

## Kent County Youth Fair kicks off “Raising Barns, Building Youth” fundraiser

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Kent County Youth Fair had a kickoff celebration for their “Raising Barns, Building Youth” campaign at Deer Run Golf Club, 13955 Cascade SE, on Monday, April 23. The KCYF honored those who donated time and money to the new fairgrounds project and unveiled the plans. Deer Run Golf Club is the site where the new fairgrounds are planned to open in 2020.

First to speak was ChoiceOne Bank director Jim Bosserd.

“We looked for a long time for a piece of property and this seems to be the right one as we go forward,” Bosserd said. “It’s a big project, but we’ve got a great start.”

The next speaker was Dick Posthumus. He was a Michigan state senator from 1983 to 1999 and lieutenant governor from 1999 until 2003. He is currently governor Rick Snyder’s chief of staff.

“This is a big idea,” Posthumus said. “If you



Former state senator Dick Posthumus said the KCYF board's plan showed a bold vision.

can just envision what this is going to be like in a few years, this is a big idea. To get there takes the grand vision that the leaders of the fair board and others have had. It takes people who are willing to work and support that [vision] and that’s why we’re here tonight, to thank you.”

Kent County clerk Lisa Lyons was the next speaker at the event.

“We’re here because we love the fair,” Lyons said. “We love what it’s done for us, for our kids and for our community. While we may be leaving the city, we are embarking on a new adventure together.”

The KCYF’s next guest speaker was state senator Dave Hildenbrand.

“The 4-H pledge is 33 words, it’s pretty straight forward,” Hildenbrand said. “It reminds us to use our strengths and our skills to give back to our community and give back to each other.”

Special recognition was given to Lowell resident Betty Yeiter, a longtime

community booster who was instrumental in the early phase of this fair relocation project.

“Every now and then, every couple months or so we go and we have coffee with Betty and talk about some of the issues that are facing the state, that are facing the community; what’s going on in our lives; her experiences as a teacher,” Lyons said. “Truly, this all kind of all got kicked off with a vision and a desire that Betty had to make Kent County’s Youth Fair the best fair in the state and to keep that legacy of community service going.”

Fair president Jon Bieneman said that plans to move the fair from the current 225 S. Hudson location date back to the 1970s.

“I don’t really know when this project started,” Bieneman said. “My parents moved to the West Michigan, Kent County area in 1975 and there was already talk about where the new

Fair, continued, page 4

### neil simon's 'rumors'



page 2



page 3



### lhs sports

page 10

### b-side growlers



page 8

## Seasonal temperatures were right on time for Girls Night Out Spring Break

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Late blooming sunshine and seasonal temperatures appeared right in time for last week Thursday’s “Spring Break” themed Lowell Girls Night Out.

Forty-two downtown and uptown Lowell merchants, restaurants and organizations kept their doors open late from 5-9 pm for the special shopping event born to draw traffic to the bustling Lowell commerce community. Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker had beach-going attire in mind when she and her team developed the annual spring event. “It was more about the winter being long and just having a “Spring Break” in Lowell with sunglasses, flip flops, beach bags, shorts and tees,” explained Baker, who enjoyed the beautiful and welcoming weather that helped drive local shoppers to the event.

The event included uptown businesses like Jamaican Sun

Tanning, McDonald’s and Self Serve Lumber, as well as downtown businesses, such as Flat River Gallery and Framing, Riverbend East Styling Salon, Red Barn Consignment and Antiques and the Mike Curtis Agency of Farm Bureau Insurance. Each local shop offered a special or discount on their merchandise and some offered spirits and snacks.

Those looking for a fuller menu were able to stop by Larkin’s Fine Food & Spirits, Big Boiler Brewery, Sweet Seasons Cafe and the Flat River Grill diners. Several organizations offered free entry and tours of their facilities, including the Lowell Area Historical Museum and the recently renovated and relocated LowellArts.

Slightly off Main Street inside the chamber of commerce building both budding and established home-based entrepreneurs displayed and sold their goods, like Avon by Sherry,

independent Mary Kay beauty consultant Sue Raimer and Khaila Allen who sells trendsetting LuLaRoe clothing.

House Bo. Grand River Orthodontics and Northern Physical Therapy spread the beautiful and spacious showroom at MI Hometown

of customizable spring fashion.

Planning for the fall edition of Girls Night Out is already underway with



Girls Night Out shoppers tour the newly opened “Fans In The Stands” shop.

Samples of New Union Root Beer were on tap. On trend clothing and accessories inside Tap

Furnishings. The newly opened Fans In The Stands, formerly Pep Talk, showed off its brand new collection

a selected date of October 18. Embracing the date’s proximity to Halloween “Ugly Baby Doll” will be the theme in the fall.

50¢



# Now playing at Larkin's Other Place - Neil Simon's "Rumors" by LowellArts Players

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The LowellArts Players are performing Neil Simon's classic farce "Rumors" at Larkin's Other Place dinner theater, 315 W Main.

The play is a comedy about an upper class dinner party gone crazy. As the first guests arrive at the 10th anniversary celebration for Charlie and Myra Brock, they discover that Charlie has apparently unsuccessfully shot himself and Myra has gone missing. The hilarious deceptions and cover-ups that follow are played to the hilt by the excellent cast of Amy McDaniel, Matt Tawney, Laura Warsaw, John Foley, John Butler, Janna Chesser, Nick Baker, Josh Carpenter, Coral Monje, Brent Alles and Trudy Briggs.

"This play is a lot of fun," said actor Matt Tawney, whose character Ken Gorman spends about a third of the play deafened by gunshots. "There are times you have to act crazy and there are times you have

to be serious when there's humor going on around you. You have to maintain your composure in the face of John Foley's antics. You can't break character. It's great fun."

"The dialogue is super funny. Neil Simon is just hilarious," said actor Amy McDaniel, who plays Chris Gorman, the sarcastic, inebriated wife of Tawney's character. "The way that he writes, it sounds like a real conversation."

The play was directed by Kim Miller with elaborately decorated, two-story sets by Ron Wood and Dan Kantorowski.

"We have awesome set designers," McDaniel said. "They do a really good job, they have an excellent vision."

"They are the best set builders," Tawney said. "The sets are simple, but they look elaborate. We don't have a zillion dollars to spend on sets, so they do a lot with what they have."

Tickets are available for performances on April 26, 27 and 28 and May 3, 4 and 5. They cost between \$16 and \$20, dinner is an additional \$13. Advance tickets are required for the dinner option. Call 616-897-8545 or visit [lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org) for more information.



## along main street

### LOWELLARTS PLAYERS PRESENT 'RUMORS'

LowellArts players present a dinner theater production of "Rumors" by Neil Simon. Directed by Kim Miller. Advanced tickets required for dinner theater, show-only tickets also available. Show dates are April 26, 27, 28, May 3, 4 and 5 with dinner at 6:30 pm and performance at 7:30 pm. Show-only matinee on Sat., April 28 at 2:30 pm. Performed on stage at the historic Strand Theatre, now called Larkin's Other Place, 315 W. Main Street. Contact LowellArts for tickets or information, 897-8545 or go to [info@lowellartsmi.org](mailto:info@lowellartsmi.org)

### LOWELLARTS HOUSE CONCERT

Lexi Reign / The Ryne Experience on May 5 at 7 pm. The Ryne Experience is a new collaborative recording project from Lowell consisting of front man Ryne Clarke and friends. They verse in the styles of acoustic rock, experimental, Lo-fi and comedy. LowellArts House Concerts feature musicians from Lowell, Greater Grand Rapids and Lower Michigan, and are presented in the LowellArts Gallery at 223 W. Main St. For tickets or information call 897-8545 or visit [www.lowellartsmi.org](http://www.lowellartsmi.org)

### FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

**Volunteer Orientation** - May 2, 6-7 pm and May 17, 1-2 pm at FROM; **Senior Food Commodities** - May 9-11 during regular food pantry hours at FROM; **Foodmobile** - May 19 at 10 am at fairgrounds. FROM, 11535 Fulton St. For more information call 897-8260.

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



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# Should shoppers have to pay sales tax for online purchases?

With the "South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc." case before them, the US Supreme Court is deciding if Internet retailers should have to collect sales taxes for purchases made in states where they have no physical presence. Their ruling on this is expected by June. Last week we asked a few random Lowellians if they thought it was a good idea to collect sales tax for online purchases.

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"



**Alice Harwood, Lowell**

"Yes. It's a business transaction and I think that people can afford to pay their taxes just like at a mom and pop shop or any store."



**Angie Welch, Gowen**

"No, I don't think that we should. It wouldn't be fair."



**Linda Wyman, Lowell**

"No, I just don't like taxes in general."



**Nick McKay, Lowell**

"Definitely. It's a purchase, it's something that you're paying for, so you should pay sales tax. With online shopping taking over, obviously that is reducing the tax money that we're collecting, so it just makes logical sense."



**Nicole Czajka, Leonard**

"No, I actually don't think we should have to pay any sales tax at all."



**Sarah Mosher, Lowell**

"No, I do not. Although, I don't usually use the Internet for shopping so I wouldn't pay it very much. I prefer to shop at brick and mortar stores like Meijer."

...  
**I have the upper hand but if I keep it I'll lose the circulation in one arm.**

~ Diane di Prima



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# business directory

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## Fair, continued

fairgrounds were going to be and what it was going to be like and all this. Over the next 40 or so years it popped up again and again.”

Next to be recognized were members of the campaign cabinet, Jon Bieneman, Gary Blough, Jim Bosserd, Sue Clay, Bruce Doll, Kerry DeBano, Larry Heyboer, Dave Hildenbrand, Keith Hopkins, Joel Huizenga, Brad Jackson, Jason Lamoreaux, Annie Link, Lisa Lyons, Jessica Marks, Roger Marks, Renee McCauley, Scott McDonald, Kevin Nugent, Tom Nugent, Dick Posthumus, John Schut and Denise Stain.

Then all of their donors were recognized: Attwood, Mike and Liz Baker, Jon and Terra Bieneman, Gary and Laurie Blough, Mark and Faith Bogdanik, Jim and Jane Bosserd, Caledonia Farmers Elevator, Caledonia FFA, Corner Campau, Martin and Sarah Canfield, Cedar Springs FFA, Cindy and John Debiak, Sean and Sue

Clay, CoBank, Sarah Crosby, Kerry DeBano, Mary and Bob Delaforce, Bruce and Sue Doll, Heather Everett, Travis and Stacy Gemmell, Great Lakes Utility and Concrete Construction, Thomas J. Harmon and Timothy B. Harmon DDS, Phil and Cathy Hesche, Larry and Priscilla Heyboer, Kristin Hufstader, Brad and Laura Jackson, Jacob Heglund Realty, Jason Lamoreaux, Land O'Lakes Inc. Foundation, Annie and Jerry Link, Lowell FFA, Mike and Courtney Mager, Roger and Jessica Marks, Morrison Family Foundation, Morrison Industrial Equipment, Brad, Kelly, Brianne and Brenna Nickel, Kevin Nugent, David Pasciak, Dick and Beth Ann Posthumus, Pridgeon and Clay, Bill and Bonnie Reamon, Susan and David Sanford, John and Kara Schut, Denise Stain, Deb and Fred Steketee, Pat Thomet, Ruth and Steve Thomet, Vantage Pointe

Grand Rapids and Vantage Pointe Saginaw. A few donors made very large contributions, like Portland Federal Credit Union, Chemical Bank, Choice One Bank, Steve VanderZiel, Dave Hildenbrand, the Wege Foundation and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Fair director John Schut talked about the fair's Raising Barns, Building Youth campaign to raise money to break ground and begin building barns and facilities at Deer Run, a project that is projected to cost about \$13 million to complete.

“Phase one and two, there's a price tag of about \$7 million,” Schut said. “We've raised just shy of \$3 million.”

For more information about the Raising Barns, Building Youth campaign and anything else you want to know about the KCYF and the fairgrounds, visit kcyf.org.

## NEWSPAPERS Outperform Magazines in Michigan

the lowell ledger

More adults in Michigan read a newspaper than local magazines.<sup>1</sup>



Newspapers are the most trusted media source.<sup>2</sup>

Adults, across all generations, identify newspapers as their most trusted source of news and information – ahead of magazines.

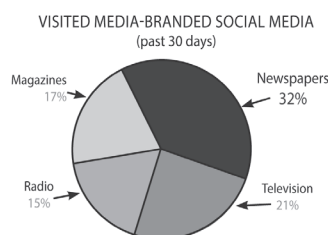
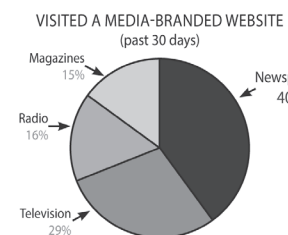
**79%** Eight in 10 newspaper readers took action as a result of reading a newspaper ad in the past 30 days<sup>3</sup>

Newspaper ads result in more purchases than magazine ads.

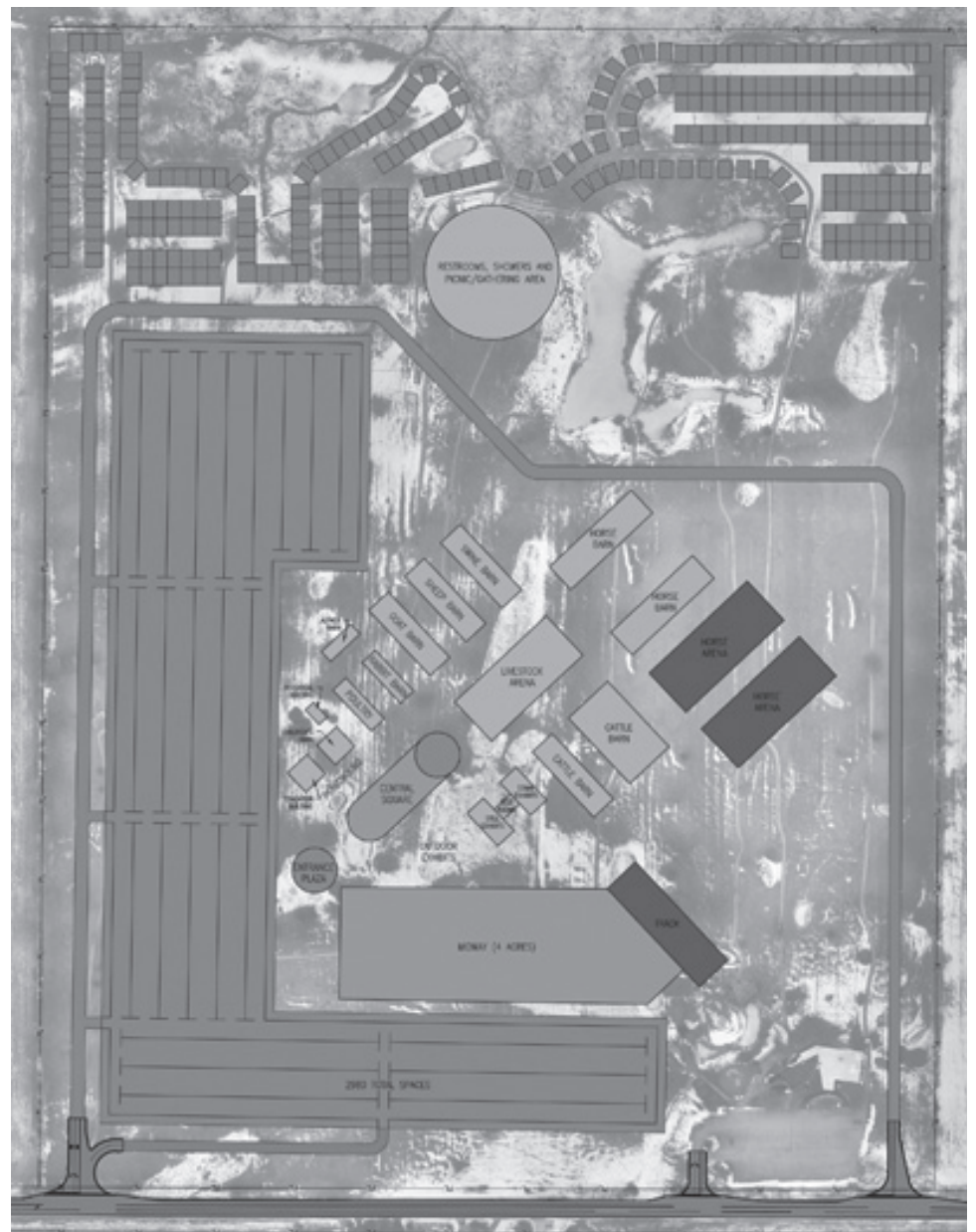
**22%**

of adults often purchase products and services as the result of a magazine ad.<sup>4</sup>

Digital media users rely on newspaper-branded websites and social media, over magazine-branded properties, for local market news.<sup>4</sup>

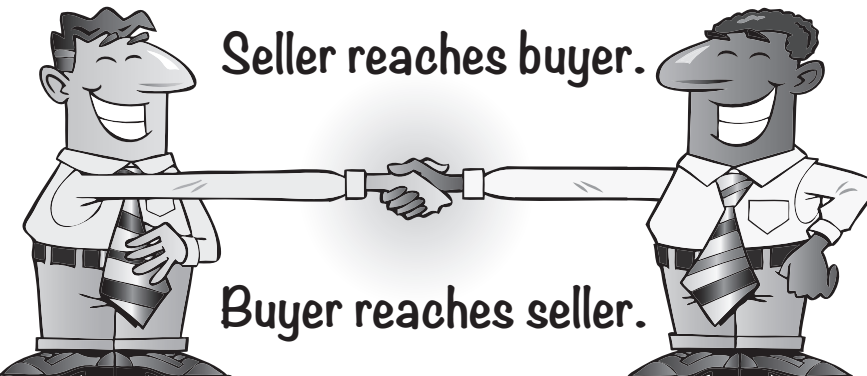


Sources: (1) Release 2 Nielsen Scarborough Report. Copyright 2018 Scarborough Research. All rights reserved. (2) Triad/Coda Ventures - The Newspaper Generation Study; (3) NAA; (4) AMG/Parade Local Knowledge Survey



These plans show how the new fairgrounds may look.

**Seller reaches buyer.**



**Buyer reaches seller.**

**IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

# viewpoint

## to the editor

### Quest to repair railroad crossings in Lowell

Dear Editor,  
As the old saying goes, "How many people does it take to screw in a light bulb?"  
My quest to repair all three sets of the Alden Nash / Lincoln Lake / N. Hudson railroad tracks, began about one month ago. We all drive over the three sets of tracks (Segwun and Grand River) and the two sets by the Shell station. They have severely eroded since our recent flooding. At one point I witnessed three wheel covers sitting beside the tracks.  
I started by addressing the issue with the Lowell police department. They gave me the phone number to the Kent County Road Commission. Talking with the receptionist

she was not sure who would repair the rough tracks. She would discuss this with co-workers to see how many inches of road they covered before and after the tracks. The next day a county man stood and watched people hitting the Segwun track. I thought that maybe some action would occur. Well, nothing did! I then stopped in at Lowell Public Works who agreed there was a problem, but had no idea. It was then suggested that I stop in at the township hall. I explained the problem and was given a list of M-Dot/Train people to contact in Lansing. I suggested that I have guessed that I didn't have "pull" and would they step in and make the phone call. It was explained to me to "follow through."

I have to admit that I began to feel "bleak" regarding this matter. I was also told to contact the King Mill, since the tracks run into their operation. I left a message. No return phone call - thank you very much! My quest continued. I picked out a name on this huge list of "train officers." This person's name had "infrastructure" beside his name, so I figured that might be a good choice. I called Lansing and he picked up. I heard him shuffling through maps until he found our tracks. At this point I got "pass the buck." He told me that the tracks are the property of CSX and that if I looked carefully, I would find a small blue sign on the crossing gate with an 800 number to call. Well, I did find the small sign. To read it required parking the car and going onto the tracks

to record the number. He told me to call him back if I didn't get anywhere. I asked him to make the call and he said a "citizen" must do it. I talked to Liz at the chamber of commerce and she was going to try and call CSX.  
A few days later, I saw a very little amount of asphalt put into some of the larger track rails. Could this be one of the reasons trains derail and jump the tracks?  
Guess what? I have ended my quest, had more air added to my new car tires. I now avoid shopping in Lowell, which I did quite frequently. Coming into the city, I mentally figure where I need to be, how to get there and take a longer route to avoid the rough tracks.  
Maybe someone in town has the right connection, can pull the correct cord or screw in the right light bulb.  
*Janet Twesten  
Lowell*

### Supporting Cathy Albro for Congress

Dear Editor,  
Cathy Albro will put more of the money in the pockets of people that go to work every day, but are not wealthy.  
Tax cuts are based on percentages of income. When the Bush/Cheney/Trump tax cuts went through there was some benefit for the many but tremendous benefit for the few. The many circulated their money through the economic engine. The few could afford to allow billions to languish in financial institutions or be used to increase political power. Fear, sex and religion were the tools employed to accomplish that goal further dividing our nation. What did not happen was increased income for those that go to work every day.  
The economic impact

resulted in less resources for police, schools and other public services we enjoy every day and too often take for granted.  
Returning to the tax structure of the Eisenhower Administration would allow more money to remain in the pockets of the people that go to work, but are not wealthy. It would also allow more investment in infrastructure and other services required for a 21st century economy. That is how President Eisenhower accomplished the Interstate Highway System.  
That was the last century. We must look to the future! For these reasons, I still like "Ike" and support Cathy Albro for Congress.  
*Jack Misner  
Vergennes Township*



### 125 years ago Lowell Journal April 29, 1896

Blakeslee's meat wagon passed through Cascade Tuesday, morning on its first trip of the season in this vicinity.  
Miss Jennie Eardley has gone to Caledonia, where she will board with Mr Hugh Brown and attend the village school.  
Wm. VanAmburg has recently erected a monument in memory of his wife in the village cemetery. J. W. Neff, of the G. R. marble Co. did the work.  
About 30 young people gathered at the home of Mrs Orville Reynolds last Wednesday evening, in honor of Miss Laura Wesbrook, who is home from Kalamazoo on a visit.  
A certain young man in our town is not exactly suited with the climate of this locality and we can judge by the frequent calls he makes South that he is seeking a warmer climate. That's wise ("Pat") go a-head.

### 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 25, 1918

Gasoline has advanced to 23.7 cents a gallon. It was 21.5 last fall.  
Large supplies of potatoes are coming in to the Lowell markets now.  
C. F. Kyser announces the arrival of some good sorghum seed, which has been placed at the H. Nash and J. W. Morse stores for Lowell buyers. Planting season is same as that of corn.  
The Ledger Press club met Saturday afternoon with a quorum present. Election of officers was postponed until Saturday, May 4, at 1:30 p.m., when every correspondent of the Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo is urged to be present. Those attending the Saturday meeting enjoyed a theatre party at the Idle Hour.  
Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Huntley and son have been visiting friends here. The former has recently returned from a government mission to South America and from here goes to Fort Oglethrope, Georgia, from whence, he expects soon to go over seas. Mrs. Huntley and son will probably make their home at Akron, O., during the war.

### 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 29, 1943

Oakwood cemetery is receiving its spring clean-up and will present a neat appearance by Decoration Day. During the past fall and early spring all roadways in the cemetery have been regraveled at an expense of upwards of \$500. Other contemplated improvements such as new fencing and the construction of a receiving vault have been given up for the duration because of the labor situation, according to Supervisor Houghton and Township Clerk White. It is well to bear in mind that no cemetery tax is spread, however owners of lots may have the same mowed and watered at a cost of \$5 a year. It is to be regretted that all lot owners do not

avail themselves of this service. The resting places of our departed ones deserve that consideration from the living. When I'm dead and gone from you, my darling. Never more on this earth to be seen. There is just one little favor I ask you. Is to see that my grave is kept green. —Author Unknown.  
Take a Sunday afternoon stroll around the residential streets of Lowell and you will find more vegetable gardens under way than ever before in the town's history. The appeal for Victory gardens is bringing patriotic results.  
The Lowell Creamery has completed improvements worthy of note. Including the installation of a fine display case with electric refrigeration, walls repainted, new linoleum on floors and partitions re-arranged for more convenience. Looks as neat as a whistle. The Compagners deserve credit for their progressiveness.  
State police believe that the capture of James Dolan, 18-year-old fugitive from a Missouri prison farm, in Lowell on Monday, may solve a series of recent minor robberies in southern and western Michigan, according to Deputy Frank Stephens who assisted in his capture. Dolan is now lodged in the Kent county jail at Grand Rapids.  
Mr. and Mrs Howard Kyser entertained their children, Carroll of W. M. C., and Charlene of Detroit,

Looking Back,  
continued, page 7

## We love to hear from you!

The Lowell Ledger welcomes your Letters to the Editor. Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher, duplicate comments/authors within a short period may be dismissed. Opinions expressed in "To The Editor" are not the views of the Ledger employees or the publisher. All letters are subject to editing. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.  
Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

# health

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

## - colon cancer screening

The colon, also called the large intestine, is a long tube that carries the digested food from the small intestine to the anus. Colon cancer is an abnormal growth that can begin anywhere in the colon. It can also spread to other parts of the body. Colon cancer is common in both men and women. Symptoms of colon cancer include blood in the stool; dark, tarry stools; stomach pain; or a change in bowel habits. Most people have no symptoms early in the disease, so routine screening for colon cancer is important.

Most people should begin colon cancer screening at age 50. Healthy people should have screening tests until they are at least 75 years old. If you have a parent or sibling who had colon cancer when she or he was younger than 60 years old, you should have a colonoscopy at age 40 or when you are 10 years younger than the age

the family member was when they were diagnosed. There are several kinds of screening tests, including stool testing, CT and colonoscopy. Discuss with your doctor which testing might be best for you.

Colonoscopy is the most common type of colon cancer screening testing. A colonoscopy is where the doctor looks inside the colon by putting a flexible tube with a tiny camera into the rectum. During this test, the doctor can remove growths, called polyps, from the colon. Some polyps are not harmful. Some polyps can turn into cancer. How often you need a colonoscopy depends on whether or not any polyps were found and if they were benign (safe) or precancerous. The range of needing a colonoscopy can be every ten years for someone who is low risk (no polyps or benign polyps) to every five, three or one years if many precancerous polyps are found.

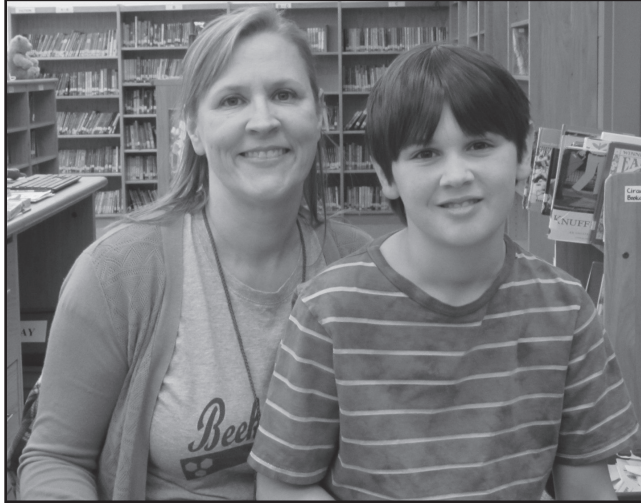
# Murray Lake Volunteer of the Month

Murray Lake Elementary has named Laura Garrison as their Volunteer of the Month for March. "Laura Garrison has been my Thursday afternoon volunteer for several years. She also has

a busy schedule with her family and their business. She loves our students and is ready for any project I give her. She always has a smile and a joke to keep our students smiling too. She also loves to read. Thanks for being so faithful," said Patti Harreld, media center specialist.

"This is our family's last year at MLE and we have loved it. I have volunteered in my children's classrooms over our seven years, but I have a special place in my heart for the library and for Mrs. Harreld. My mom was a librarian for many years so I have a lot of very happy memories being in the library while my mom worked. It's always

a pleasure to hear what the kids have to say from week to week and see how they grow throughout each school year. It has also been a great way to get to know my kids' friends and other parents as we pass each other in the library or in the halls. Volunteering has been such a great way to be a part of the school and I love that my kids get to see me, and all the other parent volunteers, and have a chance to learn how important volunteering is to their community. Thank you Mrs. Harreld for thinking of me for this honor and thank you to MLE for being such a great place for my kids to grow and learn," commented Garrison.



## March Student of the Month at Kent Transition Center

Two Lowell High School students have been named Student of the Month at Kent Transition Center. Breanda Boersma, 11th grade,



Breanda Boersma



Sarah Ellsworth

is enrolled in the early childhood careers program and Sarah Ellsworth, 11th grade, is enrolled in the retail marketing program.

## Lowell Middle School Chess Tournament winners



Students participated in a double elimination tournament that took five weeks to complete.

Pictured, left to right: Aidan Roustan, second place; Jake Tooi, third place; and Travis Boyd, first place. Trophies were presented to winners by Dan Vandermeulan, LMS principal.



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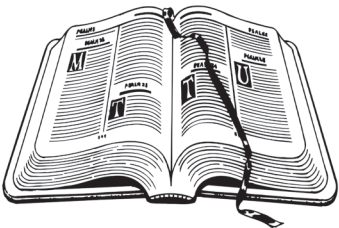
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- APRIL 27**  
Janice Ryder, Dennis Pretzel, Debbie Burrows, Ashlyn Karp.
- APRIL 28**  
Terese Brown, Timmy Vezino, Shawna Austin, Kattie Hildenbrand, Beth Weston.
- APRIL 29**  
K.J. Vezino, Bryan Roth, Lucy Wade.
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# Looking back, continued

over the week-end, also their son Russell who is home on a 6-day leave from Washington, D. C., where he is working in the naval research laboratory.

Miss Lee Stephenson, who has been absent from her teaching duties because of an operation, returned Sunday to Lowell. She was accompanied by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Stephenson, and grandmother, Mrs. Chas. Austin, who returned to Vicksburg Sunday night.

Mrs. Louise Friedli of Saranac, Mrs. Thomas Caulfield and daughter, Kay Louise of Pontiac, Mrs. Frank Gramer of Lapeer and Mrs. Ray Parker of Lowell met last Tuesday at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Gehrler, to celebrate their father's 85th birthday.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger April 25, 1968

In this week's mail came a letter requesting that we run a classified ad. It read as follows: "Dear Editor Smith: My boy friend Peter got mad at me 6 months ago and left me flat. Am inclined that he may be working on a farm in your location. Will you please run the following ad in hopes that he will see it and contact me. He will know where I am at. The ad enclosed reads like this: Dear Peter: All is forgiven, please come back, and bring 3 rings, engagement ring, wedding ring and teething ring. As ever, Mary Lou." Hmmm. wonder if that has a familiar ring?

A 25-year-old Lowell Township man is serving a 60-day sentence to Kent County jail on charges of using obscene language in the presence of children. The man, John W. Eastman, residing in a camp trailer on Lowell Route 3, was sentenced on the charge by Justice Marie DeVries, of Kentwood. According to Kent County Sheriff detectives, Eastman was observed parked near a group of young girls who were awaiting a school bus en route to the Ada Elementary School. A mother of one of the Ada school students notified Eastman's actions and reported it to the Ada school authorities. The Sheriff's Department was called. Detective Richard G. Williams was sent to investigate. The officer learned that the man in question was driving a "light green car." The officer recalled that several weeks ago a similar complaint had been lodged in the Ada area and that a light green car was involved. Det. Williams took several of the children to a parking lot, and after checking a number of cars, the youngsters spotted the "light green car." Tracing the ownership of the car to Eastman, the officer took him to the Ada school, where he was quickly identified as the man who had made lewd remarks to them.

Miniature golf, a great fad in the 1930's and resurrected a few years ago, will return to the area this summer, according to Rosie Fonger of Rosie's Drive-In. No dates set yet for installing it.

Lowell City Manager Bernard C. Olson today said that local police and sheriff's deputies have joined forces in patrolling Oberley Drive. Reason for the patrols, Olson states, is to keep the road clean of litter spilled by impatient or careless motorists on their way to the city dump. Olson's actions in setting up the law enforcement patrols follows complaints of several weeks ago of Oberley residents to Mayor Arnold Wittenbach of careless litter-throwing on their roadway. The mayor took up the complaint with the city council, and as a result the city manager was instructed to have Oberley cleaned up, and to put a

watch against rubbish throwing on highway. Oberley Drive will get the eye of the police and deputies as long as it is necessary, Olson stated.

No grass fires to report this week, and with the green blades bursting all over the landscape, perhaps the grass fire "season" is over. However, the fire boys were called out Sunday to watch over a tool shed out Lincoln Lake Rd. way which had been set on fire (with permission) by the owner.

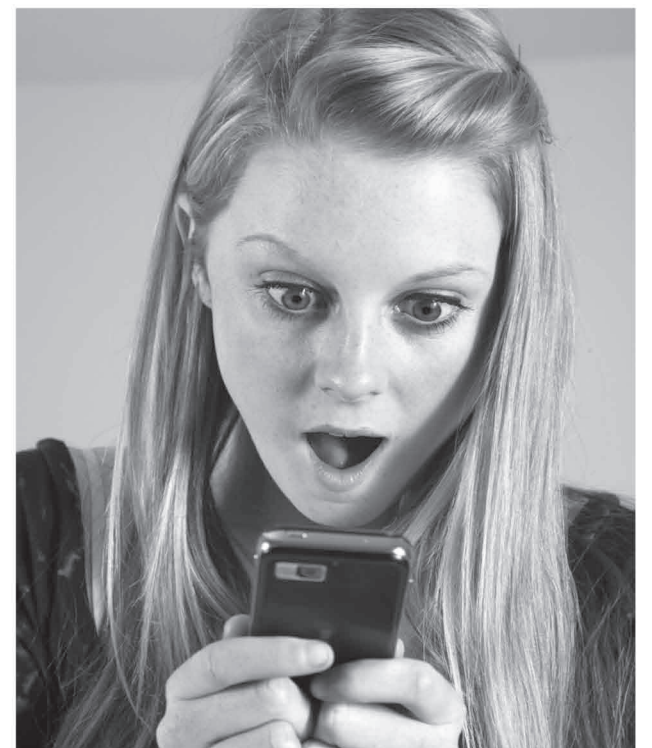
## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger April 28, 1993

The City of Lowell and Lowell and Vergennes Township Planning commissions determined back in August, that the realigning of the M21, Bowes and Alden Nash intersection would be a top priority because of increased traffic caused by the new high school and continued residential development. How quickly this project is expedited may depend greatly on how much of it the City of Lowell is willing to fund. "There is a three-year back log of side road projects," said district traffic and safety engineer for the Michigan Department of Education office in Grand Rapids, Rise' Rasch. "Obviously it would help if there is an interest in pursuing local means. "The second part to the intersection scenario is that before the State will consider a traffic light for that intersection, improvements to the intersection will have to be made. One of the key elements in determining if a light is necessary will be traffic volume. "We have to justify from a volume standpoint that there is a sustained amount of traffic coming off the side street over an eight hour period to warrant holding up traffic on a main line (M-21)," Rasch said. There is a legal liability involved in not stopping traffic if it might induce accidents (rear-end collisions). M-21 is meant to move traffic." Rasch said this would all be studied when determining if the intersection is a good candidate for a light signal. In defining how much volume is needed to warrant a light, Rasch said 100-200 cars an hour for an eight-hour day is necessary. "Many times it is argued a light is needed at a shopping mall, however, traffic at those locations is often just for a couple hours a day and extended over an eight-hour period." The study would also look at a possibility of a flasher, a pre cursor to a light. The cost for a light or flasher would be shared between the City, County and State. Improvements to the Bowes intersection would be shared by the City and Lowell Township. The county would be responsible for Alden Nash. A top concern derived from the meeting was the increasing development and traffic occurring along M-21 within the Township and the City. It is estimated by the year 2010, the traffic volume along this corridor is estimated to have increased 51 percent from today's levels. Some of this will be attributed to the new location of the new high school, which officials anticipate will help further cultivate residential development and increase the commuter traffic at this intersection. The current complex configuration of the intersection in question is due to the oblique angle at which Bowes Road meets M-21. Officials say this configuration leads to confusion, and impedes lines of-sight, as well as awkward turning angles for drivers attempting to negotiate left or right hand turns from Bowes onto M-21. The State wishes to have a 90 degree intersection at Bowes, Alden Nash and M-21. At the City Council meeting on April 19 City Manager Dave Pasquale received approval from the Council to

seek proposals on preliminary design engineering. "It will give the City a path to pursue and would help to establish a cost," Pasquale said.

Condominium construction, industrial development and canine control are just a number of items Lowell Township can look forward to this year. Lowell's Township Board approved ordinances submitted by the planning commission in an effort to better develop the future of the community. The ordinances submitted included: site condominium, fence, dog, sign and Planned Urban Development (PUD). With the board's approval the ordinances can now be enforced. The approval will also allow developers to submit plans in accordance with regulations for industrial and condominium construction. Passing of the site condominium and PUD ordinances is vital, because developers have submitted plans for construction of condominiums and industrial facilities in the township. V-Tec Engineering submitted plans to the planning commission for condominium construction at Parnell and Foreman and hope to begin ground breaking shortly. The PUD ordinance has taken the most time to work out, approximately two years, and was scrutinized thoroughly by lawyers, commission members, board members and citizens before a finished document was submitted. This ordinance sets strict standards for light industrial development in the township. Currently the township has a plan from Grooters Development firm for construction of a light industrial facility at I-96 and Alden Nash. The fence and sign ordinances were passed without question, but concern over the dog ordinance was raised. Citizens are concerned over the number of dogs each household is limited to. The ordinance states that no household will be allowed to have more than three dogs. A question was raised as to residents who lived on farms. Must they adhere to the limit, even if they have a large amount of acreage? The board stated that the ordinance would be enforced if a problem arose with dog noise or some other matter related to a resident having a large amount of dogs. If the owner of the dogs can control them and they don't pose a problem to neighbors then it may not be enforced. "We understand that a large farm with dogs does not present the same problems as a home in a residential area, said Township Supervisor John Timpson. "We just want the ordinance to be uniformed to prevent any problems, no matter where a person lives."

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## FROM food fight turns 10 this year

This year Flat River Outreach Ministries is celebrating their 20th anniversary and their annual "Food Fight" fundraiser is turning ten years old. FROM is celebrating with a \$20,000 match, meaning that any new and increased donations to

Each person who donates designates which team, North or South, gets their points. Historically, North is in the lead with five wins to South's four. Matching sponsors are All Weather Seal, Betten Baker, Enwork, Litehouse, King Milling,

can be purchased at FROM's Treasures Thrift Shop and at Springrove Variety.

Students at Lowell Area Schools will also participate in Food Fight. Their involvement will be arranged and coordinated by the school's Interact club. Amway has pledged a matching sponsorship of \$10,000 if the schools meet their \$10,000 goal in food and financial gifts.

"The Interact group has really been running the school Food Fight this year," Broene said. "They are very excited and have come up with some creative ways that the classes can compete with each other all in the name of helping neighbors in need. It's exciting to see the kids come together to support their classmates and

neighbors who may have a need for FROM services."

FROM offers over a dozen programs, like employment services, food pantry, kids lunch, money management classes and assistance paying utility bills. Their Connections office can even connect people with programs offered outside of FROM.

"We are so blessed to live in such a generous community," Broene said. "Our matching sponsors help inspire new donors to take action and regular donors to increase their support knowing that the dollars will be doubled to help their neighbors."



Food Fight will be matched. Food Fight started as a way to help fill the pantry shelves and it is now their biggest fundraising event.

"We are so excited about the \$20,000 match this year and our matching sponsors are a key part in the success of this fundraiser," said FROM executive director Dawn Broene. "We have a big goal to raise \$120,000 in food and finances this year, but we can't do it without the support of our amazing community."

Each dollar raised and each food item donated to Food Fight between April 16 and June 1 is translated into points on the scoreboard.

Alto Lions Club, River Valley Credit Union and Magna and have pledged \$20,000 to match any increased or new donation given to Food Fight.

You can donate money to Food Fight online, in person, by mail or online at fromlowell.org. FROM Food Fight barrels for food donations will be placed at various places around town. Individuals can purchase red or white squares for \$1 to show support for the North or South team in support of the "Show you Care, Buy a Square" campaign. The squares will then be prominently displayed within the businesses. They

## Acoustic trio B-Side Growlers to appear at LowellArts House Concert on April 28

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The next LowellArts House Concert will bring Grand Rapids acoustic trio the B-Side Growlers to the 223 W Main gallery at 7 pm on Saturday, April 28.

The band's website describes their genre as "Tradition inspired, toe-tappin' fired, vintage acoustic blues, jazz and country." Mary Lewandoski on vocals, percussion and guitar; Matt Porter on bass and vocals; and Pete Lewandoski on guitar, banjo, fiddle and vocals perform songs from the 1840s to the 1960s.

"There's always something interesting to see onstage," Porter said. "There's just

the Corner' by Creedence Clearwater Revival because it talks about Kalamazoo in the lyrics. Those types of historical perspectives are part of the show."

"We do songs audiences will recognize, for sure, but one of the reasons we called ourselves the B-Side Growlers was because sometimes we like to do the b-side," said Pete Lewandoski. "The b-side is the one you've heard, but it's not the most famous one. They're deeper catalog cuts, but they all fit in. There's usually a story behind each one explaining how it fits into our repertoire. Our repertoire is pretty wide-ranging. We

interaction going on."

"I like to think we have a bit of a niche," Lewandoski said. "There are certainly bands who do some of the same music, but typically they're bigger bands. They'll have someone who is dedicated to the violin or the mandolin all the time whereas we're just mixing it up as a trio and trying to alter the sound that way."

The three members of the B-Side Growlers have played together in several different bands dating back to the 1980s. They were champions of the battle of the bands at the Philadelphia Folk Festival and they won this year's WYCE Jammie

award in the Tradition category. They have played shows in Lowell more times than they could count.

"We're really happy that LowellArts is doing this concert series," Porter said. "They're supporting live music. We've played at the Lowell Showboat before and we've played at Fallasburg Festival. Lowell audiences are loyal. They put



three of us and we huddle around one microphone. Mary plays washboard percussion, which is kind of interesting. Pete, our musical coordinator, plays fiddle, resonator guitar, regular guitar and banjo. We're always switching instruments and genres. We'll switch from an old, traditional American song to almost modern rock-and-roll. The oldest song we do is a Stephen Foster tune from 1849 called 'Oh! Susanna.' Everybody sings along to that one. We do it Neil Young style. He put a version out a couple years ago and we kind of present it his way. The most recent song we do is 'Down on

do banjo tunes, country fiddle tunes, old jazz tunes, Appalachian blues tunes... We're all over the place but we can tie it together because the songs all fit into the DNA of American music."

"We're an acoustic trio that brings historical perspectives to the music," Porter said. "We always like to have a back story for each song or some significant relevance to it, if not for the audience, at least for ourselves. We tell who the author is, we tell what year it was, that kind of thing. It's a lively show, interactive. We talk to the crowd, sometimes ask questions, see what they know, that kind of thing. We always have some

on good programs in Lowell and they have a good sound system."

"We've played on the Showboat and a bunch at the Fallasburg Festival," Lewandoski said. "My memories of playing in Lowell are of people having a fun time, dancing and singing along to the songs they knew."

Some tickets are left, they're \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Visit lowellartsmi.org or call 616-897-8545 for more information.

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# Test scores decline at state and local schools

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

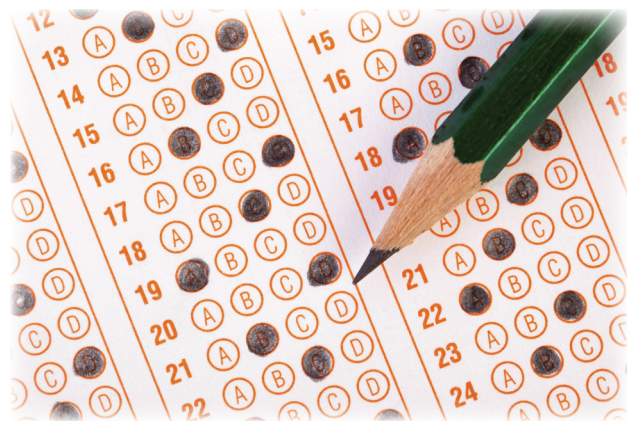
When the results from some standardized testing were revealed last month, they showed that the reading skills of Michigan's third graders continue to decline. The M-Step test was first given during the 2014-2015 school year when it was found that only 50 percent of Michigan third graders tested proficient in language arts. The following year, 46 percent of third graders were proficient. In the most recent results, from the 2016-2017 school year, the rate had fallen to 44 percent.

"The M-Step is the state reading and math assessment that Michigan students take in third through eighth grades each year," said Nate Fowler, director of curriculum for Lowell Area Schools. "This year fifth, eighth and 11th graders take the M-Step in social studies and science as well. In addition 11th graders take the SAT and ACT WorkKeys."

Lowell's results dropped even more drastically. The district's proficiency score was 68.5 during the 2014-2015 school year and 58.5 last year, a 10 percent drop in four years.

"The 10 percent decline refers specifically to Lowell's third grade reading scores on M-Step," Fowler

"The NAEP is given to a random selection of students across the country each year and is the assessment



said. "Like many districts we saw success in many areas, but we did see the decline in our third grade reading scores and are taking steps to address them. Although the decline is concerning, what is more important is to see how each individual cohort of students performs the following year. We look to see growth as kids move from grade to grade."

Michigan schools as a whole performed poorly on the most recent National Assessment of Education Progress test. Between 2003 and 2015 the state's rank in fourth grade reading dropped from 28th to 41st place.

that is used to compare state education systems," Fowler said. "Michigan's state ranking has fallen dramatically over that last 15 years and we have made little progress as a state in making gains in our literacy scores. There are many theories about why this is the case. There are a lot of theories about why scores have dropped in Michigan and in Lowell. I'm not interested in pointing fingers at any policy or person at the state or local level. I am interested in working with teachers, parents and community partners to support literacy efforts for students. We are

lucky in Lowell to have hardworking teachers, caring parents and students who are eager to learn. Our challenge as a district is to support teachers, students and parents with tools and time to improve students' reading levels. We are lucky to live in a community that provides so much support to our kids. A culture where literacy is valued is a key part of that community support."

Fowler listed specific steps the district is taking to improve literacy across the district.

"2017-2018: Lowell Area Schools hired two literacy coaches to support teachers at the elementary schools. The coaches have been trained in the Essential Practices in Early Literacy. These coaches were hired with funds generated through the Kent County regional enhancement millage.

2017-2018: Lowell Area Schools invested more than \$70,000 in leveled books for our elementary buildings. Teachers were trained in guided reading strategies to best utilize the new resources.

2018: Volunteers from the Lowell First United

Methodist Church have been working one-on-one with students during literacy block to listen to students read.

Ongoing: Students who are reading below grade level receive intensive small group reading instruction in addition to classroom reading instruction. Students reading below grade level receive support through after school and summer programming.

2016-2018: Lowell Area Schools has partnered with the Michigan Education Corps to provide Americorps tutors to work one-on-one to get students reading above grade level. Teams of teachers collaborate in grade levels to review assessment data, set goals based on that data and develop instructional strategies to achieve the goals.

Ongoing: Arrow Readers on the Move is a summer program where the district partners with Flat River Outreach Ministries and the Alto and Englehardt Kent District Library branches to provide venues for students to take accelerated reader tests and check out books.

Ongoing: Training for

teachers in essential practices of early literacy.

2017-2018: As part of Michigan's third grade reading law, all Michigan students in kindergarten through third grade have an individual reading intervention plan. All students who are reading below grade level in those grades have an individualized plan that describe what strategies and interventions the school and families will provide to get students up to grade level."

Fowler said the district is going to keep working on the problem.

"Lowell Area Schools' next steps are to continue the work of aligning the reading curriculum to standards, so that students practice what is measured on the M-Step and providing teachers with ongoing opportunities to learn and improve reading instruction in our classrooms," Fowler said. "The district will continue to dedicate resources to support students, teachers and families to ensure that all students get the support they need to become readers and lifelong learners."

# New pet groomer at 104 W Main, Holly's Critter Care



Holly Cooper, owner of Holly's Critter Care, with some of her satisfied customers.

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Holly's Critter Care, the new pet groomer at 104 W. Main, opened up three weeks ago and their calendar is already crowded with content canine clients.

"I'm already booked up through this week and starting to book into next week," said owner and head groomer Holly Cooper. "We're predominantly dog groomers but I do groom

a few cats and things. Sometimes people just want their pet's toenails trimmed, but everybody gets the works here."

Cooper worked at a local veterinarian's office for many years and was a teacher at her alma mater, Paragon Pet Grooming School in Jenison.

"I've always been drawn to animals," Cooper said. "I got started as a pet groomer when I was about 35 years

old. I wanted to get into being a veterinary technician but I felt like I didn't have it in me to be in class for very long. This proved to be the right fit. I enjoy solving a problem; here the problem is a dirty dog. When the owner comes back after a few hours and picks up their dog, it's like giving them a gift. The owner is happy. The dog is happy. The tail is wagging. They're prancing around."

Cooper said that she can

perform any type of dog haircut, from mundane to fancy.

"Anything I don't already have experience with I have books and manuals for and YouTube is always great for that," Cooper said. "What I do is based on what the client needs and their lifestyle. I can do patterned trims for hunting dogs, specialized things like schnauzer trims, stuff like that. I'm always learning what works best and changing things up but I pretty much have a routine of how a groom happens. They usually get a bath, a blow dry and a brush, then I start grooming from the top and work down. I pay special attention to their ears and their toenails."

Cooper has found lots of strange objects embedded in fur over the years, items like lollipops, hard candy, tape, plaster, paint and ticks the size of jellybeans. She said that skunks are one of the most common terrible things dogs come into contact with.

"Skunk dogs are pretty typical this time of year," Cooper said. "Tomato juice doesn't work. There is a home remedy that you can use. It's a gallon of water, a bottle of peroxide, a couple tablespoons of Dawn dish soap and some baking soda. The best thing to do is clean them when it's fresh. Don't put them in the garage or whatever so they marinate in it or you'll be smelling skunk for the next six months."

Cooper lives on a farm outside of Lowell with her family and a whole bunch of dogs.

"I have ten dogs, all different breeds, big ones, little ones," Cooper said. "We live out in the country on ten acres of land that they love to play on. There's an occasional squabble, usually about food, but they all get along."

Her favorite breed is the standard poodle.

"Their hair is really versatile, you can do a lot of stuff with it," Cooper

said. "You can scissor it, stylize it, sculpt it and really work with it. Some people even dye their hair. I like big dogs, they have a big, goofy personality. Poodles are very versatile, outgoing and intelligent. That's why they're often bred with golden retrievers and Labradors."

To set up an appointment for your pet at Holly's Critter Care call 616-292-0531, send a message to [crittercarebyholly@gmail.com](mailto:crittercarebyholly@gmail.com) or find them on Facebook.

## out & about

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Red Arrow

- BASEBALL

**SPORTS****Boys sweep up Red Hawks 3-0**by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Coming off a 0-3 shutout series against OK White nemesis Northview the week prior, the Lowell varsity baseball team took to the diamond to sweep up the Red Hawks of Cedar Springs, 3-0.

They started the three game series off with a home doubleheader where they picked up 6-1 and 7-5 wins. Game one started with the Red Hawks on top 1-0 but Lowell grabbed the lead for good in the fourth inning getting on the board with two runs off a double from

junior Jackson Helder and a single from sophomore Logan Staley.

Their offensive rally continued in the seventh where they sealed the win with four more runs earned through doubles from seniors Austin Whaley and Josh Hackstedt and an error from senior Connor Douma. On the hill, senior Garrett Pratt surrendered just one run over five innings while striking out four. Senior Travis Cornell finished the game pitching the final six outs for the last two innings.

In game two, Lowell

took control of the game in the fourth inning with a six run rally that put them up 7-4. Managing just one more run, Cedar Springs could not get close enough and fell 7-5. B. Douma led at the plate followed by Staley and junior Nick Weston. Standout Helder was credited with the pitching and went 2/3 at bat.

Finishing up the series with a 5-4 win, the Arrows made a late inning charge but came up short. The win was propelled by Cornell who went 2/3 at the plate and threw two successful innings on the mound. Pitcher junior Jordan Dent lasted five innings while striking out two, walking zero and allowing just one run.

**Now holding a break even OK White record of 3-3, Lowell will see a reprieve from league competition and take on only non-conference competitors this week. After an early week doubleheader, the Arrows travel to Covenant Christian High School on Thursday and then host Coopersville Friday at 4:30 behind Cherry Creek Elementary.**



Junior slugger Zach Post breaks for first base against Cedar Springs.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following requests from Westview Capital LLC:

1. To rezone a portion of Parcel 41-20-05-201-039 containing 42.30 acres from R-2, Medium Density Residential to the Open Space Planned Unit Development (OS-PUD) Zoning District;

2. A request for Tentative Preliminary Plat approval in order to create a subdivision containing 70 single family lots served by a public road and public water and sanitary sewer. Phase 1 of the plat would consist of 22 lots.

**ADDRESS AND GENERAL LOCATION:** 1375 Cumberland Avenue. Southside of Foreman Street one-half mile west of Cumberland Avenue and abutting the north side of Eastgate Subdivision. Existing Woodbushe Drive within the Eastgate Subdivision terminates at the south property line of the parcel proposed for development.

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN: MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018**

**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

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

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township  
Planning Commission

## Boys collect second, girls collect third at Soderman Relays

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

Collecting second- and third-place finishes after nearly a month on hiatus, the Lowell girls and boys varsity track teams placed big at the Caledonia High School hosted Soderman Relays, bumping one of their own a little further up in the LHS record books.

Earning the better of the two finishes and earning record advancement, the boys tallied 59 points to earn second place behind runaway winner Caledonia with 96. Their finish was propelled by five second-place and two third-place finishes. Medalists included the second place long distance relay teams of senior Morrison Ismond, sophomore Lucas Cossar, sophomore Caleb Swart and sophomore Collier Kaufman in the 12,800 meter and senior Will

Reynolds, senior Kenny Stump, senior Thad Swart and sophomore Devin Dietz in the 1600 meter.

Running shorter distances to their top finishes were the sprint medley relay team of freshman Dillon Hieshetter, seniors Sam Misak and Austin Pollock and Dietz who placed second; and the 400 meter team of Misak, seniors Casey French and Jacob Rau and Dietz; and the 800 meter team of Misak, Reynolds, French and Dietz who took second and third respectively. The shuttle hurdle relay team of Rau, French, Hieshetter and Reynolds earned a second-place finish.

Senior Caleb Devereaux advanced his event and record book position with his best throw to date in the discus competition. His toss of 153' secured the second

best score for a Red Arrow in the history of the event.

Finishing with a higher score but lower position than their counterparts, the Lady Arrows finished in third place, just one point behind second-place finisher and league opponent Forest Hills Northern. Their 63 point finish was led by first place finishes in the 800- and 1600-meter relay run by sophomores Kyra Snyder and Mya Kaywood, freshman Madison Brown and junior Diana Roth in 1:53; and sophomore Ashley Boehr, Snyder, sophomore Jada Millhisler and freshman Theresa Judd in 4:26.

Other Arrows bringing back hardware included second-place finishers seniors Lizzie Kuhns and Amber Brown on the pole vault, freshman Kaylee Diamond and sophomore

Julia Pytlik in the high jump and sophomore Kerstin Johnson, Brown, Roth and Kaywood in the 400 meter relay. Landing in third were Kaywood and Pytlik on the long jump and the shuttle hurdle team of Brown, Boehr, Judd and senior Autumn French.

**After competing in the OK White for the first time this season, against Northview and Ottawa Hills, this week, they will host their annual Kathy Talus Memorial Invitational on Saturday beginning at 8:30 am inside Red Arrow Stadium.**



**Go Red Arrows!** **Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports**  
the lowell **ledger**



Red Arrow

- LACROSSE

# SPORTS

## Boys lacrosse host Ottawa Hills for their Pink Arrow game

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The Lowell Red Arrow varsity lacrosse team switched their jerseys to pink and took on Ottawa Hills at home last Saturday for their annual Pink Arrow Day fundraising event.

Both JV and varsity teams featured cancer honoree introductions. The event raised funds for Gilda's Club of Lowell following the pattern set by the parent football event that will enter into its eleventh year this fall. Players took to the field with their honorees prior to the game.

The Arrows took off scoring three goals in the first period while keeping the Panthers out of the net. Still leading at the half the boys added five more goals in the second period while letting just two get by for a setting the score at 8-2 at the halftime buzzer. During the break members of the Lowell youth lacrosse took to the field to be recognized for their efforts.

Lowell maintained the lead after the third, adding one more goal. Losing their stride in the fourth under massive offensive pressure, the Panthers bypassed the

Arrows fourth and final finding the back of the net six times in the period to steal the win 10-9.

All was not lost according to Pink Arrow senior athlete Logan Cunningham, who spent the day protecting the box. The lacrosse goalie said that the game was much more important than the action on the field. "It meant being a part of something bigger than myself and making a difference in someone's life by honoring them and raising money for a great cause," said Cunningham. "I honored my great

grandmother. She was a breast cancer survivor for three decades," he said, adding that it was even more special as she passed away last February of other causes.

The team will continue in conference action taking on Grand Haven and Catholic Central High School this week before hosting Zeeland East on Friday evening at 7 pm.



Junior Pink Arrow Jayme Schlanderer scoops one up during their 10-9 loss to West Ottawa.

## Red Arrows finish two of three game series over Red Hawks 13-0, 19-1

by Kathryn Atwood  
contributing reporter

The girls maintained their, so far, flawless OK White and overall records last week on the diamond against conference foe the Red Hawks of Cedar Springs. The Lowell varsity softball team finished a three game series 13-0, 19-1 with the third game cut short due to the weather. Game one was highlighted by the thirteen strikes of Lowell bats, including three RBIs from sophomore Kenzie Jordan. Junior Emily Depew nabbed the win at the plate by sitting down nine Red Hawk batters. Game two ended 19-1 after Lowell put up an eight run second inning and an 11 run fourth inning to mercy the game to a finish. Senior Miah Ransom went 4/4 at the plate and Depew logged



her second win of the week. After travelling to Wayland on Monday and hosting Hudsonville on Wednesday, the girls will participate in the Gull Lake Invitational on Saturday morning at Bailey Park.

## Sports Summaries

### GIRLS SOCCER

The 5-0-2 Red Arrow girls varsity soccer team trumped two OK White competitors, only allowing one goal to be scored against them in both games. Their week started out against Greenville who never found the back of the net in an 8-0 Lowell shutout. Junior Regan Coxon led the offense scoring four goals and an assist. The widespread effort also featured a single goal and three assists from sophomore Khloe Hayes. Juniors Isabel Remar and Jaki Hayes plus senior Darby Dean rounded out Lowell's scorers. Dean, junior Aly Holdridge and senior Riley Conlan were credited with assists. This was the second shutout for the goalkeeping team of junior Abby White and Callie Ingram. Lowell finished competition Friday against Northview where they picked up a 4-1 win over the Wildcats. Coxon and K. Hayes led once again with two goals each. Assists were earned by Dean, K. Hayes and Conlan who logged two.

### GIRLS TENNIS

Lowell varsity girls tennis team recently earned a win and a tie in non-conference competition. The team competed on the road against Lakewood High School where they battled to a 4-4 tie and then hosted the Wildcats of Wayland tallying a 6-2 victory. This week they will face league competitor Cedar Springs on the road early in the week and then welcome Northview to their home court on Thursday starting at 4:15 pm.

### BOYS GOLF

A fifteenth-place finish and a loss were the most recent results for the Red Arrow boys varsity golf team. The boys competed against Tri-Unity Christian in non-conference action and then faced the areas best teams at the Kent County Classic. Their 405 stroke effort was led by sophomore Noah Barnhart who carded a 95. Junior Tyler Kaptcia (99), junior John Russell (103) and freshman Brad VandenHout (108) followed. Swinging next against Tri-Unity Christian they tallied a combined card total of 196 but lost by 26 strokes. Russell (47), Barnhart (47) and VandenHout (52) were the day's best scorers. The Arrows will compete twice in conference action this week traveling to Watermark Golf Course on Monday hosted by Forest Hills Central and then Egypt Valley Golf Course on Wednesday hosted once again by Forest Hills Northern.

### GIRLS LACROSSE

Competing twice at home last week the Red Arrow girls varsity lacrosse team went 1-1 on the field bringing their season record to 3-2. In competition against West Ottawa Lowell took control to score 5-2 in the first. West Ottawa rallied to tie the game at seven before the half. Securing two more goals in the third, West left Lowell behind 9-7. Topping Zeeland 16-7 later in the week, a strong effort from junior Ella Dougherty earned four goals in the first. Sophomore Jennifer Cooper and freshman Olivia Rose chipped in three. The Arrows will next compete in a trio of games traveling to Spring Lake on Monday, Hudsonville on Wednesday and Vicksburg on Saturday.

## Red Arrow Spring SPORTS SCHEDULES

### BOYS & GIRLS VARSITY TRACK

\* Denotes a meet at Red Arrow Stadium  
4/28 at 8:30 am Kathy Talus Memorial Invitational\*  
5/1 at 4:15 pm OK White Quad at Northview

### GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE

\* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium  
4/28 at 10 am Vicksburg  
4/30 at 7 pm Grand Haven

### BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE

\* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium  
4/26 at 7 pm Catholic Central  
5/1 at 7 pm Reeths-Puffer\*  
5/3 at 7:45 pm Holland Christian at Davenport University

### GIRLS VARSITY TENNIS

\* Denotes a game at LHS tennis courts  
4/26 at 4:15 pm Northview\*  
4/30 at 4:15 pm Forest Hills Northern\*  
5/3 at 4:15 pm Forest Hills Central

### GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER

\* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium  
4/27 at 6:45 pm Forest Hills Eastern  
4/30 at 5 pm Ottawa Hills  
5/2 at 6:45 pm Forest Hills Northern

### BOYS VARSITY GOLF

\* Denotes a meet at Deer Run Golf Course  
5/2 at 3:30 pm Jamboree #4\*

### GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL

\* Denotes a meet at Cherry Creek Field  
4/28 at noon Gull Lake Invitational at Bailey Park  
5/3 at 4:30 pm Byron Center\*

### BOYS VARSITY BASEBALL

\* Denotes a meet at Cherry Creek Field  
4/27 at 4:30 pm Coopersville\*  
4/30 at 4:15 pm Forest Hills Northern\* - doubleheader  
5/2 at 4:15 pm Forest Hills Northern

# obituaries

## BALLANTYNE

Robert (Bob) Lorne Ballantyne, age 81 of Lowell, formerly of Coopersville, passed away Friday, April 20, 2018, of Alzheimer's Disease. Bob was born May 7, 1937 in Detroit. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Linda Ballantyne; daughter Lorna (Jim) Scheid of Lowell; son Jim (Tami) Ballantyne of Hesperia; mother-in-law Florida Gay of Lansing; sister Shirley Schovan of Colorado; brother-in-law Lonnie (Mariane) Gay of Lansing; grandchildren Josh (Leslie) Lillie, Matt (Christy) Lillie, Marie (Quentin) Perry, Andrea (Mike) Di Muzio, Jim (Maddie) Ballantyne Jr., Lisa (Bobbie) Smith; 18 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Bob retired from GM on Alpine, and he loved his farm and fishing. The family would like to thank Hospice of Michigan and the staff of Fountain View of Lowell Memory Care for their wonderful care of Bob and his family. Funeral will be held Saturday, April 28, 1:00 p.m. at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. The family will greet friends and relatives two hours prior to the service, beginning at 11:00 a.m., at the funeral home chapel. Mr. Lonnie Gay officiating.



## FORD

Ashley Erin Ford, age 28 of Ada, went to be with the Lord Monday, April 16, 2018, following injuries sustained from an automobile accident. Ashley is survived by her husband, Mike Ford, and their daughter, Riah Ford; parents, Shari (Andy) Moser, Tim (Tammy) Eerdmans Sr., Dave and Joy Ford; grandparents, Eldie (Suzie) Welch, Sandy Welch; siblings, Diane "Bear" (Josh) Reil, Tim (Mindy) Eerdmans Jr.; brother-in-law Mark Ford; nieces Emma and Hailey Reil; nephews, Kyle Reil, Liam Eerdmans; and many, many aunts, uncles, cousins and special friends. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Barney and Virginia Eerdmans; and cousin Jena Peters. Ashley graduated from Hastings High School in 2008, and went on to earn her bachelor's degree from Cornerstone University. She was the Children's Ministry Campus Supervisor at the Cascade Campus of Ada Bible Church, where she shared her love for Jesus with great passion and joy. She was a Gift of Life donor, donating major organs and tissue to help save the lives of others, as it was her nature to do anything to help others. Ashley was a loving wife, mother, and daughter, and will be dearly missed. A Celebration of Life was held Tuesday, April 24, at Ada Bible Church, Cascade Campus. Rev. Jeff Manion and Rev. Mark Deering officiated. Memorial contributions may be made in the family's name at Huntington Bank to assist with expenses at this difficult time (please make checks payable to Mike Ford).



## POWELL

Marilyn Doris Powell, age 88 of Lowell passed away April 21, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred Powell; sister June Seiler; and grandson Sean Powell. She is survived by her children, Terese (Roger) Brown, Patrick (Kelly) Powell, Geri (Tom) Wareck, Chris (Mike) Posthuma; grandchildren, Angie (Chip) Baker, Casey (Tammy) Brown, Jasmine (Jason) Rogers, Amy (Jody) Johnson, Kristin (Shawn) Brown, Ashleigh (Kyle) Neubecker, Lauren (Keith) Neubecker, Luke Posthuma, Morgan Posthuma, Janelle Posthuma, Matt Posthuma; and 15 great-grandchildren. Marilyn graduated as valedictorian of Ionia High School in 1947. Blessed with a beautiful signing voice, Marilyn sang in church and school choirs. She also performed at weddings and other events. Marilyn and Fred were married July 13, 1948. The couple loved to dance, and regularly made the rounds at area dance halls and ballrooms. Marilyn and Fred will also be remembered by many in Saranac as the owners of the "Sara-Snac" during the late sixties and early seventies. The family-run ice cream and sandwich stand was open summers. After raising her family, Marilyn worked in the Probate Court office for Ionia County and then began her career as executive secretary to the Warden at Michigan Training Unit through the Michigan Department of Corrections, where she retired in 1992. After retirement Marilyn moved to the Florida Keys and cared for her much loved father, Laurence Friend. Always an avid fisherman, Marilyn enjoyed time in the Keys in the winter and at her cottage in Northport during the summers. She later moved back to the Lowell area full time to be near her family and grandchildren. A memorial meet and greet will be held on May 23 from 4:00-7:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell MI 49331. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Marilyn Powell Nursing Scholarship Fund.



## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

**A purpose of human life, no matter who is controlling it, is to love whoever is around to be loved.**

— Kurt Vonnegut, *The Sirens of Titan*

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance by deleting Section 4.46(b) which states that a home based business does not include activities allowed by right and special land use permit in other sections of the Zoning Ordinance.

The hearing will be held as follows:

**WHEN: MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018**  
**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**  
**WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL**  
**2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE**  
**LOWELL, MI 49331**

Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Tim Clements, Secretary  
 Lowell Charter Township  
 Planning Commission

## Thank You!

The children of Edwin Roth would like to thank friends and relatives for their sympathy, kindness, flowers, plants, food, cards, phone calls, and those who donated in Edwin's memory to the Fallasburg Historical Society, the Lowell FFA, the Lowell Area Historical Museum, or the Lowell Arts. A special thanks is due Edwin's grandson, Kyle, and great-grandson, Isaac, for playing piano, and great-granddaughter, Becca, for singing at his funeral. Thanks also to the Pallbearers, Pastor Brad Brillhart, the Lowell United Methodist Church for food, music and facilities, and the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for excellent services.





## FREE WILL

## astrology

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## TAURUS

(April 20-May 20):



The Simpsons is the longest-running American TV sitcom and animated series. But it had a rough start. In the fall of 1989, when producers staged a private pre-release screening of the first episode, they realized the animation was mediocre. They worked hard to redo it, replacing 70 percent of the original content. After that slow start, the process got easier and the results got better. When the program completes its thirtieth season in 2019, it will have aired 669 episodes. I don't know if your own burgeoning project will ultimately have as enduring a presence, Taurus, but I'm pretty sure that, like The Simpsons, it will eventually become better than it is in the early going. Stick with it.

## GEMINI

(May 21-June 20):



The coming weeks might be an interesting time to resurrect a frustrated dream you abandoned in a wasteland; or rescue and restore a moldering treasure you stopped taking care of a while back; or revive

a faltering commitment you've been ignoring for reasons that aren't very high-minded. Is there a secret joy you've been denying yourself without good cause? Renew your relationship with it. Is there a rough prize you received before you were ready to make smart use of it? Maybe you're finally ready. Are you brave enough to dismantle a bad habit that hampers your self-mastery? I suspect you are.

## CANCER

(June 21-July 22):



The Hollywood film industry relies heavily on recycled ideas. In 2014, for example, only one of the ten top-grossing movies -- Interstellar -- was not a sequel, remake, reboot, or episode in a franchise. In the coming weeks and months, Cancerian, you'll generate maximum health and wisdom for yourself by being more like Interstellar than like The Amazing Spider-Man 2, Transformers: Age of Extinction, X-Men: Days of Future Past, and the six other top-ten rehashes of 2014. Be original!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):



Long ago, in the land we now call Italy, humans

regarded Mars as the divine protector of fields. He was the fertility god who ripened the food crops. Farmers said prayers to him before planting seeds, asking for his blessings. But as the Roman Empire arose, and warriors began to outnumber farmers, the deity who once served as a kind benefactor evolved into a militant champion, even a fierce and belligerent conqueror. In accordance with current astrological omens, Leo, I encourage you to evolve in the opposite direction. Now is an excellent time to transmute aggressiveness and combativeness into fecundity and tenderness.

## VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):



You sometimes get superstitious when life is going well. You worry about growing overconfident. You're afraid that if you enjoy yourself too much, you will anger the gods and jinx your good fortune. Is any of that noise clouding your mood these days? I hope not; it shouldn't be. The truth, as I see it, is that your intuition is extra-strong and your decision-making is especially adroit. More luck than usual is flowing in your vicinity, and you have an enhanced knack for capitalizing

on it. In my estimation, therefore, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to build up your hunger for vivid adventures and bring your fantasies at least one step closer to becoming concrete realities. Whisper the following to yourself as you drop off to sleep each night: "I will allow myself to think bigger and bolder than usual."

## LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):



The bad news is that 60 percent of Nevada's Lake Mead has dried up. The good news -- at least for historians, tourists, and hikers -- is that the Old West town of St. Thomas has re-emerged. It had sunk beneath the water in 1936, when the government built the dam that created the lake. But as the lake has shrunk in recent years, old buildings and roads have reappeared. I foresee a comparable resurfacing in your life, Libra: the return of a lost resource or vanished possibility or departed influence.

## SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):



I hope the next seven weeks will be a time of renaissance for your most engaging alliances. The astrological omens suggest it can be. Would you like to take advantage of this cosmic invitation? If so, try the following strategies. 1. Arrange for you and each of your close companions to relive the time when you first met. Recall and revitalize the dispensation that originally brought you together. 2. Talk about the influences you've had on each other and the ways your relationship has

evolved. 3. Fantasize about the inspirations and help you'd like to offer each other in the future. 4. Brainstorm about the benefits your connection has provided and will provide for the rest of the world.

## SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):



Now is one of the rare times when you should be alert for the potential downsides of blessings that usually sustain you. Even the best things in life could require adjustments. Even your most enlightened attitudes and mature beliefs may have pockets of ignorance. So don't be a prisoner of your own success or a slave of good habits. Your ability to adjust and make corrections will be key to the most interesting kind of progress you can achieve in the coming weeks.

## CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):



Capricorn author Simone de Beauvoir was a French feminist and activist. In her book A Transatlantic Love Affair, she made a surprising confession: Thanks to the assistance of a new lover, Nelson Algren, she finally had her first love affair at age 39. Better late than never, right? I suspect that you, too, are currently a good candidate to be transported to a higher octave of pleasure. There may be a new level of happiness awaiting you in some other way. Ask for it! Seek it out! Solicit it!

## AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):



Can you afford to hire someone to do your busy work for a while? If so, do it. If not, see if you can avoid the busy work for a while. In my astrological opinion, you need to deepen and refine your skills at lounging around and doing nothing. The cosmic omens strongly and loudly and energetically suggest that

you should be soft and quiet and placid. It's time for you to recharge your psychospiritual batteries as you dream up new approaches to making love, making money, and making sweet nonsense. Please say a demure "no, thanks" to the strident demands of the status quo, my dear. Trust the stars in your own eyes.

## PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20):



I believe it's a favorable time for you to add a new mentor to your entourage. If you don't have a mentor, go exploring until you find one. In the next five weeks, you might even consider mustering a host of fresh teachers, guides, trainers, coaches, and initiators. My reading of the astrological omens suggests that you're primed to learn twice as much and twice as fast about every subject that will be important for you during the next two years. Your future educational needs require your full attention.

## ARIES

(March 21-April 19):



Imagine you're one of four porcupines caught in frigid weather. To keep warm, you all have the urge to huddle together and pool your body heat. But whenever you try to get close, you prick each other with your quills. The only solution to that problem is to move away from each other, even though it means you can't quell your chill as well. This scenario was used by psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud as a parable for the human dilemma. We want to be intimate with each other, Freud said, but we hurt each other when we try. The oft-chosen solution is to be partially intimate: not as close as we would like to be, but only as much as we can bear. Now everything I just said, Aries, is a preface for better news: In the coming weeks, neither your own quills nor those of the people you care about will be as sharp or as long as usual.

## NEWS OF THE

## weird

## Wait, What?

In Dorking, England, Chris Hepworth and his partner, Tanisha Prince, both of London, dove across the finish line in one minute and 37 seconds, setting a course record and capturing the coveted U.K. Wife Carrying championship on April 8. Any adult couple can compete in the contest -- married or not and regardless of gender -- which consists of one team member carrying the other, most using the "Estonian carry," with the "wife" upside-down, her legs over her partner's shoulders and gripping him around the waist from behind. About 40 pairs competed over the quarter-mile course strewn with hay bales and mud, Reuters reported. Hepworth and Prince plan to move on to the world finals in Finland. "I think a Finnish guy wins it every year," Hepworth noted, "so it'll be good to go there and take them down."

## What's in a Name?

In Ohio in 2004, 6-year-old Alex Malarkey spent two months in a coma after a car accident, awaking as a quadriplegic and telling his family he had visited heaven, seeing angels and meeting Jesus. Alex and his dad, Kevin Malarkey, co-wrote a best-selling book in 2010, "The Boy Who Came Back From Heaven," but in 2015, Alex admitted he had made up the story to get attention. "I did not die. I did not go to heaven," Alex told The Guardian. In a recent effort to set the record straight, Alex filed a complaint April 9 in DuPage County, Illinois, against the book's publisher, Tyndale House, alleging that "any reasonable person would have realized that it was highly unlikely that the content of the book was true." The Washington Post reported that while Kevin Malarkey is not a party to the suit -- which cites several Illinois statutes regarding the right to privacy, defamation, and financial exploitation of a person with a disability, among others -- it does allege that Alex's dad concocted and sold the story to Tyndale. The younger Malarkey did not receive any royalties from the sales of the book.

## The Hypnotic Power of Special Sauce

McDonald's drive-thrus are a chill place to be, if three recent events are any indication. On March 17, police officers called to a McDonald's restaurant in Okeechobee, Florida, found Derril James Geller of West Palm Beach had passed out in his car while waiting in line. Geller was arrested for driving on a suspended license (a crime for which he had been charged three previous times). But that's just the tip of the ice cream cone: The Okeechobee News reported that in January, an Okeechobee woman was charged with DUI after passing out at a different area McDonald's drive-thru and in December, a Texas man also received a DUI for nodding off in the line at that same McDonald's.

## Ewwwww!

Workers renovating the old Dayton's department store in downtown Minneapolis came across an unusual find in early April: the mummified remains of a monkey. The store apparently had a pet department in the 1960s and The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal reported that Steven Laboe, who worked in the building in the early 2000s, heard stories of a monkey escaping into an air conditioning duct, where it may have met its fate in the form of an exhaust fan. In fact, the mummy does show an injury to the abdomen. "We continue to find pieces of history in the Dayton's project as we redevelop the building," Cailin Rogers, a spokeswoman for the redevelopment team, told the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

At Bull City Burger and Brewery in Durham, North Carolina, April is Exotic Meat Month! This year, according to WTVD, the restaurant offered a tarantula challenge. Customers were invited to enter their name in a raffle and if chosen could claim a \$30 tarantula burger, which included a pasture-raised beef patty, gruyere cheese, spicy chili sauce -- and an oven-roasted zebra tarantula. Those who finished the burger received a commemorative "tarantula challenge" T-shirt.

## Do Not Eat

1. An unnamed Chinese man "accidentally" swallowed a plastic and metal lighter 20 years ago. 2. He neglected to seek medical attention until recently, when he began experiencing stomach pains and other symptoms we'd rather not detail here. 3. In early April, using a camera inserted in the man's body to locate the lighter, doctors at Dujiangyan Medical Center in Chengdu City, Sichuan Province, performed not one, but two surgeries to extract the item. The Global Times reported that the lighter had been severely corroded by gastric juices.

## My Weird Obsession

You may have read that the company that makes Necco Wafers announced in March that it would have to shut down in May unless a buyer was found. Since then, crazed Necco fans have been stockpiling candy. "Necco Wafers are up 150 percent," Candystore.com reported in a blog post. "A clear signal of panic-buying." Katie Samuels, 23, of Florida, tried to strike a deal with Candystore.com, a wholesaler. "I offered to trade my 2003 Honda Accord for all of their stock," Samuels told the Boston Globe. "I don't have much right now, so I was like, 'I've got this car and I want all that candy,' so maybe they would consider it." Candystore didn't accept her offer, but Samuels did buy 48 rolls of candy using her credit card.

**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: FAMOUS PETS**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Can become herniated, pl.
- 6. Jump key
- 9. Popular last name in East Asia
- 13. "I love you" or "J" \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. International workers' group
- 15. Like famous rock-n-roll shoe
- 16. DNA half
- 17. Will Ferrell's Christmas character
- 18. Item on a cell phone bill
- 19. \*Ed's title
- 21. \*TV dolphin
- 23. Coach's talk
- 24. Gravy holder
- 25. Hot tea amount
- 28. Serengeti antelope
- 30. Single-celled microorganisms
- 35. Call status
- 37. Karate blow
- 39. Marconi's wireless telegraphy
- 40. Opposite of home
- 41. High fidelity sound systems
- 43. CISC alternative
- 44. Edible biblical rain
- 46. One of deadly sins
- 47. Ship's final destination
- 48. Like broken promise
- 50. Bring home the bacon
- 52. Message in a bottle?
- 53. Sound of laughter
- 55. Promise to pay
- 57. \*Michael Jackson's chimp
- 61. \*Marlon Bundo
- 64. Be of one mind
- 65. Author of "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- 67. Opposite of gregarious one

**CROSSWORD**

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

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- 69. Flash of light
- 70. Bard's before
- 71. \*Like Garfield's lasagna when he's done
- 72. Surfer's stop
- 73. Past tense of "be"
- 74. Mouthlike opening

**DOWN**

- 1. Morse T
- 2. Footnote word

- 3. Songs for one
- 4. Like a potato chip
- 5. The Brady Bunch children, e.g.
- 6. Wedding cake layer
- 7. "\_\_\_\_ the President's Men"
- 8. Very successful
- 9. Intersection of two arcs
- 10. Great deal
- 11. Drop-off spot
- 12. \_\_\_\_-do-well
- 15. Bachelor on "The Bachelorette," e.g.
- 20. Historical period
- 22. Skedaddle
- 24. Renewable energy source
- 25. \*Sea World's long-running attraction
- 26. Des Moines native
- 27. Yoga class core exercise
- 29. \*Punxsutawney seer
- 31. Persian backgammon

- 32. "Bye" to Banderas
- 33. Popular '70s music genre
- 34. \*The Clintons' cat
- 36. Unit of force
- 38. Leaning Tower city
- 42. Parallel grooves
- 45. App alternative
- 49. Driver's aid
- 51. Court figures
- 54. Off kilter
- 56. German destroyer
- 57. Tea servings
- 58. Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
- 59. \*Gromit of "Wallace and Gromit"
- 60. "Good" to Sophia Loren
- 61. Whiskey grain, pl.
- 62. "He's Just Not That \_\_\_\_ You"
- 63. Swarm like bees
- 66. \_\_\_\_ of Good Feelings
- 68. Genetic initials

Puzzle solutions on page 12

**SUDOKO**

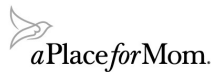
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				1				9	
					8	1			
9		5				2			3
	5		1	4					2
		7				3			
	6			3	9			7	
2		4					5		8
		6	8						
	7			2					

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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.

# Online POLL QUESTION

Which would you rather win?



- Nobel Prize
- Oscar
- Grammy
- Pulitzer
- World Championship in sports

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## LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

*Our poll asked ...*

**How do you plan to celebrate Earth Day?**

- Recycle More .....29%
- Unplug .....0%
- Planting .....0%
- Keep my car in the garage.....42%
- Use Earth friendly cleaning products.....0%
- I don't plan on celebrating.....29%

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**thelowellledger.com**

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**WEEKLY BOX SCORE**

	4/26/18 Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	TOTALS
<b>NORTH</b>	7702	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	<b>7,702</b>
<b>SOUTH</b>	14489	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	<b>14,489</b>

**Food Fight; What a Difference 10 Years Makes!**

While serving as a FROM Board Member ten years ago, Rick Seese came up with the idea and name for Food Fight and brought it to the FROM Marketing Committee who agreed that this would be a great event for FROM. Rick says, "the concept not only raised awareness, but it created donations and a sense of community love and fondness for FROM, as an organization."



Food Fight 2014

The hope was that Food Fight would become an annual community-wide event, but no one could imagine how much it would grow- all because of the great community we call home. In fact, Rick recalls, "after year one, Brian Williams (formerly from NBC) posted our efforts on his website. I then had inquiries from other cities in other states as to how we created and ran it. There may be other 'Food Fights' in America, but none as big as ours."

Rick led the Food Fight Committee from its inception until about 2015 and was instrumental in its growth. When he thinks back over his time with Food Fight, Rick says, "I'm really proud of the Lowell community and business owners for their continued support and very proud of FROM for continuing to find creative ways to grow Food Fight. Food Fight was born because of the competitive nature of our community with the success of our football team."

Food Fight is celebrating a milestone this year as it turns 10 years old! Rick believes a lot of things have contributed to its success. "There are a lot of volunteers that help make Food Fight so successful. Everyone deserves a big thank you for all of their efforts. It really feels like the entire community plays a part every year for Food Fight; donating money, food, or efforts to make it work so well. The North and South compete, but Lowell truly is one big team that helps each other in their time of need."