

fall
GNO



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weavers



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growing
local hops



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lhs sports



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KCYF holds public forum to discuss ideas for new fairgrounds and invites more input

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Kent County Youth Fair held a public forum at the King Building on Wednesday evening, Oct. 18. The meeting was attended by about 30 local residents who expressed their concerns, ideas, recommendations and other topics.

“There are a lot of different perspectives and opinions to share,” said fair director John Schut. “That is what tonight is partially about, getting ideas and starting to map the design process. At tonight’s meeting we want to gather ideas from people from all different walks of life. It’s a very dynamic process with a lot of different perspectives across different generations.”



Fair manager Jessica Marks said the fair board wants to make the new location “the best fairgrounds ever.”

“It’s been a long journey,” said fair president Jon Bieneman. “When my family moved to West Michigan in 1975 there was talk about where the new fairgrounds was going to be. We are now at the point where we can talk about that. There is a lot of work to be done yet, but we are now in the process of making great strides forward to a new fairgrounds.”

The meeting was set up in an unorthodox but efficient fashion. First, attendees were given time to fill out forms with their name and their ideas. Next, the participants were split into small groups. The small groups discussed the ideas they wrote down. Then each group picked a leader

who presented the results of those discussions to the whole room.

“A big thing for me, personally, was to be able to disinfect the livestock barns,” said attendee Heather Everett. “Coming from a swine background, we need to be able to disinfect so we don’t have any more disease outbreaks.”

“Talking about security, we won’t have the Lowell Police Department, so how about trying to involve the Kent County Sheriff Department’s mounted unit,” said attendee Candice Russell.

Other ideas discussed by community members included more or different

Forum on new fairground,
continued, page 2

Deadline for Look Memorial grant proposals is this Friday

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The deadline for grant proposals from the Look Memorial Fund is Friday, Oct. 27 at 4 pm.

“Proposals are due on Friday, October 27th at 4 pm. Those proposals will be made available to the committee and reviewed individually,” said Look Memorial Fund committee member Jim Hodges.

Grants are given to non-profit organizations, official ones that have been approved by the Internal Revenue Service under their 501(c)(3) rules.

“The Look fund is set up to help community and non-profit groups,” Hodges said. “As with all of the endowment funds in our community, just a portion of the

interest or dividends received are disbursed to the governing board for allocation. In the case of the Look fund, the dollars are a bit smaller than the other groups. Market value of the fund is around \$275,000.”

The Look committee will have a public meeting on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 4 pm to gather information

from the community, then a closed meeting to figure out who will get grants this year.

“At our meeting we will receive the amount available to allocate from the Grand Rapids Foundation which manages the investments,” Hodges said. “At the

Look Memorial grants,
continued, page 2

Production of *The Dixie Swim Club* now open

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Lowell Arts Players dinner theater production of “The Dixie Swim Club” is now open at Larkin’s Other Place, 301 W. Main.

“The Dixie Swim Club” is set in a cottage on the Outer Banks in North Carolina. There, five women who met on the swim team in college gather for an annual weekend where their only rules are “no men, no kids, no work.” The play checks in on the characters at ages 44, 49, 54 and 77. The script was written by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten, whose past credits include episodes of the “Golden Girls” and a few other films, TV shows and plays. The stars of the production are

Lisa Erb as the pragmatic health nut Sheree; Laurie Kuna as Dinah, the sarcastic workaholic; Martha Hayden as Jeri Neal, the pregnant nun; Diana Roush as trod-upon housewife Vernadette and Deanna Small as Lexie, the man-eater with a heart of gold. Each actor was perfectly cast in their role and they seemed like they were having a lot of fun putting the jokes across.

“I think they did a great job,” director Randi Richardson said on opening night. “I’m very proud of them. It’s a very funny play, a lot of giggles. You leave here laughing. There are some great lines in there that



Tickets are now available for “The Dixie Swim Club” on October 27 and 28, and November 2, 3 and 4.

Lowell Arts production,
continued, page 2

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Cabaret show set for next LowellArts house concert

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The next LowellArts House Concert is the “Cabaret” show at 7 pm on Saturday, Oct. 28. Roger MacNaughton, Cindy Kropf, Bob VanStee and Kathy Lamar are going to play American songbook standards, rhythm and blues songs and pop classics.

Roger MacNaughton and Cindy Kropf have been making music in Lowell for decades. They have been performing together since the 1970s in local rock groups Stillwater and Alive and Well.

“Cindy is a longtime friend of mine, a band

member for many, many years,” MacNaughton said. “You might think she was just a rock singer, but she can handle a lot of standards and pop tunes in a way that’s really fun to listen to. You don’t want to miss Cindy, she puts on a show like no other. She is just exuberant when she gets onstage. She loves all types of music and she’s been steeped in pop culture since the dawn of time. She is a great singer and she knows a lot of tunes. Over the years we’ve done a duo with cabaret type material. Some of it’s rock, some of it’s pop, some R&B, all good stuff.”

Kathy Lamar has performed around the world with artists such as Gladys Knight, Nancy Wilson, the Four Tops and Wayne Newton. After four decades in the music business, she is now living in her hometown of Grand Rapids.

“Kathy has played all over the place and is very well-known in the Grand Rapids area,” MacNaughton said. “She knows pop, she knows R&B, she knows standards, she’s got it all. She works with a lot of different piano players, but Bob is one of her main guys.”

Bob VanStee is a Lowell pianist who has played with jazz groups since the 1970s and created commercial jingles for clients such as D&W Foods and Archway Cookies.

“I have been a big fan of Bob VanStee for years. He’s a jazzier. Growing up I used to go listen to him play live. He used to come into River City Studios where I worked. He is the real deal. He’s played with some pretty heavy jazz groups in Grand Rapids like Turning Point and Checkers Morton.

The “Cabaret” show will be split in two man parts.

First, pianist MacNaughton and vocalist Kropf will perform a set. Then pianist

Next LowellArts house concert, continued, page 4



along main street

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Looking for a way to get involved in the community? Want to volunteer, but don’t know what to do? Come to our volunteer orientation and learn about all of our day, evening and weekend opportunities. Our needs range from evening cashiers to daytime donation sorters with lots of options in between. Volunteer orientation at Flat River Outreach Ministries will be Wed., Nov. 1 at 6 pm. Call 897-8260 for more information.

HOLIDAY ARTISTS MARKET

The annual LowellArts Holiday Artists Market featuring artwork by over 50 area artists will be held from Nov. 7 to Dec. 23. Artwork and other handmade items by Michigan artists will be available for purchase during the gift-giving season. Gift items include pottery, paintings, photography, jewelry, textiles, glasswork, handbags, woodwork, metalwork, wreaths, basketry, ornaments, candles, soaps and more. LowellArts is located at 223 W. Main and gallery hours are Tues. – Sat., 10 am to 6 pm. Details can be found at www.lowellartsmi.org

ALONG MAIN STREET SUBMISSIONS

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.

Look Memorial grants, continued

same time the committee will receive presentations on the proposals from community groups for projects. The committee will make final determinations the following week in closed session on Nov. 15th.”

Each year the Look fund donates money to important projects all over the community, projects that would otherwise have a hard time operating.

“In the past the Look fund has received proposals from Boy Scout Troop #102, the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association (Veen Observatory), LowellArts, Alpha Women’s Center, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Kent County Youth Fair, Lowell Ambulance, Lowell Area Fire Department, Lowell Area Recreational Authority, Lowell Women’s Club and the Lowell Area

Historical Museum, as well as several non-profits.”

The Look Memorial Fund has been donating money to community projects since 1983. It was started by Helen Look Daily and Dr. Orval McKay when Daily wanted to give an endowment to the city of Lowell.

“Her intent at the time of the trust in 1983 was to improve or enclose the city’s outdoor swimming pool, [make] improvements and construction needs to city hall, make improvements in or for the library [or] use the funds for any charitable purpose that the committee may deem in its absolute discretion to be desirable for the benefit of the city of Lowell or its immediate environs,” Hodges said.

Grant applications are available at city hall from city clerk Susan Ullery.

LowellArts production, continued

just make you laugh. There are lines you think of weeks later that make you laugh and there are lines that you can steal and use yourself later!”

The next performances

of “The Dixie Swim Club” will take place on October 27 and 28, and November 2, 3 and 4. Tickets range from \$16 to \$20, plus an additional \$13 if you want to enjoy dinner. Reservations are required for dinner. Larkin’s menu for the evening will include chicken marsala, roasted corn, cheesy sour cream mashed potatoes, peach cobbler and more. There are also vegetarian options available and there will be a cash bar. Tickets are available in person at LowellArts, 223 W. Main, by calling 616-897-8545 or online at lowellartsmi.org

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Thursday, November 2, at 7:00PM
Saturday, November 4, at 7:00PM
Sunday, November 5, at 2:00PM
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Madeleine L'Engle
ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY
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Forum on new fairground, continued

manure pits, a site-wide communications system, a “Main Street” architectural style to the buildings, wider streets in the complex, cement floors in the barns, indoor and outdoor arenas and lots more. If you missed the meeting but you have some input that you would like to give to the fair board, the form upon which to do so is available on the website, kcyf.org

“Feel free to put down your ideas,” said fair manager Jessica Marks. “We

are going to compile them and take everything into consideration because what we really want to do is have the best fairgrounds ever. It’s going to take everybody’s ideas and thought processes. Maybe you’re thinking of something that we haven’t thought of. Please put down ideas. Let us know what you want us to do.”

At 7 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at the chamber of commerce building on the Riverwalk, the

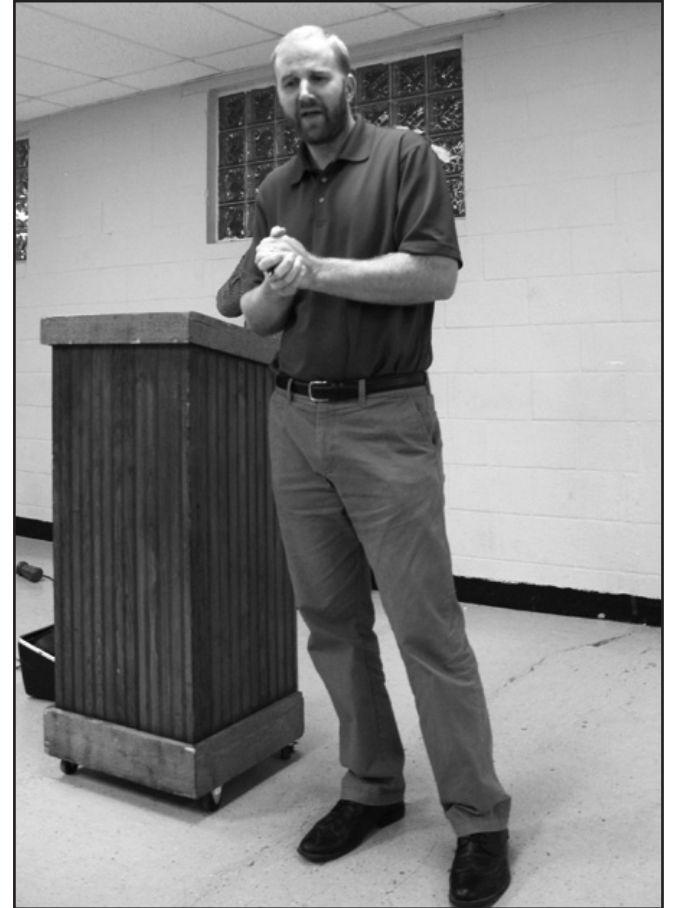
KCYF will have a special invitation-only meeting for the neighbors of the new fairgrounds to get their input. Immediately following that meeting, at 7:30 they will have a meeting with the fair superintendents to gather their ideas.

“This is a process, it’s not an overnight deal,” Schut said. “It’s something that takes time. We think it’s important to take the time to hear all of the views out there.”

The KCYF has been held at the 225 S. Hudson fairgrounds since 1934. Starting in 2020 the annual Kent County Youth Fair will move to 13955 Cascade Rd. SE, the property that was occupied by the Deer Run Golf Course. In June 2017 the Kent County Youth Agricultural Association signed a purchase agreement to buy the 140-acre property and convert it into a new fairgrounds, meeting center and campground. The

purchase was funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corp., contributions from area

foundations like the Wege Foundation, the Chemical Bank Foundation and donations from private individuals.



Fair president Jon Bieneman said the fair has been discussing a move since the 1970s.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

**Communities Served:
Townships of Bowne and Lowell, MI**

Effective on or after December 5, 2017, the following changes will be made to your channel lineup:

FXX on channels 91 & 807 will move from Digi Tier 1 to Spectrum Select.

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

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CITY OF LOWELL

OAKWOOD CEMETERY FALL CLEAN UP NOTICE

The annual clean-up of Oakwood Cemetery in the City of Lowell will be October 22 through October 30, 2017.


Please remove all arrangements, baskets, etc. you wish to keep by Monday, October 30, 2017.

 Susan Ulery
City Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE TABULATING EQUIPMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 CITY GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public accuracy test of the Tabulating Equipment for the November 7, 2017 City General Election will be conducted on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Grand River Conference Room, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan.

 Susan Ulery
City Clerk

business directory

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 joel@edmanllc.com

Next LowellArts house concert, continued

VanStee and vocalist Lamar will play for a while. After that, MacNaughton is hoping for a jam session. “Hopefully at the end all four of us will get onstage and do a few songs to close the show,” MacNaughton said. “We probably won’t rehearse it too much. I’m looking forward [to] that. It’s going to be fun.” The gallery only seats 80 people, so this will be a special, intimate show. “I was there for the first concert, the Adams Family

Band,” MacNaughton said. “It was so cool. All that art around you and you’re right there, every seat is a good seat. I’ve heard the Adams Family many times, but I never heard them like that, where you could hear every nuance. It was really intimate and beautiful.” They are deliberately choosing local musicians for these LowellArts House Concerts. People can also suggest bands they like and local bands are welcome to approach LowellArts.

“We have a committee of people who are very familiar with the music that is available in the region,” Smalligan said. “We select a variety of styles, similar to what we do for the summer concerts.” Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. You can buy them online at lowellartsmi.org, by calling 616-897-8545 or in person by going to LowellArts at 223 W. Main.

Future concert dates include:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| January 6:
Bruce Matthews Band | March 24:
Lipstick Jodi | May 5:
Mark Lavengood |
| January 20:
Josh Rose and the Founding Fathers | April 14:
Mackinac Harvest Showcase | May 19:
Seth Bernard |
| February 10:
Edye Evans Hyde/Mike Hyde | April 15:
Family Concert with Drew Nelson | May 20:
Family Concert with The Porters |
| March 10:
Pete in the Creel | April 28:
B-Side Growlers | |
| March 11:
Family Concert w/Bill Vits | | |

Lowell Community Fund accepting grant requests for funds until December 1

The deadline to request funds from the Lowell Community Fund is noon, Friday, December 1, 2017. To receive consideration and approval, all requests must be for funds that will aid local organizations in providing help to persons in the Lowell area. The Heart of West Michigan United Way has

set the December date aside for those qualified to receive funding for 2017. Request forms may be picked up at Dr. James Reagan’s office at 207 W. Main St., or at the main branch of Huntington Bank at 414 E. Main St. The formal request forms include a demographic data sheet on

clients served, how funds from the previous year were spent and the annual budget for the organization requesting funds. Since 1955 up through 2017, the Lowell Community Fund has dispersed over \$285,000 into the community. “It is important to note that this funding program is entirely separate from the Harold Englehardt funding program which is handled through the Grand Rapids Foundation,” said Dr. James Reagan, secretary/treasurer of the fund.

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
 Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Synopsis of Minutes
 October 16, 2017

Motions Approved:

1. Amendments to the Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance regarding Solar Panels, Drainage Plans, Zoning Compliance Permits and Unlawful Properties No. 003-2017
2. Resolution 2017-023 to approve PDR application.

Other Matters:

1. Fiscal 2016/2017 Financial Report
2. Sewer Report

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

...
 “Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”
 ~ Mark Twain

the lowell ledger
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viewpoint

to the editor

mighty thing rising in our midst

Dear Editor,
 Back on August 7 the city council had a special meeting on medical marijuana. It seems that there are some that want to set up a medial marijuana dispensary in Lowell. I thought it was a very informative meeting when it came to people speaking from the podium but very little was discussed by the city council at the time and not much has been said about the subject since in Lowell's city council meetings. The council has stated that they are still gathering data. Several members of the council went to a conference where medical marijuana was discussed. That's great, the more information the better.

But it's been better than two months since the August 7 special meeting. The problem is the city council has said little about what they know about medical marijuana even though they have had plenty of time to do so considering most council meetings of lately only ran around 20 to 40 minutes. The city council is the servant and they should serve the community by informing the community of information that's on hand so the community can start to form an opinion and contribute to the decision making. It's not the council's decision alone to make. The city council at their recent Oct. 16 council meeting set a date of Nov. 20 at 5:30 pm for a public hearing

on medical marijuana. Hopefully the council will speak about what they know about the subject before others and open discussion. Why 5:30 pm for a public hearing? 5:30 pm is when a good share of the public have just gotten out of work or are just getting out of work. The time chosen is far from being satisfactory. The public hearing should be set up to benefit the public, not hinder them. I believe it would be in the best interest of the community that the time for the public hearing be changed to 7 pm like the regular council meetings. The regular council meeting should be held after the public hearing. The public should be notified well in advance of the changes.

Sincerely,
 Jim Howard
 Lowell Township

off the cuff

Jeanne Boss

I've been on a wandering vacation the last two weeks. I have not watched television and only listened to the news sporadically. The seemingly daily statements out of the Oval Office and the staff explaining what was really "meant" seemed to dominate the airwaves causing me to listen even less. Other than the horrific fires in Northern California that completes my social awareness for the fortnight. Clearly, some catching up is in order. My relative isolation was intentional. I set out with no clear destination and no solid return date. It was good for my soul.

However, as I've started returning to the news, one particular subject has rocked

me to my core. What is this rebirth, for that is what it appears to be, of white supremacy? A ridiculous term and how revolting that they fall back on "free speech" as a defense for their intimidation, racism, terrorism and disrespect - yes, disrespect - of our great country.

We fought that war. They lost. Our country is by the people, for the people and all equal under the law. The same people that are so upset over football players who take a knee in support of their fellow citizens think it is just fine to fly the flag of the enemy. That enemy was guilty of treason. They took arms against their own country and let's not forget, and allow me to repeat..they lost.

All that aside. Let's say these people don't want different races and religions in their community. They are admittedly unAmerican because we are after all a melting pot. That is what we stand for. United. 50 different little countries, if you will, united.

Now what pray tell do these people want? What is it they are trying to achieve? Let's extend our little metaphor a bit further and all join the "white" supremacy movement and bow to their "beliefs." What then? What do we gain? Where do all, and I mean all, the Americans go? What possible outcome are they seeking?

It is important that we follow the thought downstream a bit. Stop and think beyond the moment you might allow apathy to reign in your mind and imagine what could happen. What is to be gained by exclusion and hate? What would be lost? Now go back upstream if you will and ask yourself why is this rhetoric suddenly acceptable? Who is promoting it and what do they have to gain?

For all the political differences that exist today, it is important to remember that debate - true debate not just name calling and lying - is what makes this country great. It may not be the quickest, easiest path but it has proven to be the best and we, as caring citizens, should not just roll over and say that there is nothing we can do.

And "social media" is not the place for debate. Real people need to show their faces and come armed with credible evidence to support their point of view in order to vacillate real progress. Faceless bantering does nothing but incite and invite others to argue and condemn. There are still some things that are clearly right or wrong. There are still facts whether or not we like them. And there are ramifications for what we don't do or don't say that can also carry a hefty toll.

We love to hear from you!

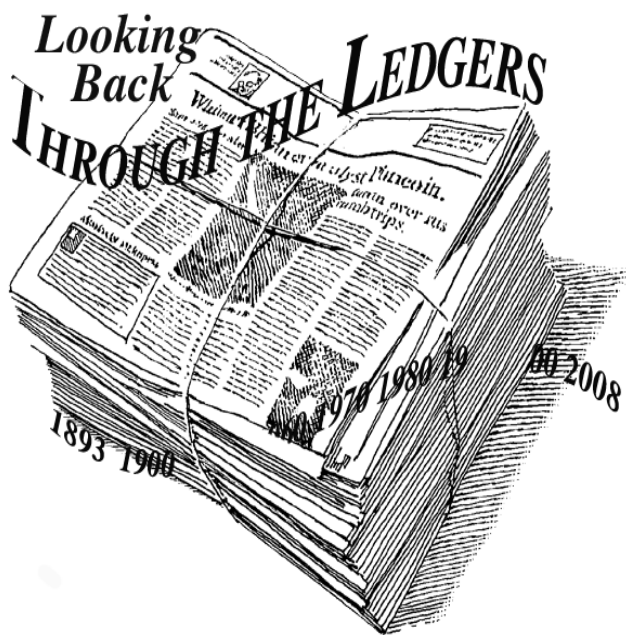
bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher; duplicate comments/authors within a short period may be dismissed. Opinions expressed in "To The Editor" are not the views of the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

the lowell ledger 

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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.



125 years ago Lowell Journal October 26, 1892

The city papers are all right if you want them, says a contemporary, but it is the local paper that advertises your business, your schools, your churches, your numerous societies, sympathizes with you in your afflictions and rejoices in your prosperity. In short it is your local paper that mentions the thousand and one items in which you are interested during the year, and which you do not find in the city papers.

N. B. Blain returned Tuesday morning from Chicago, where he witnessed the dedication of the World's Fair Buildings. He says that, the ceremonies and decorations were absolutely indescribable and almost inconceivable.

The members of the Baptist church held a reception at the Baptist church, last Friday evening to welcome Rev. Ernest Shanks and wife to their new home. The "household chest" contained many useful and beautiful things. The reception was well attended, there being about five hundred present and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 25, 1917

The Alto bank was blown up at 1:11 Saturday morning by burglars, as that is the time the bank clock stopped. The loss amounted to \$10,586.00, including the total loss of money and damage to the building, which is fully covered by burglar insurance. The burglars gained entrance through the window next to the side door on the south part of the bank which was smashed out completely with a shovel. Two charges of nitro glycerine were used, the first charge blew the vault door off the hinges onto the floor in the middle of the bank. The next charge blew the doors off the safe which is kept on the inside of the vault containing the money. ...The safe blowers got through their job and out of town without being detected until about 5:30 Saturday morning. It is reported that John Ellis was the first person in town to notice the job and he promptly reported it to Edward Campau, the assistant cashier at the bank, and Deputy Sheriff Edger Dygert. Alto was a sight on the morning of the burglary with telephone wires and cables hanging in the street. It made the town appear as if it had been struck by an earthquake which likely happened in about as short a time. It looks as if the robbers went from here directly to Middleville as the bank in that town was blown up at about 3 a.m. the same morning, which would allow plenty of time for them to cover the distance if they travelled by auto.

A model 15 Linotype, electrically equipped, was installed in The Ledger office last week, and when in successful operation, a cordial invitation will be extended to all our readers of The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo to visit the Ledger office and inspect it. With a large and growing army of readers, we have felt compelled to adopt machine composition, although having learned the printer's trade before type setting machines were thought of, we have been slow to

Social Security announces 2.0 percent benefit increase for 2018

Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for more than 66 million Americans will increase 2.0 percent in 2018, the Social Security Administration announced. The 2.0 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 61

million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2018. Increased payments to more than eight million SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 29, 2017. (Note: some people receive both Social Security and SSI benefits). The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of

earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$128,700 from \$127,200. Of the estimated 175 million workers who will pay Social Security taxes in 2018, about 12 million will pay more because of the increase in the taxable maximum. Information about Medicare changes for 2018, when announced, will be available at www.medicare.gov

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. To read more, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/cola

college news

Davenport University announced that several local students officially completed degrees in business, technology, health professions or urban education at the end of the summer 2017 semester. Here is the list of local students who recently graduated from Davenport University: of Alto: Macy Beukema, Ronald Maddox, David McMillan, Jenna Schumaker, and Matthew Teitsma; of Lowell: Zachary Ritchie and Tanya Stremmer.

Joshua Boonenberg, Bachelor of Science; Justin Chopp, Bachelor of Business Administration; Martha Corby, Bachelor of Science; Conor Dahlquist, school psychologist certificate; Emily Fries, Bachelor of Business Administration; Jessica May, Master of Education; Irina Perry, Master of Science; Riley Rouse, Bachelor of Science; and Lauren Weaver, Bachelor of Arts; of Alto: Emily Barofsky, Bachelor of Science in engineering; Luke Ganzevoort, Bachelor of Science in engineering; Valerie Voisin, Bachelor of Science; and Noah Yonker, Bachelor of Business Administration; of Lowell: Derek Bitterman, Bachelor of Business Administration; Amanda Renee Pfaller, Master of Education; Leah Schlosser, Bachelor of Business Administration; and Taylor Youngs, Bachelor of Business Administration.

Grand Valley State University announces the names of students who graduated at the conclusion of the spring/summer 2017 semester in August. Here is a list of local students: of Ada: Jason Balgavy, Master of Business Administration; Logan Banks, Bachelor of Business Administration; Josiah Bonewell, Bachelor of Science in engineering;

HEALTH



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

- tummy time

Parents of newborns are encouraged to keep their babies on their back while sleeping. This has been shown to reduce the incidence of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome or SIDS. Unfortunately some babies may spend too much time on their back and develop a condition called Positional Plagiocephaly also known as a positional head deformity. This occurs because the infant develops a preference for laying their head in a certain position. When they lay in one position for too long, they can develop a flat spot on one side of their head. Over time this flat spot may resolve as the child grows older, but there is a chance that it may persist throughout their life, causing a misshapen head.

their postural muscles as well as neck muscles. By developing these muscles early, they will be able to turn their heads much easier when sleeping on their backs. They will also reach developmental milestones, such as rolling over and sitting up, sooner.

"Tummy Time" should only be performed when the infant is awake, on the ground or on a parent's chest. The infant must be observed closely to prevent accidental injury from rolling over or objects blocking their airway. Initially, infants may not tolerate "Tummy Time" for very long, as they may tire easily and cry. However, if you start slowly and gradually increase the time spent on the tummy, they will become stronger and enjoy it more.

The best way to prevent infants from developing this condition is to begin "Tummy Time" exercises early. "Tummy Time" refers to time spent on their tummies when they are awake and alert. This allows them to strengthen

For those infants that do develop a positional head deformity, there are treatments available. Those treatments may involve physical therapy and possibly a cranial helmet for a few months.

happy birthday

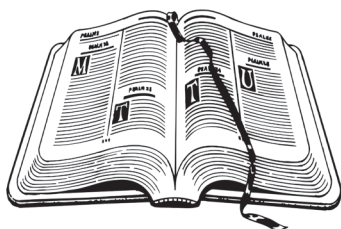


- OCTOBER 25**
Diane Pretzel, Bill Ellison, Amanda Stoutjesdyk.
- OCTOBER 26**
Ray Jones, Mike Ray, Kait Cummings, Joe Wilczewski, Thomas Cook.
- OCTOBER 27**
George Cook, Tim VanLaan, Tracey Johnson, Judy Purdy.
- OCTOBER 28**
Aaron Stencel, Bonnie Essich, Debbie Stoutjesdyk.
- OCTOBER 29**
Tammy Barber, Al Mulder, Jared Spencer, John Butler Jr., Jeremy Drake, Valerie Stuewe.
- OCTOBER 30**
Jeremiah Russo, Joseph Russo, Justin Wilczewski, Jim Momber.
- OCTOBER 31**
Bob Richter, Connor Duiven, Larry Taunt, Thomas Alberts, Patricia VanSickle.



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Official 2017 state Christmas tree selected in the Upper Peninsula

A spruce tree from Stephenson, Mich., in Menominee County will travel south to Lansing this month to become Michigan's 32nd official Christmas tree. The tree, which was chosen by staff from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, is expected to arrive at the Capitol at

approximately 8:15 am on Saturday, Oct. 28. The tree, which is just over 60 feet tall, is being donated by William Winter and his grandson Alex Stevens. This marks the 23rd time the official tree has been selected from the Upper Peninsula. "DTMB's work to select the state's official tree is among the department's most popular and enjoyable projects," said DTMB Director and Michigan CIO Dave DeVries. "Everyone, no matter the age, enjoys watching the Christmas tree arrive at its holiday location at the front of the Capitol."

"It's another beautiful tree," said DTMB Christmas Tree Crew Member Heath Miller. "It's the perfect height and shape for a dazzling display of lights."

The tree will be harvested on Thursday, Oct. 26 and delivered to Lansing with the assistance from the Michigan Association of Timbermen, the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association and Michigan Operators and Engineers. The timbermen will cut the tree and transport it to Lansing at

no cost to the state. At the Capitol, the Hi-Ball Co. of Lansing will provide a crane and crew to set the tree at the intersection of Capitol and East Michigan avenues. The Christmas tree will remain throughout the holiday season.

The tree lighting will take place on Friday, Nov. 17, as part of the Silver Bells in the City celebration. Dignitaries will flip the switch that turns on thousands of lights about 7:45 pm. One of Michigan's premiere holiday events, Silver Bells includes a special Electric Light Parade with floats, marching bands and thousands of sparkling lights. The festivities will conclude with a fireworks display above the Capitol dome (weather permitting).

US-2 on the map as a Pure Michigan Byway

A 92-mile section of US-2 along the north shore of Lake Michigan in the Upper Peninsula officially became the latest Pure Michigan Byway in a ceremony on Oct. 6 of this year, in Naubinway attended by local and state officials, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) staff and residents.

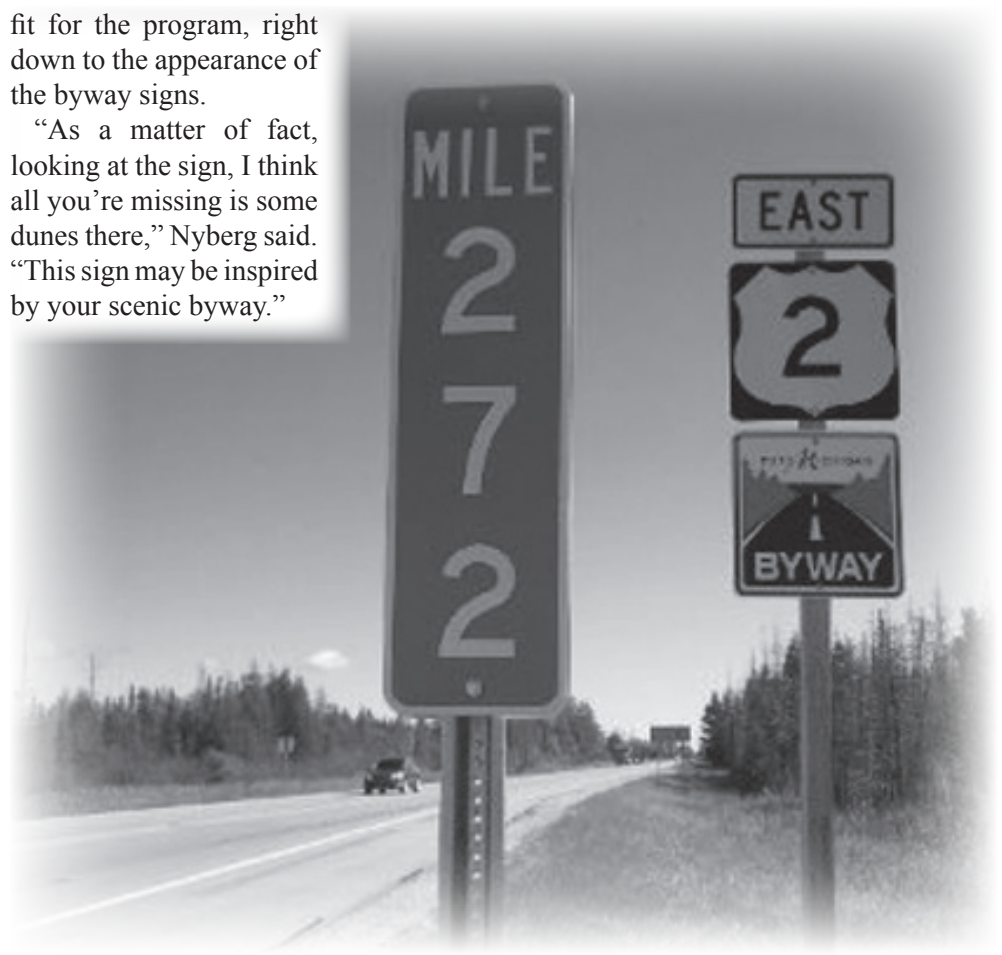
fit for the program, right down to the appearance of the byway signs.

"As a matter of fact, looking at the sign, I think all you're missing is some dunes there," Nyberg said. "This sign may be inspired by your scenic byway."

The new US-2 Top of the Lake Scenic Byway is located in Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties, running from St. Ignace to Thompson, following Lake Michigan's picturesque north shore in the southeastern U.P. It was chosen for the designation based on its outstanding recreational and scenic qualities. It joins 20 other showpiece highways around Michigan in the Pure Michigan Byways program, now encompassing 1,152 miles of state trunkline.

The president of the Top of the Lake Communities Association, Dean Brodberg, praised the efforts of dozens of communities and groups that came together to back the byway project and he explained the new route's name. "It's interesting to me that many people don't realize that where you're sitting today is basically at the top of Lake Michigan."

Dave Nyberg, Gov. Rick Snyder's northern Michigan office director, said he frequently travels the byway in his travels throughout the region. "When traveling back from Lansing or lower Michigan, I always feel that I'm finally home when greeted by the scenic vistas along this special stretch of Pure Michigan." He said the route is a great



A new Pure Michigan Byway sign along the US-2 top of the Lake Scenic Byway. (MDOT photo)

NOTICE OF ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP KENT COUNTY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on October 16, 2017, the Township Board for Lowell Charter Township adopted several amendments to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance regarding home occupations and home-based businesses. More specifically, the amendments added a new Section 4.45 regarding home occupations, added a new Section 4.46 regarding home-based businesses, amended Section 5.03 to add a new Subsection (y) regarding home-based businesses, amended Section 6.03 to add a new Subsection (v) regarding home-based businesses and amended Section 7.03 to add a new Subsection (q) regarding home-based businesses, all of which constitute amendments to the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Ordinance.

A full copy of the zoning amendments can be inspected, reviewed or purchased at the Lowell Charter Township offices at 2910 Alden Nash Avenue SE, Lowell, Michigan 49331 during normal business hours (Monday and Tuesday - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursday - 9:00 am to 1 pm - closed Wednesday and Friday) or viewed on our website: www.twp.lowell.mi.us.

These zoning amendments will become effective upon the expiration of seven (7) days after this notice appears in the newspaper. Any question should be directed to the Township Clerk at (616) 897-7600.

**Monica Burt, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township**

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Scenes from a 'sporty' Fall Girls Night Out



Area shoppers donned their favorite sports apparel and wore their game faces when they headed to Lowell last Thursday for a night of shopping and fun during the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce fall Girls Night Out.

This year the event had a sports team theme and 41 Lowell merchants took part in the event.

Downtown locations participating in this season's event included Mi Hometown Furnishings, Flat River Cottage, Euphoria Boutique, North Star Antiques, A Charmed Life Nail Salon and Ability Weavers. Uptown shoppers could stop at Northern Physical Therapy, Advanced Eyecare Professionals, Walgreen's and Grand River Orthodontics. On display inside the chamber included Avon by Sherry, All Natural Promises, Elizabeth Kay Designs, Mary Kay by Sue Raimer and Younique brands were represented.

All photos submitted by Bruce Doll



Mi Hometown Furnishings was filled with shoppers.



B.C. Pizza greeted shoppers with food samples.



Main Street BBQ offered food and drink discounts.



Chimera Design owner Cliff Yankovich talks with shoppers during the event.



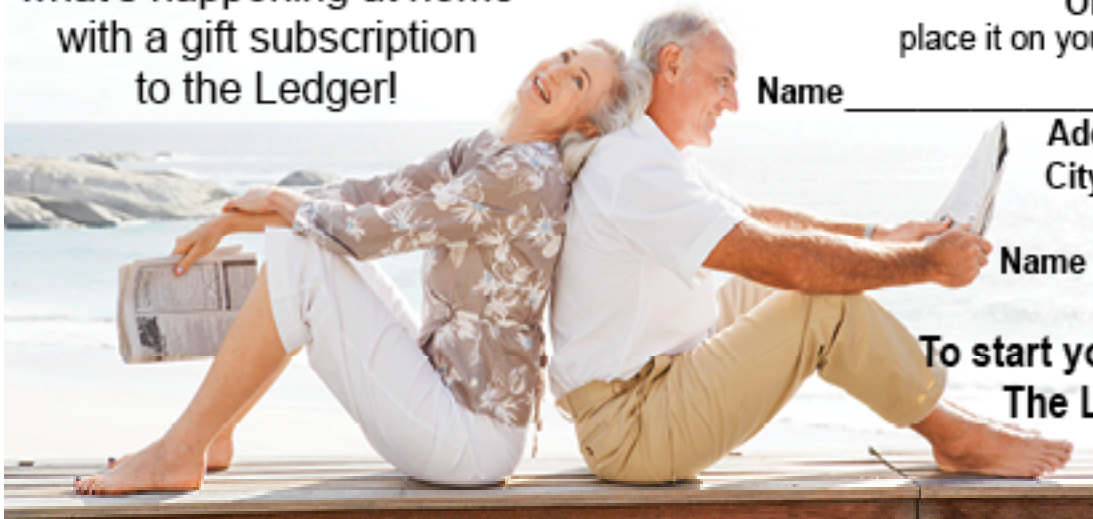
Lowell Area Historical Museum offered free admission during the event.

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Ability Weavers has new home for new loom

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Ability Weavers, 215 W. Main, recently added a massive new loom and expanded into Hastings.

Their new loom is about seven feet tall and made from Brazilian maple and mahogany. It was designed for maximum efficiency by weaver Peter Collingwood and manufactured by Harrisville Designs in New Hampshire. Ability Weavers got it from Baker Allegan Studios in Allegan.

“Peter Collingwood is a well-known rug weaver who designed this loom,” said owner Beryl Bartkus. “It’s a top end loom; we’re very blessed to have this. It’s a masterpiece, really. It’s a piece of art. It’s beyond what we ever dreamed having in here. We’re very excited. We’re having fun with it.”

They are currently experimenting with making large area rugs out of wool.

“There is a carpet manufacturer in Grand Rapids that is donating wool yarns to us,” Bartkus said. “And now we can make rugs up to five feet wide of any length.”

Ability Weavers are now selling them because of their durability and absorbency, their handmade cotton kitchen towels are becoming a sought-after item. They even had to make order forms just to keep up with demand during Girls Night Out last week.

“We can’t make them fast enough,” Bartkus said. “They are working really, really hard and we are so proud of them.”

Ability Weavers’ owner Beryl Bartkus with the new loom.



...

We all have our own life to pursue, our own kind of dream to be weaving, and we all have the power to make wishes come true, as long as we keep believing.

- Louisa May Alcott

Red Arrow SPORTS

- FOOTBALL

Lowell Red Arrows earn 19th straight playoff bid

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Earning their 19th straight playoff bid last Friday evening the Lowell Red Arrow varsity football team improved their season record to 6-3 with a win over the Northview Wildcats.

The huge 57-27 toppling began with the Wildcats on top 7-0 striking first about four minutes into the game. Lowell quarterback David Kruse scored the equalizing touchdown converting

after fellow senior Brady Douma returned a kickoff 46 yards giving the Arrow

good field position. After Kruse’s 17-yard run, senior Addison Buckius lit up the

scoreboard next to 21-14 with a touchdown. First half scoring for Lowell ended

with a 23-yard touchdown pass to junior Jordan Dent giving them a 35-27 advantage at the half.

Stopping the Wildcat offense completely in the third and fourth quarters Northview remained stuck at 27 while the Arrows added three additional scores. The first came about four minutes into the third when Anschutz found himself in the right place

with the right skills grabbing a pick six from the Wildcats and rushing it into the end zone. Buckius added a massive 42-yard touchdown run before the third buzzer. Senior Ben Lobbezoo recorded the Arrows final score taking a hand off from Kruse and clearing the end zone to push the Arrows to their second-highest point total of the season.



Sophomore Andy Anschutz takes a hand off from QB Kruse during the 57-27 win.

Moving into the postseason this Friday after ending the season third in the OK White the team will next head to Flushing High School for the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division II pre-district round. Flushing enters districts with a Quarterback David Kruse slightly better record of 7-2 and a notable quarterback already slated to play for the Lakers next fall at Grand Valley State University. The game is scheduled for this Friday with a 7 pm kickoff. No passes are accepted at the gate.



Quarterback David Kruse

- GOLF

Sophomore golfer competes at state finals

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Standout sophomore golfer Mary Jo Buechler represented the Lowell

Red Arrows girls varsity golf team last weekend at the Bedford Valley Golf Course in Battle Creek. She

competed as an individual in the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division II State golf

finals. Often leading the Arrows over the season, Buechler was a solid scorer in both OK White and non-conference action. At the finals Buechler shot a 99 on day one and a 96 on day two for a combined card total of 195.



Mary Jo Buechler at the tournament with coach Kim Stevens.

Red Arrow

- CHEERLEADING

SPORTS

Varsity sideline cheerleaders fire up energy and spirit

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

When Red Arrow varsity football hits the field, they are accompanied by an equally fierce group of female athletes who display their talent in support of the team. The varsity sideline is the cornerstone of the cheer program at Lowell High School as the most visible of the teams driving up energy and spirits each week under the Friday night lights.

This year's talented cheer program is led by team-elected captains, Quinne Duhr, Keana Fahrni and Paige Anes. According to longtime Lowell cheer coach Amanita Fahrni, "These young ladies have collectively demonstrated leadership skills, organization, and responsibility by leading their team, taking on extra responsibilities and positively influencing their teammates."

Fahrni, who has previously led the varsity competitive cheer team to the state finals, has served in many capacities during her time at Lowell, working with all portions of the cheer program and teaching at the school. She said the sideline cheer serves in several capacities when they head to the games. "The cheerleaders are athletes, crowd leaders, spirit raisers and performers. If the game isn't going as expected, it

is our job, along with the student section leaders, Jacob Nugent and Jonny Draigh, to keep the spirits up among our crowd. We have to stay positive and spirited to support our team."

Outside of their spirit-raising in the stadium, the girls also spread their cheer with special projects throughout the fall season, including pep assemblies throughout the district, prideful decoration inside the high school and participation in the annual Pink Arrow event. "The team is always humbled and proud to participate in this experience," said Fahrni. "We've all had friends and/or family that have been affected by cancer. To wear pink under the lights on a Friday night in Lowell is an honor."

Fahrni said that participation in cheer fosters many qualities in student athletes that they will utilize throughout the rest of their lives. "My athletes have gained a stronger sense of community, ability to collaborate with others, communication skills, leadership qualities, perseverance and physical endurance."

The team will graduate eight members at the close of this season, including their three captains and Autumn McGovern, Rena VandenBerg, Kenzi Kramer,

Kim Clouatre and Sydney Carmichael. Fahrni offered a few words for them as they move forward. She

chose the famous words of A.A. Milne uttered by Christopher Robin to send off her spirited seniors,

"Always remember you are smarter than you think and braver than you believe, loved more than you know." stronger than you seem,



The Lowell High School varsity cheer team on the sidelines inside Red Arrow Stadium.

Sports Summaries

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Last Wednesday at Cedar Springs for the fourth and final OK White jamboree of the season, the girls varsity cross country team paced their way to a fourth-place finish. Tallying a total of 94 points, behind winners, Forest Hills Northern, Forest Hills Central and Ottawa Hills, Lowell was led by Hailey Nieuwkoop who placed eleventh with a time of 20:21. That time qualified her for all-conference honorable mention along with teammates, Audrey Conrad (20:53) and Katrina Droski (21:03). Following their

performance were Lauren Aud (21:17), Dawn Kondor (21:42), Jada Millhisler (21:44) and Alexis Haines (22:03). The Arrows will enjoy a bye week before taking part in a post-season regional meet to be held at Allendale High School on Saturday, October 28.

GIRLS SWIM & DIVE

Diving into their final regular season meet last Thursday at Wayland High School the Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian girls swim and dive team earned a 129-56 win over the Wildcats. The co-op team, called the Vikings, will next participate in post-season competition at the Tier II conference meet which will take place over two days, November 3-4, at Hastings High School starting at 3:30 pm and 10 am respectively.

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Competing in the last conference event of the season, the boys varsity cross country team traveled to Cedar Springs on Wednesday finishing in fourth position with a total of 104 points. Earning all-conference honors, the top finish for the Red Arrows was Morrison Ismond who ran a 17:11 placing him tenth among his competitors. Second and third finishers, Lucas Cossar (17:26) and Caleb Swart (17:27), earned all-conference honorable mention after their respective thirteenth and fourteenth place. Also scoring for the Arrows were Kenny Stump (18:29) and Conner Meyers (18:49). Post-season play begins this Saturday at Allendale High School at regional competition.

BOYS WRESTLING

Senior Keigan Yuhas wrestled his way to a first-place finish in Las Vegas last weekend competing in the National United Wrestling Association at the Youth Freak Show 2017 event. The Red Arrow earned his championship title competing in the 18U category at 195 pounds. Yuhas is expected to be a solid leader and performer for the Lowell varsity team this season as they chase their fifth consecutive state title.

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NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 17-201573-DE

Estate of **KENNETH EARL BOOTH**. Date of birth: 05/30/1968.

October 18, 2017

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Kenneth Earl Booth**, died 12/11/2016.

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

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

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Red Arrow

- VOLLEYBALL

SPORTS

Girls break even in competition last week

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Competing twice last week the varsity volleyball team broke even. They dominated Northview 3-1 and then fell by that same margin to Forest Hills Northern in a pair of conference games at home.

Tuesday against Northview the Arrows started off with a 25-13 set win before dropping the second 23-25 and then storming back for wins in sets three and four 25-20 and 25-15. The victory was the second for Lowell over the Wildcats this season and featured some pretty impressive stats for the Lady Arrows.

The team recorded 99 total digs, led by senior Jill Fidler who tallied 22. They also served an impressive percentage of 95.9, including three aces from sophomore Meghan Meyer. Other stat leaders included

freshman Jenna Reitsma with 13 kills, Meyer who produced four blocks and senior Sydney Powell who earned 37 assists.

Unfortunately that result flip-flopped on Thursday when the team played FHN. The Huskies remain the only team to top the Arrows in conference competition this season. The loss was fought furiously by the Arrows who hoped for revenge heading into the contest, but left with just one 25-21 set win. FHN won the other three sets 25-18, 25-20 and 25-20 with Lowell keeping pace throughout tough contest.

Leading the Arrows during the loss were Powell with 20 digs and 32 assists, Mangus with 13 kills and three aces, Fidler with 20 digs, Meyer with two blocks and another 13 kills from talented varsity starter Reitsma who has been

adding more than marks in the stat books. According to head coach Julie Quist, "Our freshman Jenna Reitsma brings passion, leadership, excitement and joy to the court and to our team."

Nearing the end of their regular season with just three games slated before district competition (the first week of November), the team holds an impressive 8-2 record in the OK White. Displaying confidence and unity on the court throughout the season, the team and coach Quist are aiming for solid performances as they work the tail end of their season aiming for some hardware and a place on the school's championship

banners. "We have put in the work and have big goals for this season. The confidence our team displays on the court comes down to trust. Trust builds momentum, improves performance and bonds teammates and coaches. We are immensely proud of this team."

This week the team takes on their final two league foes, Forest Hills Central and Greenville, both of whom the Arrows topped 3-0 earlier this season. The contest against Greenville will take place Thursday evening at Lowell High School with a start time of 6 pm. The event will mark the last home match of the season.



Junior Red Arrow Emily Stump serves for the team in home competition.

- SOCCER

Boys ranked number 12 after season ends at districts

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The Lowell boys varsity soccer team leapt into the postseason last week hosting Forest Hills Northern where they participated in the district semi-final and finals rounds.

Up first, the Arrows faced the Red Hawks of Cedar Springs on Wednesday in the semis. Having already defeated the conference foe twice in the regular season, the Red Arrows exited bound

for the finals after a 5-1 victory. Lowell began their offensive charge just three minutes into the game when the Stadt brothers, senior Jay and sophomore Ezra, teamed up for the first strike.

They picked up two more goals off of Cedar Springs' penalties pushed into the net by seniors Stadt and Elijah Dixon. Ahead 3-1 after the half-time break, Lowell repeated their capitalization on Cedar Springs' mistakes scoring twice more on penalties with goals from Dixon and junior Connor Cater.

Saturday, against their host FHN, they played a furious back-and-forth battle against the number two ranked Huskies who were the first to score after a controversial lack of call from referees that allowed Lowell goalkeeper junior Nathan VanDeWeert to be knocked to the ground leaving the net vulnerable for attack. The half ended tipped in FHN's favor 1-0.

Lowell opened the second half with tight possession and multiple shots on goal ultimately resulting in two kicks finding the back of the net. The first came just a couple minutes into play when sophomore Braiden

Hamilton found the younger Stadt who slid the ball past a tough keeper to equalize the score. Ten competitive minutes and phenomenal Lowell saves later, senior Jonny Draigh quickly converted an interception grabbing the game lead and earning his 33rd goal of the year, a new school record.

That Arrow edge would not hold as the Huskies

found their way around VanDeWeert again netting what would be the game winning goal with just five minutes remaining on the clock sealing the 3-2 district championship. The Lowell team ends the season ranked number twelve with an overall record of 13-6 and an OK White record of 9-3 for a third-place conference finish.

The team graduates half of its roster this spring with ten kickers headed down the graduation aisle. The team bids farewell to Draigh, Stadt, Dixon, Gabe Bendall, Austin Pollock, Alex Laird, Sam Hofman, Ryan Noffke, Ryan Pawlowski and Caleb Mast with the closing of the season.



Senior Red Arrow Jay Stadt on the field during the district finals.



Lowell celebrates after sophomore Ezra Stadt's equalizing second-half goal.

obituaries

Looking Back, continued

MENDEZ

Frances N. Mendez "Fran", age 89 of Alto, passed away Monday, October 23, 2017. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John Mendez; son Patrick Mendez; and grandson Harley Buche. She is survived by her children Daniel (Judy) Mendez, Mary (Bob) Bristol, Thomas (Katie) Mendez, Robert Mendez, Melisa (Rodd) Sickelsteel; brother Daniel (Jeanette) Dungan; sisters Dorothy Anderson, Sheila (George) Richmond; grandchildren Madelen Mendez, Meghan (Joe) Proulx, Patrick Mendez, Samantha Mendez, David Buche, Gary Buche, John (Collette) Mendez, Bill (Katie) Mendez, Joe (Abby) Mendez, Mary Mendez, Kyle Sickelsteel; 8 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Fran was a loving mother, teacher and neighbor, who lived her life in a way that left everyone she touched better for having met her. She worked as a gym teacher at Alto Elementary, a mail carrier, and was also a community volunteer. Fran was an artist and woodcarver. Fran was raised as a Quaker, and then became a long-time member of Alto United Methodist Church. Visitation will be Wednesday, October 25, 2-4:00 p.m. and 6-8:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell. Funeral service will be Thursday, October 26, 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Rev. Robert Wright officiating.



PHILLIPS

William Dale Phillips "Bill", age 67 of Lowell, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, October 19, 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents Robert and Betty Phillips, and sister Kathy Walsh. He is survived by his daughter Jennifer Phillips and her mother Connie; siblings Russell (Ginny) Phillips, Linda (Jim) Doane, Donald (Kim) Phillips, Margaret "Peg" Rooker, Ed Phillips, Tammy Phillips; also many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Bill was a kind, wonderful and dedicated father to Jennifer. He was an outdoorsman who enjoyed nature, hunting and fishing. He was very artistic always working with his hands. A Memorial Visitation was held at Roth-Gerst Chapel in Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to DAV – Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301.



change from time-honored methods with which we have been familiar from boyhood. The illustration shown herewith gives but a faint idea of this wonderful machine. While the Linotype is called a typesetting machine, it is really a composing machine, and today is standard everywhere. It is a machine operated by finger keys like a typewriter, which operation assembles a line of matrices from which matter is composed. Instead of producing single type characters, it casts bars, or slugs, from hot metal, each complete in one piece and having on the upper edge the characters properly justified to print a line.

**75 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
October 29, 1942**

Youngsters, who have so enthusiastically joined in the scrap drive and, other patriotic movements, can further show their patriotism by refraining, during this Hallowe'en season, from destruction of property which may be hard to replace at this time, or from increasing the work of people who are already overburdened because of the scarcity of labor. A word of suggestion from parents might help to promote this helpful idea.

The Maines confectionery will change hands next Sunday, when Harry and Victoria Grosoviak will take possession and conduct business as usual. Mr. and Mrs. Maines have purchased a new establishment at Pullman, Mich., and will be open for business November 15. They have been in Lowell nearly a year, during which time they have made many friends who regret their leaving and wish them success in their new venture.

The boys' general shop 1 of Lowell high school have organized their class similar to that of an industrial set-up. They held a caucus and nominated three candidates for each office. They elected by ballot, one for each office. Student Personnel: Supt, Philip Schneider; clerk, Vern Basler; wood foreman, Robert Ford; metal foreman, Bruce Myers; electric foreman, Lester Jones; finishing foreman, R. Smith; safety engineer, Gerald Shreur; maintenance foreman, Elmer Young; A B. C. foreman (always be clean), Willard Denick; publicity manager, Merle Alexander. By Merle Alexander.

**50 years ago
Lowell Ledger
October 26, 1967**

Specialist Four Lloyd A. Holliday, US 55895016, is home on leave after being stationed at the Saigon Air Base for one year. A Bronze Star for bravery was awarded to Holliday, during tour of duty, when he pulled an Air Force pilot from his burning plane. Holliday is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd L. Holliday of, Lowell. Upon the termination of his leave, Holliday will join the Fifth Administration Company at Fort Carson, Colorado.

The oldest bridge on Michigan's state highway system was "retired" Monday when a new bridge carrying M-91 over the Grand River, south of Lowell was opened to traffic. The 83-year-old one-lane bridge, which also had the distinction of being the oldest steel bridge anywhere in Michigan, was replaced by a new \$358,158 two-lane concrete and steel structure. The old bridge will be torn down. Built to horse and buggy specifications in 1884, the old bridge was financed under provisions of the 1850 Swampland Road Act, one of the earliest plans for federal-state cooperation in the building of roads, bridges, canals, dams, ditches and other drainage structures. Ironically, the new bridge was financed entirely with state funds.

Police received a complaint on Sunday morning that an attempt was made to break into the coin boxes at the Roth Car Wash, on West Main Street. The attempt was unsuccessful!

**25 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
October 28, 1992**

The early reviews on the new Lowell High School site are in, and the 306 school district residents who participated in the "WalkingTour" on Sunday all agree. It is very impressive," said Lowell's Nancy

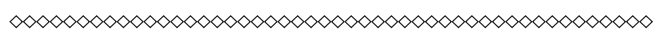
Reinhart. "Other communities will take notice." "The planning that went into it was very efficient," said Lowell's Ruby Leeman. "I was impressed with how school officials planned around the environment and took it into consideration," said Lowell's Hercules Andrus. Dick Korb, tour coordinator, along with administration, board members, and WBDC and Owen Ames and Kimball officials, guided 16 groups of 8-38 residents per group through the tour. Each tour took a little over an hour. The tours began at noon and ended at 5 p.m. The new high school site, still under construction, was framed by the hue array of fall colors and the ever pleasing temperatures. Craig Willison. Owen Ames and Kimball said the new high school site will be the future center of Lowell community activities. "This is much more than just a school project, this is a community project." For Beth Hoag, a seventh grader in the first tour group on Sunday, it will be her high school home for four years. Her class (1997-1998) will be the first four-year graduating class from the new school. Ruby Leeman's granddaughter Bethany will be a member of the second class to graduate after the new school opens. That's significant in that Leeman's son, Bob, was a member of the first class to graduate from the current high school on Foreman Street. Ruby is a 1931 graduate from Lowell. Lowell Area Arts Council member Chris Hodges anticipates the numerous possibilities for the new 725 seat auditorium.

Marj Harding and Diane Thomas of FMB Bank believe that "fulfilling the needs of the community" is an important part of the local bank's function. With that in mind, came the creation of "Get out and Vote Day" on Tuesday, Nov. 3. The day is meant to do exactly what it says, get people out to vote. Throughout its banking hours (lobby 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; drive-up 8:30 am. to 5 p.m.) on Nov. 3, FMB employees will remind customers to vote. Many of the FMB employees will be dressed up in red, white and blue. The bank will provide literature on the proposals and will offer free refreshments and a patriotic gift.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

C	A	S	T	S	M	A	R	K	I	L	L			
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3	9	7	8	6	5	1	2	4
6	8	2	1	4	3	5	9	7
5	4	1	7	9	2	6	8	3
4	2	5	3	1	6	9	7	8
8	3	9	5	7	4	2	1	6
7	1	6	9	2	8	4	3	5



EARTH TALK™

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: How can we keep our kids safe from environmental hazards all around us in our everyday lives? -- Jennifer Nichols, Wareham, MA

Children are affected by the same environmental hazards as adults, only they're more vulnerable given their smaller size and the fact that their bodies are still developing. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), harmful exposures can start as early as in utero.



"Proportionate to their size, children ingest more food, drink more water and breathe more air than adults," reports WHO. "Additionally, certain modes of behavior, such as putting hands and objects into the mouth and playing outdoors can increase children's exposure to environmental contaminants."

Some of the most common contaminants we should be vigilant about avoiding include pesticides (in foods),

lead (in old paint), asbestos (in insulation and construction materials), BPA (in plastic food/drink containers and the lining of cans), PFCs (in non-stick cookware, carpeting and mattresses) and flame retardants (in furniture and drapery). And, of course, many branded household cleaners contain potentially hazardous ingredients (bleach, ammonia, diethanolamine, triethanolamine) as well.

Given how common these elements are in today's world, keeping kids safe isn't an easy task. For starters, choose organic food and drink whenever possible to cut down on the pesticides your kids ingest. While pesticides work well to keep away the bugs that can ruin harvests, they also can cause neurological and reproductive problems for humans who ingest traces of them. Apples, celery, strawberries, peaches, spinach, nectarines, grapes, bell peppers, potatoes, blueberries, lettuce and kale/collard greens are the worst offenders in the produce aisle, according to the Environmental Working Group (EWG), so definitely spring for organic versions of these particular fruits and veggies. Packaged and processed foods likely contain plenty of pesticide residues, too, unless they are marked as certified organic.

To avoid household cleaners, the Organic Consumers Association (OCA) recommends ditching the expensive specialized products that likely contain harmful chemical additives. "A few safe, simple ingredients like soap, water, baking soda, vinegar, lemon juice and borax, aided by a little elbow grease and a coarse sponge for scrubbing, can take care of most household cleaning needs." Look for specific formulations on organicconsumers.org, as well as links to some environmentally friendly name-brand household cleaners.

While there is less we can do individually about air pollution if we want our kids to spend time outdoors, at the macro level we can all help by driving our cars less and turning down our thermostats (to reduce the emissions we cause) and ordering less stuff online (to cut down on air pollution from shipping).

Parents, teachers and caregivers should educate themselves about what to avoid and become expert label readers so they can make health-smart choices. Meanwhile, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) is urging pediatricians to take a greater interest in the environmental impacts on the health of their patients and discuss with parents how to keep kids safe in and around the home, the neighborhood, and at school.

CONTACTS: WHO, www.who.int; EWG, www.ewg.org; OCA, www.organicconsumers.org; CDC, www.cdc.gov.

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LHS KTC September Student of the month

Two Lowell High School students have been named Student of the Month at Kent Transition Center. Tyler Senneker, 11th grade; is enrolled in the manufacturing program and Kendra VanOverloop, 11th grade; is enrolled in the child care program.



Tyler Senneker



Kendra VanOverloop



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Buddy Valastro



Ultimate Peanut Butter Brownies

Sweet Tips for Sweet Treats

FAMILY FEATURES
You might have a favorite cookie or brownie recipe — but did you know you could make it even better by adding a simple, familiar ingredient? With a few expert tips from Buddy Valastro, author and star of TLC's "Cake Boss," you can take your sweet treats from good to great in no time.

- Start with Quality Ingredients** — When you start with better ingredients, you end up with a better cookie or brownie. Use real butter, high-quality vanilla and great tasting chocolate. Here, Buddy shares some of his favorite recipes that use M&M's candies to add an extra special touch to family favorites — making them even better.
- Chill the Dough** — Leaving cookie dough in the refrigerator gives it more body and results in a fuller and better tasting cookie. Plan ahead so you can refrigerate your dough at least one hour — or, even better, overnight.
- Keep It Uniform** — Use a small ice cream scoop to keep your cookies the same size. This not only helps them look professional, but bake up evenly and consistently.
- Pans Matter** — Bake cookies on light-colored, non-insulated cookie sheets without sides. Metal pans will cook brownies faster than glass pans, which means cooking times will vary. Start checking your brownies early to test if they're ready and prevent over baking.

You can find more sweet baking tips and recipes at www.facebook.com/mms.

Milk Chocolate Minis Cookies

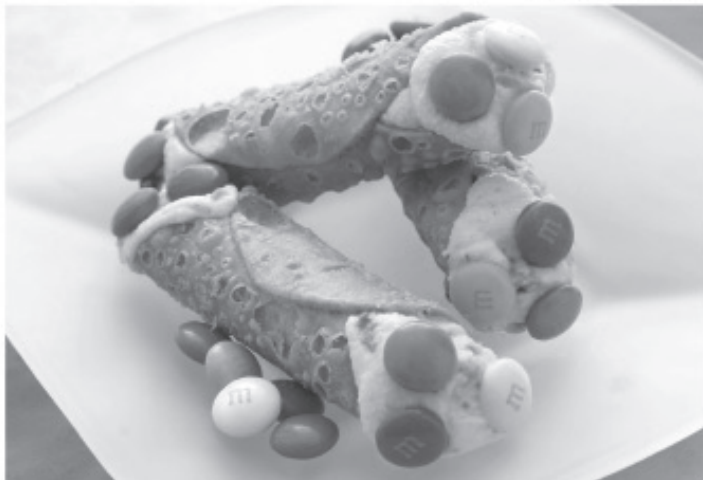
Prep time: 10 to 15 minutes
Chill time: 1 hour to overnight
Bake time: 7 to 12 minutes
Yield: 24 to 30 cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
3/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1 cup granulated sugar
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1/3 cup cocoa powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 3/4 cups M&M's Milk Chocolate Minis Candies
1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

Preheat oven to 350°F.
In large bowl, cream butter and both sugars until well blended. Add eggs and vanilla extract, and mix to combine.
In separate bowl, sift flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt. Slowly add dry ingredients to butter mixture, and stir until combined.
Fold in candies and walnuts, if desired. Chill dough 1 hour, or overnight.
Drop dough by rounded tablespoons onto lightly greased tray, about 2 inches apart.
Bake for 7 to 9 minutes for chewy cookies, or 10 to 12 minutes for crispy cookies.



Amazing M&M's Cookies



Simply Sweet Cannoli



Milk Chocolate Minis Cookies

Ultimate Peanut Butter Brownies

Prep time: 10 to 15 minutes
Bake time: 30 to 40 minutes
Yield: 32 brownies

4 ounces semisweet chocolate
1 cup canola or vegetable oil
2 cups sugar
4 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
2 cups M&M's Peanut Butter Candies, divided

Preheat oven to 350°F.
Lightly grease a rectangular 13 x 9 x 2-inch pan.
In 3-quart saucepan, gently combine the semisweet chocolate and oil over very low heat until melted. Remove from heat and allow to cool.
In separate bowl, combine sugar, eggs and vanilla extract until blended. Add in chocolate mixture. Slowly sift in remaining dry ingredients and mix until combined.
Fold in 1 1/2 cups candies.
Spread batter into pan. Sprinkle with remaining 1/2 cup candies and press lightly.
Bake until brownies begin to pull away from sides of pan, about 30 to 40 minutes.

Amazing M&M's Cookies

Prep time: 10 to 15 minutes
Chill time: 1 hour to overnight
Bake time: 8 to 14 minutes
Yield: 24 to 30 cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) butter
2/3 cup brown sugar
2/3 cup granulated sugar
1 egg
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 cups flour
1 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 3/4 cups M&M's Milk Chocolate Candies

Preheat oven to 350°F.
In large bowl, cream butter and both sugars until well blended. Add egg and vanilla extract, and mix to combine.
In separate bowl, sift flour, baking soda and salt together. Slowly add dry ingredients into butter mixture and stir until combined.
Fold in candies and chill dough for 1 hour or overnight.
Drop dough by rounded tablespoons onto lightly greased tray, about 2 inches apart.
Bake for 8 to 10 minutes for chewy cookies, or 12 to 14 minutes for crispy cookies.

Simply Sweet Cannoli

Prep time: 20 minutes
Yield: 24

1 cup Snickers Bars, finely chopped
1 1/2 cups part skim milk ricotta
1/3 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon grated orange zest
1 resealable plastic bag
24 mini cannoli shells, unfilled
1/2 cup M&M's Chocolate Candies

Combine chopped candy bars with ricotta, sugar and orange zest.
Spoon mixture into resealable bag and snip off a 1/2-inch corner. Fill cannoli shells by squeezing in filling from each end.
Decorate both ends with chocolate candies.

**STATEPOINT
CROSSWORD**

THEME: TV FAMILIES

ACROSS

- 1. *Stars of "The Waltons" and "Roseanne," e.g.
- 6. Equinox mo.
- 9. Don't do this to the messenger
- 13. Whitman's dooryard bloomer
- 14. *Logo of "All in the Family" network
- 15. Beyond normal limits
- 16. *Where to hear Frasier Crane
- 17. Workout segment
- 18. Nary a soul
- 19. *TV's largest family
- 21. *Flintstones' best friends
- 23. Before now
- 24. Catch some Z's
- 25. Car nut
- 28. "Brave New World" drug
- 30. "Can't stop! I'm ___ a ___!"
- 35. Big Bang's original matter
- 37. Sheep's milk cheese
- 39. "So You Think You Can ___"
- 40. Knowing about
- 41. *Sansa, Arya, or Robb
- 43. Narcotics agent
- 44. Nymph of lakes and springs
- 46. Most populous continent
- 47. Major bike maker
- 48. "_____ the Clowns," past tense
- 50. "Me and ___ and the Dying Girl"

CROSSWORD														
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65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



OCTOBER 18 - OCTOBER 24

- It looks as though Justin Timberlake has once again, after 14 years, been invited back to do the Super Bowl halftime show. The last time he appeared it was the year of the infamous "wardrobe malfunction" with Janet Jackson. The Super Bowl will be on February 4 in Minnesota. This will be Timberlake's third Super Bowl halftime performance, he appeared with N'Sync in 2001.



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- 52. "Da" to a Russian
- 53. Source of protein
- 55. More, in Madrid
- 57. **"Blackish" family
- 61. **"Fuller House" family

- 65. "So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, ___..."
- 66. Skeleton in a lock
- 68. Part of gastro-intestinal system
- 69. Modulator-demodulator, for short
- 70. Proper place for a napkin
- 71. Inspiration for poets and musicians
- 72. Born and ___
- 73. Before of yore
- 74. Sign up again

DOWN

- 1. Simpleton
- 2. Hokkaido native
- 3. Smeltery refuse
- 4. a.k.a. boreal forest
- 5. Scrawny ones
- 6. Army ___ hall
- 7. Pirate's affirmative
- 8. Old but in
- 9. Door opener
- 10. Adored one
- 11. Half-moon shaped object
- 12. Tommy and Spike, e.g.
- 15. Straighten a paperclip, e.g.
- 20. Abode toppers
- 22. Israeli submachine gun
- 24. Computer program input
- 25. *Lucious and Cookie
- 26. Arm bones
- 27. "___ on the ground floor"
- 29. Of higher order
- 31. Deliver a tirade
- 32. Opposite of binary
- 33. Rocks at mountain base
- 34. *Family in "The Middle"
- 36. Castle's line of defense
- 38. "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
- 42. Deserved consequence
- 45. Chinese tapas
- 49. What's old is new again, prefix
- 51. Jousting match participant
- 54. Bracelet-wearing part
- 56. Sleep sound
- 57. Doorframe part
- 58. Airy emanation
- 59. Sweep under the rug
- 60. Financial aid criterion
- 61. Done on a Smith Corona
- 62. Joie de vivre
- 63. One way to memorize
- 64. **"Game of Thrones" bastard
- 67. Inner, middle or outer, on one's head

Puzzle solutions
on page 12

SUDOKO

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1							4	9
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

**LAST WEEK'S
ONLINE
POLL
RESULTS**

*Do you think it is
time for our country
to revisit our gun
control laws?*

YES -54%
NO -46%

**WWW.
thelowellledger.com**

Planted at the perfect latitude, these hops, grown in Lowell, may be helping to 'craft' your favorite beer

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The next time you take a cold, frothy sip of your favorite craft beer there is a chance that the brew may have been created with hops grown right here in Lowell.

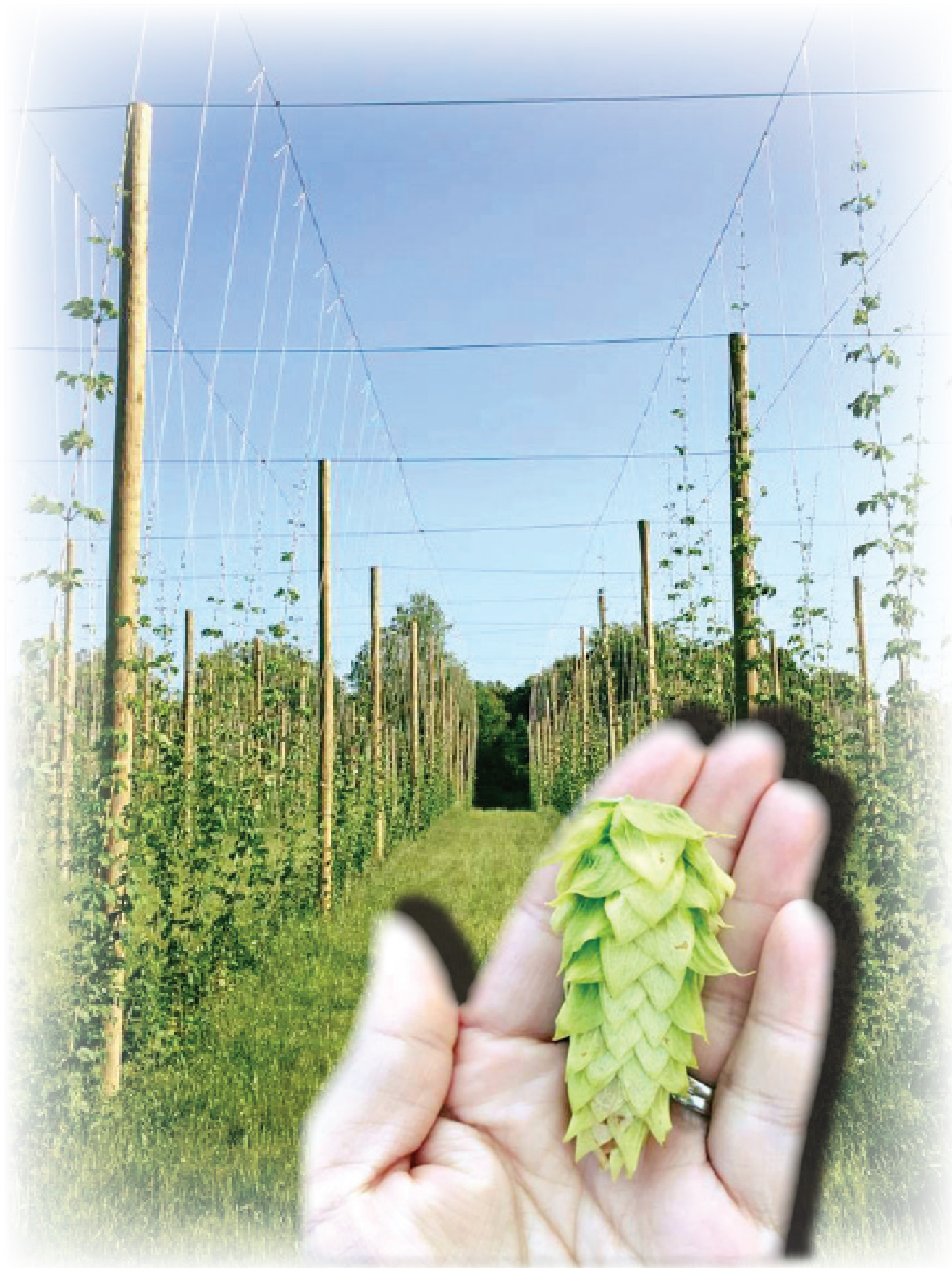
Owners of 43 Degrees Hops Farms, Cory and Gretchen Deeds, moved to the area in 2005 raising two children, Lauren and Evan. Together, they managed an engineering firm, eMotion Controls Company, over the next decade before entering the hops business. The already industrious couple were drawn to the business by both the excitement of a new adventure and the opportunity to nurture the same good work ethics in their children. "We are hard workers, therefore we wanted to create a legacy with our children by showing them what hard work really is. Nothing worthwhile in life is easy. You get out what you put in," said Cory, adding that the opportunity is currently a ripe one. "In 2015 there were only 400 acres of commercially grown hops in Michigan. Pre-prohibition Michigan was a major player in hop growing and we wanted to be a part of this new growth for the aforementioned reasons."

Calling their new endeavor 43 Degrees Hops Farms, referencing their location near the 43rd latitude, prime location for hop growing, the family spent six months constructing the perfect farm for the plants vine style growth. "Hops grow on a trellis system and require quite a bit of infrastructure

to get started. This includes 20 foot wooden poles, steel cable and an irrigation system," explained Gretchen. "We chose to start with two acres and grow two varieties of hops plants: Mackinaw and Chinook. We planted about 2,000 plants in the fall of 2015 so that they would be able to "sleep" and generate a greater yield the first year we harvested."

A perennial plant, hops start in the spring as a rhizome or group of roots and then grow to be about 10-15 feet by July sometimes growing a dramatic 6-10 inches in a day sprouting hop cones while doing so. The lengths of the plant, called a bine, must be trained on a cord as they climb up the trellis system, "A mature plant typically grows between four-12 bines that will climb the cord and reach the top. That means we string two to four cords per plant; we drop around 31.5 miles of cord and tie 32,500 knots by hand annually," reported Cory.

Harvesting is also a unique process that requires testing to ensure the hops are picked at the peak of their flavor. "The process of harvesting includes cutting down all the bines from the top of the trellis system and the bottom. Once cut down, they are loaded into a trailer and taken to a harvester. The harvester machine strips the hops cones from the bine and separates them. The hop cones then have to be dried." Gretchen continued, "At this point, they can be used to make a "harvest" ale



The trellises of 43 Degrees Hops Farms located in Vergennes Township. [inset] A Chinook hop, one of two varieties grown by the local hop farm.



Owners Cory and Gretchen Deeds with children Lauren and Evan.

with fresh cones, but most brewers brew with pellets, so the majority of our cones are then sent to a place that pelletizes them to be sold."

With two successful harvests under their belts and a full yield still to come, hops yield greater as they mature, the Deeds have developed relationships with local brewers and distributors who are sharing their hops with beer enthusiasts. According to Cory, "Our first year harvest went to a few different breweries. We really enjoy partnering with local businesses like New Union Brewery in Lowell and they are excellent at their craft. We were excited that they were able to brew with both the Chinook

and Mackinac hops. Our second year harvest has been trickier, the Mackinac variety is in high demand and we were able to work with a local hop broker to supply that demand. We still have remaining Chinook that are more common and with a saturated market, we are hoping to get these sold anyways."

Gretchen said they have been blessed by the support they have received from friends and family across the street and across the country alike as they set out on this journey. "We work as a family. Our parents help us a lot. Cory's dad travels the farthest and makes a special trip from Montana each spring and fall to help us.

Fortunately, we also have a lot of local family that also helps out and it wouldn't be right to not thank our friends who also help out with the harvest."

With a booming, soon to be relocated to Lowell engineering company, a growing hop farm, two children and not mentioned horses, bunnies, hay and a soon to be restored tree farm, the couple certainly has their hands full. But, they say they manage through staying organized, family-focused, flexible and by utilizing their family's greatest strength. "It's faith," said Cory. "We are working for a greater purpose and greater good."