

do you remember the big blizzard?



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a varied career



page 8



l's sports



pages 10 & 11

50¢



Record low temperatures have folks bundling up and staying put at the start of the new year



Record low temperatures in the Midwest and the Lowell area kept holiday frivolity to a minimum this year. The temperature has been as low as 12 degrees below zero here but, take heart, it has dipped to minus 32 in Aberdeen, South Dakota. The New Year's Eve ball drop in Times Square was the second coldest on record and still drew almost a million people with 29 of the revelers hospitalized because of the cold. This week we're looking at another week of temperatures in the teens and single digits. Next week, however, it could get as high as 32 degrees.

The recent weather extremes may remind those old enough of the infamous "Blizzard of 1978" on Jan. 26, 1978. For coverage of the 40th anniversary of that storm, read the story on page 9.

Connections at FROM can help people in crisis, from a broken furnace to homelessness

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

An estimated 66,483 homeless people live in Michigan, among them are more than 30,000 children. In Lowell, if somebody finds themselves in danger of becoming homeless, there is a special phone number to call: 616-897-8260 ext. 24. That is the number to the "Connections" program at Flat River Outreach Ministries.

"If somebody is homeless at any time during the year they can come in here and we would help them through the process," said FROM executive director Dawn Broene. "We'll make sure they're aware of all the resources in Kent County that we partner with. It includes calling the Salvation Army, getting

evaluated and trying to help them figure out if there is a place to stay somewhere. We do that all year 'round. That's what we're here for. If someone feels they need to know what the resources are, anyone can call us and we'll try to help them navigate the system or try to figure out what the resources are."

The Connections office isn't just for those worried about homelessness, it's for anybody who finds themselves in any type of crisis that threatens their well-being.

"If anyone in Lowell had anything like that, utility bills, a housing crisis, anything like that, they could call our Connections office and we would try to help them," Broene

said. "Either through the resources we have or the resources that are in Grand Rapids. We would connect them with that and try to help them through whatever that process might look like for them. That's kind of what we consider our 'central intake' at FROM. If anyone has any kind of need and they're looking for more information, that's where they are going to be routed to. For example, if someone is calling with a food crisis, they would go there and we would give them the information about our pantry. If someone's furnace went out and they didn't know who to call, they could call here and then we would connect them with Home Repair Services and see what they could

do, then if they couldn't do anything or they couldn't do everything that was necessary, we'd tell them to come back to FROM and we would reevaluate the situation. We do this all through the year."

There is not currently a homeless shelter in Lowell.

"We have taken [homeless] down to Mel Trotter or Guiding Light," said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. "A lot of the time they won't let them in after hours but if we call and say we've got someone that's in need of a place to stay the night, they usually will accommodate us. We've never been refused if we've brought somebody there."

"A lot of them are right in Grand Rapids," Broene

said. "The closest are Family Promise, Guiding Light, Dégagé and Mel Trotter. If you find yourself homeless in Kent County, the first stop is always the Salvation Army's Homeless Assessment Program. They know where all the shelters are. Sometimes the shelters are full or people don't choose to go there, so we also might suggest they stay with family or friends. People have more resources than they might realize sometimes. Usually we can figure something out. Not always, because it's always a person's choice what they want to do. We try to help them calm down and look at the whole situation, what their resources and our resources are."

Governor signs legislation requiring fingerprinting, background checks for all Michigan police academy applicants

Michigan police academy applicants are now required to submit to fingerprinting and background checks under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder.

enforcement and public safety officers," Snyder said. "This bill helps maintain the ongoing integrity of Michigan's outstanding law enforcement system and community."

"Requiring background checks and fingerprinting before an individual is admitted into a police academy helps ensure Michiganders are protected by the highest quality law

Senate Bill 524, sponsored by state Sen. Rick Jones, amends the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Act to require fingerprinting

and background checks for all applicants prior to entering law enforcement academies. The bill gives MCOLES authority to require applicants to submit his or her fingerprints to the Michigan State Police (MSP) to conduct a criminal history check and requires MSP to conduct a criminal history check through its own records and through the Federal Bureau of

Investigation (FBI). It is now Public Act 198 of 2017.

Snyder also signed two additional bills:

Senate Bill 552, sponsored by state Sen. Geoff Hansen, extends the current fee structure for off road vehicle (ORV) licenses and trail permit fees until April 1, 2024. It is now Public Act 199 of 2017.

House Bill 4802, sponsored by state Rep. Triston Cole, creates a process to help couples who were privately married have their marriage license unsealed and included as part of the vital records maintained on state and local levels, under certain conditions. The bill requires that both married

individuals request that the record of their marriage be unsealed and they each be over the age of 18 at the time of filing the petition. It is now Public Act 200 of 2017.

For more information on this and other legislation, visit www.legislature.mi.gov.



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business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Corey Lee received Realtor of the Month in December.

This award recognizes Lee for his outstanding success and achievements.



Corey Lee



At Your Local Library

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

A DAY AT THE BEACH!

Forget about the cold, snowy winter and enjoy a day at the beach! Bring your beach towel and join us in beachy reads, sandy activities and fun in the sun games! For children and families, Thurs., Jan. 11 at 10 am.

MASSAGE/ ESSENTIAL OIL TECHNIQUES -

Learn how to incorporate massage into your life and go home with a sample massage oil that you've made yourself. Pre-registration required. For adults, Wed., Jan. 17, 6 to 7:30 pm.

the lowell ledger

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along main street

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

LowellArts Players Youth Theater presents Roald Dahl's James and The Giant Peach on Thurs., Jan. 18 and Fri., Jan. 19 at 7 pm and Sat., Jan. 20 at 2 pm and 7 pm at Lowell Performing Arts Center / Lowell High School, 11700 Vergennes. Directed by Teresa Goldner. General admission \$7, kids 2 and under free. Performance is one hour long. www.lowellartsmi.org or 897-8545.

LOWELLARTS HOUSE CONCERTS

The Preservers will be performing at the next house concert at LowellArts will be on Friday, Jan. 5. On Saturday, Jan. 6 the Bruce Matthews Band will be on stage. For more information or to purchase tickets call LowellArts 897-8545. Doors open half hour before the concert start time. General admission seating.

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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Do you remember the Blizzard of '78? This month marks the 40th anniversary of one unforgettable storm

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

It may be difficult for some to believe, but this month marks the 40th anniversary of the Blizzard of '78.

It started snowing late in the evening on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 1978 and by morning, after 21 inches of snowfall, most Lowell area residents were snowed in. Entire towns were shut down as fierce, 70 mile per hour winds blew snow into 12 foot drifts in places, covering roads, homes and businesses.

At first, the most in-demand items from local grocers were beer, cigarettes, milk and bread. After a few days of shoveling, Ben Gay and rubbing alcohol were in demand as people sought to soothe sore muscles. With snowmobiles the only

method of travel, schools were closed for over a week. Stranded motorists were forced to lodge with strangers. Fifteen drivers stranded on I-96 were housed at the Bowne Township Hall and in area homes, and were served breakfast at the Alto Tavern. Local farmers had to dump their milk because the haulers could not get to them. People with shovels and plows ran out of places to put the snow. The Lowell Public Works department logged almost 200 overtime hours while the crews tried to stay ahead of the blizzard.

The roof of Lowell Middle School collapsed, breaking water pipes and flooding the building. As reported in the Feb. 1, 1978 Lowell Ledger, "About 4 am Friday morning a 75-100 foot section of roof over

a hallway in the east wing next to the gymnasium at the Lowell Middle School collapsed under the weight of the snow, breaking the hot water pipes and extensively flooding the building. The mishap was not discovered until around 8 am, leaving a four hour period for the water to run. Drifts in excess of six feet covered the area where the roof came down and the damaged area was filled with approximately three inches of watery slush caused from the heat from the gymnasium wall. Donald Kelly, superintendent of schools, said Monday [Jan. 30, 1978] the damage was covered by insurance but predicted that the insurance company would more than likely file a lawsuit against architects, engineers and others involved in the construction of the building four years ago. The damaged area has been reconstructed, as of Monday, with the steel beams intact, the deck on and waiting for the roofers. The steamfitters, according to Kelly, hoped to have the heat back on Monday, although it will be some time before air and electrical repairs will be completed. Possibly within two weeks the collapsed area will be back in use."

That old adage about "the mail must go through" was proved false, as no incoming mail was received at the Lowell post office from Thursday morning until Sunday evening. City carriers able to walk to work on Thursday morning made it to the post office to do their deliveries. From the Thursday of the storm until



Now the home of Chimera Design, the "Cranberry Urn" antique store at 208 E. Main was closed because of the blizzard.



Many mailboxes were unreachable after the storm.

Blizzard, continued,
page 16

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are held at the Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Dr., at 7 pm. For further information, phone 897-5671 or visit the township website at www.vergennestwp.org.

The Vergennes Township Regular Board Meetings for 2018 are scheduled as follows:

January 15	February 19	March 19	April 16
May 21	June 18	July 16	August 20
September 17	October 15	November 19	December 17

The Planning Commission Meetings for 2018 are scheduled as follows:

January 4	April 9	July 9	October 1
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The Annual Meeting of the Electors will be held at 6:30 pm on March 19, prior to the Regular Board Meeting.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets as required or requested.

Heather Hoffman
Vergennes Township Clerk

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Celebrities lost in 2017

The following list contains just some of the notable people who passed away last year:

JANUARY

19 – Miguel Ferrer, Actor – Bob Morton in “Robocop” and Owen Granger in NCIS:LA – age 61
 25 – Mary Tyler Moore, Actress – Laura Petrie on The Dick Van Dyke Show (1961-1966) and Mary Richards on The Mary Tyler Show (1970-1977) age – 80
 25 – John Hurt, Actor – John Merrick in “The Elephant Man” (1980) – age 77
 26 – Mike Connors, Actor – Joe Mannix in TV show “Mannix” (1967-1975) – age 91
 26 – Barbara Hale, Actress – Della Street on TV show “Perry Mason” (1957-1966) – age 94

FEBRUARY

07 – Richard Hatch, Actor – Captain Apollo in “Battlestar Galactica” (1978-80) – age 71
 25 – Bill Paxton, Actor – “Aliens”, “Predator 2”, “True Lies”, “Apollo 13”, “Twister” – age 61

MARCH

18 – Chuck Berry Singer/Songwriter – 1950s rock & roll pioneer, “Maybellene” (1955), “Johnny B. Goode” (1958) – age 90
 23 – Lola Albright, Actress – Edie Hart (Peter’s girlfriend) in “Peter Gunn” – age 92

APRIL

06 – Don Rickles, Comedian/Actor – comedic style was “King of the insults”, starred in C.P.O. Sharkey (1976-78) – age 90
 22 – Erin Moran, Actress – Joanie Cunningham on “Happy Days” and “Joanie Loves Chachi” – age 56

MAY

14 – Powers Boothe, Actor – Jim Jones in “Guyana Tragedy: The Story of Jim Jones” – age 68
 22 – Dina Merrill, Actress/heirress – “Desk Set (1958), army nurse in “Operation Petticoat” (1959) – age 93
 23 – Sir Roger Moore, Actor – Simon Templar in “The Saint” (1962-’69), James Bond in seven films (1973-’89) – age 89

JUNE

04 – Roger Smith, Actor – detective Jeff Spencer in “77 Sunset Strip” (1958-’62) – age 84
 09 – Adam West, Actor – Bruce Wayne on “Batman” (1966-’68) – age 88

JULY

15 – Martin Landau, Actor – “Mission: Impossible” (1966 -1973), “Space: 1999” (1976-’77) – age 89

AUGUST

08 – Glen Campbell, Singer/Songwriter – “By the Time I Get to Phoenix”, “Wichita Lineman”; nominated for 21 Grammys and won 10 – age 81
 20 – Jerry Lewis, Comedian/Actor/Humanitarian – “The Bellboy” (1960), Nutty Professor (1963), Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon (1966-2010) – age 91
 31 – Richard Anderson, Actor – Oscar Goldman on TV shows The Six Million Dollar Man and The Bionic Woman – age 91

SEPTEMBER

27 – Hugh Hefner, Publisher – editor-in-chief and publisher of Playboy magazine (1953 – present) – age 91
 30 – Monty Hall, Game Show Host (CA/US) – hosted and produced “Let’s Make a Deal” (1963 – 1991 incl syndication) – age 96

OCTOBER

02 – Tom Petty, Singer/Songwriter – Tom Petty and the Heart Breakers: “I Won’t Back Down”, “Free Fallin’”, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee (2002) – age 66
 24 – Fats Domino, Singer/Songwriter – “Ain’t That a Shame” (1955), “Blueberry Hill” (1956), he sold over 65 million records – age 89
 24 – Robert Guillaume, Actor – Benson on the TV-series “Soap” (1977-’81) and “Benson” (1979-’86) – age 89

NOVEMBER

09 – John Hillerman, Actor – played Jonathan Higgins II on Magnum, P.I. (1980-88), won a Golden Globe and an Emmy Award – age 84
 19 – Della Reese, Singer (multi genre)/Actress – Tess in TV show “Touched by an Angel” (1994-2003); as a singer “Don’t You Know?” (1959) – age 86
 21 – David Cassidy, Actor/Singer – portrayed Keith Partridge in TV series “The Partridge Family” (1970-74) – age 67
 30 – Jim Nabors, Actor/Singer – Gomer Pyle on TV shows; “The Andy Griffith Show” and “Gomer Pyle USMC” – age 87

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viewpoint

EARTH TALK



Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I always assumed the train was the greenest form of mass transit, but a friend told me I would be better off taking the bus. Could this be true? -- Jane McNeil, New York, NY

Most of us assume that train travel—whether for getting around town, commuting to work or for long hauls—is the most eco-friendly mass transit “mode.” Indeed, trains seem greener, with some relying exclusively on electricity while others utilize a single diesel-powered locomotive to pull dozens of passenger cars.

But even though trains are no slouch when it comes to fuel efficiency, buses, even though they spew diesel exhaust and get only about six miles per gallon, may be even better.

“The reason ... is that they are usually full of people, giving [buses] the highest miles per gallon per passenger, at 208,” reports CNN’s Steve Hargreaves based on his research digging into Department of Energy data. He adds that trains are the next best choice for the eco-conscious traveler, whether commuting or doing a longer haul. “A city train (think subway or light rail) gets 52 mpg per passenger (or the equivalent, if it’s electric), while a commuter train—usually used to connect the suburbs to a city—gets about 44 mpg per passenger.”

A landmark 2013 study in Environmental Science and Technology by researchers at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO) backs up these findings. The researchers found that bus travel noses out rail travel in fuel efficiency and carbon impact on typical business or holiday trips ranging from 500-1000 kilometers (300-600 miles), generating only about 20 percent of the per passenger emissions as driving alone in a typical gas-powered car.

“Motor coaches leave carbon in the dust,” reports the non-profit Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), adding that a couple can cut their travel carbon emissions in half by boarding a motor coach instead of taking their Prius. “And if they take the motor coach rather than flying, they will cut their emissions by 55 to 75 percent, depending on the

distance they travel.” And given that many bus companies have ditched their old buses in favor of new models replete with not only more efficient engines but also reclining seats, on-board entertainment and WIFI, the bus could become your new favorite way to travel.

Though buses are the current green leader, trains are catching up fast. All of Amtrak’s trains in its busiest Northeast Corridor now eschew the old diesel generators that used to power their locomotives, and run instead on an increasingly renewable supply of electricity. Some \$10 billion in investment in high-speed rail by the Obama administration means trains are getting more efficient across the country as well.

While Candidate Trump promised he would pour hundreds of millions of dollars into further boosting high-speed rail infrastructure, his 2018 budget does more to decimate Obama’s progress on the issue than augment it. Whether he will follow through with a plan to further bolster U.S. rail travel remains to be seen. In the meantime, while trains remain a viable green choice, choosing Greyhound over Amtrak might be the better option for the time being.

CONTACTS: UCS, www.ucsusa.org; Amtrak, www.amtrak.com; IIASA, www.iiasa.ac.at; CICERO, www.cicero.uio.no; Greyhound, www.greyhound.com.

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125 years ago Lowell Journal January 4, 1893

Housewives of Lowell, lend me your ears; save your wood ashes for me I will give you one bar Jaxon soap for every basket clean Dry Wood Ashes (no coal ashes for me) Keep a look out for Tom with Henry and Harry. Albert Jackson.

The quarantine has been raised from Lawrence’s Bakery and residence, all the requirements of the law regarding fumigation and disinfecting having been complied with. A. W. Burnett, Sec. Board of Health.

Little Charlie Eddy, son of County Clerk F. D. Eddy, while investigating the workings of his father’s revolver, last Friday, accidentally shot himself, the ball entering just above the right eye and coming out a couple of inches higher, just grazing the skull. A variation of a quarter of an inch would have sent the ball crashing into his brain. It is feared that he will lose the sight of his eye, but it is so badly power-burned and swollen now that it is impossible to tell whether it can be saved or not. When Mrs Eddy rushed into the room, on hearing the report, he stood in a chair with the smoking revolver in his hand and the blood running down his face and with the self possession,

which seems to be an Eddy birthright, he said, “Mama, I guess I shot me.” The wound was not dangerous and only serious in the possible loss of the eye.

The Grand Rapids Herald this (Wednesday) morning prints a great story of the adventures of James C Richmond, of this place, with a patent rights confidence man, in which Mr Richmond is out \$1,000. There have been rumors of such a deal floating around here, bu’ until Mr Richmond squeals it is hardly safe to assume that he has been swindled.

Last Wednesday afternoon Charles McCarty’s colts ran away, they were hitched to the two seat combination cutter and the tongue broke. They ran from near the central school building to the Lowell Cutter Co’s shops, where the sleigh collided with their dray wagon, throwing the load out of the sleigh and seriously injuring Bertha McCarty. The sleigh contained Will McCarty, Misses Bertha and Bessie McCarty and Miss Davis, a guest. Miss Bertha’s collar bone was broken and she received severe internal injuries all the others escaped with a severe shaking up.

Accounts have been received here of a battle which look place Friday evening near Guerrero, Mex. The fight was between about 150 revolutionists and eighty Mexican soldiers belonging to the Sixth cavalry. The revolutionists were commanded by Prudencio Gonzales. They had been in Texas, but being closely pursued by United States troops fled across the river. They had hardly got across when they ran against the camp of the Mexican soldiers. An attack was made by the revolutionists, but they were repulsed and driven away, ten being killed and a number wounded, among the latter being Gonzales, the leader. A large force of Mexican troops are in pursuit of the revolutionists, who are thought to be on the way to a rendezvous near San Miguel.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 3, 1918

With mercury registering 20 degrees below zero this Thursday morning, the people of Lowell with empty coal bins, are facing a desperate situation. Hard coal users, especially, in homes and business places, with little or no fuel supplies and no assurance of any to come, are in hard straits. A petition from Lowell

business men and citizens for immediate relief will go to Fuel Administrator Kelsey today. The assuring words of the well meaning but inadequate Mr. Garfield have ceased to console the patient and patriotic people of freezing Michigan. We listened to his gentle warble “Don’t worry” last fall, when we might have got wood, and took him at his word. What has it been worth? Let him tell, if he can. But what we want now is fuel and we want it right now. Mere words can be relegated to that place said to be paved with good intentions. Give us fuel now!

Looking Back,
continued, page 14

We love to hear from you!



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.

area births

Dudley



Sawyer Marie Dudley

Jay P. and Krista (Foster) Dudley of White Pigeon proudly announce the birth of their first born. Their daughter, Sawyer Marie, was born December 6, 2017 at 6:44 am, weighing 7 lbs. 13 oz. and measuring 20.5 inches.

Grandparents are Kim and Cheryl Foster of Belding, Shari and Dan Ebidon of Frankenmuth and Jay and Patti Dudley of Holt. Great-grandparents are Dolly Bailey of Ionia, Ken and Carole Dudley of Grand Ledge and Irene Ebidon of Kingsford.

Check out these new My Social Security features in the New Year



2018 is here! It's the New Year. There's no better time to tell you about the new features we have in *my Social Security*. They not only save you time, but also put you in control of your retirement future.

There are a growing number of states (and the District of Columbia) where, if you're a resident, you can request a replacement Social Security card online. Our new online version of the *Application for a Replacement Social Security Card* can make getting a replacement easy and stress free. It allows people to apply for a replacement card through *my Social Security* without traveling to a field office or card center, as long as you're not requesting a name change or any other change to your card. We are working to add this capability to every state.

Your personal *my Social Security* account is secure and gives you ready access to your earnings records, Social Security benefit estimates, and printable Statements. Those who already receive benefits can view their payment history,

current status, and manage their benefits.

Social Security has also made replacing your annual Benefit Statement even easier. The Benefit Statement (known as the SSA-1099 or the SSA-1042S) shows the amount of benefits you received the previous year and is needed for filing taxes. Now you have the ability to download it using our online services. There's no need to visit a field office. A replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S is available after February 1 for the previous tax year.

If you don't have a *my Social Security* account, creating a secure account is very easy to do and usually takes less than 15 minutes.

Putting you in control of your future is a key part of securing today and tomorrow. With *my Social Security*, we give you the power to steer your future in the direction you deserve.

Vonda VanTil is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at vonda.vantil@ssa.gov

health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Wayne A. Chritenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

- meningitis

Meningitis is an infection or irritation of the lining around the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by an infection, medication or cancer. Symptoms of meningitis include neck soreness, a fever, a headache or overall tiredness. Some people have confusion, seizures or weakness. Babies may be fussy, overly sleepy, stiff, limp or eat less than their normal amount.

Anyone can get meningitis, but it is more common in children younger than one year and in adults older than 60 years. It can spread by being close to someone with the infection who is coughing, which is why teenagers and college students living in dorms are at a higher risk of getting meningitis. You can also get meningitis if you kiss or share drinks with someone who is infected.

If your doctor thinks you may have meningitis, you will need to go to the hospital for further

evaluation. Blood work will be done, as well as a lumbar puncture. A lumbar puncture is when a needle is used to get fluid from around the spine. This helps to identify whether you have an infection. Sometimes a CT scan is needed to take images of your brain.

If a bacteria or fungus is causing the meningitis, the infection is serious. You will need to be hospitalized for treatment with IV medications. If a virus is causing the infection, you may not need medication.

Most people get better if the meningitis is treated. Some adults have seizures, weakness in an arm or leg, or other nervous system problem. Children can have developmental delay, hearing loss or seizures. About five to fifteen percent of people who have a serious infection die. To prevent meningitis, get the recommended vaccines. Avoid close contact with a person who has meningitis.

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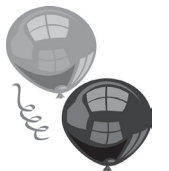
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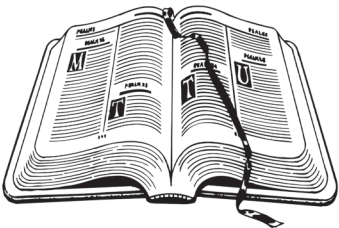
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Nicholas Knonenwetter, Ruth Wood, Clayton Brown. | JANUARY 7
Lois Seese, Bob Leyman, Karen Cummings, Troy Dilly. |
| JANUARY 5
Ryan Sauber, Craig Carpenter, Genie Southwick, Jody Ann Young. | JANUARY 8
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| | JANUARY 9
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The aging process has you firmly in its grasp if you never get the urge to throw a snowball.
~ Doug Larson



Private foundation supports reintroduction of Arctic grayling in Michigan

Philanthropy continues to have a prominent role in the historic reintroduction of the Arctic grayling to Michigan, with the award of a \$180,000 gift from the Henry E. and Consuelo S. Wenger Foundation to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The funds will support a research project as part of Michigan's Arctic Grayling

Initiative. DNR Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter shared news of the gift at today's Michigan Natural Resources Commission meeting in Lansing.

This initiative is a statewide partnership effort focused on restoring self-sustaining populations of this native fish and was founded by the DNR and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in June 2016. The partnership includes more than 40 organizations.

The gift will support critical research that will determine how co-existing populations of brown trout and brook trout may affect reintroduction efforts. This work also will provide insight into potential impediments to the Arctic grayling's successful reintroduction. The funds and the research will be spread over three years.

"It's very exciting to be able to support research that we hope will directly impact Michigan's ability to reintroduce Arctic grayling," said Charles Wilson, a member of the Henry E. and Consuelo S. Wenger Foundation's board. "We can't wait to see what the next three years bring and the valuable knowledge that will be gained through this project."

There will be three

studies within this project supported by the foundation's gift:

A predation study that will look at the effects of smaller size classes of resident trout (brook and brown trout) on survival of Arctic grayling fry as they enter the stream environment.

A competition study that will assess behavioral interactions between young resident trout (brook and brown trout) and Arctic grayling in an artificial stream environment and habitat use by Arctic grayling in the absence and presence of these potential predators.

An imprinting study that will determine if Arctic grayling develop a preference for their "home water" during the period when fish are reared in a remote stream incubator.

Some of the funds will support researchers traveling to Alaska to pick up Arctic grayling eggs, which will be used for the studies and to help establish Michigan's future broodstock program.

"We are so honored to have the philanthropic support of several organizations who believe in the mission of Michigan's Arctic Grayling Initiative," Dexter said. "We cannot complete this project

without the financial and technical support of partners. This unique public-private partnership is a hallmark of the Arctic grayling reintroduction that we hope will be considered in future programs involving Michigan's invaluable fishery resources."

This is the third grant awarded to support the initiative. The first came from the Consumers Energy Foundation, which provided \$117,000 to support identifying prime northern Michigan streams for this work. The second was a \$10,000 grant from Rotary Charities of Traverse City to facilitate a fund development strategy.

For more information or to contribute to the reintroduction of Michigan's Arctic Grayling Initiative, visit migrayling.org or call Todd Grischke, assistant chief of the DNR Fisheries Division, at 517-284-5830.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.



The Arctic grayling may be reintroduced to Michigan streams.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of HENRY HUZEL Guardianship File No. 09-186,200-GA Conservatorship File No. 17-201159-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his sister: Marlene Lidgard, and any other siblings, 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 February 14, 2018, at 9:30 A.M. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand

Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Modification of appointment of a Guardian and modification of appointment of a Conservator.

Dated: January 2, 2018

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 690-7176

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

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From Lowell to the White House, Peter McPherson says he has led a “varied career”

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell native M. Peter McPherson, LHS class of 1958, has led a fascinating life working with several US presidents and as the leader of organizations like Michigan State University, Bank of America, Dow Jones and the United States Treasury.

"I've had a bit of a varied career, I suppose," McPherson said.

Born in Grand Rapids in 1940, McPherson grew up one of eight siblings on a farm in Vergennes Twp. His was a typical Lowell childhood of that era, full of Boy Scout meetings and 4-H activities.

"I was born in 1940 and grew up on a farm out on Parnell Ave," McPherson said. "This was a general farm, we had mostly dairy and apples, but we grew a lot of things. My brother and I still own the farm that's left. Part of the land has been sold. One of my brothers, Mac, is retired and the other brother, Alec, has lived in the family farmhouse all along. My childhood was excellent. It really was a wonderful childhood. We had the farm. I was very active in the Ada Boy Scouts; 4-H was a big thing for all my brothers and sisters; trapping, church, those were all very engaging activities. We had to work the farm growing up, we had to milk those cows. It was a good, classical farm childhood. Lots of work. Before I went to high school I got very involved with trapping muskrats. We sold the pelts. The first year I trapped when I was seven years old I got seven muskrats. I sold them to Molly Wepman's brother. She owned a little clothing store on Main St. in Lowell. Molly was a very nice woman. Her brother came

by in the fall and bought skins. That first fall I sold them seven muskrats, he gave me \$4 a muskrat which was a lot of money in 1947. Until I went to high school, trapping was a huge passion of mine. That last year when I was in eighth grade I caught 60 muskrats and a mink."

If you're old enough to remember the McPherson School, that old one-room schoolhouse was named after one of Peter's ancestors, an early settler in the area.

"Most of my seven brothers and sisters went to the McPherson School from kindergarten through eighth grade," McPherson said. "I did. The school was one of those little one room schoolhouses, it was on Parnell about a quarter mile from the family farmhouse. My family came here in 1840 and my great great-grandfather donated the land on which the school was built so it was called the McPherson School. It closed down in the late 50s or early 60s. There were a lot of one room schoolhouses around Lowell until then. There were probably 20 students there on average. When my great great-grandfather deeded the land, in the deed it said the property was only to be used for education, then it would revert to him or his heirs. My father got this little one room schoolhouse in the early 60s, well over 100 years after it was built. My brother Mac lived there with his wife for many years; he sells insurance. It looks good, they've got it fixed up better than it ever was. That whole community was put together by the folks that came here in the 1840s. They cleared the land, built a church, built the schoolhouse and made a strong, little community and

that's where I grew up. The first McPherson, the father of the man that donated the school land, came from Scotland in the late 1700s, but the people that moved out there to Vergennes came from upstate New York. The Erie Canal opened up in the 1820s when Michigan's white population was really quite small. Then people began to pour into Michigan. The extended McPherson family came to Michigan together at that time. If you look at the dates towns in Michigan we're established, you'll notice that the further south you go, the earlier towns were established. If up north, it'll be later."

McPherson attended Lowell High School, which is where his interest in politics blossomed. After graduating, he attended Michigan State University, where he was even more active in campus politics.

"I graduated from LHS in 1958," McPherson said. "My high school years were good. I was a very mediocre athlete, nothing to claim there, but high school was good. I ended up being a page in the Michigan Legislature my senior year in high school. I'd go down on Monday night after school and come back on Friday. After I graduated from high school I went to Michigan State University and got my degree in political science. I immediately jumped into campus politics, student government and Young Republican activity. Those were good, active years. My grandfather Melville had been a very prominent public person. He was the rural leader of Michigan from the 1920s until the early 1940s. He died in 1945, but his presence was very much there for me. I was interested in policy, elections and politics.

Who knows why, but I was certainly interested. I was president of the MSU Young Republicans and I was the state college Young Republican chairman. I was class president and other things like that. Then I joined the Peace Corps."

In an unusual move for a Young Republican, McPherson joined the Peace Corps in 1963 after his graduation from MSU. He worked in Latin America feeding the hungry with surplus American products.

"It was President Kennedy's ideas about the Alliance for Progress and what was happening in Latin America generally, I thought what you could do as a Peace Corps volunteer was inspiring," McPherson said. "I saw the pictures and read about it and said, 'I can make a difference, I want to do this.' That whole generation of early Peace Corps volunteers were idealistic and while I think our idealism was probably more than we could achieve, but it was a good thing for the countries we went to and for us as participants. I was in Lima, Peru, for about a 20 month period starting in 1963. I had a set of functions and I set up credit unions. The local communities where I lived were improving. Even though they were in bad shape, they were not deteriorating, they were improving. The place I did most of my work in, at least initially, was built on top of an old garbage dump. That was a bad place. With the help of a young priest who became a colleague we organized a credit union and a feeding program. It was a wonderful, productive experience. I was involved in the distribution of US food around Peru. I came to know AID [the US Agency for International Development] pretty well through these activities. Who would have known that by 1981 I would be running it? It was a great time and I got exposure to some of the issues through the Peace Corps. If not for the Peace Corps I would probably have had a very different career. I probably would have been much more domestically-oriented. My father always argued I should go to law school and practice law in West Michigan, which would of course have been a wonderful career, but by going into the Peace Corps I did something very different. I never really came home again until I came back to MSU in 1993. I came home lots to visit my family and that kind of

thing, but that was the last time I lived in Michigan until 1993."

When he was in Peru, he came across piles of Lowell grain in one warehouse. That story made the newspaper back in 1965.

"The dominant figure in Lowell at that time was a man named C.H. Runciman," McPherson

said. "He was a wonderful man. He was smart, he was practical and he was also the chair of the school board and the chair of bank board. He was a very successful man, economically. One of the jobs I ended up doing the last year I was there was to be a support person for other volunteers around Lowell who were feeding people US agricultural surplus, what's called the PL-480 program. It purchases US food in the country and then ships it abroad. To my delight, in one of the warehouses in Lima, there were C.H. Runciman bags full of grain. It was great fun to see C.H. Runciman's name in Peru."

After his service in the Peace Corps, he got his MBA from Western Michigan University, then attended law school at American University in Washington DC while working part time on Capitol Hill. Then between 1967 and 1975 he worked as a tax attorney for the IRS. Then a call came from the White House.

"My father knew Gerald Ford, so I knew Gerald Ford," McPherson said. "Indeed, when I came back from the Peace Corps, with Ford's recommendation I ended up working for a congressman from Indiana named Roger Zion. He hired me and that's what I did part time while I was studying law. I had been active in the Young Republicans, so I knew Ford pretty well. He was very senior and I was a young guy, but I'd known him all the time growing up. When I got to the White House, though, it had nothing to do with Ford. There was a senator from Tennessee named Bill Brock, who I knew from here and he recommended me to go to work in the White House personnel office. That office pulls



Lowell native, Peter McPherson.

together the options for the president's appointments. There are thousands of them like judges, who will run this agency or that agency and all the other political appointments a president makes. I was the number two in that office for most of the time that Ford was president. It was a wonderful job."

His friendship with President Ford came as a surprise to his co-workers in the White House even though he'd already informed them about it.

"When I was hired, I thought I should tell my boss, 'I know President Ford because he was my congressman,'" McPherson said. "When you're working in the White House, you're not supposed to brag about knowing the president, but I thought it was only fair that I tell them. I did it in a low key way. Then one day my boss came by my office and said, 'Peter, we've got to go see the president. I want you to talk to him about this appointment you're working on.' So we ran over to the Oval Office, I walked in and President Ford said, 'Peter! What are you doing here? How are your parents?' Good thing I'd told my boss, but he had forgotten about the fact that I knew the president."

During his presidency, Ford enjoyed hearing news about what was going on in Lowell from McPherson.

"Ford was a great man, he was a nice man," McPherson said. "Ford was a very open guy. It was invigorating and exciting, there were important things to get done. I was a young guy who could work 18 to 20 hours a day and I certainly did. I loved it and it certainly changed my career path. I saw President Ford off and on about appointments he was considering and I took



McPherson also worked with presidents Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush.

Peter McPherson's varied career, continued

a real pleasure telling him about things I'd heard in Lowell. There was a man by the name of Norman Borgerson. He was a few years older than Ford, a really good and prominent man in Lowell. I remember saying to Ford, 'Mr. President, Norm Borgerson died a couple weeks ago.' He said, 'Nobody tells me these things! Norm was such a good man. I wish I'd known.' After that, whenever I'd see him I'd give him a little local news. I knew that when he was a congressman, Lowell was very important to him, as were so many other towns. But as President of the United States, he didn't get the local news anymore. Ford had a capacity for friendship. People like Mr. Borgerson made a difference to him. I remain on the Ford Foundation board and have been now for many years."

During the Carter administration, McPherson practiced tax law at a private firm in Washington DC. Then another call came, this time from presidential candidate Ronald Reagan. After the election, he went back to the White House and did some important work. McPherson left the administration after being diagnosed with a benign brain tumor.

"In the summer of 1980 Ed Meese began to plan what would happen if Ronald Reagan won the election," McPherson said. "Meese asked me to help him organize the transition. I worked with Meese that summer and into the fall and when Reagan won, Meese asked me to be the

general counsel for the transition. At some juncture along the way he asked me what I would like to do in the new administration. I told him I would like to be the administrator of AID because of my Peace Corps days. I never asked him about it again, then one day he said, 'The president has approved you becoming the administrator of AID.' That was before the inauguration. The night before the inauguration, Jim Baker called me up and said, 'The man who is going to be White House legal counsel can't do it for a little while because he's got to clear out some issues in his firm. Could you come over and be the White House legal counsel until he is available?' Of course, that was a very exciting thing. I was White House legal counsel for about six weeks. We issued the executive order that decontrolled oil. During the first few weeks of a new administration, there is a flurry of legal actions. Then I went over and ran AID and was there for six and a half years. My boss was George Schultz; he was a wonderful boss. Technically, the AID director reports to the president, but I didn't see the president very often. It was a wonderful job. It was the global foreign aid effort of the US government. I worked with agriculture, family planning, health and the whole range of AID activities in the whole world. There was about \$6 billion and about 60 countries we were working in. I spoke at the Lowell Rotary twice during those years. Then

in 1987, Baker, who I had come to know over the years, asked me to be his deputy at the US Treasury where he was secretary. It was a wonderful time as well. We did the Canadian Free Trade Agreement, which later became NAFTA. That probably was my single biggest activity during that time."

He said that he was impressed by President Reagan's intuitive grasp of politics.

"Ronald Reagan was intuitive and insightful," McPherson said. "He had a real feel for people, what motivated them, who they were. He wasn't a technocrat. I think he really could feel and sense what other people were like. And he was deeply committed. The thing about the Reagan administration that I think is more true than any administration before or since in modern times and I've seen so many of them by now, you had a sense when you were working for Reagan that you knew what he would probably do if he had the facts before him that you had. The administration, broadly, felt this way. They had an idea what Reagan would have done if he were there to do it. That's power. That's powerful stuff. He projected a coherence of policy, in a broad sense, that's extraordinary."

When he recovered, McPherson changed careers again. This time he moved to California and became a VP at the Bank of America.

"Immediately after I left Washington DC I moved to San Francisco to become executive vice president of Bank of America. My first job was to manage the troubled debt that Bank of America had, which was \$8 billion and mostly in Latin America. That was a great job. I managed the trust department, private banking, et cetera. It was a wonderful five years in San Francisco. I have the fondest memories of that."

Then his alma mater, MSU, appointed him president of the university, a post he held for nearly a dozen years.

"In September of 1993 the board of Michigan State selected me to be their president," McPherson said. "This was an unusual job, different than anything I'd ever done. [Michigan] governor John Engler called and urged me to consider it. They wanted to have a person who had managed huge organizations and at that time, of course, I had. One of the problems at Michigan State was tuition levels. I proposed that we hold tuition increases to



Gerald R. Ford was the first U.S. president with whom Lowell native M. Peter McPherson worked.

no greater than inflation. It got a lot of excitement and Engler was very pleased about this. We did this for 10 of the 11 years I was there setting tuition levels. We increased students studying abroad so that 40 percent of the students who graduated by 2006 had that study abroad experience. We became the study abroad university. Even now as I go around the country, people say, 'Michigan State has that big study abroad program.' Studying abroad gives you a much broader experience of yourself, your country and the world. The world is international now. You're more prepared for the life you're going to live if you have some experience abroad. It was a profitable, wonderful 11 plus years."

He took a break from running MSU in 2003 when President George W. Bush sent him to Iraq to create the country's economy from scratch.

"That was terrible, but great," McPherson said. "My old friends at the Treasury Department suggested to then-Secretary of Treasury John Snow that they recruit me to go over and work in Iraq. I was warned of the call to come. Snow called and said, 'Would you lead the team to head the treasury effort in Iraq?' I took a five month leave of absence from the Michigan State presidency. We created the new currency for the country of Iraq and got the Ministry of Finance running again. We got the banks opened, which were all closed after the invasion. When opening up the banking system, of course, the fear was there would be a run on the banks. I think we did a good job, the job we were supposed to do. We got the technical stuff done, but the problem was, unless there is security, people won't come in and

invest. The economy, except for oil production, has not recovered particularly well. Oil production has gone back to pre-war levels, if not more, but not the rest of the economy because of the troubles. The things we did were pretty much in place, but there hasn't been economic growth."

After 11 years at MSU, he retired as president in 2004. His current position is president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, a research, policy and advocacy organization for large public universities and other higher education programs all over North America. They have 238 members and their goals are to increase access, diversity, accountability and technology in learning, while at the same time keeping tuition costs under control.

"That's a long time for anybody, so when I retired from Michigan State, shortly thereafter I took over the APLU," McPherson said. "It's an organization of over 200 universities in our country. A couple years ago I suggested to the board that we bring in a select group of Canadian and Mexican universities. It's basically the big public schools like Michigan State, the University of Michigan, Western Michigan University and Oakland University."

McPherson said that, even though Lowell is changing, it is still a wonderful community to live or work in.

"I love Lowell," McPherson said. "I like the people, I like the community. The big change is, when I was growing up Lowell was more or less a separate community. Most of the people that lived there worked there or immediately around there. Today people that work in

Lowell might live in Grand Rapids and people that live in Lowell might work in Grand Rapids. Lowell was a somewhat separate community. Today you couldn't say that. It's part of a greater community. I don't know if it's better or worse, it's just what is. The community has changed. It's still got great people, good schools, people that believe in things and work hard. Part of it is the difference of time. We didn't have the Internet; people didn't travel as much. I have the fondest of memories for Lowell and my rural community out there in Vergennes Twp. What's happening to Lowell is good. It's a good community you live in and I really take pleasure in coming back and seeing my brothers and sisters, looking at Main St. and thinking about the way it is and the way it was."



McPherson in his role as president of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

Pete McPherson writes of work in Lima, Peru

Peter McPherson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McPherson of Route 1, Lowell, wrote this week from Lima, Peru, where he is serving with the Peace Corps and reported seeing a warehouse full of beans with C. H. Runciman Company, Lowell, Michigan on the bags.

Peter has been in Lima since January and he revealed that he has the job of coordinating 75 Peace Corp volunteers who are working on the Food for Peace program.

The group are feeding corn meal, milk and bread from American surplus food to about 600 schools in the country. The Peace Corp volunteers are the field force in contact with the individual schools.

The Catholic Relief organization distributes the food to the needy which they take home to cook. Beans are just one of the foods that are given out.

The story of the Runciman grain in Peru was told in the June 10, 1965, Lowell Ledger.

Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

SPORTS

Wrestlers take first place at OK Black Crossover Tournament and Central Montcalm Duels

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell's varsity wrestling team took down the Muskegon Reeths Puffer Rockets and the hosting Jenison Wildcats en route to their win at the OK Black Crossover Tournament topping their opponents 54-3 and 60-4, respectively; in addition to taking first place at the Central Montcalm Duels.

Action opened up at the 119 pound weight class with Lowell junior Hunter Browning earning a 9-6 decision win. Sophomore Dawson Jankowski followed up that performance with a second decision win, 6-2 at 125 pounds. The team produced three wins by fall next at the 130, 135 and 140 weight class. Senior Tyler Lynch, freshman Doak Dean and junior Avry Mutschler claimed the three quick victories at 1:30, 1:46 and 1:15 respectively. Sophomore James Fotis earned the team's lone technical fall at 145 pounds outscoring his opponent by a massive 21-5 in five and half minutes on the mat. Fellow sophomore Austin Boone earned a win at 152 by fall at 4:16.

Freshman Derek Mohr and seniors Austin Engle and David Kruse were next to take the mat. Mohr, competing at 160, earned a 5-2 decision; Engle

produced a major decision win 13-4 at 171 pounds and Kruse a hard fought 2-1 decision at 189. Freshman Cole Huisman and sophomore Nick Korhorn competed at 103 and 112 pounds to close the lopsided meet. Huisman recorded the fourth win by fall taking out his opponent in just 39 seconds and Korhorn picked up an 11-4 decision to finalize the 54-3 win.

Round two of the tournament pitted the Arrows against the Wildcats of Jenison, winning 60-4. Competing in the same weight classes, Korhorn earned his second victory of the night winning by fall at 3:53; followed by Browning after an 8-3 decision; Jankowski earned a major decision with a score of 16-8, Lynch claimed a 7-0 decision; Dean winning by decision at 9-7 and Mutschler earned a technical fall at 4:37 with a score of 20-5.

Also winning were Fotis by major decision 12-0, Boone by fall at :57, Mohr by technical fall at 5:43 with a tally of 17-2, Kruse with a win by fall at 3:09, senior Keigan Yuhas at 171, senior heavyweight Connor Nugent by 1-0 decision at 285 pounds and Huisman by fall at 2:50.

At the Central Montcalm Duels Lowell produced a second first-place win battling through several teams before making it to the championship round where they faced Owosso High School eventually claiming their hardware 69-6. Highlights of the final

round included wins by fall attributed to Huisman at :45, junior Jeff Leach at 1:29 competing at 130 pounds, 140 pound sophomore Gabe Hare at 1:06, 145 pound freshman Jacob Lee at :38, senior Carter Bierling at 1:47 at 160 pounds and freshman Luke Skinner at

171 who won at the 1:24 mark.

Adding wins by major decision were Dean with a score of 12-3, 215 pound senior Lane Ryan with a 15-2 tally and 285 pound heavyweight sophomore Jacob Hough with a score of 12-1. Senior George

Gonzales won by 6-2 decision.

This season to date the Red Arrows have secured four first- and two second-place tournament finishes. A win at the Division 2 state level would be the fifth in a row for the Arrows.



Central Montcalm Duel winners the Lowell Red Arrow varsity wrestlers.

Photo provided by Lowell Wrestling

Next on the schedule for the grapplers is the first OK White battle of the season in Greenville on Friday, January 5 at 5pm and the New Lothrop Invitational on January 6.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of
LAUREL SAUNDERS
Guardianship
File No.: 17-202,480-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including her siblings, 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 January 26, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. 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: January 2, 2018
Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 552-3670

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

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of
WILLIAM MELLEMA
Conservatorship File
No.: 17-202,491-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his children Betty Mellema and Richard Mellema and any other children he may have, 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 January 26, 2018, at 9:00

A.M. 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 conservator.

Dated: January 2, 2018

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 552-3670

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC
Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001)
3425 Kelly St.
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Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Boys drop season record 0-5 after last three games

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Dropping their record to 0-5 on the season the Lowell varsity boys basketball team recently lost a trio of non-conference games against West Catholic at home and to both NorthPointe Christian and Hudsonville at the Cornerstone University High School Holiday Tournament.

The Arrows fought hard and kept pace with their first opponent, West Catholic, until late in the game but eventually dropped the Tuesday night contest 67-59. Senior Red Arrow Austin Pollock started scoring for the team sinking a three at the start. Pollock had a stellar evening running some big defensive moves and netted 11 points in the first half.

At the close of the first period Lowell was down just one point 13-12. Better

play for the Arrows in the second started with the opening score and a good run that featured big shots from Pollock, Coxon and freshman newcomer Brett Spanbauer.

Spanbauer is expected to make a big impact on the program this year and throughout his potential high school career. "Freshman Brett Spanbauer was given an opportunity to compete for a spot on the varsity roster. He took full advantage of that opportunity and has become a valuable contributor," said head coach Travis Slanger, of the emerging talent. "He has a work ethic and knowledge of the game that you would expect from an upperclassman. He has the potential to have a great career as a Red Arrow student athlete."

Lowell slowly started to lose ground in the final moments letting West Catholic regain the lead with 1:42 on the clock allowing them a 32-29 lead at the buzzer. Lowell trailed most of the second eventually falling 67-55 in front of their home crowd. The game was fairly clean for the Arrows who displayed sharper aggression and produced less fouls and less overall court mistakes. Slanger said despite the early losing record the team is in a good place developmentally. "We have a young group that is showing continuous improvement, with a variety of guys who can contribute."

At nearby Cornerstone University, the Red Arrows opened up the annual boys basketball holiday tournament against NorthPointe Christian High School. The Mustangs got off to a fast start leaving Lowell trailing most of the game and eventually falling 70-49. Four days later in game two of the tournament Lowell faced Hudsonville losing 76-46.

Leading by three, 18-15, at the close of the first period the Red Arrows got off to a better start. By the end of the second they were facing a six-point deficit 30-24 heading into the locker room. Big moves from seniors Trevor Petroelje and leading scorer Mitch O’Gorman, who

netted 10, were highlights of the second half. Lowell continued to watch their opponent get away with the game increasing their

lead to 56-37 by the third period buzzer. O’Gorman and sophomore Nolan Cusack led Lowell scoring;

O’Gorman being named to the all-tournament team at the close of the event.



Senior starter Mitch O’Gorman securing two for the Arrows.



Senior Austin Pollock going for a rebound.

Next up for the boys after the school’s scheduled break is their OK White opener against the Ottawa Hills Bengals on Friday, January 5 at home. Action is scheduled to begin at 7 pm. They will follow that up with a trip to Jenison to take on the Wildcats on Tuesday, January 9, with the same tip off time.


Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports
 Go Red Arrows!     
 the lowell **ledger**   

obituaries

HILLARD

Joanne Elizabeth Hillard, age 71 of Lowell, passed away Monday, January 1, 2018. She is survived by her husband of 52 years Lynn; children Shawn (Mark) Batchelor, Tami (Mike) Watts, Lynn Hillard Jr., Jennifer (Jim) Gauw; 12 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren. Joanne graduated from Marywood Academy. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, and loved raising her family. Funeral Service will be held Thursday, January 4, 11:00 a.m. at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel, 3980 Cascade Rd. S.E., Grand Rapids, Rev. Aaron Ferris of St. Mary Catholic Church of Lowell. The family will meet with friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the funeral home chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary Catholic Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell, MI 49331 or Alzheimer's Association, 25200 Telegraph Rd., Ste 100, Southfield, MI 48033.



STARKWEATHER

Bruce Allan Starkweather, 77, of Mackinac Island and Lowell, passed away early Sunday morning, December 31, 2017, at Trillium Woods, under the care of Faith Hospice and his family. The son of Earl & Elsie (Tisson) Starkweather, he was born on May 10, 1940, in Pontiac. Bruce loved to spend his time with family and friends. He enjoyed golfing and camping, along with working seasonally on Mackinac Island for over 20 years. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Mary Alice; son, Brad Starkweather (recently); parents; brothers, Gary Starkweather and Kirk Starkweather; and sister, Sheryl Miles. Surviving him are his children, Brenda & Ray Jensen of Greenville, Brian Starkweather of Ionia and Brent Starkweather of Lowell; siblings, Craig & Paula Starkweather, Suzanne & David Beute, and Ross Starkweather; sisters-in-law, Diane Starkweather and Rosie Starkweather; grandchildren, Troy, Jason, Joseph, Kyle J., Danielle, Victoria, Keilen, Kevin, Kara, and Kyle S.; and many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation with the family is from 10-11 am, Wednesday, January 3, 2018, at Woodview Christian Church, 3785 Woodview Avenue SW, Wyoming; with a Celebration of Life beginning at 11:00 am. Pastor Jon Stadtner will officiate, with a luncheon to follow the service. In lieu of flowers the family asks for contributions to be made in Bruce's memory to Woodview Christian Church. To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Bruce's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory, please visit: www.ChristiansenCares.com Arrangements were entrusted to Christiansen Cremation & Funeral Care, honored provider of Veterans Funeral Care.



TEALE

Ruth Winslow Teale, age 87 of Grand Rapids, formerly of Lowell, went to be with the Lord Thursday, December 28, 2017. She is survived by her husband of 68 years Roger; children Joy (Dr. Rev. Bill) Fleming, Mark Teale, Jan Morley; five grandchildren; six great grandchildren; also several nieces and nephews. Funeral Service was held at Thornapple Covenant Church, Grand Rapids, Rev. Rob Peterson officiated. Interment Ft. Custer National Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Thornapple Covenant Church.



VANDERMOLEN

Sue (Clara Alberta) VanderMolen, age 86 of Lowell, passed away Thursday, December 28, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard VanderMolen. She is survived by her children, James (Linda) VanderMolen, Robin Seese; brother, Robert (Bea) MacFarland; grandchildren, Angela Phelan, Sara (Tom) Cole, Scott Seese, Molly (Justin) Acevedo; great-grandchildren, Xavier, Tommy, Isiah, Olivia, Sofia and Emma. Sue volunteered at Flat River Outreach Ministries for many years. Funeral will be held Wednesday, January 3, 1:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. The family will greet friends and relatives 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home chapel. Pastor John Prominski of Restore Church, Ionia, officiating. Interment Alton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.



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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian.

In the matter of **DEBORAH BOSSCHER** Guardianship File No.: 17-202,570-GA

Dated: January 2, 2018

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Jennifer Childs, Amber Childs, and any other children she may have, 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 January 26, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. at Kent Co. Probate

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 552-3670

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

There is only one happiness in this life, to love and be loved.
~ George Sand

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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Looking Back, continued

First Lowell boy to lose life in the war. Melvin G. Kingdom, Lowell's first soldier sacrifice in the war, died December 30, of pneumonia at Camp MacArthur, Waco, Texas. The military burial service was held there Monday and the body started on its long journey to Lowell. On arrival here it was taken to the undertaking apartments of Yeiter & Co., where it has been viewed by sorrowing relatives and sympathizing friends. Funeral services will be held at the Congregational church Friday at one o'clock, p.m., under direction of the Loyal Order of Moose, Rev. A. H. Lash officiating; burial in Oakwood cemetery. Melvin George, eldest son of George and Ida Kingdom, was born in Vergennes township, Kent county, October 10, 1895, and died at Camp Mac Arthur Sunday, Dec. 30, 1917, aged 22 years, 2 months and 20 days. Most of his boyhood was passed in the village of Lowell, Kent county, where he attended school. Four years his parents lived in Grand Rapids, returning to South Boston for two years, and moving to their present home in Keene township, Ionia county, April 22, 1911. In April, 1910, Melvin began work for the Lowell Light and Power Co., which position he held until his country called him to protect her flag. He was married on August 18, 1917, to Miss Pearl Scott of Lowell. He went to Camp Custer September 19, 1917, where he was in training until October 29, when he was transferred to Co. D., 126 Infantry, National Guard, Camp MacArthur. At 8 o'clock Sunday evening, Dec. 30, the last call came to him in the camp hospital, where he had been for a few days, pneumonia causing his death, blasting his many joyous hopes, and leaving vacant loving hearts and homes. The news came as a shock to his family and friends, as he was in excellent health and spirits when his last letters were received. Especially hard does the blow fall upon his young bride of but a few months, and the parents and only brother who are left to mourn the early passing of this promising young man. A large circle of relatives and numberless friends drop tears of sympathy upon his flag draped bier, as they bid farewell to him they shall meet no more. —Com.

Jesse Knee, an account of whose injuries by a runaway team was published in our last issue, was in the office Monday to show us the coins, which were bent during the accident. These were in a pocketbook in his hip pocket and were bent to a curl. Probably more than one reader thought the story was "fishy," but we are once more reminded that truth is stranger than fiction.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 7, 1943

Probably the most unique message of the past Christmas season came to R. D. Hahn, the card reading: "From Leonard C. Morton a former hobo you helped many times. God Bless You". The former hobo gives his return address as Suite 411, Commodore Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Common Council is planning the erection of an Honor Roll of the names of all men from Lowell and adjacent territory who are serving their country in the present war. Trustee Wm. Christiansen is in charge of the arrangements, and near relatives are requested to write plainly, or print, the full name on a postal card and mail same at once to Mr. Christiansen, Lowell, Mich.

Athletic director, Chris Burch, announces that starting next Wednesday, January 13, the Lowell High school gymnasium will be open to all men of this community from 7:45 to 10 every Wednesday evening. There have been several requests from the local boys for such a time to be set aside for the purpose of recreation. It is hoped that a good number will be able to attend and make it worth while to light and heat the gym for this period. Everyone should bring their own gym shoes. If anyone wishes to take a shower, towels will be furnished at two cents each, soap and water free. Make up your mind fellows what you want to play, volley ball, basket ball or indoor ball? Come on, boys, come up and act young again, have some fun and forget your rationing worries for a couple of hours.

No doubt there is quite a bit of truth in the following brief paragraph by Editor W. H. Berkey of the Cassopolis Vigilant: "We are being rationed today on some things that did not even exist in the childhood of many of us, and yet we were happy without them, which only goes to prove that they are not necessary.

Perhaps we are more irritated by being rationed on things we want than we are on those we really need."

W. A. Roth, furniture dealer, is in Chicago this week attending the Winter National Homefurnishings Market at the American Furniture Mart. Mr. Roth states that the January market will afford dealers an excellent opportunity to replenish stocks which have become depleted since the July market, as so many manufacturers are displaying merchandise that it makes it possible for the retailer to learn what sort of products will be available in 1943. Many substitutions are being made to replace materials which are now on the critical list. Wooden springs, hinges, alternates for kapok and down, and cotton felt mattresses are just a few of the new items. According to Mr. Roth, it will be impossible to obtain many items but in some cases the alternates will prove more satisfactory than the materials which were formerly used.

The maturity value of all kinds and denominations of war savings bonds purchased in Lowell up to the first of January of this year, totals \$283,800. Of this sum the Lowell postoffice sold \$65,900 and the State Savings Bank \$217,900. In addition to the figures given, the Lowell bank has purchased upwards of \$250,000 of war bonds on its own account.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger January 4, 1968

The ice skating season for the Lowell area officially begins Thursday, January 4th. This year, in cooperation with the Lions Club and Rosie Drive Inn, the YMCA will offer ice skating in the parking lot behind Rosie Drive Inn: Main and Pleasant. The rink will be open all day and will close at 10 p.m. sharp. Supervision will be provided by the Lions Club and the YMCA. Skaters and their families are advised that everyone skates at their own risk and neither the YMCA, the Lions Club, or Rosie's Drive Inn will assume any responsibility for accidents in connection with the ice skating rink. Special mention must be made regarding the tremendous cooperation provided by Rosie's Drive Inn which has offered the use of the parking lot and George Dev of the Lions Club and several others that helped to form the base and bank of the rink during the past cold evenings.

Aspectacular crash Friday afternoon on treacherous M-21 three miles east of Lowell, claimed the life of an East Grand Rapids businessman and hospitalized five other persons. John S. Potts, 43, with his wife, Florence, 43, son, John, 15, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Huberine Johnson, 63, as passengers, were en route home from Ionia where they attended a funeral, when the tragedy occurred. Sheriff's Deputy George Seadorf said Miss Susan McMahan, 18, of Lowell, was headed west on M-21 when her car apparently hit the shoulder of the road, went out of control, crossed the center line and struck the fender of another vehicle before plowing head-on into the Pott's auto. A Kent County coroner listed Potts' cause of death as multiple fractures, lacerations and internal injuries. All passengers in the Potts' car were hospitalized. His wife, Florence, taken to Blodgett Hospital, is still listed in serious condition with multiple lacerations and internal injuries, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Johnson had lacerations and a possible fracture; and his son, John, who was inflicted with lacerations remains in good condition. Miss McMahan and her passenger, Noreen Baker, 16, of Lowell, were taken to Blodgett. Miss Baker suffered a broken leg, wrist fracture, and multiple bruises. In the head-on collision, Miss McMahan sustained multiple injuries that included a broken back and pelvis. She is still listed in critical condition. The third car involved in the crash, on this hazardous straight stretch of highway was driven by Mrs. Ruth Gauthier, 38, who was on her way home to Muskegon, accompanied by her five daughters, ages 5 and 12. The Gauthier car was hit a glancing blow, and no one in the vehicle was injured. They were able to continue their journey. This fatality brought Kent County's traffic toll to 87 in 1967; which includes many recorded deaths on this specific stretch of highway, "Accident Alley."

Alfred D. Greiner, 36, of Middleville, an employee of Attwood Corporation, fell into an electroplating tank Wednesday morning and suffered electrical shock and third degree burns. Lowell police rushed a resuscitator

to the scene and gave first aid, until a local physician arrived. He was rushed to Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids, in an ambulance called out of Ionia.

New Year's Eve a parked car belonging to Byron Shook parked at 11384 Grand River Drive rolled onto the highway and was hit by Darral Kellogg, 18, of 2817 Kissing Rock Rd. No injuries; Shook told the County Sheriff's Deputies his emergency must have let go.

A former Lowell man was injured last Thursday night when his pickup truck hit a cow and rolled over. Keith H. Tapley, 45, Orleans, was taken to the Ionia County Memorial Hospital for treatment of back, leg and head injuries and a cut on his left eyelid. He was released following treatment. Tapley told state police he was southbound on Johnson Rd., at 6 p.m., when the cow ambled across the roadway in his path. Owner of the cow, which died in the collision, was Lloyd Stauffer, of Belding. Troopers reported the Tapley vehicle veered to the right after striking the animal, went off the road and rolled over. The truck was described as a total loss by investigating officers.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 6, 1993

Stuck between a rock and a hard place. That phrase sums up how Lowell Township Supervisor, John Timpson, and the Township Board are feeling when it comes to the construction of the sewer and water lines for Lowell's new high school. Currently the Township is waiting for a check for \$500,000 from the Lowell School Board to help in the construction of the new water line. "We've been told to wait for a letter from their lawyers," said Timpson. "But we still don't know when or if we are going to receive the check. The check is a down payment for the construction of a water tower that would serve the new high school and residents who wish to tap into the line. The cost of the new water line and tower is \$1,700,000 while the sewer will cost \$534,000. The school will pay for the entire sewer system but only pay \$500,000 for the water line. According to Timpson the school is getting a very good deal for what they are paying. "The board would have had to pay for the water and sewer lines no matter what," says Timpson. "By paying only for a third of the cost of the water line the school is saving a lot of money." Most of the confusion in receiving the check is the pay back involved in the lines. The school will be reimbursed on the sewer line when residents tap into the sewer. Residents will be required to pay for the use of the line and this money will go to the school. According to Timpson the problem came when the school thought it would be paid back for its contribution to the water line. The school doesn't receive compensation because of variations made to the tower and line to meet the school's needs. The water tower must be an additional 100 ft. higher than normal. The water line itself must be up-sized from a 12 inch line to a 16 inch line to take care of an emergency at the school. Neither of these things would need to be done if the water line wasn't serving the school. "The school is set to open in September of 1994," says Timpson. "But without the check, the Township can't get started on the water tower and if not completed, the school can't open."

The 30-piece Governor's Traveling Exhibit has reached Lowell after stops in Detroit and Brethren. The 30 pieces of student high school art were selected from a May '92 show at Western Michigan University. There were 110 pieces on display at the show. The work was chosen from 16 regions throughout the state. "It's a great honor to be selected as part of the Governor's Traveling Exhibit," said Michigan Arts Festival Visual Arts chairperson, Karen Lambert. "It is also quite an honor to be one of the 110 selected for the show." Lowell's 1991-92 German Foreign Exchange student Sebastian Schlunk's art work was one of the 30 pieces selected for the exhibit. Schlunk's piece of art was a self portrait. Lambert said since there is not enough room at FMB State Savings Bank, only 17 of the 30 pieces of art are being hung. All students whose schools are members of the Michigan Art Education Association are eligible. Otherwise, students must pay a \$50 fee.

**STATEPOINT
CROSSWORD**

**THEME:
YEAR IN REVIEW**

ACROSS

- 1. Pepsi and Coke, e.g.
- 6. Batman punch
- 9. Tit for tat
- 13. Notable period
- 14. Opposite of hence
- 15. Cook-off dish
- 16. Nile's mouth
- 17. Jan. predecessor
- 18. *A United passenger was dragged down one
- 19. *2017 solar event
- 21. *Natural disaster or center of Hollywood scandal
- 23. Second Testament
- 24. "Best _____ schemes o'mice an' men"
- 25. Is no longer
- 28. Supermarket section
- 30. Broadband predecessor
- 35. Lyric poems
- 37. Commiserate
- 39. *Album of the Year Grammy recipient
- 40. Opposite of eve
- 41. *POTUS
- 43. Fender-bender damage
- 44. Kindle content
- 46. a.k.a. Atlantic Richfield Company
- 47. Jazz singing
- 48. Freshman?
- 50. Chutzpah
- 52. "Listen up!"
- 53. Freight horse cart
- 55. Noisy talk
- 57. *Late Playboy

CROSSWORD														
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	57	58	59						60			61	62	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				

DOWN

- 1. Surrender land
- 2. Crude group?
- 3. Take it easy
- 4. _____ a play
- 5. Formed
- 6. _____ farewell, past tense
- 7. Bio bit
- 8. Barista's creation
- 9. Blade in Litchfield
- 10. Solomon-like
- 11. Friend in war
- 12. Crusty dessert
- 15. Esophagus-stomach connection
- 20. Hidden under a rug
- 22. "Farm _____" benefit concert
- 24. Church ritual
- 25. *January 21 marchers
- 26. Hacienda brick
- 27. Asian goat antelope
- 29. Turkey money
- 31. Contributes
- 32. Olden day doctor's prescription
- 33. Arm bones
- 34. *Deceased heartbreaker
- 36. One who looks down on others
- 38. Village People song
- 42. Tissue growth
- 45. Do this and hope for ransom
- 49. Before of yore
- 51. Landowners in the olden days
- 54. Match play?
- 56. Land on patellas
- 57. *"The Handmaid's Tale" channel
- 58. Adam and Eve's garden
- 59. Drive oneself crazy
- 60. Cobblestone
- 61. USS Constitution organization
- 62. Inherently bad
- 63. To bank on
- 64. Executive's degree
- 66. Tint

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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- 60. *Fidget _____, banned by many schools
- 64. Hindu dance gesture
- 65. Anything female
- 67. Ransack or plunder
- 68. 4-letter word in speech on broadcast TV
- 69. Three strikes
- 70. Lucifer
- 71. *Tiffany to Ivanka and Don Jr.'s kids
- 72. *Its neutrality was being threatened in 2017
- 73. Craftily or cunningly

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			6		8	7		
	3			2				8
8						6	5	

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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 make resolutions for the new year?

Absolutely 14%
 Never.....71%
 Yes -
 but I don't follow through 15%

**ONLINE
POLL**

Which teams, do you think, will be victorious in 2018? Pick 3.

- Wolverine basketball
- Spartan basketball
- Tigers
- Redwings
- Lions
- Pistons

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

**WWW.
thelowellledger.com**

Blizzard, continued

the following Monday, there were no rural mail deliveries and only limited service within the business district of the city. Only one carrier living in the rural area, Bill Condon, made his way to the post office on a heavy-duty farm tractor.

“The situation became a little tough when we were called upon to evacuate a man from the Montcalm Road area who had to be transported to the hospital,” said Lowell police chief Barry Emmons in the Feb. 1, 1978 Lowell Ledger. “Several emergency vehicles got bogged down in giant drifts before the man

was hauled by horseback into an area where emergency vehicles could reach him. The rescue unit was called out four times during the storm. There’s so many people to thank for their cooperation, that if I started mentioning them one by one, I’d leave someone out. I do extend my thanks to everyone who came to the aid of those stranded [and] snowed in and pitched in to avoid any type of tragedies.”

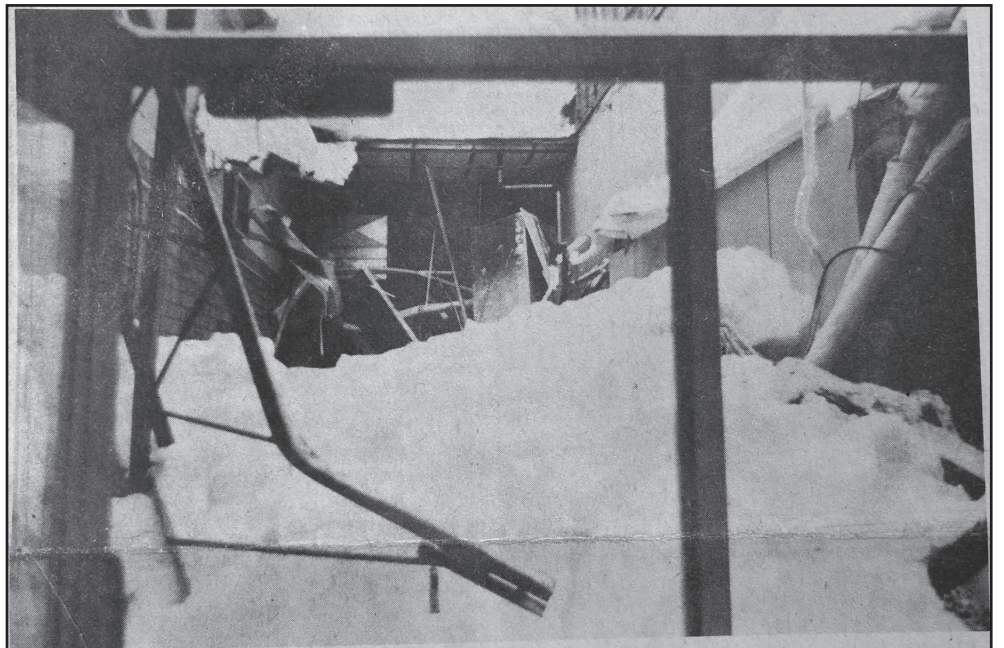
To read all of the Ledger’s vintage coverage of the big storm, visit our archive on the Kent District Library website: kdl.org/research/lowell-ledger.



Snow plows had to force their way through drifts as high as 12 feet (Road Commission photo).



On N. Broadway, pedestrians were forced to carve holes in the snow drifts to walk down the sidewalk.



Lowell Middle School suffered a lot of damage including a burst pipe and a roof collapse.



Cars almost disappeared under the snow at this Lowell dealership.

If any local residents would like to share their memories or photos of the “Storm of the Century” contact us on Facebook, stop by our 105 N. Broadway office or send an email to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com. Photos should be attached to email as jpg files. Include information and names of person(s) and places in photo. Any questions call 616-897-9261.