

**fair opens**



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**dougherty remembered**



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**wrestling stereotypes**



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## Special meeting convened to discuss allowing marijuana business in Lowell

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had a special meeting at 5:30 pm on Monday, Aug. 7. At this special meeting the council discussed whether or not to allow marijuana businesses to operate in the city of Lowell. The council heard from medical marijuana patients, caregivers and opponents during the hour and 20 minute discussion. About 17 local residents attended the meeting. The council was joined by city attorney Dick Wendt.

First, Kent County assistant prosecutor Gregory Boer presented the council with information about why it might be risky for Lowell to allow marijuana businesses.

"You're not giving your citizens any immunity from federal law," Boer said. "Right now federal



**Connor Baker owns a company that wants to set up a marijuana dispensary in Lowell.**

law still criminalizes the manufacture, possession and delivery of marijuana. The Obama administration pretty much took a hands-off approach to jurisdictions that had legalized marijuana or medical marijuana statutes. Whether that changes under the Trump administration remains to be seen. We don't know what their position is going to be yet."

Boer said that, once allowed, the city would have little control over marijuana businesses.

"Your zoning power is basically the only regulatory power you're going to have over these entities," Boer said. "If you pass an ordinance that launches one of these and you don't like what they're doing you're not going to be able to regulate them after that. All of the regulation for these entities is going to come out of Lansing."

He also said that it can be difficult to regulate the dosage of medical marijuana products.

"One of the frustrating things that we've seen with the medical marijuana act is there really isn't any doctor that's ever come out and said, 'This is what a dose of marijuana is,'" Boer said. "Like when you get a prescription from a pharmacy, [it says] 'Take one pill twice a day,' or whatever the prescription may call for. You have a regulated dose that your doctor suggests you take."

Next up was Connor Baker from Buzz Solutions, the company that wants to set up a provisioning center in Lowell. The closest provisioning center to Lowell is in Lansing, making medical marijuana almost inaccessible to patients in West Michigan. According to the most recent statistics available from the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, 8,754 of the 218,556 medical marijuana

**Marijuana business, continued, page 7**

### CANDIDATE'S CORNER

#### Jake Davenport

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

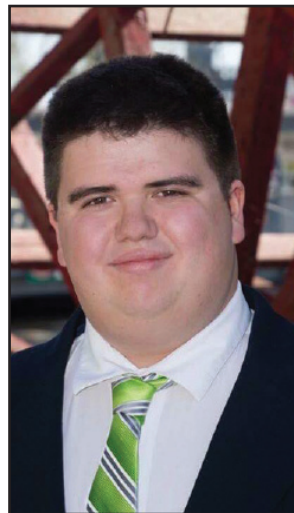
In this November's election there are five candidates running for three open seats on Lowell's city council. Incumbents Michael DeVore and Gregory Canfield are running for reelection along with new candidates Jake Davenport, Mark Ritzema and James Salzwedel. During the next several weeks the Ledger will profile the candidates and get their views on some of Lowell's important issues. This week we explore the views of Jake Davenport. A student at Ferris State University, Davenport is the youngest of the candidates, but that doesn't mean he is any less committed.

"I am running because I believe that Lowell is off on the wrong track and I want to lead the city back in the right direction," Davenport said. "It started with the biodigester incident a year or two ago. It has also become evident that the city council will not help our local businesses to grow and prosper.

New Union Brewery, for example, wants to have food trucks out in front of their business so people can have food with their drinks. They unfortunately have not been able to because the city has been slow to pass an ordinance that allows them to have food trucks. To me this is incompetence. City council should do whatever they can to help businesses grow and prosper, rather than being the hindrance to a business's success. In short, I think the city government is not doing what it can to help our residents and our businesses. I want to change that."

His experience with organizations like the Boy Scouts and Ferris College Republicans has helped prepare him for just about anything that could happen to a city councilor.

"I have a lot of leadership experience," Davenport said. "Some of the most important leadership skills I have were learned during my time as a Boy Scout with Troop 102 right here in Lowell. I also am in the process of getting a political science degree



at Ferris. I understand the processes for getting things done and the importance of making those complicated processes simplified and easy to understand. When I was a student at Ferris State University I was the president of a college organization in decline. Because of my leadership, the organization is back on the right path and it is growing. I am graduating from Ferris State in December of this year. As a leader, I think that the most important attribute

**Candidate Davenport, continued, page 2**

## KISD students can earn associate's degree tuition free

by Brianna Massey  
Lowell Ledger intern

Kent Intermediate School District (KISD) students are now given the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and a specialized associate's degree tuition free in five years through a hands-on early college program, Launch U.

"Early/Middle College is a career focus type of program that ultimately prepares students to go directly into the workforce or to continue on with school," said Ron Caniff, superintendent of the KISD. "For the extra year of high school status, students will earn 60 or more college credits through Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) while their peers

may have only upwards of 30 credits."

There are two educational tracks students can take through Launch U: associate degree track or certificate track.

Under the associate degree track, students will attend their home high school in the morning and then attend a KISD session in the afternoon during their 10th-12th grade year. During their 13th year, students will take college classes at GRCC. Upon completing their 13th year, students will earn their high school diploma and an Associate of Applied Arts and Sciences from GRCC, tuition free.

**Degree program, continued, page 4**

**50 CENTS**



# Candidate Davenport, continued

is integrity. Integrity to me means not only saying you will fix a problem but also doing everything in your power to do what you said you were going to do. Being honest with your constituents to me is a sign of respect. If you respect your constituency you will tell them the truth and work for them rather than special interests.”

Davenport said that he is running for a seat on the council in order to help get Lowell back on track.

“My number one priority is getting Lowell headed in the

right direction,” Davenport said. “The city government should work alongside business, residents and our community organizations to find out what issues they are facing and work to find a solution. My idea of getting Lowell headed in the right direction means fixing our streets without tax increases, making Lowell more affordable by ending the perpetual increases in property taxes, filling our store fronts with successful businesses and restoring people’s trust in the city government.”

He said that high city taxes keep potential residents and companies from moving to Lowell.

“I think the biggest challenge to city residents is the cost of living in the city,” Davenport said. “According to the Open Kent project, the city of Lowell has the fourth highest millage in Kent County and the 11th highest overall tax burden in the county. Some of those taxes are county taxes and school district taxes, so the city’s sphere of influence is limited in those areas but the city government does

have control over city taxes and utility rates like sewer and water. People on fixed incomes are especially impacted by the high cost of living in Lowell. It all boils down to one simple answer. The city needs to stop raising taxes and learn to live within its means.”

If Davenport is elected, he will try to pay for badly needed infrastructure improvements by shifting some of the city’s budget money around.

“Lowell should do a few different things to fix

the streets,” Davenport said. “We should fix our streets without raising taxes. That means we make cuts in other areas of city government and reallocate that money to infrastructure. Sidewalks are important but I think that streets are more important. I think we should shift sidewalk money towards streets, at least on a temporary basis, until we can get our streets in order.”

A lot of people miss the big, three-story antique store that used to be on Main Street. Davenport said that opening a flea market might bring even more people and businesses to Lowell.

“I think Lowell’s biggest asset is the Flat River and the Riverwalk,” Davenport said. “The Riverwalk gets some use, but I think we can get more use from the river and the Riverwalk. I think what we should do to improve it is to find a way to attract people to downtown Lowell. One of the ideas I had was to have a flea market one day a week. It would bring more people to the Riverwalk and it could potentially attract people from outside of Lowell. Better utilizing the Riverwalk could also help bring new businesses to the empty store fronts downtown.”



## along main street

### LUNCH BUDDIES

Lunch Buddies is a weekly food program for children age 3-18 living in the Lowell School District. Lunch Buddies meets once a week and provides five free meals each week. Children are able to shop for the meals in a pantry designed specifically for kids. Summer Lunch Buddies meet Tuesdays through Aug. 15 from 1-7 pm at FROM.

### THE BABY PANTRY of LOWELL

The Baby Pantry of Lowell will be open on Tuesdays through Aug 15 from 1 -3 pm. They are also open every Monday 5:30-7:30 and Thursdays 2-4:30. Parents are welcome to come once a week. The Baby Pantry is a non-profit organization that helps area families with basic needs like diapers, wipes, formula, baby food and clothing. They are located at 11535 Fulton Street E (FROM location). Connect with us on Facebook @ BabyPantryofLowell and our website BabyPantryofLowell.com

### VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Looking for a way to get involved in the community? Want to volunteer, but don’t know what to do? Come to our volunteer orientation and learn about all of our day, evening and weekend opportunities. Our needs range from evening cashiers to daytime donation sorters with lots of options in between. Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries will be Thurs., Aug. 17 at 1 pm. Call 897-8260 for more information.

*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.*

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~ Orson Welles

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# Showboat, food truck licensing and return of police chief among topics discussed at regular city council meeting

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had a regular meeting at city hall on Monday, Aug. 7. The council discussed the showboat, food truck licensing, the police chief's case, labor contracts and more at the meeting, which lasted about 35 minutes and was attended by 12 constituents. The council was joined by city attorney Dick Wendt.

The council passed a pair of ordinances that will allow food trucks in Lowell for a licensing fee that varies depending on who owns the truck and where they want to park it. City manager Michael Burns said the guidelines were based on Muskegon's because they have "become a place with a strong food truck presence in their downtown."

The new fee schedule calls for "an annual fee of \$300 for food truck, trailer or cart to operate on city owned or controlled property and private property; an annual fee of \$150 for food truck, trailer or cart operating only on private property; an annual fee of \$50 for food truck, trailer or cart owned and operated by a property tax paying brick and mortar restaurant operating on city owned or controlled property."

It is also possible to get a one-time event license for \$50. The complete text of the new rules and fee schedule are available from city hall.

Lou D'Agostino, chair of the Rebuild the Lowell Showboat committee, updated the council about that organization's plans to

build a new floating structure. D'Agostino said that the new Lowell Showboat will look the same but it will be made of two steel pieces, each 15 feet by 100 feet.

"It's going to have the shape as what we have now," D'Agostino said. "It's going to be on barges, but it's all going to be a steel structure. The floors are going to be steel. The second floor will be the same thing, a steel structure. The third floor will be the same thing, a steel structure with a steel floor."

D'Agostino said that the committee no longer has to get special permits from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality because they are building a floating structure instead of a permanent structure. He also said that they have not decided what to do with the current showboat after it's dismantled, but the options included auctioning off chunks as souvenirs or selling it for scrap. State senator Dave Hildenbrand recently helped secure a \$1 million grant from the state of Michigan to help rebuild the Lowell Showboat. These funds will be available after Oct. 1, 2017. On top of that \$1 million, D'Agostino said the committee will still need to raise another \$250,000 to \$500,000 to pay for the construction.

City manager Burns said that Lowell police chief Steve Bukala will be reinstated whether or not he is found guilty in his upcoming court case. Bukala has been on unpaid leave since June 14. He was

charged with five counts of misuse of the Michigan Law Enforcement Information Network, misdemeanors punishable by 93 days imprisonment, a \$500 fine or both.

"I have had the opportunity to evaluate the reports, conduct my own investigation and I talked to Steve Bukala many times regarding this matter," Burns said. "I have chosen that I will not be dismissing chief Bukala as the police chief. He will return to duty once his court case is settled."

Burns described the charges against Bukala and said that the case is scheduled to be adjudicated in September.

"Very simply, he was charged with five misdemeanors," Burns said. "Make it fair. These occurred four to five years ago when he was not the chief of police. He was a patrol sergeant [then]. He's involved his ex-wife and unfortunately he's had a very tumultuous relationship with

his ex-wife that has been... Unfortunately it's drawn into a situation where his duty as the police officer or police chief got in the way. However, I have evaluated the situation every which way and I strongly believe that he can come back and serve as the chief of police in that position. I believe that once this is done, he will... I think the punishment is enough. I cannot condone his activity, I do not condone his activity, but I do not think it requires dismissal of him, so that will not happen. We have met about that. He will return once his court case is settled. He is supposed to go back to court on Sept. 1 for a hearing. If they cannot resolve it on that date, they will have a jury trial beginning on Sept. 12. Once that jury trial is completed, he would come back sometime after that."

Burns announced that all three of the city's union contracts have been negotiated and signed.

"I'm pleased to say that all of the labor contracts with the city have been settled," Burns said. "That includes the Light & Power contract, the police labor contract and last week we settled the department of public works contract. I want to thank all of the parties involved [for] working together to come towards a pretty amicable agreement for all three contracts."

Some street repairs are going to cost a bit more than was originally expected. The total cost of the N. Jefferson St. project is now going to add up to \$438,172.85. Lowell public works director Rich LaBombard said that the project is still under budget despite this cost increase.

"On April 3, 2017, the city council awarded the bid for the N. Jefferson St. resurfacing and utility improvements to CL Trucking in the amount of \$449,110.50," LaBombard said. "That project included resurfacing N. Jefferson from Avery St. to Fremont St. with select water main and sanitary sewer replacement and some limited sidewalk replacement. Approved project change orders for items, such as additional road grading and material and utility field changes to water, sanitary and storm [sewers] have been submitted for an additional \$21,765.86."

Lowell city council's next regular meeting will be at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, Aug. 21.

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~ Steve Jobs



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# business directory



### WHAT IS 3D MAMMOGRAPHY?

At Mercy Health Comprehensive Breast Center in Grand Rapids, radiologists may recommend that a woman with higher breast density receive tomosynthesis—or a 3D mammogram—for diagnostic purposes. 3D mammography helps distinguish normal overlapping tissue from an underlying mass and it can lead to a more accurate diagnosis.

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More and more insurance companies are paying for 3D mammography screening. If your insurance does not cover the screening, Mercy Health has reduced the out-of-pocket cost to \$165.



**Jennifer Rollenhagen, MD, imaging director at the Mercy Health Lacks Cancer Center - Comprehensive Breast Center.**

3D mammography is provided in conjunction with dedicated nurse navigators and the RiskPlus™ Program. RiskPlus—only available in West Michigan at both Mercy Health Comprehensive Breast Centers—is designed for patients identified as high risk or for those seeking to know if they're at high risk for getting breast cancer. RiskPlus offers custom surveillance for those who

want a watchful eye and personalized prevention plan.

If you would like more information about a 3D mammogram location near you, please visit [www.MercyHealthBreastCare.com](http://www.MercyHealthBreastCare.com) and select Grand Rapids. If you have questions about any of Mercy Health's breast care services, please call 616-685-6307 to speak to a Comprehensive Breast Center nurse navigator.

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## Degree program, continued

Under the certificate track, students will attend their home high school in the morning and then attend a KISD session in the afternoon during their 10th-12th grade year. But, instead of taking a fifth year, the students will graduate with their high school diploma after four years and a certificate from GRCC in their chosen career pathway.

On August 24 KISD students will begin on the five-year path to an associate's degree through Launch U according to a June 23 article by MLive.

Students can choose from one of three career options: mechanical design, industrial technology and tooling and manufacturing.

According to Talent

2025, a group of leaders working to ensure workforce readiness in West Michigan, 7,640 people will be needed to work in the mechanical design industry and 11,430 people will be needed to work in the industrial technology and tooling and manufacturing fields in the next five years.

Tuition for Launch U is completely free for students, and according to the KISD, students who choose the Associate Degree track will be saving about \$10,000. "Tuition is free and paid for through the Kent ISD or the students' local school districts foundational allowance grant," said Caniff.

Students also have the option to apply their

earned credits to a four-year university or college.

In order to be considered for Launch U, students were to fill out a GRCC dual enrollment application and their respective counselor would enroll the student on the KISD enrollment system. Enrollment for the program ended on April 17.

The early/middle concept was first introduced in 1973 by a school in New York attempting to cater to students who struggle in a traditional classroom setting. Michigan became the seventh state in the country to offer an Early/Middle College in 1991, according to a document provided by the Michigan Department of Education.

GRCC also provides Early/Middle College programs to the Ottawa Area ISD, Wyoming Public Schools which launched in 2012 and Cedar Springs Public Schools which launched in 2014. Ottawa Hills High School will be starting a program in August.

To learn more about Launch U visit [www.kentisd.org](http://www.kentisd.org) or call (616) 447-5670.

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# viewpoint

## outdoors

### what a zoo

Dave Stegehuis

Residential and commercial development continues to consume more land every day. The majority of this land provided places for wildlife to find food, raise young, and hide from predators. It would seem that human contact with wildlife would be just a memory of days gone by. Fortunately, there are more species of wildlife roaming

the state than at the turn of the last century.

Over the last one hundred years we have slowly realized the value of wildlife to our economy, culture, and quality of life. Wildlife habitat has been restored and protected through the efforts of government agencies, private landowners, and a number of dedicated

conservation organizations. Much more must be done to insure the future of wildlife as human demands on the environment will only increase. There are shortcomings. For example, I am concerned about not seeing more snakes and frogs when out and about in places where they should thrive.

Wolves, elk, moose, and turkeys were gone for a long time, but now are back in self-sustaining numbers. Turkeys are doing

so well that they are now considered a game species, and as such have taken the place of the now scarce ring neck pheasant as the most popular game bird for Michigan hunters.

Gwen and I have trail cameras posted on our hunting property in the northern Lower Peninsula and are often surprised at what shows up when we are gone. We won't count the middle aged guy in Sponge Bob P.J.s. Common visitors

include deer, turkeys, birds, squirrels, porcupines, and of course raccoons. Coyotes appear more frequently than I would like. The presence of a large black bear has made the walk to our deer stands before daylight a more momentous experience. Bobcats are a bonus when we download a SD card. We are looking for a cougar, but not holding our breath, although there is credible evidence that one resides in the Lower Peninsula.

Observing wildlife in their native habitat can happen by chance or deliberately seeking encounters for recreational experiences like photography or just enjoying being part of the natural community for a while. We should all take time to appreciate the gift of nature and work to conserve what we have. It's a real zoo out there.



### 125 years ago Lowell Journal August 10, 1892

A Female Base Ball Club will play a picked nine, on Bush's grounds, next Tuesday afternoon. The boys should look out for these girls play a good game.

The village "bastile" has been moved to the back of the lot, back of the engine house and both the engine house and jail are undergoing a thorough overhauling. A fresh coat of paint will disguise them for a while.

The Lowell Water Co. and the Lowell Lighting Co. have consolidated under the name of the Lowell Water and Light Co. with a capitalization of \$200,000. The officers are E. F. Sweet, Pres., C. J. Church, V. Pres., O. C. McDannell, Sec., Chas. A. Church, Treas.

The Horticultural Society's Peach Meeting will be held on Island Park, Tuesday Aug 23rd. The meeting will be made the occasion of a grand farmers picnic and a fine time will be had. A special train will bring the Grand Rapids contingent and will leave Grand Rapids at 9:30 A.M. fare 40 cents. A fine display of peaches will be made.

There is a project on foot to have the Agricultural college faculty and students go to Chicago during the World's fair and camp under military tactics.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 9, 1917

Will close 53 Kent County Schools – Board's laxity rouses ire of truant officer. Many rural buildings found in unsanitary condition and must be repaired if used. Unless 53 school boards in various parts of Kent county get busy with repairs as recommended by M. A. Ryan, county truant officer, the school officials will not permit the schools to open this fall until the repairs are accomplished. The county truant officer has just completed his annual inspection of school

buildings and property in the county. It was a big job. The work was begun as soon as schools closed last spring. The conditions in many places has aroused his ire at certain school officials and he declares his authority over the board will be exercised unless conditions are improved. Fifty-three school boards have failed to comply for more than two years with his recommendations with regard to outhouses. The third notice, with recommendations, was sent each of these boards last week. They suggest the installation in every school building of a sanitary bubbling drinking fountain. Instead of hanging the window shades from the top, school boards are being induced to hang them from the bottom that the shades may be drawn toward the top. That the fuel supply may be placed nearer the school buildings, it has been recommended that fuel houses be attached to the school building, with a door between. Nearly every school building in the county should be repainted on the interior, Truant Officer Ryan says. He suggests a light buff for the ceiling and a buff tint for the walls. Brooms are being replaced by floor brushes, which clean the floor better and stir up less dust. Those equipped with oil chambers are declared to be the best, as the dust is reduced to a minimum through their use. Ordinary boards, painted black, to serve as blackboards, and found in many rural school buildings, must be torn out and standard boards installed. The county truant officer has no authority to demand repair except in case of outbuildings, but he can recommend to the state officers that buildings, found to be unsatisfactory, should be condemned. That action toward three or four building may be taken.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 13, 1942

This may interest Lowell blondes. Blonde hair, if it has never undergone a permanent wave, can be used in precision instruments. Consequently there is a market for it in an eastern war plant. The hair must be 18 inches in length and of fine texture. If it proves satisfactory, it will be purchased. Or, if preferred, a medal will be given instead of cash, the cash being turned over to the Red Cross.

Six billions: Airplane awards to Michigan industry already total this staggering astronomical sum, while other ordnance contracts near the dizzy heights of nine billion dollars. It's too much for wage-earners to comprehend. It means a near zero for unemployment in the state, a high level of prosperity for hundreds of thousands of families.

A crew of workmen from the State Highway Department have been at work since the first of the month reflooring the lower bridge over Grand River. The work is under the supervision of Tony Bott, who states that the new flooring is being made of white pine 2X4's cut from huge timbers formerly used in abandoned ore docks north of the Straits and are in perfect condition. The flooring will be laid edgewise

and will be made weatherproof with a special seal coating. The job will be finished about the seventh of September.

Women are especially interested in the new feminine naval reserve organization known as the "Waves." It is the latest effort to enlist the women's aid in becoming officers in this naval reserve. There are three groups for ensigns and lieutenants. One trains for future naval instructors, another for administrative work in the organization, the third are enrolled as apprentice seamen. Marriage has not barred women from signing but forbids those unmarried to wed during training. The law forbids women to go to sea, but they must serve in this country. They receive the same pay as men of equal rank, eligible for benefits of insurance as civil employees, all candidates must be citizens, of good reputation and able to pass physical and mental tests. A required amount of education and business experience is required, which means that when these leadies wear their navy blues—they are in the navy and how!

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger August 10, 1967

The new Showboat received its champagne christening Monday evening. Mixed with the wine was the blood of four children watching the bottle breaking ceremony, who were hit by flying glass. Three of the

Looking Back, continued, page 12

## We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor.

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



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

# Impact Church sponsors summer arts program

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing report

Impact Church of Lowell converted their campus to a youth day camp last week inviting local artists, builders and crafters to teach their trades during their annual Summer Arts Explosion program.

The four-day event welcomed 150 students entering grades 1-9 and 53 enthusiastic and creative volunteers this year. Offering nearly thirty different class options, the camp aims to allow youth the chance to explore different sectors of the arts in search of their true passion or just some wholesome summer fun. Directed by church leader and Lowell Middle School teacher Andrea Struckmeyer the evening culminated in an expo style presentation where students demonstrated or displayed the fruit of their learning for friends and family.

Class options included media arts, such as sculpture, painting and photography; performance arts, such as jazz, hoop dance, vocal ensemble and musical production; as well as many other unique options like guerilla art, silly science, tie-dye and woodworking. One of the most popular class offerings this season were the hip hop dance classes taught by Impact parishioner Amina Sturgeon who says that the church is like home for she and her family. "I started attending Impact February 2nd, 2014, and my connection with those that attend there was almost immediate. Simply being accepted for who I was in the exact place I was at in my life not only drew me in further but kept me there pursuing those relationships

more and more. God truly brought me a family."

Sturgeon began dancing at the age of two and was always intrigued by the sights, sounds and atmosphere of the dance studio. She said she used dance as a tool of expression in her youth. "When things didn't make sense, when there was too much to handle, happiness, sadness, anger or fear, misunderstood or lost, whatever the emotion, dance always brought me back to myself."

Teaching that art of communication for the past three years at Impact Sturgeon has seen a steady increase in enrollment in her class, a fact that can easily be attributed to her passion.

While it is clear what her students take out of the experience, great memories, a sense of accomplishment and some slick dance moves, Sturgeon said she gets something even greater, purpose, "I have the opportunity to be those teachers that brought out pieces of me I didn't know I had. I have the chance to possibly make the impact on others that these teachers had on me. I have the chance to help someone communicate in a whole new way. And I find that to be truly amazing. Being able to see kids go from shy and unsure to gleaming with confidence in their ability is the very reason I'm still in love with what I do!"

On the other end of the arts spectrum Chris German was among several instructors teaching woodworking. The owner of German's Custom Home Improvement he, like Sturgeon, was introduced to his art form young

beginning to hone his craft as a teen, "I have been in construction trades pretty much my entire life. In high school I worked at the local hardware store and then after one year of college I started doing commercial electric. I did that for about five years and then started my own residential remodeling company."

Though his family has attended the church regularly for about four years this was his debut as a teacher at the arts camp. "This is my first time being

able to teach one of the classes. The draw for me is the kids. The way they shine throughout the week and during the final production is awe inspiring," said German adding, "Another reason I have wanted to participate is that I have four daughters who have participated multiple times. Each and every time they have come home with more confidence in themselves and their God given abilities. I wanted to be a part of helping show other kids this same thing."

## Lacic celebrates her 90th birthday at annual tea party

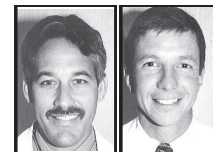
Dot Lacic, of Lowell, celebrated her 90th birthday and her 16th annual tea party on July 8, 2017. Approximately 75 people

attended the celebration at her home where there was wonderful food and live music.



Dot Lacic, in flowery hat, is pictured with her husband Albert, of 68 years, and four of her five children: Adeline Brower of Stanwood, Arthur Lacic of Lowell, Russell Lacic of Lowell, and Mary Dillree of Big Rapids.

## health



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

### paronychia

Paronychia is a common problem that affects the nail folds of the fingers and toes. There are two kinds of paronychia: acute and chronic. Acute paronychia happens quickly from an infection in the nail fold. Chronic paronychia is swelling that lasts longer than six weeks. It's caused by irritation from chemicals that enter the nail fold after the normal protective barriers are damaged. People who have their hands in water a lot are at risk of paronychia. This includes office cleaners, laundry workers, food handlers, cooks, dishwashers, bartenders, chefs, medical staff and swimmers.

Some symptoms of paronychia are redness, tenderness and swelling, fluid under the skin around the nails or a thick, discolored

nail. Creams and pills (typically antibiotics) are used for the treatment of paronychia. Occasionally, minor surgery to drain the infection is needed to help the nail fold heal.

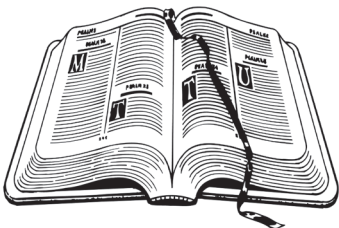
Acute paronychia goes away within a few days once the infection is treated. Chronic paronychia can take weeks to months to go away. To keep paronychia from recurring, there are a few things you can do on your own. Avoid putting your hands in water or chemicals for long periods of time. Use lotion every time you wash your hands. Wear rubber gloves with cotton liners when your hands will be in water or chemicals. Do not suck on your fingers. Avoid nail trauma (such as manicures, nail biting and artificial nails).

## happy birthday



- AUGUST 9**  
Pamela Esparza, Steven Burrows.
- AUGUST 10**  
Madeline Scott.
- AUGUST 11**  
Mike Wilzcewski, Jordan Warren.
- AUGUST 12**  
Robin Briggs, Linda Uzarski, Steve Martin Sr., Alex Richmond.
- AUGUST 13**  
Robert Hewitt, Ryan Christenson, Ryan Roe.
- AUGUST 14**  
Adam Billingsley, Aaron Christenson, Betsey Brenk, Bob Wilzcewski.
- AUGUST 15**  
Ben Raymor, Dick VanOverbeek, Dena Baylis, Vivian Johnson, Donnie Shaffer, Barb Callihan, Kim Tubergen, Deb Wright, Pam Kline, Bill Barber.

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

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# Marijuana business, continued

patient cards issued by the state went to Kent County residents. Baker said that, if allowed in Lowell, his facility would provide safe, laboratory-tested marijuana to patients with medical marijuana cards.

“By allowing some or all of these facilities to operate in our city we help ensure patients receive quality medical marijuana that is lab-tested and labeled,” Baker said. “[It] lowers the number of potentially hazardous home grows in basements and garages, creates a cash revenue, it creates jobs, [has the] potential to lower the crime rate as noted by other states and it has the potential to lower underage and unauthorized use by issuing licenses only to those who pass strict background checks, including moral character.”

Natasha Browley, owner of “holistic health care spa” Green Gate Health, 751 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, was next at the podium. Browley broke into tears as she told the story about how medical marijuana made it possible for her to have the kidney surgery that saved her life.

“In December of 2015 I was diagnosed with renal carcinoma,” Browley said. “That’s cancer of the kidney and I had it in my right kidney. It was inoperable and chemotherapy apparently does not hit those deep down organs. So chemo was not an option for me and surgery was not an option for me.”

Browley said that the heavy narcotic chemicals she was prescribed were unhealthy and had nasty side effects. Instead she changed her lifestyle to a healthier diet and began using medical marijuana oil.

“It has some serious medical benefits that I never knew,” Browley said. “I was able to shrink my tumor. I had my kidney removed in February of 2016. It was a great day. I have three children. Not knowing if you’re going to be around for your kids is hard.”

Cathleen Graham, a certified hospice nurse, said that through “microbiological analysis” it actually is possible to determine how much of the two controversial chemicals, tetrahydrocannabinol or cannabidiol, the marijuana contains. Tetrahydrocannabinol, THC, is the stuff that gets you high. Medical marijuana advocates say that THC also has medical benefits and can be used to treat a variety of maladies, such as pain, nausea and seizures.

Cannabidiol, CBD, is not an intoxicant and medical marijuana advocates say it can be used as an analgesic, to treat anxiety or as an anti-psychotic.

“I am actively involved with the [Department of] Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to help them set that THC limit and to educate them,” Graham said. “It can be dosed. It can be set as milligrams.”

Former medical marijuana patient Cliff Yankovich said he got a marijuana card and used cannabis edibles for two years when he was recovering from cancer.



**Kent County assistant prosecutor Gregory Boer said marijuana businesses could be risky.**

When the card expired he didn’t need to renew it.

“By the time the two years were up I had started using other methods like breathing and meditating to deal with my anxiety and I really didn’t have any further need for medical marijuana,” Yankovich said. “I let my card expire and I quit using it. The reason I mention that is because there was no withdrawal. There were no side effects.”

By the end of the meeting, the city council seemed to at least be open to the idea of allowing a dispensary to open in Lowell.

“I signed the petition for having medical marijuana on the ballot and I voted for it,” said councilor Jim Hodges. “I think that in many cases there are very good benefits for it.”

“I agree with Jim,” said councilor Jeff Phillips.

“End of life health for people is huge,” said councilor Greg Canfield. “I’ve seen some people really suffer with things and if we could help with that I think it would be great.”

The council said there will be more public meetings on the topic in the future. City manager Burns advised the council to wait

until the return of police chief Steve Bukala, who is on unpaid leave because of a court case. For a clue to his point of view, in a story in the March 8, 2017 Lowell Ledger about that week’s city council meeting, Bukala said, “My recommendation would be to stay away from [medical marijuana]. I wouldn’t touch it with a ten foot pole.”

If Lowell were to take full advantage of it, the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act could put a few thousand badly needed dollars into city coffers. The law took effect on Dec. 20, 2016. It includes financial incentives for cities and counties that allow medical marijuana operations, as well as money for the State General Fund and police groups. If Lowell allow a marijuana business it could assess an annual fee of up to \$5,000 to help defray administrative and enforcement costs.

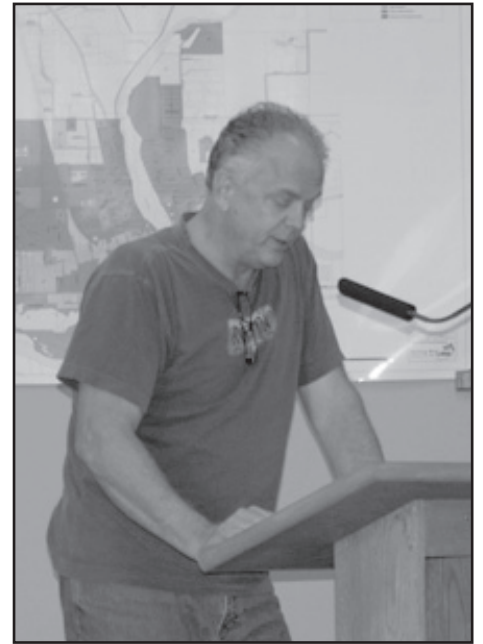
The MMFLA requires that all money collected from the taxes, fees, fines, and charges imposed must be deposited into the Medical Marijuana Excise Fund. Then 25 percent of that money will be allocated to municipalities in which a facility is located, 30 percent to counties in which a facility is located, 30 percent into the State General Fund, five percent to the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards to train local law enforcement officers and five percent to the Department of State Police. The MMFLA includes a provision stating that a dispensary or growing operation “may not operate in a municipality unless the municipality has adopted an ordinance authorizing that type of facility.” Cities also have the choice to opt out of medical marijuana altogether simply by taking no action.

In an email to the Ledger, Lowell city manager Michael Burns said the idea that dispensaries can set up in Lowell if voters pass an ordinance is untrue.

“Under Public Act 281, the council has the option to opt-in and allow dispensaries or opt-out and not allow them,” Burns wrote. “If council takes no action, which it can choose to do, that would mean that facilities such as this would not be allowed in the city of Lowell. Public Act 281 does not call for an advisory vote from the public on this issue. In addition, the state statute does not allow for advisory votes. The statute clearly states issues the public can vote on, and advice on policy issues does not fall into that parameter.”

The email from Burns also said that medical marijuana still has its risks even if Lowell allows dispensaries.

“While there are reports of the positive effects of medical marijuana for people who have certain medical issues, there is not widespread agreement on its medical benefits,” Burns wrote. “There is also evidence showing an increase in criminal and social issues that have been effected by the change to these laws. In Colorado, there are reports of more incidents of drugged driving than drunk driving since the changes of the law. There are also concerns about marijuana use at younger ages due to the relaxed laws. In addition, Colorado has seen issues with worker productivity and safety since the law came into effect. There are safety concerns as well. Recently there was an incident in the city of Wyoming where a police officer responded to an alarm at a medical marijuana facility that was



**Cliff Yankovich published a book that includes more about his experiences with medical marijuana.**

being robbed and the officer stepped in a trap and may be paralyzed from his injuries. Recently a former Lowell resident killed a bicyclist on Whitneyville Road while under the influence of marijuana. Possession of marijuana is still a violation of federal law. Under federal law, medical dispensaries cannot place any profits from their business in banks. Where are these funds stored? Does this become a threat for more robberies of these facilities because of this? Those answers remain to be seen.”

**Yep** in favor of Business



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CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOWELL

# LAHM Summer Fest garden fundraiser slated for August 18

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The third annual Summer Fest at the Lowell Area Historical Museum will take place on Friday, August 18 from 6 pm until 9 pm. At the event, attendees will get to stroll the museum grounds and sample food and drinks from a variety of local vendors.

"Guests get to wander the galleries and grounds of the museum while enjoying great food and drinks on a summer evening," said Lisa Plank, executive director of the Lowell Area Historical Museum. "The ticket price covers all food and drinks. Guests are encouraged to get tickets before the event as tickets are limited. Tickets

can be purchased at the museum or online through a link on our website or Facebook page."

Now that Lowell has multiple breweries, there will be plenty of local beer at the event, including one brewed especially for the Summer Fest. All the food will also be provided by local restaurants.

"New this year will be beer from Lowell's new breweries, New Union and Big Boiler. Also new will be cider from Lowell's Painted Turtle Cider. Gravel Bottom Brewery will be back with everyone's favorite Lady LaFramboise beer, a special raspberry beer brewed previously for this

event. Larkin's is providing the bartending which will include additional local microbrews and Michigan wines. Food this year will include the return of Heidi's Farmstand, Flat River Grill, Miss P's Catering, Main St. BBQ and new additions of BC Pizza and Sweet Seasons."

Summer Fest is also the public's first chance to get a look at the new configuration of the garden at the museum.

"The garden has been redesigned this year and will make its debut and the local Easy Idle Band will provide music in the garden," Plank said.

All proceeds generated

at the event will benefit the museum and its programs.

"Summer Fest is a fundraiser to raise money for museum programs and operations," Plank said. "It was conceived to be a fun way to share the museum with people along with the wonderful food and drinks being created in our community. We hope that the community comes to celebrate and support the museum and has a great time while being here."

For more information about this event call them at 616-897-7688, email them at [history@lowellmuseum.org](mailto:history@lowellmuseum.org), visit them on the internet at [lowellmuseum.org](http://lowellmuseum.org) or find them on Facebook.



# New royal court introduced at 2017 youth fair opening

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Thousands of people will make their way to Lowell for the 82nd Kent County Youth Fair. The opening ceremonies were held under the entertainment tent last Sunday.

The evening started with dinner served up by KCYF board members and volunteers. All proceeds derived from the dinner go directly to the fair and according to fair vice president Bruce Doll, the food and prep were donated, "Pinkney Hill Meat Company donates the pork and cooks it. They also donate the chicken which is cooked by The Grillin' Guys. Everything else is donated as well."

Traffic then shifted to the stage where the outgoing KCYF Royal Court led the opening ceremonies. Senior queen Allie Ouendag, queens court member Brittany Perry, junior queen

Makenna Church and Princess Alexis Lamoreaux took turns at the podium performing their last duties before welcoming members

of the local VFW to raise the American Flag, thanking sponsors, staff and staff and volunteers.

Lowell's mayor Mike

DeVore then took the stage, "I have often said that this is my favorite time of the year. I get to eat cheesecake on a stick and watch pigs race.

The fair has always served as an amazing showcase for all the work that these kids put in year round. From the still exhibits with their detail and creative nature to the animal projects that these kids put their hearts and souls into physically and mentally."

The 2016 Royal Court then shared memories about their time serving before starting the 2017 coronation. Isabel German was crowned princess and her court includes: Jessica Bartholomew and Lauren Deeds. Junior queen was Emily German and her court consisting of Morgan Rouse and Maeve Dougherty. Senior queen for 2017 will be former court member Brittany Perry and first runner-up Sydney Tripp.

The fair runs through Saturday with daily activities, including the Meijer Children's Barn Yard, carnival rides by Elliott Amusements, Ninjas on the Move, Ag Adventure, Bingo sponsored by the Lowell Moose Lodge and a variety of performances underneath the Entertainment Tent sponsored by Portland Federal Credit Union. The schedule also includes day exclusive activities, like a 50s style sock hop on Wednesdays, King Milling sponsored Ag Adventure Day, the fair's livestock auction which begins at noon on Thursday's Stedfast Construction sponsored day, HandiCapable day and corresponding handicap accessible activities on Friday and a variety of youth-focused activities on Saturday's Meijer Kids' Day. Still exhibits have already been evaluated and are on display and live judging's will take place over the week.



The Kent County Youth Fair 2017 Royal court, back row, left to right: Morgan Rouse, Sydney Tripp, Brittany Perry, Emily German and Maeve Dougherty; front row, left to right: Lauren Deeds, Isabel German and Jessica Bartholomew.

# Longtime fair supporter Tim Dougherty remembered

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Tim Dougherty was passionate about the Kent County Youth Fair. He had walked, worked and played on the fairgrounds as a child and knew the value of participation. Two years before his untimely death, he guided his youngest daughter as she showed her swine at the fair, following in his footsteps.

Last Wednesday, Dougherty's widow Marcia honored his love of the event and the special bond he formed with his daughter Sara. The KCYF swine department was presented with a brand new digital scale which will wear a plaque in her husband's name. Sara was not at the occasion as she was overcome with emotion.

"I couldn't get her to

come down here tonight," explained Dougherty. "She said, Mom I want to be there for you but it's just too hard. You know you have certain things you do with Dad, like our oldest, she went turkey hunting and stuff with Dad; this was her thing with Dad."

Dougherty, a 19-year veteran of the Kent County Road Commission, was serving as a foreman on a construction project on nearby Alaska Avenue SE. He was struck by a motor grader causing his death at the age of 42. Though his death was unexpected and heartbreaking, it is his life that people speak of when they talk about him. A great supporter of the Faith Bible Church of Alto, people speak of his dedication and service to his faith and

to others. An avid hunter, people speak of his knack for bagging a buck or his love of trapping. People speak of him cheering from the stands during athletic events and working beside his daughter at the KCYF.

Fair president Jon Bieneman also spoke of Dougherty fondly when he thanked the family for the much needed donation. "The Kent County Youth Fair would like to thank the family of Tim Dougherty for the generous donation of the swine scale in Tim's memory. Tim was a special man who holds a special place in the hearts of many and this scale will allow Tim to continue to play a role in the lives of so many young people and families who participate in the KCYF swine department."

Though Sara will not show this week, Dougherty said that the event will always be close to their

hearts as it was close to Tim's. "Also his niece and nephew still show and we have a lot of friends who

show pigs." she added, "It's still a family affair." And for the Dougherty's, family is everything.



Marcia Dougherty with fair swine superintendents Ted and Pat Mager.



# Local Mary Kay representative wins prestigious award

by Brianna Massey  
Lowell Ledger intern

At the annual Mary Kay Cosmetics seminar in Dallas, Texas, on Sunday, July 30, local resident and Mary Kay independent sales director, Christine Hoekstra, received the most prestigious honor in all of Mary Kay, the Go-Give award.

"The award is not based on how many products they sell," said Julie Byrne, Mary Kay senior sales director. "It's based on how they live their life and the integrity and servanthood they have."

Hoekstra felt shocked, humbled and speechless upon receiving the award. "It was not expected since it was based on nomination from top executives and consultants in Mary Kay," said Hoekstra.

One Mary Kay sales director from each unit is nominated to be a monthly Go-Give winner and then out of those women, one is



**Christine Hoekstra, center, with her parents Jim and Marybeth Tessmer after receiving the 2017 Mary Kay Cosmetics Go-Give award on Sunday, July 30.**

nominated to be the annual Go-Give winner. Hoekstra was chosen as the January 2017 Go-Give winner.

The annual Go-Give award was created in 1978 to honor Mary Kay independent national sales

director Sue Z. Vickers, who tragically passed away at the age of 37. Vickers was known for her loving personality and the ability to inspire and motivate many. According to a document provided by Mary Kay, "Each award recipient is chosen because she possesses the qualities which Sue Z. brought to her area – warmth, love, giving and caring."

Hoekstra's warm, loving, giving and caring attributes are evident to many.

"She goes above and beyond for anybody and everybody that she comes into contact," said Shannon Groeneweg, friend of Hoekstra's. "She's an amazing lady."

Hoekstra was recognized for her "Go-Give" attitude by many in Mary Kay after one of her fellow sales directors was diagnosed with uterine cancer. Not only did Hoekstra take over her co-worker's consultants without a pay increase, but Hoekstra also took her to chemotherapy appointments, cooked for her and offered her emotional support. Before Hoekstra's co-worker passed, she wrote a letter

to Mary Kay nominating Hoekstra for the annual Go-Give award and praising her for her support and love during the cancer journey.

Hoekstra received a call in October 2016 from several Mary Kay top executives stating that she had been chosen to be the January 2017 Go-Give winner.

Nearly 30,000 people attended the annual Mary Kay seminar in Dallas, at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center on Sunday, July 30, where Hoekstra was presented with the prestigious award. She left the audience feeling inspired and motivated with her acceptance speech, encouraging all to do unto others as you would to yourself and to treat each other properly.

Hoekstra received a crystal trophy, diamond Go-Give pin, bouquet of roses, special recognition in the monthly Mary Kay magazine Applause and a donation of \$5,000 made in her name to the Mary Kay Foundation which works to eliminate cancers affecting women and domestic violence.

Hoekstra graduated from Michigan State University in 1992 with

a bachelor's degree in marketing and moved to Ada, Michigan, after getting a job with Reynolds Aluminum. She left corporate America to raise her first child Austin and shortly after became a part of the Mary Kay family.

"I joined Mary Kay based on the income possibility," said Hoekstra. "I was working in corporate America for Reynolds Aluminum and loved my job but hated the hours, travel and trying to balance my growing family, being a wife and stressful workload. I saw incredible success stories of women in Mary Kay and I was attracted to the company's mission statement of "God first, family second, and career third."

She currently resides in Ada with her husband Henry, son Austin, and two daughters, Shannon and Carly.

"I love giving women the opportunity to feel confident and secure in themselves even if it's just by an hour of teaching skin care, makeup application, making them feel pretty, showing consultants how to be successful entrepreneurs and balancing their lives," said Hoekstra.

## Parents invited to discussion on their role in child's athletic career

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Parents and fans are being invited to a special presentation inside the Lowell High School auditorium on Monday, Aug. 14 at 7 pm to discuss the important role of parents in a student's athletic career. Presented by the LHS athletic department, the discussion will be led by guest speaker Rob Miller from Proactive coaching who has presented "The Role of Parents in Athletics" nationally.

According to athletic director Dee Crowley, "I attended one of his presentations at a conference and thought it was a good message that he shares with student athletes, coaches and parents. Rob has shared his message all over the country. Proactive coaching works with coaches and teams to help intentionally create character-based team cultures, provide a blueprint for team leadership, develop confident, tough-minded, fearless competitors and train coaches for excellence and significance."

The free presentation is approached largely from the athlete's perspective and touches on topics like how adults can aid in improving athletic performance, foster respect in competition by example and help their children create positive memories of their athletic experiences.

The subject is an important one for those with athletes involved in youth,

middle school or high school sports. "Encouraging our parents to demonstrate respect for the game and understanding how to support their sons and daughter helps the student athlete in their athletic performance," explained Crowley. She then added, "In the end, parents should remember the real purpose of athletic involvement for our sons and daughters: enjoying sports no matter

skill or ability, developing friendships, being a good teammate, fighting through adversity and becoming leaders in our community."

Miller will also present twice during the day addressing high school leaders with a presentation titled "Captain's Training" while the high school coaching staff will attend the presentation "Impact of Trust."

...

**"Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there."**

~ John Wooden

### LOWELL MUSEUM SUMMER FEST

#### Museum Fundraiser

Get your tickets today for an evening at the Museum. Food from Main St. BBQ, Flat River Grill, Miss P's Catering, BC Pizza, Sweet Seasons and Heidi's Farm Stand.

Drinks from new breweries New Union and Big Boiler along with Painted Turtle Cider, special brew from Gravel Bottom Brewery and more.

Local band, The Easy Idle String Band will play in the garden.

Join us for the fun and support the Museum!

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Or call 897-7688

# Lowell girl grapplers succeed at Amateur Athletic Junior Olympic games

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Groundbreaking female wrestlers Isis Lett and Katie DeYoung set their sights on success last season when they took to the mat as part of the first Lowell girls wrestling team and came out alongside their teammates with a state championship trophy. This summer the pair set their sights on the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games and once again succeeded competing this past week in Novi, Michigan.

"Isis and Katie were both instrumental in last season's team," said girls wrestling head coach Dave Strejc, who trained the girls

for the Olympic event along with George Gonzales. "They are both relatively new to the sport, but they continue to improve rapidly. They both stepped up to be major contributors at their respective weight classes."

Strejc said that both girls are determined in all they do.

Lett's mother Jamie agreed that fierce determination played a role with her daughter, "I am not surprised at how much she loves it. She has a very competitive personality. For a 13-year-old she got a late start, but is doing amazing so far. I convinced her to try it out and she instantly loved it. She didn't want to at first because of the stigma of it being a boy's sport, but with some persuasion she gave it a go."

Lett said she is glad she did the convincing because her daughter quickly grew to love the sport and is now

a part of Red Arrow athletics history.

Despite still being considered novices, the duo competed well at the competition with Lett placing fourth in a tough 105 pound bracket and DeYoung finishing third in a small heavyweight class.

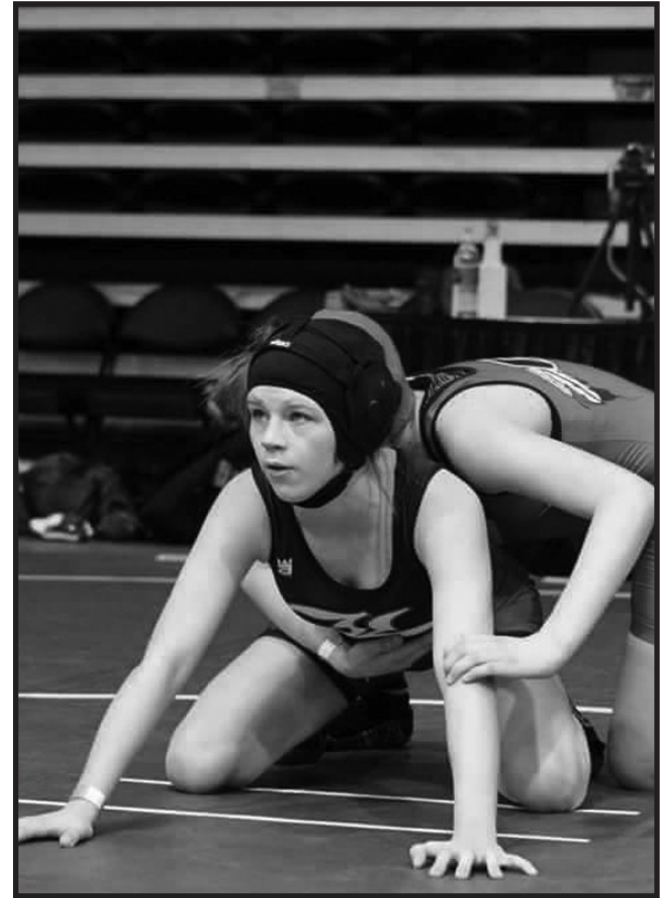


**Katie DeYoung** after the Red Arrows' state championship victory.

Coach Strejc said that more important than the win or loss column, the grapplers gained great experience from the event.

Lett encouraged the community to rally around the Lady Arrow wrestlers as they prepare for their second season this fall seeking financial support by the way of sponsorship and donation to cover equipment and travel expenses. She also welcomed all to become a part of the team's growing number of fans. "There are still a few in Lowell who don't yet see the importance of what is happening here but we'll soon be able to show them what these girls can do," Lett said.

Now back in Lowell, the two girls have set their sights on a new goal, top finishes on their projects at the Kent County Youth Fair. Based on current patterns, they likely need to make some space on the shelf for their latest accolades.



Red Arrow wrestler Isis Lett on the mat during the team's debut season.

## LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN

The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of GINGER BAKER.

Guardianship File No. 17-201,575-GA.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Lacey Lisette, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on August 30, 2017 at 1:30 pm at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian.

Dated: August 7, 2017

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner  
121 Franklin St NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
616-401-5242

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

# Red Arrow youth gymnasts earn first place trophy and medals at their first USAG appearance

Nine gymnasts from RAYG competed in the State Games Of America at the DeVos Place on Saturday, Aug. 4. This was their first time competing in a USAG sanctioned event. The bronze team earned a first-place team trophy and many girls brought home individual medals.

### Results:

Karina Peplinski- 2nd beam 9.05

Katelyn Lamphere- 4th beam 8.95, 4th all-around 35.55

Kenzie Rubel- 2nd vault 9.15, 3rd bars 9.35, 1st beam 9.05, 2nd floor 9.0, 2nd all-around 36.55

Ella Curtis- 4th vault 8.95, 1st bars 9.475, 3rd beam 8.95, 1st floor 9.175, 1st all-around 36.55

Paige Barnhart- 2nd vault 9.15, 4th beam 8.9, 1st floor 9.325, 4th all-around 36.425

Alexis Clark- 4th bars 9.3, 1st floor 9.425, 4th all-around 35.75



Pictured, back row: Karina Peplinski, Marlie McDonald, Olivia Barber, Ivy McDonald and Paige Barnhart; front row: Alexis Clark, Kenzie Rubel, Katelyn Lamphere and Ella Curtis.

## GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Synopsis of Minutes  
August 3, 2017

### Motions Approved:

1. Accepted Clerk's resignation
2. Hired Michelle Alberts as new clerk
3. Updated employee manual to pay hourly employees that are on jury duty.

Our next Township Meeting  
will be September 11, 2017  
At 7:00 p.m.

The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at [www.grattantownship.org](http://www.grattantownship.org)

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# Countdown to Lowell's varsity football season has begun

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The countdown to varsity football season has begun for Red Arrow players, coaches and fans with their first practice held this past Monday and the season opener scheduled for the last Friday of August at Wayne State University for the 13th annual Prep Kickoff Classic.

Warren De La Salle will be facing off against the Red Arrows. This is the first time Lowell has been to the event

and the second time they have battled the Pilots. The Arrows topped them 36-19 last season.

Week two and three, the Arrows will compete in exhibition play as they face the Rockford Rams on the road the first Friday in September. Then the Arrows will host storied rival the East Grand Rapids Pioneers on September 8 for the tenth annual Pink Arrow Pride event. Last year, the Arrows, undefeated in Pink

Arrow games, beat the Pioneers 34-7.

The team will travel to Houseman Field in Grand Rapids to take on their first OK White challenge of the year against Ottawa Hills. The team will host their second home game of the year on week five when the Yellow Jackets of Greenville buzz in to try to avenge last year's 35-10 loss to the Arrows.

Week six and seven takes on Cedar Springs and

Forest Hills Central on the road.

Lowell's homecoming game will host Forest Hills Northern on Friday, Oct. 3. The final week of the regular season will take place at home the following week when the Red Arrows square off against the Northview Wildcats.

After completing their flawless run through the regular season, the

Arrows went on to win both the district and regional crowns, only falling once in the Division 2 state semi-finals against formidable foe Walled Lake Western. After graduating several key seniors, the team will look to its new seniors, including offensive linemen Andrew LeFebre and Caleb Devereaux, defensive backs Connor and Brady Douma and receiver Addison

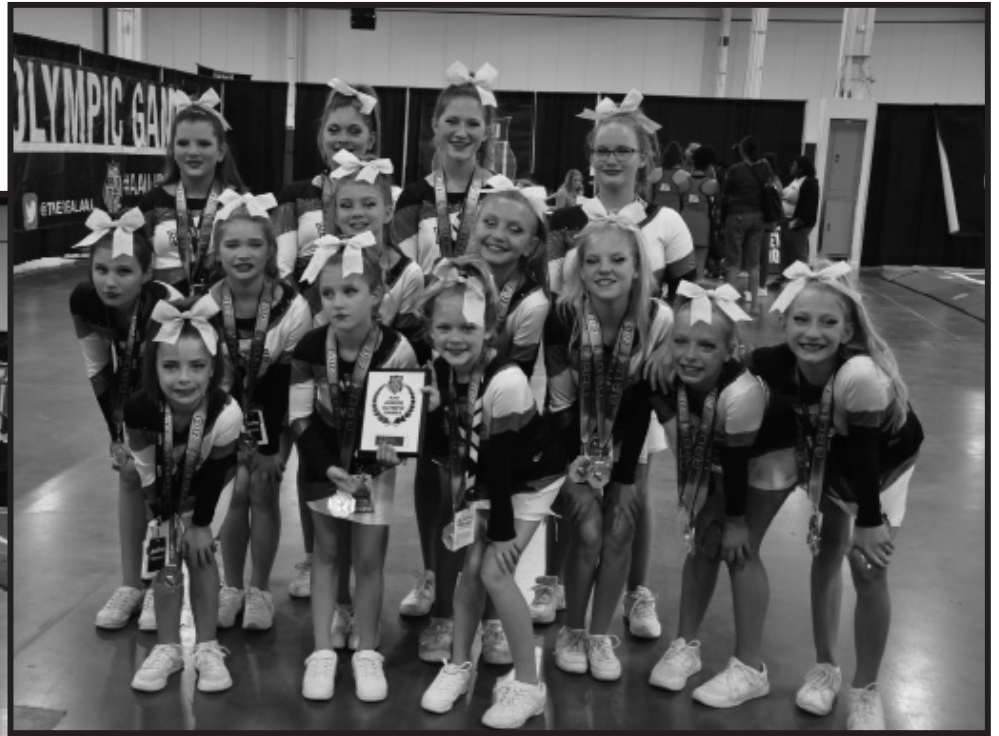
Buckius, to be key players on the field this season, along with second-year starting quarterback David Kruse. Kruse has had an impressive career as a Red Arrow quarterback to date leading the junior varsity team to an undefeated season his sophomore year and throwing a near perfect season in his junior effort which ended 12-1.

# Red Arrow youth cheer teams excel at AAU games

RAYG Cheer attended the AAU junior olympic games July 31, 2017, at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, MI. A mini team, a junior team and a senior team represented RAYG Cheer. All three teams came home with first-place finishes.



RAYG Senior Team



RAYG Junior Team



RAYG Mini Team

**CITY OF LOWELL**  
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 28, "MOBILE FOOD VENDING," TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.**

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 17-02 adding Chapter 28, "Mobile Food Vending," to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on August 7, 2017. Ordinance No. 17-02 provides for the licensing, location and regulation of mobile food carts, trailers and trucks within the City. A copy of Ordinance No. 17-02 is available for inspection at City Hall, 301 East Main Street in the City during regular business hours of the City.

Ordinance No. 17-02 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Susan Wilery  
City Clerk



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# Looking Back, continued

children had minor cuts. One child had to have sutures taken in a more severe cut.

There was discussion of the unsightly weeds growing along the streets in the downtown area at the Council's meeting Monday. After all the painting and cleaning up along the business district, a few business places allow weeds to grow along curbs and buildings.

The new bridge over Grand River on M-91 will be well lighted with the lights on the bridge and on each of the approaches, City Manager Bernard Olson reported to the Council on Monday. The City, with the cooperation of the Lowell Light and Power Company, will pay for the installation of the lights.

Officer Jim Hutson reported that no swimming suits were in evidence when he discovered 5 boys and a girl swimming in the Y pool after closing hours on Saturday. Police said that this "skinny-dipping" will have to cease!

4-H youth fair opens Monday. August 14-18 mark the dates of this year's Kent County 4-H Youth Fair at the Lowell fairgrounds. Thirty-two years of previous experience have gone into making this year's Fair the best ever.

The annual fishing derby, sponsored by the Moose Civic Affairs committee will be held Saturday, August 19, at a fishing site to be announced later. Children, between the ages of 6 and 12 may register this Saturday, August 12, at 9 a.m. till 12 noon at Curtis

Cleaners on West Main Street. Note, the change of registration. All children who are planning to participate in this annual community fun-filled event, must be registered in advance.

Claude Williams operator of a local Marina and Boat Repair business on Hudson Street, had the misfortune to have a boat he was transporting, west of Lowell, on M-21 fall off its trailer Thursday afternoon. Police said a tire blew on the trailer. Claude moved the large cruiser to another trailer and returned it to his shop for repairs.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 12, 1992

Steering outside the lines, leads to afternoon chase. The Kent County Youth Fair officially got underway Monday. 4-H Fair youths settled in with their livestock and projects over the weekend at the Fairground campsite. Forgetting that it was only Sunday afternoon a livestock visitor got a little nervous with the lack of activity at the fair. So, after freeing itself from its pen, a brown steer fled northbound on Alden Nash toward Lowell's Main Street.

Many thought when the Olympics closed out on Sunday the opportunity for gold did too. Not so fast! For over 1200 Kent County 4-H participants the golden opportunity awaits this week at the Kent County Youth

Fair. Monday night at the opening ceremonies youths were reminded by our State Majority Leader Richard Posthumus that while successes and how a person deals with them are successful, even more important is how we deal with disappointments. "There was a man in Kansas City who for months was looking for a job. He persevered through many rejections before being hired to take care of the advertising in a local church directory," Posthumus related. "He took the job, working in a small shack. During his time there he busied himself creating characters in the back end of the shack. Today he's known as Walt Disney. The character he created while working for the church directory was "Mickey Mouse." The Michigan Senator noted that there are two kinds of successes. One, being where a person does what no one else can (a genius). The second being, the average man or woman doing the average thing in a special way. Joining Posthumus at the opening ceremony were State Congressman Paul Henry, and County Commissioner Judy Harrison. Fox 17's Miranda was the host. Also in attendance were Ron Wenger, President of the Kent County Youth Agricultural Association and City representatives Jim Hodges and Don Green. The 1992 Fair Court shared the stage with the governmental dignitaries. On hand to introduce the Court was 1991 Fair Queen Nicole Patterson. Folk music entertainment was provided by Beats Set'en Home.

# Why it pays to keep a careful eye on your earnings record

Whether you're ready in between, regularly to retire, just joining the reviewing your Social workforce, or somewhere Security earnings record

could make a big difference when it's time to collect your retirement benefits.

Just think, in some situations, if an employer did not properly report just one year of your work earnings to us, your future benefit payments from Social Security could be close to \$100 per month less than they should be. Over the course of a lifetime, that could cost you tens of thousands of dollars in retirement or other benefits to which you are entitled.

Social Security prevents many mistakes from ever appearing on your earnings record. On average, we process about 236 million W-2 wage reports from employers, representing more than \$5 trillion in earnings. More than 98 percent of these wages are successfully posted with little problem.

But it's ultimately

the responsibility of your employers — past and present — to provide accurate earnings information to Social Security so you get credit for the contributions you've made through payroll taxes. We rely on you to inform us of any errors or omissions. You're the only person who can look at your lifetime earnings record and verify that it's complete and correct.

So, what's the easiest and most efficient way to validate your earnings record?

- Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount) to set up or sign in to your own *my Social Security* account;

- Under the "My Home" tab, click on "Earnings Record" to view your online *Social Security Statement* and taxed Social Security earnings;

- Carefully review each year of listed earnings and use your own records, such as W-2s and tax returns, to confirm them; and

- Keep in mind that earnings from this year and last year may not be listed yet.

If you notice that you need to correct your earnings record, check out our one-page fact sheet at

[www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf)

Sooner is definitely better when it comes to identifying and reporting problems with your earnings record. As time passes, you may no longer have past tax documents and some employers may no longer be in business or able to provide past payroll information.

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## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Joshua McCracken received Sales Associate of the Month in July.

This award recognizes McCracken for his outstanding success and achievements.



## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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## Invasive Carp Challenge calls for innovative solutions to prevent invasive carp from entering the Great Lakes



Gov. Rick Snyder announced that the Invasive Carp Challenge is now accepting proposals for innovative methods to prevent invasive (or Asian) carp from entering the Great Lakes.

"Invasive carp pose a serious and growing threat to the economy and ecology of our Great Lakes," Snyder said. "The Invasive Carp Challenge will tap into the creativity and expertise of the entrepreneurial community to find the best ways to protect Michigan's most prized natural resource."

On June 22, an eight-pound silver carp was captured beyond the electric barrier, just nine miles from Lake Michigan. Michigan continues to seek to work cooperatively with other states and Canadian provinces to keep silver and bighead carp – two species of invasive carp – from entering the Great Lakes.

The Invasive Carp Challenge is designed to

tap into the creative minds of people around the world to join the government and research community in enhancing existing research and tools while developing new, innovative solutions. The challenge will accept solutions in any phase of development, from concept to design to field-tested models, specifically aimed at preventing invasive carp movement into the Great Lakes.

Written proposals will be accepted online through InnoCentive's Challenge Center through Oct. 31, 2017. One or more solutions will share up to \$700,000 in cash awards provided by the State of Michigan. Once registered, solvers can see a detailed description of the challenge, review existing deterrent technologies for invasive carp and submit their proposed solutions.

Learn more about the Invasive Carp Challenge by visiting: [www.michigan.gov/carpchallenge](http://www.michigan.gov/carpchallenge)

## Report shows massive potential for growth in MI Ahead of Michigan Technical Conference on Alternative Fuel Vehicles

A new report released by M.J. Bradley & Associates, and commissioned by Charge Up Midwest, found expanding electric vehicles could save Michigan families, drivers and electricity customers billions of dollars over the next three decades. The report also found there is significant potential for growth for electric vehicles in Michigan.

"Our study estimated the costs and benefits of increases in plug-in electric vehicles in the state of Michigan and found significant potential for electric vehicle growth and subsequent savings for residents," said Brian Jones, senior vice president of M.J. Bradley & Associates. "Our highest projections are very attainable if the utilities, regulators and the private sector aggressively pursue electric vehicle adoption in Michigan."

The report includes both "moderate" and "high" adoption scenarios based on Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) and Bloomberg forecasts,

respectively. According to the Bloomberg forecast, by 2050, up to 55.7 percent of all passenger vehicles and trucks in Michigan could be powered by electric vehicle technology. Key findings for cumulative financial benefits from mainstream Electric vehicle adoption in Michigan include:

- Reduced electricity rates for utility customers are \$800 million (moderate) and \$2.6 billion (high) by 2050

- Savings from ownership of an EV compared to a gasoline vehicle are \$6.3 billion (moderate) and \$23.1 billion (high) by 2050

- Societal benefits from reduced pollution are \$1.5 billion (moderate) and \$5.7 billion (high) by 2050

"The benefits of electric vehicles for Michigan are significant – especially when it comes to the potential for new auto sector jobs and protecting our air, land and Great Lakes," said Charles Griffith, climate and energy program director for the Ecology Center. "In order to maintain

Michigan's leadership in the auto industry, as well as realize the economic and environmental benefits of reducing our use of imported petroleum, government, the private sector and utilities must work together to create smart policies and investment strategies to support the emerging electric vehicle sector."

The Michigan Public Service Commission is hosting the Michigan Technical Conference on Alternative Fuel Vehicles. At the conference, automakers, electric utilities, charging station companies and other stakeholders will discuss the future of electric vehicles in Michigan.

"Michigan, the birthplace of the auto industry, could lead the electric vehicle revolution," said Luke Tonachel, director of Natural Resources Defense Council's Clean Vehicles and Fuels Project. "With the right infrastructure, electric vehicles can be an economic and environmental force that cuts pollution, lowers

electricity rates, while being cheaper to operate than conventional gasoline vehicles."

The report examined other benefits, including reduced gasoline use and lower greenhouse gas emissions in Michigan, including:

- Gasoline saved annually: 138.6 million gallons (moderate) and 243.6 million gallons (high) by 2030

- Greenhouse gas emissions reduced annually: 1.9 million tons (moderate) and 7.7 million tons (high) by 2050

"Accelerating the use of electric vehicles in Michigan will reduce dangerous pollution and protect our air, land and Great Lakes," said Joe Halso, associate attorney with the Sierra Club.

"Now is the time to put Michigan on the road to cleaner air, a better grid and stronger economy by improving drivers' access to our cleanest and cheapest transportation fuel: electricity."

## MPSC approves Consumers Energy gas rate increase

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) today approved a gas rate increase for Consumers Energy Co. (Consumers) totaling \$29,211,000.

The increase will allow the utility to further upgrade

and modernize its natural gas distribution system by replacing older pipe and equipment. The added expenditures are justified to improve natural gas pipeline safety and reliability, the Commission said.

The rate increase is nearly 68 percent less than the original \$90,483,000 increase Consumers had sought (Case No. U-18124). The utility subsequently reduced its request to \$79,976,000.

The approval means a residential customer using 10 Mcf of natural gas per month will pay an additional \$1.66 a month. However, those customers had already been paying part of the increase -- 72 cents a month -- after Consumers was legally allowed to self-implement \$20 million of the rate increase beginning Jan. 20, while it awaited the Commission ruling.

The rate increase goes into effect Aug. 7. The amount approved today represents an increase of 3.2 percent over rates set in Consumers' previous rate case.

As part of the case, Consumers will invest \$29,559,670 through 2019 on its pipeline integrity program.

It also will spend \$13.3 million on its advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) program and expects to complete installation of the new devices by the end of 2017.

Consumers will also continue to fund the residential income assistance (RIA) program and the Low Income Assistance Credit (LIAC) pilot program. Under RIA, 83 percent of program participants will get a credit of \$11.75 while 17 percent will get a \$30.27 credit. Participation in both programs will be capped at a total of 69,000 customers.

The Commission said the rate of return and the rate of return on common equity provide appropriate compensation for risk, ensure financial soundness of the business, and maintains a strong ability to attract capital.

For more information about the MPSC, please visit [www.michigan.gov/mpsc](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc) or sign up for one of its listservs to keep up to date on MPSC matters.

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**ACROSS**

- 1. Hindu sage or a tea brand
- 6. Plant production
- 9. Big first for a baby
- 13. \*#2 Down native
- 14. Mutt
- 15. Doggy
- 16. Newbery Medal, e.g.
- 17. Back then
- 18. Alternative spelling of although
- 19. \*The Great Lake State capital
- 21. \*Capital named after 4th president
- 23. Color quality
- 24. Type of soda pop
- 25. British news broadcaster
- 28. MaÔtre d's list
- 30. Occupied oneself
- 35. Pearl Harbor island
- 37. Popular movie candy
- 39. Little one
- 40. Bodily disorders
- 41. \*No witches in this state's capital
- 43. Capital on the Dnieper
- 44. Dipping tobacco brand
- 46. Love-\_\_\_\_\_ relationship
- 47. Main Web page
- 48. Attractive to look at
- 50. Your majesty
- 52. Sea to a Spaniard
- 53. Duds
- 55. Filling station filler
- 57. \*Capital named for Sir Walter
- 61. \*State with the smallest capital by population

CROSSWORD														
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**AUGUST 2 - AUGUST 8**

- It is being reported that North Korea has developed miniaturized nuclear warhead that could mean they have passed a key threshold in becoming a full-fledged nuclear power.
- Google engineer James Damore was fired for writing a memo which said that "biological causes" are part of the reason women aren't represented equally in its tech departments and leadership. In addition, Damore said men have a "higher drive for status."
- The United States is already feeling the consequences of global warming according to a draft report. The document, which was leaked ahead of publication, states that humans are causing climate change. The findings are at odds with statements by President Trump and key members of his administration.
- Trump is on a 17-day "working" vacation at a New Jersey golf resort.



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- 65. 007, e.g.
  - 66. Keats' poem
  - 68. Metric unit of capacity
  - 69. Set in motion
  - 70. Break a
  - 71. Ann B. Davis on "The Brady Bunch"
  - 72. Sound warning
  - 73. "Ideas worth spreading" online talk
  - 74. Bothersome
- DOWN**
- 1. Unit of money in Iran
  - 2. \*Des Moines state
  - 3. Ugly Duckling, eventually
  - 4. Like Siberian winters
  - 5. In on periodic table
  - 6. Slang for heroin
  - 7. Leo mo.
  - 8. Movie trailer, e.g.
  - 9. More than one solo
  - 10. Tater pieces
  - 11. Audio bounce-back
  - 12. Sound unit
  - 15. Exotic furniture wood
  - 20. Must-haves
  - 22. Priestly garb
  - 24. Oldsmobile model
  - 25. \*The Gem State capital
  - 26. Uncooperative, like a mule
  - 27. Actress Sevigny
  - 29. Biblical captain
  - 31. Punjabi believer
  - 32. "Kick the bucket," e.g.
  - 33. a.k.a. dropsy
  - 34. \*Founded by William Penn
  - 36. Sky defender
  - 38. Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, acr.
  - 42. Get together, like AOL and Time Warner
  - 45. Lute player
  - 49. Yule treat
  - 51. Same as earflap
  - 54. White-sheeted apparition
  - 56. Upside down frown
  - 57. Poison ivy symptom
  - 58. Type of sax
  - 59. Pinocchio, e.g.
  - 60. Garner wages
  - 61. Offer ware
  - 62. Elevator inventor
  - 63. Adam's apple spot
  - 64. 3-point shot
  - 67. \*Motto heard in Concord: "Live Free or \_\_\_\_\_"

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*



**LEDGER OFFICE HOURS**  
 Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 5 pm  
 Friday: 8 am - Noon  
 Closed Sat. & Sun.  
 P.O. Box 128  
 Lowell, MI 49331  
 897-9261

SUDOKU

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			4	9			2	1
		5			2		3	
2								
		6	1			7	9	
5				7				8
	9	4			5	6		
								9
	3		2			4		
4	1			6	7			

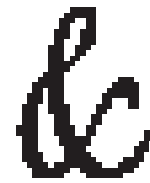
© StatePoint Media  
 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

ONLINE POLL

Has your support increased or decreased for Donald Trump?

TO VOTE IN THE CURRENT ONLINE POLL GO TO -

WWW.  
thelowellledger.com



# LOWELL COMMUNITY WELLNESS PINK ARROW HEALTH FAIR

PINK ARROW PRIDE

Thursday, August 17, 2017 08.17.17



## At Riverwalk with Farmers' Market & Summer Concert

Lowell Program In the Spirit... from the Leap.

CASH, CHECK OR DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS!

Your shirt is your ticket to the Pink Arrow Game!

### FIRST CHANCE TO PURCHASE YOUR 2017 PINK ARROW FORCE X T-SHIRT

PINK ARROW GAME  
SEPT. 8, 2017  
LOWELL vs. EGR  
VOLLEYBALL, SOCCER & FOOTBALL



FOR EACH T-SHIRT SOLD ON 8/17/17



will match \$1

## FREE FREE FREE

LUNCH & DINNER ON THE GRILL!

Whole Supplies Lucc

KID'S ACTIVITIES!

HEALTH ACTIVITIES!



See the CABUS!!!  
**FREE ICE CREAM**  
for the first 300

ANYONE WHO GIVES BLOOD ON THIS DAY WILL RECEIVE A COUPON FOR 10% OFF AT



## FREE

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROFESSIONALS will be on hand for Lowell Community Wellness Expo



Lowell Community Wellness

Lowell Pink Arrow (Pride) Community Day

## BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, August 17, 2017 - 10 am to 7 pm

PLAN TO DONATE BLOOD!

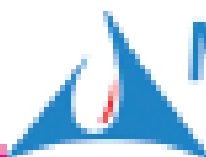
Michigan Blood pledges to donate \$10 to Gilda's Club of Lowell for every person who signs in to donate at the drive.

WE MUST MEET 100 PINTS TO QUALIFY!

For Appointment: [miblood.org](http://miblood.org)

or call 1.866.MIBLOOD

(1.866.642.5663)



### Michigan Blood

MI blood saves lives.™

SPECTRUM HEALTH Spectrum Health Cancer Center

Betty Ford Breast Care Services

## MAMMOGRAMS

10:00 - 1:00

Take a tour between 2 - 6 and enter to win a prize!

Qualified patients

(screening mammograms only)

Call 616-267-2626

to schedule