

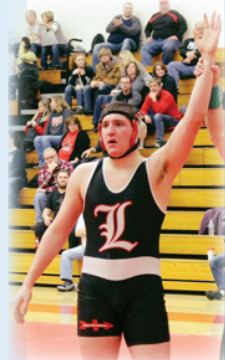
city council meeting



page 3



lhs sports



pages 9, 10 & 11

## LACC announces Betsy Davidson as their choice for 2018 Person of the Year

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Last week the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce announced the recipients of this year's Chamber Awards. The awards will be presented during the annual "Winter Gathering of the Membership" dinner banquet at Deer Run Golf Club, 13955 Cascade Rd., at 6 pm on Thursday, Feb. 15.

This year the Person of the Year award went to Betsy Davidson. She co-owns Addorio Technologies with her brother and when she isn't doing that she devotes between five and 10 hours a week volunteering with the Lowell Rotary, the Lowell Area Recreation Authority and the Lowell Area Trailway. She is also one of the main volunteers behind the Riverwalk Festival.

In order to qualify for the Person of the Year award, one must

"demonstrate the following qualities: Over time, the candidate has freely donated considerable time to the community, school district, church, or humanity [...] over and above the demands of their regular profession; the community is a better place to live because of the



Betsy Davidson has been chosen as this year's person of the year. *Ledger file photo*

efforts of the candidate; the candidate positively promotes the community in both word and action; the candidate possesses new and innovative ideas that benefit the community and the candidate cannot be a Chamber board [or] foundation board member at the time of nomination." Past Persons of the Year include Chris Van Antwerp, King Doyle, Dr. Orville McKay, Ivan Blough, Dr. Robert Reagan, Al Eckman, Ray Quada, Jim Reagan, Dr. Donald Gerard, Dr. Roger LaWarre, Luanne Kaeb, Jim Doyle, Dave and Jan Thompson, Perry and Teresa Beachum, Noel Dean, Greg

Canfield, Rick Seese, Mike Sprenger and Greg Pratt.

"There are not enough hours in the day for everything that I want to accomplish," Davidson said. "I try my best. I want to be active and I want to be involved. I'm involved with things that I'm passionate about and that helps. I enjoy it."

The surprise announcement was made in front of a group at a large breakfast event, a group that included Davidson's mother and other family members.

"I found out Wednesday at the Chamber's breakfast club," Davidson said. "[Chamber director] Liz

Baker said, 'Why don't you do the announcements today?' So I did the announcements and at the end she said, 'I have one more announcement.' Then she announced it to the whole group there of about 30 or 40 people. My mother was pretty excited. Liz had invited them all to come and they were all excited. It's overwhelming for all of us. When I do projects, events and activities, I usually am involving my family too, so I feel like this is for all of us because we all give back.

Person of the Year, continued, page 3

## FROM once again offers free income tax preparation assistance

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

This year's income tax filing deadline is Tuesday, April 17, but many employers have already distributed their annual W-2 forms. Every year for the past ten years, the free tax preparation services at Flat River Outreach Ministries have helped guide local residents through what can be a very confusing process. It's called the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and appointments are currently available.

"We are doing it every Tuesday from Feb. 6 through April 10," said Amanda Haberlein, FROM's marketing and communications director. "Registrations are done through the United Way, so they should call 211 to register. There are a number of appointments available in the morning, afternoon and evening, from 9:30 am until 6:30 pm, so even folks that work a regular first shift could set up an appointment. The volunteers are IRS-certified, so people can also be confident in that. The income max for this year is \$60,000 per household. Appointments will start on Tuesday, February 6 and will happen every Tuesday until April 10. People



should start calling now to set up those appointments."

"The program is run by the United Way with sites all over Grand Rapids," said FROM volunteer Diane LaWarre. "Our tax preparers are trained by the IRS. They have to re-certify every year. This program is for taxpayers of low and middle income with family incomes of less than \$60,000 per year. [...] We can do taxes for people from all over, they don't have to be in the Lowell school district. We've done some out-of-state returns this year already."

A typical appointment takes about 90 minutes and all tax returns are checked over repeatedly to make sure there are no mistakes.

"If someone calls for an appointment, we're going to screen them," LaWarre said. "If they [qualify], then they can make an

appointment at our site. When they come in, they need to show their social security card and an ID to the greeter. She assigns them to a tax preparer. The IRS requires that we have a quality review, so another person comes in while the taxpayer is sitting there and they have a quality review. They go over the total tax return and find out if there are any errors or anything that we should ask about. Then they go home and that's when we e-file it. We schedule the appointments every hour and a half, but they usually take about an hour on average. Some are shorter, some are longer."

It might be tempting to offer a donation or a tip to your tax preparer, but this is strictly forbidden.

"A lot of people ask us if they can give us some money or ask how much it costs," LaWarre said. "The IRS would close us down if we took any money at all. It's totally free."

Call the United Way at 211 to schedule an appointment or call FROM at 616-897-8260 for more information.

"It's important for people to get their taxes done well and with no cost," LaWarre said.

## Senate passes two new tax bills

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Two bills vetoed by Gov. Rick Snyder in July had their veto overridden on Wednesday, Jan. 17, by the Michigan Senate and will become law. The bills were designed to speed up an increase in the tax exemption called "sales tax on the difference," money exempt from taxation when an older vehicle is traded in for a new one. Michigan used to charge sales tax on the entire purchase price of a newly-purchased car or RV, even if the deal included a trade-in. In 2013, the legislature passed a law phasing in an exemption for the value of a trade-in vehicle. This legislation, Senate Bills 94 and 95, increase the amount from a trade-in excluded from taxation to \$5,000 in 2019 and increasing it \$1,000 a year in subsequent years. Snyder vetoed the bills, but on Tuesday the Michigan House voted 85-23, the two-thirds supermajority required to override the veto. On Wednesday, the Michigan Senate voted unanimously and that was it for the veto, the bills became law.

"Overriding the vetoes of Senate Bills 94 and 95 is not only a historic action by the Senate, it also represents our democracy and constitution in full action," Senator Dave Hildenbrand, R-Lowell, the sponsor of the bills, said in a press release. "The veto override was granted to the legislature in an effort to provide an additional check in our system of checks and balances. It is not something we do often or without serious thought and consideration."

"Changing the tax code without a plan to pay for it challenges the conservative fiscal responsibility of the

Tax bills, continued, page 4

50¢



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# WinterFest & Winter Waggle events slated for Feb. 3

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

There are going to be a variety of fun activities for the whole family during the Wittenbach Wege Center's WinterFest and Winter Waggle events on Saturday, Feb. 3.

First up is the Winter Waggle 5k, co-sponsored with the Lowell YMCA. Registration begins at 9:15, the race starts at 10 and lasts until 3 pm. The course

takes you through some of the WWC's nature trails and they'll even let you use snowshoes (which they rent) or skis if you don't want to walk or run. To make the 5k even more interesting and challenging you can request an "orientation option."

"The orienteering challenge is to test your compass skills and keep your mind sharp," said WWC director Courtney

Cheers. "Participants will check out a compass and the bearings for each question at registration. There will be two challenges with three trivia questions each. Bearings will be given in order to find the trivia answer. The first three participants or teams to turn in the correct answers will win a prize."

As if that wasn't enough, all participants will

receive a snowflake medal, hot chocolate and snacks. The cost for the 5k is \$10 for individuals or \$30 for a family or group of up to four people.

The WWC WinterFest will be the same day from 11 am until 3 pm. The first 100 snowshoe rentals will be half price, after that they'll rent them out for \$4. At 1 pm Gene Wasserman

from the Michigan Bluebird Society will be there to lead a workshop on how to build a seed or suet bird feeder.

"Learn to identify common songbirds, different types of feeders and food and why bluebirds need your help," Cheers said. "[You can] build your own seed or suet feeder on site. The presentation is free but there is a cost for each feeder."

At 2 pm there will be a presentation about landscaping for birds by landscape architect and WWC naturalist Rebecca Marquardt. Another fun activity will be the scavenger hunt and other games on the trail.

"The scavenger hunt is trail sleuthing from clue to clue to locate different nature items along or near the trails," Cheers said. "In this scavenger hunt you will take only pictures and leave only footprints. All participants will receive a snowflake medal. Other prizes are still to be determined based on donations."

For more information about how to enter the Winter Waggle 5k, call the WWC at 616-987-2565 or find links to that information online at grymca.org or facebook.com/wittenbachwegecenter.

"Winter sledding or skiing active wear is appropriate for the day," Cheers said.



## along main street

### 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.

but not attending LHS, should phone 616-987-2913 for directions. To be fair to all students, online application submissions will not be accepted after Sun., Mar. 4. This new process will still require two letters of recommendation, transcript and personal statement. For more information please call Mrs. Pratt at 987-2913.

### SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE FOR LHS SENIORS

The General Local Scholarship process has been updated. LHS seniors will receive an email at their Lowell Education account on Feb. 1. Other interested 12th grade students living within the Lowell school district boundaries,

### BOOK SIGNING

Local author Emma Palova will be signing her new book *Shifting Sands Short Stories* on Feb. 3 at Lowell Arts from 1 to 4 pm. Bring your copy for an autograph. Palova will be offering tips on how to start and finish your book in 2018. For more info go to EW Emma's Writings on <http://emmapalova.com>

...  
**Men never do evil so completely and cheerfully as when they do it from a religious conviction.**

~ Blaise Pascal  
(1623 - 1662)

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.

## 2018 Lowell Expo is fast approaching - it's time to reserve your spot

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Businesses, clubs, groups and organizations of any size and type are encouraged to sign up for a spot at the Lowell Expo, which will be held at Lowell High School from 9 am until 3 pm on Saturday, March 24.

Thousands of people attended last year's event and this year the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce hopes that about 150 local businesses, organizations and churches will participate. This will be the event's 22nd year.

Attendees of the Lowell Expo can generally expect to encounter things like live bands, inexpensive haircuts, fashion shows, game shows, door prizes, raffles, free massages, free blood pressure checks, free candy, free snacks and dozens of demonstrations and samples.

Go to this link for a sign up sheet: <http://www.discoverlowell.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2018-Final-Expo-Application.pdf>



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# Lowell City Council votes not to allow proposed medical marijuana provisioning center

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16. As part of the meeting, the council had their final public hearing on medical marijuana and then voted 5-0 not to allow a proposed medical marijuana provisioning center to locate in town.

Four citizens, out of the 17 that attended, spoke at the podium during the public hearing. First to address the council was Belding resident Connor Baker, owner of the Hive Wellness Group, the company that wanted to open a business in Lowell.

"Aside from the revenue to the city itself via fees and taxes, we will create many well paying jobs and provide consistent, high quality medicine to our patients," Baker said. "The

provisioning center staff will be trained to help develop individualized dosing plans so patients are correctly treating their conditions. We will be linked to a Michigan database that all other medical marijuana facilities will be linked to and we will be able to confirm the authenticity of a patient's card and can confirm that they have not exceeded their patient limit, whether the medicine they purchased was at our facility or another facility."

Next, local resident Jim Hodges expressed his support for medical marijuana businesses. Hodges pointed out that there is a big difference between approving a recreational marijuana facility and approving a medical marijuana facility. Hodges suggested the

council should attend a 'mayor exchange day' with a town such as Marshall or Battle Creek that allows these businesses. Hodges also said that the impulse to allow a medical marijuana provisioning center in Lowell is the same impulse that caused Lowell to be the home of Gilda's Club, Flat River Outreach Ministries and Pink Arrow Pride.

"I believe that the benefits far outweigh the negatives on this one," Hodges said. "Lowell is a better place because we care about each other, our friends, our neighbors and our family. This is about compassion and doing the right thing for our community."

Medical marijuana patient and Lowell area resident Keith Johnson said that forcing him and

all other area patients to travel to Lansing for their medicine, the closest medical marijuana facility, was a hardship for many already unhealthy people.

"I still think that it would be a very good thing for Lowell to have that," Johnson said. "I'm tired of driving to Lansing to get quality medicine to help me through my struggles on a daily basis. It will benefit many people and save a lot of people money."

Finally, Lowell dentist Dr. Jim Reagan said he was worried that Lowell could get a bad reputation if the city allowed a medical marijuana business.

"If we do [approve this], I think the Lowell Showboat could be called the 'Robert E. Weed' and we could replace the smokestacks with a couple

of reefers," Reagan said. "I don't think it's a good idea. There are other options for cancer people."

Before voting unanimously not to allow medical marijuana businesses in Lowell, the councilors made a few brief statements of their own about the issue. At the first public hearing in November,

Lowell police chief Steve Bukala urged the council not to allow medical marijuana businesses. Some councilors referred to this in their statements. Others cited mysterious "business owners" who contacted the city and asked them to squash the idea.

City council, continued, page 4



Medical marijuana patient Keith Johnson said that medical marijuana helps him fight his illnesses.

## Person of the Year, continued

It's pretty overwhelming. It was quite the surprise. I didn't realize that that was going to happen. There are a lot of other people that are very deserving besides me. I really appreciate it, though. I'm humbled."

The other 2018 Chamber Awards went

to Greenridge Realty for the Business Appreciation award, GlessBoards and Painted Turtle Hard Cider for Best Business to Watch, Mi Hometown Furnishings for Most Promising New Business and LowellArts for Non-Profit Spotlight. Brick

Awards went to Arrowhead Golf Course, Big Boiler Brewing, Curtis Laundry and Dry Cleaners, Poultry Management Systems and Ronda Auto Centers.

This is a dinner event and it's open to the public. Tickets are \$40 each or \$310

for a table of eight. To make reservations, call the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce at 616-897-9161 or register online at [discoverlowell.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/1145](http://discoverlowell.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/1145). They take MasterCard, Visa and Discover Card.

## LPD statistics for December

The Lowell Police Department made 11 arrests during the month of December. These arrests included two drug law violations, one for drunk driving, one for driving with a suspended license, three for outstanding warrants and four that are described in the police department's statistics as "other arrests."

That all adds up to a

grand total of 307 arrests in Lowell during 2017, including 13 for alcohol violations, 36 drug law violations, 18 drunk driving arrests, 40 for a suspended license, 120 for outstanding warrants and 80 "other arrests."

Lowell police also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during December. There were five

larceny calls, one breaking and entering complaint, one disorderly conduct call, one dog/animal complaint, two malicious destruction calls and 13 assaults. Lowell police issued 22 citations and notified eight residents about ordinance violations. They were called to "assist" 88 times and were dispatched to 10 accidents. Out of 159 traffic stops in

December, they let 149 drivers go with a warning.

That comes to 18 assaults in Lowell during 2017, plus 11 breaking and entering complaints, 22 malicious destructions, 85 larcenies, 40 dog/animal complaints and 48 calls for disorderly conduct. Out of 1,642 traffic stops in 2017, the LPD let 1,446 drivers go with a warning.

### DEPUTY CITY CLERK

The City of Lowell (Kent County, Michigan) is accepting applications for the position of Deputy City Clerk. The following provides a summary of the required experience and skills. A complete job description and information about the City can be found on our website: [www.ci.lowell.mi.us](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us)

- The Deputy City Clerk is responsible for assisting the City Clerk in the day to day operations for the City of Lowell which includes both statutory and non-statutory duties, including record retention, preparing agendas, minutes and other materials for meetings, planning and zoning administration, conducting elections, social media, assisting with water billing, payroll, accounts receivable and website administration. The work is performed under the supervision of the City Clerk. The employee is expected to demonstrate considerable independent judgment and knowledge in performance of assigned duties.
- Possession of an associate's degree in public or business administration or three years of relevant experience is required.

This is a full-time position (40 hours) with a salary range of \$17.10 - \$22.23 per hour. Please send cover letter and resume by email to [lgerard@ci.lowell.mi.us](mailto:lgerard@ci.lowell.mi.us) or submit documentation by mail or in person to City of Lowell, Attn: Lori Gerard, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331. Selected candidates must undergo a criminal background check and testing prior to start date.

DEADLINE to apply is 5:00 p.m. February 13, 2018. The City of Lowell is an Equal Opportunity Employer.




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## City council, continued



Former Lowell mayor Jim Hodges said that "the benefits far outweigh the negatives."

"I support our chief of police who takes care of us and supports our community and that's where I'm standing right now," said councilor Jeff Phillips. "I know there's good aspects and bad aspects on both sides but that's where I'm going to stand right now."

"I have mixed feelings as well," said councilor Jim Salzwedel.

"There's people in this community that truly will help and there are people in this community who will take full advantage of the situation," said councilor Marty Chambers. "I support the chief. Not too long ago our town had empty storefronts and we haven't been this busy for quite a while. Sometimes I wonder if this'll slow down the growth and the prosperity we're currently seeing in our city. I'm not sure the community is strong enough to see this through."

"The community appears to be pretty evenly split from what we've seen," said councilor Greg Canfield. "There have been quite a few business owners that have stepped up and voiced their opposition to this. That concerns me."

If we do opt out there are other places where this medicine's available for people. There is a little bit of a drive involved but it's not like we're eliminating that option for people."

"We've done homework and we've listened to everybody and everything they had to say," said councilor and mayor Michael DeVore. "We have a police department that's already taxed enough. Do we want additional work for them?"

Interviewed just after the meeting, Baker said that he still plans to try to find a way to open his business in Lowell.

"I don't think I'm giving up yet, not by any stretch of the imagination," Baker said. "There are definitely many other options and things we can do. It's a temporary thing. Any ordinance can be changed with a vote."

In other business, the council listened to a presentation by a contingent from the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, who unveiled the results of a survey of local residents they undertook last year. The complete results are

available in this document on the city of Lowell website, starting on page 31: [http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us/Portals/1/Agendas\\_Minutes/city%20council/agendas/01-16-2018%20Part%201.pdf](http://www.ci.lowell.mi.us/Portals/1/Agendas_Minutes/city%20council/agendas/01-16-2018%20Part%201.pdf). The group from the chamber also suggested that it would be super if some of their marketing budget could come from city funds.

"I just want to urge you to consider making marketing part of the city's budget in the future," said Cliff Yankovich.

"With future dollars from the city of Lowell to help market our community, we could do even more," said Rick Seese.

The council voted to hire Troy, MI company Revize to revise the city's website. The city will pay them \$9,700 to build the new site plus \$1,800 a year through 2021 for hosting.

Back in 2016 the city was awarded \$27,600 from the LCTV fund to fix some of the worst city sidewalks. The damaged sidewalks in the downtown area were fixed that fall, but the money for that came from the DDA fund, the \$27,600 remained unused. City manager Michael Burns, who did not attend the meeting, left a memo for the council asking if the \$27,600 could be used instead for, "improvements to sidewalks on municipal property and furthermore install sidewalk[s] in locations throughout the city to increase ADA accessibility." The council voted to approve this change.

There remain two vacancies on the city planning commission and one opening on the Downtown Development Authority. Interested parties should contact the city clerk at city hall.

The council's next regular meeting will be at 7 pm on Monday, Feb. 5. At that meeting the council plans to discuss an ordinance relating to short-term rentals such as Airbnb in city limits. The council will also have a "coffee with the council" event at the chamber of commerce building on the Riverwalk from 8 am until 10 am on Saturday, Feb. 3.



Connor Baker, owner of Hive Solutions, is for now unable to open a business in Lowell.

## Tax bills, continued

past seven years," Governor Snyder said in a press release. "Reinvention of the tax code balanced with responsible management of taxpayer dollars created our state's comeback and we need to stay on the current course of long-term financial

planning so we can continue our current trajectory of record economic growth and declining unemployment rates. This is how we best protect Michigan families and leave the next administration and Legislature with a balanced

checkbook so they can continue the comeback."

The nonpartisan Senate Fiscal Agency said the bills would reduce sales and use tax revenue by \$8.4 million in 2019, \$17.7 million in 2020 and \$28.7 million in 2021.

# viewpoint

## outdoors

ice cold

Dave Stegehuis

Ice fishing has long been a traditional outdoor activity in Michigan. When traveling in the wintertime almost anywhere around the state, bundled up fishermen can be spotted on lakes and bayous hunkered over holes in the ice.

Fishing through the ice has been challenging the last few years. There have been short periods of favorable conditions, but those times

have been few and far between. Last year good ice was hard to find. This winter has been unusually cold, so sitting out on a lake has not been comfortable unless one is in a heated shelter. Patience usually pays off and eventually there will be an opportunity to get out.

Ice fishing is fun and can be productive for those who seek fresh fish dinners. Several species, including

a variety of panfish, can be pulled through a hole in the ice.

It is easy and relatively inexpensive to get started fishing through the ice. A short light rod with a reel or other method to keep line under control, a hook, bait, an open hole, and you are in business. Tip-ups with pop-up flags and underwater spoons alert anglers to pike and walleye strikes.

Of course, there is a long list of special

equipment to choose from which could make your outing more efficient and comfortable.

Portable shelters have replaced home-made shanties so common years ago. A white plastic bucket doubles as a carry-all and seat. Advanced battery technology has made electric powered augers practical, but hand augers still do the job of boring holes. Younger fishermen may have never seen a spud, which is a steel

bar about five feet long with a chisel point for chopping holes. Electronic fish finders monitor water depth and fish activity. Proper clothing can make or break a fishing trip, but most Great Lakes' residents should have essential outerwear on hand. For someone who is curious about ice fishing, it is possible to get started with the basics and work up to more specialized equipment if desired.

Because there is no such thing as safe ice, extreme caution must be used when on or around water. Ice safety precautions should be understood and strictly followed when venturing out.

Ice fishing is a good way to get outside and take advantage of still another outdoor recreational opportunity in Michigan. Good fishing and be safe.



### 125 years ago Lowell Journal January 25, 1893

The Lowell Water & Light company has bonded its plant here for \$100,000. The mortgage was recorded in Grand Rapids last week and also with the Township Clerk of Vergennes. This company should not be confused with the Michigan Electric Co., as this company is the combination of the old Lowell Water Co. and the Lowell Light & Power Co.

Daisy Markoe said by the Boston Herald to be the "World's Greatest Topsy" heads the cast of Stowe's original Uncle Tom's Cabin Company. A beautiful dancer, fine performer upon the banjo, and a sweet singer. At Music Hall, Wednesday, February 1st.

This is a great year for the farmer who has pork to sell. A large load was sold yesterday at \$9 per hundred, and some has been sold during the past week for even more money. Do not forget the Farmer's Institute at Lowell Feb. 6 7 8 9th inclusive. The meetings are of great benefit to the farmers, and this should receive the hearty support of all in this vicinity.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 24, 1918

Storm edition. Owing to freight blockade, we are obliged to issue The Ledger in abbreviated form this week, covering, however, all home and vicinity matter as usual. We expect to resume state and national news, and literary features in our next issue.

The office of chief deputy sheriff, which carries a salary of \$2,000, will be abolished if Sheriff Berry acts on the recommendation of the board of supervisors.

A resolution asking the sheriff to eliminate this office was adopted Friday with little opposition. The sheriff hotly responded to Supervisor Perry's resolution which called for action by the sheriff in dismissing two members of his force who are aspiring to the sheriff's office at the fall election because, as was asserted in the resolution, they are campaigning on the county's time. "I believe every man has a right to aspire to a higher position," Sheriff Berry declared. "Neither man at whom this resolution is directed, is slighting his work. As soon as either man devotes his attention to campaigning rather than to the pursuits of his duties, I will then demand his resignation."

Sheriff Berry's request for permission to add two more deputy sheriffs to his force was turned down Friday by the board of supervisors on recommendation of the finance committee. Whether motor deputies will be employed next summer in chasing automobile speeders was left to the discretion of the finance committee-men.

Vergennes soldier boy died in Georgia. Frank Ellis died at Fort Oglethorp, Georgia, January 9, of spinal meningitis, aged 19 years. Funeral services were held at the Alton church January 17; burial in Alton cemetery, Rev. A. H. Lash, pastor of the Lowell Congregational church, officiating clergyman. Frank had made his home with the families of Dell Condon and A. Vandenbrock since he was 12 years of age. He leaves a sister in Owosso, who was unable to attend the funeral, being seriously ill with pneumonia.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 28, 1943

The Foreman Poultry Farm will do its share this season, in increasing poultry and egg production. Mr. Foreman reports that orders for baby chicks are coming in at a more rapid rate than ever before, and that orders have already nearly reached the capacity of his plant for the current season. More than 600,000 baby chicks will be shipped to customers in all sections of the country.

One of the most interesting and informative features of each issue of the Ledger is the column conducted by County Agent, K. K. Vining, entitled "Up and Down Kent County Roads." This column not only contains matters of interest to farmers, but town and city people as well. Mr. Vining has a good understanding of what people like to read, coupled with a good sense of humor.

Men's work clothes to adjust to war board orders – fewer pockets, less rows of stitching, lighter pocketing, less buttons, shorter shirt-tails—all makes standardized – are some of the changes just ahead for the working man. Don't buy more than you need but we can still supply you with plenty of the old standard grades at Coons'.

### 50 years ago Lowell Ledger January 25, 1968

Human error was blamed today for release of cyanide into the Flat River following a cleaning operation at Attwood Corporation. A company spokesman said changes have been made for control of the poisonous waste to prevent any possible recurrence of the incident. The corporation, represented by plant superintendent Wayne Felty, appeared before the Michigan Water Resources Commission in Lansing last week to answer a show cause order why the firm should not be declared in default of a commission order limiting its waste discharge. Felty disclosed to the commission that such wastes normally are channeled to a waste tank for eventual disposal after poisons are removed. A workman inadvertently opened the wrong valve, discharging the waste into a storm drain and, in turn, into the river, the company spokesman said.

### 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 27, 1993

School payroll discrepancies leads to dismissal of employee. An internal audit of Lowell Schools payroll records uncovered a number of irregularities in an employee's payroll account, Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch stated Tuesday. In late December of 1992, a discrepancy was noticed in an employee's payroll account by Assistant Superintendent Gary Kemp.

Phil Schneider has been selling insurance in Lowell longer than anyone. The Lowell native has run his own insurance company in Lowell for 29 years. One might think owning the company makes Schneider the boss. The 1946 graduate from Lowell doesn't like to view it that way. "I've been serving the people that have been doing business with me," Schneider explains. "They have been my master." Schneider joined The Speerstra Insurance Agency in 1961 and purchased it in 1964. He has been a main stay of Main Street ever since. Earlier this month, it was disclosed that the insurance veteran would sell Speerstra Agency to Dick Bennett of Carr Agency Inc. of 115 W. Main St. in Ionia. While Schneider has sold, he hasn't necessarily retired quite yet. "I'm going to stick around and help out on a part-time basis, at least for now," Schneider said. The Lowell native said the reason for the sale was, he decided, after looking around, that it was time to smell the roses. He added, that not knowing what tomorrow will bring, he's decided to start doing things he hasn't had time for, such as traveling, fishing, shooting hand pistols competitively, and taking up the game of golf. "I asked a playing partner 25-30 years ago how I could become a better golfer? He said, take lessons. I'm going to do that now," Schneider says. Schneider started working for Pete Speerstra in 1961. He spent the previous 14 years as a car salesman.

# Knights of Columbus Free Throw Challenge winners announced

Pictured are the 2018 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Challenge winners. The event is sponsored by the St. Mary's Council 7719. The contest was held on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Cherry Creek for kids aged four to nine. They each had 15 free-throw shots and the winners were chosen in certain gender and age categories. The winners will advance to the district challenge and may have the chance to advance to the state challenge.

Pictured are, front row, left to right: Eli Woolery, Leah Krieger, Ava McCormick, Elyse Veldman, Ethan Dennings and Addison Bruwer; back row, left to right: Emma Cormick, Caleb Woolery, Ben Gaskin and Owen LaRose.



# Four questions to ask before you retire

Deciding when to start receiving your retirement benefits from Social Security is a decision that only you can make. There are a lot of important questions to answer.

Should you claim benefits earlier and get a smaller monthly payment for more years? Or should

you wait and get a bigger monthly amount over a shorter period?

There are no right or wrong answers, but we encourage you to consider these four important questions as you plan for your financially secure retirement:

### How much money will I need to live comfortably in retirement?

Anticipate what your expenses will be in retirement, including things like mortgage payments or rent, utilities, healthcare insurance and related costs, food, personal care, car payments and maintenance, entertainment, hobbies, travel, and credit card or other debt.

### What will my monthly Social Security retirement benefit be?

The average monthly Social Security benefit for a retired worker in 2018 is \$1,404 (up from \$1,377 in 2017). The average monthly Social Security benefit for a disabled worker in 2018 is \$1,197 (up from \$1,173

in 2017). As a reminder, eligibility for retirement benefits still requires 40 credits (usually about 10 years of work).

### Will I have other income to supplement my Social Security benefits?

Secure your financial future with a retirement portfolio that includes savings, investments, and possibly a pension plan. You may choose to increase your income by working past retirement age. Social Security replaces a percentage of a worker's pre-retirement income based on your lifetime earnings. Most financial advisors

Before you retire, continued, page 7

# health

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

## - measles

Last week at Chicago O'Hare airport, over 150 people were exposed to the measles. Measles is a disease we do not see here due to vaccination. It used to be quite common. It kills over 100,000 people worldwide, most under the age of five.

Symptoms occur 10 to 14 days after exposure. Fever, runny nose, dry cough, red inflamed eyes, mouth lesions, and a large bodily rash are typical. Fevers can

be as high as 104 to 105.

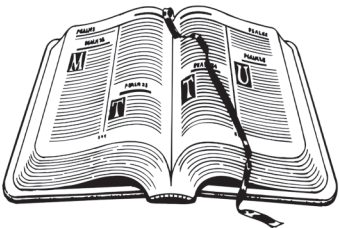
Complications include pneumonia, low platelet counts, encephalitis (brain inflammation), and loss of pregnancy.

There is no treatment for an established infection. Immune globulin can be given to people within six days of exposure to prevent or lessen infection.

Prevention through vaccination is key.



# 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

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

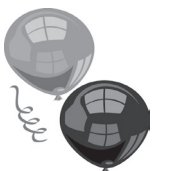
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES  
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 - www.fbclowell.org  
Pastor Jon Pickens, Lead Pastor  
Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor  
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries  
SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM (Nursery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

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

**St. Mary Catholic Church**  
402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820  
Website: 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

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

# happy birthday



**JANUARY 24**  
David Szymczak, Haleigh Timmers, Mackenzie Stiles.

**JANUARY 25**  
Molly Doyle, Dean Olin.

**JANUARY 26**  
Victor Weeks, Steven Uzarski, Andy Nowak, Alex Dommer.

**JANUARY 27**  
Jacqueline (Bay) Saylor, Brittani Anderson, Dianna Rhodes, Lori Smith, Nancy Roth, Andrea Dewey.

**JANUARY 28**  
Ryan White, Cher Mastenbrook, Amy Newhouse, Renee Peters, Veda Joyce Nearing, Kyle Washburn.

**JANUARY 29**  
Brenda Traetz, Kim Call, Karen Potter, Zach DeBald.

**JANUARY 30**  
Susan Bell, Nicholas Kinsley, Tyler Call, Josh Dietz, Shirley Stevens.



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# The best kept secret in Lowell can help save lives

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Described as “the best kept secret in Lowell” by one of its board members, the Lowell Serenity Club is a meeting place for those in recovery from addiction. The club is located in a historic building overlooking the Flat River at 101 W. Main. The building was originally the Lowell Post Office in 1864 and has also been the McMahon and Reynolds’ Clothing Store, Avery Jewelers, Harry’s Restaurant, Lowell Bakery, Rittanger Jewelry, Christiansen Drug Co., the chamber of commerce, Kaptain’s Korner and the Fischer Piano Shop.

“I coined the phrase of Lowell Serenity Club being the best kept secret in Lowell because many do not know what goes on at the club,” said board member Susan Kellar. “Lives are being saved there. It is a place of fellowship, hope, healing and support. The purpose of the Lowell Serenity Club is to assure there is a recovery meeting location for anyone in need of support. In addition to 16 plus recovery meetings weekly, we host monthly speaker meetings and provide a meal. The speakers are volunteers who are in recovery. We believe sharing experiences is not only a part of healing oneself but a testimony for others. We are a not-for-profit club that is self supporting. A portion of meeting donations pay for rent, utilities and supplies like paper products, coffee and maintenance. We also

hold occasional holiday meals, game nights, etc.”

It was at a family game night event on New Year’s Eve that the Ledger caught up with “Crazy” Charlie, the club’s handyman and ambassador. Charlie has been attending the Lowell Serenity Club since his first drunk driving incident in 2000. The legal limit is .08; Charlie blew a .32 that night.

“Legally dead is .40 and I’ve been there too, that was my last drunk,” Charlie said. “I now have six and a half years of sobriety out of the 17 years I’ve been coming here. The Lowell Police Department and the Kent County Sheriff are a lot happier when I don’t drink. Once I have that first drink, there’s no guarantee what will happen. It doesn’t end well for anybody. I can’t say that I’m going to sit down and just have one shot. My last drunk consisted of having a .42 and waking up at St. Mary’s clinically dead after drinking all of the vodka on the shelf in Grand Rapids. I really didn’t want to live anymore. I just didn’t want to. This place means a lot to me so I try to give back every way I can. If you have that destructive gene that says one is not enough and 1,000 will never be enough, this is where you should come. There are lots of good people here. A lot of people still judge me for who I used to be. They don’t believe you’ve changed no matter how often you come here. People come here because of the

‘judge nudge,’ the spouse who thinks you’re doing too much, or occasionally

you’ll get someone like me who just took it too far who wakes up in the hospital and realizes, ‘I have to do something different.’ The club gives a lot of hope

Serenity Club,  
continued, page 16

## Before you retire, continued

say you will need about 70 percent of pre-retirement income to live comfortably in retirement.

### How long do I expect my retirement to last?

Anticipate the length of your retirement, keeping in mind that many American workers will live much longer than the “average” retiree. Consider your health, family longevity, and lifestyle. Your Social Security retirement benefits will provide continuous income for as long as you live. Discover your life expectancy with our online calculator at [www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/population/longevity](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/population/longevity).

If you’ve contributed enough to the Social Security system through FICA payroll taxes, you can receive your full retirement benefit at age 66 or 67 depending on when you

were born. You may also claim it sooner, starting at age 62, at a permanently reduced rate. Or you may wait until after your full retirement age, increasing your benefit amount by up to 8 percent per full year to age 70.

Social Security is with you through life’s journey, and we’re here to help you prepare for a financially secure future for you and your family. We invite you to use our online retirement planners at [www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/planners/retire/).

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

## NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18-01 BOWNE TOWNSHIP

At a regular meeting of the Bowne Township Board held on January 15, 2018 Ordinance No. 18-01 was adopted. The ordinance amended the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary of this Ordinance is as follows:

1. Section 2.49 of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance contains the definition of Lot Area; the definition is proposed to be amended to exclude from the calculations for lot area environmentally sensitive areas determined to be non-buildable such as wetlands, steep slopes, and flood plains; but to retain language that requires that any area of road right-of-way be excluded from the calculation for lot area. The definition will read as follows:

### 2.49 LOT AREA

Lot area is the total horizontal area within the lot lines of a lot, exclusive of any public or private road right-of-way. The area within the public or private road right-of-way shall not be included in the area of a lot even if such area is included in the property description of the lot.

2. A new Section 3.45 is proposed to be added to Article 3 General Provisions, which will permit applications for an exception to the required width to depth ratios in the R-1 Rural Residential District, the AG Agricultural District, and the R-2 Low Density Residential District. The section will read as follows:

### 3.45 WIDTH TO DEPTH RATIO EXCEPTION IN THE R-1 RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, THE AG AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, AND THE R-2 LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

A. For property in the R-1 Rural Residential Zoning District, and in the AG Agricultural District, an applicant may request an exception from the required minimum width to depth ratio of one to three for lots less than 40 acres in lot area, outside platted subdivisions and site condominium developments. For properties in the R-2 Low-Density Residential District, an applicant may request an exception from the required minimum width to depth ratio of one to four for lots less than ten acres in lot area, outside platted subdivisions and site condominium developments.

B. The application shall be made in writing according to procedures as established by Bowne Township officials. A site drawing based upon a current survey and drawn to scale shall be submitted with the application. The drawing shall provide sufficient detail to illustrate the subject property, dimensions, structures, streets, natural features such as trees, slopes equal to or greater than 33 percent, wetlands, bodies of water, flood plains, and any other factors pertinent to the request. The drawing shall show structures and uses of land on adjacent properties.

C. A decision as to whether to permit a width to depth ratio that exceeds one to three in the R-1 District or AG Agricultural District, or one to four in the R-2 District, shall be made by the Bowne Township Planning Commission. The Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing, with notice given as required by Section 19.04 B. The Planning Commission shall make a decision at the same meeting at which a public hearing is held, or at a subsequent meeting.

D. In no case shall the required lot width of any lot in the R-1 Rural Residential Zoning District, the AG Agricultural District, or the R-2 Low Density Residential District, for which a width to depth exception is sought, be less than the width required by the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance.

E. In making a decision, the Planning Commission shall find that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The portion of the lot which exceeds a depth of more than three times the width of the lot in the R-1 District or the AG Agricultural District; or more than four times the width in the R-2 District, is unsuitable for agricultural production or use, or for the construction of any residential dwelling or accessory building, due to one or more of the following:
  - a. Soil conditions.
  - b. Slopes that are equal to or greater than 33 percent.
  - c. Presence of wetlands, woodlands, or bodies of water.

2. The approval of a width to depth ratio that exceeds one to three in the R-1 District or the AG Agricultural District, or one to four in the R-2 District, shall not result in incompatibility with adjacent and surrounding parcels and uses of land, including conflicts with surrounding agricultural activities.

3. The granting of a width to depth ratio that exceeds one to three in the R-1 District or AG Agricultural District, or one to four in the R-2 District, shall not result in a significant loss of ability to secure public safety for the occupants or users of the lot.

4. The granting by the Planning Commission of a greater width to depth ratio than required by the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance will not negatively affect the desired development policies of the Township, and the recommendations of the Bowne Township Master Plan.

This Ordinance shall become effective seven days after publication.

Ordinance No. 18-01 is available for review at the Bowne Township offices, 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Alto, Michigan, 49302 during normal office hours on Wednesday & Thursday from 9 AM to Noon and 1 PM to 5 PM and on Friday from 9 AM to Noon or by calling 616-868-6846.

Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk  
Bowne Township

# New tanning salon - Jamaican Sun - opens in Lowell

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

A brand new tanning salon and boutique called Jamaican Sun opened at 505 W. Main two weeks ago. They offer tanning in various forms, red light therapy and they have a little store in the front with merchandise and clothing.

Owner Mary Harrison said that sometimes tanning beds aren't for everybody, so they offer other solutions like spray tanning.

"The goal of the staff and all of us here is to help safely guide everybody through the tanning equipment," Harrison said. "We try to help people with tanning basics. We talk to the customers and find out why they're tanning. Often people tan because they're going on vacation and are trying to get a base or they have an upcoming event. We'll fill them in on the other options, such as bronzers."

Anything can be bad for you if you do it too much. Outdoors or in a booth, tanning is not, in moderation, unhealthy. Harrison recommended a reasonable schedule of cooking and spraying.

"Sometimes people tan out of habit or as part of a group thing," Harrison said. "You don't have to come in six days a week and tan. You could maybe spray tan once a month and tan once every week or something like that."

The Lowell location is their third tanning salon. Harrison lives in Ada with her husband, five children,

horses, dogs and cats. Her husband Matt and daughter Dani are employed at the Lowell salon. Harrison said that she's never been to Jamaica but that she enjoys reggae music and plays it in the store all the time. They took over the location at 505 W. Main last May but had to rewire the entire place. They also had to take out a dance studio and other major renovations. Now that they're finally open, they've brought red light therapy to Lowell. Until a few years ago you could only get red light therapy at a doctor's office.

"Red light therapy is an option for people who like the idea of tanning but want an alternative that is UV free," Harrison said. "The red light bed looks similar to a tanning bed or tanning equipment. It's all controlled by a computer. When we turn it on the whole store turns red. It doesn't get hot like the tanning equipment. A lot of people tan for seasonal affective disorder. Red light does not tan you but it also doesn't damage your skin. It actually helps repair your skin. Sometimes we have parents bring their kids in for acne, eczema or psoriasis, that type of thing. Even tanning beds will get rid of eczema or psoriasis, but you could do red light therapy for ten minutes and it'll be gone. It's been around for 40 years. Dermatologists and medical doctors offered red light therapy for all those skin conditions until about four years ago when the FDA

opened it up to the public. People used to have to pay \$50 a visit to get this done at the doctor. We had a guy who had eczema really bad. He worked at a restaurant and didn't have insurance. He was super happy to see that we opened up here with red light. We have an older guy that's been coming in whose doctor told him to find somewhere [to] do it. I'm hearing more and more of that. How often you do it depends on what you're doing it for. You could do it three or four times a week for a maximum of 15 minutes. That type of light penetrates your skin deeper than UV lights so that's what creates a lot of circulation. It's great for people who complain that their legs or feet hurt from standing all day. You can red light and tan, but you can also red light as an alternative to tanning if you don't want to risk the damage to your skin. It's great for healing. I sell myself more and more on it. I did it myself yesterday because I injured my hand. It helps quite a bit with injuries, with recovery time. Occasionally we'll have athletes that will come in and do it. They also use it for horses at the racetrack to help their recovery time or for horses that don't get enough light. Sometimes horses that are shut in barns and don't get ample light will get mood disorders, muscle atrophy and bone density loss; red light is perfect for that."

They also offer airbrush tanning. That's where they

squirt you all over your body or in strategic locations with a tanning solution made from organic vegetables.

"Custom airbrush tanning is a whole body tan or you can just do your face or your legs or whatever," Harrison said. "The whole process only takes five to seven minutes. We do thousands of those. We do whole wedding parties, body builders, dance teams, prom nights and homecoming dances. A lot of parents don't want their children to tan so airbrush is awesome. It doesn't protect you from burning when you're outside in the sun but it's really pretty. Airbrush solution is organic. It's made with DHA [docosahexaenoic acid], cornstarch, sugar beets and that type of thing. You spray it on a person and it develops into their own tan color. We do it with a handheld machine. There are automatic machines but more people ask that it's done by a tech with a handheld machine. It's a better application process and it's easier to cover someone. We do thousands of them, everybody loves airbrush."

They've only been open two weeks, so the boutique part is still a work in progress, but Jamaican Sun is probably one of the few stores selling shorts, suntan lotion and sunglasses right now.

"We try to keep it medium to lower price items, we're not like a super expensive boutique," Harrison said. "It's more

fun things for people to grab when they go on vacation. A lot of people go on vacation in January and February and you can't go find shorts in the mall."

To set up an appointment call 616-987-3032. You can also find them online at [jamaicansuntan.com](http://jamaicansuntan.com) and [facebook.com/jamaican.sun.tanning.lowell](https://www.facebook.com/jamaican.sun.tanning.lowell)



Jamaican Sun owner Mary Harrison and her daughter/employee Dani Harrison.

# Cherry Creek students honor Martin Luther King Jr.

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The staff at Cherry Creek Elementary paid tribute to the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr this past Monday on the national day reserved for his remembrance by taking a chilly walk in his name to wrap up learning about Dr. King.

Spearheaded by a committee of teachers, including Kim Lum, Katie Smith, Brook Beaufait and Lisa Camfferman, the project was brought to the table with the intent of influencing positive behavior by promoting King's example. "We wanted to look at ways to build student understanding of Dr. King's life, his values of public service and encourage change through peaceful methods," explained principal Shelli Otten. "We hoped to provide students with an opportunity

to make a difference like Dr. King did by identifying something that they could work to change. We talked about how individuals can

make an impact and that a larger impact can happen by working together."

Students honor MLK,  
continued, page 11



Fourth grader Ada Smith suggests putting others first as a way to positively affect the world.

Photos submitted by Cherry Creek staff



Cherry Creek student Callan Richardson during the Martin Luther King Jr. Walk.



Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

# SPORTS

## Lowell wrestlers host annual Gary Rivers Memorial tournament over the weekend

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Lowell varsity wrestling did not disappoint this past week as they kept up their winning reputation with two conference victories and two tournament wins, including the Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament on Saturday.

Friday night the team faced both Forest Hills Central and Forest Hills Northern at a double dual hosted by Northview.

Tallying a 50-13 win over FHC first, Lowell won four matches by fall, two by technical fall and one by major decision as they dominated mat action winning 11 of 14 weight class duals. Next beating FHN 48-15, the Red Arrows won nine of their matches with six quick falls, including a 39 second take down from freshman Will Link, one by forfeit and the remainder by decision.

The wins keep them on top of the OK White with an undefeated record.

Saturday the team hosted the annual Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament. They battled their way through four opponents to earn the tournament championship. Kicking off at 9 am Lowell was one of the first teams to hit the mats taking on Battle Creek Lakeview in round one. Sophomore Nick Korhorn was the first up earning a technical fall with a score of 16-0 at 2:22 at 103 pounds. The aggressive start gave way to a loss from junior Hunter Browning at 112, a 1-0 decision win for sophomore Dawson Jankowski at 119, before freshman Zeth Strejc won an 8-0 major decision over his Lakeview opponent at 125.

The next battle was lost at 130, followed by three consecutive wins from junior Avry Mutschler at 135, sophomore James Fotis at 140 and sophomore Austin Boone at 145. Mutschler, currently ranked first in the state in his weight class, earned his win by technical fall 15-0. Fotis, state ranked in the eighth position, earned a 10-1 major decision. Boone, ranked first in the state and 19th in the nation, garnered a 19-2 technical fall.



Senior Connor Nugent is the victor after a 3-1 second round decision win.



Sophomore heavyweight Tyler Delooff on the mat.



Senior Austin Engle en route to a victory by fall.

Lakeview answered with two victories but then saw wins from seniors Austin Engle, Connor Nugent and David Kruse and sophomore Tyler Delooff to seal the 46-16 win. Moving into the next round, Lowell faced Holly High coming up with a 56-3 win by way of fall four times. Browning redeemed his earlier loss by technical fall; Strejc won 17-1 over his opponent, one by forfeit and the rest by near shut out decision.

In the semi-finals, John Glenn out of Westland took the first two matches, the last two matches and one near the middle but Lowell prevailed with a 40-22 win propelling them to the finals. Mutschler earned a 13-3 major decision, Engle at 171 earned a fall in 34 seconds, Kruse at 189 earned a technical fall 18-2 and Browning scored a 9-0 major decision, as well as Boone, freshman Derek Mohr at 160, Nugent at 215, Delooff at 285 and Korhorn.

In the championship match versus Brighton High School the Red Arrows won 43-15 for the title, starting with a 5-2 decision win by Strejc, an 11-0 major decision for junior Jeff Leach at 135 pounds, a technical fall for Mutschler at 5:27, an 8-3 decision win from Fotis and a fall at 4:10 from Boone. Also winning in the final round were Engle by 10-4 decision, Kruse by 17-6 major decision, Delooff by 4-2 decision, Korhorn by forfeit and Jankowski by fall at 1:50. Brighton was able to grab only four match wins as Lowell made their way to the top.

Simultaneously at the Midland Team Tournament Lowell's Team "B" topped some heavy hitters en route to their tournament championship. The boys opened up with a 58-18 victory over Warren Woods-Tower. Lowell dominated the competition winning 11

of 13 duels, six being earned by fall, including quick wins from 152 pound junior Jared Hough at :39 and 189 pound senior George Gonzales at :22, sophomore Jacob Hough at 285 pounds and freshman Cole Huisman at 103 by forfeit, while the other wins came by decisions.

After settling for a 33-33 tie against Traverse City West and a 56-19 victory over host Midland, the grapplers went into the championship round against Detroit Catholic Central. The Arrows earned the 54-21 tournament victory with wins on the mat from senior Lane Ryan at 171 pounds by way of forfeit, Gonzales by fall at :56, Jacob Hough by fall at :03, Huisman by forfeit, freshman Caden Engle by forfeit at 119 pounds, senior Tyler Lynch at 103 by fall at 3:01, Jared Hough by fall at 2:55 and 160 pound senior Carter Bierling by fall at 3:29.

Currently ranked number one in Division II and 40th in the nation, the Red Arrow wrestlers will break into a pair of tournaments this Saturday. The "B" team will travel to the Saline Super Duals and the "A" team will host the Lowell Super Six Meet which is scheduled to begin at 10 am inside the Lowell High School main gym.

Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

# SPORTS

## Gymnasts fall to Rockford Rams on senior night

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Competing against a strong Rockford Rams team, the Red Arrow varsity gymnasts fell at home 140.175 - 137.45. They held their senior night ceremony and Maura Fitzpatrick, Amber Brown and Marissa Grover, alongside their parents, were acknowledged for their dedication to the program.

In competition, Brown went on to place fourth best on the bars with an 8.125 and second best on the beam with an 8.3. Fitzpatrick placed third on the vault and bars with scores of 8.675

and 8.275 respectively, claimed first on the beam with an 8.85 and earned a personal best of 9.5 on the floor exercise. According to head coach Michele DeHaan, "On floor, senior Maura Fitzpatrick had a personal best routine. It is a new routine for her this year and she hit everything. She was only 0.2 away from the school record."

Other top placers for Lowell included freshman Aubri Lemke who took first on the bars with an 8.6 and junior Cora Miller who claimed the Arrows top spot on the vault. As a team,

DeHaan said the ladies have been struggling as of late. "Our best meet yet. So happy to count four 8s on

beam. We have been falling way too much and to see the girls pull it together and stay on was great."

Despite the loss, there were a lot of individual victories and lessons that will prove useful moving forward in the season.

"Rockford is a great program and I was proud that our girls had such a great

meet against them. When you do your absolute best and still take a loss, it isn't really a loss, it just shows the girls the potential they have to do some pretty great things," explained DeHaan. "It was nice to have a meet like this where everything comes together. It shows this young team how much potential they have!"



Senior Maura Fitzpatrick led her team and earned a personal best.

Photo submitted by Michele DeHaan

Lowell 137.45  
Rockford 140.175

VAULT		BEAM	
Corah Miller	8.825	Maura Fitzpatrick	8.85
Aubri Lemke	8.7	Amber Brown	8.3
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.675	Marlie McDonald	8.275
Emily Lothian	8.2	Emily Lothian	8.05
BARS		FLOOR	
Aubri Lemke	8.6	Maura Fitzpatrick	9.5
Corah Miller	8.525	Corah Miller	8.95
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.275	Aubri Lemke	8.9
Amber Brown	8.125	Emily Lothian	8.7

This week, the team will compete three times, hosting once and traveling twice. Monday they will host Kenowa Hills for conference action, do battle against Rockford once again, this time on the road on Wednesday at 7 pm and then take part in tournament action at the Kenowa Hills Invitational on Saturday beginning at 10 am.

### PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

P	O	S	E	D	T	B	S	P	L	I	I	
V	A	L	V	E	O	R	A	L	E	N	D	
C	R	E	E	P	N	A	G	A	P	E	A	L
W	R	O	N	G	W	A	Y	A	C	N	E	
S	O	S	E	I	T	H	E	R				
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R	E	D	T	O	E	D	R	E	S	E	T	

## Sports Summaries

### GIRLS BOWLING

Adding pins to four out of five bowlers' averages, the Lowell Red Arrow girls varsity bowling earned their first conference dual win last Wednesday hosting the Forest Hills Central Rangers. Tallying a lopsided 29-1 win, the team was led by the efforts of senior Laura Lachowski who rolled games of 167 and 174. Sophomores Emma Blake and Brianna Lachowski also notched high scores earning a 159 and a 153 respectively. This week the girls will compete twice in the OK White. After taking on Cedar Springs early in the week, they will host Northview today beginning at 3:30.

### ICE HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey skated past the competition last Saturday on the road shutting out Grand Haven until the third period and recording a 5-2 victory. Leading 3-0 at the end of the second period, LC earned scores off the sticks of Caledonia members Ethan Pinto, Mitch Brennan and Hunter Fridley, who found the back of the net shorthanded. Assists were credited to Lowell senior Austin Whaley and Dallas Hainley of Caledonia. Grand Haven scored two goals in the third, but LC matched their effort with two of their own, leading to the 5-2 win. Caledonia's Brendan Irons and Red Arrow Whaley earned the final two goals with Whaley and Hainley logging the assists. The icemen will take to the rink just once this week when they host Rockford this Friday at the Kentwood Ice Arena. Puck drops at 7 pm.

### BOYS BOWLING

Competing as two teams and then combining their power, the Lowell varsity boys bowling team picked up

a conference win over Forest Hills Central last week Wednesday 25.5, claiming three out of five points and overall pin count in the baker games, led by sophomore Collin Clark who rolled high games of 196 and 203. This week the team took on Cedar Springs on Monday and will host Northview on Wednesday with action scheduled to start at 3:30 at The Bowling Alley of Ionia.

### COMPETITIVE CHEER

Riding high off last week's first-place tournament victory, the Lowell varsity competitive cheer team dove into competition this week traveling to the Falcon Invitational at West Catholic High School on Friday and the Rockford Cheer Invitational on Saturday. At West Catholic, the ladies earned an overall score of 596 placing them tenth among their competition. In Rockford, they topped that score recording a points total of 637.06 to earn a sixth-place finish. They host their only home event this Wednesday at 6 pm when they welcome the OK White for the second competitive cheer jamboree of the season.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

Adding two more losses to their winless season, the Red Arrow boys varsity basketball team faced Forest Hills Northern and Forest Hills Central on the road last week. At FHN the Arrows kept it close in the first half, but lost ground in the second falling 66-43. Competing against FHC, the team fell behind quickly against the fiery Ranger offense trailing 44-22 at the half and 70-44 at the final buzzer. FHC currently leads the OK White with an undefeated record. Still seeking a win, the boys took on Greenville Tuesday and will be back on the Friday facing Cedar Springs in league play.

Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

Go Red Arrows!

the lowell ledger

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

# SPORTS

## Girls remain undefeated as they best both Forest Hills Northern and Forest Hills Central

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Still undefeated, the Red Arrow girls varsity basketball team topped Forest Hills Northern 51-42 and Forest Hills Central 50-32 on the hardwood last week.

At home Tuesday, against FHN, the teams were tied at 11 at the end of the first period. Then Lowell grabbed the halftime lead doubling their opponent's offensive effort with 18 points to lead 29-20. Flip flopping scores in the second half, Lowell trailed

in scoring 12-10 in the third and led 12-10 in the fourth, evening the score back to a nine point 51-42 win.

Junior starter Regan Coxon lit up the scoreboard for Lowell with 23 points, her second best effort of the season. Senior starter and co-captain Cassie Dean also had an impressive night offensively netting 17. Defensively, the team was led by senior Makyla Branagan, junior Emily Depew and junior Ava

Frederickson, whose careful aggression led to easy scoring for their Arrow teammates.

Slated to be one of the toughest league match ups of the season, Lowell met with FHC on the road Friday in a top billed contest that featured two of the OK Whites' toughest teams. The Red Arrows, fighting to maintain their undefeated record, came out fast in the first period leading 14-4 at the first buzzer. FHC

outscored them 10-6 in the second leaving Lowell with a small 20-14 lead at the half.

Outscored slightly again in the third, the Arrows still held a small lead heading into the final stanza of the

game. Netting 18 points in the fourth period to FHC's six, Lowell blew past the Rangers with wide spread and top form offensive and defensive efforts. The 50-32 victory was led by Depew who tallied 16 points and

Dean who followed close behind with 15. The Arrows now hold an impressive overall record of 8-2 and 4-0 in the OK White, where they currently hold the league lead.

**Back in action at Lowell High School on Tuesday the girls faced Greenville and will travel to Cedar Springs on Friday where tip off is scheduled for 5:30 pm. The boys varsity team will follow at 7 pm.**

## Students honor MLK, continued

The educators developed a lesson guide featuring music, video and book resources for fellow teachers to educate their classrooms about King's work and the civil rights he fought for. Students attended a school-wide assembly on Friday about raising funds for the Children's Healing Center in Grand Rapids. "Our theme of 'Change 4 Change' is all about sharing the coins we have, pooling them together and making a significant impact. Children's Healing Center is the only place of its kind in the United States," explained Otten. "One of our parents, Melissa Block, is on the board there and helps with operations."

The center provides children's programming and family play in a nearly germ free setting for seriously

ill children. Block spoke at the assembly about the organization, following up on the book about the center that students read earlier in the week.

On Martin Luther King Jr. day students prepared picket signs after classroom discussions about ways individuals can make positive change in the world. Students created the signs with their own ideas for bettering the world and then headed outdoors to carry them to and back from Lowell Middle School to promote their own causes. "Despite the chilly temperatures, the walk provided them with the opportunity to experience what others have done to build awareness.

Otten said that she and the committee think it is important to celebrate



Students cross the street with help and encouragement from the Lowell Police Department.

the work of King and that the lessons of his legacy echo important values they work to instill in their students, like speaking out peacefully, encouraging others and serving others. "Throughout the year, we incorporate multiple projects that provide kids with an opportunity to make a difference. This includes giving of time, helping others, sharing coins and food, recycling, being a peer buddy, reading coach and more. We believe that giving

back empowers students and shows them that they can make a difference. We encourage them to speak out when they see a need, just like Dr. King did."

Camfferman, fourth grade teacher who worked on the committee said, "This project meant so much to me and the other teachers because we want our students to understand that positive change is always possible, especially when we work together."



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## obituaries

### FROST

Dorothy Mae Heckerman Frost  
August 26, 1925 – December 4, 2017

Dodi Frost, matriarch of a large extended family of Frosts, McPhersons and Roarks, passed away peacefully on December 4, 2017, after a long battle with congestive heart failure. She was 92. Dodi Frost was born at Station Hospital in Fort Sill, Oklahoma on August 26, 1925. The daughter of Col. Seeley Heckerman and Maude Price Heckerman, she was raised at Fort Sill with her three brothers, Don, Rod and Rex. She was a force of nature, an exemplar of style and a person of great warmth and love. Always full of life, Dodi loved to sing, dance and ride horses. As a child, she auditioned for the part of Darla in *The Little Rascals*. Later, at Lawton High School, she served on the Student Council and performed in Glee Club, the Girls Sextet and productions of *Pirates of Penzance*—as one of the Three Little Maids—and *Marriage of Nanette*. She dreamed of being a dancer. In 1944, she met and married Army Captain Jack Frost, a native of an apple orchard in Lowell, Michigan, who was deployed at Fort Sill. The Army took the newlyweds around the country until the end of the war when Jack retired and began a career in advertising. They were first in Detroit, then Miami and finally Westport, Connecticut, where Dodi was his muse and mother to a growing family, giving birth to Jill, Jan, Jackie, Jon and Jay, between 1947 and 1962. In the late 60s, Jack and Dodi decided to start their own business, Jack Frost Design, at their home in Westport, Connecticut. They converted bedrooms into offices where he created the images and she managed the books. All the while, Dodi was at the center of a rich social life, hosting weekly happy hours, outings for Easter dinners, elaborate themed parties, massive Christmas Eve caroling parties and whole neighborhood summer block parties with parades and square dancing. On the weekends, they were active members of Christ and Holy Trinity Church, where she was a choir mother for many years. Political work led them to move to Washington, DC; they enjoyed all the capitol offers, from museums to parties. They reconnected with old friends and became part of a cherished group of bridge players with whom they travelled to Captiva Island, cruised in Alaska, flew to Paris and London, took to a train across Canada and enjoyed many other adventures. In the late 80s, they slowly leaned into retirement, closing the DC office, returning to Miami and then Cocoa Beach, finally deciding to relocate to Rancho Bernardo, California, as Jack developed symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease. Dodi took on the role of caretaker, taking charge of every aspect of health and home, with the help of home care providers and family. Her experience working with Jack's illness led Dodi to become involved with the Glenner Centers, which offered day care for Alzheimer patients, as well as local spousal/family support groups sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. Demonstrating a passion for helping others dealing with loved ones with Alzheimer's, Dodi also became a meeting facilitator. Also during this period, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and, after undergoing surgery and treatment, found herself in a support group for cancer survivors. Once again, her inquisitive nature drove her to learn about the disease and treatment options. She began spreading her knowledge and compassion to other survivors and their families. This focus on others, coupled with a strong faith and love for her parish home at St. Bart's, inspired Dodi to join and become a key figure in the Health and Wellness Ministry and an active member of the Social Committee. She was honored by St. Bart's for her many contributions in 2016. Her husband passed away on March 17, 1997, after fifty-two years of marriage. Dodi sought and found solace in family, friends and church. With them, she began a series of trips, including journeys to Japan, Peru, the rivers of Europe, and the Middle East. She said her favorite trip was to Machu Picchu when she swam in the Amazon and fished for piranha, catching more than the guide using fishing tricks she



learned from her father in childhood. She also took multiple trips to the Holy Land, where her interest in social justice rose after interactions with the Palestinian people. She became a very vocal advocate for people she felt were marginalized or treated unjustly. Over the years, Dodi was always in tune with the times. In Miami in the 50s she wore a beehive. In the 60s she sported an Afro and a caftan. In the 70s she made peace signs for the camera and spoke up for the ERA. She was recently pictured with a Bernie button and a #NoDAPL sign on Facebook. Her hat collection dated from the 1940s to the 21st Century. She was known for always being ready to talk to anyone anywhere about anything and always having a great hat to match the mood of the moment. Although she always lived in the present, Dodi never forgot where she and Jack came from. Together, they had made countless trips to his birthplace, taking possession of the orchard when his parents died in the 1960s and returning every summer with family. In retirement, they built a new barn where he painted, she worked on her craft projects, and they restored and maintained the house and mingled with the extended family of Frosts, McPhersons and Roarks. She returned to host family reunions and celebrate birthdays every year until 2016 and then put the orchard into a preservation trust to ensure that it would remain a farm in perpetuity. To the very end, Dodi said that she found the most joy in being with family and friends. She was always true to them and they to her. She was with those who loved her and whom she loved until her last breath. Her spirit, her zest for life and unceasing caring for others, will never be forgotten by the many who had the good fortune to know her. Dodi will be lovingly remembered by her children, Jill Henderson, Jan (Randy), Jackie (Jim) Beagon, Jon (Cynthia) and Jay (Yuko); her grandchildren, Janine Arendt, Jennifer (Ross) Lockhart, Jack, Lise (Craig) Williams, and Frank (Christine) Henderson; her great-grandchildren, Bram and Aubrie Williams; her brothers, Donald and Rodney Heckerman and their families; and her many treasured nieces and nephews in the Roark and McPherson families. A memorial service in celebration of Dodi's life will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, February 10, 2018, at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway. In July, a second memorial service will be held when Dodi's ashes are interred in the Frost family plot in Lowell. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made in Dodi's memory to American Cancer Society-Breast Cancer. Condolences may be sent to the Frost Family c/o Jill Frost Henderson, 118 Double Eagle Glen, Escondido, CA 92026.

### MILES

George Truett Miles (known locally as "Little Indian"), age 83 of Lowell, passed away peacefully after a long battle with COPD, surrounded by many family members. He was preceded in death by his parents, James Andrew and Ellen (Gurien) Miles; sisters Minnie Lee Hatfield, Willie Fern (Betty) Allen, Anne Ruth Looney; brothers James Andrew Miles II, James Gerald Miles; and son, Christopher Eugene Miles. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Sharon Catherine (Potter) Miles; children James Andrew Miles, Mary Euzefa Alexander, David Earl Miles, Tanya Ellen (Steve)



Evans, Truett Martin (Jessica) Miles, Sharon Irene (Steve) Prins, Gerarda Sue (Roy) Batian; sisters Edna Irene Slaughter, Alice Estel Malone; brothers Earl Ray (Elizabeth) Miles, Billy Eugene Miles; 21 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. George was originally from

Dallas TX. At the age of 5, he and several siblings were placed in an orphanage after the death of their mother in an auto accident. At 19, he entered and served in the US Air Force from 1953-1957, and the Reserves until 1961. In the Air Force, he met his wife, Sharon. They settled in her hometown of Lowell and had 8 children; though their son, Christopher Eugene, died shortly after birth from SIDS in 1966. George worked in manufacturing, construction, and automotive positions; retiring from independent work in the roofing industry. He spent years breeding, training and coon hunting Jack Russell Terriers; and was an avid fisherman and golfer. He was especially loved by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoyed spending time with them. His deep dimpled smile, southern wit, and kindness to all will be missed by many. Per George's wishes, cremation has taken place. Mass of Christian burial will be held Friday, February 9, 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 402 Amity St. Lowell, MI 49331. Rev. Aaron Ferris presiding. A memorial gathering will be held February 9, 2:00-7:00 p.m. at Lowell Moose Lodge #809, 1320 E. Main St. Lowell, MI 49331. Interment St. Mary Catholic Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the family to assist with funeral expenses.



### ROUDABUSH

Melissa Kay-Peterson Roudabush

Logan Thomas Roudabush

Melissa Kay-Peterson Roudabush, 40, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, January 14, 2018, while pregnant with her son, Logan Thomas Roudabush.

Melissa is survived by her beloved husband, Tom; her two beautiful daughters, Sarah (10) and Jenna (8); her mother, Kay (Mike) Oligney of Lowell; her brother, Justin (Erica) Peterson of Louisville, KY; and grandmother, Ruth Peterson. Melissa is preceded in death by her father, Robert Peterson and her grandparents, Robert and Mary Peterson and Stewart and Arlene Eskes.

Melissa was born on November 25, 1977, in Lowell. She was a proud graduate of Albion College '00 and UCLA Law School '04. Melissa married her high school sweetheart and love of her life Tom in 2001. She was a loving and devoted mother to her two daughters, Sarah and Jenna. After graduating from law school, Melissa and Tom decided to stay in California and made their home in Orange County. Professionally, Melissa was a well-respected family law attorney, who co-founded R & S Law Group in 2011. She was devoted to helping the less fortunate and regularly took cases from the Legal Aid Society. Visitation took place on Monday, January 22. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Sarah and Jenna's College Fund. Donations can be made through gofundme.com by searching for Roudabush.



Obituaries, continued, page 14

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## card of thanks

The family of Nora Buck would like to thank everyone who sent a card, food, said a prayer or showed us support during a difficult time.

Terry Buck & family

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## misc.

MARCELINE YOUNG IS TURNING 90 - on Feb. 2! If you wish, send a card to 11546 E. Fulton, #118, Lowell, MI 49331. Please join us to celebrate on Sun., Feb. 11 at Green Acres from 1-4 pm. No gifts please.

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IF YOU HAD HIP OR KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY AND SUFFERED AN INFECTION between 2010 - present, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727 (MICH)

## services

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.

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 Fax 897-4809

There is a Drop Box in the Door Closest to the Post Office if you need to drop something off to us after hours.

## services

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

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## 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.

FREE AD! - 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.

BOWNETOWNSHIP 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 - Thursdays by appointment from 1-3 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

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.

QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.qua-ke-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.

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.

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.

STORYTIME - Thursdays, 10 a.m. with Ms. Sheila at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

## LEDGER SUBSCRIPTIONS

We can take care of it right over the phone - place it on your credit card & receive your first issue the following Wednesday in the mail!

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**STATEPOINT  
CROSSWORD**

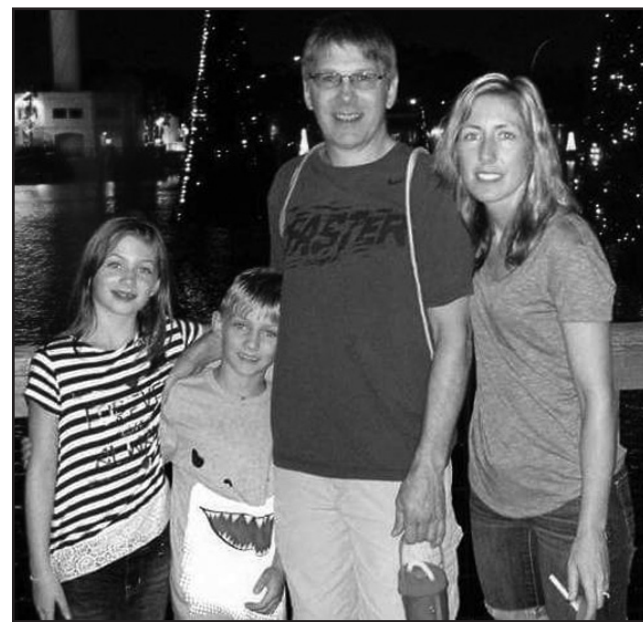
**THEME: SUPER  
BOWL**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Got ready for a close up
- 6. Cookbook abbr.
- 10. \*Super Bowl number \_\_\_\_
- 13. Flow-controlling device
- 14. Like pulling teeth
- 15. \*Tight one?
- 16. Do like ivy
- 17. Half human, half cobra in Hinduism
- 18. Ring like a bell
- 19. Flying north in fall, e.g.
- 21. High school breakout
- 22. Distress signal
- 23. Choice word
- 25. One who increases bid
- 29. One of "12 Angry Men"
- 31. Kick out
- 32. Extinct flightless birds
- 34. Tony on a cereal box
- 38. Of short duration
- 40. \*Extra point
- 41. Blood vessel
- 42. Drawing support
- 43. Life saver
- 45. \_\_\_\_\_, precisely
- 46. Minimal in magnitude

CROSSWORD															
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68						69					70				

# Volunteer of the Month at MLE



Marcy Heintzelman was chosen as MLE's Volunteer of the Month for December. "Mrs. Heintzelman comes in every Monday and does a very mundane job for me...cutting out all of those "Words Their Way" sorts! She also has supplied me with several classroom items and bought 10 extra books. She wrapped them and sent them in for any kids that may have forgotten theirs for our Christmas party book exchange. Fortunately, I did not need any of the books, but Mrs. Durfee needed

four or five of them, so they went to good use. Marcy is kind and helpful and works very hard to keep her son on track here at school," said Nancy Russell, second grade teacher. "I have a son and daughter that go to MLE and I love taking time to volunteer there. It gives me the opportunity to help their teachers and also meet the students and staff. I feel fortunate to have time in my week to help out," commented Heintzelman.

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- 48. Mortar and \_\_\_\_
  - 50. "\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_!" said Piglet
  - 53. Winter blues, acr.
  - 54. Getting warm
  - 55. \*Only undefeated NFL team
  - 60. Marchers in a kids' song
  - 61. Albany-Buffalo canal
  - 62. Royal topper
  - 65. \*"The \_\_\_\_ Bowl" in 1967
  - 66. Actress Campbell
  - 67. Happen
  - 68. Communist color
  - 69. Three-\_\_\_\_ sloth
  - 70. Button on electrical outlet
- DOWN**
- 1. Pipe material
  - 2. Crew propeller
  - 3. Multitude
  - 4. Never without "n"
  - 5. Remove from a throne
  - 6. Grabbing tool
  - 7. Fine, in Scotland
  - 8. It's a long story
  - 9. \*One of 11 on field
  - 10. River-dwelling phlebotomist
  - 11. Absurd
  - 12. Lazybones
  - 18. \*Team with most Super Bowl appearances
  - 20. "Cheers" regular
  - 24. Itty-bitty bit
  - 25. Sonia Sotomayor's garb
  - 26. Heavenly glow
  - 27. a.k.a. The Islamic State
  - 28. \*Team with most Super Bowl wins
  - 29. \*Justin's "Wardrobe Malfunction" partner
  - 30. Drug abuser
  - 33. Sounds of amazement
  - 35. Little cave
  - 36. Et alibi
  - 37. Birth \_\_\_\_ or mortality \_\_\_\_
  - 39. Pestilence pest
  - 44. Moonfish
  - 47. Impassioned
  - 49. Author's co-worker
  - 50. Broadcast in progress
  - 51. From this time
  - 52. Old hat
  - 53. r in d = rt
  - 56. Sandwich cookie
  - 57. \*Like Super Bowl broadcast
  - 58. Cote d'Azur locale
  - 59. Pouches
  - 63. Poe's Morgue
  - 64. \*Former Ravens owner or HOFer Donovan

Puzzle solutions on page 10

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

# LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

*Our poll asked [before it eventually happened]*

...

## Do you think there will be a government shutdown?

YES .....60%  
NO .....40%

**WWW.  
thelowellledger.com**

# Serenity Club, continued

to a lot of people. There's a saying, 'You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink.' But you can make him thirsty. I can show you my life, show you that now I'm a productive member of society."

Alcoholics spend a lot of time drinking. Quitting drinking requires finding a way to redirect their attention, occupy their time and distract the addict from the possible desire to drink. Part of how Charlie gives back and occupies his time is through what he calls "acts of service" at the club. He acts as a sponsor for a few other addicts, as club handyman he takes care of anything that goes wrong or requires maintenance at the club, he attends 360 meetings a year, he reads a lot and he checks in with his four sponsors every day.

"My phone is full of people that come here," Charlie said. "At any given time any of them can call me and ask for anything. I've been called at five o'clock in the morning to come bury a dog. I've been called to move people from one house to another because of abuse. I've been called to stop somebody from committing suicide. I've had a guy living in a tent in my backyard."

Charlie said his best advice for an alcoholic is simply not to take that first drink.

"Just don't pick up the first drink," Charlie said. "It's really easy if you don't pick it up, if you don't start. Not starting is easy, it's the stopping that's the hard part. If you don't start you don't have to worry about

stopping. If you drank every day you should come to a meeting every day. I make that choice every day. We have a lot of turnover. You see people come in and go out, come back in and go back out. It's a daily struggle. Some days are easier than others. If I'm busy worrying about drinking, I'm going to miss out on all the little miracles, I'm going to miss out on going to Disney World. This place helps me find constructive ways to do things and to redirect that compulsiveness."

Charlie describes himself as a "happy go lucky, naked drunk" during his drinking days. He shared stories from what he calls his "drunk log," descriptions of incidents where he drank too much alcohol and engaged in atrocious, embarrassing

behavior. These stories were too ribald to publish here, but they all ended the same way: Charlie in a hospital bed or a jail cell. He said he drank excessively to combat social anxiety, but in sobriety has developed alternative methods of dealing with those feelings. He has collected a lot of tattoos and always paints his toenails with garish nail polish.

"This place has given me the comfort level to be able to say that I've done these things because now I've talked about it in front of other people," Charlie said. "I've realized that it has no bearing on me anymore. If I'm stuck in the past I'm not doing anything productive. Part of the reason I drank was to fit in, to numb my sense of awkwardness, to be okay in my skin. This place has given me the comfort level to be okay in my skin, to wear a bathrobe, to wear University of Michigan pajama pants, to have painted toenails. My first sponsor said that next time I have the urge to buy a bottle of alcohol, I should go to the store and buy myself something frivolous like a bottle of nail polish. It's a way to do something different and constructive. Instead of going out and spending \$7 on a bottle of booze, I went out and spent \$7 on nail polish. I've been doing it for years now. I've got a big, big basket at home, lots of colors. My favorite color is purple. I should be good with one bottle of purple, right? I've got 15, 16 minutely different shades

of purple. It's a compulsion. The looks you get from kids are hilarious. Kids are a lot more understanding than adults. That's just being comfortable in my own skin. I stand out like a sore thumb. My wife got me a t-shirt that says, 'I do it for the dirty looks.' If you can find me a bottle that says, 'For women only,' I will quit painting them. It has yet to turn up."

Charlie said that his problems with alcohol stretch back to his early childhood when he would finish discarded glasses of beer at family holiday parties.

"I'm a firm believer that alcoholism is genetic," Charlie said. "If it runs in your family, chances are you have it. When I grew up alcohol wasn't a bonus, it wasn't something you did on the weekend. Alcohol was an everyday thing. If the weather was nice, you drank. If the weather was crappy, you drank. If it was Tuesday, you drank. It wasn't pop, it wasn't coffee, it was alcohol all the time. That's the way I was raised in my big Polish family. One of my earliest memories is of a Christmas party, my aunts and uncles were playing cards, they'd say, 'Hey Charlie, go get me another beer!' I'd make the dregs disappear. I was emancipated when I was 15."

At the Lowell Serenity Club they have various types of meetings every day where people have honest discussions about their problems and try to find

constructive, sober ways to solve them.

"This is a non-profit organization," Charlie said. "We pass a basket around, that money goes toward keeping the lights on. It's basically an open round table discussion. We have a few basic readings we go through. When we first start, we ask if everybody's been here before. If somebody's new, if it's their first meeting, what will usually happen is everybody else will go around the room and explain their special circumstances. We have Al-Anon meetings, which are for families of drunks. For example, if you had a troubled childhood because your father drank, you should come to an Al-Anon meeting. We've also had Narcotics Anonymous meetings and we've had overeater meetings. The last Sunday of the month we have speaker meetings which are generally open to the public. Sometimes we have a potluck."

If you're struggling with any kind of addiction, there is probably at least somebody to empathize with you at the Lowell Serenity Club.

"I'm not saying this is going to work for everybody," Charlie said. "I'm not saying it's going to save your marriage, keep you out of jail or make it so you're not going to drink. I will say that if you come down here you'll find some people that will help you attempt not to drink, attempt to get your life in order and help you find a different direction."

...

**Once the game is over,  
the King and the pawn go  
back in the same box.**

~ Italian Proverb



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