you Lowell Area Schools teachers for your love of the children in our community!

## We love to hear from you!

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

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



By Joanna Barr

### 125 years ago Lowell Journal May 6, 1891

A large portion of Lowell turned out last Friday morning in search of trout. Sixteen is the number this year, you can't find a person or party who caught more, or less, than sixteen.

The "Lowell Kids," captained by Frank McMahon, walked up into Vergennes and mopped the earth with the nine out there, Sunday, to the tune of 32 to 4. How is that for a Sunday game?

Lowell is going to have a bicycle club. About fifteen would-be cranks met at R.D. Stocking's store last night and organized a club and are about buying machines.

May 1st came in with a boom and nearly every city of importance is enjoying a strike for some cause or another. In a great many places the troops had to be called out and quite considerable blood was shed. The Detroit car shop strikes have been settled, the company scoring a complete victory.

Lowell is enjoying a little strike, G. J. Johnson's cigarmakers are out but will probably be at work again in a day or two.

The pupils of the sixth grade draped and decorated the seat occupied by their schoolmate, Ora McKee, whose death so shocked us all last week. The flowers were tastefully arranged, a beautiful pillow forming the center, with a cross with "Ora" worked in on the cross fits made the background. The school had a

photograph taken and presented to the bereaved family.

The Detroit Free Press celebrated its 60th birthday last Sunday and issued a 64 page paper besides a fac simile of the first number. It is the greatest paper ever issued in this state.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 3, 1917

The Lowell water scare proves to be that and but little more. Representatives of the State Board of Health have been here and an official report will be ready for our next issue. The private wells, with one exception, proved satisfactory. The slight pollution of the city water apparently comes from the old well and pump which are probably affected by the river and will not be acquired by the village: and it is expected the trouble will soon be remedied. The water from the new well system was found to be good.

"Housewives," neat little outfits of needles, pins, thread buttons, etc., are needed for soldiers of the Michigan National guard, 22,500 in number. Good work for patriotic women.

Carl and Theo Bank are home from Detroit visiting their parents and family, while awaiting a call of the Thirty-Second to active service. The boys say they are ready to go whenever they are wanted.

Charles E. Collins of Alto, who is a veteran of the Civil war and seventy-two years old, is about as spry as ever. Starting last Tuesday he led two cows from Alto to Brookfield, this county, a distance of fifty miles, arriving at the latter place in two days, after having to stop over one day because of rain.

The Pere Marquette depot was robbed of about forty dollars last Friday evening, between 7:30 and 8 o'clock, while the office was closed for supper, after the arrival of the 6:15 train. Several local young men were taken to Grand Rapids on suspicion, but examination did not warrant holding them for trial and they were released.

Treat your seed grain and potatoes with formaldehyde and avoid smut and scab. Our formaldehyde is fresh and full strength. And not expensive. Henry's drug store.



# LWC announces their annual community gifts for 2016-2017

The Lowell Women's Club has announced their 2016-2017 gifts to the community. This year, the LWC added six new organizations to their list. The recipients are Schneider Manor, Pink Arrow Pride, Senior Neighbors, Lowell Baby Pantry, Alpha Family Center, Lowell Farm and Wildlife Center, Gilda's Club, Lowell Area Historical Museum, Friends

of the Englehardt Library Reading and Chess Garden, the community's Open Table, FROM Food Fight, Lowell Showboat Garden Club, the LowellArts campaign, North Country Trail Association, and Lowell Middle School Chess Club.

The Lowell Women's Club raises money throughout the year with various fundraisers like

their Fallasburg Fall Festival booth, Christmas Through Lowell's luncheon and craft sale, the sale of the *Save Around* coupon books, the annual soup and cookie dough sales, as well as a monthly pie raffle held within their regular club meetings and hosting a Parade of Homes site each year. Eighty percent of the fundraising goes to student scholarships for graduating

LWC junior members who qualify and twenty percent goes to community gifts. The club's motto is "The more we work, the more we can give!" In the true spirit of cooperation with other Lowell non-profit organizations, two LWC members, Chris Parks and Barb Mulnix, donated their Friday night volunteering for the Lowell Rotary Club auction.

## health



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

### nursemaid's elbow

Nursemaid's elbow is a term used to describe a radial head subluxation (or forearm dislocation). It's the most common elbow injury in children. It most often occurs in children between the ages of one and four. While the condition is quick and easy for your physician to fix, it is also easily prevented.

A nursemaid's elbow occurs when the young child is quickly jerked, picked up, or swung around the room by their wrists. The traction along the arm, along with a slight twist is all it takes for the radius to dislocate at the elbow. (The radius is the smaller of the two bones in the forearm.) While this most always occurs on accident, the person causing the condition is usually a parent or caregiver who then feels terrible.

When this condition occurs, the child is usually scared and in pain. The child

will typically have their hand resting across their abdomen with their elbow flexed to 90 degrees. There is no obvious deformity to the arm, but the child will refuse to move it.

It is important that this condition be recognized and promptly evaluated by your physician. They will typically be able to fix the problem right then, providing the child instant relief. If treated promptly, this condition rarely causes any long-term problems. Treatment of a nursemaid's elbow requires proper training and should only be performed by a physician.

The key to preventing this condition is educating parents and caregivers to avoid the simple actions that cause it. They should avoid pulling or jerking a child up off the floor by their wrists or swinging them around the room by their wrists.

## Access Social Security online resources when you travel

Social Security is here for you when you're traveling, whether it's just a state away or when you're abroad. When you open a personal and secure my Social Security account, you can access it on your terms. We put you in control of your finances and your future.

With my Social Security, you can:

- Request a replacement Social Security or Medicare card if you meet certain requirements;
- Check the status of your application or appeal.
- See your lifetime earnings on your Social Security Statement.
- Get a benefit verification letter stating that:
- You receive retirement, disability, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), or Medicare benefits; or

• You never received Social Security benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medicare; or

• You received benefits in the past, but do not currently receive them.

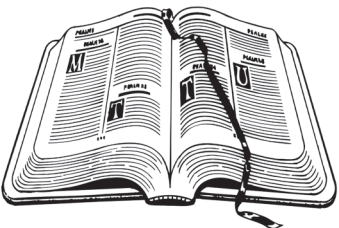
(The letter will include the date your benefits stopped and how much you received that year.); or

• You applied for benefits but haven't received an answer yet.

Visit my Social Security to see what other personalized features are available to you at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).



# area churches



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
 Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)

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

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

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
 865 Lincoln Lake SE • 616.897.5906  
 Pastor Dick Sherlock

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

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING**  
[www.lowellucc.org](http://www.lowellucc.org)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
 CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES  
 2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
 897-7168 - [www.fbclowell.org](http://www.fbclowell.org)  
 Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor  
 Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor  
 Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries

**SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM** (Nursery provided)  
**SUNDAY School.....11:00 AM** (Nursery-Adult)  
**Awana** (K-5 during school year) **Wednesday, 6:15 PM**  
**Middle & High School** - Mon-school year\*Wed,summer, 7 PM

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

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM  
 Sunday School..... 11:20 AM  
 Evening Worship.....6:00 PM  
 Nursery available at both services  
 Barrier-Free

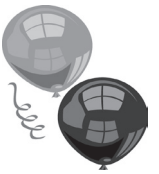
**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 402 Amity St. • 897-9820  
[www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)

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

**LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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 621 E. Main Street  
 897-5938  
[www.lowellumc.com](http://www.lowellumc.com) • Barrier Free Entrance

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

## happy birthday



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>MAY 3</b><br>Wilma Roudabush,<br>Melissa Merriman, Mimi Mitchell, Rich Bieri.  | <b>MAY 7</b><br>John Schalow, LeAnn VanDyke, Duane Rasch.  |
| <b>MAY 4</b><br>John Borton, David Rhodes, Jerre Sue Smith.   | <b>MAY 8</b><br>Rhoda Greenman-Batt, Rhonda Timmers, Mary Mooney, F.J. Johnson Jr., Emily Milstead.          |
| <b>MAY 5</b><br>Scott Carpenter, Kevin Vezino, Kerry Vezino, Brenda Erickson, Robert Dalziel, Kaitlyn Kovacs, Lani Brown. | <b>MAY 9</b><br>Tasha Brand, Ashley Reinbold, Hillary Briggs, Eric Witherell, Bobbie Clouser, Amy VanDuinen. |
| <b>MAY 6</b><br>Jace Bellah.  |  |



NEED TO SEND A

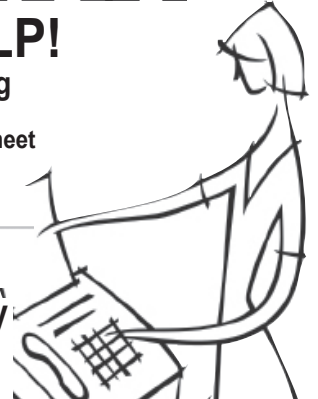


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# Lowell octogenarian writes “My Garden of Stones”

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell author Gladys Fletcher has a new religious-themed memoir coming out this week called “My Garden of Stones.” It is the 84-year-old’s first book.

“I have written a book about my memoirs of miracles and caregiving,” Fletcher said. “It’s about miracles that I have experienced in my life. It pretty well chronicles my whole life from early childhood. I have six chapters and in each chapter there are various stories about that section of my life. It’s about my early life, going off to college, moving to Plymouth, MI and what happened there, then moving back here 40 years ago. I married a fellow that was handicapped, so I was a caregiver for my husband all of his life. I am now widowed. The book chronicles all of the experiences that he and I went through since our childhood, seven intense years of caregiving and then my life after.”

Fletcher, a 1950 graduate of Lowell High School, was born and raised in Lowell. As a youth she attended Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, IL, but before she could graduate she married Alyn Fletcher and they raised three children together.

“I live just one mile from the house I was born in on Grand River Dr.,” Fletcher said. “My grandmother lived near the corner of Grand River and Alden Nash where the light is and I’m just a mile west.

My husband and I both were in the same neighborhood in the village of Segwun. We lived across the street from each other. My folks moved there when I was age seven, so we grew up together, we got married and we had 59 years together.”

She became interested in writing after taking some classes at Calvin College.

“Five years ago I started taking classes in writing your memoirs with instructor Carol Rottman at Calvin College through the CALL program [Calvin Academy for Lifelong Learning],” Fletcher said. “It’s for seniors. They set up a catalog full of classes that seniors can take that are less expensive. I talk about that in my book too. I thought, ‘I’m 80 years old, I don’t know if I dare do this or not.’”

Fletcher said the book was inspired by a certain story in the Bible.

“I based my book on ‘Joshua 4,’” Fletcher said. “In ‘Joshua 4’ Joshua spoke to the leaders of the 12 tribes of Israel when God parted the Jordan River and they were able to bring the Ark of the Covenant across on dry land. Joshua commanded the 12 leaders to go into the ground where the water usually is and made each leader bring out a stone and stack it on the bank of the river so that in generations to come people that ask, ‘What happened here,’ they can tell them about the miracles that God performed. So the ‘stones in my garden’ represent the miracles that God has



Gladys Fletcher has penned her memoir, “MyGarden of Stones.”

performed in my life and I wanted to pass those on to my family and to my friends and anybody that wants to read.”

Fletcher really has stones in her garden; she collects them every place she goes.

“I have a rock garden and I’ve got stones from every place in the country that I’ve ever visited,” Fletcher said. “I have stones around everything around my house and I have pictures of that in my book. On the cover I have a special stone that was drawn by my great-granddaughter. It represents the stone that I call my ‘Moses Rock.’ That story is in the book.”

One of the ‘miracles’ Fletcher described in the book involved a time her husband was in the hospital.

“I experienced a miracle when my husband was in the hospital with a kidney problem,” Fletcher

said. “They had to remove the kidney. The doctor was sure it was cancer because it was an apple core lesion of the ureter. He’d been to a seminar where they talked about treatment of people with apple core lesions, so he was really beside himself because Alyn had severe crippling juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. The doctor said, ‘I don’t know how I’m going to do surgery on him and I don’t know how I will treat him because of his arthritis. During the surgery he sent a sample off to pathology and the pathologist said, ‘It looks like inflammation.’ He sent lymph nodes to pathology three times and everything

came back ‘inflammation.’ When he came in after surgery he stood in the door and took off his mask and said, ‘I don’t know what kind of prayers you people are praying but I need to learn a few.’ Alyn didn’t have to go through any chemo or anything like that, it was not cancerous. Usually they go around from the navel to the middle of the back to remove a kidney. Because of Alyn’s arthritis, it would be very difficult to do that so they had to do a frontal opening from the chest to the groin. They were concerned because he ended up having two units of blood during surgery. It was something else. God

performed a miracle. In our life so many things like that have happened that I just claim ‘miracles.’ I am a believer, as you can tell.”

Fletcher has two book signings coming up. On Saturday, May 6, she will be at Cascade Christian Church Coffee House signing books from 2 pm until 5 pm and then on Sunday, May 7 she will sign copies at the Lowell Area Historical Museum.

“I’m excited. It’s a special book,” Fletcher said. “I’m going to be 85 this year and this is quite an accomplishment, let me tell you.”

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LOWELL COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

### NOTICE OF INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE

At a special meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lowell, County of Kent, Michigan, held on April 26, 2017, the following ordinance was introduced and read for the first time:

#### ORDINANCE NO. 01-2017

#### THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LOWELL ORDAINS:

**Section 1. Amendment of Section 2.01 of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance. Section 2.01 of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended to add the following:**

**Church:** A church includes a cathedral, temple, mosque, synagogue or similar place of religious worship and may include accessory uses that are typically associated with religious institutions.

**Section 2. Amendment of Section 11.03(h) of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance.**

**Section 11.03(h) of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:**

**(h) Churches, public or private clubs, lodges, or similar places of assembly and banquet halls**

**Section 3. Amendment of Article 22 of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance. Article 22, Use Regulations, is hereby amended to add the following:**

**Standards for approval for churches, public or private clubs, lodges, or similar places of assembly and banquet halls:**

1. Parcel must be a minimum of 2 acres.
2. Parcel must have a minimum of 150 feet of frontage on a county primary road or State highway.
3. There must be a minimum of two access points (driveways).
4. Consideration shall be given to specific accessory uses, hours of operation, noise, building size, impact on traffic and parking, and the intensity of accessory uses.
5. Applicant must waive its right to object to the issuance of liquor licenses within 500 feet of the building, as permitted under Section 503(4) of the Michigan Liquor Control Code, PA 58 of 1998, MCL 436.1503(4).

**Section 4. Publication/Effective Date** This ordinance shall become effective seven days after its publication or seven days after the publication of a summary of its provisions in a local newspaper of general circulation.

A copy of this ordinance is available at the offices of the Township Clerk, at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, Lowell, MI 49331, during Township office hours.

This ordinance as introduced was published on May 3, 2017, in accordance with Section 20 of Act 359 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1947, as amended.

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LOWELL

## CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Lowell City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 15, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lowell City Hall Council Chambers on the second floor of the City Hall, 301 E. Main Street in the City of Lowell to receive public comment, verbally or in writing, on the proposed 2017-18 City Budget and the proposed 2017-18 Millage Rates. The proposed budget provides for general fund expenditures of \$2,955,085. The proposed millage rates are 15.70 mills for City operations and .2424 extra voted millage for museum operations.

### THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

A copy of the proposed 2017-18 Budget is available for review and inspection during normal business hours at the Lowell City Hall and at the Englehardt Public Library at 200 North Monroe Street in the City. A copy is also available on the City's web site at [www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us).

Interested persons may submit written comments to the City Clerk prior to the hearing or may appear and speak in person at the hearing. Persons with special needs, as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the City Clerk at (616) 897-8457 or the Michigan Relay Center TDD 1-800-649-3777 for accommodations.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk



# LHS students are part of scientific conference in GR

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Three Lowell High School students and their teacher were part of an advanced scientific conference in Grand Rapids on Saturday, April 22.

“Three seniors from the research class, Jasmine Peters, Riley Nethercott and Zachary Weston, presented a poster last weekend at the fifth annual Midwest Caenorhabditis Elegans Meeting at the Van Andel Institute,” said Heather DeJonge, LHS science teacher. “This was the culmination of the school year’s collaboration on research with the Van Andel Institute. These students were from the Lowell High School research class second trimester.”

The ultimate goal of all this research on caenorhabditis elegans, tiny worms that live in the dirt, is to find a cure for afflictions such as cancer, neurodegenerative diseases and Alzheimer’s disease. DeJonge has been leading an advanced biology class

at LHS in collaboration with the Van Andel Institute for some time.

“I had offered this opportunity to the students to create a poster through our partnership with Dr. Jeremy Van Rammsdonk at the Van Andel Institute who heads up the annual Midwest Caenorhabditis Elegans Meeting,” DeJonge said. “They would be the only high school students represented and they jumped at the chance.”

Lowell was the only high school to send students [to] attend the conference. Some of the colleges on hand were Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, University of Michigan, Northwestern University, University of Toledo, Illinois University and the University of Chicago. The Lowell students were able to do some networking and get a glimpse of a possible academic future.

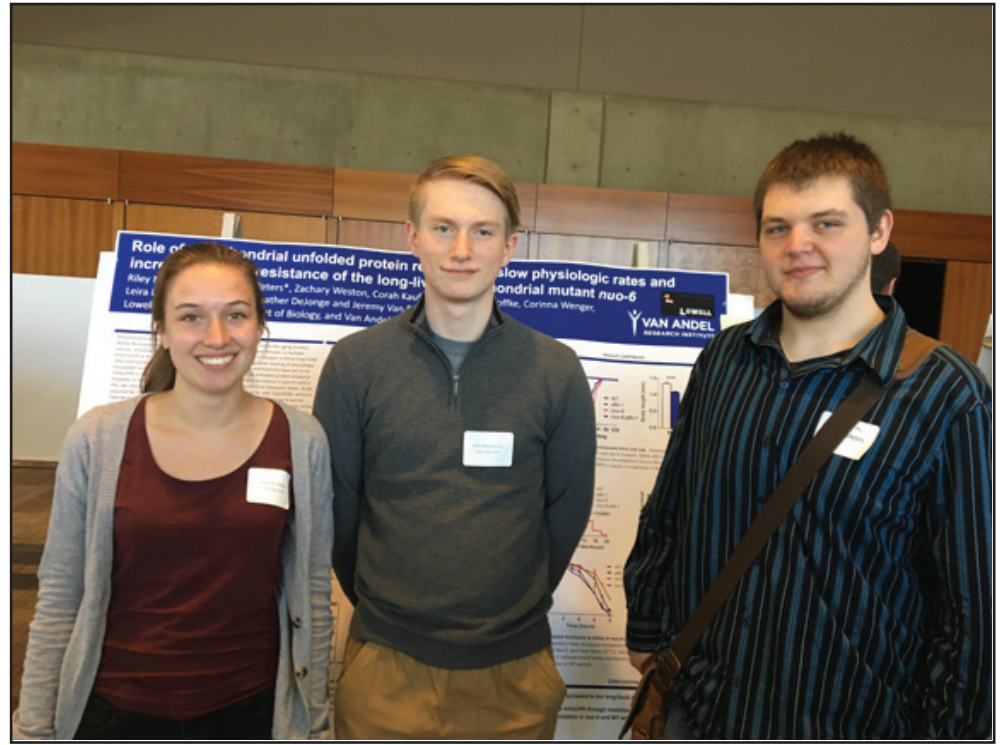
“The Lowell High School students poster presentation of their

caenorhabditis elegans work on the role of ATFS-1 [Activating Transcription Factor associated with Stress] was at or above [what] the college level students and graduate student work,” DeJonge said. “These students were the only high school students, most were college or graduate students. The students from Lowell presented their research very well. They were poised and confident. They made connections with the Central Michigan University research students at the Van Andel Institute. Zachary Weston met a graduate student from the University of Toledo and set up a contact to pursue further caenorhabditis elegans research. Jasmine Peters will be attending Grand Valley State University and hopes to continue her passion for the sciences and get involved in a research lab. Riley Nethercott is off to Central Michigan University to study neuroscience. This will be a

great benefit to them as they go off to college and pursue opportunities for research, having already done it at Lowell High School. Most participants that heard the students from Lowell were

present were most surprised they had this opportunity as high school students and were impressed with the research and knowledge the students presented. Life is really about connections we

make with people and the opportunities they provide if taken. These students definitely took advantage of their opportunity and will be successful in their futures.”



Jasmine Peters, Riley Nethercott and Zachary Weston presenting their poster at the fifth annual Midwest Caenorhabditis Elegans Meeting at the Van Andel Institute on Saturday, April 22.

## Spring Into the Past museum tour this weekend

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Each spring the Tri-River Historical Museum Network has “Spring Into the Past,” an event where a couple dozen small town museums in Barry, Eaton, Ionia, Kent and Montcalm counties have special hours, free admission and displays that show off their collections of local historical memorabilia. The event will take place on May 6 and 7 from 11 am to 5 pm.

“Spring Into the Past is a special annual event when member museums open the same days and hours for convenience,” said

Judy Gager from the Tri-River Historical Museum Network. “During the rest of the year museums are open a variety of days and hours, some during the day, some evenings, some during the week, others just on weekends. This makes it hard to visit more than one at a time. This event allows everyone to know they are all open the first weekend in May on Saturday and Sunday, from 11 am to 5 pm. A few may add an hour Saturday or may delay to noon or 1 pm on Sunday, however.”

This year’s theme is “Fashions through the Ages.”

“The theme was suggested by one of our members and most seemed to feel they had something in their respective museums they could show on that theme,” Gager said. “I think most are using it in some way for the event. However, there are some who are tweaking it to do special displays. Greenville’s Flat River Historical Museum will have a special display focusing on tops and toes, an assortment of vintage hats and shoes. The Belrockton Museum in Belding is probably our largest member museum, as it used to be the dormitory for girls who worked in the silk factory there. It has

many rooms with a variety of displays, but for this fashion theme, they have one room set up like a Belding prom of the 50s and 60s. Another room will have a display of early 1900s undergarments entitled barely seen and their church room will show wedding clothes. The Fighting Falcon Military Museum in Greenville always has military uniforms through the ages, as their museum has a room for each of the many wars of our country. Interesting to watch the evolution of such uniforms over the years. The Oakfield Museum, west of Greenville on S. Podunk Rd., has a curling machine and a variety of curlers, etc. used to create women’s hair fashions in the past, as well



historic homes and schoolhouse will be open to see and, stretching the theme a bit, Fallasburg is hosting an old-fashioned base ball game on Saturday with fashionable old-time wool uniforms, no ball gloves, vague rules, etc. By the way, a nice ending to Spring Into the Past is the annual old-fashioned Hymn Sing at the Alton

Historic Church Museum on Lincoln Lake Road north of Lowell. They stay open until 6 pm Sunday and then have a gospel bluegrass hymn sing featuring the Easy Idle String Band and it’s a calming finale to the event.” To find a free, downloadable 20 page booklet with maps and descriptions of each museum, visit [addorio.com/TriRiver/TriRiverMuseumNetworks/pringintopast.pdf](http://addorio.com/TriRiver/TriRiverMuseumNetworks/pringintopast.pdf)

“Each museum building itself usually has a story to tell, depots, schools, meeting halls, houses, etc.,” Gager said. “We encourage folks to either download the booklet or pick one up at a museum, check out the map in the center and just start out on a tour to do as many as you can each day. It’s a wonderful family venture because the kids are awed by some of the old technology, like dial phones and typewriters and the oldsters always have a story to tell about something they see and remember.”

“Several of the Fallasburg

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent’s Estate

FILE NO. 17-201111-DE

Estate of BETTY JEAN  
GRIFFIN. Date of birth:  
January 7, 1922.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS: The  
decedent, Betty Jean  
Griffin, died February  
20, 2017.

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

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

April 20, 2017

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

Sharon DePew  
10303 60th St.  
Alto, MI 49302  
616-901-1931

BREAKING NEWS

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF WHAT YOU KNOW

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.

Government websites put government in control of what we know. Citizens need an independent, trustworthy and effective check and balance on the government that’s supposed to serve them. Public notices in newspapers provide that.

DON’T LET GOVERNMENT CONTROL WHAT YOU KNOW.

KEEP PUBLIC NOTICES WHERE THE PUBLIC NOTICES:

IN NEWSPAPERS

\*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.

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MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION





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Sovereign Family Day Physical Therapy Services; Melissa Bart-Caine

**TEAM TRAINER**

Aerobics; Bennett's Ace Hardware; A-1 Lawn, Die and Engineering; Matrix Manufacturing Co.; Fog Vets; Powerup LLC; Aerobics; Aerobics; John Place; All's Hardware; Denise Landon; Peter & Virginia Stuchlik; Rick & JoDee Brown; Brian Galt Farm

**TEAM CAPTAIN**

Optix, Inc.; Reagan Family Dentistry; Portland Federal Credit Union; Grand River Outfitters PC; Aerobics; Ann and Patricia Stewart

**SCOUT**

Lisa Cole; Tom Bilot; Douglas & Carol Mollner; Aerobics; Acute Inc. Heating & Cooling; Dawn & Cheryl Clark; Charles & Jodi Jelic; Dale & Jason Hasser; Marry Rell; Mo Clark; Chris & Paul Van Dyke; David & Joy L. Ford; Aerobics; Michele Bink; Mike Pe Coloring; William Wheeler CPE; Flat River Eric; Sweaters; Paul & Marlene Adams; Curtis Laundry and Dry Cleaners Inc; LA- THE RETAIL; Mike Fink; Linda Leape & Jan Halberst; Peter & Justice Maudsl; Family Dentistry Of Lowell; Fog Helpline YWCA; Mike And Boie; Lynn & Ann Vanderhaar; Mark & Paul Berglund; Dan Carter Architects, CFP, PLLC; Robert & Angela King; John & Emily Wanner; Shelley Bart; Ann & Linda Reusch; Dawn & Jim Thompson; Marsha & John Reusch; Joseph & Christina Corvick; Linda Marc; Paul Zander; Carol Dipe; James & Cheryl Mudgett; Bill & Della Rott; Linda O'Brien CFP, PLLC; Polly Gary; Todd & Joanne Hill; Lowell Granite Company Inc.; Dependable LP Gas Co.; Allen & Ann Mader; Out Of The Park; Lowell Veterans; Westbrook-Interactive Supply, Inc

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**WEEKLY BOX SCORE**

	ADMIT	SCOUT	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	TOTAL
	Week 1	Week 2					
<b>NORTH</b>	3083	2,659	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	<b>5,742</b>
<b>SOUTH</b>	2453	3,351	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	<b>5,894</b>

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Litehouse has long been a community partner with FROM and Human Resource Manager Courtney Alman states it's because, "as a company, Litehouse believes it is our duty to give back. Litehouse values service over self-interest, and so we strive to be accountable to each other, our families, and, most importantly, the communities we serve. We donate to non-profits and organizations that uphold our Guiding Principles of faith, stewardship, integrity, excellence and accountability, and FROM is a great example of a local organization that shares these values. We support FROM because we believe the services they provide to the community of Lowell and surrounding areas are beneficial, and contribute to the overall well-being of the community we live and work in." Litehouse has also been hosting job fairs at FROM which helps FROM connect clients with a local employer, but it also has been beneficial to Litehouse. "Partnering with FROM for Litehouse job fairs has been a success! The FROM staff are very supportive and help us with our recruiting efforts, and their relationship with MiWork has been incredibly beneficial as well. They have a strong network and help get the word out when we are hiring. We hope to continue our partnership and hold another job fair soon." As far as their involvement as a Matching Sponsor for Food Fight goes, "we are looking forward to being a part of the Food Fight again this year! It is a friendly competition that supports the fight against hunger and other crisis needs, while giving back to our local community."



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## Red Arrow

- BASEBALL

## SPORTS

## Boys log in an OK White win, 1-1 in exhibition play

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell varsity baseball logged an OK White win over Ottawa Hills, went 1-1 against Grandville in exhibition play and topped Covenant Christian at home in a busy week of action for the Red Arrow sluggers.

Monday at Ottawa Hills the team topped the Bengals for the third time in a three game series, this time beating them 20-0. Junior pitcher Josh Hackstedt earned the win from the hill throwing a no hitter that included four strikeouts. Already ahead 11-0 moving into the third inning, the Arrows capitalized on a pair of errors and then shot out four singles to plate a total of nine runs in the inning. Those singles were credited to senior Jack Malone, junior Connor Douma, senior Jarrod Melle and senior Jake Wosinski, who was the day's leading hitter. Wosinski earned four RBIs while going two for two at the plate. Melle also contributed two hits to the game which was played without an error on behalf of Lowell.

Tuesday, the team faced non-conference rival the Grandville Bulldogs in a pair of back to back outings coming out with one win and one loss. In game one Malone led the Arrows with five hits beginning with a first inning double that gave the Arrows the first lead of the game. Malone added four additional hits in the game, including a trio of singles and a fifth inning home run. Also adding to the Arrows' 4-0 first inning lead was senior Sterling Anderson who sent out a double.

Adding three more runs in the second and four in the fifth, including home runs from Malone and senior Nate Stephens, Lowell was up 11-5 moving into the sixth inning where they produced seven more runs to finish off the Bulldogs 19-8. The action was driven by an error, Malone's single, a passed ball and fielder's choice by senior Cooper Perry. On the hill, Wosinski claimed the win pitching for four innings while allowing just two hits and striking out five batters. Leading

batters behind Malone were Anderson, Melle and junior Brady Douma.

After leading for the duration of game two against Hudsonville, Lowell saw their 3-2 lead dissipate suddenly in the bottom of the sixth when a Bulldog batter picked off a double against Lowell pitcher Anderson eventually driving in two for a 4-3 Grandville win. Anderson took the loss on the hill pitching just over one inning allowing two runs, four hits, walking zero and striking out three. Perry also spent time on the mound throwing for just over four innings. The team also saw Stephens send out his second home run of the week, making good with his only hit of the day.

On Thursday, the team welcomed Covenant Christian High School to their field and recorded a shutout 9-0 win. The Arrows took the first lead in the second scoring on a single from junior Austin Whaley, setting the pace for the win. The team added three in the third, three in the fourth and two more in the sixth to capture the win. Stephens and Whaley led Lowell's effort posting multiple hits with Whaley and senior Sage Solomonson each driving in two in the win. Working together at pitch in the no hitter were junior Garrett Pratt and Melle who earned the win in his four innings on the mound.

**The team, now 11-3 on the season, faced Northview twice on Tuesday and will finish the three game series on Thursday at home starting at 4:15 pm. The team will also face Caledonia on Friday in exhibition play on the road at the same time.**



Senior Jarrod Melle enjoys his time on the field for the Red Arrows.

- SOFTBALL

## Arrow softball team working on perfect season

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Red Arrow softball continued their perfect tour through the OK White with a third win over the Ottawa Hills Bengals before going 1-1 in exhibition play against Hudsonville in a trio of road games.

Monday at Ottawa Hills, Lowell finished off a three game series with the Bengals with another heavy handed win. The team's one sided 32-0 victory produced 20 hits over three innings. Red Arrow pitcher sophomore Emily DePew picked up the win from the mound striking

out five Bengal batters. Junior Kenzie North led the offensive effort going four for five at the plate, pushing in six runs. Teammates Corah Miller and Maddi Jordan backed North up with three hits apiece and Jordan's trio producing six runs. Jordan, a sophomore who is a successful second year starting pitcher for the Arrows, as well as a near sure bet at the plate, recently made a commitment to continue her education and play on the diamond at Central Michigan University following her graduation in 2019.

In doubleheader action on Wednesday the girls battled against the Hudsonville Eagles dropping the first game 5-2 and then rising up in game two for a 7-2 victory. Hudsonville started on top in game one and stayed there after picking up a 4-0 lead ushered in by four walks dealt by DePew and an error. The Arrows picked up one run in the third and seventh innings before succumbing 5-2. Sophomores Miller and Allyson Lange led the Arrows with two hits each. DePew took the loss despite striking out ten.

Finally finding their pace late in game two, the Arrows produced a 7-2 win after a hot inning propelled them into the lead. Hudsonville scored once in the first and second to lead Lowell 2-0 through the sixth, when suddenly the Arrow bats met their targets. Starting off with a single from freshman Krin Beach, the seven run inning continued with Lange reaching base on an error and junior Miah Ransom sending out a single to load the bases.

After a failed suicide squeeze, junior Megan Summerfield launched a double that plated two, tying the game. The run continued when sophomore Maddi Melle took the plate securing a single that scored two additional runners. The team continued their

streak for three more runs including an RBI single from freshman Kenzie Jordan who grabbed the Arrows last score of the game securing the 7-2 win. DePew was credited with the pitching win allowing only six hits and striking out five batters.

**The three game series kicked off Tuesday with a road doubleheader and will conclude on Thursday afternoon at home with the first pitch scheduled for 4:15 pm. Over the weekend the team will take part in the Michigan Stars Tournament in Grand Blanc.**

- TRACK

## Track teams run through five meets in past two weeks

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Both the girls and boys varsity track and field teams competed in five meets in the past two weeks, checking off four OK White contests and two invitationals in the process.

The Lady Arrows earned their fourth first-place finish of the season at their conference opener against Cedar Springs 91-46. The ladies scored in

16 of 17 events bringing home first-place honors. Senior Corah Kaufman and sophomore Diana Roth led the effort claiming first in two individual events. Kaufman earned first in the 400m race and the pole vault while Roth topped all competitors in the 100m and 200m. Junior Katrina Droski also claimed first place in the 800m individual.

Earning first as a group were the relay teams of Callie Ford-Weber, Julia Pytlik, Kerstin Johnson and Diana Roth in the 400m, Mya Kaywood, Pytlik, Johnson and Roth in the 800m and Kat Miller, Ashley Boehr, Jill Fidler and Kaufman in the 1600m. The team also earned three first-place finishes in the field with junior Sky Angelo

in shot put, freshman Pytlik in the high jump and junior Alexis Cook in discus.

In a double dual against Northview and Ottawa Hills, the team finished in the middle falling 74-63 and winning 89-48 respectively for a second-place finish. The ladies brought home first in a total of ten events, including a record setter from Kaufman who jumped

her way to fourth in school history with her 10' 6" pole vault effort. She also claimed first in the 400m among other first-place finishers Roth in the 100 and 200m, Boehr in the 300 hurdles, Amber Brown in the 100 hurdles, Pytlik in the high and long jump and three relay teams featuring Fidler, Droski, Ford-Weber, Johnson, sophomores

Lauren Aud and Haley Nieuwkoop, Boehr, freshman Kyra Snyder and sophomore Grace Ostrander.

In their final OK battle against Forest Hills Northern, the Arrows saw their conference record fall to 2-2 with a large 100-36 loss. While the girls scored well and set several personal

Track, continued,  
page 11



Red Arrow

- SOCCER

# SPORTS

## Girls suffer first loss, now 6-1-1 in conference

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

After picking up their sixth win last Monday over Forest Hill Eastern, the Lowell girls soccer team suffered their first loss at Forest Hills Central on Wednesday night.

At home, the Lady Arrows faced non-conference competitor FHE and produced a 3-0 win over the Hawks, improving their season to 6-0-1. Lowell scored all three of their goals in a furious first half that saw senior Amber Curtis, junior Maura Fitzpatrick and sophomore Regan Coxon find the back of the net with assists from freshman Khloe Hayes and junior Darby Dean. In goal, senior Bridget Garter logged her third shutout of the season saving six during her time in the box.

On the road Wednesday, ranked ninth in Division II, the Arrows met nationally ranked FHC in a battle of the fittest. Failing to score in the first half of play, the Arrows

were down 2-0 moving into the second where Curtis picked up a goal. But the momentum stopped there with Lowell taking a 4-1 defeat. Curtis was assisted by Dean in her goal. Garter recorded 16 saves at goal.

Despite the heartbreaking loss, the Arrows are on track for a sweet season with a current winning record of 6-1-1 overall and 2-1 in conference. With a slew of OK White match ups on the remainder of the schedule, head coach Dan Lipon said he will continue to rely on the talent of his second year captains as they inch closer to a potential shot at the program's first conference title. "Our team is lead by

senior captains Christy Lyon and Amber Curtis along with juniors Darby Dean and Riley Conlan. Each of our captains brings something special to the roster. Some lead by example with their performance on the field and during training, but they all do a fantastic job of supporting and encouraging the team to perform at the highest level," explained Lipon. "All the captains are high level players. I've been more impressed with their maturity this season. They lead on and off the field. They hold themselves accountable and model that behavior to their peers. Our success this season will be due to our captains and overall senior leadership."

**In a high pressure series of games this week, the Arrows met Ottawa Hills and Forest Hills Northern at home on Monday and Wednesday, respectively and will visit Greenville on Friday to take on the Yellow Jackets. Action is scheduled to begin at 6:45 pm.**



**Two year team captain senior Amber Curtis on the field for the currently 6-1-1 Red Arrows.**

## Track, continued

bests, they were only able to secure four first-place finishes against the Huskies. Claiming those victories were Roth in the 100 and 200m, Kaufman on the pole vault and the 1600m relay team of Miller, Boehr, Kaufman and freshman Jenessa Cardinal. The girls traveled to two weekend competitions participating in the Soderman Relays at Caledonia earning a fifth-place finish and the GRPS Elite Invitational where they placed sixth.

The Red Arrow gents battled the same competitors starting with a second-place finish against Cedar Springs. The team fell in their first conference showdown by a margin of 80-57. The twelve point loss saw 16 Lowell participants log points for the team, including six first-place wins. Junior Morrison Ismond led the team with wins in the 1600 and 3200m races, followed by single event winners junior Kenny Stump in the 400m, freshman Nigel Mika in the 800m and junior Will

Reynolds in the 300 hurdles. The relay team of Reynolds, Stump, Keegan Redloske, and Eric Judd rounded out first-place finishers in the 1600m.

Lowell then topped both Northview and Ottawa Hills at the double dual 81-56 and 76-61 with nine first-place finishes. Reynolds claimed two firsts in the hurdles and Ismond two on the track, followed by Judd in the 800m, junior Caleb Devereaux in discus, junior Avery Lupton in shot put and two relay teams featuring Mika, Judd, Redloske, Stump, seniors Ben Noffke and Parker Grant and freshman Benjamin Kinnucan.

Like the girls the team then saw their conference record fall to 2-2 with a loss to FHN claiming wins in just four events. Taking home firsts were Reynolds in the 110 and 300 hurdles, freshman Aidan Kelly on the long jump and Reynolds, Judd, Redloske and Stump in the 1600m relay. The

team also picked up a sixth-place finish at the GRPS Elite Invitational and a third at the Soderman Relays in Caledonia.

## Sports Summaries

### BOYS GOLF

Lowell varsity golf competed once last week facing off against the entire OK White at the Egypt Valley Golf Course. Forest Hills Northern hosted the second conference jamboree on Monday. Lowell placed third among the competition scoring a combined card total of 182, led by freshman swinger Noah Barnhart who shot a 43; followed closely by seniors Alex Dommer and Alex Powell who carded a 45 and 47, respectively and sophomore Tyler Kapcia who also recorded a 47. This week the team participates in two more jamborees traveling to Northview's home greens on Monday and hosting the league on Wednesday at Deer Run Golf Course.

### GIRLS TENNIS

Red Arrow girls varsity tennis broke even last week ending on both sides of an 8-0 score in a pair of home competitions. Monday the team struggled against non-conference foe Zeeland West High School, exiting the game without a point in an 8-0 loss. Wednesday, the ladies reversed their fortune in OK White action against the Ottawa Hills Bengals, picking up an 8-0 victory that featured a nearly three hour showdown at first singles ultimately won by Lowell senior Jasmine Peters. The team is now 2-5 on the season and 1-1 in league play. The team competes three times this week, including a Friday afternoon home match against Byron Center beginning at 4:15 pm.

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Improving their season record to 4-4, the girls varsity lacrosse team toppled the Northview Wildcats 9-1 last week Monday logging their third consecutive win. The Arrow offense netted six goals in the first period and three in the second, while the defense stifled Northview to just one second period goal. On Monday the team looked to avenge

an early season loss to West Ottawa High School and hosts conference competitor Spring Lake on Wednesday night.

### SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Red Arrow senior Eli Boulton will join the ranks of the Sooners next fall when he heads west to the University of Oklahoma to continue his education and wrestling career with a full ride academic scholarship. The top grappler has been a force on the mat for Lowell as part of a team that claimed four state championships during his tenure. He ended his final season with a record of 40-4, ranked number one in Division II in his weight class and as a captain of the historically successful Arrows. Off the mat Boulton excels in academics as a National Merit finalist maintaining a GPA of 4.2 and a student of the arts serving as a violinist for the Fusion orchestra group, as well as the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony.

### BOYS LACROSSE

One win and one loss were the results for the Lowell boys varsity lacrosse team as they moved their season record to 5-4 with a 13-8 loss at Hudsonville on Tuesday and a come from behind 13-11 win at Northview last Thursday. Lowell suffered a slow start against Hudsonville picking up only four goals over the first three periods, allowing a deficit they could not overcome despite four goals in the fourth. Sophomore Casey Olesko put in three goals for the Arrows while senior Collin Bowers added one and three assists. After trailing for three periods against Northview, the Red Arrows soared back for the win finding the back of the net six times in the fourth to nab the win from the Wildcats. Leading the effort was Bowers who earned three goals and as many assists. Junior Addison Buckius followed up with two goals.

**Both teams had just two remaining OK White regular season match ups, one on Monday at home during the Red Arrows senior night. They will compete this Saturday at the Hopkins Invitational with races scheduled to begin at 9 am.**



# obituaries

# Looking Back, continued

## GAUGER

Yvonne "Vonnie" Lenore Gauger, age 88 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord and Savior Saturday, April 29, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bud. She is survived by her children Karen (Bob) Bennett, Jim (Cyndi) Gauger, Jerry (Ginny) Gauger; sister Vivian Johnson; sisters-in-law Jan Bieri, Faith Gauger; 11 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. Private services were held by the family.



## LAIRD

Richard F. Laird, age 89 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, April 26, 2017. He was preceded in death by his brother, Tom Laird; and brother-in-law, Wes Smith. He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Jeanne; his children, Tom (Sheryl) Laird, Dave Laird, Terri (Scott) Madden; and grandchildren, Ally, Alex and Anna Laird, and Julianna (Will Smith) Madden. Richard was awarded the Victory Medal for his service in World War II. He was a longtime employee of Collins & Associates Insurance Company, and a lifelong, avid golfer. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Congregational Church of Lowell, 865 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE, Lowell, MI 49331.



### LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

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Garfield & Brown unloaded two 1020 farm tractors at the Grand Trunk depot Wednesday and ran them to Keene, where they have been sold, one to Chas. Lampkin and the other to Lewis Cahoon.

Big profits—one farmer who delivered pickles to the Lowell salting station last year made \$166.23 from one acre. Prices are higher this year and seed is free. See R. Van Dyke about a contract.

Scouting, organ of the Boy Scouts, urges every Boy Scout to plant a garden as an important "At Home" service for their country. Ask Mr. R. Vaughn for copy of Scouting with full instructions.

All magazine clubs formerly offered by The Ledger and Herald have been withdrawn on account of a recent ruling of the Post Office department. No more can be accepted at this office until further notice.

## 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 7, 1942

Lowell pays tribute to memory of gallant son. A multitude of friends, relatives, classmates and acquaintances attended the full military funeral services held for Ensign Robert A. Fineis, 21, at the Fineis home here at four o'clock Sunday afternoon. The body, accompanied by Ensign Russell Earle of Norfolk, Va., a roommate of Ensign Fineis, arrived in Grand Rapids Sunday morning and was met by members of the Charles W. Clark Post, No. 152, of the American Legion. The Rev. N. G. Woon officiated at the rites, following which the funeral procession went to Portland, where they were met by the American Legion of that city and accompanied to the cemetery where Ensign Fineis was laid to rest on the Fineis family lot. The pallbearers were Ensign Bruce Lindsay, Bob's classmate and friend who is now an instructor at the Grosse Ile air base; Cadet Arthur Curtis, Jr., who was given a 5-day leave from the Jacksonville base to attend the services; Lee R. Miller, Carroll Burch, Bruce McMahon and Bernard Kropf. According to a letter from Bob's commander at Norfolk, he "was last observed to drop back from his squadron and was flying at a lower level in dense smoke and fog." That was at 11:15 a.m., Sunday, April 26, when his squadron of nine planes was returning from its regular patrol. He was flying the "Fighting 8," a one-man plane, and came down in Dismal Swamp, 30 miles south of Norfolk. It took several days to sight the ship and then progress through the swamp to the wreckage. It is reported two-thirds of the plane was buried in the marsh. Bob was the youngest commissioned officer at the Norfolk base and had made a number of successful landings on an aircraft carrier. He was about to be transferred to higher duties in the service.

It proves to be a pretty small world, when two Lowell boys, Jack Hale and Lawrence Potter, came face to face recently in Ireland. Both boys are in the U. S. Navy, enlisting two years ago in January, the same time as Joe Ellis and David Condon. Lawrence writes home that he likes the service very much and is in the boat that picked up the survivors of the Reuben James.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger May 4, 1967

Cong. Ford greets local builder. When local builder, Douglas Dok and Mrs. Dok, attended the National Association of Home Builders' Annual "Congressional Banquet" in the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. recently, they had a pleasant chat with Congressman Jerry Ford of Michigan. They were among the 1,800 persons from all over the country in attendance at this affair. Mr. Dok is a National Director of the association.

Michigan Water Resources Commission reported to the City Council that they are making a study of Flat River pollution above the King Mill dam in Lowell. Complaints have been received that oil sludge is being discharged from Attwood Corp. operations. The local concern has been given until May 8 to comply with standards set by the commission.

Francis J. Mayer, manager of Sortex offices here, requested the city to extend the time for all day parkers in the lots. Local retail business concerns have objected to all day parking by workers and police have been cracking down. The council members spoke out that it was up to local industry to provide off street parking for their employees.

Norm Borgerson stopped in to tell us that work was progressing on remodeling the former Baptist Church to house his enlarged antique shop. Mr. and Mrs. Borgerson are leaving this week on a two month buying trip to Europe. Mrs. Ann Borgerson of Roscommon will run the Cranberry Urn during their trip.

Construction was started on Monday by H. & H. Development Company on a new Big E. Super Market on West Main Street. A building permit for a 100 x 280 building estimated to cost \$100,000 was taken out.

The Murrays harvested a bumper crop of mushrooms in their backyard Monday afternoon, getting about a bushel altogether. Some of them measured 8" around.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 6, 1992

TLC earns Gold Rule Award for voluntarism. "Together Lowell Cares" was one of 14 volunteer groups nominated for an award. But it was one of only four who were honored with an award. "Together Lowell Cares" was recognized for such volunteer activities, as Substance Abuse Awareness Week (last week in January) and its Family Workshop held on Feb. 1. The Golden Rule Award Program is based on JC Penney Company's traditional belief in community service. When James Cash Penney opened his first store in Kemmereer, Wyoming in 1902, he named it "The Golden Rule" - for the philosophy he believed should govern the way he did business. The purpose of the Golden Rule Award is to recognize and support the work of individuals and groups who have performed outstanding service in the community.

The Lowell Knights of Columbus are expecting growth from its biggest annual money raiser over the last five years. The Fifth Annual Showboat City Classic has grown and its co-chairman, Brent Noskey intends to see that it grows some more in 1992. Last year the Showboat Hoop Classic raised \$1,500 for the Msgr. Hugh Michael Beahan Council 7719 Christian organization. Noskey is shooting for an extra 25-30 teams for this year's tournament, which will take place June 12-13-14 at Bushnell School on its playground and parking lot. "The last two years we've had 112 teams," Noskey said. "I'm gunning for 140 teams in 1992," he said.

Lowell High School has been granted accreditation by the North Central Association for the 1991-92 school year. The school has been a member of the North Central Association since 1923, and has been accredited continuously since that time. "This should be a matter of pride to the students and the parents of the school, since accreditation gives assurance that the school meets those preconditions for effective education established by the Association," said LHS principal, Jim DeWeerd. The North Central Association is the largest of the country's regional accrediting agencies. It is a voluntary membership league of over 7,000 schools and 900 colleges and universities within a nineteen state region.

# PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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## lend a hand

volunteering opportunities

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### LEGAL NOTICE

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# CLASSIFIED

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### LEGAL NOTICES

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## Spread the word about Safe Delivery

As part of Child Abuse Prevention Month outreach efforts, today has been proclaimed Safe Delivery of Newborns Day throughout the state.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is urging Michigan residents to learn about the Safe Delivery of Newborns Law, and how they can help keep babies safe by promoting awareness of this very important law.

Under the law, a biological parent may legally surrender an infant no more

than 72 hours old to an emergency service provider. An emergency service provider is a uniformed or otherwise identified employee or contractor of a hospital, fire department or police station who is inside the building and on duty, or a paramedic or emergency medical technician who responds to a 911 call.

“Tragically, newborns have died in situations in which their parents felt a sense of desperation and didn’t know how they could safely surrender their

babies. This reminds us of the importance to ensure public awareness of the Safe Delivery law,” said Dr. Herman McCall, incoming executive director of the Children’s Services Agency at MDHHS. “We urge all citizens to help spread the word about the safe, legal and anonymous option of surrendering an infant who will be placed in a loving adoptive family and given a chance at life.”

A communications toolkit and other resource materials are available

at [www.michigan.gov/safedelivery](http://www.michigan.gov/safedelivery) to help more people understand the law and how they can help promote awareness in their community.

Since the state law was enacted in 2001, it has helped save 194 infants from being abandoned in unsafe locations.

Parents, professionals and other residents can visit [www.michigan.gov/safedelivery](http://www.michigan.gov/safedelivery) for more information or call the toll-free 24 hour hotline at 866-733-7733.

## Michigan receives \$16.37 million grant to combat opioid addiction

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan has received more than \$16 million in federal funds to help reduce opioid use and abuse across the state, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley announced today.

“The addiction epidemic continues to impact families in every community across our state and across this country,” said Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. “Michigan is making strides in the fight against addiction and this grant will help us bring those efforts to the next level, helping more families find the support they need to prevent and treat addiction.”

The funding was awarded to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services through the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

The STR grant will be used to promote prevention and increase access to treatment by funding State of Michigan initiatives, including:

- The Michigan Automated Prescription System
- Development of a statewide awareness campaign
- Michigan-OPEN research through the University of Michigan
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Prevention services and strategies
- Improving the availability of Naloxone
- Increasing peer supports, tribal supports, and support of law enforcement
- Providing a new model for re-entry services
- Collaboration with university partners on re-entry, evaluation, and research opportunities

“This is an excellent opportunity to address the rise of opioid use disorders in our state,” said Dr. Debra Pinals, MDHHS chief psychiatrist. “Through this grant, we will strengthen our networks for prevention and treatment to reduce opioid-related deaths and make treatment more available for those who need it.”

From 1999 to 2014, Michigan saw a four-fold increase in unintentional fatal drug poisonings, and the state was ranked 10th in the nation in per capita prescribing rates of opioid pain relievers in 2012.

Calley led the Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force in 2015, which issued recommendations to address the addiction epidemic. In 2016, Gov. Rick Snyder created the Michigan Drug and Opioid Abuse Commission to implement the task force’s recommendations to combat the opioid epidemic and ensure the health and safety of Michigan residents. Last month, Snyder and Calley joined with a bicameral and bipartisan group of legislators to announce next legislative steps in a primary prevention strategy to better monitor controlled substances and prevent addiction from occurring in the first place.

For more information about substance abuse and mental health in Michigan, including local resources for addiction treatment, visit [www.michigan.gov/bhrecovery](http://www.michigan.gov/bhrecovery).

## MDHHS urges pregnant women to ask physicians about prenatal STD testing

During the month of April, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is recognizing National Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Awareness Month to highlight the importance of testing during pregnancy.

Many STD infections that can occur in pregnant women can also affect a newborn baby. However, the transmission of these infections to the baby may be prevented with proper testing during pregnancy. Testing pregnant women for HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis multiple times during pregnancy will lead to better health outcomes for both the

pregnant woman and her unborn baby.

“If a physician is aware of the woman’s infection before the baby is born, they can provide treatment to ensure the baby doesn’t become infected,” says Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for MDHHS.

Every pregnant woman should be tested for HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis at their first prenatal visit. MDHHS recommends additional testing at 26-28 weeks. Pregnant women with high risk factors such as having an STD, using or injecting drugs, or having more than one sex partner, should also be tested for HIV, syphilis, and hepatitis

B at 36 weeks or at delivery even if their previous tests were negative.

Testing is important because people often do not show signs or symptoms of having HIV, hepatitis B or syphilis. Pregnant women who are infected with HIV, hepatitis B, or syphilis can transmit their infections to a baby who would have a greater risk of becoming infected or developing severe health problems because of an infection.

Pregnant women with these infections may need to begin treatment during pregnancy. Early treatment greatly reduces the chance of the baby being born with the infection or having

severe health outcomes. In addition to treatment in pregnancy the baby may also need treatment at birth to protect them from getting the infection.

In the past five years, Michigan has had three preventable cases of perinatal Hepatitis B, three cases of congenital syphilis and three babies born with HIV infection. MDHHS encourages all pregnant women to ask questions and discuss their risks and concerns with their doctor during their prenatal visits.

For more information, please visit [www.michigan.gov/hepatitisB](http://www.michigan.gov/hepatitisB) and [www.michigan.gov/hivstd](http://www.michigan.gov/hivstd).

## EARTH TALK™

### Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk: Is the extraction of lithium for lithium ion batteries really worse for the environment than fracking?** -- *Mitch Newhouse, Oak Park, IL*

In a world of modern technology, lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries are hard to escape; they’re in cell phones, laptops, and basically anything else with rechargeable batteries. In fact, the demand for Li-ion batteries rose from zero percent market share in 1991 to 80 percent in 2007, and the European Commission expects the tonnage of lithium used in batteries to double between 2010 and 2020. With no viable alternatives anywhere near mainstream production, Li-ion batteries look like they’re here to stay for a while.

But thanks to some misinformation on the Internet, lithium extraction has gotten a bad rap. As Mark Sumner points out on *Daily Kos*, a pair of photos released by the community group Saskatchewan Proud shows a badly scarred and stripped mine site on the top along with the text “This is a mine where lithium is extracted for electric car batteries.” On the bottom is a photo of a neat and orderly fracking drill site surrounded by vibrant-looking green forest and lakes with the text “This is an oil sands site in Alberta...Tell me more about how your electric car is better for the environment.”

But Sumner points out that the top image in fact depicts one of the world’s 10 largest *copper* mines (BHP’s Escondida Mine in Chile) and has nothing to do with lithium extraction. Lithium extraction does take an environmental toll, from the

process of pumping briny groundwater containing lithium carbonate out of the ground and leaving it in pools so the excess water can evaporate. But the main environmental consequence of this is large amounts of water used to bind to the lithium to facilitate extraction.

“There’s nothing you would think of as mining,” reports Sumner. “No blasting. No trucks driving around carrying loads of crushed rock. No sprays of sulfuric acid.”

While it’s true that chemicals are used to refine lithium after it is collected, potential dangers pale compared to those from fracking, which involves pumping harsh chemicals underground to break up shale layers to free natural gas, which can lead to groundwater pollution and even cause minor earthquakes.

Currently Li-ion batteries’ biggest problem may be their tendency to combust—remember the recall of 500,000 hoverboards and then the infamous early version of Samsung’s Galaxy Note 7? The ions inside Li-ion batteries can react if the wall between them is compromised, generating enough heat to potentially catch fire. Manufacturers have mitigated such issues in most applications, but the problem can still rear its ugly head when improperly discarded Li-ion batteries are exposed to pressure and heat in a landfill or recycling facility that can stimulate combustion. This is why it’s so important to properly dispose of Li-ion batteries (or products containing them) at hazardous waste or battery recycling locations.

Of course, alternatives to Li-ion batteries do exist with huge potential, but none are economical enough to produce yet to be anywhere near ready for mass production. Some of the most promising include batteries made from sodium-nickel chloride, silver zinc or aluminum graphite. But the expense of the raw materials and the immaturity of the production processes will keep these emerging battery technologies on the drawing board for years to come while lithium ion continues to dominate the market.

**CONTACTS:** Saskatchewan Proud, <https://www.facebook.com/SaskatchewanProud/>; *Daily Kos*, <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2016/5/6/1524012/-Someone-is-lying-about-electric-cars-on-the-internet>.

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**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME:  
FAMOUS MOTHERS**

**ACROSS**

- 1. \_\_\_\_ of cookies
- 6. Accident
- 9. Art \_\_\_\_
- 13. Greeting from Don Ho
- 14. Gone by
- 15. One who needs a muzzle
- 16. Sign of bad news
- 17. Hula dancer's ornament
- 18. Chopin's composition
- 19. \*Little Women's mother
- 21. \*Mrs. Borden's stepdaughter
- 23. R in rpm
- 24. Sign of a saint
- 25. 1960s British subculture
- 28. Sub station
- 30. Lay to rest
- 35. War god in Norse mythology
- 37. Standard
- 39. Shinbone
- 40. Staff note
- 41. Abdominal exercise
- 43. Cashier's call
- 44. Wisdom tooth, e.g.
- 46. Location
- 47. Singing club
- 48. In any way whatsoever
- 50. \*Bébé's mother
- 52. Dog tags
- 53. Highlands hillside
- 55. Rub the wrong way
- 57. \*Queen Elizabeth I's mother
- 60. \*Anderson Cooper's mother
- 63. Load carrier

CROSSWORD														
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68						69				70				
71						72				73				



**APRIL 26 - MAY 2**

- Disney is bringing back the Mickey Mouse Club as an exclusive series on Facebook.
- President Trump says Andrew Jackson was "really angry that he saw what was happening in regard to the Civil War and he said there's no reason for this." Trump also wondered why there was a Civil War and why "this one" could have been worked out. By now someone has probably informed the new president that Andrew Jackson died in 1845 and the Civil War began in 1861 and Jackson could not have commented on it.
- A year after Michael Strahan quit Live with Kelly Ripa, she has finally picked a cohost and he's Ryan Seacrest.
- Seattle police arrested five people in May Day riots. The chief of police said rioters hit nine officers with rocks or marbles flung from slingshots.



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- 64. \*Queen Mother Elizabeth's afternoon drink
- 66. \*"Mamma Mia!" mother
- 68. Be
- 69. Snowmobile runner
- 70. Furnish with a fund
- 71. Benign lump
- 72. Thus far
- 73. Israeli statesman Moshe

**DOWN**

- 1. Ovine cry
- 2. Reunion attendee
- 3. Roman robe
- 4. Trill like a bird
- 5. Injured
- 6. "\_\_\_\_ and hearty"
- 7. Hoariness
- 8. Southern chicken stew
- 9. Flighty one
- 10. Red carpet purse
- 11. Surrender territory
- 12. Miner's bounty
- 15. Byzantine Empire coin
- 20. Not odds
- 22. Cholera
- 24. Broadcaster's item for sale
- 25. \*Big \_\_\_\_, Martin Lawrence's character
- 26. Theater in ancient Greece
- 27. Indistinctly
- 29. \*TV mom of Meg, Chris and Stewie
- 31. Sound of a bell
- 32. Plural of obelus
- 33. Like some greens
- 34. \*Mrs. \_\_\_\_, a "boy's best friend"
- 36. Russell Crowe's 2014 role
- 38. Remote control option
- 42. State of danger
- 45. Redford or De Niro
- 49. Like dry humor
- 51. What river did to bank
- 54. On pins and needles
- 56. Swedish money
- 57. Square-looking
- 58. Singer "on the dock of the bay"
- 59. For fear that
- 60. Gallop or trot
- 61. Hoosier State's capital, for short
- 62. Dwarf buffalo
- 63. "Law & Order" character
- 65. Augment
- 67. Barley bristle

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*



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

**ONLINE POLL**

*Will you visit your mother on Mother's Day?*

**TO VOTE IN THE CURRENT ONLINE POLL GO TO -**

**WWW.  
thelowellledger.com**



# Dear Lowell Community –

It is my pleasure to announce that a medical-center you've called upon, Lowell Family Medical Center, has joined the network of Metro Health – University of Michigan Health.

What this means for you is that now you will have greater access to world-class cutting-edge health-care, medical research, and innovation all in your community.

Your patient experience is our leading commitment. Our world-class doctors, physicians, providers, and staff have established the position. The people you've come to depend upon for all of your healthcare needs – from annual wellness checks to helping you when you need it – deliver world-class care for you.

At Metro Health – University of Michigan Health, our goal is to provide the best patient experience for everyone we have the privilege to care for. Additionally, our commitment is to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

We are so excited to be your neighbor, and we look forward to serving you.

Metro Health – University of Michigan Health understands that patients choose us to when we support your health-care needs. When you choose us, you should feel a partner; when you see a unique health-care provider, you should feel well; and getting to know you is what we do best. Health care is about relationships, and we want to know you.

Thank you for choosing us with your health. Your health is our passion.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Poon  
President & CEO  
Metro Health – University of Michigan Health







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.

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