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after the flood



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Lhs sports



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50¢



## Rail trails placement and improvements were the focus of latest council meeting

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, March 6.

Most of the 53 minute meeting was devoted to a discussion about separate grants the city of Lowell and the Lowell Area Recreation Authority plan to apply for from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources trust fund. This money will be used to create a trail network through downtown Lowell that will close Lowell's gap in the Fred Meijer River Valley Trail. Lowell is the only gap in the 125 mile long trail.

Proposed improvements include the installation of new paved non-motorized trails, pedestrian bridges, benches, picnic shelters and signage. The project is projected to cost about five million. When completed

it will be the fifth longest continuous rail trail in the United States.

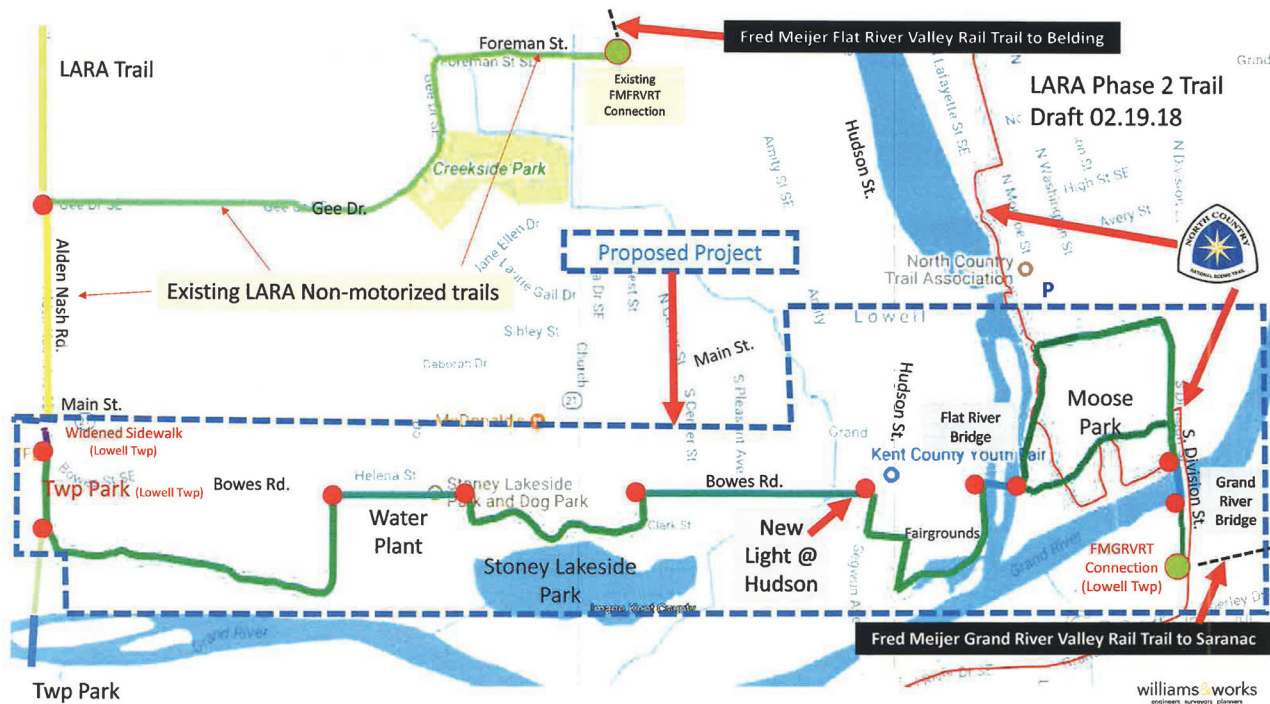
The only problem is that some people who live

on Bowes Rd. will lose big chunks of their front yards if the currently proposed version of the new trail is built.

Eight citizens spoke out during the trail discussion. First up was engineer Dave Austin from Williams and

Works, who is working with the city and LARA on the trail project.

City council meeting, continued, page 9



This map illustrates the proposed trail project.

## Arrows send a record number of individual wrestlers to state

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Setting a new record last weekend, the Red Arrow wrestling team sent 13 grapplers to the mat at the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division II individual state tournament held at the Ford Field in Detroit. Eleven wrestlers emerged in the top eight spots, including three runners up and a second state championship for sophomore Austin Boone.

Besting the old record of nine state placers by two, two wrestlers took

the eighth position and three grabbed seventh. Competing at 125 and 130, respectively, freshman Zeth Strejc and Doak Dean made their first appearances at the state finals, both earning an eighth-place finish. Sophomores, Dawson Jankowski at 119 pounds, James Fotis at 140 and Tyler Deloof at 285, grappled their way to the seventh position.

Placing fourth in his 215 pound weight class was senior Keigan Yuhas who topped Lucas Brewer of New Boston-

Huron by 7-0 decision. Fellow senior Austin Engle placed third at 171 pounds after victories over Juette Peterson of Trenton by 13-5 major decision and Steven Dunmire of Warren-Fitzgerald by 3-1 decision.

Dropping just one match for a second-place finish were senior David Kruse, junior Avry Mutschler and sophomore Nick Korhorn. Taking the mat at 103 pounds, Korhorn was the first Arrow to take to the mat. He was forced to settle for a runner-up position. Mutschler, wrestling in the 135 weight class, placed second after falling to Corbyn Munson by way of 11-6 decision. Kruse beat Taye Ghudiali of Warren-Fitzgerald by 8-2 decision in the semifinals before falling in the finals at 189. Earning the lone individual state title fall for the second year in a row, Boone triumphed over each rival in his 145 pound weight class.

Boone's state title caps off a season that included a slew of tournament victories, a perfect run through the OK White with a conference

championship, district and regional titles and the team's fifth consecutive Division II team state title. The team will graduate more than a dozen successful seniors this season including Kruse, Engle, Yuhas, Channing Perry, Connor Nugent, Tyler Lynch, George Gonzales, Christian Beimers, Carter Bierling, Elijah Hall-Jones, Roman Johnson, Layne Ryan and Jarod Wilson. The class of 2019 will exit

as members of one of the most successful teams in the program's history. Lowell will retain an enormous roster of young talent, including nine of the eleven 2018 state placers, on next year's lineup, with each member looking to extend the legacy of success. Maybe they will garner a sixth straight state title next season, a feat that has never been accomplished in Michigan.



Sophomore state wrestling champion Austin Boone on the mat.

## Art competition on display

LowellArts is announcing the 32nd annual West Michigan Art Competition highlighting outstanding artwork by 121 lower West Michigan artists. The selected entries will be on display at the LowellArts Gallery, 223 W Main St., from March 10 to April 14. Gallery hours are Tues-Fri, 10 am-6 pm and Sat, 10 am-5 pm. A meet-the-artists reception and presentation of awards is scheduled for Thursday, March 15 from 6-8 pm. The event is free and open to the public. Cash awards totaling \$2,500 will be awarded to first through fifth places.

This year's distinguished juror is Ryan Kaltenbach who currently serves as exhibits director at the Northville Art House near Detroit. The competition was open to all visual art media by artists 18 yrs. and older. Artists could submit one piece to be juried.

Award winners will be posted on the LowellArts website, www.lowellartsmi.org, on March 16, along with a full list of pieces displayed in the exhibition.



# along main street

## PEAT IN THE CREEL IN CONCERT

Peat in the Creel will be in concert on March 10 at 7 pm at LowellArts, 223 W Main St. Peat in the Creel draws from Irish traditional music roots, at times nourished by the heritage of Scotland and broader world influences. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. Call 897-8545 or visit [www.lowellartsmi.org](http://www.lowellartsmi.org)

## FAMILY HOUSE CONCERT

Join Bill Vits for his "Percussion Discussion" on March 11 at 2 pm at LowellArts, 223 W. Main St., as he plays instruments from around the world. At the end of the fast-paced program students can play the theremin, an instrument played by moving your hands in space! Bill has been a principal percussionist of the Grand Rapids Symphony since 1979. LowellArts Family House Concerts are free, but reservations are required. Call 897-8545 or visit [www.lowellartsmi.org](http://www.lowellartsmi.org)

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

## GILDA'S CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES

**LaughFest Tour and Open House** - Tues., March 13, 1-5 pm. Gilda's Club Lowell welcomes LaughFest visitors and guests to tour the clubhouse and learn more about our cancer and grief programs.

**LaughFest Laughter Yoga** - Tues., March 13, 4-5 pm. Join certified yoga instructors for this opportunity to laugh for the health of it. Laughter Yoga is a unique concept based on the principle of 'acting happiness' - tell your body what to do and your mind will follow. Pre-registration is required.

**Spring Craft** - Tues., March 13, 4-5 pm. Join volunteer Mary Shipley for time together creating a fun spring craft. Mary will teach us how to create a cute spring bunny out of recycled material. All materials provided and you may take home your creation.

**LaughFest at LowellArts: Drum Circle with Josh Dunigan** - Tues., March 13, 6:30-7:30 pm at LowellArts. Calling all youth! Bring your adults and come on over to join Josh Dunigan for a fun time connecting together through drumming. Josh will lead us in a community drum circle and we will also learn the benefits of drumming as it relates to overall emotional health. RSVP at the clubhouse.

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

## LOWELL EXPO

This year the Lowell Expo will take place at Lowell High School, 11700 Vergennes SE, on Sat., March 24, from 9 am until 3 pm. The theme is Expo Olympics and some of the activities will include a Hall of Adventure, Archery Tag, Ninjas on the Move and the launch of the Chamber of Commerce's 'Lowell Shopping Bags.' Be sure and pick up next week's Ledger to read more about everything new at the 2018 Lowell Expo.

## Terry Lee and band on stage Thursday in Hastings



Terry Lee and the Cat Skinners (from left), Brad Cunningham, Terry Lee, Rick Chandler and Slim Chance, will play Thursday at State Street Diner in Hastings. (Photo provided)

Traditional country, bluegrass and Americana are the musical specialty of Terry Lee and the Cat Skinners. The group will share its sound Thursday, March 8, at the State Street Diner in Hastings.

"We work to keep alive the best of these songs that tell a story about life, love, heartbreak and triumph, as best told by Hank Williams, Merle Haggard, John Prine, Billy Joe Shaver, [and] David Allen Coe," said Terry Lee Williams. "If you want to get that old honky-tonk feel, come out and give us a listen."

Members include Slim Chance of Hopkins on steel guitar, Dobro and backup vocals; Rick Chandler of Hudsonville on bass; Brad Cunningham of Lowell on mandolin, guitar and vocals; and Terry Lee of Freeport on vocals and guitar.

The concert is free; any contributions to the tip jar go directly to the musicians to help with their expenses.

The diner is located at 1105 W. State St., Hastings.

More information on the band can be found at facebook.

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~ Buddha

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# 2018 flooding was Lowell's fourth highest in 80 years

## Still cleanup to be done after floodwaters subside

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

With water cresting at 18.2 feet high, the flood of 2018 turned out to be the fourth highest flood in the 80 years that flooding records have been kept. Blocks of homes south of Main, to homes on Bowes Rd. and the fairgrounds sustained most of the water damage.

"Assisting people in need is being coordinated through FROM and through the United Methodist church," said Lowell city manager Michael Burns. "The Red Cross is [also] helping out with people in the neighborhood."

There are dumpsters at Division and Front and Jefferson and Front to deposit any large pieces of debris or other filth generated by the rising river.

"The city put dumpsters down in two locations," Burns said. "For people who need them, they're there. If people want to put stuff in the dumpsters they can. They'll remain there until they're no longer needed."

A state of emergency declaration does not seem to be forthcoming from

Governor Snyder at this point, but Burns said it was not unusual for this process to take several weeks.

"It depends on the damage," Burns said. "They assess the damage, then they take a couple weeks to decide if they'll declare it. Whatever they do, we'll deal with it, no matter what."

City workers ended up putting in 27.5 hours of overtime during the event. They relied on a "flood book" created by former public works director Dan DesJarden before he retired in 2015. DesJarden left copies with the city manager, public works director and police chief. Burns said they intend to keep the flood books updated in case of future flooding.

"They were really good references for us," Burns said. "They said things like, 'When the water reaches a certain level, you do this.' 'You put the barricades here, this is where the water is going to go.' [Assistant city manager] Rich [LaBombard] and I had never been through this before, so it really helped

us out quite a bit. A lot of the staff have been through this before so it didn't really faze them."

The city ended up pumping 19.1 million gallons of sewer water into the Grand River. They did this to avoid the alternative, [a] million gallons of sewage in Lowell basements.

"As of Thursday, March 1, 2018, at 8 am the city of Lowell terminated discharging storm water and sanitary sewer into the Grand River," said a Friday, March 2 city of Lowell press release. "Approximately 19.1 million gallons of infiltrated floodwater and sanitary sewer were discharged from the collection system during this event. This action also occurred during the 2013 flooding. Bypassing the city's wastewater treatment plant became necessary during last week's flooding to prevent storm water and sanitary sewer from backing up into residents' basements and to also prevent overwhelming the wastewater treatment



Some streets were impassable, as shown in a photo from the flooding last week.

plant. The 18.2 foot flood crest on Feb. 24 was the fourth highest historic flood crest to impact the city of Lowell in 80 years of record keeping. Per the sanitary sewer overflow permit, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Kent County Health departments have also been notified that the discharge pumping has ceased."

## Ledger editor sets sails for new adventures

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Editor Jeanne Boss is resigning from the Ledger after 27 years at the 125-year-old newspaper.

"This will be a big change for us, but she deserves it," said Ledger publisher Jon Jacobs. "She probably deserved retirement ten years ago. I've always teased Jeanne that she has a contract for life. It's been a gift to be the publisher of two newspapers and the print shop and have somebody with the capabilities and dedication of Jeanne. That's pretty rare. We'll definitely miss her tremendously."

Boss guards her privacy closely and was very reluctant to sit still for five seconds and be interviewed about herself.

"I have no interest in being that revealing. It's not my thing," Boss said. "You may not have ever seen her, but she's been here and now she's gone, that's your headline!"

Despite her tough exterior, everyone on the Ledger staff remarked on Boss's naturally kind, empathetic nature. She has also mentored a few newspaper reporters, none of them normal, on deadline or easy to work with.

"I've had the pleasure of working with Jeanne for the last 11 years and I've always

viewed Jeanne as like a second mother," Jacobs said. "I feel very fortunate to have been able to bounce ideas back and forth off of her and talk about the news industry with her. There are not too many people in our industry who have the passion for news that Jeanne does. Any ideas I have that I want to try, she is always gung ho and always approaches things with extreme professionalism. She always wants to do whatever is best for the company and to grow the newspaper."

"I think Jeanne has always been like a mother figure to all of us here, even though she's not technically old enough to be my mother," Tammy Janowiak, classifieds, accounting and sales. "I got hired here 26 years ago when I was 22 years old, so I've known Jeanne for most of my life. She's always had good motherly advice. Everybody at some point goes back there to get her take on situations. We all stand at the counter and talk to her so she can't get her work done. She taught me a lot about patience, something that is not naturally part of my personality. And every time you leave the office when it's snowy out, she says, 'Drive careful!'"

"Jeanne has always been somebody I can talk to," said Queta Reynolds, commercial printing sales. "When I have work questions she answers them, but we don't just talk about work, we also chat about personal things. We talk grandkids a lot."

"I've learned a lot from Jeanne and I'm going to

miss her," said proofreader Joanna Barr. "Everything I know about newspapers I learned from Jeanne. She's fun, kind, understanding and smart. She's a terrific person and she's always easy to work with."

"I learned a lot from Jeanne, like how to be a

Editor sails away, continued, page 4

### TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET FOR 2018-2019 FISCAL YEAR

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 12, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., the Township Board of the Township of Grattan will hold a public hearing at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, within the Township, to hear and consider comments regarding the proposed Township budget for the April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 fiscal year. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the Grattan Township Hall.

**The property tax millage rates proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

This notice is given pursuant to Act 43 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1963 (Second Extra Session), as amended and complies with MCL 141.436 and MCL 211.24e  
Dated: February 21, 2018

TOWNSHIP OF GRATTAN  
Michelle Alberts, Clerk

### 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  
616-897-7600**

Board of Review Members, Sandra Graham, Nancie Mathews & James Foerch.  
Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor,  
Secretary of Board of Review.

# business directory

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## Editor sails away, continued

better mother and wife," said graphic artist Cathy Acker. "She treasures her marriage and her family. She's always calling her husband about this or that, which made me realize that you have to appreciate your husband more. She has been a very good influence on me, morally and righteously."

Boss worked at several jobs before getting her start in the newspaper business, all the while honing her photography and graphic design skills.

"I'm not a journalist, I'm a photographer and a graphic designer who became an editor," Boss said. "I've done lots of other things, had lots of different jobs."

Eventually she was hired to work for a newspaper in Rockford and after leaving, started working at the Ledger.

"I really just fell into it here," Boss said. "I saw a help wanted ad for a typesetter and graphic design person, so I applied."

"Jeanne makes the office a lot of fun," Acker said. "We've had a lot of laughs together. She always tells fun stories; we have lots of running gags. It's been nice having my cohort on the other side of the wall, to always have something to say. I'll miss the fun we've had together. Work has been so much fun and now it's not going to be fun because Jeanne won't be there anymore."

"I've worked with Jeanne for 17 years," Reynolds said. "She's a character, in a good way. She's very outgoing. She tells it like it is. She's fun to be around."

"We have a lot of private 'inside' jokes, like 'Bin Calla Durit' for example," Janowiak said. "If you go back there and ask Jeanne what 'Bin Calla Durit' means, she will instantly remember the story behind it. What happened was,

many years ago there was a sweet elderly woman who was sending out some thank you cards. Unfortunately her spelling was very, very bad so Jeanne volunteered to type them all up for her. Later, she got a thank you card from the woman describing Jeanne as 'Bin Calla Durit,' which we eventually figured out meant that Jeanne went 'beyond the call of duty.'"

"Working with Jeanne is always great," said press operator Scott Kooistra. "She's always bubbly. She never lacks something to say. Sometimes we have political discussions, that's always fun. Well, not always... Beanie Babies can hurt! She used to throw them at you if you got in an argument or if you said something that she didn't approve of. It was easy to pick on her, you'd just push her buttons and she'd start launching Beanie Babies. She got pretty good aim after a while. She could get you without even sticking her head up from behind the computer. I'd rather it was Beanie Babies than a brick! That was always a lot of fun, though. I'm really going to miss that."

"Working with Jeanne, no day is the same, every day is completely different. She is very unique," Jacobs said. "She has changed me in a lot of ways. When I came in 11 years ago I was a strong Republican, now I can see all sides. I'll miss watching the evening news then debating the issue of

the day with Jeanne the next morning. It's always in good fun, we've never had a bad argument, but sometimes we have to agree to disagree."

"I've known Jeanne for 26 years," Janowiak said. "When you've worked together with somebody for that long, of course you're going to have stories. My husband has always been jealous of me because we have so much fun here at work."

Boss said she has enjoyed working in Lowell but she has a long list of things she's looking forward to doing. Soon she will be found sailing around the Great Lakes on the Tiny Island (her 33 foot sloop), doing yoga, painting, working on writing projects, doing some limited freelance design work and most of all hanging out with her husband, children and grandchildren.

"It's hard to wrap it up here, but I'm not retiring. I've got a lot of things I want to do that I need time for," Boss said. "I can use that extra hour of driving every day. I'll miss them all, though. I've had a good time here. I'll send you a postcard once in a while," Boss said.

"Knowing Jeanne, retirement is going to be very joyful," Jacobs said. "She is going to travel and see lots of places, do a lot of painting and a lot of writing. I know that she'll enjoy retirement. She's got lots of plans and she deserves it. And she won't have any more Tuesday deadlines!"

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# viewpoint

## off the cuff

Jeanne Boss

*“From there to here, and here to there, funny things are everywhere.” ~ Dr. Suess*

Paradoxically, I love this job but I’m leaving it. I’m moving on to explore some other fun and funny things on a different schedule. My last day working at this office will be Tuesday, March 13. As far as employment goes, this has been “a long strange trip.” Publishing and people-pleasing have always been the priorities in this business, but humor has remained in second place for as long as I can remember. When I first walked into this office in 1991, a sign over the light tables read, “No dying till the paper’s done.” There were other signs, photos and slogans over the years that, if I could describe them, would merely give a hint at the absolute hilarity that frequently ensued while we toiled away.

En masse the humor developed with a mixture of camaraderie, deadlines and exhaustion. If only they could bottle our workplace formula that resulted in bouts of wheezing laughter on a regular basis, a network sitcom would pay millions,

At the start, when I encountered the folks at The Lowell Ledger and Buyers Guide, I withheld judgement on my first impressions. I attempted to remain on the fringe, nose to the grindstone, maybe somewhat aloof. But the publisher at the time, Roger Brown, had a way of making sure you were in on the joke. He is well-read, has a variety of interests, and was a generous employer. I “tip my hat” to him for that, realizing he probably doesn’t remember the reference, and I chuckle to myself thinking about it all the same.

Cautiously, when after some time a new publisher came along, I watched and waited to see if I would thrive in a different environment. Fortunately, to his credit, Jon Jacobs is smart and has a great sense of humor. To me this is a saving grace. Equally as important, he has been willing to venture into new territory and doesn’t sweat the small stuff...too much ;) He’s never short on new ideas and is always willing to try something different. “It is what it is,” he’s said from the start. He’s a twenty-first-century guy who believes that a hometown paper is an important asset for a community. And I’m not going to argue with a guy that coats the inside office doors with chalkboard paint so that we can all play word games during breaks.

Everyone with whom I’ve worked the longest has heard me say that I think their most appealing trait is their knack for the running gag. Very few things were forgotten. There was always a tagline or phrase that would return us to some off-the-wall memory or absurd moment and we’d be snickering throughout the day.

### SO... IT HAS BEEN FUN

Of course during my tenure here my other life has happened in the background with its sizable ups and downs. But this job, for the most part, has been a delightful diversion.

I’ve met many interesting people who have come in to talk with me, or yes, to complain to me. I’ve also met many wonderful souls. I’ve been allowed the freedom to converse, at almost any length, with anyone - customer, friend or foe - as long as I kept meeting those deadlines. That freedom, that carte blanche, has been an intangible perk. I could list a page full of memories here that would have a select few rolling in the aisles. However, out of context I’m afraid some of those stories would bore the rest of my readers.

Therefore, I’ll quote my own resignation letter and in conclusion say, “Hey! It’s been a blast! Que sera sera, bon voyage and good day to you! Thanks for all the flexibility (which kept me here longer than I thought I’d stay) the fun and the friendship.”

## outdoors

weather watch

Dave Stegehuis

Weather in Michigan is relatively placid compared to other parts of the country. Hurricanes and tsunamis don’t happen. Floods are predictable and localized. Tornados are rare. I don’t recall a significant earthquake. People are prepared for occasional snowstorms which rarely leave damage. Periods of excessive heat and cold are short lived and have little long term consequences. Wildfires are usually limited in size and only occasionally result in significant property damage.

The weather does,

however, change often and quickly during all seasons around the Great Lakes. People spending time in the outdoors year around will need to be aware of these changes and make adjustments to deal with it. Failure to do so may lead to discouragement and not taking full advantage of the opportunities for outdoor activities. Modern weather forecasting is fairly accurate and readily available through multiple media sources.

Ignoring approaching weather conditions can lead to discomfort

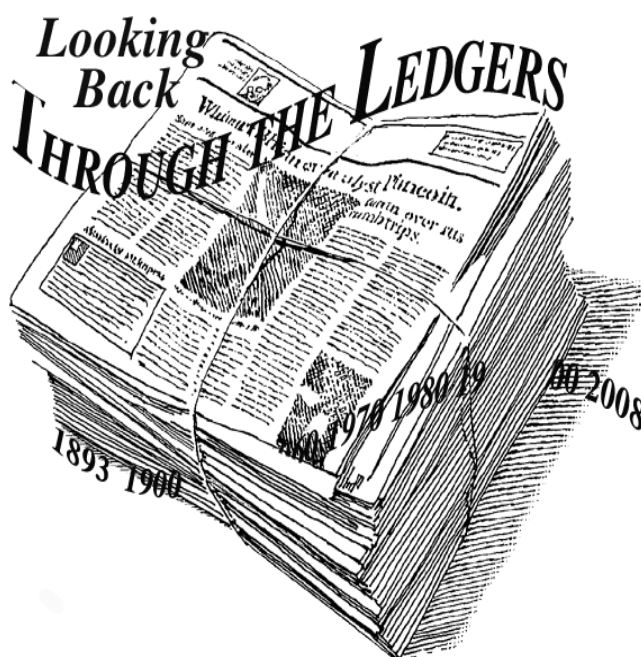
or inconvenience and sometimes danger. The presence of lightning requires getting off the water immediately. When on shore seek shelter and avoid tall trees and open areas. Quality rain gear, kept close at hand, allows one to remain active in spite of occasional periods of wind and rain. Most of the time rainstorms are intermittent and will pass through quickly.

Cold weather can be overcome by being prepared with proper clothing. Even in the middle of summer, it is wise to have long pants and a jacket handy. Many campers and tourists leave home when it is 85 degrees,

and a day later and 200 miles north it is 45 degrees with a cold wind coming off the water. Clothing retailers in the area look forward to days like this.

Driving in the winter can present surprises on the road. Boots, warm clothes, emergency supplies, and a shovel should be standard equipment on board.

Being prepared for occasional inclement weather allows one to proceed with confidence when enjoying the outdoors. If we wait for guaranteed perfect weather before venturing out in Michigan, we may never leave the house. Be prepared and have fun.



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

The organization of the West Michigan Electric Co. was completed last Friday evening, at the banking house of C. J. Church & Son, with the following officers: Pres., C. J. Church, of Greenville; Vice President, Edwin F. Sweet; Sec., A. C. Sekel, of Grand Rapids; Treas., Chas. A Church, of Lowell. The company have placed an order with Siemens & Halske, of Berlin, Germany, for a 1000 hp. electric generator for long distance transmission. The company state that it will require six months’ time to build this machine.

Samuel Thompson died Sunday morning at the home of Julius Basler, in Keene, from injuries received by falling down stairs at Trains Hotel. He was addicted to the drink habit and was under the influence of liquor at the time. No one considered his injuries serious at the time. He was buried Tuesday at 2 o’clock in the cemetery here.

Parents are as censurable for not providing newspapers for their children to read and learn to read as for not sending them to school. The child receives far more information from the reading of good papers than it does from school books. Education such as the child receives in the school is indispensable, but give the boy or girl no other opportunity for acquiring a practical education – general information - and he will be a dunce in spite of all the work he may do or that may be done for him in the school room. The country is full of educated numb skulls, men and women, who

have a little school book knowledge but practically no education.—Ex.

What are you going to do about it? The West-Mich, Electric Co is an assured fact. They have contracted for machinery, have secured a franchise for the transmission of electric fluid through the streets of Grand Rapids, they are arranging for the building of power dams and storage reservoirs and in about six months will be ready to furnish a large amount of power. Unless the people of Lowell and vicinity wake up to the magnitude of the opportunity that is with them, the chances are that Lowell will never amount to more than it does to-day. Have you got any idea of doing anything? Are you willing to help things along? Again we ask: what are you going to do about it, anything?

The Japanese entertainment at Music Hall was very well patronized, about \$35 being taken in. The entertainment was very good, in some parts particularly fine. Space forbids an extended notice.

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

The rear end of the H. Nash warehouse which has been down in the water since moving ice knocked out its supports last month, is being wrecked from within to save the material. Mr. Nash is improving somewhat in health and strength.

The telephone operator of Ada Mrs. Lettie Patterson and son George were guests of her aunt, Mrs. Mary Cook of Pleasant street, last week for a few days. Mrs. Minnie Ludlow of Alaska, a niece, and Mrs. Daniel Davis of Edmore, a sister-in law, were there several days.

Pastor Jerrett’s long run of trouble is not over yet. Mrs. Jerrett is seriously ill with typhoid fever, following her long nervous strain during her husband’s illness and the sickness and death of their daughter. We are all hoping their prospects may speedily brighten.

On Thursday, March 14, the Vergennes Grange hall will be open all day for Red Cross sewing. Every lady within reasonable distance of the hall is urged to attend for all or part of the day. Mrs. M. B. McPherson, who has charge of the Red Cross work in Vergennes, will have a variety of work on hand and there will be something for every one to do. Each lady is asked to bring her own lunch. Tea and coffee will be made at the hall.

# health

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

## - dry skin

Dry, itchy skin is a common condition this time of year. As the weather gets

colder, the air gets drier and your skin becomes dry and itchy. Humidifying your home can help to keep your skin moist. You can either get a stand-alone portable humidifier or have one added on to your furnace.

Excessive hand washing and bathing can also cause your skin to become dry. Limiting the number of times you wash your hands can help. Using a waterless hand sanitizer is just as effective at killing germs, but won't dry your skin as much. Limiting the time you spend in the shower or tub can also help.

People with dry skin should consider bathing every other day in the winter. Taking quick, luke-warm showers will also help to minimize the drying effects of hot water. Mild, hypo-allergenic soaps are less drying than scented and colored soaps.

Moisturizers are an important part of treating dry skin. They should be

used two to four times daily. A moisturizer should also be hypo-allergenic. They work best when they are applied to the skin right after bathing or hand washing. If a hypo-allergenic cream or lotion moisturizer does not seem to be helping, other over-the-counter treatments can be tried. A one percent

hydrocortisone cream is available over-the-counter and could be used for up to one week. Another option is a 12 percent lactic acid based lotion which may help some severe forms of dry skin. If none of these treatments seem to help, see your health care provider for an evaluation.

# LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
KENT CO. PROBATE  
COUNTY OF KENT

PUBLICATION OF  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
FILE NO. 99-168488-CA

In the matter of WILLIAM AUGUST LEENHEER, JR.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: MaryAnne Leenheer, Gary Eddy, and any other unknown or unlocated heirs whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on March 27, 2018 at 8:30 am at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: on the Hearing to Allow the 18th Account.

March 1, 2018

Servants Center  
PO Box F  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501  
616-456-8512



invites you to join in a ...

# GOOD FRIDAY

## Cross Walk

March 30, 2018 @ NOON

A cross will be carried from Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E Main St to Oakwood Cemetery. There will be various stops along the way for singing, scripture readings, and prayer.

Programs will be provided. Rides will also be available for those unable to walk the route. In case of inclement weather, a program will be held at the Lowell United Methodist Church.

Questions call Dave Pasquale at 616-897-5044



It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see.

~ Henry David Thoreau

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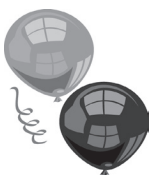
897-7300 allweathersealinc.com

319 E. Main Lowell



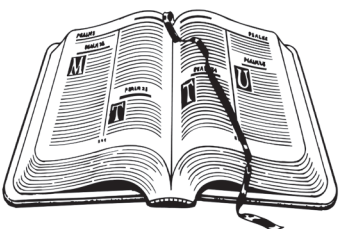
Not good w/any other offer! Good on initial presentation

# happy birthday



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>MARCH 7</b><br/>Carrie Metternick, Marshal Mooney, Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.</p> | <p><b>MARCH 11</b><br/>Pat Ball, Renee Nugent, Larry Martin, Kim Barnes.</p>                          |
| <p><b>MARCH 8</b><br/>Amber Rittersdorf, DJ Main, Charles Drake, Colleen Lally.</p>            | <p><b>MARCH 12</b><br/>David Baird, Lisa Homrich, Laura Horsley, Julie Idema, Kathy Fyan.</p>         |
| <p><b>MARCH 9</b><br/>Bob Vezino, Marsha Stephens, Mark Richmond, Pam Cebelak.</p>             | <p><b>MARCH 13</b><br/>Sophia Beachum, Dode Dey, Paul Seese, Tyler Schneider, Jack Robert Malone.</p> |
| <p><b>MARCH 10</b><br/>Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.</p>  |                  |

# area churches



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
865 Lincoln Lake SE • 616.897.5906  
Pastor Jon Propper  
Worship Service - Sundays 9:30AM  
Lowell's Open Table - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM  
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www.lowellucc.org

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

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

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

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

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Kid's Crew 11:15 AM  
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

*Christian Counseling of Lowell*



**Susan Wiggins, MA, LPC, CAADC**  
901 W. Main St.  
Lowell, MI 49331  
smwiggins@comcast.net 616-802-0469

# EARTH TALK™

## Questions & Answers About Our Environment

**Dear EarthTalk:** What's the deal with some restaurants no longer offering straws to their customers? What's so bad about sipping your drink through a straw anyway? — Jeffrey Edwards, Seattle, WA

Americans use 500 million plastic straws—or 1.6 per person on average—every day. Based on this, a typical American will use more than 38,000 plastic straws over the course of a lifetime. While drinking through a single-use plastic straw seems innocent enough, don't fool yourself: many of these straws find their way into our oceans, polluting underwater ecosystems and harming marine wildlife.

Researchers warn that if we don't clean up our act, there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish by 2050. Plastics don't biodegrade, but instead break into tiny pieces which are scooped up by marine organisms unable to digest them—or end up in huge mid-ocean gyres too clogged for ships to pass through. Cutting way back on or eliminating single-use plastic straws won't completely solve our ocean waste problem, but it will go a long way toward cutting back on plastic in the ocean as well as raising public awareness of the issue in general.

Last September the city of Seattle went strawless in solidarity with the Lonely Whale Foundation's Strawless Ocean campaign (look for #StopSucking on Twitter), a global initiative to remove 500 million plastic straws from the U.S. waste stream in 2017. Some 2.3 million plastic straws were permanently removed from the city's restaurants, cafes, bars and other businesses—and in July 2018 an official ban on plastic straws will go into effect there. Lonely Whale hopes that other cities will follow in Seattle's forward-thinking footsteps.

For those who still love using straws, there are a growing number of reusable alternatives to plastic now available. Bambu Home's handmade reusable bamboo straws come with a cleaning brush and can be used hundreds of times. Eco

at Heart sells reusable steel straws that are durable, easy to clean and portable, so you can bring them into the car, work or anywhere. Steelys reusable steel straws come in a wide variety of sizes, including versions with bent tips. Aardvark's paper straws are flexible, customizable and durable—and biodegrade on their own within 90 days.

Meanwhile, another eco-friendly option is glass, such as those made by Hummingbird Straws.

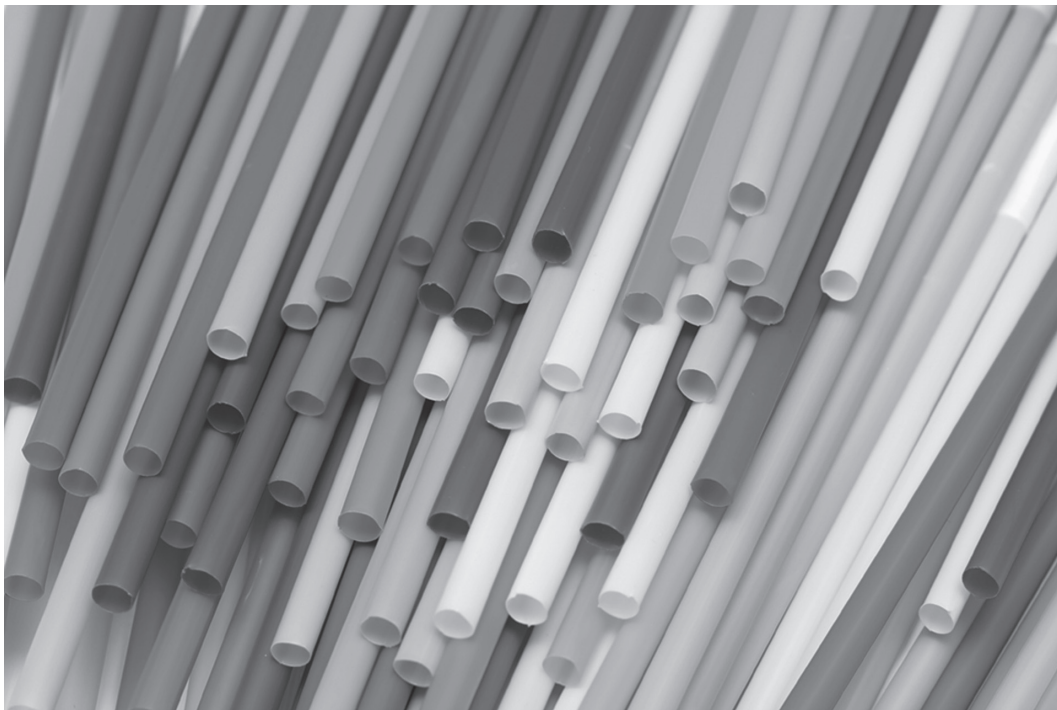
And perhaps even greener are Harvest Straws, which are grown, harvested and cut by hand in Southern California from heritage, non-GMO grain grown without irrigation, using no chemicals in any part of the process. And reusable water bottles with built-in straws—such as steel and silicone models from Klean Kanteen or glass and metal varieties from Simply Straws—are also a good alternative to plastic straws. You can shop for these and other alternatives to plastic via the [strawlessocean.org](http://strawlessocean.org) website.

Using disposable paper straws or opting out from using a straw at a restaurant or drive through are much better options than the conventional plastic straws that will end up as pollution in our oceans or in marine animals' bodies. It may require a bit of extra work but using reusable straws or alternatives can make a big difference for wildlife and for ourselves.

**CONTACTS:** Strawless in Seattle, [www.strawlessocean.org/seattle](http://www.strawlessocean.org/seattle); Lonely Whale Foundation, [www.lonelywhale.org](http://www.lonelywhale.org); Bambu Home, [www.bambuhome.com](http://www.bambuhome.com); Harvest Straws, [www.harveststraws.com](http://www.harveststraws.com); Aardvark Straws, [www.aardvarkstraws.com](http://www.aardvarkstraws.com); Simply Straws, [www.simplystraws.com](http://www.simplystraws.com); Klean Kanteen, [www.kleankanteen.com](http://www.kleankanteen.com).

EarthTalk® is a weekly syndicated column produced by Doug Moss and Roddy Scheer for the non-profit EarthTalk. To find out more, submit a question, or make a donation, visit us at EarthTalk.org

The average American uses more than 38,000 straws over a lifetime without thinking about the implications of all this plastic going to waste and polluting our oceans. Credit: Horia Varlan, FlickrCC.





**Deborah Wilks, Agent**  
11827 Fulton St E  
Lowell, MI 49331  
Bus: 616-897-9237  
[dwilks@deborahwilks.com](mailto:dwilks@deborahwilks.com)

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## 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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RESIDENTIAL RATIO	48.48	MULTIPLIER	1.0314

**DENNIS MCKELVEY – ASSESSOR**  
**RANDY WILCOX – SUPERVISOR**  
**TOWNSHIP OF BOWNE**  
**COUNTY OF KENT**

# Artist reception set for April 19 at Flat River Gallery

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

There will be a special reception for visiting artist Gerri Treves at Flat River Gallery and Framing, 219 W. Main, from 6 to 8 pm on Thursday, April 19.

“I am flattered to have been invited as one of the guest artists at Flat River Gallery,” Treves said. “I will be showing a collection of some of my favorite pieces. Some are older than others, but [all] collectively represent who I am as an artist. Some are fun, some are personal, but all should leave you imagining and thinking about the story behind them. Sometimes you need to step back, to be one step closer to your dreams.”

Treves is a Grand Valley State college-trained painter whose work has been in shows all over West Michigan, including Festival of the Arts in Grand Rapids and the Khardomah Lodge in Grand Haven. Her exhibit at Flat River Gallery will be called “One Step Closer.”

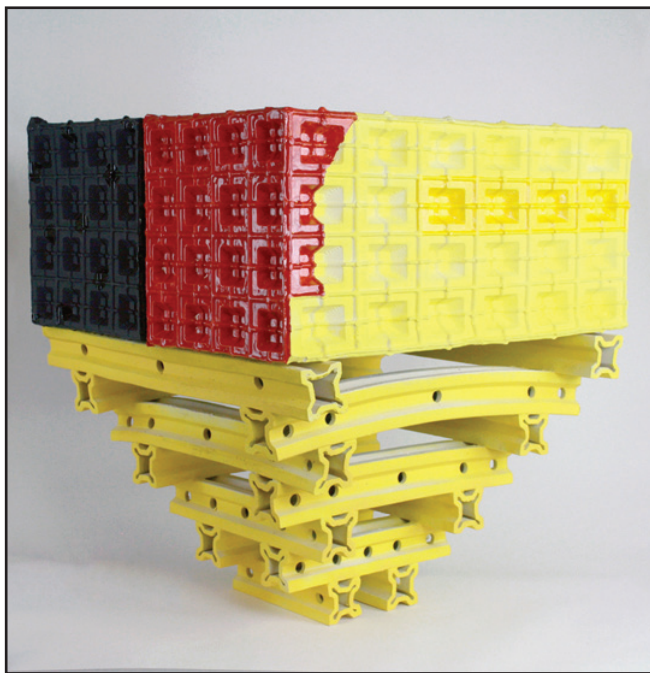
“From the first brushstroke to the last, I love all the colors next to each other,” Treves said. “I also work with line and texture. I draw with color, into my paintings, to express emotion. To create atmosphere, mood and drama, my color choices are

bold through harmonies of line and color. I use a great deal of artistic freedom with my style. This also provides me an opportunity to experiment with paints. Regardless of subject matter, my work undeniably reflects my individual way of seeing the world. Rules are meant to be broken and I break them all in my life paintings with colorful and fun, exaggerated subject matters.”

The gallery’s regular hours are Tuesday through Friday from 11 am until 6 pm and Saturday from 10 am until 5 pm. For

more information about the featured artist or the gallery’s other events and collections, call 616-987-6737, email [info@flatrivergalleryandframing.com](mailto:info@flatrivergalleryandframing.com), visit [flatrivergalleryandframing.com](http://flatrivergalleryandframing.com) or find the gallery on Facebook.

“I am as colorful a person as I am an artist,” Treves said. “Welcome to the suns, moon, crazy landscapes, fanciful people and fat cats. I hope to create an emotional response from you, my viewers. Look [it] over twice and decide for yourself.”



Sean Larson's ceramic, *Under Pressure*.



*An Indignant White Owl*, an oil on canvas, by Shelley Stevens.

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**VERGENNES  
TOWNSHIP  
NOTICE**

The Vergennes Township Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the proposed 2018/2019 budget during a regular meeting of the Board to be held March 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The Board meets at the Vergennes Township Hall located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Copies of the proposed budget are available at the township offices on Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Written comments will be accepted if received before 7 pm on March 19th by the township Clerk. They can be sent to PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331, or by e-mail to [clerk@vergenne-nestwp.org](mailto:clerk@vergenne-nestwp.org).

Heather L. Hoffman  
Vergennes Township Clerk



# City council meeting, continued

“For the most part we are out of the way of peoples’ property but particularly on the east side of Bowes Rd. we are putting a trail and these trails have to be ten foot wide in an area where we have five foot sidewalks and we just physically don’t have room to put that in there without asking permission,” Austin said. “We would have to talk to those folks and seek their permission to allow that to happen.”

Bowes Rd. resident Jim Pfaller said it would be irresponsible for the city to spend millions in grant money on trails when many streets are crumbling.

“I think spending five million dollars to build four miles worth of trails in the city, whether it’s city money, state money [or] DNR money, I think it’s irresponsible when we can’t maintain our streets,” Pfaller said. “It sends a bad message to the citizens.”

A man who said that he moved into a home on Bowes Rd. last August said he enjoys trails but expressed concerns about underground gas lines in the area, cyclists and snow maintenance of the proposed trail.

“If you think about it, there’s a lot of rail trails already existing,” the man said. “I’m just not really for it. Especially just moving [here] and finding out they’re going to take ten feet, to me that’s a big deal.”

Bowes Rd. resident Mark Mundt said he did not support the trail project.

“Now we’re going to put a ten foot wide piece of driveway down in everybody’s front yard for people to walk on, another failed experiment,” Mundt said. “We don’t know if people are going to come and use these trails. There are studies that say they might. I don’t know that. I’m not a trail person, though, so I don’t have any sympathy for that. We already have [a] sidewalk that goes from one edge of Bowes Rd. to the other [...] and you’re going to come through and tear it up and replace it with blacktop?”

Bowes Rd. resident Ryan Sullivan said he would not have purchased his house if he had known about the proposed trail.

“I think that it encroaches on everybody’s driveways,” Sullivan said. “I think it increases the traffic level down Bowes Rd.”

Local resident and business owner Cliff Yankovich said he supported the trail project and also suggested converting the fairgrounds to a campground after the Kent County Youth Fair moves out.

“I know there’s no way to prove the trails would get used but all you have to do is go up to Rockford on a Saturday or Sunday and

take a look at what goes on there,” Yankovich said. “Bikes, walkers, all kinds of people up and down. Their trails get used.”

Bowes Rd. resident Chantal Kuiper expressed privacy concerns and disappointment that she heard about the project from a neighbor instead of from any official source. Kuiper said the trail will go through her front and side yards, past both of her children’s bedroom windows and will take over “hundreds of square feet” of her property.

“Ten feet is a very large amount of space,” Kuiper said. “My front yard is gone, my neighbors’ front yards are gone.”

LARA board member Betsy Davidson said that the city and LARA are not “forcing” the trail onto Bowes Rd. residents.

“We will have until October to work with property owners along Bowes Rd. and give them the facts about the rail trail and how we can work together with them making improvements to their property where the trail goes through,” Davidson said. “There’s a bigger picture here than just Lowell, it’s regional and the trail will be available for generations to come.”

The LARA board will have a meeting about their grant application at city hall on Wednesday, March 14 at 6 pm. You can check out the proposed trail route at [lowellareatrailway.org](http://lowellareatrailway.org)

The council voted to

spend \$70,000 of the one million dollar Showboat grant on engineering services from C. Fly Marine Services, a company based in Madisonville, LA.

“As part of the ‘rebuild the Showboat’ project it’s necessary to enlist the services of a qualified firm to design and engineer the new structure and also provide a set of plans and specifications for bidding the construction of the vessel,” said assistant city manager Rich LaBombard. “As directed by the Showboat working group, the city’s owner’s representative, Chris Chamberlain, solicited quotes for professional services from a number of engineering firms qualified in engineering and design of maritime vessels. [...] The quoted cost for the structural design and engineering and production engineering services is \$70,000 plus additional costs for any regulatory fees, travel, construction engineering and inspection and project management if we request it.”

At the very beginning of the meeting, city manager Michael Burns made a brief statement thanking local charities and city staff, especially public works, the water department, the fire department and the police department, for their dedication during last week’s downtown flooding.

“With the flood efforts that we had last week, I thought it was important that we recognize our city



Several Bowes Rd. residents, including Jim Pfaller, spoke out against a proposed rail trail connection that will go directly through ten feet of their front yards.

staff, along with many different agencies that helped us during the entire flood event,” Burns said. “Because of the efforts that every one of them did, it really made my job that much easier. [...] One other entity that I thought it was important to recognize was FROM. FROM helped us with a lot of the relief efforts [and] with the cleanup. We didn’t have to do sheltering but they were ready to do that.”

Lowell city council’s

next regular meeting will be at city hall on Monday, March 19. At that meeting the council plans to discuss the upcoming infrastructure work on N. and S. Broadway. The council will also make themselves available to chat with their constituents during a ‘coffee with the council’ event at the chamber of commerce building on the Riverwalk on Saturday, April 7 from 8 to 10 am.



LARA board member Betsy Davidson said that LARA isn’t “forcing” the trail onto Bowes Rd. residents.

## BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Bowne Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2018/2019 at the Historic Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto, MI 49302 on Monday March 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

**The property tax millage rate of 2.4835 proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

A copy of the proposed 2018/2019 budget will be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the township office Wednesday 9-12 & 1-3, Thursday 9-12 & 1-3, Friday 9-12. Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 10 day notice to the Bowne Township Board.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk  
Bowne Township Clerk



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

Red Arrow

- HOCKEY

## SPORTS

## L/C hockey crowned regional champs and now heading to state

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Winning battles over Kalamazoo United, East Kentwood and Dewitt/St. Johns the Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey team earned the regional title and a bid into the Division I state quarterfinal competition for the second year in a row.

After a close 3-2 win in the first round of pre-regional action on Monday over Kalamazoo United, LC ice men returned to the Kentwood Ice Arena to compete in the pre-regional finals against East Kentwood Falcons, who also shared home ice advantage. LC came out on top of the contest after trailing 1-0 in the second period. Their 3-1 comeback victory was fueled by a pair of goals from Scot sophomore Wade Fridley and Red Arrow senior

Charlie Hayes. Assists were credited to Caledonia senior and assistant team captain Ethan Pinto and Lowell senior Austin Whaley.

Earning the ability to defend their 2017 regional title LC continued in competition on Saturday at the Summit Sports and Ice Complex in Dimondale. Facing the co-op team of Dewitt and St. Johns for the regional championship round LC took a quick 3-0 lead in the first period. Ahead just two goals after the second period, 6-4, they found the back of the net twice more while their opponent managed only one.

The 8-5 victory was led by Pinto who scored a hat trick Also lighting up the scoreboard were Whaley and Scot Junior Brendan Irons who netted two each

and Scot junior Carter Osborn who chipped in one. Assists were credited to Pinto, Whaley, Fridley and Caledonia junior Charlie Kotarski.

Crowned the regional champions for the second year in a row, LC will return to the Summit this Wednesday to compete in the state quarterfinals

against Brighton. Last year's quarterfinal battle versus Brighton ended 7-0 in Brighton's favor. Puck drop is scheduled for 7:40 pm. The winner will

advance to the state semi-finals and finals that take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.



Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey celebrates their back to back regional championships.

Photo provided by LC hockey

- BOWLING

## Lowell bowlers earn ninth place at state competition

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Defending their 2017 Division II state title, the Red Arrow boys varsity bowling team wrapped up their season and senior anchor Carson Clark bowled his way to a third-place individual finish.

Rolling into action on Friday at Super Bowl Lanes in Canton Lowell participated in the team portion of the competition looking to maintain their championship status. Earning a 3,319 pin finish, they took ninth place.

Averaging just over 180 in their six game baker set, the boys went into their two regular matches down 17 pins from the state cut. Facing some difficulties in the first game the team tallied a combined pin total of only 899. Bowling more accurately in the second game they bettered their first finish with a count of 974 pins but still fell short of the top eight team cut by 25 pins.

Earning high games were Clark who logged a

team high score of 235, sophomore Collin Clark who rolled a 216, junior DJ Simpson who put up a 198 and senior Marcel Primeau who pitched in a 195. Others participating in the tournament included senior Foster Skoog, junior Xavier Taylor and sophomore Aaron Fritsma.

The following morning individual state qualifier Carson Clark bowled 12 games en route to a third-

place 2,425 pin finish. Clark entered the tournament as the regional bowling champion having earned the honor the week prior. Averaging an impressive 207 pins in his six-game qualifying round Clark scored 1,245 combined pins placing him fifth among sixty competitors and easily advancing him to the quarterfinals round after four regular match wins.

Falling short of the finals cut after a loss due to an equipment issue, Clark finished the day in third with high games of 199, 205, 212, 218, 219. Clark will exit the team a highly decorated member having been part of three OK White championships, including last year's flawless run, three regional championships and the program's first state championship. He achieved

all-conference honors all four years of his career and earned the top conference average this year and last. His individual finish this season is the best in sports history for Lowell. Though courted by several educational institutions to compete at the collegiate level, Clark will report to the Great Lakes Naval Base this September committing to the United States Navy.

VERGENNES  
TOWNSHIP  
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Vergennes Township Board will receive comments regarding proposed 2018-19 **Community Development Block Grant project**. Comments will be taken during the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell.

Proposed project is: North Kent Transfer/ Hope Network

Written comments will be accepted if received by 7 pm on March 19, 2018 by the Township Clerk. They can be sent to PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331, or by e-mail to [clerk@vergen-nestwp.org](mailto:clerk@vergen-nestwp.org).

Heather L. Hoffman  
Vergennes Township Clerk

Gymnasts qualify for state tourney,  
3 girls to participate in state individualsby Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Earning their third consecutive bid to the team state finals and their fourth as a program, the Lowell varsity gymnastics team finished in the third position after regional competition. Also, three gymnasts will be participating in the individual state competition.

"This was so exciting for us to make it to state again," said Lowell head coach Michele DeHaan. "Out of 15 girls I have eight freshman so this is really an accomplishment for such a young team. I can't wait to see where these girls are in three more years."

Placing behind Rockford (145.6) and runner up Forest Hills (140.150), the Red Arrow competitors tallied a team score of 138.725 to earn the final spot in the state qualifying regional round. The largest portion of their score came on the vault where they earned 36.175 points and placed three gymnasts in the top ten. Freshman Aubri Lemke placed eighth with a score of 9.025, senior Maura Fitzpatrick, sixth, with a 9.1 and junior Corah Miller, fifth, with a 9.15.

The floor exercise was their second best event with a total of 35.675 points

earned. Lemke cleared the top ten again, placing seventh with an 8.925 while Fitzpatrick finished best landing in fourth with a 9.25. Earning 33.775 points on the uneven bars, the team placed three gymnasts in top positions with Lemke grabbing the top spot with an 8.55 fourth-place finish. Her performance was followed by Miller who placed fifth with an 8.525 and Fitzpatrick who came in sixth with an 8.4. Claiming 33.1 points on the balance beam, Miller was the only Red Arrow to place in the top ten with a score of 8.725. Placing all-around were

Miller in fifth and Fitzpatrick in sixth. Both ladies have been large contributors to the team and finished strong this season. According to DeHaan, "This is the first time that Corah has made it all-around. She had her personal best beam routine at the perfect time," she said continuing, "and this is the fourth time Maura has made it to state. Going all-around again gives her a great finish to her gymnastics career."

The duo will be joined in individual competition

Gymnasts qualify for state,  
continued, page 11

Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

# SPORTS

## Gymnasts qualify for state, continued

by team newcomer Lemke who broke barriers with her state qualification. "She is the first freshman gymnast from Lowell to qualify to state in more than one event. I expect great things from her during her high school career. She will be one to watch these next few years," said DeHaan, of the still budding talent.

Though DeHaan does not expect to top previous state placings, she believes this opportunity for high level competition will inspire her team to greater future heights. "With this young of a team, we don't have the means yet to be very competitive at the state level, but we will go and put our best out there and use this experience to fuel these girls desire to want to improve in the off season and start preparing for next year."

Rockford High School will host both the team and individual state competitions this week Friday and Saturday with start times of 1:30 and 11:30 respectively.

**MHSAA Regional Scores**

**VAULT**

Corah Miller	9.15
Maura Fitzpatrick	9.1
Aubri Lemke	9.025
Theresa Judd	8.9
Hadyn Nash	8.725

**BARS**

Aubri Lemke	8.55
Corah Miller	8.525
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.4
Amber Brown	8.3
Emily Lothian	7.775

**BEAM**

Corah Miller	8.725
Taeghan Ronchetti	8.225
Maura Fitzpatrick	8.175
Marlie McDonald	7.975
Amber Brown	7.9

**FLOOR**

Maura Fitzpatrick	9.25
Aubri Lemke	8.925
Katy Hock	8.775
Corah Miller	8.725
Taeghan Ronchetti	8.65

**ALL-AROUND**

Corah Miller	35.125
Maura Fitzpatrick	34.925
Aubri Lemke	34.25
Amber Brown	33.5
Hadyn Nash	32.325



Red Arrow varsity gymnastics qualified for the team state finals for the fourth time in the program's history. Photo submitted by Michele DeHaan.

## Sports Summaries

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**

The Red Arrow girls varsity basketball team saw their post season aspirations cut short last week. The Huskies of Forest Hills Northern produced a stunning upset in the first round of the Michigan High School Athletic Association's district competition. Lowell was shut out in the first period, fell behind 12-0 in the second to trail 18-9 at the half. Doubling their first half offensive tally in the third period, the Arrows put up 18 in a cleaner effort to tie FHN. Lowell trailed in the fourth period scoring 19-15 leading to the disappointing 55-42 finish. Lowell's scoring was led by senior Cassie Dean and junior Regan Coxon who added 19 and 11 points, respectively. The ladies end the season with a phenomenal 16-5 overall record, an 11-1 conference record and their second straight OK White conference title. The team will graduate a handful of talented seniors this year in Dean, Makyla Branagan, Riley Conlan, Darby Dean and Kenzie North.

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

Dropping their season record to 2-18 overall and 1-11 in conference, the Lowell Red Arrow boys varsity basketball team fell 67-55 to the Yellow Jackets of Greenville during their senior night celebration. The team, coaches, fans and parents honored four senior members prior to the game. Austin Pollock, Mitchell O'Gorman, Travis Cornell and Will Reynolds were acknowledged and presented with framed jerseys. This week Lowell looks forward to the district championship which kicked off earlier. It will continue Wednesday and Friday evening at 7 pm at Forest Hills Central whose Rangers led the conference and ended the season 18-2 overall.

**BOYS SWIM & DIVE**

After claiming the OK Rainbow II conference title the week prior, the co-op boys varsity swim team of Lowell, Caledonia and South Christian participated in the annual Second Shave Meet at the Holland Aquatic Center qualifying

additional team members for state meet. Qualifying at the Tuesday meet were the relay team of Michael Johnson, Parker Lee, Ryan Parsons and Ethan Arendsen in the 200 and 400 freestyle races. The quad also qualified in the 200 medley. Lee will compete solo in the 100 butterfly. The Eastern Michigan University will host the Michigan High School Athletic Association state meet this Friday and Saturday.

**SCHOLAR ATHLETES**

Senior slugger Megan Summerfield recently committed to continue her academic and athletic career at Hope College. The four-year member of the varsity softball team has claimed numerous awards and achievements as a Red Arrow, including all-conference and team academic all-state

honors. She was named team MVP by her teammates and coaches during her tenure. Summerfield is also a recipient of the Wendy's High School Heisman Trophy and has participated in both golf and Business Professionals of America while at Lowell High School.

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 18-202857-DE

Estate of REVEREND  
JOHN JOSEPH THOME  
(aka John Joseph  
Thome), Deceased. Date  
of birth: 03/08/1922.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS: The  
decedent, John Joseph  
Thome, died 11/23/2017.

Creditors of the  
decedent are notified  
that all claims against  
the estate will be

forever barred unless  
presented to Reverend  
Donald Weber, 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 28, 2018

John T. Conroy  
(P43709)  
410 Bridge Street, NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-454-4119

Reverend  
Donald Weber  
7523 Pine Grove Drive  
Jenison, MI 49428  
616-350-3628

**GRATTAN  
TOWNSHIP**  
Regular Meeting 10:00 a.m.  
Synopsis of Minutes  
February 26, 2018

**Motions Approved:**

1. Resolution 2018-007 Supervisor Salary
2. Resolution 2018-008 Treasurer Salary
3. Builders Glass to replace glass in Senior Hall.

Our next Township Meeting  
will be **March 12, 2018**  
At 7:00 p.m.

The approved minutes may be reviewed  
on our website at [www.grattantownship.org](http://www.grattantownship.org)

# obituaries

## KING

Louis Eugene King, age 75 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, February 28, 2018. He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise King; mother, Donna Wilcox; sister, Ann Bigger; and grandchildren, Jenna and Jeremy Warren. He is survived by his children, Donna Warren, Dawn (David) Stiles, Daniel King; 10 grandchildren and 2 of their spouses; and 5 great-grandchildren. Louis was a hunter, fisherman and gardener, who loved birds. He worked at Grand Trunk Railroad for over 20 years, and then at ITM for another 15 years. A funeral service was held Monday, March 5 at Elmdale Church of the Nazarene in Alto. The family requests that memorial contributions be made to Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell MI 49331, to assist with funeral expenses.

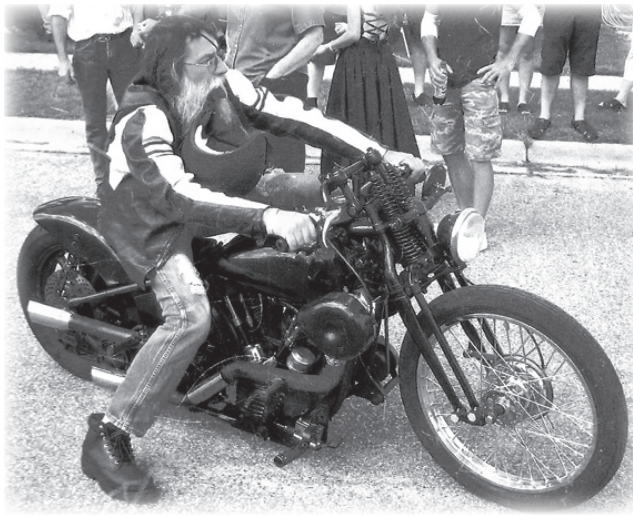


## STEPHENS

Jessica "Jessie" Erin Stephens was born on June 7, 1987 in Grand Rapids. She lived her entire life at her family home on Murray Lake, north of Lowell. Jessie was a cheerleader, band member and was very active in theater. She was a good student and had many friends. After graduating from Lowell High School, she completed her Associates Degree at Grand Rapids Community College. She went on to Western Michigan University, graduating magna cum laude with a degree in communications. She had started her Master's Degree at WMU. Her career goal was to work in human resources. Jessie's personality was exceptional. She was always fun, sunny and silly. She brightened every gathering with her crazy antics and quick wit. Sadly, Jessie's death was caused by acute alcoholism. This is a disease that has plagued our whole family for generations. Several of us have been in recovery for many years. But, like cancer, we don't all survive. Jessie had struggled for some time including having treatment at two of the best treatment centers: Brighton and Hazelton, involvement in AA, as well as private counselors. We need to look at alcoholism like other diseases in the hope of gaining a better understanding. Jessie was preceded in death by her mother, Cheryl Armstrong; grandparents, Edward and Dorothy Stephens; grandfather, Jay Miller; and uncle, Ed Stephens. She is survived by her father, Michael A. Stephens and partner Karan Chapman; grandmother Lee Miller; sister Neille (Matt) Buckland; niece Lily Buckland; nephew Sawyer Buckland; stepfather Jack Armstrong; stepsisters Lacey (Bryan) May, Janell (Jason) Krul; nieces Maya and Audrey Krul; nephews Aidan and Flynn May; aunts and uncles, Jill and Tom Hoppes, Keith and Cindy Miller, Pam Avery, Sue Stephens; along with many loving cousins. A Memorial Gathering was held Saturday, March 3, at the Flat River VFW Post #8303, Lowell. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in remembrance of Jessie Stephens to Brighton Center for Recovery, 12851 Grand River Rd., Brighton, MI 48116.



## VOSOVIC



Samuel "Cyclops" Vosovic, age 64 of Lowell, passed away Sunday, March 4, 2018. He is survived by his parents, Sava and Dolores Vosovic; brother, Michael (Mary) Vosovic; twin brother, Daniel (Sharon) Vosovic; and several beloved nieces and nephews, who also loved Sam dearly. In 1976, Sam lost his eye in a serious accident, in which he could have died. The 42 years since that accident have been a great gift to all those who knew him. Though he was bitter at first about the loss of his eye, he experienced a life-changing moment as he exited the hospital elevator one day on the wrong floor. He walked out into the children's burn unit, and it forever changed him. Sam went out of his way to befriend those around him, overcoming judgment about his appearance. He was compassionate and would never hesitate to help those around him. Sam's great love for his Harley Knucklehead was well-known. He was a great friend to many, and will be incredibly missed. A memorial service will be held at a later date in the summer. Memorial contributions may be made to Metro Health Hospital Foundation, Cancer Center, 5900 Byron Center Ave. SW Wyoming, MI 49519.



## WELCH

Charlene Margaret Welch, age 67 of Lowell, passed away on Saturday, March 3, 2018. The daughter of Oscar and Ellen (Feuerstein) Nummer, she was born on August 27, 1950 in Ionia. Charlene was preceded in death by her husband, Don and her parents. She is survived by her son, Dale (Doris) Roe; sister, Marlene Marshall; grandchildren, Megan, Kenzie, Sam and Joseph; great-grandchild, Jaylin; and niece and nephew, Jody Cain and Mark (Janna) Cain. Charlene will be greatly missed. She often enjoyed reading and doing a word puzzle or word search. Charlene would also devote hours to cuddling with her dog Mindy. Honoring her wishes cremation has taken place. The family will hold a private interment at a later date. To sign Charlene's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory, please visit: [www.MichiganCremation.com](http://www.MichiganCremation.com)



## LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the matter of FATMATA FOFANA, Guardianship File No. 15-198,564-GA, Conservatorship File No. 15-198,563-CA

at 10:00 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Modification of a Guardian and Conservator.

Dated: March 5, 2018

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Josephine Cole, Sidikie Cole, Samei Cole, Montie Cole AND other children and siblings of FATMATA FOFANA, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 391-1675

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

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on MARCH 28, 2018,

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

# classifieds

## for sale

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

2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD - Ext. cab, short box in excellent condition. Southern truck. 185,000 miles. removable cattlemen brush guard, with light bar, \$13,750. Call 269-953-7452.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20% OFF ANY PRODUCT - All types of flooring, cabinetry, bathroom ceramic tile & more! Offer good thru March 15, 2018. Cannot be combined with other discounts. Forever Flooring & More, 1335 W. Main, 616-319-7920. Locally owned & operated with over 30 years experience in the flooring industry.

DAVAL'S USED FURNITURE & ANTIQUES - Six buildings with 15,000 sq. ft. of quality used furniture, antiques & collectibles. Huge selection & great values. YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT. We are truly a destination place and worth the drive. WE BUY ESTATES. Lay-away terms available. Visa, Mastercard, & Discover accepted. 2 miles W of Hastings at 2084 W. M43 Hwy. near Bob's Gun & Tackle. Hours - Sun: 12-5; M-Th: 10-6; Fri: 10-8; Sat: 9-5. 269-948-2463.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - Seasoned oak hardwood, \$100 face cord; \$250 full cord. Delivery available. Call 676-9239.

## for rent

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

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

2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOME - in Saranac. \$800/mo. \$500 deposit. Heat included, electric extra. No smoking, pets allowed. 616-813-4460.

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

STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT - Available now, \$775 includes everything. Call 987-2337. TFN

## misc.

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

PORK STEAK DINNER - Fri., March 9, 5-7:30 pm at Alto American Legion, 6056 Linfield, Alto. Sunday breakfast, March 11, 8-11 am. Public welcome.

## card of thanks

Helen McCaul wants to thank all of her family and friends who came to her birthday party. It was so special seeing everyone. Thanks also for your gifts, flowers and balloons.

## help wanted

PAPER CARRIER SUBSTITUTE - We are looking for a substitute carrier to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturday, March 31 & April 7. This is a walking route in the city of Lowell. Route takes approximately 4-5 hours. Apply in person at the Buyers Guide office, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Must be at least 16 for this position.

**DRIVER WANTED - Once a week to Ionia, 10:45AM, in your car. For info call Linda 897-9202.**

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

TYLER CREEK CAMPGROUND & GOLF COURSE - is accepting applications or resumes for 2018 seasonal employment for our clubhouse & campground. Positions available are Activity Director, cashier & janitorial. Please send resume to 13495 92nd St SE, Alto, MI 49302, or stop in to fill out an application.

## wanted

LOOKING FOR LAND - Reasonably priced, 1 to 5 acres. Prefer Ionia county, Saranac/Lowell area. We would like to build. Call Dirk, 616-841-8472.

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

Wanted Dead or Alive 1900-1979 Vintage Motorcycles Top Cash Paid Call 920-371-0494 (MICH)

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

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

WANTED TO BUY - Antiques: postcards, fishing lures, old metal signs, crocks, furniture, cast iron cookware. 616-527-2274.

## services

WORK WANTED - Double D's Bucket Van & Handyman Service. 40' bucket, tree trimming & removal, gutters, window washing, power washing, buildings, barns, homes, decks, etc. Insured. Call Dave Delinsky, 616-212-3008. Free estimates.

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

WATT LAW FIRM, P.C. - Chapter 7 bankruptcies only \$599. Over 40 years of experience. Call 616-776-0000.

## services

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dumpster rental, 10-20 yards. Mention this ad for \$10 to \$20 off. Call or text Doug for estimates at 616-295-6640. TFN

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

PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING & NAIL TRIMS - \$5 nail trims & professional pet grooming services at the Clarksville Feed Store. Call 616-693-2777 for an appointment.

## services

NEED SOME PRINTING DONE FOR THE LOWELL EXPO? - Give us a call! We can print signs, tickets, tags, books, copies, posters, envelopes, brochures, labels, letterhead, business cards, flyers, banners & specialty items: pens, magnets, travel cups, balloons, recycle bags, calendars & more! Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, 897-9261, email: litho@lowellbuyersguide.com

**LEDGER OFFICE**  
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Accepts Federal Express & UPS prepaid packages. Daily pickup at 3 p.m.

# 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.

**CUBSCOUT 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

**ALTOLIBRARY 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.

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

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

**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.

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

**KENT COUNTY NARFE GROUP** - for retired & current federal employees meet the 2nd Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, 1/2 mile west of E. Beltline. Potluck at 12:30 p.m. & meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Call Ed Moore for time, 616-784-6716.

**Thank You!**  
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**LOCAL MERCHANTS!**

# Looking Back, continued

Word was received Tuesday morning of the death of Mrs. C. W. Parks which occurred at her home at Twin Falls, Idaho, Sunday night. Friends started for Michigan with the body Tuesday and funeral services will be held at the Methodist church Friday at 2:30 p.m., Rev. J. H. Westbrook officiating; burial at Oakwood cemetery.

Herbert Brezina enlisted in the Field Artillery and accompanied his brother Oscar to Camp Custer Sunday night. The school board has decided to award him his diploma.

C. A. Maynard, formerly of Lowell later cashier of State bank at Milford, has been transferred from Camp Custer to Camp Merrill, New Jersey. He is with the clerks for headquarters "over there".

William Bittner, clerk at Henry's drug store, has been drafted and sent to Fort Ogelthorpe, Ga. This is the third clerk Henry has lost since the war started: Guy Harris and E. H. Johnson were the others.

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

The greatest loss by fire in Lowell's industrial history occurred last Sunday when the flour mill and

its contents, owned by the King Milling Company, was completely destroyed by fire, resulting in a property loss of not far from a quarter of a million dollars. It is estimated that the amount of wheat, destroyed may total as much as 70,000 bushels. The mill had shut down about 8 o'clock Sunday morning after running throughout Saturday night. The fire was discovered shortly after three o'clock by Harry Eickhoff and Jerry Roth, who noticed the smoke as they were driving by on Main St. The Lowell fire department responded immediately, and a few minutes later sounded a second alarm for help, which also called out a good share of the townspeople who assisted in carrying out the office furnishings and business records. The County road commission fire truck from Ada was soon on the scene, followed shortly by the Ionia fire department and an engine from the Grand Rapids department. Fortunately a never-ending supply of water could be pumped from Flat river bordering the mill, and steady streams from a dozen lines of hose kept pouring on the burning structure throughout the night, and the Lowell department's hose were still in use all day Monday, Monday night and Tuesday on the still smoking ruins. At times the flames rose high into the air and the dense smoke blotted out the surrounding scenery. Nearby business blocks were greatly endangered, but were saved by the efforts of the firemen and also because a favorable wind carried the sparks and blazing embers in a southeasterly direction over the river. The east wall of the building was the first to burn through as there was a short section over the river which could not be reached by the fire hose. By the heroic efforts of the firemen, however, the adjacent warehouse and office were saved. The stock in the warehouse back of the mill, consisting mostly of packaged flour was removed to a place of safety by trucks belonging to the C. H. Runciman company. A P. M. switch engine also removed a box car to a safe distance. It was feared that the building might explode and State police aided by local members of civilian defense worked to keep the large crowd, which had gathered, at a safe distance. All traffic on M-21 had to be detoured around the bridges until Monday noon. Nearby lunch rooms soon began serving steaming cups of coffee to the firemen and many volunteers whose clothes were coated with ice, and who were greatly handicapped by near-zero temperatures which steadily dropped through the night to reach a low of around 15 degrees below zero.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger March 7, 1968

Construction of two fall-out shelters in Lowell, after many months on the planning boards, moved closer to reality today following an inspection tour by Kent County Civil Defense Director Ray Blett and Regional Director Spencer Swanson. Both of the Civil Defense directors said they were in town to approve licensing of the shelters, one to be located at the junior high school and the other at the King Milling plant. Following final approval, the shelters are to be stocked with canned and packaged food, sanitary and medical supplies, and radio detectors, they said. While in town, the two directors talked with Police Chief Avery Block, local Civil Defense director.

A Lowell officer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was awarded an Army Commendation Medal in recent ceremonies at Fairbanks, Alaska. He is Major Robert Lee Stuart, son of Mrs. Julia K. Stuart. The award, a first Oak Leaf Cluster, was presented to Major Stuart by Brig. Gen. Elmer Y. Yates, for "meritorious service during the period of the Tanana Valley flood and restoration in 1967." In his citation Gen. Yates said: "As the Army Corps Engineers representative, Major Stuart was responsible for the organization and employment of all State, Federal and local resources. His leadership was most evident when it became evident that the flood waters would overtop the protective works, and his quick decision to evacuate the people from their homes. Later, he supervised the construction and the rehabilitation of all schools, public buildings, city streets and public utilities."

Lowell High School's team in the High School Quiz Bowl is batting 1,000 with one more turn at bat. In its first appearance on Channel 13, the team scored a narrow 320-280 victory over Mona Shores. Then, last week, guidance counselor Mrs. Alice Wessell's group solidly trounced Saranac by a 330-150 with most of

the decisive points coming in the spelling competition. The two wins qualified Lowell for a third . . . and final . . . appearance on the show against Sparta on a date to be announced later. Members of the team include regulars Laura Coons, Roger Powers, David Poe and Kim Hoag and alternates Jim Hagen, Jerry Thaler, Steve McClure and Dave Roth.

A 35-year-old Lowell man who was seriously injured when a domed roof crashed last Wednesday at a new fieldhouse at Grand Valley College, remains in critical condition, Butterworth Hospital surgeons reported today. George Taggart, employed by the Delta Electric Co., a subcontractor, Grand Rapids, was directly under the section when it collapsed. Taken to Butterworth Hospital, Taggart was immediately placed in the intensive care unit with a fractured back and rib injuries. Cause of the roof collapse has not been determined, building inspectors report.

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

The Kent County Bureau of Equalization says that the freeze on assessments in 1992 has accounted for the high number of board of review appointments scheduled for townships and cities in 1993. The number of appointments are at their highest levels in the City of Lowell, 113, Lowell Township, 148. According to Lowell Clerk, Betty Morlock, the City held Board of Review meeting on March 8, 9 and 10th. Lowell Township also had meetings scheduled for the 8th and 9th, along with meetings from 6 to 9 p.m. on March 11, 12, 16, 18, 19 and 23rd. All the days are filled except for the 23rd. Township receptionist/ deputy treasurer, Gladys Fletcher said the number of Board of review appointments are a lot higher than she ever remembers seeing. Vergennes Township held reviews on Monday and Tuesday. Reviews were available on Wednesday and Friday of this week by appointment only. The City's Board of Review, appointed by the Council was filled by John Gabrion, David Clark and Jim Wood. Lowell Township's board will consist of Richard Bryan, Richard Buell and Bill Wieland. Now that the freeze has been lifted, the harsh reality has set in. The 1993 assessments will reflect a two-year growth at seven percent a year or 14 percent over two years. Lowell City Assessor, Jim Marfia said two years ago a re-appraisal was done on the assessments of the residential area. The DDA may begin work on the downtown sidewalks as early as this summer. Hill also stated that he believes the Board of Review should be open to the general public. City Manager Dave Pasquale said that is subject to the open meetings act.

Nominating petitions are now available for candidates interested in filling the Lowell Board of Education seat that will open up in June. The seat is currently being filled by Marcia Wilcox. The Lowell resident was named in February of 1992 to fill the seat left open when Linda Beers resigned. In June of 1992 Wilcox won an election to fill the seat for one-year. The incumbent intends to run for the four-year seat in June. "I've just gotten my feet wet," Wilcox said. "I'm interested in staying on the board. I want to see the curriculum upgraded and that we get technology in our new high school." The Lowell resident said one thing she has learned since joining the Board is that small problems can take an inordinate amount of time and that large problems are usually solved rather quickly. Persons interested in running for this position must be a citizen of the United States, be 18 years of age and live in the Lowell School District for at least 30 days before election. Nominating petitions may be obtained by any candidate from the Board of Education office located at 12685 Foreman Rd. The nominating petitions must contain at least 20 signatures of registered school electors of the district, and not less than one percent of the votes of the candidates who received the greatest number of votes in the last election in which Board members were elected. Petition circulators must be registered voters, individual petitions must be taken for each Township and City in which signatures are obtained, and electors can sign as many petitions as there are persons to be elected. In addition to filling nominating petitions, candidates are also required to file two identification affidavits. The last day for filing nominating petitions is April 12. at 4 p.m. The last day for a candidate to withdraw his/her name is April 15, at 4 p.m.

## 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



**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: SPRING BREAK**

**ACROSS**

1. Out of whack
6. Greek H
9. Goodness gracious!
13. Swahili or Zulu
14. "Was ist \_\_\_?"
15. \*What speakers do
16. Concluded
17. Chain letters
18. "A Doll's House" playwright
19. \* \_\_\_ Beach
21. Take advantage of an opportunity
23. \*Spring Break beach alternative
24. \*Resort island in Indonesia
25. Web robot
28. Tangerine plus grapefruit
30. Canine's coat
35. "The Three Faces of \_\_\_," pl.
37. Mound
39. Idealized image
40. Polly to Tom Sawyer
41. \*South Padre Island, \_\_\_
43. Jason's vessel
44. Intangible storage
46. Jamie Fraser's tartan
47. Hurries
48. Heavy lifting injury
50. "In your dreams!"
52. \*"Where the Boys \_\_\_," movie
53. Perfect houseplant spot
55. Clinton \_\_\_ Rodham
57. \*Tough to raise?
61. \*Like typical Spring

CROSSWORD															
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12		
13						14				15					
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57	58	59	60						61				62	63	64
65								66	67			68			
69								70				71			
72								73				74			



**FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 6**

- In West Virginia a tentative agreement was reached to end a nine-day statewide teachers' strike giving them a 5 percent raise and ending their walkout.
- In Oscar news...The Shape of Water won Best Picture, Lead Actor was Gary Oldman in the Darkest Hour, Lead Actress was won by Frances McDormand in Three Billboards Outside Ebbing Missouri. This year it was once again hosted by Jimmy Kimmel. 
- The Michigan State Spartans won the regular season Big 10 Championship and The University of Michigan Wolverines have now won the men's basketball Big Ten Tournament. On to March Madness! 

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- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Break traveler</p> <p>65. *Desired forecast</p> <p>66. Sylvester to Tweety</p> <p>68. Show opposition</p> <p>69. Smoke detector, e.g.</p> | <p>70. Flying saucer acronym</p> <p>71. Make laugh</p> <p>72. Same as island</p> <p>73. School org.</p> <p>74. Everyone but clergy</p> | <p>27. Pavarotti, e.g.</p> <p>29. Potato's soup mate</p> <p>31. Wet nurse</p> <p>32. Shriver or Sharapova</p> <p>33. Leaf-eating moth</p> <p>34. ___ tooth</p> <p>36. Render speechless</p> <p>38. Buddies</p> <p>42. Time on the job</p> <p>45. Take weapon away</p> <p>49. Lungful</p> <p>51. Like medieval European society</p> <p>54. Reduce pressure</p> <p>56. Possible allergic reaction</p> <p>57. Antioxidant-rich berry</p> <p>58. Misfortunes</p> <p>59. ___ Madrid</p> <p>60. Taxi payment</p> <p>61. Roofed colonnade</p> <p>62. Red carpet purse</p> <p>63. What birds do</p> <p>64. Three pointer</p> <p>67. Away from the bow</p> |
|--|--|---|

**DOWN**

1. Tucked in
2. Supernatural life force
3. Indiana Jones
4. Cancel an edit, pl.
5. Logic-based puzzle
6. Icelandic epic
7. \*Sign of a Spring Break trip
8. Volcano near Nagano
9. Major European river
10. Knife wound
11. Domain
12. Say you didn't do it
15. \*In two pieces
20. \* \_\_\_ life
22. \*In high demand during Spring Break
24. With two axes
25. \*Top destination
26. Immature ovum

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*

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

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



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# Did you do your taxes filed yet, will you get a refund and if so what will you do with it?



**Amy, Grand Rapids**  
"Yes, I have done my taxes. No, I will not get a refund."



**Rachel, Lowell**  
"No, I haven't done my taxes. I don't know, I'll do them in a couple weeks. I put it off because always owe money."



**Cara, Holland**  
"Yes, I have. I did not get a refund yet, but I'm going to get one. I'm saving the money for a house."



**Paul, Lowell**  
"No, I'll do them during the next week or two. Why not wait?"



**Austin, Montcalm Township**  
"Yes, I did my taxes. No, I will not get a refund."



**Tim, Lowell**  
"No, I'm waiting for my accountant to get it done."

From time to time our Ledger reporters will pose a question while out on the streets of Lowell. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SPEAK OUT.

If you have a question you think would be an excellent conversation starter, feel free to suggest one.

Send your Street Smarts questions to:  
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com  
subject line - "Street Smarts"

## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Dave Van Keulen received Realtor of the Month in February.

This award recognizes Van Keulen for his outstanding success and achievements.



Dave Van Keulen



## college news

Grand Valley State University has announced the graduation list for the 2017 fall semester. The following are local graduates, their degrees, majors and honors:

**Ada:** Ethan Carigon, Bachelor of Arts; Trenton Corby, Bachelor of Arts; Neil Cunningham, Bachelor of Business Administration; Anna Fild, Bachelor of Business Administration; Collin Finkhouse, Bachelor of Business Administration; Clayton Flechsig, Bachelor of Arts; Trevor Guida, Bachelor of Science; Zuzana Kivakaite, Bachelor of Business Administration; Kaitlyn Kleibusch, Master of Health Administration; Jenna Michael, Bachelor of Arts; Leah Monet, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Cameron Moule, Bachelor of Business Administration; Nicholas Petrie, Bachelor of Science; Hillary Piskin, Master of Physician Assistant Studies; Collin Schlosser, Bachelor of Science; Shaelen Sena, Bachelor of Science; Guy Sexton, Bachelor of Science; Kyrn Stoddard, Bachelor of

Business Administration; Grayson Sundrla, Bachelor of Business Administration; Timothy Tao, Master of Science in Accounting; Jeremiah Vroegindewey, Bachelor of Science; and Austin Wrase, Bachelor of Science;

**Alto:** Katrina Andutan, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Justin Dixon, Bachelor of Science; Vanessa Kroepsch, Bachelor of Business Administration; Emily Peterson, Bachelor of Science; Gretchen Pyscher, Bachelor of Science; Devon Schumaker, Bachelor of Science; and Laura Shinavier, Bachelor of Science;

**Lowell:** David Crawford, Bachelor of Science; Brett Hindley, Bachelor of Business Administration; Philip Janowski, Bachelor of Arts; Kaitlyn Johnson, Bachelor of Science; Daniel Mata, Bachelor of Science; Delaney McCarrey, Bachelor of Arts; Taryn Morris, Bachelor of Science; and Madelynn Willemstein, Bachelor of Science.

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

**ERIN GO BRAGH**

Dr. Jim, Gail, Patty, Carrie

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