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50¢



## Tasters enjoy a variety of soups during well-attended “Souper Thursday” contest

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce’s seventh annual “Souper Thursday” soup cook off was on Feb. 1. Seventeen contestants from various local businesses competed to see whose soup tasted the best.

The winners were a team from Lowell city hall consisting of deputy treasurer Lori Gerard and treasurer Suzanne Olin. They made a Reuben soup inspired by one they ate at the Electric Cheetah in Grand Rapids. Ingredients in the winning soup included corned beef, Thousand Island salad dressing, sauerkraut, toasted rye bread, cheese, horseradish and potatoes.

“I had it at an event they catered and thought it was amazing,” Olin said. “We came up with a recipe by trying to duplicate what they made.”

“We were pleased by the way it turned out,” Gerard said.

“I thought it would be a soup that most people wouldn’t like,” Olin said. “You either like a Reuben sandwich or you don’t.”

Second place went to Tony Dommer from Addorio Technologies for his ‘soupy chili’ and third place went to Kara Cameron Swayze from Cruise Planners American Express Agency for a chicken tortilla soup. The people’s choice award went to Dave Thompson’s Chesapeake Bay seafood chowder, made with crab, oysters, clams, lobster and shrimp.

“It’s a recipe that I invented years ago and have improved on slightly over the years,” Thompson said. “It’s been the people’s choice winner the past three years; I just can’t seem to win over the judges. Next year I might go with my



Liz Baker presents the award to Lowell deputy treasurer Lori Gerard and treasurer Suzanne Olin who won with their Reuben soup.

Vergennes vegetable soup, which is another home invention.”

The event raised \$352 for Flat River Outreach Ministries.

“Feeling good is what FROM is all about; soup makes you feel good,” said chamber director Liz Baker. “This event is so much fun. It always turns out nice.”

“This was a great crowd and a lot of fun,” Thompson said. “There are some wonderful soups here. There was a good clam chowder and the chili was also good.”

## City council covers sidewalks to infrastructure and appoints public works director LaBombard to newly created assistant city manager position

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, Feb. 5. The nine people in the audience spent one hour and 20 minutes observing city leaders as they discussed topics such as street and sidewalk repairs, potential innovators at the airport, staff changes and more.



Newly appointed assistant city manager, Rich LaBombard.

2016 Ledger stock photo

The council voted to spend \$1,269,000 on a huge infrastructure repair project on Broadway St. Work is scheduled to begin on that project in March. Although they were the second lowest bidder, the city chose Grand Rapids contractor Kamminga & Roodvoets because of the superb work they did on a 2017 project at the lift station.

“The S. Broadway utility and street improvement project will include utility replacement on Broadway St. from Main to Bowes with coordinating utility work on Ottawa St.,” said public works director Rich LaBombard. “In addition, work will include the resurfacing of S. Broadway, Bowes and Ottawa streets with select curb and gutter replacement, limited sidewalk replacement and S. Broadway parking lot improvements.”



Lowell city council in discussion at their Monday, Feb. 5 meeting.

Alex Taylor, a 16-year-old LHS junior and founder and CEO of Windcraft Aviation, addressed the council. Taylor said he plans to compete in a Boeing Airlines contest with a \$2 million grand prize. Taylor said that if he wins, he would like to spend the money converting a hangar at the Lowell Airport to develop “personalized aircraft.” Taylor is an

aviation enthusiast and at one point was the youngest commercial drone pilot in the United States. He described his company Windcraft Aviation to the council as “an experimental aviation start-up.”

“We’re starting to develop a team of high level, highly motivated researchers and developers who are going to basically create the next generation

of flying technology in this area,” Taylor said. “[The Boeing contest] is a \$2 million prize for the best concept in personal aviation. We’re going to go head-to-head with companies like Tesla and SpaceX.”

Lisa Plank from the Lowell Area Historical Museum gave a presentation

City council, continued, page 3

# Love and Art event this Saturday at LowellArts

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

LowellArts and next door neighbor Flat River Gallery and Framing have joined forces to create the "Love and Art" event, on Saturday, Feb. 10, a

whole day of chocolate, champagne and art. The fun starts at 10 am when the LowellArts gallery opens to visitors and goes into the night with a special "love"

concert and discounts at local restaurants.

"Since we're next door to each other, we're trying to collaborate with each other and do more things

together," said LowellArts executive director Lorain Smalligan. "Feb. 10 is the last day we'll have the 'Grand Valley Artists: In View' exhibit in our

gallery and we have a House Concert that night. Flat River Gallery has been doing the Champagne and Chocolate event for three years now. I saw that on their calendar on the same day and thought we could combine what they're doing with what we're doing to provide a full day of fun art activities in Lowell."

Flat River Gallery will have a "Champagne and Chocolate" artist reception from 1 pm until 3 pm.

"We are having our third annual Champagne and Chocolate celebration," said Terese Olson from the Flat River Gallery. "Everybody likes those things! Everybody that works here will bring some type of chocolate treat, so there will be everything chocolate, like chocolate covered strawberries, chocolate cheesecake and brownies. We'll also have champagne, wine, sparkling juice and coffee. Art by all of us here will be on the walls, as well as art by the visiting artist and Roger MacNaughton will be playing the piano for us."

From 3 pm until 4:30 pm, LowellArts will have the closing reception for their 'Grand Valley Artists: In View' exhibition. Finally, at 7 pm there will be the latest House Concert at LowellArts with performers Edey Evans Hyde and Mike Hyde. Flat River Grill and Larkin's Restaurant are both offering discounts for diners with ticket stubs to the concert.

"We figured what people could do is go have dinner and come back later for the House Concert," Smalligan said. "This is our Valentine's Day concert, so Edey Evans Hyde and Mike Hyde will be singing love songs."

Tickets to the concert are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door and can be purchased at [lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org) or by calling 616-897-8545.

"It's a very good, fun event, one of the best ones we have all year," Olson said. "Everybody likes it, kids like it, it's a good time."

"It should be lots of fun," Smalligan said.

# Lowell has water tested for PFAS to give residents "peace of mind"

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The city of Lowell had a surprise water test on Friday, Jan. 19, that determined the municipal water system had none of the toxic chemicals called PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances). High levels of the chemicals were detected in the water of Rockford, Plainfield Township and Algoma Township after Wolverine World Wide dumped their waste in a Plainfield Township landfill.

According to a city press release, Lowell, "tested its four municipal wells, each

one coming back as non-detect for PFAS. The city of Lowell's water treatment and filtration plant treats an average of 589,000 million gallons of water daily for more than 1,300 customers in the city of Lowell, Lowell Township and Vergennes Township."

"In light of concerns in our neighboring communities we felt it was important to give our residents peace of mind about their drinking water," city manager Mike Burns said in the press release. "This testing was voluntary

and outside of our normal testing regimen. We are very pleased that test results showed our drinking water continues to be safe and clean. [...] As Michigan continues to investigate PFAS contaminations, the city of Lowell is committed to providing quality drinking water to our residents. We will continue to test our water to ensure the highest quality and compliance with all state and federal standards."

"The water department does tests all the time,"

Burns said in an interview. "There are mandated requirements from the [Michigan Department of Environmental Quality] that they have to follow. They follow those."

Burns said that after this "non-detect" result they probably won't bother testing for PFAS again anytime soon.

"Unless we were aware of an exposure, then maybe we would test, but I don't think we need to," Burns said. "My questions were answered."



## along main street

### GILDA'S CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

**Cardmaking Together** - Tues., Feb. 20, 2:30 - 4:30 pm. Join us in making handmade cards together. All supplies provided and no experience required.

**Chitchat Readers Book Club** - Tues., Feb. 20, 4:15-5:15 pm. Join other members in discussing an interesting book. Stop by the clubhouse to borrow a book.

**Mindfulness Workshop** - Tues., Feb. 20, 4:30-5:30 pm. Join other members to practice the emotional and physical benefits of mindfulness and learn how to

incorporate it into your daily life. Please dress comfortably. Presented by Jan Miller, LPC.

Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson St. For more information call 897-8600 or visit [www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow](http://www.gildasclubgr.org/pinkarrow)

### SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES

Free smoking cessation classes begin Tues., Feb. 20. Tobacco Free For Good class meets for six weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6-8 pm at Metro Health Lowell Family Practice, 2550 East Main Street. Each participant creates their own individual quit plan. The curriculum follows a strength based approach and is led by a Mayo Clinic trained and certified facilitator. Friends and family members are welcome to attend for support. Registration encouraged. Call 616-446-7058.

Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations. The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

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**Wine & 1 slice  
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Fri, Feb 16, 11am-9pm Sun, Feb 18, 11am-5pm

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# City council, continued

filling the council in on the vast array of activities that took place at the museum in 2017, including the River of Time summer camp, the museum immersion program for area third graders, college internships and their updated gift shop.

“[This year] we’re going to be continuing the programs I just mentioned,” Plank said. “We’re going to have public programs covering antique instruments, trains, the Civil War [and] we’re going to do a cemetery tour.”

One upcoming and one immediate staff change were announced at the meeting. City attorney Dick Wendt plans to retire at some point before the end of the year. City manager Michael Burns said it was up to the council to select a new municipal attorney, but he suggested hiring an attorney from Dickinson Wright, the same law firm that Wendt works for. Dickinson Wright was founded in 1878 and is based in Detroit. They have a Grand Rapids office among their 18 locations across the US and Canada.

“It’s on the horizon that we’re going to need another legal firm at some point or would someone else in his firm just take over this account,” asked city councilor Greg Canfield.

“Municipal attorneys are very hard to find,” Burns said. “It’s a specialty that’s really kind of going to the wayside in some aspects. There is not many firms in the state that have municipal attorneys. My recommendation would be [to] hire somebody who is experienced with municipal law. Now you have Dickinson Wright who



**Lisa Plank from the Lowell Area Historical Museum updated the council about all the activities at the museum last year and their plans for this year.**

the management of this organization.”

Burns said he was promoting LaBombard because LaBombard pitched in and took on many of Burns’s day-do-day city manager duties when Burns was otherwise occupied spending what he estimated to be 70 percent of his time as city manager dealing with public relations issues.

“That was pretty much my whole year last year,” Burns said. “Obviously a lot of things that probably needed to be done by the city manager couldn’t be done because those major issues really took up all of my time.”

The council discussed potentially stricter enforcement of sidewalk repair ordinances.

“If you’re going to enforce it, do it at the sale of a home,” police chief Steve Bukala suggested to the council. “Make the buyer and seller aware of what’s going on so they’re not getting a surprise. [...] A home was sold and a person needed to fix a couple sidewalk squares and they were not aware of that when they purchased the home. It [the bill] should have actually gone to the person selling the home.”

“I just have a hard time with saying to Joe Homeowner, ‘Hey, sorry about your luck, but you’ve got to spend \$4,000 to fix this [broken sidewalk],’” Canfield said.

Burns suggested that he “administratively come up with a plan to address this and re-approach the council.” The council agreed with this course of action.

**Lowell city council’s next regular meeting will be at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, Feb. 19.**



**LHS junior Alex Taylor is competing for a \$2 million prize from Boeing Airlines for the best concept in personal aviation.**

## Car pedestrian accident

On Sunday, Feb. 4 at 12:59 pm Kent County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a car/pedestrian accident at Lincoln Lake Avenue and Vergennes Street in Vergennes Township.

Their investigation revealed that a 56-year-old

woman from Lowell failed to yield the right-of-way when she walked across Lincoln Lake Avenue into the path of a Chevy Cruz driven by a 17-year-old female from Rockford.

The pedestrian was transported to Butterworth

Hospital by Rockford Ambulance with non-life threatening injuries.

The 17 year old was not injured. Alcohol and speed were not a factor and the accident remains under investigation.

## Sheriff warning to FaceBook users

The Kent County Sheriff’s office has received several calls from citizens that have found a disturbing video in their Facebook Messenger mailbox.

It is a short video that contains child pornography and an accompanying message that asks for people

to spread the video in an attempt to identify the victim, with hopes to ultimately identify the perpetrator.

The KCSO is aware of the video and is investigating. They are asking that under no circumstances should anyone forward, share or show the video to

anyone. Even with good intentions to help, it could be considered dissemination of child pornography. If someone finds this video in their Messenger account, the Kent County Sheriff’s office asks that they delete it immediately.

**Yep** we cover Life



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**LOVE AND ART**  
Sat, Feb 10

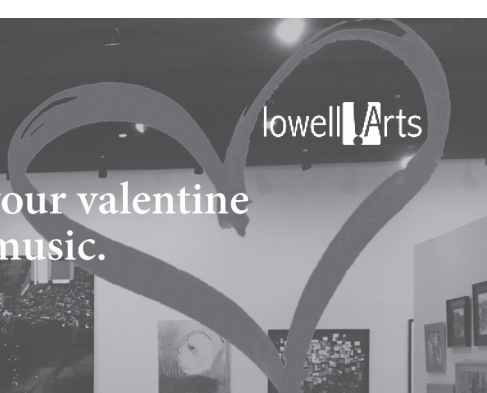
All day in Lowell, treat your valentine to sweets, eats, art, and music.

[lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org)

Edye Evans Hyde and Mike Hyde  
Concert at 7pm



House Concert Series Sponsors:



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## Donors urged to help the Red Cross maintain blood supply

Winter storms and the flu don't just mean a lot of people are missing work and school – it also means they can't keep their American Red Cross blood and platelet donation appointments. The Red Cross is urging healthy donors of all blood types to roll up a sleeve to help maintain the blood supply for patients in need.

In 2018, severe winter weather forced about 600 blood drives to cancel, resulting in more than 17,500 uncollected blood and platelet donations. And, widespread flu across the U.S. has resulted in lower turnout at blood drives.

Blood and platelet donations are needed in the coming days to help replenish the blood supply and ensure patients continue to receive lifesaving treatments. Donors can help even more patients when they invite a loved one, friend or co-worker to give with them.

### Upcoming blood donation opportunities Feb. 16-28

**Delton**  
 2/19/2018: 11 am - 4:45 pm,  
 St. Ambrose Church, 11149  
 Floria Road

**Ionia**  
 2/21/2018: 11 am - 4:45 pm,  
 Ionia Moose Lodge, 869 E  
 Lincoln

**Grand Rapids**  
 2/27/2018: 8 am - 1:45 pm,  
 West Michigan Aviation  
 Academy HS, 5363 44th  
 Street SE

2/28/2018: 2 pm - 7:45 pm,  
 Thornapple Community  
 Church, 3260 Thornapple  
 River Dr SE

### How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All

blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at [redcrossblood.org/RapidPass](http://redcrossblood.org/RapidPass) or use the Blood Donor App.

**Knights of Columbus #7719**  
**Lenten Fish Fry**  
**St. Mary's Church**  
 402 Amity Street, Lowell  
 Fridays 5-7 pm  
 Feb. 16 - March 23



*Dine in or Take Out*  
**\$8** for adults & children 13 & up  
**\$4** for children 12 & under  
**\$25** for families  
 cash, check & credit cards accepted

**All you can eat menu: Baked & fried cod, mac & cheese, fries, cole slaw, applesauce, cornbread, juice, coffee**

We are conducting a drive to purchase an ultrasound machine with audio to hear those precious heartbeats for the Alpha Family Center in Lowell. The most precious gift of God is Life. Let's give Lowell a new ultrasound machine to help young mothers hear that precious life. Email questions to: [gk7719@mikoc.org](mailto:gk7719@mikoc.org)

*There will be a special bake sale during the dinner to help fund the Ultrasound Purchase Project sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women of St. Mary's Church*

**Additional sale of frozen pasty's (\$5 each) will also be held at the dinner provided by Viki's Bridge Street Pasty Shop in Saranac.**

# viewpoint

## outdoors

then and now

Dave Stegehuis

If you are unhappy with the way things are or are complacent in your good fortune just stick around because change is on the way. My grandfather was born into a world of oil lamps and horse powered transportation and lived to see a man walk on the moon on his television set.

Fishing and hunting activities have been affected by equipment evolution, habitat transformation, and social pressure. Fish still swim and game run in the fields, but what, where, and how we hunt and fish has significantly changed over my lifetime. In the 1950s pheasants were the primary game bird. Today pheasants are hard to find for lack of habitat, but turkeys took their place, so hunters have had to learn new strategies in order to bag the wily gobblers.

Salmon were absent in the Great Lakes back in the 50s and lake trout, once plentiful, had fallen victim to the lamprey and all but disappeared. Today, because of fishery management effort, trout and salmon are the most sought after game fish in the lakes. The number and species of fish available dictate what people fish for, and where they do it. Local fishermen had to learn how to catch a species of fish almost no one had seen before. In the beginning it was a process of trial and error. Lives were lost due to inexperience with fishing big water. Boat and tackle makers developed new products to adjust to the new fishing conditions. From humble beginnings Great Lakes fishing evolved into a thriving industry for charters, watercraft production,

tackle development, accommodations, and commercial fishing.

Even now, forces of change are at work in the lakes such as water levels and invasive species. When the ice comes off the lakes we will be implementing plans for dealing with problems concerning our primary walleye fishing location. What we did before isn't working now.

These are only a few examples of how change over time requires us to adapt to current circumstances as we continue to fish and hunt.

As one who was raised in the 40s and 50s of the last century I am now living in a much different world from my youth. Hopefully, future challenges will be met and resolved. Change is inevitable in all parts of our lives; we can view change as a problem or opportunity. Attitude is everything.

## off the cuff

Jeanne Boss

I'm sure I'm not alone in my shock and disbelief about the ongoing Michigan State nightmare. To think that these young girls were put off and ignored for so long is a sad, sick commentary on what can happen when universities, schools and any large organization puts their own interests above doing what is right.

A belated but welcome outcome is that the main perpetrator of these crimes, a supposed physician, will not ever be free again. Oftentimes, as we know, that is not the outcome. It seems that sometimes the guilty are set free and that causes much consternation. Many a water cooler conversation has become heated when discussing cases where the general feeling is that justice was not carried out.

But I took the time to listen to the judge during

the sentencing phase in Lansing. What a horrible way to execute a necessary lesson on our unique and powerful justice system.

After listening to the several brave victim statements (that court heard over 100) the defense attorney spoke about how the defense team had been receiving death threats. They made the point that everyone is guaranteed, by the constitution, to a defense and that is their job and they were proud to do it. People need to hear this. Just because you're accused does not mean you are guilty as charged and it is your right to be defended. And both sides have to follow the rules. It doesn't always work out, but it is a far greater crime to incarcerate an innocent person and that happens also.

Then the judge, Rosemarie Aquilina, gave a powerful closing. She emphasized that she comes into a case with no prejudice and allows the facts and the law to make the case. She pointed out there should be no ill will against the defense.

Because she is a naturalized citizen, she made a point to speak of her family saying her father always told her that America is the greatest country. Her father and brothers are physicians and this defendant went against everything they stand for.

Another seriously relevant issue she emphasized was the part the press played in bringing this predator to justice. After

those in authority ignored the charges being brought by these young girls, a newspaper in Indiana dug in and investigated and brought the story to the public.

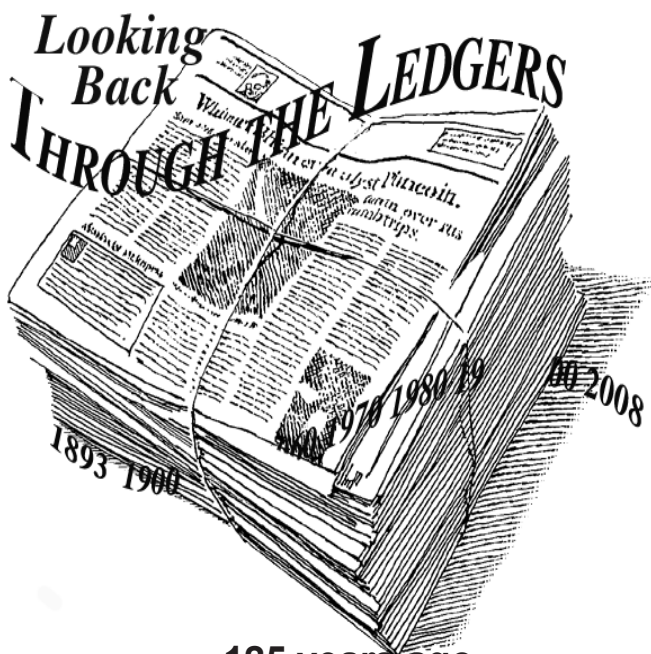
"Thank God we have those journalists," said the judge. She went on to say that after all the testimony and proof, there were still people in the community who defended this man. Loyalty is a wonderful thing. Misplaced loyalty is blindness, ignorance, stubbornness, or all of these combined."

She said without that IndyStar journalists, Federal law enforcement did not have a case and also thanked law enforcement saying she wanted them to continue their work. She applauded prosecutors and defense alike because they "all work together for our community..."

We may not always want to hear bad news but, we need to, in fact our constitution allows for us to be able to hear all voices and all the news.

Naysayers will always speak out, often anonymously. No one is ever completely happy. But let's hear it for the people who will speak out for those that can not, for those that are good, for those that are kind. It's easy to forget that maybe a pat on the back might be soothing to their fighting soul.

Buy a cup of coffee, a bunch of flowers or make a supportive call. Tell someone you know that you appreciate their kindness, their work ethic, their bravery or their friendship.



### 125 years ago Lowell Journal February 8, 1893

A syndicate of Lowell capitalists composed of Francis King, Reuben Quick, Frank T. King, R. J. Enos, S. C. Bradfield, M. C. Griswold and Chas. McCarty have purchased from the receiver of the Potts Lumber Co a tract of hardwood lands containing 7,000 acres. The land is all heavily timbered with maple, oak, ash, elm and a large quantity of basswood, and is one of the largest solid tracts of timber in the Lower Peninsula. The timber is accessible as a railroad skirts it. They will probably manufacture it into lumber at once. The land is first rate farming land.

Thomas Charles met with a serious accident, last Thursday morning, while at work in Mr Marshall's cooper-shop. Having occasion to go up stairs, in returning his foot slipped and losing his balance, he fell to the floor below. He fractured two ribs, sprained his left wrist and bruised his head.

There will be a mush and milk social given by the Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. church at the home of

Mr and Mrs Dan Platt, Wednesday evening, Feb. 15. Conveyance will be furnished for all who desire to go. Meet at the stores of A. D. Oliver and A. W. Weekes at 6:30 o'clock. Every body is cordially invited.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 7, 1918

Prisoners shovel snow - Sheriff Berry uses 15 men to make the county roads passable. The Kent county roads are to be shoveled out with jail labor. Sheriff Berry sent out 15 prisoners today, and will send 15 more tomorrow, to open up roads leading into the city where the snow has blocked traffic. Superintendent Paas has charge of the men. Difficulty is experienced in housing and feeding the men while on the snow shoveling work, as they move from place to place. Farmers say that the country roads are from three to five deep with snow, and that when the spring thaw comes many of the country communities will be isolated from the city.- News.

Names of persons hoarding flour are being taken and filed by Guy W. Rouse, Kent county food administrator, who characterizes such hoarders as unpatriotic and as doing all they can to help Germany win the war. Mr. Rouse received a report of a person who has a barrel of flour at home and makes daily purchases of flour, although there are but two members in the family.—News.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 11, 1943

Shoe rationing became effective on Tuesday morning of this week, but if any of us have to go barefooted it won't be because of that. Can't help expressing our disgust over the way some people in some cities crowded stores last Sunday trying to hog all they could get. They seem to forget that rationing means a fair share for all.

Looking Back,  
continued, page 7

## We love to hear from you!



The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor.

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

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

# Social Security celebrates Black History Month

In February, we honor African Americans by celebrating Black History Month. Created in 1926, this event coincides with Abraham Lincoln's and Frederick Douglass's birthdays. African American communities have celebrated these birthdays together for over 90 years. Honoring our shared history is one way we

remember that we believe in freedom and democracy for all. Another shared belief is that we all deserve a comfortable retirement, free of economic hardship. Social Security has the tools to help you plan for your retirement and to apply for benefits online. We also pay disability benefits to individuals with medical conditions that prevent them

from working for more than 12 months or that result in death. If the disabled individual has dependent family members, they may also be eligible to receive payments. We pay disability through two programs: the Social Security Disability Insurance program, for people who have worked and paid Social Security taxes

long enough to be eligible and the Supplemental Security Income program, which pays benefits based on financial need. Widows, widowers and their dependent children may be eligible for Social Security survivors benefits. Social Security helps by providing income for the families of workers who

die. In fact, 98 of every 100 children could get benefits if a working parent dies. Social Security pays more benefits to children than any other federal program. You can learn more about retirement, survivors and disability benefits at

[www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits). Social Security is with you throughout life's journey, helping secure today and tomorrow for you and your family. Visit us today at [www.socialsecurity.gov/people/africanamericans](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people/africanamericans)

...  
**I never did give anybody hell. I just told the truth, and they thought it was hell.**  
 ~ Harry S Truman (1884 - 1972)



## At Your Local Library

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

### Heart to Heart Craft Party -

Roses are red, violets are blue, join our Valentine event, just for you! Celebrate Valentine's Day with snacks and crafts. For children and families. Thurs., Feb. 8 at 10 am.

### The Art of Papermaking -

Create unique handcrafted paper with artistic flair and style. Learn techniques to create decorative sheets of paper using various fibers and pulp, a mold and a deckle. Pre-registration required. For adults. Mon., Feb. 12, 6 to 7:30 pm.

## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Corey Lee received Realtor of the Month in January. This award recognizes Lee for his outstanding success and achievements.



Corey Lee

## health

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

### - rabies

Rabies is a virus spread by an infected animal. Once this infection is established, it is fatal. There is no cure.

Animals most likely to spread rabies include bats, coyotes, foxes, raccoons and skunks. It can also be spread by cats and dogs.

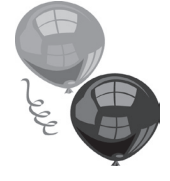
The virus is spread through infected saliva. This can occur by a bite or if saliva gets into the mouth or eyes.

Symptoms initially resemble the flu. Later symptoms include agitation, confusion, hyperactivity, excessive salivation, fear of water, hallucinations, and partial paralysis.

If bitten by an animal that has rabies, a series of shots will be given to prevent the infection. A rapid acting shot - rabies immune globulin is given near the area of the bite and also a series of four vaccines given in the arm over 14 days.

Prevention is key. Vaccinate your pets. Keep pets from coming into contact with wild animals. Keep bats out of your home. Do not approach wild animals. Consider rabies vaccine if traveling to a high risk country or if traveling to remote areas where there is no medical care.

## happy birthday



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>FEBRUARY 7</b><br>Gordie Barry, Peggy Covert.   | <b>FEBRUARY 11</b><br>Julie Kenney, Judy Goodwin.  |
| <b>FEBRUARY 8</b><br>Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse, Steve Estes, Karis Dilly.   | <b>FEBRUARY 12</b><br>Peg Stanford, Kurt Roudabush, Travis Bergy, Jan Herb, Penny Spanbauer.             |
| <b>FEBRUARY 9</b><br>Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Noah Newhouse, Madison Lombardo, Brady Foster, Dave Vankeulen, Charlotte Drake. | <b>FEBRUARY 13</b><br>Deb Heydenburg, Emily Gerard, Jodi Kennedy, Alyssa Ellis-Roach, Thomas Alberts Jr. |
| <b>FEBRUARY 10</b><br>Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.   |  |

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# area churches



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 SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)  
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Bill Gordon & Associates, a nationwide practice, represents clients before the Social Security Administration. Member of the TX & NM Bar Associations. Mail: 1420 NW St Washington D.C. Office: Broward County, FL. Services may be provided by associated attorneys licensed in other states. \*The process for determining each applicant's disability benefits varies greatly, and can take upwards of two years.

# Looking Back, continued

A Citizens' caucus will be held at Lowell City Hall next Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating a village president, clerk, treasurer, and assessor and three trustees. The village election occurs on Monday, Mar. 8.

The Lowell Public Schools, in conformity with action taken at a recent Board meeting, will follow State leadership in the matter of time. Accordingly, the clocks will be turned back one hour on next Monday but the school hours will remain the same.

Fire on the farm owned by Ira and Leonard Blossom, on US-16, about 7 miles south and east of Lowell, at about 8 o'clock last Monday night, caused the killing of upwards of 500 chicks, and the destruction of a 17 x 22 brooder house. The Lowell fire department and neighbors were called by phone and through their combined efforts succeeded in preventing the fire from spreading to other buildings. The loss was covered by insurance. It was difficult to get a supply of water due to the electric pumps not working fast enough. Too bad to lose so many chicks at any time but especially so now when every ounce of poultry and every egg helps in the war effort.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger February 8, 1968

Just about everybody... or so it seemed . . . was on hand to greet the Fred Roths during last week's testimonial to the long-time Vergennes Township official. Among them was Guy Ford, associated in office with Mr. Roth for many years, who braved the elements on a wintry night to attend the party despite his convalescence.

An interesting sidelight to the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner was a presentation by new prexy Larry Wittenbach of color slides illustrating the dramatic face-lifting of Main Street in the past year. Well done... and most effective.

Many nice calls and comments on the "new look" of the Ledger, all of them appreciated. But the best way you can say thanks is to support those who support the Ledger.

\$1,500 was the prize won by Mrs. Ila Drew of Rockford, formerly a resident of the Parnell area, when she correctly identified the landmark in a contest being run by a Grand Rapids radio station. The answer was St Patrick's Church in Parnell; the previous landmark was the Ada covered bridge.

At Monday's city council meeting, one spectator noted that the council table had been moved. Turning to Mayor Arnold Wittenbach, the spectator quipped: "How come?" Without batting an eye the mayor replied: "Oh, there's some dirty light bulbs on the other side, see!"

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 10, 1993

Lowell Police Chief Barry Emmons said he would be presenting his department's findings to the Kent County Prosecutor for prosecutorial review in regards to a number of irregularities in a Lowell Area School employee's account. Our findings will be presented to the prosecutor and he will then determine if there is enough criminal findings to issue a warrant for an arrest," Emmons said. The Lowell Police Department investigation started 4-5 weeks ago. It was then called off by school officials according to Emmons. "A week ago it was given back to the department to continue its investigation. Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch said what the school found through its internal investigation was enough to warrant a legal

investigation from a law enforcement agency. "The school has exhausted its approaches," Esch said. What was done was done illegally." Emmons said he believes enough information has been uncovered for a decision to be made on a warrant. "We're seeking a warrant for arrest on charges of embezzlement," Emmons said. "At this time there is good reason, I believe, to take our findings to the prosecutor." No names or the amount of money has been released. Emmons repeated that the amount was substantial. Lowell Area Schools released the employee responsible for the irregularities in payroll entries on Jan. 25.

In a public hearing Monday night the Lowell Township Planning Commission approved the recommendation of re-zoning land on Alden Nash near 1-96 from Agricultural one and two to industrial. The recommendation coincides with its decision to put an industrial development site in the same area. The commission, with an unanimous vote, now puts the decision making process in the hands of the Lowell Township board. Citizens came to the meeting and posed the same questions others have had about what effect the industrial development would have on the township. Concerns included the cost of a municipal water and sewer line, pollution to the environment, job opportunities in the area, and what affect the development will have on properties adjacent to the site. Most questions and concerns were answered by the board and developer Robert Grooters. The board stressed that ordinances would be passed to control what industry does in this area. Currently the board is looking to update its Planned Urban Development (P.U.D.) ordinance to include the development of a light industrial site in Lowell Township. Grooters conveyed his wish that any development would meet with regulations an ordinance would require. He went on to state that his development would need the support of

citizens to be successful. "My developments are first class structures," said Grooters. "However, in order for the development to be first class I need the cooperation of this township." Grooters and Planning Commission Chairperson Roland Lubbinge saw community pride as a key to the development. "Where there is pride there is quality," said Lubbinge. "There has to be more pride than just between the four walls of a building, it must also come from this community." Grooters could not give specifics to who would move into this site, nor could he say how many buildings would be built or how many jobs it would create for this area. He also could not support information reported in another article about the construction of 15 buildings on committee in his development of the site. "This community has a lot of bright minds in it and they should be used to the best of their abilities to help in this industrial development," said Planning Commission Chairperson Roland Lubbinge. Lubbinge sees the committee as a means to determine how the community grows with industry and how the township can maintain what it currently has. "Cooperation, pride and quality among citizens is a key to making this development beneficial to the community," said Lubbinge.

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# Brothers write book about the history of Carl School

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Brothers Arthur and Robert Tusch are both alumni of the Carl School, a defunct one-room, country schoolhouse just outside of Ada. The brothers recently collaborated on a book, called "The History of Carl School," all about the school and their experiences there. The book contains over 200 pages of information, stories, photos and memorabilia from the school which existed from 1859 until 1964.

"My brother and I went to Carl School until we graduated from eighth grade," Art Tusch said. "I'm 84, he's 82. I started there in second grade when we moved to the area from Grand Rapids where I went to Palmer School. I started there in 1942 and graduated in 1947. I graduated from Lowell High School in 1951 as salutatorian of my class. Bob is two years younger than I, so he went there from the very beginning of his education and also went on to attend Lowell High School."

The building that housed the Carl School still exists, but it's not in the same place it used to be and it's no longer a school.

"What was the Carl School is now the one-room schoolhouse that's being set up over in the village of Ada where they're remodeling the town," Tusch said. "That's the one that we went to. It's been painted red and they moved it from one part of the village to another. It was originally about two miles further west than it is now, about two miles west of Ada on the corner

of Grand River Dr. and Carl Dr. It was open from 1859 until 1964. It's amazing, the school opened one year before the Civil War started and it closed in the same decade that we sent a man to the moon. After it closed, eventually the building was purchased by some man who moved it into the village of Ada, painted it red and rented it out as an ice cream and sandwich shop. Then some lady from New York City picked it up and started selling flowers there."

Tusch points to small class sizes, more free time and working with peers as a few of the benefits of a one-room country school education.

"Between the eight grades we probably had 18 to 30 students in total," Tusch said. "There were only two students in my class. School started at 9 am and went until 4 pm. We got a 15 minute recess in the morning and the afternoon plus a one hour lunch period. The system worked well. There was a big, long conference table about 12 feet long and three feet wide. Our teacher would say, 'I will now hear third grade arithmetic.' All the third graders would get up and sit at the table where she would ask them questions or teach them a new idea. Different classes, different subjects, all day long. Meanwhile, everybody else was studying for the moment when it would be their turn for sixth grade literature or whatever. When a student got to be in the seventh grade, he or she got to be sort of like a student teacher. When the teacher

was too busy, she would say to a seventh grade student, 'I want you to be the student teacher for the second grade spelling class today.' She would pick the people she felt confident with and it worked out well because everybody got to be heard in every subject. It was a good system and it really worked well."

Tusch also said that the teachers at Carl School were excellent, although teachers used corporal punishment rather liberally back in those days. One of the teachers Tusch mentioned even kept a length of rubber hose in her desk with which she would beat unruly students.

"Gladys Abraham was the teacher there when we started [in 1942]," Tusch said. "She was a good teacher but she left. Then we had a teacher from Indiana for one year but she didn't work out. Then they hired Mrs. Lula Ferrall from Cascade. She was the best teacher I ever had anywhere, anytime. She was marvelous. I heard some years later when we were getting ready to do this book that she passed away at the age of 91 in a rest home just outside of town. That was the story I heard anyway."

Tusch said the main difference between education then and now is the amount of space children were given to pursue their own activities. The brothers wrote a second book entirely on that topic called "Unstructured Time." Tusch said that sometimes he and his friends got into trouble, like the time they placed a dead snake in the teacher's desk, but usually kids



Art Tusch posing with the two books about the Carl School that he coauthored with his brother Bob.

picked wholesome, semi-educational activities to occupy their free moments.

"One thing that seems to be different about what

we did then in that one-room school and what's being done now is that students are programmed from the moment they

arrive in the morning until they leave school in the afternoon," Tusch said. "We ought to be thinking about the value of unstructured time. That's what the second book is about. The second book includes a series of 41 short stories about our experiences that we think support that idea."

Tusch said that the brothers are currently researching a relative of theirs, Frederick Tusch, who was one of the owners of the Silver Foam Beer brewery in Grand Rapids during the early 20th century. He also said that since Bob lives in Texas, it falls to him to do all the work.

"My brother has the ideas and I do all the legwork," Tusch said. "He's younger, bigger and smarter than me, but that's okay, I can deal with that. He's always trying to get something going but it usually takes a lot of legwork and it's usually around here, not in Texas."

Copies of the two books are available by contacting Art Tusch at [atusch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:atusch@sbcglobal.net) or by calling 616-662-5093.



This photo from about 1900 is the only known photograph of the school while it was in operation.



# Former Grand Volute ballroom being remodeled to make way for eMotion Controls

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

A completely different type of business is moving into what used to be the Grand Volute Ballroom at 655 Lincoln Lake SE. A company called eMotion Controls is remodeling the building and plans to move in April 1.

“We design industrial automation and electrical control systems,” said owner Cory Deeds from his current office at 2300 Oak Industrial Dr. in Grand Rapids. “We do the electrical engineering for the panels with all the components that go in those facilities and then we write the software behind it and integrate it all together. Most of our customers are nationwide. We do very little business in Grand Rapids or the West Michigan area. Everything is all remote. Our work is in places like Hawaii, Florida, Texas, New York, all over the country. We can work anywhere, our customers can be anywhere. We don’t get a lot of walk-in customers. Right now our main focus is the work we’re doing in the material handling market with companies like the USPS, UPS, Amazon and Fed-Ex. If they have, maybe, a warehouse and distribution center that they’re

expanding or building new, they want to automate the motor control. No one just takes a package and walks it over somewhere, it’s all automated. We’ve always been in the automation world. We survived the economic downturn by doing engineering work. We got a couple projects with Fed-Ex and they went really well so they keep calling us back. We do a lot in other markets as well, like automotive, machine tools, tool and die shops, robots and all kinds of automation.”

Deeds said the abundance of work they’ve generated for themselves has caused them to outgrow their cramped current office in Grand Rapids.

“Originally, we were looking to expand our manufacturing operation,” Deeds said. “Right now we build some of our panels here in house, but on a really small scale. We’re also growing the company quite a bit and we’re running out of room here. We were looking for a space with about 25,000 square feet. Building from scratch would be too expensive. There is a lot of property out in Walker, Jenison, Hudsonville and all that,



**Cory Deeds, owner of eMotion Controls, Inc. is moving his company to the former site of the Grand Volute Ballroom, 655 Lincoln Lake SE.**

but we wanted to locate east of the Beltline if possible. We even looked out by the Gerald R. Ford airport. Most of us live on the east side and the northeast side

of town. I actually live right up the road from Lowell. We looked at this ballroom really hard to figure out how we could repurpose the building. Eventually, we

negotiated a deal and took it over.”

Crews started work in December and Deeds plans to move his operation into the place on April 1.

“Basically we’re in the building process right now,” Deeds said. “Things are moving along, they’re starting to make some progress. The architects are doing their thing, they’ve got all their permits and drawings. It took quite a bit of time. We hired a commercial contracting company. When we closed on the place at the end of October they got in there and started doing some demolition work. It’s greatly, greatly different than what it was. The interior has been almost completely gutted. We saved one side of the ballroom, that’s completely untouched, but the other side is down to the concrete. We’ve gotten everything repainted and we put in a loading dock. We needed that to have freight shipments come in. We also needed overhead doors for a lot of the equipment that we use. We’re kind of doing things in two phases. Phase one was the warehouse space and phase two is the front offices. We’re taking

the front and making it all engineering offices and then the back is our warehouse space. They started work in December on phase one and they’re just getting ready to start on phase two.”

Deeds said after they move here he plans to hire local residents and offer internships to Lowell High School students.

“We plan to hire quite a few Lowellians, as many as we possibly can, especially young kids,” Deeds said. “We are hoping to work with the robotics team at the high school. I think that group is really, really cool. I’m really looking forward to summertime when we can hire some juniors or seniors who want a summer job. We want to teach them and maybe see if we can find some people who are either going to go on to college or maybe stick with the trades and build them with us. We’re really going to try hard to get some high school kids in over the summer and see what we can do with them.”

For more information about the company, visit them online at [e-motioncontrols.com](http://e-motioncontrols.com)



## • 23-week training academy runs July through December

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking candidates for its Conservation Officer Recruit School, a 23-week training academy that is the first step in becoming a conservation officer. The application deadline is March 1.

Recruit School #9 runs July 15 through Dec. 20 at the training academy in Dimondale, near Lansing.

“The academy demands total effort and commitment,” said 1st Lt. Steve Burton, training section supervisor in the DNR Law Enforcement Division. “It challenges recruits academically and physically. But those who succeed are on the path to an exciting, fulfilling career as a Michigan conservation officer. Not just anyone can wear our gray and green uniform. Only the finest

## March 1 is the application deadline for DNR conservation officer recruit school

men and women should apply.”

The DNR is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity among its applicants. During the academy, recruits become state of Michigan employees and are paid biweekly. After graduation, they become probationary conservation officers and spend several more months training throughout the state before being assigned to one of Michigan’s 83 counties, in which they will live. Due to the high quality and diverse nature of the training, the entire training process, which includes the academy, takes one year before candidates become full-fledged conservation officers.

An applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be at least 21 years old before graduating from the academy.
- Become a resident

of Michigan prior to completing the probationary training program.

- Be allowed to lawfully possess a firearm in Michigan.
- Possess a valid Michigan driver’s license.
- Possess a satisfactory driving record.
- Possess a clean criminal record absent of any felony convictions.
- Submit to a thorough background investigation measuring the applicant’s suitability for law enforcement work.
- Complete the Michigan Civil Service Commission Entry Level Law Enforcement Exam.
- Pass the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) physical fitness test.
- Complete and attach the Job Fit questionnaire, location preference sheet, a cover

letter and resume when applying.

A detailed guide to the application process is available at [www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers](http://www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers). For more information contact Sgt. John Meka at [mekaj@michigan.gov](mailto:mekaj@michigan.gov) or 517-284-6499.

The 2017 recruit school recently concluded and 22 men and women joined the DNR as probationary conservation officers after graduating last month. For a look at life in the academy, visit an archive of weekly blogs from Recruit School #8.

DNR conservation officers serve a distinct

role in Michigan’s law enforcement community. They are certified police officers with full authority to enforce all of Michigan’s laws. As conservation officers, they also have specialized training in a variety of areas related to the protection of Michigan’s citizens and natural resources. This includes extensive training in fish, game and trapping enforcement; recreational safety and enforcement, as well as firearms, precision and off-road driving, survival tactics and first aid. Learn more at [www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers](http://www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers).

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

Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

## SPORTS

## Wrestlers crowned conference champions

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Wrapping up the OK White season, the Red Arrow wrestlers were crowned conference champions Saturday evening after a day of tough competition.

Entering the contest 6-0 in league play, the Arrows were a shoo-in for the title. Their closest finish was a 60-15 spread against Forest Hills Northern and their furthest a 74-0 shutout over Greenville. Their ferocious matches yielded nine weight class champions, thirteen placed wrestlers and a dominant 248.5 point team win. Their closest competitor, second-place finisher Cedar Springs, came in at 166 points, followed by Greenville with 110.5, Forest Hills Central totaled 104.5, Forest Hills Northern scored 96, Northview tallied 15 and Ottawa Hills took seventh place with nine points.

Champions for Lowell included four sophomores who competed last season at the state finals. Nick Korhorn at 103 pounds topped his semifinal FHC opponent by 9-4 decision before beating Cedar Springs' Trevor Marsman by fall at 3:53 in the finals. Bryce McCune claimed the top spot at 112 pounds after taking FHC in the semifinals by 16-3 major decision and sealing the win in the finals

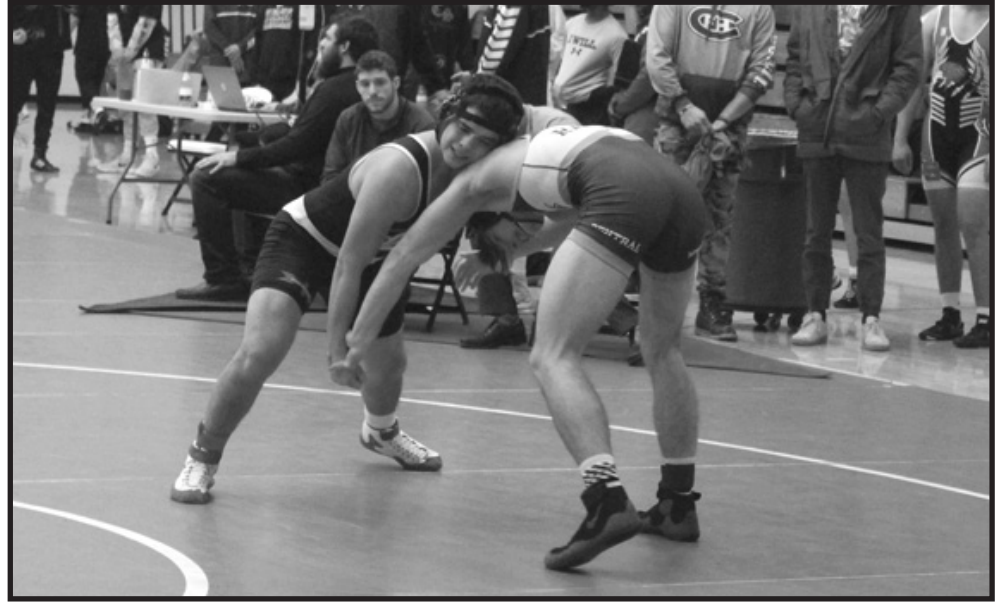
over his FHN opponent by 3-2 decision.

125 pound Tyler Lynch earned a quick fall over his FHN foe before grabbing first place via 12-7 decision over Greenville's Dominic Christensen in the finals. State- and nationally-ranked 153 pound Arrow wrestler Austin Boone claimed the team's only individual state title last winter. This winter his top placing performance included a pair of falls over Josh Gorney of FHN in the semis and Nolan Ott of FHC in the finals at 1:12 and :40, respectively.

One freshman found their way to the top of the podium. Doak Dean at 135 tore through Jared Rice of FHN with a 17-1 technical fall in his first round before claiming first place with a 5-4 decision over his Cedar Springs' rival. Four seniors earning first place were Channing Perry at 145 pounds trumping opponents from Greenville, FHN and Cedar Springs by fall in just 2:14 combined; David Kruse competing at 189 pounds, made his way by a 19-4 technical fall over Kyle Durdle of Greenville in the semifinals and a 7-2 decision win over Keegan Moore; Keigan Yuhas at 215 pounds and heavyweight Connor Nugent were the final senior members to earn a first place finish.

Yuhas tallied wins by fall over FHN William Aurner at :38 and Seth Udell of FHC at :45. Nugent gained his semifinal win by fall at 5:40 over Cedar Springs and his finals' win over Trace Schimers of FHC by 4-0 decision.

Placing second for the Arrows, junior Jeff Leach at 130 pounds topped his semifinal opponent by 9-0 major decision; sophomore James Fotis at 140 earned a technical fall over Greenville 18-3; and 160 pound freshman Derek Mohr battled Ottawa Hills' Arturo DeLeon in the quarterfinals and Trent Rector of Northview in the semis before falling by major decision. Senior George Gonzales took third position in the 171 pound weight class after winning two and losing two by fall.



Senior grappler George Gonzales en route to a third-place finish.



**The boys will compete next at the district level participating in the Michigan High School Athletic Associations' team and individual championships this week. Action will kick off on Thursday at East Grand Rapids High School at 6 pm where the team will compete as a unit. Contests will continue Saturday at Lowell High School where the Red Arrows will defend their individual talents in front of a home crowd.**



Senior heavyweight champion Connor Nugent on the mat against Cedar Springs.

## Sports Summaries

## BOYS BOWLING

Performing well on the lanes last week the Lowell varsity boys bowling team beat OK White opponent Forest Hills Northern by a score of 24-6 and placed second at the Saturday Hudsonville Invitational. Hosting the FHN Huskies on Wednesday the Arrows went 1-1 in baker games and then claimed 18 points in the regular series to earn their 24-6 victory. The team was led by senior Carson Clark (236/214), sophomore Collin Clark (212/234), senior Foster Skoog (175/184) and junior DJ Simpson (181/172). At the twelve team Hudsonville tournament, Lowell entered the semi-finals as third seed where they beat Byron Center by five pins to advance them to the finals. They succumbed to Hudsonville accepting a second-place 4,102 pin finish. Carson Clark was named to the all-tournament team with his 763 series. This week the team faces Northview and Ottawa Hills in conference action before heading to the Mona Shores Invitational on Saturday.

## BOYS SWIM AND DIVE

Breaking even in the pool last week the boys varsity swim team, comprised of Lowell, Caledonia and South Christian students, fell to Holland/West Ottawa 146-38 yet topped Wayland 95-91. At the Holland/West Ottawa meet the team pulled out a win over Jenison but fell to the host 120-59, as well as Spring Lake 115-66, Rockford 147-38, Ludington 93-89, Bryon Center 108-75, Hudsonville 128-57, Hamilton 105-79 and Grandville 115.5-94. Their tenth-place finish was highlighted by 14 personal best times. In Wayland the team pulled off a close win over the Wildcats. First-place finishers Ryan Parsons in the 50 freestyle and 100 breaststroke, Emmet Schemehling who won the 500

freestyle, Ethan Arendsen who topped the 100 backstroke and the relay teams of the 200 medley and 400 freestyle. This week the team takes part in the Grand Rapids Christian Invitational and will honor their seniors on Thursday when they meet West Catholic at 6 pm.

## GIRLS BOWLING

Lowell girls varsity bowling hit the lanes twice last week hosting Forest Hills Northern on Wednesday and then traveling to the Hudsonville Invitational on Saturday. The Lady Arrows fell in a close match against FHN 16-14 at their last home conference event of the season. After two losses in their baker games, the team performed well in the regular series but were unable to overcome their earlier deficit. Their efforts were led by senior Laura Lachowski who rolled a 168 and a 181. Sophomore Olivia Dennie finished the meet with a season high game of 189. Saturday in Hudsonville the team placed in the eighth position with a total pin tally of 2,931. Leading the pin counts were Lachowski who posted games of 193 and 181 and sophomore Emma Blakie who rolled a 171 and a 213. This week the team faces OK White foes Northview and Ottawa Hills before participating in the Mona Shores Invitational on Saturday.

## ICE HOCKEY

Suffering two consecutive losses the Lowell/Caledonia varsity ice hockey team dropped contests against both West Ottawa and Byron Center last week. Hosting West Ottawa on Friday at the Kentwood Ice Arena the team was nearly shut out, with the saving goal coming from Lowell senior

Austin Whaley. The 5-1 loss was followed by a 4-2 loss on Saturday night at the Southside Ice Arena where they faced Bryon Center. LC goals were credited to Carter Osborn and Nolan Lockhart with assists credited to Mitch Brennan, Dallas Hainley, Ethan Pinto and Whaley. This weekend, the boys will participate in a two day tournament hosted by Chelsea High School. After a small break, they will dive into their post-season beginning Friday, February 23.

## ALUMNI ATHLETES

Former Red Arrow athlete Ryan Stevens recently broke into the record books at Alma College where he signed to play after his 2016 Lowell graduation. On the court against Albion, Stevens was credited with 14 assists in a game, the most recorded by any player in the program since the 1988-1989 season. He also put up a season high 21 points during the contest. Stevens was a point guard for the Lowell varsity basketball team that won a district championship. He also served as quarterback for the Red Arrow varsity football team for two seasons.

## COMPETITIVE CHEER

Compiling their highest score of the season last Saturday, the Lowell varsity competitive cheer team competed at the Kenowa Hills Invitational in their only event of the week. The team placed in the eighth position overall at the tournament tallying a score of 654.04. The ladies' final competition of the regular season will take place at 6 pm on Wednesday at Ottawa Hills High School. They will begin their post season on Friday, February 16.

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

# SPORTS

## Boys realize first win of season versus Caledonia, but lose another to Ottawa Hills

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

After a pair of barn burners last week that left the Red Arrow boys without a win on the season, the varsity basketball team realized their first victory on Tuesday. They welcomed non-conference competitor the Caledonia Scots and rallied their way to a 62-53 victory, only to see their momentum cut short by a 30-point OK White loss to the Ottawa Hills Bengals three days later.

Holding the lead the duration of the game, the Arrows came out hot and stayed that way scoring in the double digits in all four periods. They tallied 18 in the first, 12 in the second, 19 in the third and 14 in the fourth, being out shot in only one period to garner the 62-53 win.

The tuned in performance was led defensively by senior Travis Cornell, junior Trevor Petroelje and freshman Brett Spanbauer. Offensively Spanbauer added seven to the scoreboard, senior Mitch O’Gorman netted 15 points and junior starter Gavin Coxon led all scorers with 18.

Back in conference action on Friday night, the Arrows visited the 10-4 and 5-2 in conference Ottawa Hills Bengals. Currently holding second place in the OK White behind the 6-0 Forest Hills Central Rangers, the Bengals offered up fierce competition for Lowell in their second meeting this season winning 88-58. Depending on fantastic three-point shooting, Ottawa Hills quickly grabbed control of the game leading 27-14 after the first and 48-24 at the halftime buzzer, while Lowell struggled under defensive pressure.

More of the same in the second added up to a 20-12 deficit for the Arrows in the third and an eventual 88-58 loss despite a 22-point rally in the fourth. The Arrows scoring efforts were led by senior starter Austin Pollock and Petroelje who recorded 14 and 12 points respectively. The Arrows now hold an overall record of 1-13 on the season and an 0-7 record in the OK White with only five regular season games remaining before the district championship scheduled for early March.



Red Arrow Rob Schneider enroute to the basket during their non-conference win.



Senior starter Austin Pollock on the floor at home against Caledonia last week.

Photos by Lowell Athletic Department

Next up on the schedule for the gents is a non-conference battle at home against Zeeland West High School and a seventh go at a conference win on Friday when they visit Northview High School with a tip off time of 7 pm directly following the girls varsity game.

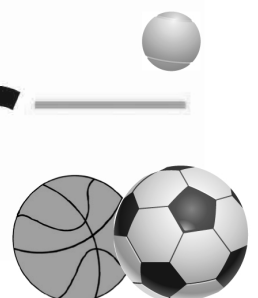
Basketball, continued, page 14

**L**  
Go Red Arrows!

Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

the lowell

ledger



# obituaries

# Beloved local business owner passes away

## BORDEN

Carmine Borden, age 76 of Lowell, passed away January 30, 2018. She was born February 28, 1941, in Ypsilanti, the daughter of Louis J and Mollie J. (Fitzsimmons) Blough. She graduated from Lowell High School in the class of 1959. Carmine went to University of California where she received her Bachelor in Arts degree. She attended Ada Bible Church. Carmine is survived by her daughter, Debbie (Dave) Aday of California; brothers, Roger Blough of Georgia and Arthur (Veronica) Blough of Lowell; sisters, Joan (Dennis) Sisson of Florida, Ruth (Roger) Rowley of Ionia, Phyllis (Jerry) Huver of Saranac, Angela (Scott) Slaght of Lowell and Martha (Rob) Fuhst of Conklin. Special thanks to Laurels of Kent, for their care. She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Joey Borden; and brother, Dale Blough. Upon her request cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be held at 2 pm on Saturday, February 10, 2018, at The Ole Orchard, 850 N. State Rd., Ionia, MI 48846. Arrangements in care of Lake Funeral Home of Saranac. Online condolences may be made at [www.lakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomes.com)



by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Beloved local business owner Blair Cahoon, the third generation behind the counter at Keiser's Kitchen, passed away on Tuesday, January 30, 2018. Cahoon is survived by his wife Trudy Cahoon and daughters, Bryony Lowe and Malley Cahoon. He was devoted to his family and was well known for the time and money he spent on charitable causes around town. A 1970 graduate of Lowell High School, Cahoon was on the baseball, football, bowling and basketball teams at LHS and in adulthood became an avid golfer. Cahoon had a garrulous personality and always had an entertaining story to tell.

"Blair was so involved with this community, with sports and things like that," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker. "Keiser's Kitchen has been a chamber member for many years; they won the Business Appreciation award in 2015."

"We've both been in business here for a long time, so I knew him well," said Mike Larkin, owner of Larkin's Restaurant. "I don't go out to eat a lot, but once in a while I go out to breakfast there. Blair stopped in here once in a while too. I also used to run into him at food shows. He was a great fellow business owner and a pretty good guy."

"Keiser's Kitchen is one of the most historic family owned businesses on Main St.," said Pink Arrow Pride organizer Teresa Beachum. "I can't think of another retail business that has existed for so long."

Keiser's Kitchen was built in 1945 by Cahoon's grandparents, Frank and Letha Keiser. Operation of the restaurant passed from Frank and Letha to their daughter Darlene Westcott. When she died in 1997, she left care of Keiser's in the hands of her three children, Blair and Roger Cahoon and Chris West. The restaurant was originally located at the corner of Amity St. and M-21, directly next door to the Keiser home. Frank Keiser's idea was to build a truck stop to serve hungry travelers on M-21. They became well known for their delicious burgers, chili and breakfasts. From a counter and eight stools, Keiser's Kitchen grew to a seating capacity of 185. In 1956 the kitchen size and the seating capacity were enlarged. In 1962 Keiser's added more seating onto the front. In 1975 the side was put on and in 1985 the upper half was



Blair Cahoon, wife Trudy Cahoon and nephew Brett West in 2015 when Keiser's Kitchen received the Business Appreciation award from the chamber of commerce.

Ledger stock photo

opened up and even more seating was added. Keiser's thrived on that corner for over 40 years until it burned down in an electrical fire on Jan. 8, 1988. Undaunted, they reopened in May of that year at the corner of S. Division and E. Main, where in December Keiser's marked their 72nd year in business. No other retail establishment or restaurant in Lowell has been open as long as they have under one family's ownership.

Perry Beachum was Cahoon's best friend. Beachum said that his bond with Cahoon grew even deeper and stronger after their other best friend, Tom Koewers, was killed in a car accident in 1995. Beachum described Cahoon as a devoted family man and raconteur who loved muscle cars and sports.

"I knew him since junior high, so for over 40 years," Beachum said. "He was a bigger than life person in the community of Lowell. He would embellish a story, but he was so convincing you never knew what part was real and what part was embellished. He had a passion for muscle cars; growing up he had a souped up Oldsmobile 442 W30. He was a very good athlete; in high school he played football, baseball and basketball. He loved golf. Blair also loved gambling, specifically the 'one armed bandit' slot machines. And he loved Lowell High School athletics. Very seldom did he ever miss a Lowell football game. Family meant a lot to Blair. He has two daughters. Both were very athletic and he rarely missed a sporting event or a dance recital."

"He was a larger than life person," said his daughter, Malley Cahoon. "He was always having fun,

always had a story to tell. He was an amazing dad, in my opinion. He was a loyal Lowell Red Arrow fan and he tried to be at every single thing he could possibly be at. Community was very important to him. As one of the oldest businesses in town, he felt it was super important to be involved in the community any way he could."

Cahoon spent a few years putting on golf tournaments to raise money to put AstroTurf on the football field at the high school. When that project fell through, Cahoon donated all that money to pay a large portion of the fancy scoreboard instead.

"Several years ago he sponsored a golf tournament called 'Tee It Up for Turf' to raise money for turf at the Lowell football field," Beachum said. "Eventually he found out that it would cost \$750,000 to put turf on that field, so when the stadium needed a new scoreboard, he took that money and donated it to help pay for a large portion of the scoreboard and video board."

"For several years he did a golf tournament called 'Tee It Up for Turf,'" Malley Cahoon said. "At the time, they were talking about putting turf on the football field. Dad was a

supporter of that, he thought it would be great. Because so many fields are turf now, it would help our kids when they played elsewhere or went to college. The golf outings were so much fun. One of the local dealerships would always donate a car if somebody got a hole in one. Then they decided to put a bigger scoreboard up instead of getting turf, so we donated all the money that we raised through 'Tee It Up for Turf' to help with the scoreboard. My dad was so proud of that, he thought it was great."

Cahoon devoted a lot of time and money to various charitable causes.

"He was very charitable," Beachum said. "He helped out with a lot of things. If he ever saw a need he was usually one of the first ones to step up, physically or financially. He hung a lot of drywall."

"He was a very loving and caring person who would do anything for anyone," Malley Cahoon said. "That's how he was."

"He was a bigger than life character," Beachum said. "He lived a full life. He would want us to celebrate his life instead of crying."

There is currently an online fundraiser to help with medical bills. To donate visit [youcaring.com/trudycagoon-1085279](http://youcaring.com/trudycagoon-1085279)



Larkin's Restaurant dedicated their sign to Cahoon last week.

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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### LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

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

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Lowell, MI 49331  
897-9261

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

# classifieds

## for sale

SAWMILLS from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 800 567-0404 Ext.300N (MICH)

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

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

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - Seasoned hardwoods, 5 miles N. of Lowell. \$200 cord. 616-292-3045.

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

2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD - Ext. cab, short box in excellent condition. Southern truck. 185,000 miles. removable cattlemen brush guard, with light bar, \$17,000. Also have 8.2 Boss V-plow available that fits on the truck, \$20,000 for both. Call 269-953-7452.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

## for rent

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT - 1 small bedroom apartment, no pets. \$700 per month; \$300 deposit. Includes utilities. Call 897-7176.

**PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.** TFN

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

## wanted

GRCC STUDENT LOOKING FOR ROOM TO RENT - inside of Lowell. Mid-20's, respectful, clean & honest. Call 616-523-2105.

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

BUYING ALL HARDWOODS - 2018 pricing. Walnut, Oak, hard Maple, Cherry. Call for pricing & free estimates. Will buy single walnut trees. Buying all veneer. Fully insured. Call Fetterley Logging, 269-818-7793.

GUITAR WANTED! Local musician will pay up to \$12,500 for pre-1975 Gibson, Fender, Martin and Gretsch guitars. Fender amplifiers also. Call toll free! 1-800-995-1217. (MICH)

FREON R12 WANTED: CERTIFIED BUYER will PAY CASH for R12 cylinders or cases of cans. (312) 291-9169; www.refrigerantfinders.com (MICH)

FEDERAL EXPRESS SHIPPING & PICKUP - and UPS shipping & pickup at the Buyer's Guide & News office, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Daily pickup at 3 pm.

## help wanted

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR NEWSPAPER CARRIERS - Looking for carriers to deliver the Buyer's Guide & News every weekend. Driving routes & walking routes. Must be at least 16 years old for a walking route. Please apply in person at the Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. No Phone Calls will be accepted about this position.

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

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY - to interact with the great kids of our district? If so, we want to hear from you! The Lowell Transportation Department is hiring bus drivers. Do you have a CDL B with a P and S? Great! If not, we pay to train qualified applicants. Apply in person at the Transportation Dept., 12695 Foreman.

HELP WANTED - reliable cleaning person. About 4 hours a day, 2 times a month. Flexible hours. Call 897-9054.

GET A CAREER - in the utility industry. General labor, trimmers, bucket operators, CDL-B drivers. Hands-on training, get paid to learn a career. 616-520-3398. Tree's LLC.

PART-TIME DRIVER NEEDED - 3-4 days per week. Must have clean driving record, minimum of chauffeured license. Email resume to: jeff@dwpinc.net

\$5000 SIGN ON! Dedicated Customer, Home Every Week, Avg \$75K+ Annually and Excellent Benefits Plan! CALL 888-409-6033 www.Drive4Red.com (6 months experience and CDLA required). (MICH)

NOW HIRING FOR A GREAT PART-TIME JOB WITH BENEFITS? - 2nd & 3rd shift custodial positions available. Come be a part of the Lowell school district! Apply in person at the Transportation/Operations Dept., located behind Cherry Creek Elementary at 12695 Foreman.

## misc.

NEW SUNDAY BRUNCH - Big Boiler Brewing, 318 E. Main, Lowell, 987-3155, bigboilerbrewing.com.

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

## services

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

TERRY RISNER ROOFING - Snow and ice removal. Free estimates, licensed & insured. Call 616-291-9250.

LOOKING FOR AUTO SERVICE - Try Rick's Automotive Technology! Alignments, brakes, exhaust, mufflers, struts, shocks, tires. 1450 W. Main, Lowell, 897-4120.

## services

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.

NOREEN K. MYERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW - Compassionate, experienced, effective legal representation. Specialties include: wills & trusts, work related injuries, employment discrimination. 307 E. Main, Lowell, 897-5460.

## services

NOW OPEN - Two Brothers Auto Service, 5400 Ivan Rd., Saranac, 642-9180. Head mechanic, Dave Traver, formerly of McCaul's Auto Service.

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NEED A DUMPSTER - Want great service? 10 - 15- 20 & 30 yards. Same day delivery. Best prices. Mention this ad & save \$10. Call 616-915-0506.

# 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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - at Wittenbach Wege Center, 11715 Vergennes, Lowell. Stewardship projects, trail maintenance - adopt a trail! and community events (night hikes, luminary hikes, Winter Fest, Maple Syrup days & more!) Anyone interested in these opportunities please email Courtney Cheers: ccheers@lowellschools.com

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.

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org

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

NEEDLERS - Second & fourth Monday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Schneider Manor Community Room.

HEART TO HEART CRAFT PARTY - Roses are red, violets are blue, join our Valentine event, just for you! Celebrate Valentine's Day with snacks & crafts. Thurs., Feb. 8 at 10 am, Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

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.

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

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs., 1-6 p.m.; Fri. 9:30-6 p.m. Info., call 784-2007.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. 784-2007.

KNITTING - Tuesdays 6 - 7:15 p.m. Cathie Richter will be here to offer an instructional knitting class. Bring your projects & come & knit together. Gilda's Club, Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

SCRABBLE DAY - Jan. 30, 1-3 pm. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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.

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.

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

## SPORTS

## Girls remain undefeated in the OK White conference

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Competing in both league and non-league action on the road last week, the Red Arrow girls varsity basketball team went 1-1. They fell to the Caledonia Scots, 45-37 and topped the Ottawa Hills Bengals for the second time this season, 48-43.

Traveling to Caledonia on Tuesday the girls were on top through the first half of play leading 11-9 and 19-15 at the half, boasting a tough defense from juniors,

Emily Depew and Ava Frederickson, and sharp shooting from senior co-captain Cassie Dean and junior starter Regan Coxon.

After the half, Caledonia began to inch their way into the lead and maintained it throughout the fourth where they thwarted all Lowell comeback attempts. The 45-37 loss was led by scorers Dean and Coxon who netted 17 and 14 respectively. The fall was only the third of the season for the Arrows who had only lost to non-

conference competitors, the East Grand Rapids Pioneers and Jenison Wildcats.

Traveling on Friday the team faced the Ottawa Hills Bengals hoping to maintain their undefeated 6-0 conference record. The Arrows faced a more prepared Bengals team but still came up with the victory 48-43. In their last contest, at the beginning of the season, Lowell topped Ottawa Hills 52-21.

This time the Bengals held their own keeping the

game knotted at 14 at the first buzzer and trailing by just two at the half 25-23. Lowell was out shot in the third as Ottawa continued their charge adding 14 to the scoreboard while the Arrows only put up ten, leaving them trailing 37-35.

Facing the possibility of losing their flawless OK White run, the Arrows' defense turned up the heat in the fourth reducing the Bengals' effort to just six points. Lowell netted

13 earning their seventh straight conference victory was Coxon who earned

16 points, followed by a standout performance from senior Makyla Branagan who chipped in 13.

**The Lady Arrows road schedule continued as they faced Zeeland West on Tuesday in non-conference action and then head to Northview High School to take their second swipe at the Wildcats on Friday night with tip off scheduled for 5:30 pm.**

## Gymnasts tumble over Kenowa Hills 135.2-127

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

In conference action at Kenowa Hills High School last Wednesday, the Red Arrow varsity gymnastics team topped their opponent 135.2-127. The team was led by top all-around scorers, junior Corah Miller and freshman Theresa Judd.

Scoring a combined four event score of 34.775, Miller was the day's leading Lowell gymnast placing first on all four events. The standout scored an 8.95 to top the vault competition, an 8.45 on the bars, an 8.375 on the beam and a season

best score of 9.0 on the floor exercise. Underclassman Judd finished close behind with a cumulative score of 31.275 earned with a third-place 8.85 finish on the vault, a 6.95 on the bars good for seventh place, a fifth-place 7.325 finish on the beam and another fifth-place on the floor for an 8.15.

Filling out the other top places, on the vault were junior Hadyn Nash with an 8.9, freshman Aubri Lemke with an 8.8, freshman Katy Hock scoring an 8.1, freshman Aurora Fredericks close behind with an 8.0 and freshman Tressa Huizinga

with a 7.9. On the bars, Miller and Judd were joined by Lemke with an 8.325, junior Emily Lothian with an 8.1, freshman Marlie McDonald who tallied a 7.65, Nash who came in at 7.6 and Hock who earned a 7.2.

Placing second behind Miller on the balance beam was Lothian with an 8.025, followed by McDonald with an 8.025, freshman Nora Jannenga with a 7.65 and senior Marissa Grover who scored a 7.2. Joining Miller at the top of floor exercise scorers was Hock who scored her first career 9.0 to tie for the spot. The pair

was followed in points by Lemke with an 8.85, Nash with an 8.575 and Huizinga who came in at 8.0.

Event participants for this particular meet were decided upon to include gymnasts who still needed to earn regional qualifying scores in order to bring as many members as possible

to the upcoming contests that begin on Valentine's Day, February 14. Before they get to that point, the team will face two more conference duals and host and attend a non-league tournament to wrap up their regular season and their preparation time for the post season.

**This week the team competed against Rockford on Monday, will travel to take on the co-op team of Forest Hills Central on Wednesday and then hit the road again on Saturday morning for the Coldwater Invitational.**

## LOWELL CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

A public hearing concerning adoption of a Five Year Recreation Plan of the City of Lowell will be held on **Tuesday, February 20, 2018** during the regular City Council meeting commencing at 7:00 PM at Lowell City Hall at 301 East Main Street.

The draft plan is available and may be examined by the general public at City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan, during regular business hours, and at the public hearing. A copy is also available at the Englehardt Library, 200 North Monroe Street, Lowell, Michigan during regular business hours. All interested persons are invited to submit their comments in person or in writing at or before the public hearing.

The City of Lowell will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, to individuals with disabilities upon seven (7) days' notice to the City Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the City Clerk at the address or telephone number listed below.



Sue Ullery, Lowell City Clerk  
301 East Main Street  
Lowell, MI 49331

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2018/2019 at the Lowell Charter Township offices 2910 Alden Nash, SE., Lowell, MI 49331 on February 20, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** A complete copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Lowell Charter Township office.

Any interested party may submit written comments concerning said proposed budget until the date and time of said hearing. The Township will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting for individuals with disabilities upon adequate notice to the Township Clerk in writing or by calling (616) 897-7600.

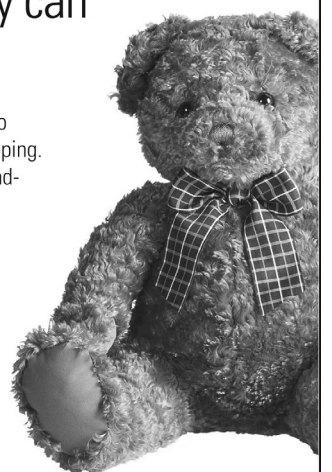
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**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: VALENTINE'S DAY**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Nerds
- 6. \*Dad's Valentine
- 9. \*Seal with a kiss and do this
- 13. Marconi's wireless telegraphy
- 14. Nightcap rocks
- 15. Relish tastebuds' sensation
- 16. Fervor
- 17. "Le \_\_\_\_ des cygnes"
- 18. Togetherness
- 19. \*Botanical Valentine's Day gift, pl.
- 21. \*Romantic taper
- 23. \*Princess Jasmine's love interest
- 24. Per person
- 25. Rub-a-dub-\_\_\_\_
- 28. Distressed cry
- 30. Asphalt alternative
- 35. Native-American storytelling tradition
- 37. Sound of impact
- 39. Royal headgear
- 40. Morally reprehensible
- 41. Type of rug
- 43. Tennis serving whiz
- 44. Painter's support
- 46. Dust allergy trigger
- 47. It "was made for you and me"
- 48. \*He played Lara Antipova's lover, 1965
- 50. Swerve
- 52. Is, no longer
- 53. Fireplace part
- 55. Corn unit
- 57. \*St. Valentine, e.g.
- 60. \*Author of earliest Valentine's Day reference
- 64. Chinese silk plant

**CROSSWORD**

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68						69				70				
71						72				73				



JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 1

- The Philadelphia Eagles have won Super Bowl LII for the first time ever beating the ubiquitous New England Patriots, 41-33.
- Fox News is reporting that a chemical used to cook McDonald's french fries could possibly cure signs of baldness. Apparently, researchers in Japan released a study that found using a chemical called dimethylpolysiloxane, which is found in silicone and added to oil used to cook the fast food giant's fries, is able to mass produce hair follicles in mice.
- Actor, John Mahoney, 77, best known for playing the father on "Frasier" passed away from complications caused by cancer while in hospice care.



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- 65. Fluffy accessory
  - 67. Window treatment
  - 68. Change the Constitution
  - 69. Annoying pop-ups
  - 70. Implant
  - 71. It can turn pumpkin into carriage
  - 72. Fishing mesh
  - 73. Relieves
- DOWN**
- 1. Steffi of tennis
  - 2. "Me and \_\_\_\_ and the Dying Girl"
  - 3. Cocoyam
  - 4. Native of American Great Plains
  - 5. Very much
  - 6. 0.001 inches, pl.
  - 7. Mozart's "L' \_\_\_\_ del Cairo"
  - 8. Hajj destination
  - 9. Head-hiding place
  - 10. Bad to the bone
  - 11. Post-it slip
  - 12. Like some martinis
  - 15. Broad-brimmed beachwear
  - 20. Watts events, 1965
  - 22. Make a scene
  - 24. Hard to pin down
  - 25. \*Avian symbol of love, pl.
  - 26. "Umble" Heep
  - 27. Crafter's wood
  - 29. Impulse
  - 31. Iranian coin
  - 32. Cockatoo's cousin
  - 33. Rome's Colosseum
  - 34. \*Paper greetings
  - 36. Suggestive look
  - 38. \*Valentine's Day Get-together
  - 42. Medicinal worm
  - 45. Up in the air
  - 49. Tsetse, e.g.
  - 51. Traveling entertainer's helper
  - 54. Opposite of rural
  - 56. Aung San Suu Kyi's home
  - 57. Vicki Lawrence's Thelma Harper
  - 58. Echoed by the flock
  - 59. Source of zest
  - 60. Those in a play
  - 61. Uber competitors
  - 62. "The Three Musketeers" dueling sword
  - 63. Bolsheviks
  - 64. Like sashimi
  - 66. Schiller's " \_\_\_\_ to Joy"

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*



**LEDGER OFFICE HOURS**

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Friday: 8 am - Noon  
Closed Sat. & Sun.

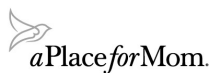
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	7		1		3			6
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*Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.*

**LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS**

**Did you watch or listen to, State of the Union speech?**

YES, ABSOLUTELY ..... 19%  
NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT ..... 69%  
PART OF IT ..... 12%

**WWW.thelowellledger.com**

# LowellArts' "Moving to Main" campaign goal reached

Lowell Area Arts Council, DBA LowellArts' executive director Lorain Smalligan announced the successful completion of their \$1.25 million "Moving to Main" capital campaign.

"We want to thank everyone who supported our campaign and to let the whole community know that we have successfully raised the entire amount of

our \$1.25 million goal. Our list of lead gift supporters is impressive, but even more so is the outpouring of support our community, individual members and friends have shown us," Smalligan said.

The campaign was launched in the summer of 2015 with lead gifts both in cash and in-kind from numerous corporations, foundations, businesses

and individuals, not the least of which was long-time LowellArts supporter and \$1-per-year landlord, King Milling Company. In total, over 350 supporters from throughout the Lowell community and beyond have contributed toward the purchase and renovation of the two adjoining buildings on the northwest corner of Broadway and Main streets. The campaign reached

its goal thanks to final additional gifts from the Lowell Area Community Fund, James and Sally Gunberg Family and King Milling Company.

"Early on, our board felt that LowellArts should be on Main Street and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and the Lowell business community made it clear that they agreed with us. Our past home on

Hudson Street had served us well for over 35 years, but we felt that it was time to challenge our organization and make the move. We opened our doors briefly in November of 2016 for our Holiday Artists Market and immediately saw a 30 percent increase in artwork sales. Early in 2017 we completed construction and officially opened our doors that February. We began

to see the impact of our move to Main Street almost immediately. Our expanded gallery space, performance area and newly-created series of musical House Concerts has increased foot traffic and visits to neighboring shops and restaurants and they in turn are sending their patrons to visit us. It is a win-win for all of us," stated Smalligan.



## Michigan property owners with solar panels are likely eligible for 100 percent tax exemption

*Current tax rules likely exempt most small-scale systems*

The Michigan Agency for Energy (MAE) and Michigan Public Service Commission announced the release of their newest consumer tip, Personal Property Tax Exemption for Solar Panels. The new consumer tip explains an existing tax exemption that can be utilized by property owners to exempt small-scale solar projects, including many systems used by homeowners.

"Staff at the Michigan Agency for Energy have heard concerns from numerous customers about the difficulties they face in determining whether their solar installation is subject to taxation," said Valerie Brader, MAE executive director. "Our new consumer tip will help to inform customers of an important, existing tax exemption they can use to help make solar more affordable."

The existing tax exemption applies where the total value of the solar unit (which is classified as industrial personal property) owned by a property owner and located in a single taxing unit does not exceed \$80,000. Given

that most residential solar installations cost less than \$80,000, many homeowners with solar systems likely qualify for the exemption. Property owners wishing to claim the exemption must do so by February 20.

The Michigan Agency

for Energy's consumer tips sheet can be found here.

For more information about MAE, please visit [www.michigan.gov/energy](http://www.michigan.gov/energy) or sign up for its listservs to keep up on MAE matters.



## Schuette announces hotline, online complaint form for MSU investigation

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette announced that an online complaint form and hotline have been set up for the investigation into what went wrong at MSU. Both the online complaint form, hotline, as well as an email are now live.

Anyone who believes they have credible information related to MSU, its handling

of Larry Nassar's sexual abuse and other related matters are encouraged to reach out online, by email at [msuinvestigation@michigan.gov](mailto:msuinvestigation@michigan.gov) or by phone at 844-324-3374.

The hotline will be open Monday – Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. The online complaint form and email address are available 24/7.



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