

winter farming



page 16

city council meeting



page 3



lhs sports



pages 8, 9 & 11

## Though technically closed, there is lots of activity at the Lowell fairgrounds

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The fairgrounds are technically closed from November through April, but there is still quite a bit of activity that goes on out there. Camping is allowed during winter and lots of meetings, planning and work on other projects takes place.

“We stay busy during the winter even though we do not operate from the fairgrounds from November through April,” said fair manager Jessica Marks. “We are still open to camping but do not get many campers in the winter months. Our King Building stays busy as a meeting place for us, our clubs and various groups in the community. The grounds are dormant as we do not have a facility other than the King Building to hold events. Our barns are full of winter storage and our storage. We use these funds to start operations on the next fair.”

Activity at the fairgrounds, continued, page 6



Although the fairgrounds are covered with snow, the KCYF is still active during the winter months.

## School board praised, agrees to replace three buses and WWC pond restoration is completed

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education had their latest regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 8.

The meeting was attended by about 10 citizens and lasted about 45 minutes.

The board voted

to buy three buses at \$89,710.90 each for a total of \$269,132.70. Superintendent Greg Pratt

said that each school bus makes the equivalent of a round trip to and from Florida each day.

“This has been a piece of our work as the board of education to continually replace these buses,” Pratt said. “To do it with our current cash flow has been difficult at times but I think this puts us on a steady three bus rotation as we look to move forward. If we can do this over the next few years we’ll be in great shape.”

Wittenbach Wege Center director Courtney Cheers updated the board about all the activities that took place out there during 2017, including the luminary hike (attendance 1,100) and the native plant project. The pond restoration project was completed thanks to the labor of local students. Cheers said she put a hundred third graders to work digging the hole for the

pond. Donations, grants and hard work from National Honor Society students and the LHS freshman class helped create the pond.

“We’ve got some cool stuff coming,” Cheers said. “Come visit the pond, it’s really beautiful.”

Superintendent Pratt expressed his appreciation to the board for their work to further education in Lowell.

“We have a very experienced board,” Pratt said. “We have members who have been on the board for many years. They’ve served in great capacity. [...] We’re very fortunate to have consistent leadership on this board of education because it provides continuity and that continuity leads to stability within our organization.”

The school board’s next regular meeting will be in the Runciman Building, 300 High St., at 7 pm on Monday, Feb. 12.



The Lowell Area Schools board of education: student representative Quinne Duhr, Laurie Kuna, Gary Blough, Dan Stephens, Tom Kaywood, Jim Turner and Pat Nugent.

50¢



# Get your game on! Pub Poker Run slated for January 23

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is planning a “Pub Poker Run” traveling poker game event on Tuesday, Jan. 23. Participants will race between seven local restaurants to collect playing cards at each stop in order to assemble the best poker hand.

It’s \$10 per hand to participate, simply head

to the chamber office on the Riverwalk at some point between 5:30 and 6 pm on Jan. 23 to register and off you go. The stops are New Union Brewery, Century Post Pub, Big Boiler Brewing, Flat River Grill, Main Street BBQ and Larkin’s Restaurant. Participants are welcome to make the rounds at their own pace, but you must present your cards at Larkin’s by

8 pm. There will be cash prizes for the top three winning hands. Last year’s first-place winner, Andy Peal, won \$220 with a Full House Queen High hand.

The event was the brainchild of local residents: Cutter Phillips and Betsy Davidson.

“Tuesday nights are typically slower for restaurant traffic,” Phillips said. “We’re doing this to

bring people out, let them have some fun and have a good time.”

“The event is focused on eating, enjoying a beverage and socializing,” said chamber director Liz Baker.

For more information visit the chamber of commerce website at [lowellchamber.org](http://lowellchamber.org) or call 616-897-9161.



# Registration open for Laughfest FUNderwear run to be held in March

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Registrations are open for LaughFest’s annual FUNderwear Run and Seriously Funny Family Adventure Challenge. Both events will take place in Grand Rapids in March as part of all the LaughFest fun.

The FUNderwear Run is a race where participants are encouraged to wear crazy underwear outside of their clothes while running around downtown Grand Rapids. The race will begin and end at the Knickerbocker, 417 Bridge

St. NW, Grand Rapids, at 2 pm on Sunday, March 11. Registration is \$25 until Feb. 25, then the price is raised to \$30. Participants get a t-shirt, a beer ticket and a medal.

The Seriously Funny Family Adventure Challenge on March 18 is a sort of scavenger hunt, but with more zaniness. It starts at the B.O.B. in Grand Rapids at noon on Sunday, March 18. Teams of two to four members will race through downtown Grand Rapids on a scavenger hunt that will include timed challenges.

“We’re excited to bring the FUNderwear Run to Grand Rapids’ west side and [to] have New Holland Brewing’s Knickerbocker as a partner in this annual fun run,” said Joanne Roehm, director of strategic initiatives and LaughFest. “Everyone is invited to join us as we celebrate laughter for the health of it during both the FUNderwear Run and the Seriously Funny Family Adventure Challenge.”

Go to [laughfestgr.org](http://laughfestgr.org) for the details on how to register for either event.



## At Your Local Library

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

### Let It Snow

Win prizes for reading!

Adults (18 and older) who participate and read a minimum of six books in different categories between January 2 and March 31 will receive a Let It Snow 2018 travel mug. Participants

“Let It Snow is a unique program that encourages adults to read for fun in

a lot of different genres,” said KDL programming manager Kip Odell. “It’s exciting to read and receive a cool prize, a new Let It Snow mug!”

In 2017, 1,825 people completed Let It Snow.

Participate online at [kdl.readsquared.com](http://kdl.readsquared.com) or pick up a print form at any KDL branch.

**Great Family Vacations Start Here!**

**RV SHOW**  
JAN 18-21, 2018  
DeVos Place

**ADMISSION**  
Single Day Adult—\$10  
4-Day Pass Adult—\$16  
Children (6-14)—\$4  
5 & Under—FREE

**HOURS**  
Thu, Jan 18, 9-9:30  
Fri, Jan 19, Noon-9:30  
Sat, Jan 20, 10-9  
Sun, Jan 21, 11-5

[www.GrandRapidsRVShow.com](http://www.GrandRapidsRVShow.com)

RVS CAMPGROUNDS ACCESSORIES

## Is Addiction Destroying Your Family?

We Accept All Insurances. BCBS, PPO, HMO  
1-877-696-0887

- Drug and Alcohol Treatment
- Intervention Assistance
- Insurance Accepted, Free Coverage Check
- Long Term Success
- One Year Aftercare



**Inpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment**  
Regain Control Today, Call 877-696-0887  
[www.USAddiction.com](http://www.USAddiction.com)



# along main street

### JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

LowellArts presents 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](http://www.lowellartsmi.org) or 897-8545.

### CLASS OF 2022 ORIENTATION

The Lowell High School class of 2022 orientation will be held on Thurs., Feb. 1 from 7-8:30 pm in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This orientation is for parents and their students who will be entering high school in the fall of 2018. In addition to an informational session, teachers and club sponsors will also be available for questions. Please call the LHS counseling office at 987-2908 with questions.

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.

# the lowell ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$25 a year for zipcodes beginning with 493 or 495; \$36 a year any other zip code.

Deadline for display advertising is Friday at Noon  
Deadline for classified advertising is Monday at 5 pm  
Jon Jacobs .....Publisher  
Jeanne Boss.....Editor  
Tim McAllister.....Lead Reporter  
Kathryn Atwood.....Contributing Reporter  
Tammy Janowiak.....Classified/Accounting  
Jon Jacobs.....Advertising Sales

(616) 897-9261

email: [ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com)  
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday  
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:  
**The Lowell Ledger**  
PO Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331  
[www.thelowellledger.com](http://www.thelowellledger.com)

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

THE LOWELL CITY COUNCIL  
WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018  
AT 7:00 P.M.

AT 301 E. MAIN STREET  
UPSTAIRS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING  
MEDICAL MARIHUANA



**LAMINATING NEXT DAY SERVICE**

8 1/2 x 11  
Sheet... \$2<sup>00</sup> ea.  
Cards... \$1<sup>00</sup> ea.

the lowell ledger  
105 N. Broadway • 897-9261  
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8 - 5; Fri. 8-noon

# Council adopts rules & procedures, discusses street plan, sets meeting to discuss city income tax

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council's most recent regular meeting was at city hall on Tuesday, Jan. 2. Six citizens attended the meeting which lasted just under an hour.

It was the first meeting of the year, so the council appointed the mayor and mayor pro tem from among their ranks. Councilor Michael DeVore retained his position as mayor and

deputy city treasurer Lori Gerard and police chief Steve Bukala.

Next, the council discussed professional service agreements, contracts the city has with vendors who perform tasks for the city, in order to decide if they're tasks that actually need to be bid.

"Many of our agreements are professional service agreements, which

"From a standpoint of a community like ours, you have to view them as a member of your staff more than anything else," Burns said. "It's not like a construction company that I'm bidding out services for, because as these people work for you they obviously gain institutional knowledge and there's advantages to that. Like I said, they provide a service that if you had the capability to do in house, you would do."

The council briefly discussed hiring their own city building official, but decided it would be more cost effective to stick with using Cascade.

"I do know it's been at least 25 years since Lowell has had their own inspections department,"

Canfield said. "Being in the construction trade, it's tougher than you think getting qualified inspectors as a part-time deal. [...] As far as us having our own

building inspectors, it's really not realistic."

The council voted to spend no more than \$19,500 to have Grand Rapids

engineering firm Williams & Works create a street asset management plan for the city of Lowell.

City council meeting, continued, page 7

**"Many of our agreements are professional service agreements, which do not comply within the same parameters of our purchase policy."**

~ Michael Burns

councilor Greg Canfield was appointed mayor pro tem. They also adopted their rules of procedure and authorized signatures for the various people permitted to interact with city bank accounts. Those people include the mayor and mayor pro tem, city manager Michael Burns, city treasurer Suzanne Olin,

do not comply within the same parameters of our purchase policy," Burns said. "We don't need to bid out if we are satisfied with the service they provide."

"I believe there are some services that we need because we can't get that service elsewhere," said councilor Jeff Phillips.



Lowell mayor Michael DeVore, city manager Michael Burns and councilor Jim Salzwedel at the meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 2.



Dave Austin from Grand Rapids engineering firm Williams & Works is going to create a street asset management plan for the city.

## LPD statistics for November

The Lowell Police Department made 28 arrests during the month of November. The arrests included two drug law violations, two for driving with a suspended license, three alcohol arrests, 18 for outstanding warrants and three that are described in the police department's statistics as "other arrests." That adds up to a total of 296 arrests in Lowell during the first eleven months of the year.

Lowell police also responded to plenty of

misdemeanors during November. There were six larceny calls, one breaking and entering complaint, five disorderly conduct calls, five dog/animal complaints, two malicious destruction calls and 12 assaults. Lowell police issued 25 citations and notified three residents about ordinance violations. They were called to "assist" 51 times and were dispatched to 10 accidents. Out of 133 traffic stops in November, they let 115 drivers go with a warning.



### Family Dentistry Since 1994

- ▶ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ▶ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ▶ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ▶ Preventive Care
- ▶ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ▶ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ▶ Implants
- ▶ Insurance Plans Accepted



**"Gentle & Painless Dentistry Is Our Goal"**

Hours:  
Monday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Judd T. Carroll D.M.D.**  
103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan  
**(616) 897-7595**  
www.juddcarrolldentistry.com

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP

### 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

- 1st Thursday – Planning Commission
- 3rd Monday – Board of Trustees
- 3rd Thursday (as requested) – Zoning Board of Appeals

Location – Historic Township Hall  
8240 Alden Nash SE  
Alto, MI 49302

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell Cable TV (LCTV) Endowment Fund Board is now accepting grant applications for 2018. Application forms and instructions are available at Lowell City Hall, Lowell Charter Township Hall, Vergennes Township Hall, Englehardt Public Library, Lowell Area Schools Administration Building and online on the City and Township websites. The LCTV Endowment Fund is a nonprofit fund established in late 2007 from the sale of the assets of Lowell Cable Television and is invested and administered by the Grand Rapids Community Fund. The LCTV Endowment Fund supports and promotes projects that benefit a broad segment of the Lowell area community, enhances the quality of life in the area, encourages cooperation among the communities and qualifies as a one-time capital improvement.

2018 grant applications should be submitted to the Lowell City Clerk's office, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331. The deadline for submitting 2018 applications is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2018. Questions should be directed to Susan Ullery, City Clerk.



**WINDOWS/SIDING**  
DOORS/INSULATION/GUTTERS  
SAVE **50% OFF**  
**HEATING/COOLING BILLS**  
**GUARANTEED!!!**

SAVE 10% OFF WITH THIS COUPON

897-7300 allweathersealinc.com

319 E. Main Lowell

**All-Weather Seal**

Not good w/any other offer! Good on initial presentation

# business directory

**FRY DADDYS**  
 608 West Main Street  
 Lowell, MI 49331  
**897-FISH** FISH SHRIMP  
 WING DINGS  
 CHICKEN STRIPS  
 DAILY SPECIALS  
 CLOSED SUNDAYS UNTIL SPRING  
 MONDAY SPECIAL:  
 POLLOCK BASKET \$4.99!!!  
 Best Fish In Town!!!



**Rich's Service Co.**  
 In-Home Appliance Repair  
 Dryer Vent  
 Cleaning  
 INSURED • 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
 WASHERS • DRYERS • REFRIGERATORS  
 GARBAGE DISPOSALS • STOVES • DISHWASHERS  
 209 E. Main St. RICH CURTIS  
 Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-5686



**KIRK COLLINS**  
 Owner  
**Howboat**  
 AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY, INC.  
 Auto Value  
 1450 W. Main St., Lowell, MI  
 (616) 897-9231  
 HOURS: MON - FRI 8-7; SAT 8-5:30; SUN 9-3



897-4123  
**Arctic Inc.**  
 Heating & Cooling  
 • Heating & air-conditioning • Wall hung boilers & water heaters  
 • Geo Thermal systems • Radiant floor heat • Snow melt systems  
 • Whole house generators • Duct work • Humidifiers  
 SALES, SERVICE AND INSTALLATION, UPGRADES, NEW HOMES  
 www.HeatingCoolingOnline.com



**BILL WHEELER**  
 Certified Public  
 Accountant  
 W.J. WHEELER MICHIGAN  
 103 Riverside Dr.  
 Lowell, Michigan 49331  
**616-897-7711**



**YOUR AD  
 HERE**  
 CALL  
 897-9261  
 TO ADVERTISE



Online or in YOUR mailbox ...

WHERE LOWELL GETS LOCAL NEWS!



Get your subscription to your local news today!  
 Call 616.897.9261

## Enjoy the outdoors during Michigan's free fishing weekend Feb. 17-18

Grab a fishing rod and enjoy some of the finest fishing Michigan has to offer during the 2018 Winter Free Fishing Weekend on Saturday, Feb. 17 and Sunday, Feb. 18. On those two days, everyone – residents and non-residents alike – can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply.

In addition, during #MiFreeFishingWeekend, the Department of Natural Resources will waive the regular Recreation Passport entry fee that grants vehicle access to Michigan's 103 state parks and recreation areas. Several locations also may be hosting official 2018 Winter Free Fishing Weekend events that are perfect for the whole family.



Michigan has been celebrating winter's #MiFreeFishingWeekend every year since 1994 as a way to promote awareness of the state's vast aquatic resources. With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, tens of thousands

of miles of rivers and streams and 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan and fishing are a perfect match.

"There's nothing better than bundling up and heading out on the ice for Michigan's annual winter Free Fishing Weekend," said Jim Dexter, DNR Fisheries Division chief. "For those avid anglers, we encourage you to take someone out who has never experienced winter fishing to show them how simple and fun it can be."

Official winter #MiFreeFishingWeekend activities are being scheduled in communities across the state to assist with public participation. These activities are coordinated by a variety of organizations, including constituent groups, schools, local and state parks, businesses and others. A full list of these events can be found online at michigan.gov/freefishing

## LEGAL NOTICE

TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, Theda Glendora Good, DOB: 2/1/1926, who lived at 4691 Ada Dr., Ada, MI 49301, died on 12/11/2017. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

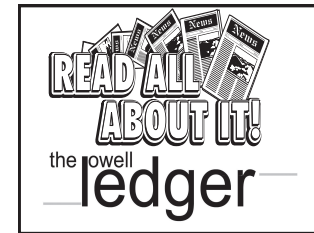
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Good Family Trust, dated April 4, 2001, will be forever barred unless presented to David Good, Successor Trustee, within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Date:  
 January 3, 2018

Mary L. Benedict PC  
 Attorney for Successor Trustee  
 4519 Cascade Rd SE  
 Ste. 14  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
 616-942-0020

David Good  
 1591 Laraway Lake Dr.  
 SE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546



## BETTER HEALTH STARTS HERE AT FAMILY DENTISTRY OF LOWELL

7AM and Friday  
 appointments  
 available

We provide state-of-the-art dentistry along with the health care extras that set us apart, such as blood pressure screenings, salivary testing and nutritional counseling.

Experience better health through dentistry.



Family Dentistry of Lowell  
 147 North Center Street, Lowell  
 616-897-4835  
 www.familydentistryoflowell.com

ANNE WILSON, D.D.S. | JENNIFER BYRD, D.D.S.

# viewpoint

## outdoors

shows in the snow

Dave Stegehuis

Just when it seems as if we are in for a particularly heavy duty Michigan winter, a light appears at the end of the proverbial tunnel. The light is a string of shows promoting a variety of warm weather activities. The events feature topics such as golf, gardening, boating, fishing, hunting, recreational vehicles, and outdoor living.

To be sure, these shows are commercial

ventures designed to drum up business. For people interested in the featured activities, these events can be informative and entertaining.

The shows are also a good place to shop for new or replacement equipment because it is easier than driving around between dealers. If one is intending to buy a recreational vehicle, for example, there will be many brands and

models to look over. Sales people are more than willing to answer specific questions about products or general concerns one may have about issues such as tow vehicles, maintenance, and storage. Products and prices can be compared on almost a side by side basis.

Bows, fly rods, and golf clubs are very personal equipment and must fit the individual and feel right in

the hand. There could be an opportunity to try out these kinds of products on site.

Seminars presented by people experienced in the field are usually free and provide opportunities to ask questions. Folks attending the event are usually eager to share their experiences and provide advice if asked. Don't expect a fisherman, however, to give up his or her go-to spot at their

favorite lake but may at least point you in the general direction.

Resorts and outfitters offer reservations for that fishing trip or well-deserved vacation. Chamber of Commerce booths provide details on what different areas of the state have to offer visitors.

It will be awhile before we can get out to resume our warm weather activities. In the meantime, we can see what is new and maybe even discover something that will encourage us to get outdoors next spring. In any case, it may be a cure for cabin fever and shorten the winter.



### 125 years ago Lowell Journal January 11, 1893

"A newspaper man's business is to boom the city for all it is worth, month after month, and then see \$100 worth of printing go out of the city because ten cents can be saved in doing so. It is the business of the newspaper to give every enterprise a frequent "send off" and then catch sheol because he had failed to record the fact that some prominent citizen had his delivery wagon painted. To subscribe liberally to every public, charitable and church entertainment, advertise them for nothing, pay his own way to everything, and then be called prejudiced and mean spirited because a column be not devoted to that particular affair. Do you wonder that there are many cranks in the newspaper business? It is bound to make either a crank or a philosopher out of a man."—Ex.

The Lowell Lighting & Power Co. have bought the Fallasburg water power and will build the dam higher and make a large reservoir so that in dry time they can give a steady power of the maximum flow of the river.

J. D. Gebott, of Ludington, has purchased the shingle mill of King, Quick & King and is moving it to Ludington.

On Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock there will be a meeting of the christian young men of Lowell to devise plans for organizing a young men's society. The meeting will be held in the Baptist church. Let there be a good turn out of the Christian men of the town and make this meeting interesting and profitable.

Messrs Church and McDannell have bought the "Bisby" farm of C. L. Selover, also the "Old Devendorf" place from A. McMillan.

There will be a social at the residence of E. R. Collar,

Wednesday evening, Jan. 18th. A good program has been arranged for the evening. The ladies will have comfortables, aprons, etc., for sale. Refreshments will be served.

Mrs R. W. Graham's band will give an entertainment some time this month, and a fine program is expected. Watch out for the date.

Every one who saw our robes and blankets were more than pleased, only a few left at choice, for \$6, of robes. Good blankets \$1. Wm. Pullen.

Lawrence's Bakery is the place to get a Lunch, Oyster Stew and Warm Meals.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 10, 1918

Christmas cheer in many Lowell homes by new club. The members of Santa Claus club desire to sincerely thank the citizens of Lowell for their liberal support and generous contributions to the Santa Claus fund. The total amount received was \$82 and of this \$65.53 was expended, leaving a balance of \$16.47, which has been placed in the bank to be used for a similiar purpose next year. Much credit is due the school children for their donations, which amounted to over \$10. The articles mentioned below contributed to the happiness of a number of families and we trust that none were overlooked as special effort was made to obtain the names of all worthy ones: Sleds, toys, candy, nuts, fruit, shoes, rubbers, underwear, sweaters, hose, suits of clothes, dresses, caps, mittens, gloves, tooth brushes and paste, also sent out some well filled baskets for Christmas dinners to some of our worthy sick folk. The children made happy through the kindness of our good people numbered 51 and their appreciation well repaid the efforts put forth to accomplish this splendid work. We desire to thank the following merchants for giving all goods purchased at cost: A. L. Coons, M. W. Gee, A. W. Weekes & Son, J. J. Lalley, Ward Willette; also John Bannon for tonsorial work. The following Boy Scouts we also wish to thank for the careful delivery of all parcels: Richard Mange, Harold Rogers, Phillip Raymond, Frank Morse, Lawrence Aldrich and Carl Flogaus. In addition to names previously published the following also contributed: Mesdames T. F. Doyle, S. B. Avery, P. Fineis, A. M. Andrews, Orton Hill, R. T. Ford, Frank Taylor, G. W. Rouse, A. B. Cadwallader, Earl Hunter and Mr. M. N. Henry.—Com.

"Editor Johnson of The Lowell Ledger objects to being called a 'Veteran.' He says that Mac Sellers is the only dyed in the wool veteran in Kent county. Now, to explain confidentially we have not cast our optics on Bro. Johnson to our knowledge, but from reading his editorial column we got the impression that he is tall and stately looking, with bushy white hair and a flowing iron grey beard, and heavy grizzled lashes only partly camouflaging a shrewd and luminous eye.

Or maybe we have him mixed with Van Ysseldyk, of the Northwestern Weekly."—Sparta Sentinel-Leader. What shall we do? Sue for libel or send a check for the advertising? Any way, we'll remind Brother Holmes that you can't tell by the looks of a toad how far he can jump.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 14, 1943

Lowell people who noticed a marked increase in the chloride content of the village water supply lately, will be glad to learn that this condition is clearing up and it is expected will be back to normal within a very short time. The high salt content was caused by excessive pumping operations necessary to fill the reservoir after a leak in the water main on Sunday, Dec. 27, had drained half of the capacity of the huge reservoir. The leak was in the large main running under the new main street bridge and occurred some time during the

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

# Activity at the fairgrounds, continued

Speaking of the next fair, many aspects of that are planned and set up over the winter.

“During the winter we spend most of our time making plans for the upcoming fair,” Marks said. “We finalize our contracts with our partners, plan new

and schedule events to hold during fair, make changes to our fair book, update our online entry system, develop our marketing strategies for the year, review our current policies and make necessary changes to them [and] schedule upcoming events for the summer.”

They’re also designing new fairgrounds; the designs should be ready in a few weeks.

“As for the new grounds, we are in the design planning stages,” Marks said. “We hope to

have a site plan within six weeks that would show our desired layout.”

For more information about what’s happening with the KCYF visit their website [kcyf.org](http://kcyf.org) or find them on Facebook at [facebook.com/KentCountyYouthFair](http://facebook.com/KentCountyYouthFair)

# Ex-spouse benefits and how they affect you

Just like during tax season, it’s good to have all the information you need early so you can prepare and get any money you are due.

If you are age 62, unmarried, and divorced from someone entitled to Social Security retirement or disability benefits, you may be eligible to receive benefits based on his or her record. To be eligible, you must have been married to your ex-spouse for 10 years or more. If you have since remarried, you can’t collect benefits on your former spouse’s record unless your later marriage ended by annulment, divorce, or death. Also, if you’re entitled to benefits on your own record, your benefit amount must be less than you would receive based on your ex-spouse’s work. In other words, we’ll pay the higher of the two benefits for which you’re eligible, but not both.

You can apply for benefits on your former spouse’s record even if he or she hasn’t retired, as long as you divorced at least two years before

applying. If, however, you decide to wait until full retirement age to apply as a divorced spouse, your benefit will be equal to half of your ex-spouse’s full retirement amount or disability benefit. The same rules apply for a deceased former spouse.

The amount of benefits you get has no effect on the benefits of your ex-spouse and his or her current spouse. Visit Retirement Planner: *If You Are Divorced* at [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse).

planners/retire/divspouse. html to find all the eligibility requirements you must meet to apply as a divorced spouse. Our benefits planner gives you an idea of your monthly benefit amount. If your ex-spouse died after you divorced, you may still qualify for widow’s benefits. You’ll find information about that in a note at the bottom of the website.

Visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/divspouse).

html today to learn whether you’re eligible for benefits on your ex-spouse’s record. That could mean a considerable amount of monthly income. What you learn may bring a smile to your face ... even on tax day!

*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 [vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vantil@ssa.gov)*



# health

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

## - chronic rhinosinusitis

Chronic rhinosinusitis happens when the lining of the sinuses swells and becomes inflamed. It is also called chronic sinusitis. Sometimes, the swelling is so severe that you get polyps (noncancerous growths) in your nose and sinuses. The sinuses are air-filled spaces in your forehead, cheeks, between your eyes and even deep within your head. They drain into your nose.

The cause of rhinosinusitis is mostly unknown, but it is not caused by an infection. Instead, it is thought to be caused by your immune system overreacting to something in the sinuses. Very rarely, it may be caused by another condition, such as a poor immune system, swelling of blood vessels, cystic fibrosis or primary ciliary dyskinesia.

Symptoms of chronic rhinosinusitis include nasal blockage, nasal drainage, pain or pressure in your face and decreased sense of smell. These symptoms usually last several months. This can be diagnosed by a CT scan of the face or by an ENT doctor using a small camera to look inside your nose.

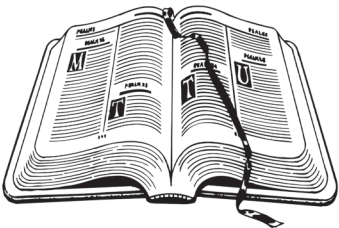
Chronic rhinosinusitis can be treated by washing out your nose daily with saline and by using nasal steroid sprays. Saline washes and steroid sprays are available over the counter. Your doctor can tell you how long to use these products. If symptoms continue, sometimes steroid pills are needed for a short time. Sometimes, sinus surgery is needed.

# happy birthday



- JANUARY 10**  
Mary Jo Vezino, Jared Felling, Mike Barnes, Logan M. Eidenier, Chase Anderson, Gage Soyka.
- JANUARY 11**  
Katie Plutschow, Ian Blodger, Marian Guastavino.
- JANUARY 12**  
Judy Ellison, Stuart Sauber, Mike Vezino.
- JANUARY 13**  
Jake Sterzick, Stephen Rutherford.
- JANUARY 14**  
Angie Nowak, Ryan Burns, Tim Yonker.
- JANUARY 15**  
Dennis Burns.
- JANUARY 16**  
Alex Stuckey.

# area churches



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
865 Lincoln Lake SE • 616.897.5906  
Pastor Jon Propper  
Worship Service - Sundays 9:30AM  
Lowell's Open Table - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM  
*Serving meals and providing fellowship to the greater Lowell community*  
**OPEN AND AFFIRMING**  
[www.lowellucc.org](http://www.lowellucc.org)

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
*Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21*  
[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)  
Worship Service ..... Sunday - 10:30 AM  
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM  
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
*All facilities are wheelchair accessible*

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
*Rev. Dr. Paul Mpindi PHD*  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Morning Worship..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday School..... 11:20 AM  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**St. Mary Catholic Church**  
402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820  
Website: [www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)  
Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am  
Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm  
Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES  
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 - [www.fbclowell.org](http://www.fbclowell.org)  
Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor  
Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor  
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries  
SUNDAY WORSHIP..... 9:30 AM (Nursery provided)  
SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)  
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM  
Middle & High School - Mon-school year • Wed, summer, 7 PM

**LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
discover. grow. share  
621 E. Main Street  
897-5938  
[www.lowellumc.com](http://www.lowellumc.com) • Barrier Free Entrance  
WORSHIP  
9 AM - Traditional • 11 AM - Contemporary  
Kid's Crew 11:15 AM  
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

# business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Joshua McCracken is the Realtor of the Year for the Lowell office. This recognizes McCracken for all of his hard work and dedication to his clients.



**THE CLASSIFIEDS**  
small ads **BIG** deals  
**616.897.9261**

# City council meeting, continued

“The street asset management plan will be a tool for assisting the city with making decisions as it relates to the operation, maintenance and funding of future street projects,” Burns said. “The major components of the plan will include an inventory of the street assets, review of the city’s financial status, evaluation of the street assets and treatments, prioritization of projects, a financial plan and a written asset plan.”

The street asset management plan should take Williams & Works between ten and 12 weeks to complete.

It was announced that

Mark and Theresa Mundt are going to retire from their city jobs on March 30, 2018. Mark is the superintendent of Lowell’s wastewater treatment plant and has worked there for 28 years. Theresa is the Lowell deputy clerk and has worked for the city in various positions for 14 years. The pair have also spent countless hours volunteering for organizations like Lowell Rotary and Pink Arrow Pride.

The council announced they are seeking applicants for a vacancy on the parks commission and two vacancies on the planning commission. Interested

parties should contact the city clerk’s office.

Lowell city council’s next regular meeting will be at city hall on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 7 pm. That meeting will include a second public hearing on the topic of medical marijuana. The council will also hold a “committee of the whole” meeting at 5:30 pm in the same location on the same day. The purpose of that meeting will be to discuss revenue generation options for the city, such as creating city income tax.

“One of the things that we’ve obviously talked about is the city income tax,” Burns said. “It’s

something that you know we’ve talked about at [the] this table before. Over the last four months I have been working on putting different financial models in place based on census data, archived budgetary information, things of that nature, in order to show you what we may be able to do. [...] While we currently don’t have the revenue that we need to do what we need to do, one of the things I did look at in order maybe to offset some of the revenue generating options, one of the models I spent a lot of time at was looking at a reduction of the millage rate significantly.”



Mark and Theresa Mundt will retire on March 30. In this 2016 photo the couple were volunteering at a Pink Arrow Pride event.

# Severe weather forces blood drive cancellations causing thousands of donations to go uncollected

This January, National Blood Donor Month, the American Red Cross has an urgent need for blood and platelet donors of all blood types, so make an appointment to give now and help address a winter blood donation shortage.

Severe winter weather has had a tremendous impact on blood donations already this year, with more than 150 blood drives forced to cancel causing over 5,500 blood and platelet donations to go uncollected. This is in addition to seasonal illnesses, such as the flu and hectic holiday schedules collectively contributing to more than 28,000 fewer donations than what was needed in November and December.

“Even temporary disruptions to blood and platelet donations can diminish the availability for hospital patients,” said Todd Kulman, external communications manager of the Great Lakes Red Cross Blood Services Regions.

“It’s the blood on the shelves that helps save lives in an emergency and that’s why we’re asking eligible individuals to make an appointment to give blood or platelets today.”

While serving local hospitals is the first priority, the Red Cross can move blood products to where they’re needed most. This allows generous donors throughout the country to contribute to the national blood supply and potentially help patients locally and in storm-affected areas.

While all blood types are urgently needed, there is a more critical need for the following blood and donation types right now:

- Platelets: The clotting portion of blood primarily given to cancer patients during treatment and always in great demand.
- Type O negative: The blood type that can be transfused to almost everyone and is what doctors reach for in trauma situations.

- Type B negative: The blood type that can be transfused to type B Rh-positive and negative patients.

- Type AB: The plasma type that can be transfused to almost everyone and can be donated through a platelet or plasma donation, where available or during a regular blood donation.

### How to help

Eligible donors can find a blood or platelet donation opportunity and schedule an appointment to donate by using the free Blood Donor App, visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Donation appointments and completion of a RapidPass are encouraged to help speed up the donation process. RapidPass lets donors complete the pre-donation reading and answer the health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, by visiting [redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://redcrossblood.org/rapidpass)

from the convenience of a mobile device or computer or through the Blood Donor App.

### Who blood donations help

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood – a need that is all too real for Heather Hrouda and her family. Hrouda was 25 weeks pregnant with her fourth child when she began bleeding. An emergency cesarean section was performed, but Hrouda hemorrhaged during surgery. She received 14 units of blood and seven units of plasma before she and her newborn son, Rusher, were flown to a nearby hospital. There, she received additional transfusions and Rusher was moved to the neonatal intensive care unit, where he also received a blood transfusion to increase his red blood cell count.

“My family and I are so thankful for all the blood

donors,” said Hrouda. “It is safe to say that without their time and donations, Rusher and I would not be here today. Because of donors, I get to watch my kids grow up and become the adults they dream of being.”

The Hroudas are just two examples of the many patients who depend on blood and platelet donors. Accident and burn victims,

heart surgery and organ transplant patients and patients receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease may all require blood to save their lives. The Red Cross must collect more than 13,000 blood donations every day for patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals across the country.

## CITY OF LOWELL PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

The City of Lowell has completed the process of updating its Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan and will publish the draft Plan for public review. The Recreation Plan will be available at the following locations until the Lowell City Council holds a public hearing on the Plan:

Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street  
Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe Street

The Parks and Recreation Plan is intended to help guide improvements to recreation facilities in the community. The process to develop the Plan included a community input element. Now that a draft of the Plan has been completed, the City is offering a public comment review period to give residents an opportunity to review and comment on the Plan prior to adoption.

To provide comments on the draft Plan, please send an email to [lwisniewski@ci.lowell.mi.us](mailto:lwisniewski@ci.lowell.mi.us) or call (616) 897-8457 with any questions or suggestions. Thank you, and we appreciate your input.



The Lowell Arts Players presents

lowell Arts  
Jan 18, 19 & 20  
At Lowell Performing Arts Center, 11700 Vergennes  
Dramatized by Richard R. George

**TICKETS** [lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org) / 616-897-8545

**WE SHIP UPS!**

Our Prices Can't Be Beat!  
Call Us for a Price Quote!  
Weight & Zip Code Required for a Quote

The Lowell Ledger  
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

**SPORTS****Girls earn first conference win of the season**by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Adding their first conference victory of the season to an already winning record last Friday night, the Lowell girls varsity basketball team conquered the Ottawa Hills Bengals 52-21 moving their season tally to an impressive 5-1.

Senior starter and co-captain Cassie Dean led the Arrows on the court netting 14 points as the team careened past the Bengals topping them in every period. Ottawa held tight in the first period only falling two points behind the Arrows who were up 11-9 moving into the second. Lowell increased their lead in the second running the scoreboard up 12-3 holding onto the lead 23-12 at the half.

Lowell tallied 13 points in the third and 16 in the fourth totaling 52 as the bench starters take a breather during the runaway win. Ottawa only managed to add nine points in the second half as Arrow defense and missed opportunities doomed them to a game total of 21 points. Junior starter Regan Coxon was the night's second leading Arrow scorer netting 11.



Junior Ava Frederickson goes up for two against Ottawa Hills.



Senior Kenzie North on the court as the Arrows improve their record to 5-1.

The team faced former OK White rival Jenison in home action on Tuesday and will dive back into conference play against Northview this Friday at home. Tip off is scheduled for 5:30 pm.

**Arrows fall 78-52 to Ottawa Hills Bengals**

Sophomore Nolan Cusack faces double team defense against the tough Is Bengals.

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The Red Arrow boys varsity basketball team faced the Ottawa Hills Bengals last week Friday in their first OK White challenge of the season dropping the contest 78-52.

The Bengals started out fast producing a huge

scoring run in the first period that left the Arrows trailing 25-9 at the end of the first. Continuing to widen the gap throughout the remainder of the contest Ottawa controlled the game flow under the glass and rebounding.

The 78-52 loss is the sixth for the boy's team this season, but only their first in league play. The Arrows face a pair of Wildcat teams this week as they remain in pursuit of their first win. They traveled to Jenison Tuesday night to battle first Wildcats. Friday they will host the Northview Wildcats starting at 7 pm following the girl's varsity game.



Junior Trevor Petroelje goes up for two during the Arrows 78-52 loss.



Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

# SPORTS

## Gymnasts place 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> at first competition of the season

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Tumbling their way to sixth- and eleventh-place finishes, the Lowell varsity gymnastics team split into two for their first competition of the season last Saturday at the annual Rockford Flip Flop Invitational.

Competing against some of the area's elite, the Lowell ladies of the "A" team placed sixth overall and were led by seniors, Maura Fitzpatrick and Amber Brown, who produced the top two all-around scores. Fitzpatrick finished first on the vault, beam and floor and second on the bars behind teammate

junior Corah Miller. Her efforts earned her a fourth-place overall finish on the vault, an eighth on the bars and a tenth on the floor. Brown finished in the top four for Lowell on all events and earned an overall eighth place on the bars. Miller earned an eight on the vault and placed in the top four for the Arrows on all events, except the beam.

The less experienced "B" team was composed of eight freshmen and one sophomore and placed eleventh at the event. Highlights included an overall seventh-place finish on the bars for freshman Aubri Lemke who scored

an 8.2 and top performances from Nora Jannenga and Marlie McDonald on the beam. "They both stuck their beam routines with confidence and earned a 7.1 and 8.25 respectively," said head coach Michele DeHaan. "Marlie had the second highest beam score for Lowell's entire team behind Maura Fitzpatrick."

Sophomore Taeghan Ronchetti provided an emotional moment taking to the mat for the first time since an injury sidelined her last year. "Taeghan stole the day when she competed floor," exclaimed DeHaan. "She fell during a tumbling pass last year

giving her a concussion that ended her season before she even competed. It's been a long road back and seeing

her compete on that event brought her coaches and teammates to tears. She started her day competing

on beam and just before she saluted the judge she said, "I've been waiting such a long time for this."



Sophomore Taeghan Ronchetti.

Photos submitted by Michele DeHaan



Senior all-around gymnast Maura Fitzpatrick during her floor routine at the Flip Flop Invitational.

**VAULT**

Maura Fitzpatrick	8.95
Corah Miller	8.9
Hadyn Nash	8.7
Amber Brown	8.475

**BARS**

Corah Miller	8.3
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.125
Amber Brown	8.125
Hadyn Nash	7.8

**BEAM**

Maura Fitzpatrick	8.45
Amber Brown	8.15
Emily Lothian	7.95
Hadyn Nash	7.45

**FLOOR**

Maura Fitzpatrick	9.15
Corah Miller	8.75
Hadyn Nash	8.625
Amber Brown	8.5

The team will next host a pair of home events starting Wednesday evening against Forest Hills Central in conference action and then the Lowell Invitational and Military Salute on Saturday morning. The annual military salute celebrates the duty and sacrifice of former and current military members and is scheduled to begin at 9 am inside Lowell High School's main gym.

## Sports Summaries

**GIRLS BOWLING**

Lowell girls varsity bowling was back in action last Saturday after the holiday break. The team participated at the Jenison Invitational and earned a seventh-place 2,217 point finish. The team was led by the efforts of sisters, Laura and Brianna Lachowski, who produced high scores of 196 and 181 respectively. The young team continued to show improvement rolling an average of 20 pins higher than their season average in the tournament's baker games. Lowell will host a pair of home competitions at The Bowling Alley of Ionia next. First they will have an OK White conference face off with Ottawa Hills on Wednesday and then they will hold the Lowell Bowling Invitational on Saturday morning beginning at 9 am.

**ICE HOCKEY**

Lowell/Caledonia hockey hit the ice against formidable opponent Forest Hills Central last Saturday evening at the Kentwood Ice Arena where they fell in overtime 3-2. After a scoreless first period, LC lit up the scoreboard for the first time in the second after a goal from Caledonia senior Ethan Pinto. After an FHC equalizer LC scored again in the second when Lowell senior Austin Whaley slid one to the back of the net unassisted, putting them ahead 2-1. Quickly answering, FHC forced an extra period where they eventually prevailed. This week the team will face Kenowa Hills Wednesday on the road and then welcome fellow co-op team Forest Hills Northern and Eastern to the Kentwood Ice Arena on Friday night. Puck drops at 7 pm for both events.

**BOYS BOWLING**

After a slow start, the Lowell boys varsity bowling team fell just eight pins short of the top five at the Jenison Invitational last Saturday at Hudsonville Lanes, settling for a sixth-place, 2,976 pin finish. Senior Carson Clark led the Arrows with a high score of 258 and an overall average of 227 per game, ranking him in the all-tournament team. His efforts were followed by those of senior Marcel Primeau who rolled a 199 and junior DJ Simpson who tallied a 196. Hosting two competitions this week, the boys will next face Ottawa Hills in OK White action and then welcome multiple teams to the Lowell Bowling Invitational on Saturday at 9 am. Both events will take place at The Bowling Alley of Ionia.





## Survey shows high demand by law enforcement for mental health/crisis training

*Mental Health Diversion Council aims to expand trainings statewide*

Efforts to expand mental health and crisis training for law enforcement officials are widely supported by first responders according to a recent survey, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley announced.

“Mental health and crisis training gives officers the ability to recognize mental illnesses and diffuse situations that could become extremely dangerous,” Calley said. “We’ve had success in providing this training to law enforcement in recent years and I’m pleased there is support to expand this potentially life-saving training across the state.”

The survey, conducted by the Michigan Mental Health Diversion Council, chaired by Calley, was taken by officials within the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Michigan Sheriffs Association and the Michigan State Police.

The survey aimed to gauge support and demand for mental health and crisis training for officers who are often the first point of contact with a person in crisis. To date, the Diversion Council has provided mental health/crisis training to more than 650 law enforcement officers in Michigan.

“Mental health incidents and calls for service for law enforcement are on the rise. It is vital that today’s law enforcement personnel have the training and resources to safely interact with people who are experiencing a mental

health crisis,” said Ottawa County sheriff Steve Kempker. “How our law enforcement personnel respond to these incidents will have an impact on how encounters are resolved and for the treatment of the person experiencing a mental health crisis.”

One third of agencies said they had not had mental health or crisis intervention training and nearly 66 percent of respondents agreed that this training is very important. Nearly 100 percent of responding agencies would support training for their agency if it were provided by the state at no cost and nearly 56 percent of respondents said they would prefer online training.

Additionally, nearly 98 percent of respondents said they would support mandated training in police academies and about 82 percent would support mandated training for certified officers.

The Diversion Council has worked to create a crisis training curriculum which trains individuals who will then provide training to others. The council will use these survey results to work on implementing this type of training on a statewide basis.

Nearly 150 law enforcement officers from across the state took the survey this fall, with 65.75 percent being from city/township agencies, 33.56 percent from sheriff’s offices and less than one percent of respondents serving in the Michigan State Police.

## More Michiganders produced their own electricity in 2016

The number of Michiganders who produced their own electricity in 2016 grew by nearly 430 over the previous year, according to the Michigan Public Service Commission’s (MPSC) annual report that tracks on-site renewable energy electric generation. The number of projects grew by 395.

In 2016, 2,582 residential, commercial and industrial customers participated in Michigan’s net metering program, up 427 from the previous year, according to the Net Metering and Solar Program Report. The total capacity of net metering installations was approximately 21,888 kilowatts (kW), an increase of 4,823 kW – or 28 percent – from 2015. The program represents 0.024 percent of Michigan’s total retail electricity sales.

The state’s net metering program, established in 2008 under Public Act 295,

is available to customers of rate-regulated utilities, cooperatives and alternative electric suppliers (AESs). Net metering offsets part or all of a customer’s energy needs and reduces their electric bills. When customers produce more electricity than they need, power is provided back to the serving utility, permitting the customer to receive a credit.

Solar remains the leading form of energy generation, a position it has held since 2010. Wind is the second most popular.

About 2,500 of the net metering customers or roughly 75 percent, have projects that are up to 20 kW. DTE Electric Co. has the most, at 1,418, followed by Consumers Energy Co. at 544 and Upper Peninsula Power Co. (UPPCO) at 132. Seventy-two customers have projects of 21-150 kW; Consumers has 40 and DTE 27 of the total. All

participating utilities except UPPCO have substantial room in their programs to add new customers.

Luce County in the Upper Peninsula is the only Michigan county without a net metering customer. Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties have the most customers, between 100 and 500 each. Luce and Gogebic have no solar installations while 12 counties – Crawford, Gladwin, Hillsdale, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Keweenaw, Lake, Luce, Montcalm, Ogemaw, Oscoda, and Wexford -- have no wind installations.

Michigan’s new energy laws call on the MPSC to establish a distributed generation program and tariff to replace the current net metering program. Current and new net metering customers who enter the distributed generation program before

the tariff is established and approved in a utility rate cases may continue to net meter for 10 years from the time they enroll. The new tariff will be considered as part of rate cases filed after June 1, 2018 and go into effect when the Commission decides those cases.

The report estimates the amount of solar installed in Michigan by the end of 2017 will be 120,530 kW, indicating significant solar project construction this year. That’s up from 57,999 kW in 2016 and 36,118 kW in 2015.

The MPSC’s renewable energy website includes information on net metering and how to become a net metering customer.

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

## January designated as National Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette recognized President Trump’s designation of January as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month.

“Human trafficking has no place in Michigan and I am proud of the work that my department and law enforcement agencies across the state of Michigan have done to free survivors of trafficking and prosecute the offenders,” said Schuette. “We will continue to fight against this modern form of slavery by bringing light into the darkness created by those that harm others.”

### 2017 HUMAN TRAFFICKING UPDATES

In 2017, Schuette charged and convicted numerous individuals with human trafficking or human trafficking related crimes. In March of 2017, the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission, housed in Schuette’s department, released its annual report.

In December, Assistant Attorney General Kelly Carter, head of the attorney general’s Human Trafficking Unit and chair

of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission, was named to Crain’s Detroit’s list of Notable Women Lawyers in Michigan.

Schuette also participated in continuing medical education programs, including an in-person training in Saginaw and a video training session with Wayne County Medical Society, to ensure that medical professionals know what to look for when working with possible trafficking victims.

### NEW HUMAN TRAFFICKING LAWS FOR 2018

Often, human trafficking survivors have been arrested and charged with prostitution related charges which impede employment and educational opportunities. PA 35 of 2017 allows human trafficking victims to have their prostitution related charges diverted by the court if they are found to have been victims of human trafficking.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MICHIGAN, NATIONALLY

Second only to

drug trafficking, human trafficking is the fastest-growing and second-largest criminal industry in the world, with an estimated 25 million people in the grips of human trafficking for both sex and labor. Victims of human trafficking are in bondage through force, fraud or coercion, solely for the purpose of sex or labor exploitation. Children are especially vulnerable and existing data sources strongly suggest that the current reported human trafficking statistics do not provide a complete picture of the prevalence of human trafficking in Michigan.

Upon taking office in 2011, Schuette launched the state’s first Human Trafficking Unit in the attorney general’s office to prosecute human traffickers under state law. Since 2011, eleven people have been charged with human trafficking by the Department of Attorney General.

If you believe you have witnessed or are aware of a potential case of human trafficking, call your local police or the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at 888-3737-888.

Schuette served as one of ten attorneys general nationwide selected to lead the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) Presidential Initiative on Combating Human Trafficking, called Pillars of Hope. Schuette has worked closely with fellow attorneys general to craft a coordinated national strategy to combat human trafficking, including efforts to prosecute offenders, assist victims, analyze the impact of this crime and raise public awareness nationwide.

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCES

Schuette encourages citizens to take a few moments to learn more about human trafficking by visiting the following websites:

**State of Michigan**  
Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force  
Michigan State University  
University of Michigan

Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

# SPORTS

## Lowell competes in first conference meet of the season

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell wrestlers competed in their first OK White battle of the season at Greenville Friday evening and in the New Lothrop Hall of Fame tournament on Saturday morning.

Taking on both host Greenville and fellow OK White conference member Cedar Springs at the Friday night event, Lowell easily defeated both, earning a

59-3 win over Greenville and a 74-0 shutout over Cedar Springs. Earning wins by fall against Greenville were sophomore Nick Korhorn at 103 pounds, junior Avry Mutschler at 135, sophomore James Fotis at 140, sophomore Austin Boone at 145, junior Channing Perry at 152, senior Austin Engle at 171 and sophomore Tyler Delooff at 285. 125-pound freshman Zeth Strejc

and 160-pound freshman Derek Mohr won their bouts by major decision, while sophomore Dawson Jankowski at 119, senior David Kruse at 189 and senior Connor Nugent at 215 earned their wins by decision.

Against Cedar Springs, eight Red Arrow wrestlers won their matches by fall, including junior Hunter Browning at 112 pounds and Jankowski, Strejc, Fotis,

Perry, Mohr, Engle and Kruse, in their respective weight classes. Korhorn, Nugent and freshman Doak Dean, competing at 130 pounds, earned their victories by major decision. Mutschler won by technical fall, Boone by forfeit and Delooff by decision.

Saturday at New Lothrop High School the team earned a first-place finish with 262 combined points earned on the mat.

Six Arrow grapplers fought their way to first-place tournament status en route to the team victory. Browning, Mutschler, Boone, Engle, Kruse and Delooff claimed those top spots, followed by second-place finisher Strejc and third-place finishers, Jankowski and Jeff Leach competing at 130 pounds, placing fifth were Korhorn, Dean, Fotis and Nugent and trailing with a sixth was Mohr.

Next up for the team, as they pursue their fifth consecutive state title, is their second OK White match up of the season at Ottawa Hills on Friday evening at 5 pm and following up Saturday morning at the Detroit Catholic Central Super Duals.

- COMPETITIVE CHEER

## Competitive cheer places second at invitational

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The Red Arrow varsity competitive cheer team competed at the Northpointe Christian Invitational last Saturday, earning a second-place finish in their division. Led by senior Brooklyn Fryers and juniors, Morgan Cremer, Riley Frazer, Harlie Gerth-McMullin, Deijah Gissendanner and Megan Houghtaling, they tallied a combined score of 629.7 - the third highest score of any participating team. The group also includes sophomores, Ember Fox, Sophia Katsul, Kara Korcek, Alyssa Miles, Selina Piller, Lexi Reedy, Lea Schenk, Shileigh Shepard, Kyra Snyder, Shi Steinberg and Kayla VanOosten; six freshman, Delaney Beimers, Morgan Buffum, Paige Frazer, Sydney Hults, Mikayla Keller and Allison Weiss.



The varsity competitive cheer team celebrates their second-place tournament finish.

Photo submitted by Lowell competitive cheer

Next up for the Arrows will be their first OK White jamboree hosted by Cedar Springs and the Wyoming Invitational, which will be held this Saturday at 1 pm at Wyoming High School, located at 1350 Prairie Pkwy SW.



Go Red Arrows!

## Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

the lowell

# ledger



# obituaries

## DUSTEN

Wesley A. Dusten, 81 years of age, passed away on January 6, 2018. He was a Lowell resident, formerly of Flint. He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter. He is survived by two granddaughters, two sisters and special friend, Carrol Kelly. Private services will be held at a later date in Flint.



# EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk:** How do environmentalists feel about the amount of packaging waste consumers have to deal with now that holiday shopping has largely switched over from retail shops to online stores?

- Jessica B., Raleigh, NC

This past holiday season marked the first year that holiday shoppers spent more of their gift budgets online than in stores, according to a recent report by the consulting firm Deloitte. Environmentalists are indeed concerned that this trend doesn't augur well for the environment, given the extra packaging waste and energy costs that accompany getting merchandise to customers. Going to the store or mall to do our shopping burns fossil fuels, for sure, but at least the items we purchase don't then have to be re-swaddled in extra filler and cardboard and shipped to us on a plane, truck, train or ship.

For its part, Amazon—the company many blame for ushering in the transition to e-commerce in the first place and which today dominates online retail—used some 6,000 trucks and 32 planes to get some five billion items to its Prime members in 2017. During that process, untold hundreds of millions of cardboard boxes were used to get customers' choices to their doorsteps. Those boxes are in turn typically recycled by the recipients, and collected by municipal curbside pick-up service.

But that's not the end of the story: Next, this once-used cardboard is typically shipped to China where it is soaked in water, stripped of staples and reborn as new cardboard. In many cases the box you recycle has made a 12,000-mile, fossil-fuel-spewing loop at sea in its journey of rebirth. So... while recycling is a great thing, it may not be worth it if we factor in the fossil fuels emitted in the process. We'd be better off avoiding

the extra layer of packaging altogether. Maybe that trip to the mall isn't such a bad idea after all.

That said, Amazon recently boasted of transitioning to more sustainable packaging during the 2017 holiday season, switching 100 million shipments from cardboard boxes to less resource-intensive padded mailers, reportedly eliminating 181,000 tons of waste. So that's something, but Amazon and other online retailers have a long way to go in reducing not only the amount of packaging but perhaps even the packaging altogether when possible.

This is not to say you should bad about recycling your boxes in the wake of the holidays, as it's a perfectly decent environmental thing to do. But if you want to go the extra mile, maybe think of some way to reuse them at least one more time before the next recipient ships it off for recycling—or re-uses it as well. Also, don't forget that most gift wrap—as long as it doesn't have foil or glitter or a plasticizing non-rip coating—as well as holiday cards, can be recycled as well. And yet another option for responsibly discarding that cardboard, wrapping paper and holiday cards is in your yard waste or compost bin, in which case it will live another day not as a cardboard box but instead as part of your next batch of mulch or soil amendment.

*CONTACTS: Deloitte's 2017 Holiday Retail Survey, <https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/pages/consumer-business/articles/holiday-retail-sales-consumer-survey.html>; Amazon Energy & Environment, <https://www.amazon.com/p/feature/gkkwdp34z5ou7ug>*

*EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of the nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit [www.earthtalk.org](http://www.earthtalk.org). Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org)*

*The cardboard you recycle likely makes a 12,000-mile, fossil-fuel-spewing loop at sea (to China and back) in its journey of rebirth. Credit: Jacob Gube, FlickrCC.*

## LEGAL NOTICES

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

In the matter of **SOPHIA MCELHENY** Guardianship File No. 18-202,608-GA Conservatorship File No. 18-202,609-CA

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS** including Raymond Mcelheny Jr., Kathy DeVries, and any other children of SOPHIA MCELHENY, 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 and Conservator.

Dated: January 4, 2018

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-7201

**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 **SHARON KANE** Guardianship File No. 18-202,604-GA

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS** including her children: Jerry Henning, Robin Preston, and Daniel Marshall, and any other unknown children or spouse, 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 9, 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 4, 2018

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 558-6781

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

## LEGAL NOTICES

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

In the matter of **SARA LEVALLEY SHACKLEY** Guardianship File No. 18-202,625-DD

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS** including Carl Shackley, 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 24, 2018, at 8:45 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 for a person with a developmental disability.

Dated: January 8, 2018

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

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

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

A	S	D	I	C		B	A	A		B	U	M	P			
S	H	I	V	A		A	L	L		S	O	R	E	R		
H	A	V	O	C		I	I	I		A	N	G	L	E		
		W	A	R	H	O	L			K	E	N	N	E	D	Y
				Y	E	P				L	E	W	D			
O	D	D			T	R	E	E		E	A	R	W	I	G	
B	A	R	T			A	R	A	B		L	I	A	N	A	
A	Y	A	H			H	O	S	E	S		G	L	U	T	
M	A	C	A	U		S	I	T	E		S	E	R	E		
A	N	O	I	N	T			N	A	R	K		R	E	S	
						C	H	U	G		V	I	A			
M	A	R	I	L	Y	N				J	O	R	D	A	N	
A	M	E	B	A			P	R	O		T	I	D	A	L	
C	E	D	E	D			I	N	E		L	O	O	S	E	
K	N	O	X				N	A	Y		E	S	S	A	Y	

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

**office hours:**  
**Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.**  
**Fri. 8 a.m. - noon**  
**closed Sat. & Sun.**

# classifieds

## for sale

TIRES - Snow, Bridgestone Blizzak, 4 size 225 65 R17, \$175 obo. Jim, 897-5149.

400 APPLIANCES - Washers, dryers, refrigerators & stoves. Guaranteed. From \$69. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook. Delivery available.<sup>TFN</sup>

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND VALUE - Requires less wood & provides more heat. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today! 616-554-8669. SOS Property Maintenance LLC, 6950 Hammond Ave, Caledonia. We are your local sales, service & parts dealer!<sup>TFN</sup>

TWIN BED - Mattress, box spring & frame, (Sealy), \$85 complete. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.<sup>TFN</sup>

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - (new), \$248/set. Thick & plush. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.<sup>TFN</sup>

SNOWBLOWER - Poulan Pro PR241 24 in. 2-stage electric start snowblower. 2 years old, used only a couple times, stored inside. Asking \$550, new \$870. Ionia pickup or possible delivery. 616-755-0577, leave message.

USED TIRES - Call with size, 616-292-7649/616-295-8820. Rob's Auto - thanks.<sup>TFN</sup>

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - Seasoned oak hardwood, \$85 face cord; \$220 full cord. Delivery included. Call 676-9239.

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR & STOVE SET - (2006), cost \$900, sell \$199 for pair. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.<sup>TFN</sup>

HAPPY JACK® LIQUIVICT 2X: recognized safe & effective by US CVM against hook & round worms. At Tractor Supply. (kennelvax.com).

FREEAD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555.

NEWSPAPER ENDS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE - Many uses. Usually \$3-\$5 each. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

FEDERAL EXPRESS SHIPPING & PICK UP - At the Buyers Guide office, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Daily pickup at 3 pm.

## for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW - Equal Housing Opportunity. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of housing or residential lots; in the advertising the sale or rental of housing, in the financing of housing. Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination: 1-800-669-9777 (toll free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

5 - STAR MEXICO LUXURY VACATION - beachfront on the caribbean, \$1,399. Feb. 10, 2018. Local Caledonia owners. 616-460-7893. For information/pictures, email: lakeliving@charter.net

**PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900.**<sup>TFN</sup>

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. FREE All Vets Coffee Hour at the center the 3rd Thursday of each month. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.<sup>TFN EOW</sup>

## wanted

I WANT TO BUY - Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.<sup>TFN</sup>

FARM LAND WANTED - Fifth generation farmer looking to expand operations. Paying aggressive cash rent prices, we also offer soil fertility programs as well as prescription application of fertilizers and planting corn, soybeans and wheat. Looking for the 2018 growing season and beyond. Call or text 616-893-0139.

GOT LAND? Our Hunters will Pay Top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a FREE info packet & Quote. 1-866-309-1507 www.BaseCampLeasing.com (MICH)

## help wanted

ATTWOOD HIRING! - Open interviews. Wednesdays 7 am - 10 am & 3 pm - 6 pm Resume or completed application appreciated. www.brunswick-careers.com 1016 N. Monroe, Lowell, MI 49331.

\$5000 SIGN ON! Dedicated Customer, Home Every Week, \$65K+ Annually and Excellent Benefits Plan! CALL 888-409-6033 www.Drive4Red.com (6 months experience and CDL A required). (MICH)

RECENTLY VOTED AS "AMERICA'S BEST FIRST JOB" - McDonald's may be the right fit for you and your busy life. We offer a great job where you can work with your friends, competitive pay, flexible schedules ("Work when you want to work,") health and dental insurance. We now offer a college tuition assistance (\$2,800) to every employee! We also offer development programs to advance into management throughout our company. It's also easy to apply... Text "apply07034" to 36453, or stop in at the store here in Lowell to fill out an application.

## misc.

Stop OVERPAYING for your prescriptions! SAVE! Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25.00 OFF your first prescription! CALL 1-844-358-9925 Promo Code CDC201725 (MICH)

## services

TANK FULL? CALL FULLER! - Cleaning residential septic tanks. Over 40 years of great service. Owned & operated by Stoneybrook Sanitation. Call 24/7, 897-3050 for an appointment.

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED? - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees...I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: \$3500 incl. all filing fees AND FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616) 235-0330.

LEDGER OFFICE HOURS:  
 MON. - THURS. 8-5  
 FRI. 8-12  
 Closed Sat. & Sun.  
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

## services

HANDY REPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.<sup>TFN</sup>

**DUMPSTER ON DEMAND - any size dumpster at a great price. 7 days a week service. Call 616-527-8143.**

SEAMLESS GUTTER - Bleam Eavestrouging. Free estimates, 50 colors, leaf guards. Since 1959. Choose the experience! (616) 765-3333 or 1-877-945-RAIN. www.bleameaves.com

## services

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT - Eagerly looking for after school work to help pay for school functions. House cleaning, yard work, car detailing, senior help, pet care, etc., etc. 616-295-8820, ask for Madison. Thanks for helping.<sup>TFN</sup>

NEW STRONG! YOGA CLASSES - at 901 W. Main, Lowell. Check www.thehammockllc.com for schedule or call 616-893-5661.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

## services

SCANNING SERVICE - Do you need something scanned & emailed? The Buyers Guide/Lowell Ledger now offers this service! Mon. - Thurs., 8 - 5 p.m. & Fri., 8 - noon. Ph. 897-9555 with any questions.

FREEAD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

# COMING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are on a space available basis & ARE NOT GUARANTEED. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not accept ANY Garage or sales (including fundraisers) as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/Alden Nash.

TOTS PLAYGROUPS - Tues & Wed., 9:30 - 10:30 am. Come when you can, stay as long as you would like! No registration required. 300 High Street, Lowell. 987-2532.

STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION? - Lowell Serenity Club is available for all in need of relief and hope. LSC offers 12 step meetings, 365 days a year. Meetings daily 8-9 pm, Mon. - Fri. 12-1 pm, Tues. & Fri. 4:30-5:30 pm and Sat. & Sun. 10-11 am. 101 E. Main St., Lowell, 616-550-6688.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Clay VanderWarf, 616-485-3429 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

TECH HELP - Wednesdays by appointment from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

ALPHA FAMILY CENTER OF LOWELL - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Diapers, formula, clothing & free ultrasounds & pregnancy testing available. www.afclowell.org

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday, weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m. Key Heights, 11335 Fulton, Lowell.

WRWW BROADCASTS - Lowell High School sports, concerts, community events, student 'on air' shows and your favorite music can be heard on the

WRWW FM radio station (92.3) and Internet radio station located at www.lowellradio.org

GRIEF - ADULT GROUP - Tuesdays, 6-7:30 p.m. A committed group for adults who have experienced the death of a family member or friend. Gilda's Club, Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

CUB SCOUT PACK 3188 - meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

QUAKE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.quake-zik.org for information. New members welcome.

LOWELL LIONS CLUB - meets third Tuesday at noon at Lowell City Hall.

KNITTING GROUP - Tuesdays 10 a.m. - noon. Meets at the Village Hall. Beginning to advanced knitters welcome. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - meets the 2nd Saturday at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 E. Fulton, 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

KID/ADULT COLORING DAY - Jan. 2 from noon-4 pm. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES TREASURE'S THRIFT SHOP HOURS - Tues - Fri. 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Resource Center, 897-8260.

TECH HELP - Wednesdays by appointment from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

ALPHA FAMILY CENTER OF LOWELL - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Diapers, formula, clothing & free ultrasounds & pregnancy testing available. www.afclowell.org

MASSAGE AND 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 is required. Wed., Jan. 17, 6-7:30 pm, Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

LOWELLARTS GALLERY HOURS - Tues. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 10 - 5 p.m. 225 W. Main St., Lowell. Visit www.lowellartsmi.org or call 897-8545.

STORYTIME - Every Thursday, 10 am with Ms. Sheila. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM - open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday: 1-4 p.m. Families: \$10; individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

LEGOS AT THE LIBRARY - Second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. Kids ages 5-11 are invited to join. Bring your imagination & be ready to build! (The library will provide the LEGOs) No registration required. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding, 616-794-1450.

THE LOWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION - second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building, 300 High St., Lowell.

FLAT RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL - Meets 3rd Monday of each month at the Main Street Inn in Lowell at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit our web page at flatriverwatershed.org

BABY PANTRY OF LOWELL - (formerly St. Mary's Pregnancy Center) is now located inside Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) at 11535 Fulton St. E. We are open Monday 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Thursday 2-4:30 p.m. to serve pregnant woman & families of small children in need of diapers, wipes & other baby supplies. We are non-denominational & serve families in the Lowell area. For more information, call Michele at 616-322-5957.

ADULT MAKE & TAKE - Jan. 17 from 2-4 pm. Quilted potholder craft. Pre-registration is required, class is limited to 10 people. Call to register. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

FREE ALL VETS COFFEE HOUR - Third Thurs. of each month. Bring a friend. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell. Call 868-7426 or 897-8303 for more information.



# Looking Back, continued

afternoon. Upon its discovery in the evening a crew was immediately called and worked over 18 hours repairing the damage. Pumping was carried on for 27 hours as upwards of 500,000 gallons of water had to be poured back into the reservoir. During this period some water with high salt content was pumped which in normal operations is not touched. A chloride test taken on New Year's Day, however revealed 525 parts of salt per million parts of water which is considered a very small percentage. Cause of the break was believed due to expansion and contraction.

Billy Wood, 11, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Wood, saved his brother James, 6, from drowning in Flat river Sunday morning, after he fell into the water while playing on the ice with a neighbor boy. It was lucky for James that Billy happened to go by at that moment on his way to skate. James was able to cling to the ice until rescued, and is none the worse for his frightening experience.

For the convenience of Lowellites who must report for work during the dark early hours of the day, Supt. Frank McMahon of the Light and Power plant, reports that the street lighting system will be turned on for a couple of hours just before sunrise. This plan was decided upon after assurances that the plant could obtain the necessary supply of lamps and of fuel oil for the engines. It is expected that this will continue as long as the above mentioned supplies are available. Early risers will surely appreciate the light.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger January 11, 1968

Purchase of the Lowell Ledger and Ada Suburban Life by Francis E. (Fran) Smith, veteran Detroit-area newspaperman, was announced today. The two weekly publications have been owned and operated by Harold F. Jefferies of Lowell, who assumed management of the Ledger in 1946 and founded the Suburban Life in 1955. Though this is Smith's initial venture into the publishing field, the 44-year-old Mount Clemens native has been active in newspaper and public relations positions for the past 21 years. Smith started his career as editor of the Cuyahoga Falls (O.) Weekly News in 1947 and was named Sports Editor of the Mount Clemens Daily Monitor Leader and weekly South Macomb News (later joined as the Macomb Daily) the same year. In 1952, Smith joined the sports staff of the Detroit Times as writer and deskman. He covered a wide assortment of events, including college and professional football, high school football, basketball and minor sports, professional and sandlot baseball and college and professional basketball. He left the Times in 1957 to become Director of Public Relations

for the Detroit Pistons Basketball Club of the National Basketball Association and was elevated to the position of Director of Staff for the club in 1961. Smith resigned from his position with the Pistons to enter private business in Mount Clemens in association with Lee Van's Men's Store in 1965. He returned to public relations late in 1965 as Director of Public Relations for Windsor Raceway in Canada, a position he held until establishing his own PR firm in 1967. Among his accounts were Dixie Speedway near Flint and Owosso Speedway. Now in its 75th year of continuous publication, the Lowell Ledger has been owned by the Jefferies family since 1930 when Remick G. Jefferies purchased the paper from its founder, Frank M. Johnson. Harold Jeffries assumed management of the Ledger in 1946, one year before his father passed away. Smith says that two major factors entered into his decision to purchase the Ledger and Suburban Life: "It is the goal of practically every newspaperman to have his own publication and this opportunity enables me to realize a lifelong ambition. But, more importantly, extensive studies indicate great potential growth in the area and this represents an interesting challenge to those charged with the responsibility of heralding events leading to this development." Smith plans to move his wife, Betty, and their 11 children to the Lowell area sometime in late spring. One son, Bruce, is a junior at Michigan State University and another son, David, is enrolled in VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and is serving in Des Moines, Iowa. Daughters Kathy, 19; Karen, 16; Kim, 12; Kay C. 10; Keely, 8; Kelly, 7; and Kerry, 4; and sons Kevin, 14; and Kent, 9; all reside at 327 Esplanade Drive in Mount Clemens.

A former Lowell-area man was listed in "fair" condition in Blodgett Hospital, Grand Rapids, with gunshot wounds suffered while trying to escape a police stakeout Wednesday morning. Kent County Sheriff's Department officers reported that Robert T. Signer, 30, was shot in the back while fleeing the scene of a breaking-and-entering of the Cascade Hills Shell Station at 2:21 a.m. The station had been broken into three times in recent days, prompting authorities to establish a stakeout in the building. Signor's address was given as 391 Lake Drive, S. E., but local authorities said he had maintained residency until recently on 36th Street, on Rt. 2. Hospital officials said that Signer underwent surgery for removal of the bullet after being admitted to emergency. Lt. Herman Dykstra of the Kent County Sheriff's Department said that Signor was shot by either Detective Richard Williams or Deputy Wm. Dice, both of whom shot at the fleeing man after first firing several warning shots. Williams and Dice were staked out inside the station and were alerted to the burglary attempt by the sound of falling glass,

according to Dykstra. The officers cornered Signor, who fled through a window. They followed the fugitive through the same window and finally apprehended him after he fell from the gun wound. Signor had lived in the Lowell area for several years and formerly owned and operated a service station nearby. The Cascade station, located at 4019 Cascade Rd., in Grand Rapids, is owned by Howard Hobbs of Alto. "Because of the frequency of break-ins, a stakeout was ordered on the premises," said Lt. Dykstra. Police said that the station was first broken into two nights in a row, then for a third time a few nights later.

The increase in postal rates this week caught many people, including some red-faced members of the Post Office, without a stamp to lick. Lowell postmaster Charles R. Doyle disclosed that the rush on 1c and 6c stamps (the new first class rate) caused a shortage at Monday noon, but that all was calm again by Tuesday morning with receipt of a shipment of more than 10,000 six-centers from Chicago. The post office continues to process about 10 letters a day bearing five-cent stamps, but Doyle expects the number of postage-due letters to dwindle sharply. Doyle said that 1c stamps went quickly as many people sought to use up existing supplies of five-centers in combination with the penny stamps. "We sold more than 15,000 penny stamps in less than three hours Monday," he declared. "On Tuesday, most area post offices were out of six-centers and people were coming here from Ionia and Grand Rapids and most points between." One patron purchased 50 penny stamps to send to a relative, then called Doyle later to apologize for sending the stamps out with only a 5c stamp attached. There is a use for those five-centers, however. If two of them are used, they can be substituted for air mail, which went to 10c under the new regulations.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 13, 1993

The community alert system purchased for the Lowell Cable Television System will be tested at 8 pm on Jan. 21. Lowell Chief of Police Barry Emmons announced the testing time at the Jan. 4 Lowell City Council meeting. The community alert system will allow members of the Lowell Police Department to 'over-ride' the audio channels on all of the Lowell Cable Television stations in the event of an emergency. "This will be done by placing a telephone call to the emergency alert system and then entering the access code," Emmons explained. He added that subscribers to the Lowell Cable T.V. system would be given an audio message by the Lowell Police Department about the emergency (tornado warning, evacuation, chemical spill, etc.), with further information as to what is requested of them. The emergency alert system has been installed at the 'head-end' station. The \$3,544 unit was funded through the Look Committee. The alert system will override all Lowell Cable channel signals. Any message will be preceded by a high-pitch tone. Emmons said it is a tremendous asset which provides the department another means of getting an emergency message out to the community.

It was a "tree" mendous fund-raiser for the Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters Club. It provided trunks full of monies for Red Arrow athletes, both girls and boys. Lowell's Athletic Boosters Club's first year for selling Christmas trees and wreaths exceeded all expectations. The club sold 342 trees and 30 wreaths. "Toward the end we were going to Allegan to cut the trees down ourselves so we could come back and sell them in Lowell," said sport booster member Paul Mull. The sale raised \$2,873. The money will be put into a fund and divided amongst all sports evenly based on the number of athletes. Mull said people were stopping by while the club was tagging trees, before it officially started selling them on Nov. 27. "The club had to quit selling trees a week before it was scheduled to, because it could not get any more trees," Mull said. "The sale went much better than we'd hoped and the volunteer force was wonderful." Under the direction of Mike and Sharon Lesky a fund-raising committee was formed for athletics. Mull said other fund-raisers are planned throughout the 1993 year.



**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: FAMOUS AMERICANS**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Echo sounder
- 6. Sheepish cry
- 9. Speed obstacle
- 13. Seven day mourning period
- 14. 100%
- 15. More painful
- 16. It's often wreaked
- 17. Cardinal 3
- 18. Figure with vertex and rays
- 19. \*Pop icon-painting pop icon
- 21. \*Jackie O's first husband
- 23. "You betcha!"
- 24. Off-color
- 25. Like TV's Randall/Klugman couple
- 28. Genealogy "plant"
- 30. No, it doesn't crawl in one's ear
- 35. \*World-famous yellow cartoon boy
- 37. Kuwaiti, e.g.
- 39. Tarzan's swing
- 40. Indian nursemaid
- 41. Gardener's pipe, pl.
- 43. Overeat
- 44. Last European colony in China
- 46. Surfer's stop
- 47. Bone-dry
- 48. Choose by divine intervention
- 50. Police informer
- 52. Hi-\_\_\_\_\_
- 53. Chihuahua-Pug hybrid
- 55. By means of
- 57. \*Norma Jean's pseudonym

**CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
	19					20			21	22			
			23					24					
25	26	27		28		29			30	31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39			
40					41			42		43			
44				45		46				47			
48					49		50			51		52	
				53		54			55	56			
57	58	59	60					61			62	63	
64						65	66			67			68
69						70				71			
72						73				74			

**DISH DEALS!!**

190 Channels  
Now only ...

**\$49.99** /mo.  
for 24 months

ADD HIGH-SPEED INTERNET  
**\$14.95** /mo.  
where available

**CALL TODAY**  
PROMO CODE: **FreeEchoDot**  
1-888-416-7103  
Requires credit qualification and commitment

© StatePoint Media

- 61. \*His Airness
- 64. Naked protozoa
- 65. Not an amateur
- 67. Type of wave
- 69. Surrendered land
- 70. What iodine and quinine have in common
- 71. Like unbagged tea
- 72. \*Kentucky's Fort

- \_\_\_\_\_, named for first US Secretary of War
- 73. Aye's opposite
- 74. English homework?

**DOWN**

- 1. Wildfire remains
- 2. \*Famous American clarinetist, Artie \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Cher or Mariah Carey, e.g.?
- 4. Poacher's ware
- 5. Prestige
- 6. Get-out-of-jail money
- 7. \*Cassius Clay
- 8. Like Mary-Kate and Ashley
- 9. Capital of West Germany, 1949-1989
- 10. Push for something
- 11. Mix together
- 12. Mouse to a snake
- 15. Footwear to match toga
- 20. \*Queen of All Media
- 22. Bo Peep follower
- 24. Renting
- 25. \*2009 Nobel Prize for Peace recipient
- 26. Israeli statesman Moshe
- 27. Famous Slytherin member

- 29. Aphrodite's son
- 31. Semis
- 32. Australian horse
- 33. Accustom
- 34. \*Man behind Windows
- 36. Bangkok inhabitant
- 38. Between Phi and Kappa
- 42. Aussie gas station
- 45. Without clothes
- 49. Olden day "your"
- 51. Middle Ages garment
- 54. Remove from Google Maps
- 56. Dora the Explorer's farewell
- 57. \*Baseball Hall of Famer, Connie \_\_\_\_\_
- 58. End of grace
- 59. Redecorate, e.g.
- 60. Wild goat
- 61. \*Actor Bishop or punk rocker Ramone
- 62. Fusses
- 63. \*Neil Armstrong's employer
- 66. Ribonucleic acid
- 68. Grazing land

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*

**LEDGER OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday:  
8 am - 5 pm  
Friday: 8 am - Noon  
Closed Sat. & Sun.

P.O. Box 128  
Lowell, MI 49331  
897-9261

**LEGAL NOTICE**

PUBLICATION OF at 9:00 a.m. at Kent  
NOTICE OF HEARING Co. Probate Court,  
STATE OF MICHIGAN 180 Ottawa NW, Grand  
The Probate Court for Rapids, MI 49503  
before Judge David M.  
the County of Kent Murkowski (P35026) for

In the matter of the following purpose:  
RAYMOND MCELHENY Appointment of  
Guardianship File No. a Guardian and  
18-202,608-GA Conservator.

Conservatorship File Dated: January 4, 2018  
No. 18-202,609-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED Adult Protective  
PERSONS including Services, DHHS,  
Raymond Mcelheny Petitioner  
Jr., Kathy DeVries, and 121 Franklin St. NE  
any other children of Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
RAYMOND MCELHENY, (616) 401-7201  
whose address(es) is/are unknown and

whose interest in the VAN ESSEN AND  
matter may be barred ASSOCIATES PLLC  
or affected by the Attys. for Petitioner  
following: by Amanda Van Essen  
Wirth (P75001)

TAKE NOTICE: A 3425 Kelly St.  
hearing will be held Hudsonville, MI 49426  
on JANUARY 26, 2018, Phone (616) 633-0196

...  
It is a great ability  
to be able to  
conceal one's ability.  
~ Francois de La Rochefoucauld  
(1613 - 1680)

**SUDOKO**

*The support you need to find quality*  
**SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS**

A Place for Mom has helped over one million families find  
senior living solutions that meet their unique needs.

*There's no cost to you!*

**CALL (855) 439-6734**

! We're paid by our partner communities



aPlaceforMom.

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

© StatePoint Media

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

**ONLINE POLL**

**Who do you think is more likely to challenge Donald Trump in 2020?**

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

**WWW.thelowellledger.com**

**COPY SERVICE**  
Black & White and Color  
Quick Service, Great Quality

the lowell ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell • 897-9261

# Winter on the farm discussed by area farmers

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

With temperatures well below zero lately, one might wonder how Lowell area farmers are keeping their crops and livestock from freezing.

Interviewed on a day with a high temperature of 15 degrees, Matt VanderWerff, who operates the Frank Ryder farm in Vergennes Township, said the frigid weather has zero effect on his herd of cattle. His major challenge is keeping the animals hydrated.

"The weather has not affected the cattle, they are very hearty animals," VanderWerff said. "They can have upwards of two inches of snow on their backs. Their hide is so thick, they retain a good amount of heat. In fact, a day like today is wonderful for them because they just stand out in the sun and soak it right up. It's like when you get into your car, it feels warmer because the sun is radiating through the windshield. The hardest part with cattle in the winter is maintaining their water supply, making sure they have ample supplies of water. Water lines tend to freeze, tanks freeze. They need that water to maintain their health. Some people

use electric water heaters to keep their tanks open. That's probably one of the bigger challenges in the winter. I'm mostly just tending to the cattle from now until about the end of April. I don't milk any cows. Some farmers do and they're busy every day.

Duane Rasch, owner of Rasch Orchards, 2730 Alden Nash SE, said that he spends the winter pruning his fruit trees. He has 100 acres to go over, that's 100,000 trees.

"I'm out pruning trees right now," Rasch said. "In the winter it's mainly pruning. This is when we do the majority of the bigger, heavier cuts on the trees. We like to do them when they're dormant. We don't do all of them, a lot of the smaller ones don't really get pruned. The bigger, free-standing trees grow a lot of brush."

VanderWerff also said that keeping brush under control is a priority, but sometimes winter is a farmer's only chance at a little free time to pursue a hobby.

"The only other thing that I do if time permits and if the weather is warm enough is I go out and cut brush and firewood," VanderWerff said. "During the period right around Christmas I

don't have much to do so it is like a vacation."

Rasch said that the "halyomorpha halys"

insect is becoming a major agricultural pest so he has spent some time at MSU this winter learning about how to repel the destructive

little monsters. They feed on and destroy every type of fruit, vegetable, bean or grain. The bugs are brown, they're marmorated ["adj.,

having a marbled or streaked appearance"] and they stink. Therefore, they're called brown marmorated stink bugs. The USDA was able to determine that brown marmorated stink bugs were accidentally introduced to the USA from either China or Japan in late 1998, either in packing crates or on machinery. Brown marmorated stink bugs were first noted in Allentown, PA and started to show up here in Michigan in 2010.

"I attend a lot of educational seminars on the new and upcoming things through MSU," Rasch said. "Believe it or not, the brown marmorated stink bug is becoming a very major pest for the apple and the fruit industries. We're trying to learn how to trap it better for monitoring purposes. We tried a couple things last summer. We were seeing the brown marmorated stink bugs there, but there were none in the traps. So that's one thing that MSU is trying to get a handle on and becoming more efficient at trapping and monitoring that insect. They like peaches more than apples."

Rasch enjoys some winter hobbies, but said that anti-deer safeguards in place in his orchard have required him to find new hunting grounds.

"Wintertime is our slowest time of the year, I'll give you that, but we do enough to keep busy," Rasch said. "I like to deer hunt, that's just come to an end here. My favorite hunting spots are no longer any good because I put up an eight foot tall deer fence around the orchard so now the deer can't get in. It's changed their habits a lot. I'm looking for a different spot to deer hunt off of now. That's the price you've got to pay."

The reason he keeps the deer out even though he loves delicious venison is because of all the costly damage they can do to his fruit trees.

"The bigger trees didn't really suffer that much from damage from the deer chewing on them, but this small, higher density stuff won't outgrow the damage," Rasch said. "It deforms them so they're not the shape that I'd prefer them to have. In the summertime they're eating the fruit. When it's bitter cold like it is right now they want the buds. They have a lot more sugar energy in them than the fruit does. But without the buds you're not going to have any blossoms and without blossoms you're not going to have fruit."



## IT'S PENGUIN WEATHER!



Stay warm and cozy!

Get a subscription to the Ledger  
and keep warm inside reading  
your hometown news!

Call 616.897.9261

