

## Cliff Yankovich appointed to city council

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Chimera Design co-owner Cliff Yankovich was appointed to the Lowell city council on Saturday, Dec. 8. Yankovich takes over the seat vacated by Jeff Phillips on Nov. 6. Phillips left the council because he accepted a job promotion that would have interfered with his governmental duties.

The council interviewed two candidates at city hall, beginning at 10 am on Dec. 8. The first candidate was Pamela Krause, a Lowell resident for more than 50 years and coordinator of the Lowell Senior Neighbors Center. Krause's interview lasted just under 10 minutes.

"My biggest thing is that my family lives here, my grandkids are here, and I would just like to make sure that we keep [Lowell] the best we can for the next generations that come up," Krause said. "To have a nice hometown like I grew up in, that's what I'd like."

Yankovich was interviewed second; his interview lasted approximately 18 minutes. According to his application, Yankovich has lived in Lowell since Sept. 2018, but he has owned and operated his jewelry business in town since 2002.

"I like what goes on in this town and I have done my



Cliff Yankovich (left) and Pamela Krause (right), candidates for the seat vacated by Jeff Phillips, were interviewed by the Lowell city council on Saturday, Dec. 8.

best to promote it and make the cool things cooler over the last 16 years," Yankovich said. "I've been wanting to get on the city council, but you had to live here. Once I fulfilled that obligation, I decided to give it a shot."

After the interviews, the council members discussed the candidates and their qualifications.

"I really would like to see a woman on [the] council,"

said councilor Greg Canfield. "I think a woman's perspective would be helpful for us. On the flip side of that, Cliff's credentials are just over the top, incredible. His involvement in the community... He's probably more qualified than I am, certainly, to be here."

"While I think there's something to be said for the female perspective, I just am not convinced this is

the right one," said mayor Michael DeVore.

"I'm not opposed to either one of them," said councilor Jim Salzwedel. "I think they both would do justice to helping us along. I don't think we can go wrong making the decision either way."

"Cliff attends more of our city council meetings than Patty [sic]," said councilor

Marty Chambers. "I've never seen her at one of our meetings. [...] I would like to see a woman sit on our board, but, again, Cliff's just... He presents himself well, just overall over the top."

Yankovich will be sworn in privately sometime before the next regular city council meeting, which is at 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 17.

## School board learns about STEM projects

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education had their regular monthly meeting at 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 10. The meeting lasted exactly one hour and was attended by 11 local residents.

The board heard a presentation by Lowell Middle School teacher Joe Keglovitz and principal Dan VanderMeulen about STEM learning at their school. STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and math. Keglovitz uses advanced tools such as CAD software (an educational version named "Tinker CAD") to prepare students for what experts say are the jobs of the future.

"This is an experiment," VanderMeulen said. "We have a couple of different exploratory sixth grade sections of STEM, we

have one seventh grade exploratory section and then we have one yearlong eighth grade class called 'design learning.'"

"It's been very challenging to meet some of the goals we've set, and I don't mean that in a bad way," Keglovitz said. "What we've found is that our kids really need this kind of thing."

The results of the board's evaluation of superintendent Greg Pratt were revealed. The board gave him a nearly perfect rating, judging him "highly effective" in all areas.

"We're lucky here to have an experienced and more than competent superintendent," said board secretary Pat Nugent. "Mr. Pratt exemplifies continuous improvement."

"I think we're extremely

lucky to have Greg in our district," said board trustee Tom Kaywood.

The school board's next regular meeting will be in the Runciman Building, 300 High St., at 7 pm on Monday, Jan. 14. Their next work session meeting will be in the same location at 6 pm on Monday, Jan. 28, 2019.



Way To Go Red Arrows!



Lowell Middle School teacher Joe Keglovitz described STEM learning projects in his classroom.



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Christmas in Fallasburg



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The Ryne Experience



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George H.W. Bush



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50¢





# Christmas in Fallasburg



Everyone gathered outside for the traditional bonfire.



Fallasburg one-room school house is lit up for the occasion.

by Emma Palova

It was a night to remember: good food, great friends and live music by the band Hawks & Owls. After months of preparations for the annual signature event and fundraiser of the Fallasburg Historical Society (FHS), the party was a smash hit.

People streamed in from all over West Michigan. The Christmas buffet consisted of turkey and all the trimmings, two types of meatballs, pasta, stuffing, plus different salads and deviled eggs.

A lot of credit for the food goes to Patty Brechbiel, as well as other ladies of the FHS.

The elaborate dessert selection featured nutty bars and devil's cake, among others. But mostly, it was the camaraderie of the event that brought it home.

The one-room schoolhouse was beautifully decorated with electric candles, and the drive across the lit Covered Bridge enhanced the historic atmosphere of the pioneer

1840s village founded by John W. Fallas.

The party was capped off by a huge bonfire at the Fallasburg Baseball Field.

"We never know how many people will come out," said FHS president Ken Tamke. "This was a huge turnout."

"Villager Craig Wood spent the whole year building the bonfire," said Tamke.

The party started in 2006 and it is Tamke's brainchild. Previously the FHS hosted a "wild game" dinner at the Fallas House. The Fallas House is small and not many people could attend.

Tamke lobbied to use the one-room schoolhouse instead, get a band, serve beer and wine, and to have a potluck.

"There was a brush pile in the field that first year, so we lit it," Tamke said. "Craig Wood took over the fire. We've been going with the same formula ever since."

The FHS volunteers put a lot of work into getting the

old one-room schoolhouse ready for the annual event. This includes decorations, large round tables with red tablecloths and a buffet style dinner, while making sure everything works including the heater and electricity.

It is also the favorite FHS event considering the atmosphere in the historic pioneer village of Fallasburg decorated for Christmas.

Everybody enjoyed the music by live band Hawks & Owls. They have been playing at the party since its beginning. They played non-stop.

The huge bonfire warmed up the night. People gathered in a circle around the bonfire for great conversation and to enjoy the warmth.

The bell in the belfry at the schoolhouse announced the end of the party.



Tina Siciliano Cadwallader poses by the tree.

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Attendees enjoying the Christmas atmosphere.



Hawks & Owls band provided the entertainment.



Pictured: Roger and Henry Schrauben, photo by Bruce Doll

There is still time to visit Santa on the Riverwalk!  
 Saturday, Dec. 15 and Dec. 22, from 10:30 am to 1 pm  
 Wednesday, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, from 5:30 pm to 7 pm



Party-goers enjoyed the buffet.

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## Battle of the 10¢ bills

by Tim McAllister  
 lead reporter

Right now there are two opposing bottle return bills sitting in different committees in the Michigan House of Representatives. One bill would get rid of bottle deposits completely, the other would expand the current rules to include water bottles and other containers.

than traditional recycling programs,” Bellino said in a press release. “It’s time to do away with this outdated program and focus on comprehensive community recycling programs that are better for Michigan families, businesses

member of the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators and serves on the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Committee.

“Our current bottle deposit law has been a success, and it is time to broaden its scope



State reps. Joseph Bellino (left) and Jon Hoadley (right) are each proposing changes to Michigan’s bottle deposit laws.

House Bill 6533 was introduced by Republican Joseph Bellino on Nov. 27. It is currently sitting in the Committee on Michigan Competitiveness. Bellino’s law would repeal the Michigan Beverage Container Act of 1976, eliminating the 10-cent deposit on empty bottles and cans. Bellino’s proposed law may have a bit of a self-serving motive. He and his family have owned a beer and wine distributorship, Bellino’s Quality Beverage, for decades and Bellino himself has, for the last 18 years, owned and operated a liquor store in Monroe, MI called Broadway Market. He is also a former chairman of the Associated Food and Petroleum Dealers.

“The bottle deposit system ultimately captures just two percent of our waste, but it costs more and generates less revenue

and our environment. [...] The bottle bill pulls the two most valuable materials – aluminum and PET [polyethylene terephthalate] plastic – away from community-based recycling systems. Rerouting these materials into local recycling programs would provide the boost recyclers need to sustain their programs and expand access to even more communities.”

Back in Jan. 2018, Democrat Jon Hoadley from Kalamazoo introduced House Bill 5486. If passed, Hoadley’s bill would expand the current 10-cent deposit rules to include water bottles and all other metal, plastic and glass beverage containers one gallon or smaller, with the exception of milk containers. Hoadley’s bill is currently in the House Committee on Natural Resources. Hoadley is a board

and increase our recycling efforts,” Hoadley said in a press release.

“The goal of this legislation is to increase the accessibility of recycling, and as a result, significantly increase recycling rates,” Rep. Abdullah Hammoud said in a press release. “One of the most significant barriers to recycling is the lack of easy options.”

According to the most recently available statistics from the State of Michigan, there is a 97 percent redemption rate on empties. Of the money generated, 75 percent goes to the State Cleanup and Redevelopment Trust Fund and 25 percent is returned to retailers. A little known fact, according to state law there is a \$25 individual daily redemption limit on bottle returns, but retailers can choose whether or not to honor this.

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

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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

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

Dear Editor,

Will it be business as usual or will the Michigan Republican controlled legislature finally do something about the high cost of auto insurance in the state of Michigan. Michigan's no-fault insurance started in 1973 and was designed to lower cost and speed up payment to doctors by eliminating accident victims need to sue the other driver. Michigan Supreme court in 1978 upheld the no-fault law but said that if car insurance is mandatory it must be fair and equitable prices. Michigan average premium is 64 percent more expensive than the national average premium. The high cost of car insurance in Michigan has driven many to drive without insurance. Will it be business as usual where small changes in no fault means little to no changes

in the cost? Michigan job market has come back since the recession but wages haven't. Wages haven't kept up with inflation. Many are not making a living wage. A living wage is the minimum income necessary for a worker to meet their basic needs. Michigan republican controlled legislature in the lame duck session gutted a new minimum wage law that would have raised the minimum wage to \$12 for 2022. If the governor signs the new bill the working poor will have to wait to the year 2030, 12 years from now to get to the \$12 an hour wage. Meanwhile the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. \$12 an hour isn't much of a living wage but is sure a lot better than Michigan's minimum wage of \$9.25. Lowell city council said that their looking into bringing a city income tax to the vote of the people. I see taxation as a bottomless pit and I see city government as a bottomless pit. There's a lot to be said on the subjects of a city income tax, city manager and city council as the city heads down a slippery slope.

Jim Howard  
Lowell Township

## outdoors

ice angling

Dave Stegehuis

Winter came early to Michigan this year. Many residents are making plans to bail out to more tropical settings. Another group is hoping for cold enough temperatures to form a thick layer of ice on area lakes.

As soon as the ice is safe to walk on, fishermen will drill holes through which they hope to pull a variety of fish. Bluegills and crappie are popular species because of accessibility and generous limits of fine table fare.

Equipment for ice fishing can be very basic and relatively inexpensive. In addition to warm clothes, an ice auger or spud to cut holes, plus a short glass rod with a spool to hold light monofilament line make up essential gear. Tie on a small hook or jig baited with a wax worm and one can catch fish.

Nowadays, of course, it is easy to find more sophisticated gear at additional cost. A lithium battery powered auger makes it easy to quietly drill multiple holes. A carbon fiber rod with a light spinning reel spooled with fluorocarbon line provides the stealth to get small tungsten jigs down to the fish quickly. Portable sonar units locate fish activity and describe the topography under the ice in living color. Want more detail, deploy an underwater video camera.

The sun does occasionally shine on the ice, but a variety of portable shelters provide protection from cold and wind. Add a heater for real comfort.

Ice fishing may not be for everyone, so it is advisable to get started by using only very basic equipment. With more experience it will become clear about what kind of gear one may want to consider acquiring.

Finding a place to fish for the desired species is a major concern. It is helpful to ask someone who fishes regularly where he or she has had the best luck. Also, the Department of Natural Resources has a website which lists family friendly fishing locations. Details about species and location are included.

Fishing through the ice is great way to take advantage of the winter season. Extreme caution is required when walking on ice covered water, so make sure to thoroughly check out current conditions before venturing out.

### 100 years The Lowell Ledger December 12, 1918

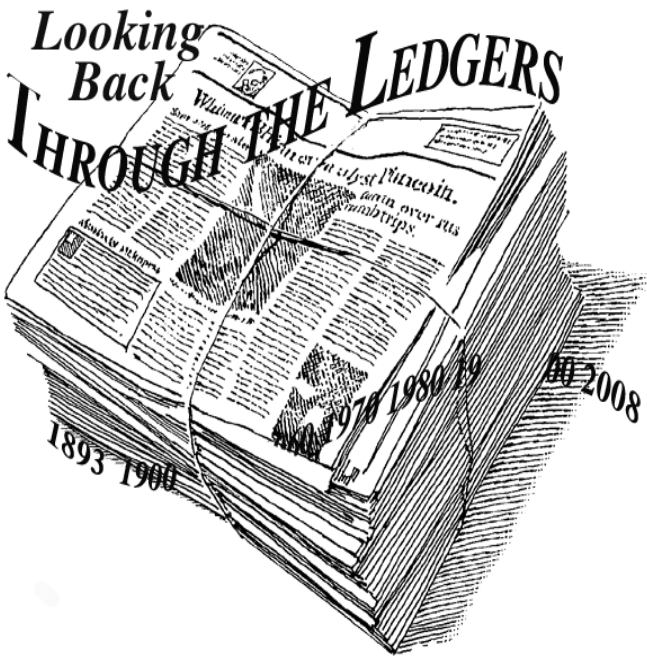
The influenza epidemic in Lowell is improving. The state board of health does not order quarantine as yet but Lowell people ought to establish one themselves. Afflicted families are obliged to do their own errands. This trouble will only be stopped by avoiding close personal contact as much as possible. If you are talking to a friend don't blow your breath in his face--the chances are if you do he is doing the same thing to you and may be giving you influenza. Visit as little as possible. Don't shop in Grand Rapids, do it at home. Keep off of trains. Keep out of crowds. Talk with people at a reasonable distance. Wash your hands often, especially before eating. Keep your fingers out of your mouth and nose. Have plenty of fresh air in your homes. Once more, don't get the other man's breath.

The registration for ladies has commenced. Miss Martha S. Perry has the honor of being the first lady to register in Lowell township. Others follow. All women have the right to vote but can not if they are not registered so they ought to see to it that they are properly registered. If the ladies of the township of Lowell will call at the Township clerk's office as it is convenient for them at any time, not waiting for the regular registration days it will be more pleasant for them.

Elry Cummins, 16 years old, of Lowell, a circuit court probationer, was sentenced to the state reformatory at Ionia for a term of from six months to 15 years by Judge Brown Tuesday. The court recommended that Cummins serve 4 years. He was placed on probation sometime ago when he pleaded guilty to a charge of burglary but was re-arrested this week for a similar offense.

### 75 years The Lowell Ledger December 16, 1943

Fire which started around the chimney at the E.C. Foreman home, corner of Washington and King Sts., during the noon hour on Tuesday of this week, did considerable damage to a wood shingle roof, as well as quite a little water damage inside the house. Prompt work by the fire department prevented much greater damage. The fire was discovered by two school girls, Barbara Thorne and Violet Halverson, who reported to Mrs. Foreman that "there seem to be flames coming out of the roof."



### 125 years ago Lowell Ledger December 16, 1893

Perry Edsall of Greenville, Literally carried away a charming bride from Belding. Miss Louise Townsend is a daughter of L.B. Townsend of Ionia, who for some reason objected to her marrying Mr. Edsall. But love would not be balked. Miss Townsend left the train at Belding and, went to the hotel and had barely eaten her dinner when Mr. Edsall and a companion drove up, hustled her into the carriage and went to the Congregational parsonage, where the nuptial knot was tied. Then the happy couple went to Greenville, where they expect to live happily ever after. The bride's father is one of the richest men in Ionia.

School will reopen next Monday morning in the Central building and will continue through the holiday season excepting on Christmas and New Year's days. The other schools which have been running right along will observe the usual holiday season. There has been no diphtheria in Lowell for several weeks, and it is fervently hoped that the disease has been routed and that there will be no more interruptions in our school work. It cannot be expected that the time lost can be made up but teachers and pupils will probably do their best to make the best of the remainder of the school year, and the best wishes of the people and tax payers will be with them.

## We love to hear from you!

*The Lowell Ledger welcomes letters to the editor from readers, but there are a few conditions that must be met before they will be published.*

The requirements are:

- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence. We do not publish anonymous letters, and names will be withheld at the editor's discretion for compelling reasons only.
- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
- Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of businesses will not be accepted.
- Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
- Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
- "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
- In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per month.
- We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced.



# HEALTH

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



## - meningitis

Meningitis is an infection or irritation of the lining around the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by an infection, medication or cancer. Symptoms of meningitis include neck soreness, a fever, a headache or overall fatigue. Some people have confusion, seizures or weakness. Babies may be fussy, overly sleepy, stiff, limp or eat less than their normal amount.

Anyone can get meningitis, but it is more common in children younger than one year and in adults older than 60 years. It can spread by being close to someone with the infection who is coughing, which is why teenagers and college students living in dorms are at a higher risk of getting meningitis. You can also get meningitis if you kiss or share drinks with someone who is infected.

After doing an exam, if the doctor has concerns of meningitis, you will need to go to the hospital for more testing. At the hospital,

they will order blood tests and a lumbar puncture. A lumbar puncture is when a needle is used to get fluid from around the spine. This will help the doctor know if you have an infection. It will also show what type of infection it is. Sometimes a CT scan is needed to take pictures of your head.

If a bacteria or fungus is causing the meningitis, the infection is serious. You will need to be hospitalized for treatment with IV medications. If a virus is causing the infection, you may not need medication.

Most people get better if the meningitis is treated. Some adults have seizures, weakness in an arm or leg, or other nervous system problem. Children can have developmental delay, hearing loss, seizures, or other nervous system problems. About five to 15 percent of people who have a serious infection die. There are vaccines to prevent meningitis that are recommended for all children and teenagers.

# anniversaries

## Garnaat



Ken and Cathy Garnaat of Alto celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, October 26, enjoying the afternoon with family, including son, Brad (Tanya, nee Frazier) Garnaat and children, Brandon, Brooklyn (Tanner) Micklatcher, Trent and Jared; daughter, Cheryl (Ken) Bell and children,

Toby Wilkerson and Lexi; son, Rich (Mindi, nee Smith) Garnaat and children, Grace, Faith, Creed, Jace, Jude, Rye, Zeal and Will; daughter, Laura Garnaat; daughter, Caryn (nee Miller) (Jon) Holloway. In September, they vacationed in the Florida Keys and toured the Everglades.

# Looking Back, continued

Charles Keech, 15, who pleaded guilty to holding up a gas station on US-16 near Ionia, early Monday morning of last week, was given a 2-15 year sentence to southern Michigan prison at Jackson, Friday, by Ionia County Circuit Judge Morrie K. Davis. Keech also confessed to two car thefts and to two Lowell burglaries in which he obtained the three revolvers used in the hold-up.

## 50 years

### The Lowell Ledger December 12, 1968

In the past few months, there have been several interesting developments pertaining to the Thornapple River and the "twin" dams located at Ada and Cascade. Property owners along the backwater of the Ada Dam wish to maintain their man-made water wonderland. The Water commission of Ada Township is now looking into the possibility of utilizing this same water source as a reservoir for a projected municipal system.

Everett (Steve) Wittenbach, a life-long resident of Lowell, today has been elected to the Board of Directors of the State Savings Bank. Wittenbach fills a seat on the eight-member board left vacant with the death on November 12 of board chairman C.H. Runciman, Sr.

## 25 years

### The Lowell Ledger December 15, 1993

This will be the third year White's Covered Bridge will be lit. Lynn Lafler, chairman of the lighting project, cites several reasons for lighting White's Bridge for Christmas. 1) To enjoy a rare Christmas event. White's Bridge is one of the last four or five covered bridges in the state. Lighting the bridge may be a simple event but creates good memories. 2) Lighting White's Bridge for Christmas is uncommercial. Rather than crowded stores, families can take a ride through the winter landscape to visit this wonderful survival from the past. Youngsters can see Santa Claus, and parents and grandparents can visit the bridge and renew their memories. It's a way of celebrating the holidays and a legacy from the past. 3) It will help those who are working on the preservation of the bridge. We ask those who visit the bridge to give donations if they can. Those contributions are being saved to complete a portion of a local grant to help in working on the road approaches to the bridge, guardrails, drainage and related services.

After a short discussion on cost, affects and standards, Lowell's City Council got back to Lowell Chief of Police Barry Emmons' 25 years of service and adopted an early retirement window. Emmons formally requested an early retirement from the city.

# business matters



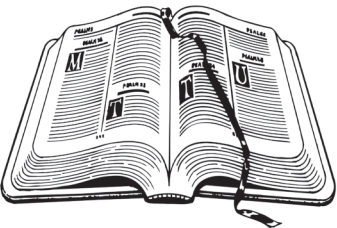
Greenridge Realty announced that Ryan Hesche received Sales Person of the Month in November.

This award recognizes Hesche for his outstanding success and achievements.



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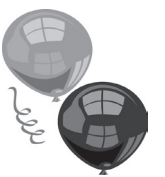
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9 AM - Traditional • 11 AM - Contemporary  
Kid's Crew 11:15 AM  
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

# happy birthday



**DECEMBER 12** Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Ellis, Danielle Brenk, Marea Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.  
Brad Briggs, Matt Borg, Kimberly Kline, Kelly Potter, Tom Kehoe.

**DECEMBER 13** Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

**DECEMBER 16** Timmy Buechler.

**DECEMBER 14** Chris Kropf, Bryan Robert Roth, Perry Beachum.

**DECEMBER 17** Bill Ellison, Jerry Scott, Amy Riddle.

**DECEMBER 15** Karen Latva, Tammy Baird, Roger Brown,

**DECEMBER 18** Danielle Anchors, Hillary Graves, Julie Alberts, Heather Walendzik.





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"

George Herbert Walker Bush, the 41st President of the United States, died at his Houston home, surrounded by his loved ones, on Friday, Nov. 30, 2018 at age 94. The exact cause of death has not yet been announced, but Bush suffered from a variety of ailments the past several years, including vascular parkinsonism, blood infections and low blood pressure.

The president's last meal was three soft-boiled eggs, a cup of yogurt and two fruit drinks. His last words were "I love you, too," spoken to his son, former President George W. Bush, on speakerphone from Dallas.

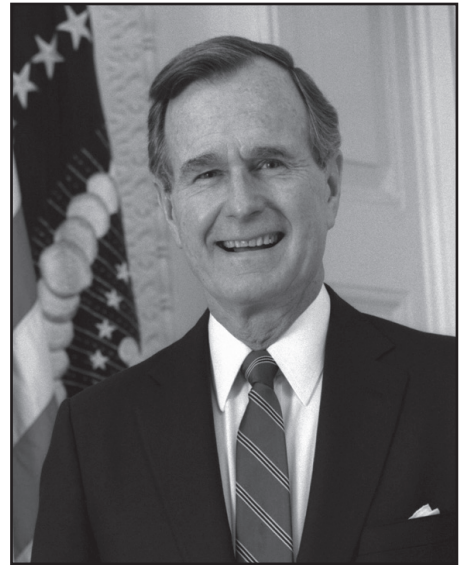
"George H.W. Bush was a man of the highest character and the best dad a son or daughter could ask for," Bush said in a statement. "The entire Bush family is deeply grateful for 41's life and love, for the compassion of those who have cared and prayed for dad, and for the condolences of our friends and fellow citizens."

"Bush's life is a testament to the notion that public service is a noble, joyous calling," said former President Barack Obama. "It's a legacy of service that may never be matched, even though he'd want all of us to try."

"It was an honor and a privilege to know and spend time with George H.W. Bush for over 25 years," said Dana Carvey, the comedian who used to impersonate Bush on 'Saturday Night Live.' "When I think of those times what I remember most is how hard we would laugh. I will miss my friend."

"George Bush was an inspiration to all Americans and we will miss him dearly," said actor and former governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger. "From the day he first put on his US Navy flight suit and took off into the unknown, he always put his country first. He took on many jobs throughout his long career, and all shared one distinct trait: public service. His greatest legacy is that pure American spirit, that commitment to selflessness that drove him until the very end."

We asked a few people in Lowell about their favorite memories of President Bush.



**Andy, Lowell**

"All I can think of was the Dana Carvey impression on SNL. He seemed to be a man of decency. You don't see that today and looking back now, I can appreciate that."



**Clint, Caledonia**

"The memory that strikes me the most was when he said, 'Read my lips, no new taxes.' I was a Republican at that time. Now I'm not."



**Linda, Grand Rapids**

"When he talked about the 'thousand points of light' and what that meant to him."



President Bush's loyal service dog Sully will be placed with another veteran.



Members of the military transporting the remains of former President George H.W. Bush at Joint Base Andrews, MD. Bush was laid to rest next to former first lady Barbara Bush in College Station, TX.



**Molly, Lowell**

"The first thing that comes to mind is his character. What I see now is the opposite of that. I liked his poise, his character and what he stood for."



**Paul, Cannonsburg**

"He was a family man. Among all of his countless achievements, he was man who put his family first, and he honored his wife."



**Sonja, Lowell**

"He had a very long-lasting marriage."



# Metro Health of Lowell, formerly Lowell Family Medical Center, gets new signs

A work crew delivered and installed new signs at Metro Health, 2550 W. Main, on Friday, Nov. 30. The location was formerly known as the "Lowell Family Medical Center." The old sign is pictured below.

Another even more drastick change is on the way for that office when Dr. Paul Gauthier has his retirement party on Wednesday, Dec. 19.



## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

On December 3, 2018 the Lowell Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 11-2018 which is summarized as follows.

This Ordinance prohibits the establishment in Lowell Charter Township of marihuana establishments as defined in the Michigan Marihuana Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act. The Ordinance also prohibits the consumption of marihuana in public places and in a motor vehicle. The Ordinance provides regulations regarding the outdoor cultivation of marihuana in Lowell Charter Township. Specifically, marihuana plants grown outdoors cannot be visible from a public place without the use of binoculars, aircraft, or other optical aids, may only be grown on a parcel which contains a principal use and must be enclosed by a solid fence six feet in height which is equipped with a locked entrance. No more than 12 marihuana plants shall be cultivated on the premises at any one time.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication.

I hereby certify that Ordinance No. 11-2018 as summarized herein was adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lowell at a special meeting held on the date stated above, and I further certify that public notice of such meeting was given as provided by law.

Monica Burt  
Township Clerk





This is another installment in the Lowell Ledger's series of feature articles about the many different types of artisans who do business in the Lowell area. Some use the Internet as their storefront, others sell their wares out of a brick and mortar location. All of them are fascinating people and incredibly talented.

If you know of somebody who makes things and sells them, we want to do a story about it! Contact the Lowell Ledger at 616-897-9261 or send a message to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

## GlessBoards Furniture

# Lowell couple's woodworking creations furnish homes across the country

by Gerald Browning  
contributing reporter

Nick and Amy Gless are co-owners of GlessBoards Furniture, a local furniture and woodworking business whose products, custom-made high-end furniture, have been taking off for well over five years. What started out as an Etsy page has evolved into much more.

"We had some leftover lumber from building the house, and started there," said Nick Gless in a recent interview. "We had fun doing it and the next thing we knew we threw in another piece and another piece."

"We started building for friends and family. I started building fancy cutting boards," Amy Gless added.

It was suggested that Amy and Nick start an Etsy store.

"I set up an Etsy store and put the

cutting boards on there and a couple of them sold," Amy said.

Soon after, Amy placed pictures of the furniture that they had built for friends and family on Etsy and people were buying them.

The bulk of their business comes from people who live in large cities out of state.

"We sell a lot to the large cities," Nick said. "So the East Coast, Chicago, and the West Coast. I think it's because a lot of people live in small apartments."

"Our niche is unique little extension tables," Amy added. A large percentage of their clientele are repeat customers. "Everything is custom made."

GlessBoards is all about tailoring the item to the specifications of the customer. Amy and

Nick work closely with the customer to create a product the client wants. They started out with three or four different chair styles, and by crafting their styles to the specifications of their clients, more styles have evolved.

"Usually somebody says 'Hey, I really like this, can I get a price?' and I'll start asking questions," Nick said. "Where are you? What do you like about it? Do you have a particular color or wood species you're after?" GlessBoards then gives a ballpark quote for the product.

GlessBoards takes pride in their product. If there is something that a customer wants that may not be structurally sound for the product, they will work with the customer to find a resolution. If there is something wrong with



Facebook photos



the product, they will fix or replace it, within reason.

The couple occasionally take classes in woodworking, craftsmanship, and other like subjects to help "up our game." The Glesses take their expertise seriously. The Mark Adams School of Woodworking in Indiana has helped GlessBoards to provide top-quality craftsmanship to people all over the country.

"This is a lifestyle choice for us," Amy said.

There is no interest to expand their business to hire more workers or to create the exact same piece the exact same way. The Glesses work comfortably and efficiently together. They retired from corporate careers to spend more time "doing what we enjoy."

The Glesses opened their shop during the Christmas Through

Lowell event to promote their products. They had to shut down their work for roughly a week to do this event, something they were happy to do to reach out to Lowell.

You can find GlessBoards on Facebook, Instagram and their website, glessboards.com. There, clients can watch the progress of their pieces and potential clients can see the work they do.

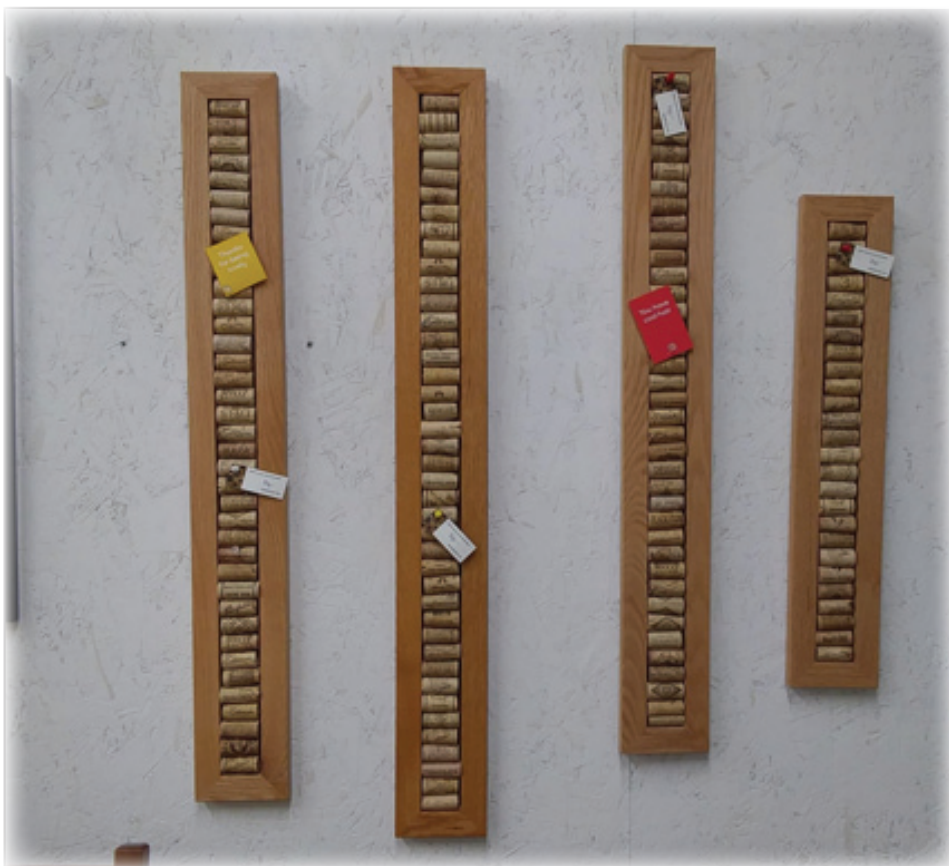


Photo by Gerald Misner





### Treasury:

#### Be Aware of New Collections Scam

Michigan taxpayers with past-due tax debts should be aware of a new scam making the rounds through the U.S. Postal Service, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

In the scheme, taxpayers are sent what appears to be a government-looking letter about an overdue tax bill, asking the taxpayer to immediately contact a toll-free number to resolve a tax debt or face asset seizure. The piece of correspondence appears credible to the taxpayer because it uses specific personal facts about the outstanding tax debt pulled directly from publicly available information.

The scammer's letter attempts to lure the taxpayer into a situation where they could make a payment to a criminal.

"All taxpayers need to be aware of this scam," said Deputy State Treasurer Ann Good, who oversees Treasury's Financial and Administrative Services programs. "If you have questions about an outstanding state debt, please don't hesitate to contact us. The state Treasury Department's correspondence involves official letters sent through the

U.S. Postal Service, including several options to resolve your debt and information outlining your taxpayer rights."

Taxpayers who receive a letter from a scammer or have questions about their state debts should call Treasury's Collections Service Center at 1-866-218-7224. A customer service representative can log the scam, verify outstanding state debts and provide flexible payment options.

To learn more about Michigan's taxes and the collections process, go to [www.michigan.gov/taxes](http://www.michigan.gov/taxes) or follow the state Treasury Department on Twitter at @MITreasury.

#### Protect yourself from influenza this holiday season by getting the flu vaccine

As part of National Influenza Vaccination Week, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is reminding Michigan residents that it's not too late to get the flu vaccine.

National Influenza Vaccination Week, Dec. 2-8, promotes awareness about the importance of the flu vaccine and provides a reminder to get the flu shot for those who have not done so yet this season. Annual flu vaccination is the best way to protect yourself from the flu.

"The flu isn't on anyone's holiday wish list," said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. "It is



important to get vaccinated now to protect yourself and your family. The vaccine is your best defense against the flu and will help reduce the severity of symptoms if you catch the flu

despite being vaccinated."

Flu is a contagious respiratory disease caused by different strains of the influenza virus and can result in mild to severe illness. Despite the fact numerous influenza hospitalizations and deaths are reported each year, last year only 39.5 percent of Michiganders reported receiving a flu shot, below the national rate of 41.7 percent. Typically, those most severely affected by the flu are children younger than 5 years old, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions, pregnant women and those over 65 years old.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), last year's flu season was estimated to be the deadliest since the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. More than 79,000 deaths were attributed to the flu, 185 of which were children. In Michigan, two children died last year due to flu-related complications.

The 2018-2019 flu season is already underway and positive flu cases have been confirmed throughout the central, southeast and southwest regions of Michigan. In addition, influenza-like illnesses are being reported across the state. While flu activity is still minimal, it is important for Michiganders to get their flu vaccine now as it takes about two weeks after the vaccine is administered before the body builds up enough immunity to prevent the flu.

The CDC recommends routine annual influenza vaccination for all persons 6 months of age and older. This year there are many flu vaccine options available, and residents should speak with a healthcare provider about which flu vaccine is best for them.

Flu vaccines are available at many locations throughout Michigan, including doctor's offices, pharmacies and local health departments. To find a location near you, visit [FluShot.healthmap.org](http://FluShot.healthmap.org). Additionally, there are several programs across the state that will assist with the cost of the vaccine. The Vaccines for Children program provides flu vaccine for free to those who are uninsured. Contact your local health department to learn more about these programs.

Residents with questions about vaccines, including the flu vaccine, can visit [IVaccinate.org](http://IVaccinate.org). For more information about flu activity in Michigan, visit [Michigan.gov/flu](http://Michigan.gov/flu).

#### MDOT keeping most rest areas open year-round

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will keep nearly all of the state's 77 rest areas open this winter to maintain the convenience and safety they provide to motorists, but will again close five seasonal areas beginning today.

"Many travelers look to our network of rest areas for a safe stopping point on their travels, which is why we keep as many open as possible year-round," said State Transportation Director Mark Van Port Fleet.

Only five rest areas are closed each year for a 20-week period, which will be this winter from Dec. 3 to April 24, 2019. The seasonal closures are due to reduced use during winter months and safety concerns, such as steep entrance and exit drives and potentially slippery conditions on stairways between parking lots and buildings.

The following five rest areas will close Dec. 3 and reopen in April:

St. Ignace Rest Area on southbound I-75 in Mackinac County  
Ludington Rest Area on northbound US-31 in Mason County  
Topinabee Rest Area on northbound I-75 in Cheboygan County  
Hebron Rest Area on southbound I-75 in Cheboygan County  
Hart Rest Area on southbound US-31 in Oceana County

Closed rest areas are locked and winterized, with exit and entrance ramps barricaded. Designated rest areas will have "Closed Until Spring" signs posted and will have the mileage to the next open rest area listed.

Closed rest areas will be listed on MDOT's website at [www.michigan.gov/restareas](http://www.michigan.gov/restareas).

# Thank You

The Alto Lions Club would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their donations to the 2018 Children's Christmas Party.

Alto Automotive  
Alto DDA  
Alto Fire Department  
Alto Friends of the Library  
Alto L.P. Gas  
Alto Marathon  
Alto Meat Processing  
American Legion

American Legion Auxiliary  
Sons of American Legion  
Mary Benedict, Attorney  
Tim Bergy  
Blough Lumber Sales, Inc.  
Boulder Ridge  
Wild Animal Park  
Carl Fuss

Cogent Civil Engineering  
Graham Trucking  
Heidi's Farm Stand  
Ice Cream Caboose  
Mark Johnson/  
Farm Bureau Ins.  
Kentwood Sales Corp.  
Lowell Area Schools  
Plains L.P. Gas Marketing  
Skyline Electric  
Stedfast Construction

Swiss Lane Farms  
Pat Thomet  
*(in memory of Stewart Thomet)*  
Vander Ziel Machines  
Weeland Farms  
Zook Farm Equipment

Alto Area Lions Club



A special thank you to Lowell Meijer!

#### HOW TO CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES

US Sen. Debbie Stabenow  
Senate Office Building  
731 Hart  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-4822  
[stabenow.senate.gov](http://stabenow.senate.gov)

US Sen. Gary C. Peters  
Senate Office Building  
724 Hart  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-6221  
[peters.senate.gov](http://peters.senate.gov)

US Rep. Justin Amash  
House Office Building  
114 Cannon  
Washington, DC 20515  
202-225-3831  
[amash.house.gov](http://amash.house.gov)

Mich. Sen. Dave Hildenbrand  
PO Box 30036  
Lansing, MI 48909-7536  
517-373-1801  
[SenDHildenbrand@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenDHildenbrand@senate.michigan.gov)  
[senatordavehildenbrand.com](http://senatordavehildenbrand.com)

Mich. Rep. Thomas A. Albert  
N-1190 House Office Building  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-0846  
[gophouse.org/representatives/westmi/albert](http://gophouse.org/representatives/westmi/albert)

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SPECTRUM CHANNEL LINEUP

Communities Served: Townships of Bowne & Lowell MI.

Effective on or after January 15th, 2019, Pop will no longer be available on Digi Tier 2/Spectrum Gold. Pop will continue to be available on Spectrum Select with no change in channel position.

For a complete channel lineup, visit [Spectrum.com/channels](http://Spectrum.com/channels). To view this notice online, visit [Spectrum.net/programmingnotices](http://Spectrum.net/programmingnotices).



# Lowell Middle school students of the first trimester

Lowell Middle School has announced the Students of the 1st Trimester. Teachers chose the following students who have been outstanding in the categories of academics, citizenship and attitude: first row: Kaylee Bogoski, Eghan Bellinger, Mya Pender, Rosalia Jimenez, Samantha Hayes, Braxcynn Baker, Zahna Rutz, Mya Richmond, Leah Krieger, and Alyse Miles; second row: Ethan Swanson, Aubree Lee, Jacqueline Landman, Lili Hare, Sarah Bogoski, Parker Salgat, Owen Newland, Caden Cone, Analashia Reid, Olivia Cooley, and Ben Vonderheide; third row: Evan Bray, Zach Boehr, Jason Stephens, Easton Rich, Kiara Hulbert, Abigail German, Ella Todd, Hope Kanouse, Aly Smith, and Savannah Redumski; fourth row: Jaylin LaForce, Isabell Fabiano, Gracie Bassett, Jacob DeVries, Victor Preiss, William Kolp, Anthony Havlik, Nolan Lowrie, Avery Elmhirst, Brooklynne Dusendang, and Isabel Saffell; fifth row: Alex Binns and Dawson Douma. Not pictured: Liam TenHarmse, Kaylee Royer, and Faith VanDuinen.



## Sports Summaries

### BOYS FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

The Lowell freshman boys basketball team was invaded by a Coopersville team that got off to a slow start, but got things going later and came away with a victory. At halftime the score was 15 to nine with Coopersville in the lead. The final score was Coopersville 41 to 22 for Lowell. Coopersville's Luke Sanford led all scores with 17 points. Lowell was led in scoring by Morgan North with six points. The next Lowell freshman game is at West Catholic on December 11.

### BOYS JV BASKETBALL

The Lowell boys JV team played a good game against a strong team and came away with a tough loss against the Coopersville Broncos. The final score was Coopersville 64, Lowell 60. Lowell was outscored by six points in the fourth quarter. Coopersville's Isiah Currie led in scoring with 25 points. Lowell was led in scoring by freshman Tyler Vroman with 17 points.

### BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

The Lowell boys varsity basketball team opened the home season with a victory over a visiting Coopersville team. A fairly even first quarter saw Coopersville up 11 to 10 over the Red Arrows. The second quarter was different, the Red Arrows came out and put up 21 points to nine points for Coopersville, with some great defense and good offense. Trevor Petroelje had a three-pointer and two baskets in the second quarter. Robby Schneider had a three-pointer and a free throw to take the Red Arrows to a 31 to 20 halftime lead over the Coopersville Broncos. The third quarter played nearly even, with Coopersville getting 13 points while Lowell netted 15. The Red Arrows outscored the Broncos 18 points to 12 points in the fourth quarter for a final victory score of 64 to 45. The Red Arrows' Jordan Dent led all scorers with a game high of 26 points, followed by Trevor Petroelje with 12, Gavin Coxon and Robby Schneider each scored 10 points. Coopersville was led in scoring by Connor Helsen with 11 points.

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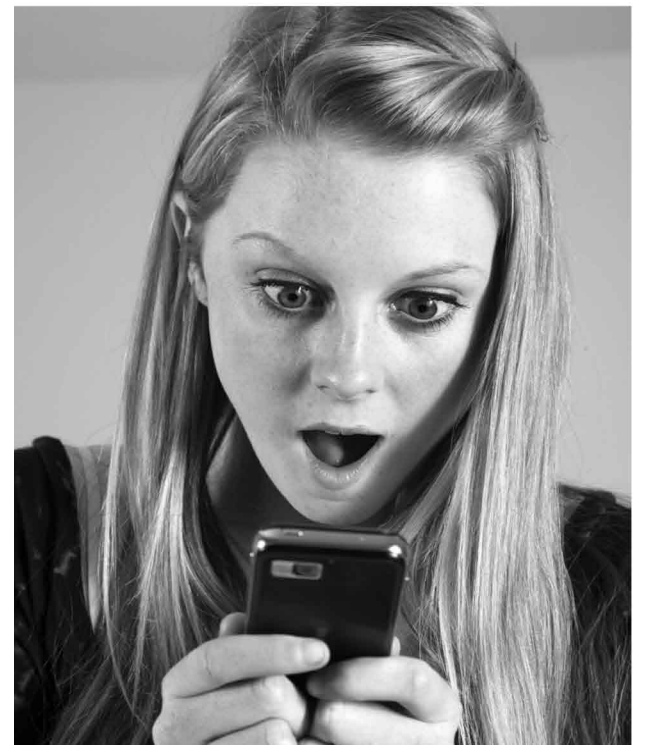
Pyramid Network Services proposes to build a 304-foot tall Self-Support Communications Tower. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The Site location is Cumberland Avenue, Lowell, Kent County, MI 49331. Lat: 42-57-1.4, Long: -85-23-21.7. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antenna Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A1121135.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS** – Interested persons may review the application ([www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications)) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review ([www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest)) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. **HISTORIC PROPERTIES EFFECTS** – Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: *Trileaf Corp, Emily Senne, e.senne@trileaf.com, 1821 Walden Office Square, Suite 510, Schaumburg, IL 60173, 630-227-0202.*

## Red Arrow Fall SPORTS SCHEDULES

- BOYS VARSITY WRESTLING**  
\* Denotes a home game  
12/15 at 8 am Kent County Classic  
12/19 at 6 pm OK Black crossover at Cedar Springs
- BOYS VARSITY SWIM & DIVE**  
12/18 at 6 pm at Spring Lake
- GIRLS GYMNASTICS**  
\* Denotes a home game at LHS  
1/5 at 10 am Rockford Flip Flop Invite
- GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
\* Denotes a game at LHS main gym  
12/14 at 7 pm at EGR  
12/20 at 7 pm Forest Hills Eastern\*
- BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL**  
\* Denotes a home game at LHS main gym  
12/14 at 7 pm EGR\*  
12/20 at 7 pm at Forest Hills Eastern
- GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**  
12/14 time TBA Aquinas Competition  
12/19 at 6 pm Jenison Invite
- BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY**  
\* Denotes a home game at Kentwood Ice Arena  
12/14 at 7:30 pm Grand Rapids Christian\*  
12/15 at 3:30 East Grand Rapids\*  
12/22 at 4 pm DeWitt\*
- BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING**  
\* Denotes a meet at The Bowling Alley - Ionia  
12/17 at 3:30 pm Greenville at Jacket Lanes  
12/19 at 3:30 pm FHC\*

## JUST CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT YOU'RE READING ON THE INTERNET?



**BEWARE** of online bloggers and wannabe news sources that can publish whatever they please without repercussions.

**MOST ARE JUST LETTING OFF STEAM OR WORSE, HAVE A PURPOSE THAT IS NOT DISCLOSED OR A HIDDEN AGENDA.**  
Be sure your news source puts their readers first, is audited and is a member of the Michigan Press Association.





# obituaries

## FRANKS

Carl E. Franks, age 80 of Lowell, passed away Friday, December 7, 2018. He was preceded in death by his great-grandson, J.J. Cruz-Miller II. Carl is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lorna; children Scott Franks, Karla (Mark) Lauderdale; brothers Bill (Bertha) Franks, Harold (Toki) Franks, Lee (Mary) Franks, Dennis Franks; grandchildren Ronald Conley Jr., Samantha Conley, Cassandra (Gary) Johnson; great-grandchildren Elijah & Natalia Conley, Alexis & Christopher Cluver, Nathan Johnson, Deven Lauderdale, Brooklyn Cross; several brothers- and sisters-in-law; and several nieces and nephews. Carl worked at Big L Lumber for over 40 years, and was also a longtime member of the Moose in Lowell. He was an avid sportsman; he especially enjoyed golf. He also loved to fish, and over the years, taught many people to fish. Carl was a kind and gentle person who was loved by all who met him. He was a beloved husband, cherished father, amazing grandfather and terrific great-grandfather. Carl will be deeply missed. A Celebration of Life will be held 11:00 a.m. Sunday, December 16, at the Lowell Moose Lodge, 1320 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331. Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital, <https://www.shrinerschildrenshospitalsforchildren.org/shc/donate>; or Mooseheart, <http://www.mooseheart.org>



## OESCH

Melva E. Oesch, age 86 of Alto, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Friday, December 7, 2018. She was preceded in death by her grandsons, Joseph Robert and Freddie. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Joseph Oesch; children, Fredrick (Donna) Oesch, Bonnie (David) Stouffer, Sam (Randi) Oesch, Ken "Peny" (Denise) Oesch, Jeff (Brenda) Oesch, Tom (Michelle) Oesch, Sally (Don) Meyer; brothers, Gary (Jane) Crosby, Jim Crosby; sisters, Donna (Sim) Maier, Polly Vanderstel; 25 grandchildren; 56 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild, Thea; special friend, Diane Rieffer; and many nieces and nephews. Melva was proud to be a farm wife. She put a lot of time in as a terminal patient caregiver and owned Oesch soft serve ice cream wagon. Visitation will be Wednesday, December 12, from 2-4 and 6-8 PM at the Apostolic Christian Fellowship Center, 7700 Wingeier Ave. SE, Alto, MI 49302. Funeral services will be Thursday, December 13, 11:00 AM at the Apostolic Christian Church, 7157 Wingeier Ave. SE, Alto, MI 49302. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE, Suite 300, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546; or the Apostolic Christian Church.



## WRIGHT

Francis "Frank" Albert Wright, age 75 of Lowell, passed away Wednesday, December 5, 2018. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Kay; son Chris (Laura) Wright of Grand Rapids; daughters Lisa (Bill) Nelson of Lowell, Debbie (Tom) Tomasik of Rockford; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister Vi Blatt; brothers Charles (Mary) Wright, Jim Wright; many nieces and nephews; close family friend Sue VanOosten; and his beloved dog Molly. Funeral will be held 1:00 PM Friday, December 14, with a visitation one hour prior to the service, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Fire Department, 315 S. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331; or Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM), 11535 Fulton St. E, Lowell, MI 49331.



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## In this season of giving, help a loved one with Social Security

During the holiday season, we surround ourselves with family and friends, some of whom may rely on us for a number of reasons. An aging parent might need help clearing snow. A sibling may require help after a surgery. And as we get older, our family members may need help managing their finances. In fact, more than eight million people who get monthly Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits need help managing their money. If you have a loved one who cannot manage their finances, you may be able to become a representative payee. We thoroughly investigate people who apply to be representative payees to protect the interests of Social Security beneficiaries, because a representative payee receives the beneficiary's payments and is given the authority to use them on the beneficiary's behalf.

complete a form to account for the benefits you've received. You can either fill out the form and return it to Social Security or go online at [www.socialsecurity.gov/payee](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/payee) to file the report.

Due to a recent change in the law, we no longer require the following payees to complete an annual Representative Payee Report:

- Natural or adoptive parents of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child;
- Legal guardians of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child;
- Natural or adoptive parents of a disabled adult beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household with the beneficiary; and
- Spouse of a beneficiary.

Taking care of family is something we do all year long, not just during this holiday season. Becoming a representative payee is a selfless act of kindness. You can read more about becoming a representative payee at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10076.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10076.pdf).

Social Security appoints a representative payee to manage Social Security and SSI funds only. A payee has no legal authority to manage non-Social Security income or medical matters.

As a representative payee, you must know what the beneficiary's needs are so you can decide the best use of benefits for their care and well-being. This is especially important if the beneficiary doesn't live with you. Each year, Social Security may ask you to

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

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R	A	S	P		A	S	H			K	N	I	T					
O	D	O	R		D	A	T	A		S	N	I	D	E				
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# classifieds

## for sale

**BOB'S 21ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD HOUSE SALE** - Great gifts for families and friends. Blue bird, wren, bat houses, wood duck, screech owl boxes, bird feeders, squirrel feeders. All cedars will last many seasons. High quality, low prices. Bob's Bird House, 12279 60th St., Alto. 616-868-6633.

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

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

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

**LUXURIOUS LINCOLN Premium Warranty** - Navigation, Sirius, Heated steering, Remote start, 12-way power & Lumbar heated/cooled seats, Gorgeous Ruby Red Metallic 2013 Sedan V6 very peppy, Camera, 103,692 mi \$10,483 Beautiful! Text/call 616-460-7893 Caledonia.

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

**REACH OVER 100,000 AREA HOMES** - with our Marketplace! One call & one payment, only \$40! Includes 20 words & 1 black & white photo. Only items for sale please. The ad runs in the Lowell Buyer's Guide & News, Hastings Reminder, Marshall Advisor/Chronicle & Battle Creek Shopper News. Call 897-9555 or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info.

## wanted

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

**GOT LAND?** Our Hunters will Pay Top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a FREE info packet & Quote. 1-866-309-1507 www.BaseCamp Leasing.com (MICH)

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

## help wanted

**WE ARE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR DRIVING ROUTE CARRIERS** - to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturdays. Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**ADDIX IN LOWELL IS HIRING** - we are seeking team members for the following positions: all shifts sewing operator and all shifts seasonal cutting technician. Call Bart for an interview at 616-916-2418.

**DRIVERS CDL-A** - Looking for an incredible career? Don't wait! Earn top pay, sign-on bonus, quarterly safety bonus, excellent benefits: health, life, dental & vision insurance, 401K and More! Must have 1 yr CDL experience with X-end. Apply at www.gulfmarkenergy.com or call 866-448-4068 EOE.

## for rent

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

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

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

**WHISTLE STOP MINI STORAGE** - 12661 Vergennes, N. of Lowell. 5x10; 10x10; 10x20; 10x30; 12x40. Fenced lighted, key code entry. Call for more information, 897-8872.

**\$1** 1st sheet  
 50¢ each additional sheet

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**105 N. Broadway - 897-9555**

## services

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

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

**EVERYDAY MILITARY DISCOUNT** - 10% off any service when showing your military ID. 24-Hour towing, tire change, lock out, jump starts, fuel delivery. J&K Roadside Service, 616-690-0983.

## services

**CARPENTER WANTS JOBS, JOBS, JOBS** - New homes, remodeling, additions, flooring, siding, decks, kitchens, baths, plans drawn. Licensed since 1967. References. Mel Cooke, 676-9239. No Sunday calls please.

**SCANNING SERVICE** - Do you need something scanned & emailed? The Buyers Guide/Lowell Ledger now offers this service! Mon. - Thurs., 8 - 5 p.m. & Fri., 8 - noon. Phone 897-9555 with any questions.

**TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE** - 5400 Ivan Rd., Saranac, 642-9180. Dave Traver, head mechanic, formerly of McCaul's Auto Service. 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 5 pm.

## services

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

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

**DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED?** - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees... I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: \$3500 incl. all filing fees AND FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616) 235-0330.

## services

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 Ph. 897-9261  
 Fax 897-4809  
 email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

## Community Calendar

# December

## AND ONGOING EVENTS

**PLEASE NOTE** - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are on a space available basis & **ARE NOT GUARANTEED**. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not accept ANY Garage or sales (including fundraisers) as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway.

**SANTA IS COMING TO THE LIBRARY** - Dec. 12, 4:30 - 5:30 pm. Free photos. Sponsored by the Ionia County Great Start program. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

**SANTA IS COMING TO THE LIBRARY** - Dec. 12, 6 - 7 pm. Sponsored by the Ionia County Great Start program. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

**TWENY BOPPER BOOK TO MOVIE CLUB** - meets Dec. 12 at 4 pm to watch and discuss Old Yeller. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

**LEGO DAY** - Dec. 27, 1-4 pm. Kids will be tasked in creating a Grinch Catcher! Stop in & join the fun. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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

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

**WOMEN OF THE MOOSE** - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

**ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY** - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

**V.F.W. POST #8303** - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 102** - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Clay VanderWarf, 616-485-3429 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

**VERGENNES CLUB MEETS** - at 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month March thru Nov. Meeting at Schneider Manor Community Room. Program & refreshments. Guests welcome.

**TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372** - every Tuesday, weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m. in the activity room at Schneider Manor, Lowell.

**CUB SCOUT PACK 3188** - meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

**QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB** - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org for information. New members welcome.

**LOWELL LIONS CLUB** - meets third Tuesday at noon at Lowell City Hall.

**LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** - Open Radio Room Thursdays, 7 pm at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 Fulton St. E. General meeting 3rd Thursday. www.w8lrc.org 145.27 MHz.

**FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES TREASURE'S THRIFT SHOP HOURS** - Tues - Fri. 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 - 2 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Resource Center, 897-8260.

**ALPHA FAMILY CENTER OF LOWELL** - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Diapers, formula, clothing & free ultrasounds & pregnancy testing available. www.afclowell.org

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

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

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

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

**THE LOWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION** - second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building, 300 High St., Lowell.

**FLAT RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL** - Meets 3rd Monday of each month at the Main Street Inn in Lowell at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit our web page at flatriverwatershed.org

**BABY PANTRY OF LOWELL** - (formerly St. Mary's Pregnancy Center) is now located inside Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) at 11535 Fulton St. E. We are open Monday 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Thursday 2-4:30 p.m. to serve pregnant woman & families of small children in need of diapers, wipes & other baby supplies. We are non-denominational & serve families in the Lowell area. For more information, call Michele at 616-322-5957.

**NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE** - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult

prayer & Bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

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

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

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

**VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION FOR FROM** - 1st Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. and 3rd Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. FROM, 11535 Fulton St. E. Call for more information 897-8260.

**LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB** - Meets the second Wed. of each month, Sept. - May, 11:45 a.m., First Congregational Church. For more information call Jan at 897-2533.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A Christ centered program to help overcome life's hurts, habits, hangups. Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, www.impactchurch.org or www.celebrater-recovery.com

**FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS** - Fun at Calvary for boys & girls preschool - 8th grade. Cadets for boys 1st - 8th; GEMS for girls 3rd - 8th; Kingdom Kids for boys & girls preschool - 2nd grade. 1125 W. Main, Lowell. Ph. 897-7060.

**WRWW BROADCASTS** - Lowell High School sports, concerts, community events, student 'on air' shows and your favorite music can be heard on the WRWW FM radio station (92.3) and Internet radio station located at www.lowellradio.org



## FREE WILL

## astrology

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## Aries

(March 21-April 19)



In 1930, some British mystery writers formed a club to provide each other with artistic support and conviviality. They swore an oath to write their stories so that solving crimes happened solely through the wits of their fictional detectives, and not through "Divine Revelation, Feminine Intuition, Mumbo Jumbo, Jiggery-Pokery, or Act of God." I understand that principle, but don't endorse it for your use in the coming weeks. On the contrary, I hope you'll be on the alert and receptive to Divine Revelations, Feminine Intuition, Mumbo Jumbo, Jiggery-Pokery, and Acts of God.

## Taurus

(April 20-May 20)



When you're prescribed antibiotic pills to fight off infection, you should finish the entire round. If you stop taking the meds partway through because you're feeling better, you might enable a stronger version of the original infector to get a foothold in your system. This lesson provides an apt metaphor for a process you're now undergoing. As you seek to purge a certain unhelpful presence in your life, you must follow through to the end. Don't get lax halfway through. Keep on cleansing

yourself and shedding the unwanted influence beyond the time you're sure you're free of it.

## Gemini

(May 21-June 20)



Danish scientist and poet Piet Hein wrote this melancholy meditation: "Losing one glove is painful, but nothing compared to the pain of losing one, throwing away the other, and finding the first one again." Let his words serve as a helpful warning to you, Gemini. If you lose one of your gloves, don't immediately get rid of the second. Rather, be patient and await the eventual reappearance of the first. The same principle applies to other things that might temporarily go missing.

## Cancer

(June 21-July 22)



Cancerian author Elizabeth Gilbert is a soulful observer whose prose entertains and illuminates me. She's well aware of her own limitations, however. For example, she writes, "Every few years, I think, 'Maybe now I'm finally smart enough or sophisticated enough to understand \*Ulysses\*.' So I pick it up and try it again. And by page 10, as always, I'm like, 'What the hell?'" Gilbert is referring to the renowned 20th-century novel, James

Joyce's masterwork. She just can't appreciate it. I propose that you make her your inspirational role model in the coming weeks. Now is a favorable time to acknowledge and accept that there are certain good influences and interesting things that you will simply never be able to benefit from. And that's OK!

## Leo

(July 23-August 22)



More than three centuries ago, Dutch immigrants in New York ate a dessert known as the olykoek, or oily cake: sugar-sweetened dough deep-fried in pig fat. It was the forerunner of the modern doughnut. One problem with the otherwise delectable snack was that the center wasn't always fully cooked. In 1847, a man named Hanson Gregory finally found a solution. Using a pepper shaker, he punched a hole in the middle of the dough, thus launching the shape that has endured until today. I bring this to your attention because I suspect you're at a comparable turning point. If all goes according to cosmic plan, you will discover a key innovation that makes a pretty good thing even better.

## Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

I can't believe I'm going to quote pop star Selena Gomez. But according to

my analysis of the current astrological omens, her simple, homespun advice could be especially helpful to you in the coming weeks. "Never look back," she says. "If Cinderella had looked back and picked up the shoe, she would have never found her prince." Just to be clear, Virgo, I'm not saying you'll experience an adventure that has a plot akin to the Cinderella fairy tale. But I do expect you will benefit from a "loss" as long as you're focused on what's ahead of you rather than what's behind you.



## Libra

(September 23-October 22)



Among the pieces of jewelry worn by superstar Elvis Presley were a Christian cross and a Star of David. "I don't want to miss out on heaven due to a technicality," he testified. In that spirit, and in accordance with astrological omens, I urge you, too, to cover all your bases in the coming weeks. Honor your important influences. Be extra nice to everyone who might have something to offer you in the future. Show your appreciation for those who have helped make you who you are. And be as open-minded and welcoming and multicultural as you can genuinely be. Your motto is "Embrace the rainbow."

## Scorpio

(October 23-November 21)



Are you a gambling addict seeking power over your addiction? If you live in Michigan or Illinois, you can formally blacklist yourself from all casinos. Anytime your resolve wanes and you wander into a casino, you can

be arrested and fined for trespassing. I invite you to consider a comparable approach as you work to free yourself from a bad habit or debilitating obsession. Enlist some help in enforcing your desire to refrain. Create an obstruction that will interfere with your ability to act on negative impulses.

## Sagittarius

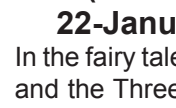
(November 22-December 21)



"What is the point of being alive if you don't at least try to do something remarkable?" Author John Green asked that question. I confess that I'm not entirely comfortable with it. It's a bit pushy. I find I'm more likely to do remarkable things if I'm not trying too hard to do remarkable things. Nevertheless, I offer it as one of your key themes for 2019. I suspect you will be so naturally inclined to do remarkable things that you won't feel pressure to do so. Here's my only advice: up the ante on your desire to be fully yourself; dream up new ways to give your most important gifts; explore all the possibilities of how you can express your soul's code with vigor and rigor.

## Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)



In the fairy tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," the heroine rejects both the options that are too puny and too excessive. She wisely decides that just enough is exactly right. I think she's a good role model for you. After your time of feeling somewhat deprived, it would be understandable if you were tempted to crave too much and ask for too much and grab too much. It would be understandable, yes, but mistaken. For now, just enough is exactly right.

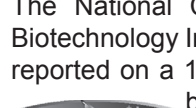
Aquarius  
(January 20-February 18)

In 1140, two dynasties were at war in Weinsberg, in what's now southern Germany. Conrad III, leader of the Hohenstaufen dynasty, laid siege to the castle at Weinsberg, headquarters of the rival Welfs dynasty. Things went badly for the Welfs, and just before Conrad launched a final attack, they surrendered. With a last-minute touch of mercy, Conrad agreed to allow the women of the castle to flee in safety along with whatever possessions they could carry. The women had an ingenious response. They lifted their husbands onto their backs and hauled them away to freedom. Conrad tolerated the trick, saying he would stand by his promise. I foresee a metaphorically comparable opportunity arising for you, Aquarius. It won't be a life-or-death situation like that of the Welfs, but it will resemble it in that your original thinking can lead you and yours to greater freedom.



## Pisces

(February 19-March 20)



The National Center for Biotechnology Information reported on a 15-year-old boy who had the notion that he could make himself into a superhero. First he arranged to get bitten by many spiders in the hope of acquiring the powers of Spiderman. That didn't work. Next, he injected mercury into his skin, theorizing it might give him talents comparable to the Marvel Comics mutant character named Mercury. As you strategize to build your power and clout in 2019, Pisces, I trust you won't resort to questionable methods like those. You won't need to! Your intuition should steadily guide you, providing precise information on how to proceed. And it all starts now.

## NEWS OF THE

## weird

## Seems Like an Honest Mistake

John Stevenson of Inverclyde, Scotland, hit a bump in his plans to vacation in the United States on Dec. 3 when his visa was denied after he declared himself a terrorist while filling out a Department of Homeland Security online form commonly known as ESTA. One of the questions on the form asks, "Are you a terrorist?" Stevenson, 70, told The Independent that the website "must have jumped from No to Yes without me knowing," adding that the site kept timing out and crashing as he and his wife, Marion, tried to answer the questions. "I even called the border control in the U.S. and gave them my passport details," he said. "They looked up my ESTA number and said, 'You're a terrorist.' The only time I've been in court was for jury service. Marion is sick about it. ... I don't know why that question is on the form in the first place." (UPDATE: United Airlines refunded the Stevensons' airline tickets and gifted them two free flights to New York once their visa troubles are all worked out.)

## LOL

The animal rights group PETA launched a new campaign Dec. 4 designed to remove some common animal-related idioms from the English language. CBS News reports the group tweeted suggested alterations to phrases it says are verbal vestiges of "speciesism" and perpetuate harmful messages. PETA offers these alternatives: For "bring home the bacon," try "bring home the bagels." "Take the bull by the horns" should be "take the flower by the thorns." And "kill two birds with one stone" morphs into "feed two birds with one scone." PETA likened the use of the original phrases to racist and homophobic language: "Phrases that trivialize cruelty to animals will vanish as more people begin to appreciate animals for who they are." Reaction on social media was swift. Maybe PETA should have let sleeping bags lie.

## Government in Action

Yoshitaka Sakurada, 68, a 22-year member of Japan's parliament, was named by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in October to two new posts: cybersecurity and Olympics minister for the country. But according to Reuters, at a committee meeting on Nov. 14, when a member of the opposition asked Sakurada a "gotcha" question about his computer literacy, he admitted: "I've never used a computer! ... I've always directed my staff and secretaries to do that kind of thing." He assured the lawmaker there would be no problems. Mmm-hmm.



**STATEPOINT CROSSWORD**

**THEME: POPULAR PASTIMES**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Smoothing tool
- 5. Fireplace mess
- 8. \*Make a scarf, then a sweater
- 12. Nasal input
- 13. Crunched info
- 14. Like a snicker
- 15. Cautionary offering
- 16. \*Caddie's offering
- 17. Ringworm
- 18. \*Current game
- 20. Bookkeeping entry
- 21. Express November sentiments
- 22. Big bang maker
- 23. Beach Boys: "Be True to Your \_\_\_\_\_"
- 26. Deducible
- 30. COI, OSS, SSU, CIG, \_\_\_\_\_
- 31. \*Interlocking challenge
- 34. \_\_\_\_\_ of the game
- 35. Legal excuse
- 37. Acorn maker
- 38. Poet Nash
- 39. Spanish surrealist Joan
- 40. Tolkien's "The Two \_\_\_\_\_"
- 42. Denotes financial loss
- 43. Kickbacks
- 45. Ducks with valued down
- 47. Ornamental carp
- 48. Harvest helper
- 50. Chalupa alternative
- 52. Virginia Slim, e.g.
- 56. \*What football and baseball have in common, pl.
- 57. "Put a lid \_\_\_\_\_!"
- 58. \*Hang out on the ocean or online
- 59. Lock horns
- 60. Eyeball
- 61. Hissy fit

**CROSSWORD**

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- 62. Michael Myers' move
- 63. "To Kill a Mockingbird" author
- 64. Thanksgiving tubers

**DOWN**

- 1. Campus drillers
- 2. Month before Nisan
- 3. Stag
- 4. Faster than allegro

- 5. Hammerin' Hank
- 6. Delivery bird?
- 7. 3rd H in 4-H, sing.
- 8. \*Needlecraft
- 9. \*Half a round
- 10. Footnote word
- 11. \*Afternoon's high
- 13. Hindu Festival of Lights
- 14. The Police lead singer
- 19. Japanese room divider
- 22. Parker's angst
- 23. Little rascal
- 24. Locomotive hair
- 25. Like Bigfoot
- 26. \*You fly fish in it
- 27. Core of personnel
- 28. Independent African ruler
- 29. Gives a helping hand
- 32. Messy substances

- 33. Horror movie franchise
- 36. \*Bibliophiles' get-together
- 38. Willow twig
- 40. \*\_\_\_\_\_ Chi
- 41. Make a connection
- 44. Opposite of tea bag
- 46. Black-tie
- 48. \*Watch a season in a week, e.g.
- 49. Catlike
- 50. Queen of Hearts' pastry
- 51. Aquatic plant
- 52. Fairly cold
- 53. Blackfin or Yellowfin
- 54. Barbershop request
- 55. Newts in terrestrial stage
- 56. Art degrees

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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	4						9	
6					8			3
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						3		
	8	5			6	7		

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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.



**THANKS**  
*for supporting local business!*

# Online POLL QUESTION

*During the Holiday Season do you go on social media more or less often*



- More I like to see what people are doing
- Less, I only focus on my family
- Social media/news are not my friend

**TO VOTE, GO TO .**  
**WWW.**  
**thelowelledger.com**

**Then watch for the results in**



*Lowell's Only Hometown Newspaper!*

# LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

*Our poll asked ...*

*With Christmas just weeks away how is your budget looking?*

- Plan on spending more..... 67%
- Plan on spending less..... 17%
- Not sure, haven't started yet ..... 16%

**WWW.**  
**thelowelledger.com**



# Ryne Experience album "Hokey" finally available

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

After over a year of work, the Ryne Experience's new album, "Hokey" is now available for purchase or streaming at: [theyrneexperience.bandcamp.com](http://theyrneexperience.bandcamp.com). You can also hear it on most major streaming services such as YouTube, Amazon, Spotify and iTunes.

The "band" consists of Lowell musician Ryne Clarke and more than 20 of his friends on a pile of instruments including theremin, glockenspiel, cello, ukulele, bongos, banjo, stylophone, keyboards, organ and accordion.

With all these people and instruments, you might have concluded that the album is the musical equivalent of ADHD, but that is not the case. Instead, "Hokey" flows seamlessly, creating what sounds like a classic rock album from the future. The album also does not sound like it was recorded in various basements, bedrooms and closets around Lowell, although it definitely was.

Standout tracks include "Observations" with its funky banjo; "Tiny Man" with its sudden tempo changes; "The Morning," documenting an argument

between a '98 Chevy minivan and its owner; "Eazy to Peel," a pop song that builds up to a Sonic Youth-level of cacophony and is immediately followed by "Your Sweet Love," a gorgeous ballad and the first single released from the album.

"I've been told I write a lot of love songs, but I've been trying not to," Clarke said. "The album is thematic in a way, but I'm not trying to convey any sort of story or message. I think the track listing we picked out flows pretty well."

We haven't flipped through Clarke's record collection to check his influences, but this album should appeal heavily to fans of Pavement, George Harrison's solo albums, mid-70s Pink Floyd, the Velvet Underground, Wilco or Radiohead.

The Ryne Experience will have a CD release show at Speak EZ Lounge in Grand Rapids on Wednesday, Dec. 19. Both the Ryne Experience and the Preservers will perform at LowellArts on Saturday, Jan. 5. For more information, visit [ryneshyne.club](http://ryneshyne.club). Clarke is also the bass player for GR-based punk band the Alien Dogs. Visit the Alien Dogs' Facebook page for further details on their activities.



Purchase or stream "Hokey" by the Ryne Experience, available now.

  
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@ 10:00 AM**

RSVP by emailing your name to [jobfair@bradfordwhite.com](mailto:jobfair@bradfordwhite.com) to reserve your spot and receive additional information. If you are unable to attend the on-site event, please email resume to [recruiting@bradfordwhite.com](mailto:recruiting@bradfordwhite.com). Must be 18 or older, able to successfully complete pre-employment physical, hair sample drug screen and background check.