

carrying
on
tradition



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l's sports



pages
10, 11 & 14

50¢



Annual Winter Gathering celebrates community leaders

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (LACC) held their annual Winter Gathering last Thursday evening at Deer Run Golf Course. The event was emceed by Rick Seese and Cliff Yankovich.

Musical entertainment was provided by local favorite the Easy Idle Band. Guests mingled and a prayer from retired pastor Roger LaWarre was offered prior to the dinner, which preceded the night's main event, the presentation of LACC awards.

The awards were designed by LACC to acknowledge the many contributions of chamber member businesses in the community, both economically and socially. Recipients were recognized for innovating, adding to and changing the shape of the business community in Lowell by creating opportunities for economic and employment growth. They were also acknowledged for their social contributions.

LACC executive director Liz Baker welcomed guests, taking time to thank the volunteers who helped to make the night possible. She spoke briefly of the chamber's programs, including educational and business

scholarships. She also highlighted their successful campaign to generate the funding to rebuild the Lowell Showboat saying,

"Where would our city be without our beloved showboat?" Baker went on to describe the route taken to achieve the dollars needed.

Handing the microphone over to LACC member and Greenridge Realty of Lowell manager Seese, the night continued with a comic twist as the host paired up with Yankovich, co-owner of Chimera Design jewelry store in Lowell. Dubbing them "Drum and Drummer" based on their similar instrumental interests and community roles, Seese offered up this one-liner, "I handle the family homes and he handles the family jewels."

Beginning the program by highlighting the work and accomplishments of the chamber and its volunteers over the past year, Seese mentioned the Riverwalk

and Harvest festivals, Sizzlin' Summer Concerts, Lowell Community Expo and Girls Night Out.

"The chamber is the engine that keeps the community vibrant and brings us all together. Our chamber continues to keep Lowell on the map. Lowell is not just 'the next place to be,' Lowell is the place to be," said Seese, tipping his hat to Baker who received uproarious applause from chamber members.

Before moving onto the award ceremony Seese offered a final thought, "There are so many unsung heroes in this community. So many that give of

Winter Gathering,
continued, page 8



LACC Person of the Year, Betsy Davidson, gives her acceptance speech.



LACC executive director Liz Baker speaking at the Winter Gathering.



Third-generation Curtis Cleaners owner Chris Curtis, at left, accepts his Brick Award from Rick Seese.

Museum immersion program offers hands on history

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Local third graders spent two full days at the Lowell Area Historical Museum getting a hands on, behind the scenes look at local history as part of the 'museum immersion' program.

"This is our third year of this program," said museum executive director Lisa Plank. "We expanded it this year; we're doing three classes instead of one. That means all Murray Lake third graders are visiting here this year."

The students already spent time at the Grand Rapids Public Museum learning about general Michigan history.

"We went to the Grand Rapids Public Museum

a couple months ago for a whole week," said Mackenzie Aaron, third grade teacher at Murray Lake Elementary. "Now we're here at the Lowell museum making connections to what we saw in Grand Rapids and making connections with our community."

The idea behind museum immersion is to give students a hands on experience at the museum and teach students about their place in history. By negotiating their own fur trades, students learned about Lowell's early history as a riverside trading post and Lady Madeline LaFramboise (1780-1846), the first European to settle in this area. There was a scavenger hunt where

students had to find and report on ten specific items in museum displays. Students created a timeline of Lowell history and a map of the area's development. They enjoyed a behind the scenes tour of the Lowell museum, including areas normally off limits to the general public.

"They do some fun activities," Plank said. "We've got one group right now in the parlor who are learning how museums care for artifacts. They're wearing the white gloves and recording information."

"The students went to different exhibits and saw different artifacts at each



Museum volunteer Sarah Humes helping a group of students handle some artifacts.

Museum program,
continued, page 2

Museum program, continued

exhibit, then they were able to dive into greater detail and discover more about each artifact," Aaron said. "They were making connections to artifacts in exhibits they saw at the Grand Rapids Public Museum and trying to find what artifacts from Lowell would also be able to go into the Grand Rapids Public Museum. The scavenger hunt gives them the

opportunity to pursue their own interests and discover facts and information about the topic that interested them the most. They enjoy becoming experts and are able to share the information that they found."

"It's really cool to see them making connections between themselves and their history here in town," Plank said. "This program

is great because it builds in a lot of time for them to explore what historical topics they're interested in. They're making a lot of personal connections. We have one girl here today, one of the military uniforms is from a relative of hers. She was really excited to see that and to learn more about him while she's here. It's their story, it's their family, it's their history."

This is Aaron's first year teaching in Lowell. She described the museum as "a great tool" for educators.

"It's so close to all the schools in Lowell and there's so much here," Aaron said. "It's a pretty cool thing for the students to see all the information that they have about what happened here and how important their own community was

in Michigan's history. As a teacher the most exciting thing to see is [them feel] a sense of pride and accomplishment for discovering something completely on their own that they are interested in."

In addition to history, students also learned some social studies, science and language arts lessons.

"With the immersion program, we're making a lot of connections to the other curriculum that we teach," Aaron said. "There was a lot of science, especially when we were talking about the history of fur trading in Michigan. They're also doing a lot of reading and a lot of writing while they're at the museum. We see the museum as our classroom for the time that we're here."

For information about everything going on at the museum, visit them on the Internet at lowellmuseum.org, find them on Facebook,

call them at 616-897-7688, email them at history@lowellmuseum.org or visit them in person at 325 W. Main.



Museum director Lisa Plank leading one of the museum immersion activities.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF LOWELL

2018 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2018 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St SE, on the following dates:

Organizational Meeting:
Tuesday, March 6th, 4:00pm

Appeal Hearings:
Monday, **March 12th**, 10:00am to 4:00pm
Tuesday, **March 13th**, 3:00pm to 9:00pm

Meetings are by Appointment, to schedule, contact: City Hall @ ph. 616.897.8457


The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2018 assessments

By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 6th 2018

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2018 are as follows:

Commercial.....	50.09	0.9982
Residential	48.13	1.0388
Industrial	48.84	1.0237
Personal Property	50.00	1.0000

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days' notice.
Contact: Michael Burns – City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457



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~ Cicero (106 BC - 43 BC)

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Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
PO Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.thelowellledger.com

Lowell schools and police have plans in place to keep students safe

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

A gunman killed 17 and injured 14 at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL on Wednesday, Feb. 14. It was the seventh school shooting in the United States this year. In 2017 there were nine school shootings in the US, with a total of 19 dead and 26 injured.

“Lowell Area Schools has actively developed

safety plans in conjunction with local and county law enforcement,” said Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt. “While I am not at liberty to share the details of the plan, all districts develop similar plans and conduct drills as mandated by state law. Lowell Area Schools has been very proactive over the past several years trying to provide safeguards for

our students and staff. We have a very strong working relationship with the Lowell police department and in 2014 we worked with the Kent County Sheriff’s Department to place a school resource officer in our district. Since 2014 we have also added security vestibules to the entrances of each of our buildings which allows us to control the entry of each visitor.”

Lowell police are perpetually ready for anything, that’s their job. They have plans in place for all kinds of disasters, a school shooting is no different.

“In the interests of safety and security, it would be poor judgment on our part to release the response to an active shooter plan,” said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. “I will tell

you there is a plan [and] we practice active shooter training. However, I would be putting our officers safety in jeopardy if that plan was released. I hope you understand why I would not release that plan.”

While school shootings continue, mental illness and gun control are the two touchy issues being debated. Lowell schools do everything they can to make sure every student in the district is having a positive experience.

“School buildings continue to develop a

culture where students feel comfortable speaking with adults in regards to concerns they may have regarding safety,” Pratt said. “We also have initiated a pilot program that supports mental health awareness and in conjunction with that work, we have established a pilot program called 'Bridging the Gap' which is supported by grants and donations. This program helps provide counseling to parents and students who may not be able to afford those mental health services.”

Playwright festival on stage

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The third annual LowellArts playwright festival began performances at the new, renovated gallery at 223 W. Main last weekend. Focusing on the theme “Risky Business,” the festival showcased the works of eight playwrights spanning the North American continent. Choosing from more than 50 submissions, the show invited artists from as far north as Alberta, Canada, west as Winter, California, south as Springdale, Arizona and east as Hamburg, New York. The show also features works from Michigan writers including: Tony Targan, from West Bloomfield; Brent Alles, of Wyoming and David A. Haddad of Lansing.

Brought to life by a cast of 14 local players and directed by the team of Sue Bradford and Ken Parrish, each production was limited to 10 minutes with subject matter being the artists’ interpretation of the theme. Offering lighthearted laughs and moments of thoughtfulness, the production will run just three more times this upcoming weekend. The works voted best by both audience and jury panel will be announced at the close of the production.

Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday at 7 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Tickets are available online by following the links on the LA website for just \$10 each or on day of show at the door for \$12.



John Foley, Yvonne Alles and a deceased Matt Tawny in “How to Enjoy Fruitcake” by Phyllis Heltay.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE 2018

The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet in the Township Office Building located at 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto, Michigan, 616-868-6846, on:

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2018 1:00 P.M.
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018
9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON & 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018
1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

&
6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
(EVENING hours are by appointment ONLY)

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS, YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE (1) OF TWO (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 9, 2018 OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS.

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2018 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
Lowell, Mi. 49331

2018 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2018 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 9 a.m. =
Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 12, 2018 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

&
Tuesday, March 13, 2018 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2018 assessments. By board resolution, residents are allowed to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 12, 2018.

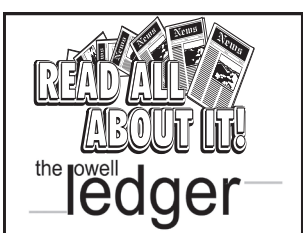
The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2018 are as follows:

Agricultural	48.60	1.0288
Commercial	54.10	.9242
Residential	48.39	1.0332
Industrial	47.71	1.0479
Personal	50.00	1.0000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice
The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice.

Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale,
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
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Board of Review Members, Sandra Graham, Nancie Mathews & James Foerch.
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outdoors

opportunities

Dave Stegehuis

Recreational fishing has held its own in a culture which offers a great number of competing activities. Although participation has dropped slightly in the last ten years, over 15 million Americans spend some time fishing.

Michigan residents have plenty of opportunity to fish no matter where they live in the state. We are surrounded by 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, 11,000 inland lakes and thousands of miles of rivers and streams.

A variety of species provides something for everyone. Chinook salmon swim in deep water off shore in the Great Lakes. Big boats, stout tackle, and high tech electronics are employed to locate and bring the large fish to net. Tasty bluegills, on the other hand, can be caught off the banks of a farm pond with light simple tackle. In between, there are over 20 other game fish listed in the Department of Natural Resources fishing guide to choose from. This does not include rough fish such as suckers which are fun to catch.

Hardy fishermen can find something to fish year

around. Fish are pulled through holes in the ice of frozen lakes and from streams lined with snow banks. Most anglers prefer the lazy days of summer.

Fishing spots can be found nearby for the majority of state residents. Generous public access is available to those without a connection to private water. One can travel to more distant destinations for special opportunities. Fishing can lead one to unique places and interesting people. Brook trout, for example, are found in wild and beautiful places befitting such a gorgeous creature. Because of a passionate common interest, it is easy to make new friends within the fishing community. Families come closer together by sharing the challenge and excitement of fishing.

Catching fish connects one directly with nature. Preparing a meal of fresh caught fish is healthy for the body and provides the satisfaction of securing one's own food.


Fishing doesn't need to be consumptive. For those who prefer not to kill fish, there is the option to release them back to the water. Catch and release fishing is becoming more popular. We keep enough walleye, perch, or bluegills for a couple of meals (if we catch them) and everything else swims away for another day.

Due to the diversity of fishing options across the state, individuals and families can find a place on the water to get outdoors and experience nature first hand. People come from all over the Midwest and beyond to fish in Michigan. Don't pass up the opportunities right in your own back yard.

...
If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles.

~ Doug Larson

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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

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

to the editor

facts and well-reasoned choices

Dear Editor,
As reported in "Psychology Today," John Gartner, Ph.D. has circulated a petition warning that "we are in dire trouble due to our president's mental instability." More than 70,000 mental health professionals have signed the petition.

There have been more than 300,000 gun deaths in the United States over the last decade. That is more than the total American combat deaths during World War II. Unfortunately, guns do kill people.

These are just two of the great issues of our generation. There should be no "liberal" or

"conservative" answers. There should be well reasoned choices based on facts.

We must resist the temptation repeatedly exercised by this current administration in considering those that disagree as enemies.

Identifying national issues and becoming informed of the facts will lead to the kind of government my father and his five brothers fought for from 1941-45.

Jack Misner
Lowell

An honorably discharged veteran from a "well regulated militia"

half as smart

Dear Ledger:

The delay is inexcusable, but last week in the post office I was reminded again by the 2016 front page article above a work table: the geography scholars at the Cherry Creek School. Also last Friday, I heard on *Marketplace* that only [1]4 percent (?) of Americans can locate Russia on a map. However, I have long and perversely maintained that my countrymen are about half as smart as they think, compared to the G-20. Two anecdotes, one possibly apocryphal:

Ca. 1980, when Michigan universities were under the financial gun, Ann Ah-bah was feeling it too. There was a choice (apparently) between women's studies and geography. Now which did those new age liberals think was most worthy of a department? A two

thousand year old discipline originating in ancient Greece, or an opportunity to generate faculty and staff positions for an oppressed "minority?"

Fifty years ago, the bad old days, I was entertained by some of my elders with how the Indo-China war was "defending America." (Strategic geopolitics, granted, but push off!) As a budding member of the *intelligentsia*, it often occurred that most of those zekes not only would fail to find Viet-Nam on an unlettered map, but would have a tough time with Asia.

The Cherry Creek *intelligentsia* will definitely make better citizens. How many Lowellians with college degrees could find Nicaragua, also once vital to the "homeland?"

Sine Die,
G. M. Ross
Lowell

window. Saturday he was brought home where he is receiving every care and gives promise of a speedy recovery.

Last Sunday's storm was undoubtedly the worst of the season. The wind howled all day long and blew the snow into all cracks and crevices and filled all unevenness with snow. The roads, especially the north and south roads, are terribly drifted and the R. R. cuts were nearly full. The 6:30 a.m. train on the L & H was four hours Monday morning getting to Freeport and the D., L, & G. R. snow plow with two engines got stalled and required the services of two more engines to get it through. No one ventured out Sunday who could stay at home and in consequence the services at the churches were not largely attended.

125 years ago Lowell Journal February 22, 1893

Will M. Hine, for the past year the day clerk in the Eagle hotel, will go to the New Livingston March 1. Will is a hardworking hotel clerk, kind and pleasant and during his connection with the Eagle has made many friends whose good wishes go with him to his new position.—Gd. Rapids Democrat.

The Avery Panel Co. has been organized here by E. W. Avery, A. B. Johnson, F. B. Clark and H. W. Avery to manufacture panel lumber with the Avery Panel Machine. They have secured a location at East Tawas and E. W. and H. W. Avery and Frank Clark will go there at once to carry on the business. Frank Clark is closing out his grocery business here for that purpose.

Edmund Lee's house at the farm was burned last Friday night, together with all its contents and Mr Lee was very badly burned. About midnight Mr Lee was awakened by the smoke and getting up started to investigate it. On opening the door he was met by a sheet of flame which scorched his hair and eyebrows and seriously burned his throat and lungs. He shut the door quickly and made his escape from the bedroom

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 21, 1918

One hundred Lansing shovelers are clearing snow from the Lansing-Grand Rapids road on the last lap which will connect Grand Rapids and Detroit. The crew spent nearly three weeks between this village and Lansing and in many instances it was necessary to cut through snow and ice six to eight feet deep in making the road passable. Portland Red Cross women fed the men until they cleared the way to Ionia. The shovelers are required to remove the snow to within three to eight inches of the ground and are paid \$11 per day and expenses, half of which is paid by the state and the balance by automobile concerns interested in getting passable roads for the delivery of their machines. The road from here to Lowell is open so the shovelers will reach Grand Rapids early next week.

We have notice that the water that is now being furnished by the city water system is unfit for domestic purposes. The trouble is supposed to be due to leaks

off the cuff

Jeanne Boss

Just when I'd been convinced - yes, by the media - that today's kids were all self-indulgent, phone-carrying, video-streaming airheads, I find hope again. Sadly, tragedy upon tragedy has been raining down on this generation of teenagers their whole lives.

The shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado happened before this latest group of victims at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida were born. They know nothing else. And once again, this random act of violence, horror and grief has taken their friends and mentors.

These stricken, but clear-eyed children are asking, "Why?" They are not troubled by the political implications. They are not blinded by the money that has spread propaganda and greased the palms of those in power. They are simply cutting to the chase, going past all that and asking, "Why are you letting us be killed? Why aren't you not protecting us?"

Is this country sorely lacking in decent, mental health care? Yes. Did law enforcement drop the ball on these kids in Florida? Yes. Is it gun ownership that is the problem. No. But calling these mass killings a mental health issue is an excuse and a red herring, my friends.

These students, these American children are smart and they are looking upstream and seeing exactly what is wrong. It's so obvious that a child can see it. Assault and semi-automatic weapons of war are the problem and those types of weapons do not belong in our homes and communities. Everyone has them in a war zone. Is that where we want to live?

Here are a few reasons the mental illness, wild goose chase theory does not hold water: Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols - Murrah Federal Building, Oklahoma City, OK - killed 168, 680 injured; Stephen Paddock - Las Vegas, killed 58 people, 851 injured; Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, killed 15 in Columbine; Aurora, CO movie theater killer, James Holmes - 12 dead; Southernland Springs, TX church - 26 dead; Pulse Nightclub, FL - 49 killed.

I included McVeigh, a Gulf War Veteran and

Nichols (a Michigan boy) for a reason. They were bombers, American home-grown terrorists. They didn't use guns. But here's the deal, if you try to buy a ton of fertilizer today, you'll be flagged and you will be under surveillance. Buy assault weapons and you're just defending yourself against the bad guys. Florida is full of gun owners. The latest high school victims had an armed security guard on campus.

The Las Vegas shooter had no record of mental illness. They still don't know why he did it but, if he had tried to shoot from that window with a hunting rifle, in no way could he have killed 58 people and wounded 851. And even if he went running through a crowd, with said rifle, once he stopped to reload, someone would have tackled him.

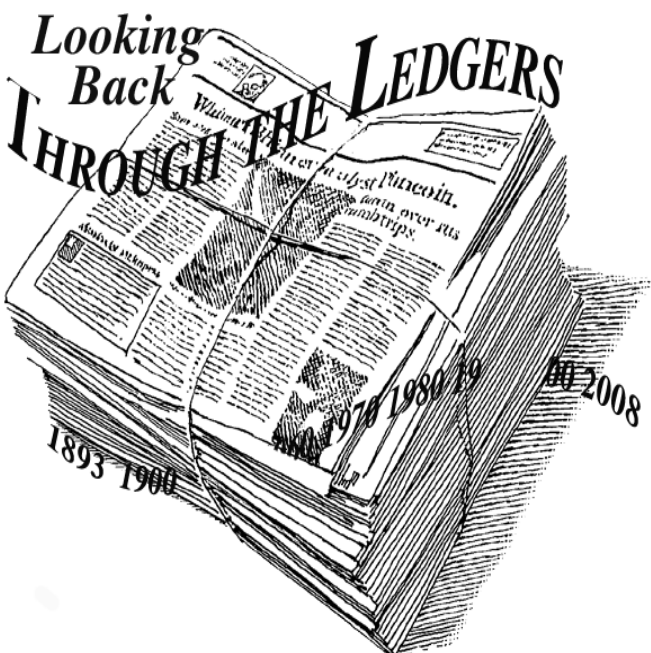
The others suffered from depression. How on this earth are you going to jail everyone with depression? Especially teenagers? Sure, you can name a few, the latest kid included, that exhibited threatening behavior and you think you're making a case.

One answer, that could really make a difference, and I'm paraphrasing the economy quote here, "It's the semi-automatic guns, stupid." After the killing of dozens of innocent children, spineless politicians are still making excuses for not doing anything worthwhile to stop the carnage.

Fortunately, there is hope. Hope because some truly brave teens are standing up and doing what so many do not dare, and they're saying, "Enough!"

Crime will still happen. People will still harm people with guns, knives, cars, bricks, and even their own hands. But get rid of these weapons of war in our society and a lone gunman will not be able to slaughter dozens in seconds before they are stopped in their tracks.

The teenagers who have witnessed this violence do have spines. They are articulate, clear-headed and they are speaking up for what is right. They can't vote yet, but thank goodness, it won't be long before they can.



Celebrate Red Cross Month by giving blood in March

During Red Cross Month in March, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to join in its lifesaving mission by giving blood.

Since 1943, every U.S. president has designated March as Red Cross Month to recognize how the Red Cross helps people across the country and around the world. Red Cross Month is a celebration of supporters, who are the face of the Red Cross in their communities, bringing hope to people facing emergencies.

Blood donor Timothy Sheely knows the need firsthand. His wife required 12 units of blood during emergency surgery following the birth of their son. "If it had not been for blood donors, she might not have survived," he said.

"Thanks to generous blood donors, I still have a wife and my kids still have their mom. I can't possibly thank those people in person, but I can give a little piece of me back with each donation for the greater good."

The Red Cross depends on blood donor heroes across the nation to collect enough blood to meet the needs of patients at approximately 2,600 hospitals nationwide. Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are needed to help those who rely on blood products.

Make an appointment to become a hero to patients in need by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Kent County
Byron Center
3/8/2018: 12 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., Zion Christian School, 7555 Byron Center Ave

Barry County
Nashville
3/1/2018: 12 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., Grace Community Church, 8950 East M-79

Ionia County
Muir
3/6/2018: 12:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m., Lyons Muir Church, 1074 Olmstead Rd

Montcalm County
Cedar Lake
3/1/2018: 9 a.m. - 2:45 p.m., Great Lakes Adventist Academy, 7477 Academy Rd

How to help

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit 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 donors can now 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, prior to arriving at the blood drive. To get started and learn more, visit redcrossblood.org/RapidPass and follow the instructions on the site.

health

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

- dizziness

Dizziness is one of the most common reasons people visit their doctors. It may make you feel off-balance, wobbly, lightheaded or like you might faint. Vertigo is a type of dizziness that makes you feel like things are moving or spinning around you when you are not moving. Dizziness can make it harder for you to do normal activities. Talk to your doctor if it starts suddenly or you don't have times between dizzy spells when you feel normal.

Dizziness is usually not caused by anything serious. It's most often caused by anxiety or problems in your inner ear. Heart or nervous system problems are possible, but these are rare. If your dizziness doesn't let up between spells, it may be due to a stroke or might mean that a stroke is about to happen. This is quite rare. Some medicines can cause dizziness. Tell your doctor what medicines you are taking, including over-the-counter, so they can be adjusted or changed, if needed.

To diagnose dizziness, your doctor will ask you to describe how your dizziness feels, when it happens, if it happens only in certain positions, what makes it worse and what makes it better. They may do some movement tests. Your doctor may place your body in different positions to see what makes you dizzy. They will also check your blood pressure, pulse and breathing.

Dizziness is treated depending on the cause and your symptoms. Medicines can sometimes make the symptoms better. Medicines can also treat the cause of dizziness. Your doctor may want you to drink more water or do certain head and neck exercises. There are several YouTube videos that explain how to do the exercises. It is important to treat dizziness, if possible, because you are more likely to fall if you are dizzy. You are also more likely to have a car accident if you drive while you are dizzy.

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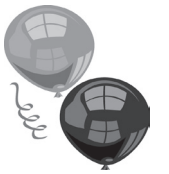


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- FEBRUARY 21**
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- FEBRUARY 22**
Kevin Gerard, Lloyd Powell, Rob Tulecki, Julie Shaffer, Jessy Dale Abel, Krista Foster.
- FEBRUARY 23**
Joe Ellis, Heather Essich, Sharon Miles.
- FEBRUARY 24**
Cliff Mulder, Tarah Essich, Lizzy Decker.
- FEBRUARY 25**
Mike Nearing.
- FEBRUARY 26**
Jeremy Goff, Barry Vezino, Bob Ford, Nancy Porter, Leslie Rash.
- FEBRUARY 27**
Joshua Soyka, Justin Soyka.

Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.
~ Satchel Paige

Is Addiction Destroying Your Family?

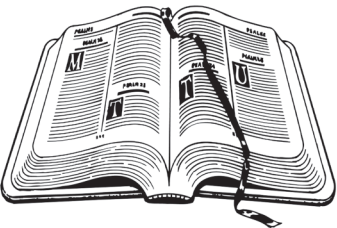
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area churches



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www.goodshepherdlowell.org

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Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
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Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm

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SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM
Middle & High School - Mon-school year*Wed, summer, 7 PM

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9 AM - Traditional • 11 AM - Contemporary
Kid's Crew 11:15 AM
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

Looking Back, continued

in a main that crosses Flat River, and, as it will be impossible to correct this trouble until the weather conditions change, we recommend to the users that they boil the water for FIFTEEN MINUTES, which will obviate any trouble. O. C. McDannell, M. D. Village Health Officer.

Secretary Harper of the Michigan livestock sanitary commission has notified Sheriff Berry that a dog quarantine has been established for the townships of Lowell and Cascade. All dogs must be kept chained on their masters premises or muzzled with a period of 60 days. This action was taken because of the rapid spread of rabies. Many dogs have bitten livestock. The townships of Cannon, Algoma, Spencer, Courtland, Oakfield and Plainfield are now under quarantine. The entire county may be banned if the spread of the disease is not soon controlled.—The Grand Rapids News.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 25, 1943

Nearly 200 copies of the Ledger are being mailed each week to boys from this vicinity in various branches of our armed forces. Many of the boys have written to the editor, saying that the Ledger is like a letter from home and that they read every word of each issue over and over again. Words like that show how much these boys are thinking of the home folks and the old home town. Some of these boys are in Alaska, some in Australia, some in the far away islands of the Pacific, some in Iceland, some in Newfoundland, some in the British Isles, some in Africa, and others on the seven seas—wherever they are our prayers and hopes go with them. It will be a glad day when they are safely home again.

One of the lamp posts on Main St. was smashed to smithereens, Tuesday afternoon, by the driver of a car, whose mind was evidently wandering somewhat because of worrying over the new point rationing system.

Ed Clemenz attended services at the Methodist church last Sunday, no doubt intrigued by the fact that Mel McPherson was occupying the pulpit. Mr. Clemenz reports that the service was fine but that someone walked away with his No. 11 rubbers, leaving in their

place a pair of size 9½. This paragraph should result in the return of each pair of rubbers to their rightful owner.

Tapping sugar trees is the order and this season's run promises to be good and of excellent quality. First run syrup is quoted on the Detroit Market at above \$3 the gallon.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger February 22, 1968

Coming up in June will be the Ledger's 75th anniversary. Good stories and pictures of events that have taken place down through the years are needed to help mark the occasion, for which we are planning a special supplement.

Red Face Dept.: For two years, Mike Doyle had served as president of the Lowell C. of C. As its prexy, he represented fellow merchants at the many civic functions. Also a member of the Lions Club, he was called upon Saturday night to pinch-hit for president Jerry Smith at the ninth annual Ladies' Night Dinner. Rising to the microphone, he greeted the large turnout in this manner: "On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce..."

Friday's encounter between Lowell High and Rockford on the latter's floor will determine whether the Arrows can gain a share of title honors... or whether Rockford walks off with the championship all alone. To Coach Jack Kempker and his varsity: GOOD LUCK!

Add Don Beachum and Dick Curtis and their wives to the growing list of local people who are spending part of the winter in Florida. They flew south over the weekend, plan to return leisurely in a mobile home.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger February 22, 1993

After months of delays the water and sewer project for Lowell's new high school is headed in the right direction. Lowell's Township Board received the needed funds, \$500,000 for each project, from the school board for construction of the water and sewer projects. The money was deposited in separate interest bearing accounts and will be used, at the discretion of the township board, to pay for incoming bills related to the lines. The first order of business for the board was to take aerial photos of the surrounding area to determine the best route for both lines. The film has been taken and developed by Abrahms Surveyors but has not been put on paper. Once the board is able to look at the topographical map it can determine which route would best serve the facility and community. The proposed route of the water main will run from Foreman Rd. up to the school and north to Eastgate. No route for the sewer line is established because the board wants the line to be a gravity flow system.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP 10381 BAILEY DR SE LOWELL, MI 49331

BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Vergennes Township Board of Review for 2018 will be held at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr., SE, Lowell, MI 49331, on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018 AT 10 am
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 12 at 3:00 pm to
9:00 pm, APPEAL HEARING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, at 9:00 am
to 3:00 pm. APPEAL HEARING

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions and protest, and to equalize the 2018 assessments. By board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided letter is received prior to March 9, 2018.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real and personal property for 2018 are as follows:

Agricultural	48.0%	1.0399
Commercial	50.83%	0.9836
Residential	48.66%	1.0275
Industrial	49.58%	1.0084
Developmental	50.00%	1.0000
Timber Cutover	50.00%	1.0000
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Americans With Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary and reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 day notice. Contact Tim Wittenbach 616-897-5671.

Heather Hoffman
Vergennes Township Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

APPLICANT: Stony Bluff Development
(Phase 2)

PROJECT ADDRESS:
11736 Foreman Street, Lowell, MI 49331

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER: 41-20-04-200-033

REQUEST: The principal provisions of the application can be summarized as follows:

To consider (tentative) preliminary plat review and approval for 20 single new homes for Phase 2 of the Stony Bluff development. The zoning approval for the Stony Bluff development initially occurred in 2015.

WHEN: MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER
TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

Any person is welcome to attend this meeting and to offer comments or submit written comments regarding this matter until the date and time of said hearing. The application is on file and is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices during normal office hours; phone 616-897-7600.

February 21, 2018

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission
Kent County

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Winter Gathering, continued

themselves, their time, their resources. So many that do not receive recognition or awards. Lowell is truly an amazing place."

The first presentation of the evening went to LowellArts who received the non-profit spotlight award. Seese referenced the organization's many programs and learning opportunities along with their recent capital investments along Main Street. Accepting the award was LowellArts executive director Lorain Smalligan and board members Brian and Cheryl Doyle.

Yankovich began the Brick Awards next, starting with Arrowhead Golf Course. Owners and community volunteers Josh and Kristen Bruwer accepted the award. The next award went to new business Big Boiler Brewing. Yankovich raved about the restaurant and the pub's beer bread before talking about their community contributions. "It is one cool looking state-of-the-art place to eat and drink. Did you know that they invested 1.4 million dollars into the renovation of the Superior Furniture building? Did you know that they added 45 jobs to the local economy? Is it any wonder they are receiving a Brick Award," asked Yankovich, before calling up co-owner and general manager Rick Sauber.

Seese awarded the next Brick to Curtis Cleaners, joking first about their longstanding business in the community. "I truly believe that even before the washing machine was invented that they picked up your laundry by horse and buggy and beat [it] with rocks by the river," he quipped before talking of the three generations who have been at the helm of the company and the work they have done in Lowell. "The Curtis family has quietly been playing an important role in our community providing employment, donation to organizations and sponsoring fundraisers and school sports for years," said Seese before handing over the honor to third-generation owner Chris Curtis.

New kid on the block Poultry Management Systems Inc., represented by Doug Powell, was the next to earn a Brick Award. Seese noted the company's innovation inside their facility which was recently relocated to Lowell. "They have a long history of leading the market and new solutions for egg handling and environmental controls and monitoring," he said mentioning also the 2.3 [facility's] investment, finishing with the chicken clearly crossed the road to get to PMSI.



Greenridge Realty's Rick Seese accepts his team's Business Appreciation award.

Yankovich offered up the next award to Rhonda Auto Center who recently built a new state-of-the-art location on Bowes. The investment, just shy of a million dollars, boasts many green features including energy efficient windows and lighting and the utilization of used motor oil to heat the building. After mentioning the plethora of services available at Rhonda, general manager John Stuckey accepted the award on behalf of the company.

Moving on to the Best Business to Watch category Yankovich next spoke about Painted Turtle Hard Cider. The husband and

wife team of Bob and Marie Loughlin produces seven varieties of cider utilizing local ingredients and sells their product at locations throughout Michigan. "The first can of Painted Turtle was produced at their facility out by Murray Lake in 2016," said Yankovich before passing the award to Marie. "These days they are turning out about 4,800 hundred of those cans and 45 kegs to boot every month."

Nick and Amy Gless received the next Best Business to Watch award presented by Seese. "Their products are of outstanding quality and their customer

service is also outstanding," said Seese of Nick and Amy Gless who own the custom furniture business on Peck Lake Rd. Producing hand-crafted furniture along with wooden accents and accessories, Glessboards began in 2010.

This year's Most Promising New Business award was bestowed upon MI Hometown Furnishings owned by Heather and Ken Palcowski. Selling furniture and home decor, they pride themselves on focusing on the customer, not the sale. The couple has been supportive of community organizations and recently opened up their shop to other local vendors. "They have added every personal touch to this store and are happy to carry hundreds of locally made products, accessories and trinkets from local vendors. You do truly support local when you shop at MI Hometown Furnishings," added Seese.

Seese and the crew at Greenridge Realty earned the Business Appreciation award. Noting the individual and collective volunteer and support efforts of their more than a dozen realtors, Yankovich had this to say, "They are topnotch men and women who have a tremendously positive influence on the great community of Lowell."

Accepting the award on behalf of his staff, Seese

said they will continue to be supportive of the community in the future. "Thank you to all of our clients and to Lowell for supporting us for the past 30 years. We promise to continue to care every day."

The 2017 Person of the Year, Betsy Davidson, was awarded as the finale of the event. Yankovich listed Davidson's innumerable community accomplishments, which include working with the LACC, Lowell Rotary, Lowell Area Recreational Authority, Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Relay For Life of Lowell, just to name a few. Davidson was named the chamber MVP in 2008. She also co-owns local tech company Addorio Technologies which plays a large role in the cyber business community of Lowell and sponsors many events and organizations.

After both emcees told personal stories about Davidson, shared by her closest friends and family, Davidson took to the podium. "I am very humbled, grateful and honored to be here," she opened, continuing on to prove her humility by thanking and acknowledging others during the majority of her acceptance speech.

After speaking about her experiences as a volunteer, Davidson closed on a personal note, "In 2000 I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis which is an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system. My doctor told me that I had to quit my job and I could never work full time again." She went on to explain that she began volunteering and started her company Addorio in the wake of the diagnosis in order to customize her life to her abilities. She called that same diagnosis a blessing, saying that it led her to that evening. "I wouldn't be here tonight accepting this award if it wasn't for someone telling me I couldn't."



Nick and Amy Gless of Glessboards accept the Best Business to Watch award.



Arrowhead Golf Course owners and Brick Award winners, Josh and Kristen Bruwer.



Rick Sauber, co-owner of Big Boiler Brewing and Brick Award recipient with co-host, Cliff Yankovich.



The Easy Idle once again, provided the entertainment.

Alto farmer carries on 100-year-old maple syrup making in the tradition of his grandparents

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

At Swanson Farm in Alto, Jeff Swanson is using the exact same maple syrup production method that his great grandparents used when they started making syrup on that land 100 years ago.

Swanson's ancestors moved into the "sugar bush" (a sugar maple forest) in Alto in 1918. Back in those days, sap from maple trees was a family's sole source of sugar, an otherwise expensive commodity. Making maple syrup was a labor intensive, time consuming process. The arch, a long type of firebox used to boil maple syrup, was located outdoors. Boiling had to be done around the clock and the only available light was from a lantern.

"They made their sugar for the year in meatloaf pans," Swanson said. "They'd shave or grate off what they needed for baking and so forth throughout the year. Before they built this sugar shack they had a freestanding outdoor arch. They had to boil in whatever weather was going on and they were boiling around the clock. Now I run a generator out here so at least I've got lights. My grandpa milked the cows and my uncle would be back here all night long boiling in the dark with a lantern. When grandpa got done milking the cows in the morning he'd come back here to boil and my uncle would go up to the house and go to sleep."

Swanson's sugar shack was built in 1945. He has done some minor repairs as

needed and added a kitchen, but he kept as many of the original 1940s features as possible.

"The sugar shack was built by my great grandpa, John Krebs," Swanson said. "My great uncles, my grandpa's brothers, helped. I believe that my grandpa didn't help because he was over fighting in World War II."

Maple syrup production season lasts from late February until the beginning of April. The first step is to tap the trees and hang buckets, a task the family accomplished last weekend. They have over 700 buckets with lids hanging from trees all over the woods. The lids keep larger bits of detritus from falling into the buckets of sap.

"We tapped all weekend, about 250 taps a day all weekend," Swanson said. "It was me, my friend Paul Seese and my boy Joe Swanson who pretty much did it all. I went around and drilled the holes and put the spiles in the trees. My boy followed with buckets and was hanging the buckets and then my wife Kathy and the girls [Melanie and Paige] came back later on and put lids on the buckets. A bucket will hold maybe three gallons of sap. There are different size buckets. We use Wheeling buckets, which were what my grandpa used. Syrup only runs in the spring when the trees thaw out. The sap is going up to make leaves. When the trees bud, you're done with syrup. The sap will make bitter syrup at that point. You tap as early as

you can without having the trees heal up too quick. My grandpa always said to tap on Presidents Day, which is today and today it's running so this year it happened just as it should."

It takes about a day for a tree to fill a bucket with sap. Tree sap contains about two percent sugar as well as beneficial substances like magnesium, manganese, calcium and zinc. You can dip a cup into a bucket and drink straight sap; it tastes like watered down Pedialyte.

"We are gathering sap right now so we've got the sap wagon back there," Swanson said. "We've got 700 buckets out there and in one day we'll gather between 1,000 and 1,500 gallons of sap."

The sap wagon is a wagon with two massive jugs called "totes" on the back. The buckets of sap are emptied into the totes, then trucked back to the sugar shack and stored or boiled

in a wood fired arch. It takes about 50 gallons of sap to make one gallon of table ready maple syrup.

"We go around and we gather the sap, we pour it in the back of the sap wagon and then pump it up into the totes at the sugar shack," Swanson said. "We pump the sap into this tote up here, which we keep level, then it's gravity fed into a flu pan that has all these channels in it. What boils away is square footage, you boil away a gallon per square foot. As you cook it the sugar content increases and it becomes more dense. It's like making candy. If you make rock candy or whatever, you bring sugar water to a certain temperature, at 219 degrees is syrup and that's when we draw off the syrup."

The boiling hot, raw syrup is drawn into large milk jugs with three filters

Tradition,
continued, page 16



Jeff Swanson checking out one of the 700 buckets collecting sap from sugar maple trees on his farm in Alto.



Barbara Jean Krebs and her grandmother Mary Krebs on the sugar wagon in 1952.

REES TAPPED, SPOUTS IN, BUCKETS HUNG Maple Syrup Time Almost Here



A FARMER'S WIFE CHECKS FOR SIGNS OF MAPLE SAP
Mrs. John Krebs of Bowne Township

Great grandmother Mary Krebs in a 1950s "Grand Rapids Herald" article about syrup production.



The Swanson family [Paige, Melanie, Joe, Kathy and Jeff] and their ancestors have spent 100 years making syrup on the same land.



The sugar wagon used today, to haul sap from the woods to the sugar shack, where it's boiled. The Swanson farm was settled by John Krebs in 1918.

Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

SPORTS

Team and individual wrestlers qualify for state quarterfinals

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Earning the regional title and their bid into the state quarterfinals, the Red Arrow varsity wrestling team will send 13 individual grapplers to the state tournament.

At the team regional competition, hosted by Reeths-Puffer High School in Muskegon, the talented team shut out their semifinal opponent Coopersville earning 14 matches in a row winning 76-0. Seven grapplers won by falls were senior David Kruse at 189 pounds in 2:47, senior Keigan Yuhas at 215 in :51, 103 pound lightweight freshman Cole Huisman on at :42, freshman Caden Engle at 119 in :54, 125 pound freshman Will Link at

:38, 130 pound senior Tyler Lynch at 1:46, sophomore Gabe Hare grappling at 135 in 2:48, junior John Russell at 140 in 3:18 and senior Channing Perry earning the fall at 145 in 2:27.

The other Red Arrow wins came through the efforts of heavyweight sophomore Tyler Delooff who earned a forfeit at 285, 112 pound sophomore Bryce McCune and 152 pound freshman Jacob Lee both by 11-2 major decision, junior Jared Hough at 160 by 16-0 technical fall and 171 pound senior Lane Ryan by 10-3 decision.

Losing three matches in the finals round Lowell still came ahead 63-10 over Sparta to advance to the state tournament. Earning

wins by fall in the match were Yuhas with a quick finish at :22, Delooff at 2:34, sophomore Nick Korhorn competing at 103 pounds in 1:04, Link in 1:52, 130 pound junior Jeff Leach at 1:26, junior Avry Mutschler at 140 winning in 1:22, Perry at :34, 152 pound freshman Derek Mohr at 3:05, Ryan in 2:44 and freshman Keegan Nugent grappling at 189 pounds in :39. Sophomore Austin Boone earned the final win by 6-4 decision.

On Saturday in individual regional competition eight were crowned as weight class champions. Seniors earning first place were Kruse following a fall at 1:58, a 6-3 decision and a 7-3 decision and Yuhas by way of falls

at 1:29 and :58 and a 7-4 decision. Fellow qualifying seniors Austin Engle at 171 pounds and Connor Nugent earned second and third respectively. Engle by fall and major decision before falling in the first-place match and Nugent by fall and decision in the semifinals.

Junior Mutschler placed first by way of fall at 2:52 and 19-4 and 17-2 technical fall. Junior Leach came in second topping teammate freshman Doak Dean in the semifinals. Representing the freshman class was 125 pound Zeth Strejc and Dean who both placed in the third position.

The sophomore class will have the largest presence at the finals with

five first-place winners moving on. James Fotis earned by fall at :44, 6-1 decision and 15-0 technical fall; Korhorn a fall at 1:18, a 4-2 decision and a 12-4 major decision; Jankowski by a 13-0 major decision, a fall at :38 and a :16 fall.

Nationally ranked Boone made his way via 16-0 and 15-0 technical falls and a fall at 5:09. Rounding out qualifiers was Delooff with a fall at :52 and a sudden victory before earning first over Evan Gast of Byron Center.

The team will head to Kalamazoo to attend the team quarterfinals at the Wings event center starting at 6:45 pm. Advancement will put them in the team semifinals the following day in the same location at 12 pm with finals following at 3:30 pm. A state title would mark the fifth in a row for the program. Tickets are available online by following the link on the MHSAA wrestling page or at the door, priced and sold separately for each event. Individual finals will take place March 2-3 at Ford Field in Detroit.

- GYMNASTICS

Girls place third in OK Rainbow conference tourney

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

After beating Kenowa Hills on Monday, the Lowell varsity gymnastics team earned a third-place finish in the OK Rainbow conference held at Rockford on Friday after a 2-4 regular season.

Finishing with a winning score of 135.525-127.775 over Kenowa Hills early in the week, the Red Arrow gymnasts were led by top all-around competitors, freshman Aubri Lemke with a 33.45, junior Hadyn Nash with a 33.325, freshman Marlie McDonald with a 32.7 and senior Amber Brown, 32.525. Lemke finished fifth on the floor exercise with an 8.3, second on the balance beam and fourth on the bars with matching scores of

8.075 and first on the vault scoring an impressive 9.0.

Nash placed third on the vault (8.85), third on the bars (8.1), fourth on the beam (7.825) and fourth on the floor with an 8.55. Varsity newcomer McDonald landed in fourth on the vault (8.7), third on the beam (8.025) and fifth on the floor (8.375). Brown finished fifth on the bars (8.05), third on the floor (8.675) and fifth on the beam (7.45).

Also claiming first-place finishes on the vault were junior Corah Miller with a score of 8.425 and the floor exercise with an 8.75; and senior Maura Fitzpatrick with an 8.725. Miller also placed second on the vault (8.95) while

Fitzpatrick added a second on the bars (8.125). Other top five earners were junior Emily Lothian and freshmen Theresa Judd and Katy Hock.

In Rockford on Friday for the conference meet the Lady Arrows placed third with a total score of 136.225, behind first-place finisher Rockford (142.65) and runner-up Forest Hills (139.725). Lemke placed in the all-around earning second behind Miller with a 33.875. Miller, who tallied a 34.375, led all Arrows on the vault and placed second for the team on the three other events. Her vault score earned a third place with an 8.9 sharing the position and score with Lemke. Lemke landed fourth on the bars

and third on the floor and beam.

Fitzpatrick led Lowell on the bars with an 8.45 fifth-place overall finish and also led her team on the beam. Hock posted a 9.0 on the floor exercise to lead on that event. Miller was given all-conference honors following the meet. Fitzpatrick earned an honorable mention.

After a two week break from competition, the gymnasts will move on to the post season starting with the regional competition scheduled for Saturday, March 3.

CONFERENCE RESULTS

VAULT

Corah Miller	8.9
Aubri Lemke	8.9
Hadyn Nash	8.75
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.7
Theresa Judd	8.55
Marlie McDonald	8.4

BEAM

Maura Fitzpatrick	8.425
Corah Miller	8.325
Aubri Lemke	8.225
Marlie McDonald	7.95
Emily Lothian	7.825
Taeghan Ronchetti	7.6

BARS

Maura Fitzpatrick	8.45
Corah Miller	8.4
Amber Brown	8.25
Aubri Lemke	8.0
Hadyn Nash	7.8
Emily Lothian	7.6

FLOOR

Katy Hock	9.0
Corah Miller	8.75
Aubri Lemke	8.75
Emily Lothian	8.45
Hadyn Nash	8.375
Amber Brown	8.125

Sports Summaries

ICE HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia ice hockey suffered a hard defeat last Monday in their only competition of the week falling 8-2 against Forest Hills Eastern and Forest Hills Northern. Goals were earned by Red Arrow senior Austin Whaley and Scots' senior Ethan Pinto. Assists were credited to junior Ian Milton, senior Daniel Huver and junior Nolan Lockhart. This week the team will finish off their regular season starting with Grand Rapids Christian (GRC) and Northview High School on the road Thursday and Friday and then wrapping it up against GRC Saturday afternoon starting at 3:00 pm inside the Kentwood Ice Arena.

BOYS SWIM & DIVE

Wrapping up their regular season, Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian varsity swimming went 2-1 in the pool. They opened up the week with senior night, honoring lone Red Arrow senior Avery Lupton. Falling short against Northview in competition 110-76, the team moved on next to Thornapple Kellogg/Hastings and Muskegon/Mona Shores in a double duel. Topping both opponents, the team picked up several first-place finishes in the 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle and 200 medley relays. Top individual finishes came in the 100 butterfly, 100 breaststroke, 100 backstroke, 50 freestyle, 500 freestyle and 200 individual medley.

COMPETITIVE CHEER

Lowell varsity competitive cheer finished their season at the MHSAA district competition compiling their highest score of the season claiming a fifth-place finish tallying a total score of 668. Over the course of the season the young team was consistent in scoring and racked up five fourth-place finishes, one third place and a competition high second place at the Northpointe Christian Invitational.

Yep we cover Farm



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Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Girls record 1-1; hold annual Military Salute

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Going 1-1 last week, the Red Arrow girls varsity basketball team beat Forest Hills Northern 43-38 and fell 45-38, to Forest Hills Central during the annual military tribute night.

On the road Tuesday, the team met the Huskies of FHN for the second time this season. Having won last time, 51-42, the Arrows hit the hardwood with confidence and finished with a 43-38 victory. The Arrow offense allowed FHN only eight points in the first period. Going into the second, up 13-8, FHN saw the Arrows double their scoring total to tie the game at 18 at the half-time buzzer.

Remaining close in the third, the Arrows were out netted by one point giving the Huskies the final advantage

29-28 with just the fourth remaining. Lowell earned some last-second baskets to garner them their eighth consecutive conference win. Scoring leaders for Lowell were senior co-captain

Cassie Dean with 17 and junior starter Regan Coxon with 11.

Friday night hosting Forest Hills Central Rangers, the team watched their undefeated record get

tarnished by the Rangers prior to the program's military tribute. Unable to gain control throughout the game the Arrows were outscored in all but the third period, leading to a 45-38

loss. The team trailed 10-8 after the first, 18-14 at the half and 26-23 after the third never gaining the lead or control of the boards.

Earlier this season Lowell came out on top, 50-32 against the Rangers. Coxon was the night's leading scorer with ten points. The loss dropped the team's record to a still winning 13-4 overall and 8-1 in the OK.

Following the game, the team returned to the

court accompanied by future, current and former servicemen for the Military Salute. Emerging through a tunnel of flags, each player and personally chosen honoree was introduced by Lowell athletic director Dee Crowley. She shared brief stories of each honoree's service. The tradition is in its second year and has been an overwhelming success receiving much community support.



Cassie Dean honored her great grandfather Elbert Ray Fussell of the United States Navy.

The girls traveled to Greenville on Tuesday and will face Northview on Thursday for 5:30 tip off and then host Cedar Springs on Friday night at the same time. The team's first post-conference challenge will pit the team against FHN at home next Monday at 7 pm.

Boys defeated twice and also salute servicemen in special ceremony

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Defeated twice more last week, the Lowell boys varsity basketball team fell to both Forest Hills Northern and the Forest Hills Central rangers before honoring veterans with a tribute.

On Tuesday, against FHN, the Arrows ended with a 70-41 league loss.

At home on Friday they welcomed FHC. After first period where they maintained an 18-10 lead, the Arrows saw exceptional play from juniors, Trevor Petroelje and Robbie Schneider; sophomores, Gavin Coxon and Nolan Cusack and seniors, Travis Cornell, Mitch O'Gorman, and Austin Pollock.

Their momentum held until just before the half when FHN earned a last second shot to take a slight 31-29 lead. Keeping close at first and then steadily losing ground, the Arrows eventually fell 66-44 dropping their record to 1-16 overall and 0-9 in the OK White.

The team took time to honor members of

the military selected by each student athlete. The ceremony introduced each player and their honoree along with a short biography read by Lowell athletic director Dee Crowley. A flag procession and the playing of Taps acknowledged the sacrifices made for their country and the gratitude and appreciation of the athletes.

This week the team faced Northview on Tuesday and will host Cedar Springs on Friday at 7 pm.



Freshman Brett Spanbauer with grandfather Chuck Knight who served three years in army aviation.

Military honorees

Nate Bush honored his great Grandfather Allen W. Bush of the United States Marine Corp.

Travis Cornell honored his great uncle David Huyck of the United States Marine Corp.

Gavin Coxon honored Lowell alumni Foster Nethercott of the United States Marine Corp., represented by his parents Mike and Bonnie.

Nolan Cusack honored his cousin Mitchell Cusack of the United States Army.

Mitchell O'Gorman honored LHS senior Jonathan Berklich who will attend the United States Navel Academy.

Trevor Petroelje honored Robert Vermaire of the U.S Coast Guard, represented by wife Marlene Vermaire.

Austin Pollock honored Jim Meyers of the United States Army.

Brett Spanbauer honored his grandfather Chuck Knight of the United States Army.

Nathan VanDeWeert honored uncle Paul Vorndam of the United States Air Force, represented by Steve VanDeWeert.

Robbie Schneider honored family friend Joe Gavitt of the United States Air Force.

Will Reynolds honored his grandfather Marv Raffler of the United States Army.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

APPLICANT: Blu Sky Farms

PROJECT ADDRESS:

12000 Cascade Road, Lowell MI, 49331
Located at the SW corner of
Cascade Road and Alden Nash.

PERMANENT PARCEL NUMBER:

41-20-28-200-007

REQUEST: The principal provisions of the application can be summarized as follows:

Blu Sky Farms is requesting a Special Land Use permit in the I-1, Light Industrial Zoning District under the provisions of "c) Lumber and wood products, including mill work, prefabricated structural wood products and containers." The property in this request is described as 1.0 acre but has a measured size of 0.672 acres.

WHEN: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2018

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: LOWELL
CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI 49331

Any person is welcome to attend this meeting and to offer comments or submit written comments regarding the proposed Special Land Use until the date and time of said hearing. The application is on file and is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices during normal office hours; phone 616-897-7600.

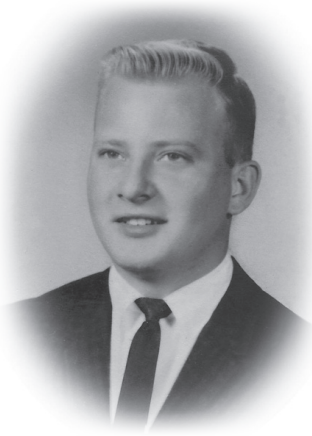
February 21, 2018

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission
Kent County

obituaries

AUSTIN

Jack L. Austin, age 71 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, February 14, 2018. He was born November 11, 1946 to Leon and Edna Austin in Grand Rapids. Jack graduated from Comstock Park in 1966. He worked at Sackner Products for 40 years, until his health no longer allowed him to work. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Jack is survived by his children, Jacklyn (Kevin) Underwood, Brad (Jennifer Yeo) Austin; brother Eugene (Sharon) Berry; sisters Yvonne Osborn, Betty (Larry) Cook; grandchildren Jacob, Josh & Jennie Underwood, Zach, Summer & Hunter Austin; and many nieces and nephews. The family met with friends and relatives February 17 at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 27777 Franklin Rd. #1150, Southfield, MI 48034.



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www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

CONDON

William "Bill" T. Condon, age 88 of Lowell, passed into eternity Sunday evening, February 18, 2018, at Green Acres of Lowell. Bill was born on March 15, 1929 in Lowell, Michigan to William H. and Mildred K. (Colby) Condon. On April 9, 1955 in Chicago, he married Mary Mann Crawford, and she preceded him in death on March 1, 2013.



Bill was a lifelong resident of the Lowell area and served in the Korean War. He was a dairy farmer and later, a rural mail carrier. Among his fondest memories was the travel business he and his wife, Mary, operated in retirement. Bill's family would like to express gratitude to the staff of Green Acres and Hospice of Michigan. He is survived by his children, William A. "Drew" (Sally) Condon of Hudsonville, Susann K. (Dean) Alger of Lowell, Sandra M. (Dan) Stuart of Lowell, Dawn M. (Kent) Feldman of Mendon; sisters, Donna Repik, Patricia (Roy) Jeffery; brother, Robert (Deanne) Condon; 10 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents and wife of 58 years, Bill was preceded in death by his brother, Claude "Bud" Condon; sister, Nancy Reed; brother-in-law, Ed Repik; and sister-in-law, Del Condon. Friends may meet the family Friday, February 23, 2-4:00 p.m. and 6-8:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, February 24, 1:00 p.m. at Alton Bible Church, 2780 Lincoln Lake Ave. N, Lowell, MI 49331. Chaplain Roy Jeffery officiating. Interment Alton Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Alton Bible Church.

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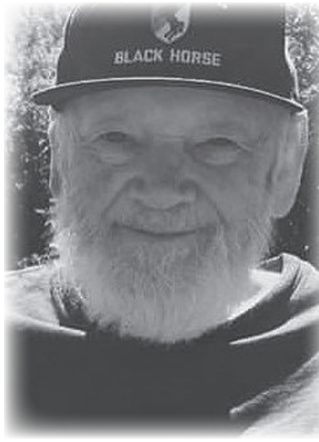
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Lowell, MI 49331
897-9261

GREEN

Robert Joe Green, age 87 of Lowell, passed away Monday, February 19, 2018. He was preceded in death by his brother, Richard Green. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Lucille; children, Don (Lynn) Green, Jo (Scott) Meyers, Bill (Sue) Green, Doug (Wendy) Green; sister, Joyce Green; grandchildren, Robin (Dave) Morehouse, Brian (Erica) Green, Becky (James) Jaskowiak, Kim Green, Hannah (Garrett) Race, Jenny Green, Mike Meyers, Tim Meyers, Anna (Brad) VanderJagt, Amy (Chris) Campbell, Heather (Samuel) Simmonds, Nicole Raimer, Noah Green, Nicholas Green; and 21 great-grandchildren. Robert served in the Army during the Korean War, and was a heavy-equipment mechanic for the city of Grand Rapids for 30 years. Funeral will be held Saturday, February 24, 11:00 a.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. The family will greet friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331; The B Foundation, PO Box 327, Belding, MI 48809; or the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard, 5653 Leisure S. Drive, Kentwood, Michigan 49548.



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James Paul Tichelaar, age 90 of Lowell, went to be with his Lord on Monday, February 19, 2018. He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia (2016); brothers, Henry, Louis and Harry Tichelaar; sisters, Minnie Lowing, Theresa Schrier, and Grace Meines. He is survived by his children, Cindy (Steve) Osga, Chuck (Missy) Tichelaar, Janinne Tichelaar, Paul (Lynn) Tichelaar, William (Melissa) Tichelaar; 11 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law Helen Wyman. James served in the US Army 350th Infantry Regiment, 1950-1952; and was the former Flat River VFW Post Commander. He loved antiques and flea markets. Visitation will be held Wednesday, February 21, 6-8:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Funeral will be Thursday, February 22, 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home chapel. Rev. Dick TerMaat officiating. Interment Pinckney Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49546-5783.

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 18-202813-DE

Estate of SUSAN
CECIL JOHNSON,
Deceased.
Date of birth:
03/22/1949.

that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Melissa Johnson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

February 8, 2018

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: decedent, Cecil Johnson, died 01/16/2018.

Meredith Curless (P78235) 410 Bridge St. NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-458-3699

Creditors of the decedent are notified Melissa Johnson 338 Benjamin Ave. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49506

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2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD - Ext. cab, short box in excellent condition. Southern truck. 185,000 miles. removable cattlemen brush guard, with light bar, \$15,900. Call 269-953-7452.

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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}

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misc.

STEAK DINNER - Fri., Feb. 23, 5-7:30 pm at Alto American Legion, 6056 Linfield, Alto. Sunday breakfast, Feb. 25, 8-11 am. Public welcome.

LENTEN FISH FRY - Fridays, Feb. 16 - March 23, 5-7 pm at St. Mary's Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell. Dine in or take out. \$8 for adults & children 13 & up; \$4 for children 12 & under or \$25 for families. Check, cash & credit cards accepted. All you can eat menu: baked & fried cod, mac & cheese, fries, coleslaw, applesauce, cornbread, juice & coffee. Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus #7719.

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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.

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.

LOWELL ARTS 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.

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

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

MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR HAVE HAD - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.

Red Arrow

- BOWLERS

SPORTS

Boys take first, girls place fourth at bowling tourney

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

Lowell boys varsity bowling team claimed their second consecutive OK White title last weekend after tying with Forest Hills Central in their last conference contest of the season. The varsity girls team topped FHC and finished fifth in league play.

Breaking even against FHC 15-15 at Eastbrook Lanes on Wednesday, the boys fought back from an unprecedented season deficit in their baker games, 0-10. Rallying in their regular set the gents grabbed two individual points and the team total to 13-6 moving into the final game. Still trailing, the Arrows fought hard to earn the win but settled for a tie after adding three more individual points.

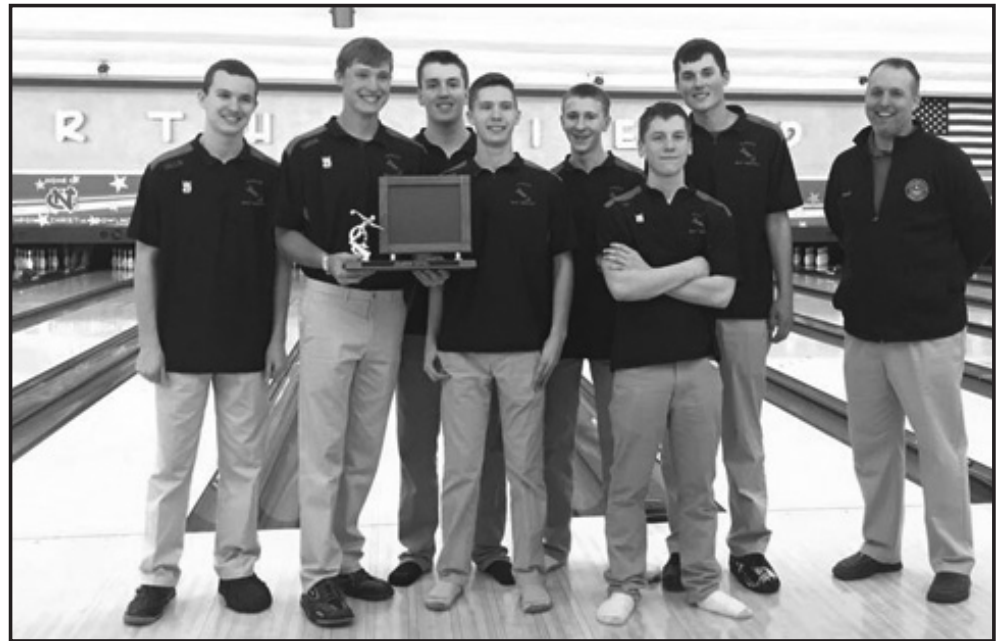
Rolling top scores were junior DJ Simpson who earned a 210 and a 179 and junior Xavier Taylor who earned a 194 and a 207. Entering the match in a three-way tie with Cedar Springs and Northview, the team lost position slightly falling one point behind the pair going into the conference tournament.

Bright and early Saturday morning the team returned to the lanes to face all of the OK White to claim the top spot outright. Lowell took the lead after game one combining for a total pin count of 896. They followed up with an 850 and a 933 putting them more than 50 pins in front of their competition moving into the baker games. Experiencing highs and lows in the final four-game series, the

Arrows eventually came out on top tallying 3,363 pins with Cedar Springs and Northviews following respectively.

The back-to-back conference title win is the third in the last four years for the team. Last season the boys rolled a perfect season going undefeated in league play and then sweeping the post-season where they won the program's first state title. Simpson, sophomore Collin Clark and senior Carson Clark were named to the all-tournament team following the competition. Earning conference honors were the Clark brothers with Collin placing fourth and Carson first for the second season in a row.

The Lady Arrows finished their regular season with a 22-8 win over FHC. Trailing after their two-game baker set, the girls regained momentum to earn the comeback victory. Leading scorers were senior Laura Lachowski who recorded scores of 190 and



Red Arrow varsity bowling captured their second consecutive OK White conference title.

150 and sophomore Emma Blakie who rolled a 149 and a 172.

Competing in the conference tournament the Lowell ladies came up with a fifth-place finish led by Blakie who logged a pair of 170s. She was named to the all-tournament team and the all-conference

honorable mention list along with sophomore Brianna Lachowski. L. Lachowski was named all-conference placing fourth in the league. The young team earned a fourth-place conference finish overall.

After a non-conference game on Tuesday in Hudsonville, both teams

will head into regional action this weekend with team competition scheduled for Friday and individual on Saturday at Sherman Lanes bowling center in Muskegon. The top three teams and top ten rollers will move on to the state tournament taking place March 2-3 in Canton.

City of Lowell and Lowell Area Recreation Authority NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The City of Lowell and the Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) will conduct a public meeting on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell Michigan 49331. The purpose of the Public Meeting is to receive input and comments from the public on the proposed applications by the City and LARA to the 2018 Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for separate grants for the construction of non-motorized trail improvements.

The proposed improvements include the installation of new paved non-motorized trails, pedestrian bridges, benches, picnic shelters and signage. This project will go through the Lowell community will connect to the existing Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail network which extends to Belding, Saranac and points beyond. A copy of the proposed trail route is available for viewing at City Hall and online at www.lowellareatrailway.org.

Following the public comment period, the City Council will consider a resolution authorizing submittal of their application, which is due on or before April 1, 2018. The LARA Board will consider a resolution for submittal of their application in a separate meeting on March 14, 2018 at 6 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

Interested persons may offer comments at the public meeting or submit them in writing prior to the meeting directly to the City Hall address.

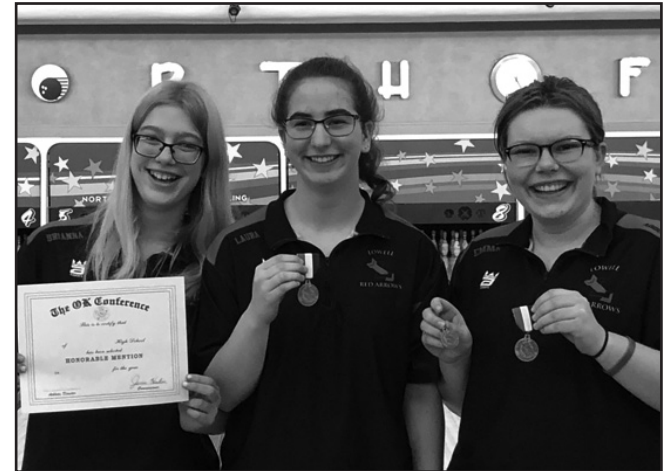
Sue Ullery, City Clerk,
City of Lowell

Betsy Davidson, Treasurer,
Lowell Area Recreation Authority

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

On Thursday evening, March 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the Bowne Township Historical Hall Building at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue SE, Alto, Michigan 49302 within the Township. The public hearing will involve proposed amendments to the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance regarding medical marijuana facilities, unclassified uses, illegal/unlawful uses, lawful nonconforming uses and the deletion of Subsection 14.01(S) of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance. A full copy of the proposed amendments to the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance may be inspected, reviewed or purchased at the Bowne Township offices at 8240 Alden Nash Ave SE, Alto, Michigan 49302 during normal business hours. In addition to accepting public comments at the Planning Commission hearing, the Planning Commission will accept written comments up until the commencement of the public hearing on March 15, 2018. Questions should be directed to the Bowne Township Clerk at (616) 868-6846.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk
8240 Alden Nash Ave. SE
Alto, Michigan 49302
(616) 868-6846



Senior Laura Lachowski and sophomores Brianna Lachowski and Emma Blakie received individual all-conference honors.

Photos submitted by Red Arrow athletics department

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Synopsis of Minutes
February 12, 2018

Motions Approved:

1. Construction Board of Appeals member Glenn Jonker for two-year term.
2. Wetland Review Board, as ZBA rep member Dee Hockemeyer for three-year term.
3. Resolution 2018-009 Clerk Salary
4. Resolution 2018-010 Trustee Salary
5. Planning Commission Report-2017

Our next Township Meeting
will be **February 26, 2018**
At 10:00 a.m.

The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: THE OSCARS

ACROSS

1. Can't stomach
6. Styling goo
9. Hightailed it
13. Ten million, in India
14. "___ takers?"
15. Like a girl
16. Spanish small plates
17. School of thought suffix
18. Pay hike
19. *Oscar nominated meet-the-parents thriller
21. *He played Getty
23. Right-angle building extension
24. Splints site
25. Mammoth site, e.g.
28. Write on a tombstone
30. Self-centeredness
35. Land measure
37. Crucifix
39. "Sesame Street" regular
40. *In 1992 De Niro was nominated for "Cape ___"
41. *Best category
43. Tiresias in "Oedipus Rex"
44. Desert mirage
46. S-shaped molding
47. Dionysus' party
48. "___ the unexpected"
50. Celestial bear
52. Rolodex abbr.
53. Purple precipitation
55. Before, old English
57. *Evacuation location
61. *Olympic hopeful's story

CROSSWORD

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69						70				71				
72						73				74				



FEBRUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 20

- More women than ever are running for office. At last count, 431 women were running for or were likely to run for the House nationwide — 339 Democrats and 92 Republicans. At this point in 2016, there were 212. Also, 50 women are possibly running for Senate, compared to 25 in 2016.
- Projected to gross \$250 mil at the box office, the movie Black Panther, boasting a mostly black cast and black director, lives up to hype as it becomes the fifth biggest movie opening taking in \$235 mil.
- The Unicode Consortium in Maine, an organization that creates emojis, recently added two more legs to their 157 lobster emojis after Maine residents complained about their forthcoming lobster emoji that was designed sporting only eight legs.
- A man was spotted hunting wolves in the Ural mountains of Russia wearing nothing but underpants, a necklace, sandals and carrying his gun in freezing temperatures of -20c. When asked why, he explained that his wife, trying to stop his hunting trip, had hidden his clothing. He foiled her plans by going hunting naked.



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64. Deprive of weapons
65. *Sarandon was nominated for "Lorenzo's ___" in 1993
67. Unfit
69. Like anchor aweigh
70. Zilch
71. *Cathy Bates' or Louise Fletcher's role

72. Google ___
73. Bro's sibling
74. Had supper

DOWN

1. *Do this and hope for an Oscar?
2. Toot one's horn
3. *18-time Oscar host
4. Speak from a podium
5. Fix a shoe
6. Manner of walk
7. Ensign, for short
8. Bodily fluid
9. Thailand, once
10. "___ and proper"
11. Additional
12. Indigo user
15. Nirvana genre
20. Extremist
22. Bald-faced ___
24. "I call passenger seat!"
25. *"The Florida Project" nominee
26. Mountaineer's tool
27. Comprehend
29. *Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song nominee
31. Guesstimate phrase
32. Apathetic
33. Lay ___ to a castle
34. *21-time nominee
36. Albany-Buffalo canal
38. Opposite of talker?
42. Button on electrical outlet
45. Economize
49. Feather glue
51. Ray Charles' "Mess ___"
54. Paintings in an Orthodox church
56. Boredom
57. Two of the same
58. "Do ___ others..."
59. Narcotics agent
60. "Me and Bobby McGee" singer-songwriter
61. Ailments
62. Spinner's product
63. Altar location
66. *J. Paul Getty's grandson
68. Ideas worth spreading, acr.

Puzzle solutions on page 12



LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

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

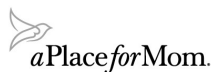
P.O. Box 128
Lowell, MI 49331
897-9261

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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.

the lowell ledger

Online POLL QUESTION...

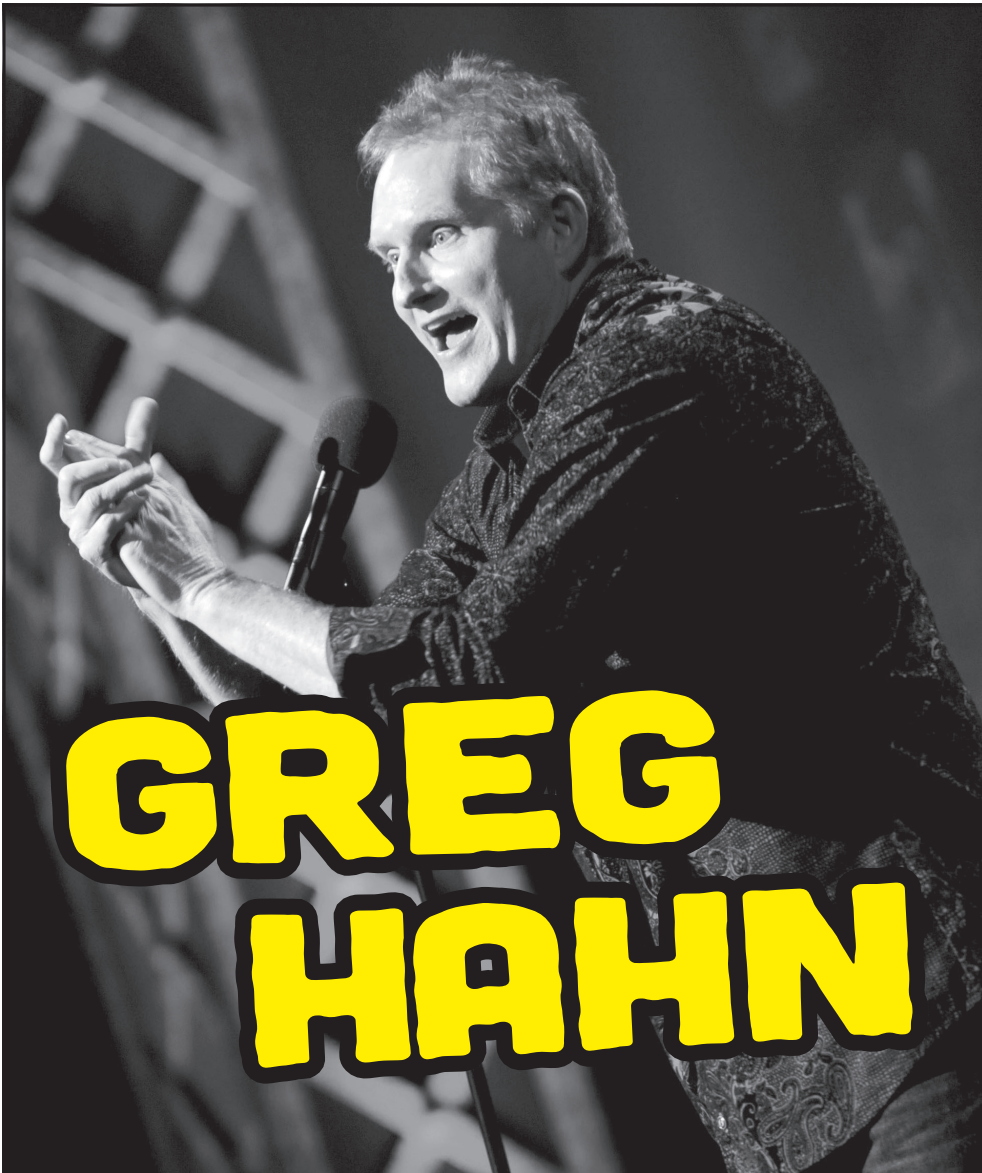
What is your favorite Winter Olympic Sport?

TO VOTE, GO TO -

WWW.thelowellledger.com

Then watch for the results in the lowell ledger

Lowell's Only Hometown Newspaper!



GREG HAHN

**FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 7PM
LARKIN'S THE OTHER PLACE
LOWELL**

GREG HAHN is a favorite on the nationally syndicated *Bob and Tom Radio Show*. Greg has also appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, Comedy Central, CBS, ABC, FOX, MTV and CMT. Greg Hahn has parlayed his absurdly energetic, all out style of physical humor, one liners and crowd work into a performance of immediate pandemonium and continuous laughs. His unique stylings have led to numerous television, corporate and theater appearances throughout the US and Canada. **CLN**

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Tradition, continued

made of either wool, a synthetic material or felt. Then the syrup is taken to the sugar shack's kitchen, Swanson's own addition to the building, and filtered one more time before it's finally ready.

"This setup will boil off between 80 and 100 gallons of sap an hour, so I'm making about two gallons of syrup an hour," Swanson said.

It's also possible to cook it a little longer and make maple candy, a

favorite of everyone except maybe dentists.

"I do it the same way my grandma taught me how to do it," Swanson said. "Syrup stage is at 219 degrees. For candy you take it up to 237, then you take it off the heat and start stirring it with a wooden spoon until you start to feel it get a little gravelly on the bottom of the pan. At that point you fill all of the molds. That's a big thing at the fair, we'll probably go through 400 pieces at the fair."

The Swanson family represents Michigan maple syrup at the Ionia Free Fair every year. They also sell their "Swanson Farm" maple products at some area farmers markets, the Alto Harvest Festival and Christmas Through Lowell.

"I'm back here doing this because this is how my great grandpa did it and I'm passing it on," Swanson said. "It's still done the same way it was back in the day, except we've got a nicer tractor now."



John and George Krebs rolling a 50 gallon barrel of syrup up a log ramp at the sugar shack in 1952.



Jeff Swanson still uses his grandfather's hydrometer to make sure the syrup is at 219 degrees.

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