



page 16



LHS sports

page 11

Lowell Police Department



page 3

Chocolate Stroll



page 3

50¢



Lowell Department of Public Works keeps town operational during Polar Vortex

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The polar vortex last week dumped over a foot of snow on West Michigan, leaving the Lowell public works department with over 20 miles of local and major streets to clear.

“Up until a week ago we were having a pretty mild winter, but this was a doozy of a storm,” said assistant city manager Rich LaBombard. “It was unique with the cold and the amount of lake effect snow. The only thing that could have made this storm worse was a water main break, knock on wood!”

Even though most of the Midwest was shut down last week, the employees of Lowell’s department of public works were working 12 hour days just to keep the city functioning.

“Our guys have been doing about 12 hour days every day, and they’ve been coming in sometimes before three in the morning,” LaBombard said. “They have been working like that all week. We have added a little bit of temporary staff, but not a significant amount.



When people were home because of school closings, office closings or whatever, our guys were still coming in and working, and they were working 12 hour days. Anything over 40 hours is overtime, so Friday and

most of Thursday would be overtime. It just happens, it’s part of the job. But I have to give these guys credit. They’re very good at what they do and they don’t require a ton of direction. They’re very self-motivated

guys. They know what they have to do and they come in and do it. They don’t complain about it, they know it’s just part of the job. Kudos to them for really stepping up and keeping the town going. I can’t brag

enough about what they do for the city.”

Ralph Brecken is one of the DPW crew members tasked with clearing Lowell of snow. He was kind enough

DPW, continued, page 4

Polar Vortex shuts down the Great Lakes

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Last week’s polar vortex left the Great Lakes region covered in over two feet of snow and ice, set record lows for temperature in places and caused all sorts of trouble.

The Northern Hemisphere’s jet stream usually moves sufficiently fast to keep the polar vortex over the North Pole. In late January 2019, the jet stream became weak and the polar vortex split in two. One of the halves moved south and sat on top of Canada and the United States for about a week before finally moving west.

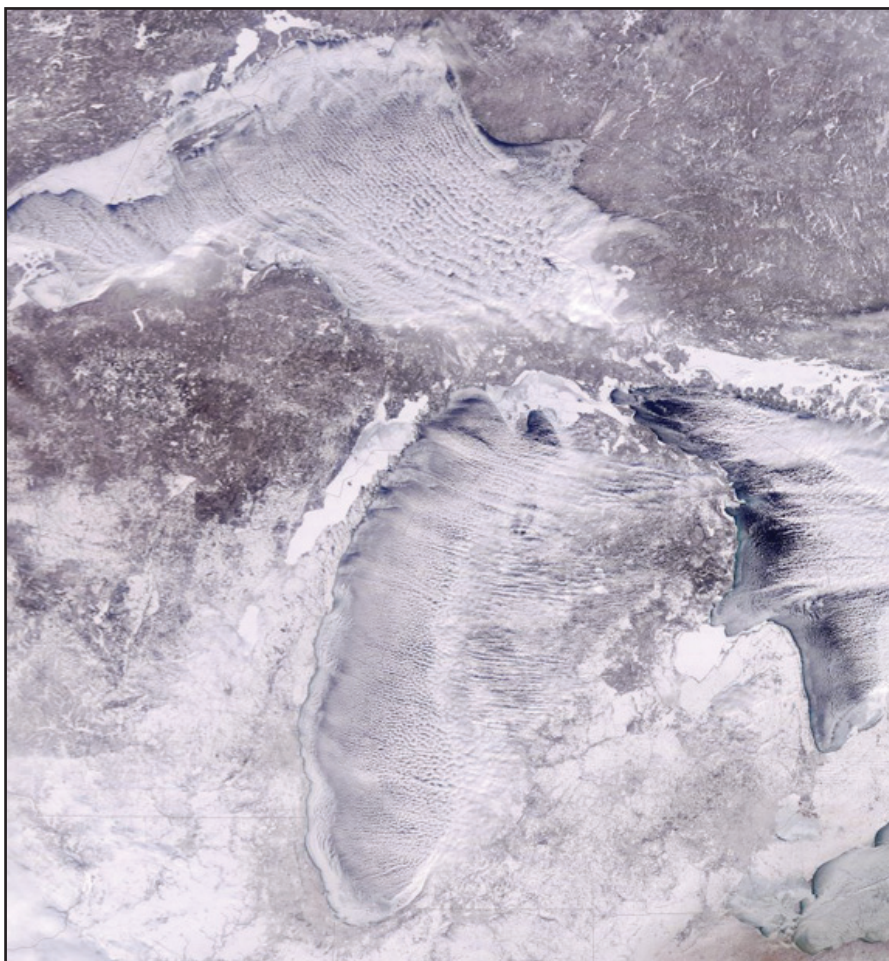
The polar vortex was a factor in about 22 deaths from accidents or exposure. Many businesses were shut down, thousands of flights were canceled, the post office stopped delivering mail and Michigan’s governor declared a state of emergency. Lowell Area Schools were canceled the entire week; superintendent Greg Pratt said it was too

early to say if the snow days will have to be made up at the end of the year.

To make matters even worse, late Wednesday night, Consumers Energy released a plea for their customers to turn their thermostats down to 65 degrees until Friday after a compressor station in Ray Township, Macomb County, was damaged by a fire. Consumers also asked General Motors to suspend operations at several plants around the state.

“Due to extreme temperatures and at the request of Consumers Energy, we are curtailing our natural gas usage in some of our plants,” said Kelli Felker, a spokesperson for Ford. “We lowered the temperature in Livonia Transmission Plant and Van Dyke Transmission Plant to minimum levels. We stopped heat treatment processes at Sterling Axle Plant and will

Polar Vortex, continued, page 8



Michigan is a little hard to see in this National Weather Service satellite image taken during last week’s nasty weather.

Miscalculated sewer rates, Unity School land swap main topics at latest Lowell city council meeting

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, Feb. 4. The meeting lasted one hour and three minutes and was attended by 12 citizens.

Before the meeting began, Lowell police chief Steve Bukala announced that full time officer Dustin Brown and part time officer Ian Shears were resigning to take positions with the Grandville police department. Officer Brown was on hand and delivered an emotional speech about his time on the beat in Lowell the past seven years.

“I’ve done my best to serve this department and city with honor and integrity,” Brown said. “I owe much more than I can offer to chief Bukala and to this department. [...] The city of Lowell is a wonderful place to work. The citizens are greatly supportive of this department and it shows.”

City manager Michael Burns presented the council with an update about city infrastructure projects. The information, a plan for 15 years of street, sewer and other projects is part of the process of a \$980,187 SAW [Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater] grant the city is in the process of obtaining from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

“With this information, it basically tells us what projects we can do,” Burns said. “One of the things we can do is we can utilize a large portion of our sewer and water main fund to replace the streets. You would still have to use some street funds to replace these streets, but it gives us a start. [...] This kind of gives you an idea of the preliminary project costs just for the underground infrastructure,

and over a ten year period that’s about \$4.4 million. If you look at your road funds each year, it’s a relatively small amount. [...] We have, basically, this starting point, so now we have to figure out, based on how many road dollars we have, how many streets we could actually do. That’s kind of the next step. I need to give Williams & Works basically an idea of how much money we have for street improvements, then they can put plans together based off that.”

Accountant Peter Haefner of the Grand Rapids accounting firm Vredeveid Haefner explained some miscalculated sewer rates to the council that resulted in a 30 percent increase for Lowell Twp.

“Back in 2017, we had an inquiry from Lowell Twp to look greater into their sewer rates,” Burns said. “There was a significant spike in a very short period of time as to what their rate was. At the time we believed there might have been some miscalculations so we went back. It took us quite a bit of time to sort through this and be able to put ourself correct and to make sure it matched with the current methodologies.”

“We worked with a number of your staff, and we kind of looked from a high level,” Haefner said. “Following that high level look, we saw some issues with the rate calculation. Then your staff and a number of your service providers got together and looked at your rates.”

The council discussed a land swap with the group behind the Unity School development. The owners of that property want to trade a 3,216 square foot piece of land adjacent to

Riverside Park that they own to the city in exchange for a 1,842 portion of land that is currently part of Riverside Park. There are a host of issues surrounding the transfer that could delay or even squash the condominium project.

“Our city charter requires a vote of the people to sell, transfer or dispose of any property in a master plan of the city,” Burns said. “Currently, Riverside Park is in the parks and recreation master plan. The requested portion of the property is technically in the plan. However, this is undeveloped property. If a sale were to occur, this portion must be removed, or a transfer of property ownership, this portion must be removed from the parks and recreation master plan. [...] In 2012 the city of Lowell received a Michigan Department of Natural Resources trust fund grant to redevelop the path and the boat launch at Riverside Park. A condition of receiving this grant requires the park remain in perpetuity or the grant money received must be returned. [...] This request on removing the parcel and accepting the new parcel as park property into the parks and recreation master plan was not recommended by the parks and recreation commission at their Jan. 15, 2019 meeting. While the consensus of the parks and rec commission was supportive of the development, they would like to see all of the ancillary issues resolved prior to the transfer. The developer recognizes the ancillary issues pertaining to the development and is supportive of working through the city’s concerns. However, they would like the



Lowell police officer Dustin Brown (left) with chief Steve Bukala. Brown’s first day on the Grandville police force will be Monday, Feb. 11.

seven [by 263] feet [section] of property to begin their development. They would like to begin construction of 14 condominiums facing the Flat River immediately. Their concern is addressing these issues at one time will stall them in moving forward. If they have to wait,

there is strong indication this project will not occur.”

To watch this meeting and many past city council, board and commission meetings, visit the city of Lowell’s YouTube channel.

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

(delayed one day because of President’s Day). The council will also meet with the public at a “Coffee with the Council” event at Lowell Chamber of Commerce headquarters on the Riverwalk from 8 until 10 am on Saturday, March. 2.

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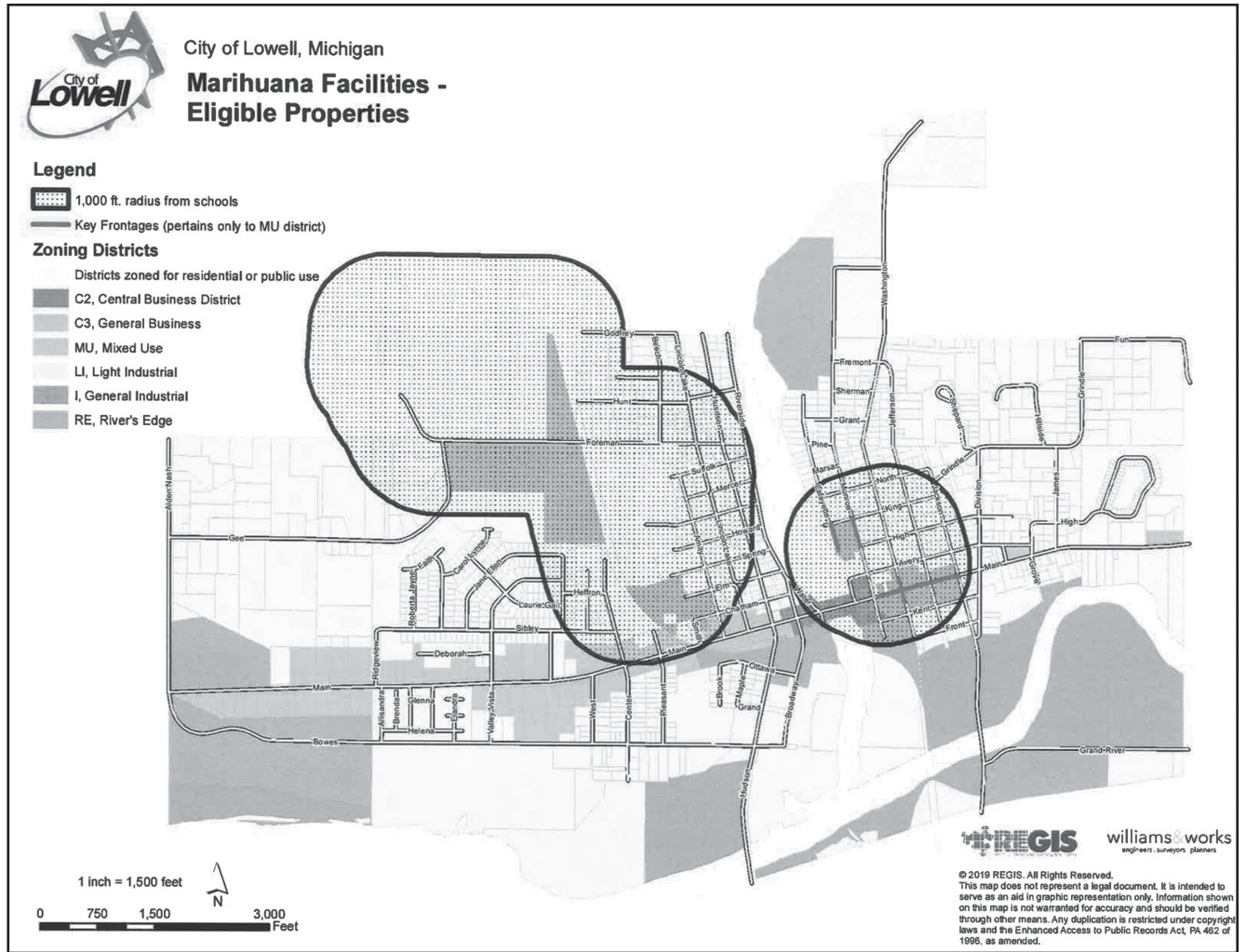
Police statistics: December and year end totals

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

According to data released recently, the Lowell Police Department made 32 arrests during December 2018. The arrests included one for drunk driving, three for driving with a suspended license, 14 for outstanding warrants and 14 that are described in the police department's statistics as "other arrests."

Lowell police also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during December. There were four larceny calls, two breaking and entering complaints, one disorderly conduct call, three dog/animal complaints, and three assaults. Lowell police issued 22 citations in December and notified one resident about an ordinance violation. Lowell police were called to assist other law enforcement agencies 25 times and called other agencies for assistance six times last month. They were also called for assistance by citizens 33 times and motorists seven times and they were dispatched to 11 accidents. Out of 128 traffic stops in December, they let 105 drivers go with a warning.

That all adds up to a grand total of 337 arrests in Lowell during 2018, including 10 for alcohol violations, 35 drug law violations, 27 drunk driving arrests, 34 for a suspended license, 142 for outstanding warrants and 89 uncategorized "other arrests." Additionally, there were 79 assaults in Lowell during 2018, plus six breaking and entering complaints, 14 malicious destruction incidents, 35 drug law violations, 27 drunk driving arrests, 83 larcenies, 20 dog/animal complaints and 40 calls for disorderly conduct. Out of 1,945 traffic stops in 2018, the LPD let 1,565 drivers go with a warning and issued 568 citations.



Although there were 35 arrests for "drug law violations" in Lowell during 2018, none of these took place after the November election when recreational marijuana was legalized. According to the new law, marijuana businesses must be more than 1,000 feet away from any school building and cannot be in a residential area. The city is currently deciding which areas in town these businesses can legally be located.

Chocolate Stroll, a sweet downtown event, Feb. 16



by Mark Weaver
contributing reporter

"Money can't buy happiness, but it can buy a chocolate, which is pretty much the same thing." - Hanako Ishii.

On Saturday, Feb. 16 from 11 am to 4 pm over a dozen downtown Lowell businesses are participating in a family-friendly event, the Lowell Chocolate Stroll. The stroll is designed to inspire you to shop, eat and drink your way across town, all while getting to know our local businesses a little better. What better reason is there to get outside in the middle of February, than chocolate? This is brilliant.

The Ledger ventured out on a blustery afternoon last week and asked participating local businesses the important question on everyone's mind: "What chocolate goodie will you be offering?" The question caught a few businesses off-guard, but a few were ready to share their goodie ideas.

Tap House Bo will have tastes of French chocolate wafers and chocolate taffy. Sweet Seasons will offer a free truffle with the purchase of any beverage. Larkin's will offer chocolate specialty drinks for sale. North Star

is keeping it all a mystery, although the "world's best brownies" were hinted at. You'll find Lindor chocolates at Lavender and Lace. Tap House Bo's Facebook page will provide updates as the event draws near. The other businesses have their thinking caps on, intending to outdo everyone else, so stand back, Lowell. A chocolate blitzkrieg is on the horizon.

So how will you know which businesses will be participating in this homage to chocolate? Look for a "Kiss on a Stick". That's right. We're not making that up. A

Hershey's type chocolate kiss mounted on a stick will be displayed by each participating business. Stop in, meet your local business owners, chat over a morsel of endorphin-inducing chocolate and see what makes up our wonderful downtown.

Be sure to pick up a punch card at the first business you visit. Complete it and enter it into a drawing to win Lowell Bucks. Some businesses will have their own drawings as well, so bundle up and come hungry on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 11 am to 4 pm.

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Lowell DPW, continued



DPW employee Ralph Brecken behind the wheel of a city plow truck. "This is our job, this is what we do."

to allow the Lowell Ledger to ride along with him as he plowed the city streets last Friday afternoon.

"One morning, I got a call at 2:32 in the morning for an emergency Miss Dig," Brecken said. "By the time I got that done, all of our guys were already in hauling snow and running equipment, so I just hopped in something and started working."

Driving a snow plow is difficult, dangerous work and a lot harder than one might imagine.

"We go out in the worst weather," Brecken said. "Anybody else driving a truck, you'd say 'No, don't drive, it's too dangerous!' That's when we have to go out. When the weather's nice, that's when we're all done."

"I think people would be surprised by how challenging it is to drive a plow truck," LaBombard said. "It's not just like driving a truck. All of your senses are on fire as you're trying to maneuver past vehicles, traffic, mailboxes, people walking, whiteout conditions and more. You have to be incredibly alert, and it takes skill."

They're not just some dumb truck driver out there driving a plow, it's a professional skill that they have developed. People parking on the streets can be an issue. The conditions of the roads are bad sometimes. Visibility can be bad. They know what they're doing and they're very good at what they do. We take the occasional mailbox out, but that's inevitable."

"There is so much you're watching for," Brecken said. "You're not only running the plow blades and the salter, but you're watching for cars, pedestrians and obstacles. Kids have had snows recently; they like to hide behind snowbanks and watch the plow go by. I've seen little kids lying in the sidewalk waiting for the

truck to throw snow on them. When I see kids, that's when I slow way down; I jam on the brakes and just creep along past, slower than walking speed. Our focus is always on other peoples' safety. The last thing we want to do is hurt or kill somebody."

When there is a major disaster like a polar vortex, every DPW employee pitches in.

"For our streets, our parks and our trash pickup around town, we only have two guys," Brecken said. "When something like this happens, everybody, all the rest of the departments, even from the

said. "We always do hills first. For example, the hill on James St. is very steep. We had a plow go down it sideways once. School routes are next, then we start working major streets downtown and then the local streets. I think people would be surprised by the amount of salt and sand we put down. Wednesday was when we started on clean-up, moving the snow piles around and that sort of thing. People have been very, very patient. They're driving very slowly and they're giving the plows enough room to get around."

"We try to clear around Laurels of Kent pretty quickly because they could have medical issues," Brecken said. "We try to hit the main routes coming in and out of town. M-21 is a state highway, so the county is reimbursed by the state to handle that."

Massive plows like the one used by the city are not sold as-is by dealers, they must be customized by the purchaser. Brecken, for example, added night vision rear view cameras to one of the trucks.

"We put a lot of work into this truck," Brecken said. "It's very customized, you can't just go to a dealership and buy a truck like this. It's a minimum one year process to get one of these trucks on the streets. Everything except the cab and chassis is custom-built. I designed and installed a lot of it myself. I moved the shifter to make the controls more ergonomic so the driver doesn't have to take their eyes off the road. We have to be very responsible, because it's very expensive equipment, it has to operate and it has to service the residents."

LaBombard said there are several things local residents can do to help make it easier for snow removal crews.

"One thing that we're concerned with now is the thaw that's coming," LaBombard said. "Our guys are making sure that they're plowing far enough back that the catch basins are opened up. When we get a big thaw, we're going to have to have a place for that water to go. Another thing homeowners can do is help clean around the fire hydrants. That is very important. So is keeping the sidewalks cleared and open within 24 hours of a storm event."

"Normal life is going to kick back in pretty quickly, so we try to make it as convenient as possible," Brecken said. "Life is hard enough already!"



A plow driver relies heavily on the side mirrors while pushing snow around.

NEWSPAPERS Outperform Magazines in Michigan

More adults in Michigan read a newspaper than local magazines.¹



Newspapers are the most trusted media source.²

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

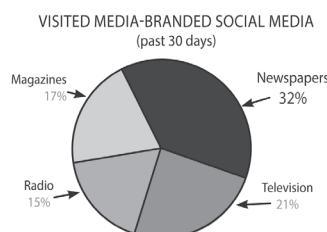
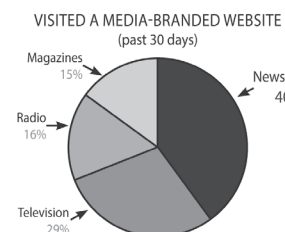
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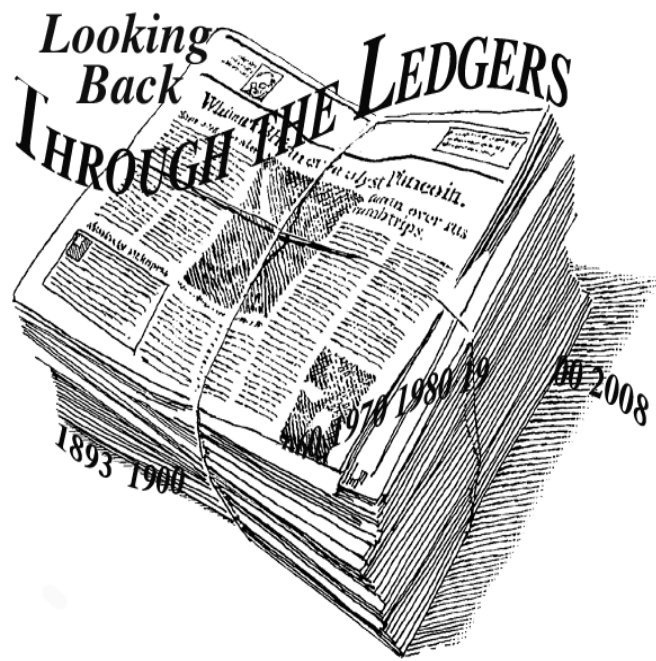
of adults often purchase products and services as the result of a magazine ad.⁴

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



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

viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Ledger February 10, 1894

L. P. Thomas returned Thursday from a three days trip in which time he sold fifty of his bean planter and harvesting machines. He says that the prospects are that he will not have enough machines to meet the demand. It becomes our painful duty to announce that Mr. Thomas contemplates moving his manufacturing plant from Lowell in the spring, and for reasons that might be easily adjusted. Lowell has not a single industry to spare, we want more instead of less. Get together gentlemen and fix things up.

The transportation committee of the Grand Rapids board of trade met last Tuesday night to consider the project of a series of cheap excursions to the city from outside points. The meeting was attended by Passenger Agents George DeHaven of the C. & W. M., James Campbell of the D. G. H. & M. and C. A. Sladsend of the Lake Shore road. The railroad officials stated that they did not dare discriminate in favor of that city by drawing trade from the towns along the lines as they are more or less dependent upon those towns.

100 years The Lowell Ledger February 6, 1919

Jake Staal was fined \$50 and costs Saturday forenoon by Justice A. M. Andrews for an assault committed upon Will Kerekes on the previous Thursday morning to which charge Staal pled guilty. The occasion of the assault was on a trip of investigation by Village President Winegar of charges that Staal's drove of hogs was being fed and running at large in the road fronting his premises in the east end of the village, constituting a nuisance and menace the neighbors. Mr. Winegar was accompanied by Village Marshall Haysmer, Will Kerekes and Glen Barnes as witnesses. Following a statement by Kerekes that his wife feared to take her baby along the street at that point, a hot reply by Staal and a denial by the latter that he had fed his hogs in the road, Kerekes stated that he had seen Staal feed his hogs there. A blow in the face followed, further inquiries being prevented by the witnesses, who then withdrew.

Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Yeiter, sister Miss Lena Yeiter and Miss Nora Howe had a remarkable escape from serious injury or more, when their car turned turtle opposite the Ernst place on the Ada road Wednesday morning. All but Mr. Yeiter were thrown clear, but he was pinned under the overturned car and was helpless until the ladies lifted the car sufficiently to release him. The Sedan top was wrecked but the occupants escaped with bruises, scratches and lameness from the shaking up. Not a cut was suffered from the broken glass.

75 years The Lowell Ledger February 10, 1944

The first of a series of Farmers' Institutes to be held in Kent county was held at the Lowell City Hall on Tuesday of this week, and proved to be of practical benefit to all attending, keen interest being shown by the 200 or more farmers and their wives who were in attendance.

Vandals have been again reported carrying on in a contemptible manner in the community. Parked cars have been ransacked and various articles were stolen, glove compartments have been forced open, the thieves evidently searching for gas coupons. Officers are investigating and some good clues have been found. Moral: Follow orders by signing every one of your gas coupons and don't leave them in your car. Articles stolen from parked cars included a Hebrew Bible and a rare copy of the Hebrew commandments belonging to Herman Wepman, which cannot be replaced. Mr. Wepman states that he will pay a reward of \$25 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the thief.

50 years The Lowell Ledger February 6, 1969

Two area men were killed in a grinding collision on the outskirts of Grand Rapids over the weekend. Dead from injuries sustained in the crash at Knapp and Perkins were Charles S. Disinger, 21, of 4454 Knapp NE and Roy J. Wedron, 70, of 2182 Dean Lake Ave. NE.

Renovation of Lowell's antiquated city hall will cost upwards to \$45,000, a preliminary report from architect Donn Palmer indicates. Palmer presented an outline for remodeling the 58-year-old building to members of the City Council Monday night. The alternative to renovation, Palmer said, would be construction of a new building to members of the city council Monday night.

The newest business in town is Melvin Rogers' Lowell City Taxi company. Rogers, offering Lowell residents something different in the way of service, plans to compliment his personal service runs with package and parts delivery and school runs. Mrs. Norma Hemingsen was his first passenger.

25 years The Lowell Ledger February 9, 1994

Defining where the city's responsibility ends and the residents' begin will be just the start to the frozen water line problem facing the City Fathers. Over the last two weeks, a number of water service lines froze. The city, in response, utilized welders and city staff to thaw these lines. Where does the responsibility for the frozen pipes lie? Councilman Jim Hodges said the residents who were notified to run their water, and did not, should take on the responsibility. Councilman Bill Thompson said he thought it was the city's responsibility. "How can we charge a resident when they are paying for a service they are not getting. If they were, they would not have to run water."

The Rockford/Lowell Ambulance will soon become one of 24 ambulance services in the country to be nationally accredited. Roger Morgan, general manager of Rockford/Lowell Ambulance, said he began filling out the 1,100-page application over a year ago. "It makes an ambulance service look at itself from the inside out," Morgan said. "Living up to the 'Gold Standards' has helped to make us a better ambulance service."

outdoors

cabin fever cure

Dave Stegehuis

Early this winter, snow and ice were hard to come by in the southern lower peninsula. Well, the wait is definitely over. Suddenly, temperatures dropped to record lows and the snow steadily fell which quickly plunged us into a serious Michigan winter.

Those who rely on snow and ice for seasonal recreation were held off by unseasonal warm and wet weather followed by extremely cold temperatures. Unable to get out and snowmobile, ski, ice skate, or fish, we were holed up inside which is often called cabin fever. Well, the cure has arrived and now is the time to get out and about.

Ice fishing is easy to do by dressing warm and using basic equipment. If one does not know much about how to go about it, grab an ice auger, pole, and a couple of jigs and go to a lake where other fishermen gather and watch someone who looks like an experienced fisherman. Most fishermen will give advice if asked. Ask to go with friends or relatives if they are not aware you are interested. They already have lots of equipment. The DNR website can help with fishing reports and public access locations.

Cross country skiing is the most overlooked wintertime activity.

Michigan has over 3,000 miles of trails which range from easy to challenging. Private trails may require a fee, but most public land can be accessed for free. Developed public and private areas may have rental equipment which, with a brief lesson, is a good way to get started. Glide through scenic winter landscapes while getting much needed exercise.

Down hill skiing opportunities are also found all around the state. Lessons and equipment are available at popular hills.

Snowmobiling requires more of a commitment. Thousands of miles of trails take riders all over the back country. Small towns and businesses welcome riders as they travel around the state.

Hunters with eager hounds can chase rabbits until the end of March. Predator hunting is becoming more popular and necessary with the expansion of the coyote population.

Photographers will find an endless choice of subjects in the combination of snow-covered landscapes and ice formations on the big lakes and waterfalls.

These are a few suggestions for taking advantage of Michigan winters. No need to suffer with cabin fever with so much to do.

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.

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Tracy Lixie & John G. Meier



- lactose intolerance

Lactose intolerance is the inability to fully digest sugar in milk. It's harmless but can cause uncomfortable symptoms.

Symptoms range from gas, bloating, and abdominal cramping, to severe nausea and diarrhea.

It is caused due to the small intestines inability to produce an enzyme (lactose) that breaks down milk sugar. Lactose then moves into the colon where bacteria interacts to cause the above symptoms.

There are three types of lactose intolerance. Primary lactose intolerance is the most common. These are people whose lactose production goes down sharply as they enter adulthood.

Secondary lactose intolerance occurs due to decreased lactose production after an illness, injury, or surgery involving the small intestines.

Congenital lactose intolerance is a rare genetic disorder in which the affected individual does not make any lactose.

Confirming the disease can be done by doing a lactose intolerance test, a hydrogen breath test, or a stool acidity test.

There is no way for us to increase the body's production of lactose. Treatment involves avoiding large amounts of milk and dairy products. There are also lactose products that can be added to milk products.

engagements

McQueen - Theisen



Tara McQueen and Josh Theisen

The marriage of Tara McQueen and Josh Theisen will be celebrated on June 1, 2019 at Wildwood Family Farms. The bride-to-be, along with her parents, Denny and Sharon McQueen, are of Lowell. The future groom and his parents, Tim and Michele Theisen, are of Ada

happy birthday



- FEBRUARY 6**
Donna Oesch, Reed Stormzand, Norm Johnson, Angie Blough.
- FEBRUARY 7**
Gordie Barry, Peggy Covert.
- FEBRUARY 8**
Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse, Steve Estes, Karis Dilly.
- FEBRUARY 9**
Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Noah Newhouse, Madison Lombardo, Brady Foster, Dave Vankeulen, Charlotte Drake.
- FEBRUARY 10**
Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.
- FEBRUARY 11**
Julie Kenney, Judy Goodwin.
- FEBRUARY 12**
Peg Stanford, Kurt Roudabush, Travis Bergy, Jan Herb, Penny Spanbauer.

college news

Carthage College has named Eden Nethercott of Lowell to its dean's list for academic excellence during the fall 2018 semester.

Dean's list honors are accorded to Carthage students who achieve a minimum 3.5 grade-point average while carrying at least 14 credit hours during a semester.

Ian James Kastner, of Ada, attending Hankamer School of Business, was one of more than 4,400 Baylor University students who were named to the dean's academic honor roll for the 2018 fall semester. Students honored on the dean's list are Baylor undergraduates with a minimum grade-point average of 3.7, while enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Michigan Technological University, in Houghton, Michigan, has released the dean's list for the 2018 fall semester. More than 1,800 students were named to the dean's list last fall, including, of Ada: Joseph F. Chen, Eric R. DeJong, Mechanical Engineering; Donovan E. Doran, Mechanical Engineering; Erin E. Doran, Computer Science; Alex F. Flory, Mechanical Engineering; Chloe F. Looman, Biological Sciences; Clara M. Mosentine, General Engineering; Seth A. Mosentine, Management; Dylinh M. Nguyen, Computer Engineering; Bridget G. O'Connell, Chemical Engineering; Zoe K. Reep, General Engineering; Maysy F. Snyder, Geological

Engineering; Anthony C. Viola, Computer Engineering; and Nick S. Weykamp, Mechanical Engineering; of Alto: Jake D. Fedewa, Chemical Engineering and Logan R. Thomas, Mechanical Engineering; of Lowell: Tanner M. Barnes, Wildlife Ecology & Mgmt; Kat A. Miller, Biomedical Engineering; and Nathan A. Prangley, Wildlife Ecology & Mgmt.

To be included, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

The following local students were among more than 325 graduates honored at Michigan Technological University's fall commencement held on the Houghton, Michigan campus on Dec. 15, 2018.

Brandt Lanser, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, of Ada; Isobel Alberts, Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Zachary Bauman, Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, both of Lowell.

Olivia Rotelle, of Ada, was recognized by the University of Wisconsin-Madison to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2018-2019 academic year. Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

business matters



Joshua McCracken

Greenridge Realty announced that Joshua McCracken received Realtor of the Year for the Lowell office. This award recognizes McCracken for his outstanding success and achievements.



Todd Pearson

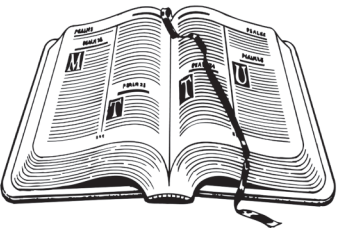
Greenridge Realty announced that Todd Pearson received Realtor of the Month in January. This award recognizes Pearson for his outstanding success and achievements.

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area churches



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

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
897-7060
Rev. Dr. Paul Mpindi PHD
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
Sunday School..... 11:20 AM
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
Nursery available at both services
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Pastor Andrew Bolkom • Pastor of Discipleship
Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries
SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM (Nursery provided)
LIFE GROUPS..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM

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Kid's Crew 11:15 AM
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Extra help with Medicare & prescription drug costs

Paying out of pocket for prescription drugs can be a burden that many households can't afford. The Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs program was designed to help people in getting the vital medicine they need to live healthy and productive lives. Anyone who has Medicare can get Medicare prescription drug coverage. Some people with limited resources and income may also be able to get Extra Help to pay for the costs — monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments — related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. Extra Help can be worth up to \$4,900 per year. To qualify for Extra Help in 2019, your resources must be limited to \$14,390 for an individual

or \$28,720 for a married couple living together. You can apply for Extra Help at www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp. You can also call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to apply over the phone or request an application, or if you prefer, you can apply at your local Social Security office. To prepare for your application you should:

- Identify the things you own alone, with your spouse, or with someone else, but do not include your home, vehicles, burial plots, life insurance policies, or personal possessions;
- Review all your income; and
- Gather your records in advance to save time.

The records you'll need are:

- Statements that show your account

balances at banks, credit unions, or other financial institutions;

- Investment statements;
- Stock certificates;
- Tax returns;
- Pension award letters; and
- Payroll slips.

The program was created because there is a great need for prescription drug assistance. Social Security is here to help. To learn more about the Extra Help program, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp.

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

Retire online with Social Security quickly & easily

The idea of applying for Social Security retirement benefits might seem daunting, but it's not. There's no need to visit an office. You don't have to use the phone. We have an online retirement application that you can complete in as little as 15 minutes and from the comfort of your home or office. In most cases, once your application is submitted electronically, you're done. There are no forms to sign and usually no documentation is required. Social Security will process your application and contact you if any further information is needed. It's as simple as that. You can start your application now at www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/retirement. You can apply online for retirement benefits or benefits as a spouse if you:

- are at least 61 years and 9 months old;
- are **not** currently receiving benefits on your own Social Security record;

- have not already applied for retirement benefits; **and**
- want your benefits to start no more than 4 months in the future. (We cannot process your application if you apply for benefits more than 4 months in advance.)

You'll have to create or sign into your *my Social Security* account as part of your application. If you don't have an account yet, this is a perfect time to create one. Just as important, this is where you will be able to check your application for benefits. Like our other online services, *my Social Security* is available on your time and there's no waiting in line or on the phone. You can see your entire work history going back to your first job to make sure we have all of your wages correctly tallied. Create or sign into your account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Are you curious about how much your retirement benefits will be? You can get an idea of what your benefits will be using our Retirement Estimator at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator. Social Security provides services for millions of people, but we also want to make your experience with us as simple and easy as possible. Our many online services, including retiring online, are part of that mission. You can access more at www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices.

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



...

It takes something more than intelligence to act intelligently.

~ Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881)



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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD NOTICE OF ZONING ORDINANCE ADOPTION

On January 21, 2019 the Lowell Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 01-2019 to amend the Zoning Ordinance as follows.

1. An amendment to Section 8.03 to permit Adult Foster Care Large Group Homes, Homes for the Aged, and Nursing Homes in the R-2, Medium Density Residential Zoning District as a Special Land Use.
2. An amendment to Section 22.03(k) to delete the requirements for housing for the elderly and replace this language with specific regulations for Adult Foster Care Large Group Homes, Homes for the Aged, and Nursing Homes. The proposed regulations would require that these facilities: be served by public water and sanitary sewer; be located on a parcel of at least of five acres; be limited to ten units per acre and; be designed to ensure proper access by emergency vehicles.

This Ordinance shall take effect seven days after publication.

A complete copy of this adopted ordinance 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.

Monica Burt, Clerk
 Lowell Charter Township

CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE OF KING MILLING. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Lowell has been requested to hold a public hearing to consider the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate by King Milling (the "Applicant"), pursuant to Act 198 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1974, as amended.

The facilities will be located at 149 Broadway, Lowell, Michigan. The application of King Milling, is on file and available for review in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Lowell.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the public hearing shall be held on Tuesday, February 19 2019 at 7:00 p.m., local time, at the City Hall at 301 E. Main Street in the City, at which time the City Commission shall afford the Applicant, the City Assessor, a representative of each taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes in the City, and residents and taxpayers of the City an opportunity to be heard regarding the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the Applicant.



Susan Ullery
 City Clerk
 City of Lowell

Polar Vortex, continued

stop our paint process at Michigan Assembly Plant at midnight. We will continue to work with Consumers Energy in the days ahead.”

The natural gas situation inspired Gov. Whitmer to ask the Michigan Public Service Commission on Thursday to conduct a review of Michigan’s energy supply and disaster preparedness. A preliminary report is due July 1.

“Today, I’m also asking the Public Service Commission for an initial statewide review of supply and deliverability of natural gas, electricity and propane and contingency planning,” Whitmer said during a speech at the state emergency operations center at Michigan State Police headquarters in Dimondale. “It’s important that we get a handle on what’s happened here [...] so that we’re in a stronger position next time.”

According to Spectrum Health, more than 400 people used their “MedNow” service to see a nurse practitioner or a physician’s assistant about non-emergency issues over the four days. The usual volume over four days is about 250. Complaints included aches, rashes, cold, flu and soreness from shoveling snow.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, officials at Mercy Health Urgent Care in Rockford said they treated 15 people for broken bones related to falling on ice, 10 people who had been in weather-related car accidents, two cases of frostbite and eight people who complained of chest pain and/or shortness of breath after shoveling snow.



The DPW asked that residents clear the snow from around any fire hydrants on or near their property.



A little snow didn't faze this friendly fellow.



Lowell High School was closed all last week.



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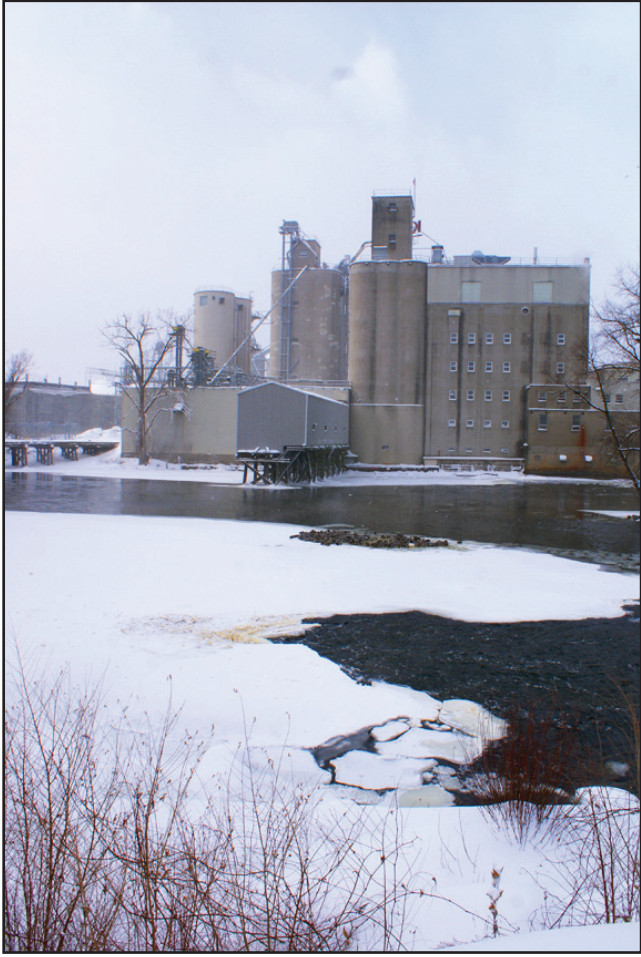
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The barns at the Kent County Youth Fair were halfway buried.



There were whiteout conditions on M-21 Wednesday.



Lowell Middle School was barely visible on Wednesday.



The Lowell Showboat suffered no visible damage.



Vehicles buried in snow were a common sight during last week's snowstorms.



With temperatures way below zero, nobody wanted to go sledding anyway.



Post offices around Michigan suspended delivery last week.

Never seen, but invaluable

submitted by WRWW

“Germaine (Jerry) Thompson is a person seldom seen, but very important to the operation of local radio station WRWW,” states Al Eckman, station manager. “Jerry works behind the scenes in helping to maintain, trouble-shoot problems, operate, and promote our FM and streaming radio stations. Since we started streaming (lowellradio.org) audio as WLHS about fourteen years ago and subsequently on our FM (92.3) station, now WRWW, three and a half years ago, he has

always been a significant part of our operation. We do about 125 ‘remotes’ (events occurring away from the radio studio) every year. While we are on-site, he can often be found by himself, operating the board/console in our studio at the high school. Many times it is vital that we have someone there. He brings experience to us, having worked for WYON several years ago after obtaining his FCC mandated ‘Third Class Radio Telephone’ license. He also assisted us in obtaining our low-power (100 watts) FM radio license.” Thompson states,

“Back then you were more of an engineer because you were responsible for maintaining the 50,000 watt FM transmitter and associated audio equipment. Spinning ‘vinyl’ on the dual turntables, and playing from 8-track cassette tapes, was common.”

He was 17 years old when he first started at WYON, making about \$1.75 per hour. Thompson, now retired, has his own evening on-air show titled ‘Rock and Roll Thursday.’ Although sometimes can be heard on other days. He plays an assortment of 60’s, 70’s, and 80’s pop music.



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

BID PROPOSAL

Sealed bids, in triplicate, for the Lowell Area Schools 2019 Summer Improvements, will be received at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 on Friday, February 15th, 2019 until 1:00pm local time. Bids received after this time will neither be considered nor accepted.

All proposals received by the time and date stated above will be opened and read publicly at 3:00pm local time on Friday, February 15th, 2019 at in Room B100, Lowell Area Schools Administration, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331.

Bids may be mailed to Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia Ave NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Mailed bids must be received prior to the bid due time and date stated above. FAXED OR EMAILED BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

In accordance with Section 1267 of the Revised School Code each bid must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized Familial Disclosure Statement completed by the bidder disclosing any familial relationship between the Owner or any employee of the Bidder and any member of the District’s Board of Education or the Superintendent of the District.

SITE INSPECTION

A construction pre-bid meeting will be held at Lowell High School, 11700 Vergennes St SE, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, February 4th, 2019 starting at 4:00pm local time. All bidders are encouraged to attend.

BID DOCUMENTS

The Bidding Documents may be examined at the following locations:

- Owen-Ames-Kimball, Co. website: <http://www.owen-ames-kimball.com/subcontractors/>
- Builders Exchange plan rooms in Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Traverse City.
- Dodge McGraw Hill plan rooms in Grand Rapids, Lansing & Southfield.

BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

Bidders submitting a Bid for this Project shall have qualifications as follows:

- Shall be a reputable, recognized organization, with at least five (5) years successful experience on work of this type and scope of this project.
- Shall have a license where required by public authorities having jurisdiction.
- Shall have ample financial resources for work of this magnitude.

BID SECURITY - PERFORMANCE BONDS

Each bid shall be accompanied by good and sufficient bid security or bid bond in an amount not less than 5% of the Bid amount and shall secure the Owner from loss or damage by reason of the withdrawal of the Bid by a Bidder or by failure of the successful Bidder to enter into a Contract with the Owner if his Bid is accepted by the Owner. The successful Bidder will be required to secure Performance, Labor and Material bonds for all contracts exceeding \$50,000, from a surety company having a rating of A- or better, for the full amount of the Contract.

300 IONIA AVE NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503 • (616) 456-1521
161 E MICHIGAN AVE, SUITE 102 KALAMAZOO, MI 49007 • (269) 276-9700
www.owen-ames-kimball.com

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the matter of
Virginia Multop
Guardianship File No.
19-204,723-GA

Probate Court, 180
Ottawa NW, Grand
Rapids, MI 49503
before Judge David M.
Murkowski (P35026) for
the following purpose:
Appointment of a
Guardian.

Dated: February 04,
2019

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS including
her son, Victor
Multop and daughter,
Tammy Darcie, and
any other unknown
relatives and heirs,
whose address(es)
is/are unknown and
whose interest in the
matter may be barred
or affected by the
following:
TAKE NOTICE: A
hearing will be held on
February 20, 2019, at
1:30 P.M. at Kent Co.

Adult Protective
Services, DHHS,
Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 558-6781

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

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

In the matter of
DENNIS ALLEN
Guardianship File No.
19-204,743-GA

180 Ottawa NW, Grand
Rapids, MI 49503
before Judge David M.
Murkowski (P35026) for
the following purpose:
Appointment of a
Guardian.

Dated: February 04,
2019

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS including his
daughter, Georgette,
and any other unknown
relatives and heirs,
whose address(es)
is/are unknown and
whose interest in the
matter may be barred
or affected by the
following:
TAKE NOTICE: A
hearing will be held
on February 22, 2019,
at 2:30 P.M. at Kent
Co. Probate Court,

Adult Protective
Services, DHHS,
Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 558-7608

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

Red Arrow

- BASKETBALL

SPORTS

Varsity basketball teams split against Jenison

submitted by WRWW

Last Friday the Red Arrows split two basketball games with the boys grinding out a 54 to 48 decision over the Jenison Wildcats after the varsity girls lost to their counterparts, 62-42.

The girls played the early game, falling behind quickly as most everything Jenison threw up went in. Lowell trailed 21 to 6 at the end of the first quarter.

outscore Jenison 31 to 26, but the first half was too much to overcome. Jenison was led in scoring by Emily Kellogg with 13, Amanda Smaby with 10, Morgan Mooney with nine, and Ally VanTimmeren with eight. Lowell's Regan Coxon, working hard, 'sliced' through the Jenison defense scoring 20 points, 15 of them in the second

honored service men and women, police officers, fire department and emergency medical personnel.

The boy's varsity played an inspired game, from start to finish in their win over Jenison. The Wildcats led 14 to 13 after the first quarter but only scored five points the second quarter, to Lowell's fifteen, with Lowell leaving the court at halftime leading 28 to 19. The Red Arrows received balanced scoring the first half from Trevor Petroelje (7), Robby Schneider (4), Logan Dekok (4), and Jordan Dent (4). Both teams traded baskets the third quarter with the Red Arrows starting the fourth quarter leading 36 to 28.



Regan Coxon driving to score in the first half.



Allyson Lange honoring Deputy Todd Summerhays.

It was more of the same the second quarter, with the Wildcats dropping in another 15 points to Lowell's 4. The Red Arrows went into the locker room trailing at halftime, 36 to 11.

Over the course of the second half, Lowell would

half. She was also sharp at the line, making seven of eight free throws. Coxon was followed in scoring by Emily Depew with 10, and Ava Frederickson with eight.

Between the two games, the Lowell varsity players



Andy Anschutz honoring Curt Cummings.

Lowell continued to pressure Jenison defensively while forcing the action when on offense. The whole team contributed to their 'W'. Schneider finished the contest with 10 points followed closely by Petroelje with nine, Dent with eight, and Gavin Coxon and Dekok with seven each. It was an exciting, entertaining game to watch or listen to on WRWW. Lowell's coach, Travis Slanger, commented after the game, "I especially liked the way we finished the game." Securing the win, after not having practiced during the week

due to Lowell Area Schools being closed because of the weather, he further jokingly stated, "The players will probably petition me to not have any more practices before games."

Both the boys and girls played Northview last Tuesday.

The boys play at Forest Hills Northern on Friday at 5:30 pm with the girls playing the later game at 7:00 pm.


LHS Snowball Swirl dance court



The Snowball Swirl Dance Court: freshmen: Winton Garrelts and Kaitlyn Thompson, sophomores: Hailey Halfmann and Justin Wade, juniors: Austin Boone and Blaze Anes. senior boys: Zachary Fabis, Kohl Goldsmith, Case Olesko, Wyatt Shuck, and Michael VandenHout; senior girls: Anneke Breuker, Deijah Gissendanner, Jaklyn Hayes, Olyvia Johnson, and Rylee Kovalick. Kohl Goldsmith was selected as King and Deijah Gissendanner was selected as Queen. The dance took place last Saturday evening at Lowell High School.

obituaries

HUVER

 Daniel Edward Huver, age 75 of Lowell, was peacefully taken into Jesus' arms on Friday morning, February 1, 2019 after a courageous battle with cancer. He was preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Eva Huver; siblings Patricia Hoffman, Dick Huver, Bob Huver, and Mary Smyth. Those who will miss Dan most are the love of his life, Ann (Barnhart) Huver; children, Lisa (Ray) Alexander, Tony (Cheryl) Huver; grandchildren Kort (Ashlyn) Alexander, Ellery (Danny Blasch) Alexander, Kale (Hanna Milnes) Alexander, Quinn (JR) James, Tagg Huver, Remi Huver; and sister Donna Smit. Dan was a faith-filled family man, an Army veteran, an avid outdoorsman, and the biggest fan at all of his grandkids' activities. Go Lions! Memorial Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, February 5, at St. Mary Catholic Church, Lowell. Rev. Colin Mulhall presided. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE Suite 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49546-5783; or St. Mary Catholic Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell, MI 49331.



PEAVEY

Jonathan Derek Peavey, age 36 of Lowell, passed away with his family at his side on Sunday, January 27, 2019. He will be deeply missed by his parents, Larry and Theresa Peavey; brother Larry Peavey Jr.; sisters Angie (Jason) McCulley, Stephanie (Daniel) Schell; nieces and nephews, Elonzo, Tiana-Marie, Genevieve; aunts; uncles; and cousins. Jonathan was his family's very heart. He inspired the world to overcome any obstacle that one could face. He helped us know the depths of God's love and the extent of His mercy. Some of Jonathan's favorites things were hanging out with his family that he loved dearly, going to the movies, watching and attending any type of race car event, going on road trips, and going fast as a racing Captain for myTEAM TRIUMPH. Jonathan's story is so rich that we know his memory will live on to provoke the very best in the hearts of all who get to know his legacy. ...3 *Neither this man nor his parents sinned, said Jesus, but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in him. John 9:1-3* Funeral will be 12 PM Wednesday, February 6, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. The family will greet friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the funeral home chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Jonathan's memorial or to the family to assist with funeral expenses at <https://www.gofundme.com/jonathan-peavey-memorial>.



LHS students of the month

Lowell High School has announced that Rachel Lezan, 10th grade, Nigel Mika, 11th grade, and Haley Sobie, 12th grade, are the Lowell High School January Students of the Month. In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly department chair meeting. Students are selected based on academic achievement, character, and work ethic. There are 1,200 students eligible for nomination.

Haley Sobie in class and she did not disappoint. I knew she would be an amiable and positive addition to any class because I have seen her operate under extreme pressure when I had the



Nigel Mika



Rachel Lezan

privilege of directing her in the musical as a freshman and sophomore. Haley is a quiet force, one of the unsung heroes among our students. She does not call attention to herself and does not complain. She gets things done and is always up for a challenge. This fall she took on the role of a very quiet, insecure juror in our fall play, Twelve Angry Jurors. Normally, one expects seniors to clamor for the big flashy roles.

The students receive a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

Lezan was nominated by Danielle Ayala and she writes, "Rachel is an extremely hard worker. She is willing to help others and is not afraid to ask questions. She often comes in before or after school to help clarify some concepts as she is very precise with her answers. She is a great student as she studies hard and works to her highest potential all of the time!"



Haley Sobie

Mike Lincolnhol nominated Mika and he writes, "I have Nigel in my physics class. It's a pleasure to have Nigel in class for many reasons. As a student he is very inquisitive and asks great questions that help the class broaden their thinking. It also helps put some real world spins on some of the topics. Nigel is also a wonderful person. He has many positive peer relationships and brings a happiness to the room even in first hour. Nigel is just a great young student with a great personality and a great mind that makes Lowell a great place to teach."

Sobie was nominated by Heidi Kolp and she writes, "I waited four years for the pleasure of having



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www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2019/2020 at the Lowell Charter Township offices 2910 Alden Nash, SE., Lowell, MI 49331 on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Monica Burt, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

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

classifieds

for sale

FIREWOOD FOR SALE
 - Seasoned mixed hardwoods, unsplit, \$150/cord, split \$200/cord. Delivery included in a 20 mile radius. Call 616-212-3008.

NEW CAT TREE - Custom designed from a natural tree with 4 perches by a furniture maker. \$85 obo. Text or call for pictures 616-460-7893.

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

SEAL 'N HEAL®: liquid bandage seals wounds with bitter taste to stop gnawing & promote healing. At Tractor Supply. (www.ken.nelvax.com)

NEWSPAPER ENDS ROLLS AVAILABLE - Many uses. Usually \$3-\$5 each. Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway.

QUEEN PILLOW TOP 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. No refunds if ad is cancelled early. Call 897-9555.

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

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

SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION! World Health Link. Price Match Guarantee! Prescriptions Required. CIPA Certified. Over 1500 medications available. CALL Today For A Free Price Quote. 1-855-972-1693 Call Now! (MICH)

wanted

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

help wanted

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 1yr CDL experience with X-end. Apply at www.gulfmarkenergy.com or call 866-448-4068 EOE.

CARPENTERS/FRAMERS - Looking for help in the Lowell area and then beyond if you choose. Benefits available. Pay based on experience. Call Dave for more info 616-291-5704.

IMMEDIATE OPENING - - We are taking applications for a walking route carrier to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturdays. Must be dependable! Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. Must be at least 16 for this position. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. No phone calls accepted regarding this position.

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.

services

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

INTERIOR PAINTING - by JenX Creations. Color consultations, free estimates, insured with references. Call 616-915-1593.

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.

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.

services

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.

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

services

UPS/FEDEX SHIPPING COPY SERVICE, (black & white & color!) FAX SERVICE, LAMINATING PRINTING BANNERS POSTERS & MUCH MORE AVAILABLE AT THE LOWELL LEDGER BUYERS GUIDE
 105 N. Broadway
HOURS
 M-Th. 8-5 p.m.
 Fri. 8-noon
 Ph. 897-9261
 Fax 897-4809
 email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

misc

PORK STEAK DINNER - Fri., Feb. 8, 5-7:30 pm and Sunday breakfast, Feb. 10, 8-11 am. Alto American Legion, 6056 Linfield, Alto. Public welcome.

LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE - Next day service. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

Community Calendar

February

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.

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.

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

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

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - a Christ-centered, Biblically-based 12 step program for people with

hurts, hang-ups and habits. Meets every Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Impact, 1069 Lincoln Lake Ave, Lowell. Open to all who are 18 years or older. Fourth Thursday of each month is Chip Night when we celebrate a meal together starting at 6 pm.

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

NEEDLERS - Meet the second & fourth Wednesday of the month from 5 to 8 pm at Englehardt Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell.

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.

AMERICAN LEGION #152 MEETING - fourth Monday of the month, 7 pm. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell.

TECH HELP - Thursdays by appointment from 1-3 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

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

Lowell.

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

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

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

KNITTING GROUP - Tuesdays 10 a.m. - noon. Meets at the Village Hall. Beginning to advanced knitters welcome. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - 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.

VETERANS POTLUCK - second Sunday of month, 2 pm. Bring a friend. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell.

TECH HELP - Wednesdays by appointment from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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 women & 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.

FREE ALL VETS COFFEE HOUR - Third Thurs. of each month. at Keiser's.

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

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

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

ALTO LIONS CLUB - Meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Keiser's Kitchen.

CIVIL AIR PATROL - Meets the second & fourth Tues. of the month, 6 p.m., Benz Aviation Building at Ionia Airport, teen/adult programs available, Call Shawna, 616-430-1348 or visit online http://mi222.miwg-cap.org

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.

SENIOR NEIGHBORS BIBLE STUDY - All are welcome to join this bible study on Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Lowell Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson St., Lowell.

FREE WILL

astrology

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Aries**(March 21-April 19)**

Climbing mountains has been a popular adventure since the nineteenth century, but there are still many peaks around the world that no one has ever ascended. They include the 24,591-foot-high Muchu Chhish in Pakistan, 23,691-foot Karjiang South in Tibet, and 12,600-foot Sauyr Zhotasy on the border of China and Kazakhstan. If there are any Aries mountaineers reading this horoscope who have been dreaming about conquering an unclimbed peak, 2019 will be a great time to do it, and now would be a perfect moment to plan or launch your quest. As for the rest of you Aries, what's your personal equivalent of reaching the top of an unclimbed peak?

**Gemini****(May 21-June 20)**

While enjoying its leisure time, the peregrine falcon glides around at 50 miles per hour. But when it's motivated by the desire to eat, it may swoop and dart at a velocity of 220 miles per hour. Amazing! In accordance with your astrological omens, Gemini, I propose that we make the peregrine falcon your spirit creature for the next three weeks. I suspect you will have extraordinary speed and agility and focus whenever you're hunting for exactly what you want. So here's a crucial question: what exactly do you want?

**Leo****(July 23 - August 22)**

A study by the Fidelity financial services company revealed that in 43% of all couples, neither partner has an accurate knowledge of how much money the other partner earns. In order to sharpen your focus on how crucial it is to communicate clearly with your closest allies. I mean, it's rarely a good idea to be ignorant about what's going on with those close to you, but it'll be an especially bad idea during the next six weeks.

**Scorpio****(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**

Leonardo da Vinci's painting Salvator Mundi sold for \$450 million in 2017. Just twelve years earlier, an art collector had bought it for \$10,000. Why did its value increase so extravagantly? Because in 2005, no one was sure it was an authentic da Vinci painting. It was damaged and had been covered with other layers of paint that hid the original image. After extensive efforts at restoration, the truth about it emerged. I foresee the possibility of a comparable, if less dramatic, development in your life during the next ten months, Scorpio. Your work to rehabilitate or renovate an underestimated resource could bring big dividends.

**Virgo****(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**

Torre Mayor is one of the tallest skyscrapers in Mexico City. When workers finished its construction in 2003, it was one of the world's most earthquake-proof buildings, designed to hold steady during an 8.5-level temblor. Over the course of 2019, Virgo, I'd love to see you erect the metaphorical equivalent of that unshakable structure in your own life. The astrological omens suggest that doing so is quite possible. And the coming weeks will be an excellent time to launch that project or intensify your efforts to manifest it.

**Sagittarius****(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**

We can behold colors because of specialized cells in our eyes called cones. Most of us have three types of cones, but a few rare people have four. This enables them to see far more hues than the rest of us. Are you a tetrachromat, a person with super-vision? Whether you are or not, I suspect you will have extra powerful perceptual capacities in the coming weeks.

**Libra****(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**

Multitalented Libran singer and actor Donald Glover uses the name of Childish Gambino when he performs his music. How did he select that alias? He used an



online random name generator created by the rap group Wu-Tang Clan. I tried the same generator and got "Fearless Warlock" as my new moniker. You might want to try it yourself, Libra. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to add layers to your identity and expand your persona and mutate your self-image. The generator is here. (P.S.: If you don't like the first one you're offered, keep trying until you get one you like.)

Capricorn**(Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**

There are two kinds of minor, boring little tasks. One is when you're attending to a detail that's not in service to a higher purpose; the other is when you're attending to a detail that is a crucial step in the process of fulfilling an important goal. An example of the first might be when you try in vain to scour a permanent stain on a part of the kitchen counter that no one ever sees. An example of the second is when you download an update for an existing piece of software so your computer works better and you can raise your efficiency levels as you pursue a pet project. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to keep this distinction in mind as you focus on the minor, boring little tasks that are crucial steps in the process of eventually fulfilling an important goal.

**Pisces****(Feb. 19 - March 20)**

Twitter wit Notorious Debi Hope advises us, "Before you diagnose yourself with depression or low self-esteem, first make sure that you are not, in fact, just surrounded by [jerks]." That's wise counsel for you to keep in mind during the next three weeks. Let me add a few corollaries. First, stave off any temptation you might have to believe that others know what's good for you better than you do. Second, figure out what everyone thinks of you and aggressively liberate yourself from their opinions. Third, if anyone even hints at not giving you the respect you deserve, banish them for at least three weeks.

**Aquarius****(Jan. 20- Feb. 18)**

Can you sit on your own head? Not many people can. It requires great flexibility.



also holds the record for most socks put on one foot within 30 seconds.

Least Competent Criminal

Police in Austin, Texas, caught up with 19-year-old suspect Luca P. Mangiarano on Jan. 24, a month after a bank robbery in large part because of his choice in getaway vehicles. According to police, Mangiarano stepped into the BBVA Compass bank on Dec. 18 and handed a note to a teller, reading: "This is a robbery, please give me all your 100's and 50's in an envelope and everything will be ok." The employee did as directed and the robber left the building, then hopped on a Jump electric scooter and took off down the sidewalk. He perhaps failed to consider that the scooters are linked to GPS tracking systems and online accounts with phone numbers, email addresses and credit card information, which, after police obtained them from Jump, led them to Mangiarano. Austin Detective Jason Chiappardi told The Washington Post: "We had never had a scooter involved in a robbery."

Bright Idea

Outdoorsman Scott Ritchie of Loveland, Colorado, has a new lease on life thanks to 3D printing. Ritchie, 52, was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer in early 2018 after noticing pain in his hip after fly-fishing. CBS4 in Denver reported Dr. Ronald Hugate of the Panorama Orthopedics and Spine Center in Highlands Ranch took an aggressive and creative approach to treating Ritchie: He made a 3D virtual model of Ritchie's pelvis, then designed an implant to exactly replace the area of bone that would have to be surgically removed. Made of titanium, the implant was produced using a 3D printer. Two weeks later after surgery, Ritchie was walking with crutches and is expected to walk on his own in a few weeks more, although he was warned he might have a limp. "If I do have a limp, it's better than nothing," Ritchie said.

Uh, No

On Jan. 29, the Chenoa (Illinois) Police Department put a call out for volunteers to help with a training session taking place that evening. "Officers are undergoing their annual Taser training tonight ... and are looking for members of the public who are willing to volunteer for the experience," announced WEEK-TV. Volunteers were required to sign an "exposure waiver" in order to participate, but it was unclear whether the Tasers would be live.

NEWS OF THE

weird

Wait, What?

Vaev, a Los Angeles-based internet startup, is offering consumers the "luxury to choose" when to become sick with a cold, gushes 34-year-old Oliver Niessen, the company's founder. For \$79.99, Vaev will send you a box containing a petri dish, which houses a facial tissue used by a sick person. Niessen explained to Time magazine that the recipient wipes their nose with the provided tissue and contracts a cold virus to get it out of the way before, say, leaving on a vacation. But Charles Gerba, professor of microbiology at the University of Arizona, debunked Niessen's theory: "There are more than 200 types of rhinoviruses ... getting inoculated from one doesn't protect you against all the others." He adds that Vaev's customers will never know what exactly is on the provided tissues, which Niessen says are produced by a "stable" of 10 go-to sneezers, some recruited on the internet. Still, Niessen claims to have sold about 1,000 used tissues, although the company's website currently shows the product as sold out. "We've had some supply-chain issues," Niessen said, without offering details.

Gift With Purchase

A shopper at a Primark store in Essex, England, was startled to discover a human bone in a sock on Dec. 10. Essex police reassured the public that the bone "did not appear to be a result of recent trauma," and it did not have any skin attached to it, according to Sky News. A Primark spokesman said the company

is checking with its supplier, and "No evidence of any kind exists to suggest that any incident has occurred in the factory, so it is highly probable that this object was placed in the sock by an individual for unknown reasons."

Police Report

A motorist in New Canaan, Connecticut, called police on Jan. 23 after spotting a woman stopped at an intersection in the driver's seat of her car with her eyes closed. When officers arrived, they found Stefanie Warner-Grise, 50, "unable to answer basic questions," according to the arrest report. They "detected an odor of vanilla coming from her breath (and) her speech was slurred. ... In addition, several bottles of pure vanilla extract were located inside the vehicle." The Hour reported Warner-Grise failed field sobriety tests and she was charged with driving under the influence of vanilla extract. The Food and Drug Administration requires that pure vanilla extract must be at least 35 percent alcohol, which makes it 70 proof.

It's Good to Have Goals

Pavol Durdik added another Guinness world record to his collection Aug. 3 in Puchov, Slovakia by extinguishing 62 lighted matches with his tongue within one minute, according to United Press International. In a video posted by Guinness World Records on Jan. 25, Durdik had the matches laid out in front of him and lighted each one before putting it out on his tongue. He

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: VALENTINE'S DAY

ACROSS

- 1. Indian black tea
- 6. Elmer to Bugs
- 9. Glorify
- 13. Head of a mosque
- 14. E.T. transporter
- 15. This was his name-o
- 16. Mental portrait
- 17. Chlorofluorocarbon, abbr.
- 18. French novelist Zola
- 19. *Related to puzzle theme
- 21. Way to absorb
- 23. Lobe locale
- 24. H. H. Munro's pseudonym
- 25. Rap sheet abbr.
- 28. Hungarian bagpipe
- 30. Deeply hidden within self
- 35. Initiation ceremony, e.g.
- 37. Made with stitches
- 39. Venus neighbor
- 40. Crucifix
- 41. Cerberus' domain
- 43. Petri dish filler
- 44. Young hooter
- 46. Fraternity recruitment season
- 47. Type of shark
- 48. _____ Grove, MN
- 50. Corset rod
- 52. Animal's nose
- 53. Number one
- 55. Second solfa syllable, pl.
- 57. *Flowery Valentine's gift
- 61. *Between girlfriend and wife
- 65. Liquid drug container
- 66. Planet ruler in the movies
- 68. *Blast from Harry's past, movie
- 69. Caterpillar hairs
- 70. Easter lead-in
- 71. Human social group

CROSSWORD														
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- 72. *Tied upon marriage
 - 73. Kith partner
 - 74. Wild plums
- DOWN**
- 1. Gulf V.I.P.
 - 2. Clash of heavyweights
 - 3. NBA action
 - 4. Lake scum

- 5. Dionysus' follower
- 6. Mussolini, with II
- 7. On vacation
- 8. Cuckoo for what puffs?
- 9. *Romantic ride
- 10. Anisette, for short
- 11. Tangerine plus grapefruit
- 12. "Easy _____ it"
- 15. *Kind of wish
- 20. *Puppy love
- 22. Do biathlon
- 24. Woodworker's byproduct
- 25. *Cupid's ammo
- 26. Native of American Great Plains
- 27. Circular island of coral
- 29. *First word
- 31. Hat-tipper's word
- 32. Donated life-saver
- 33. Interest in a venture
- 34. *Heart _____
- 36. "Harper Valley PTA" star
- 38. Hatchling's home
- 42. Harry Belafonte's daughter
- 45. Tiny tube
- 49. Tiger's launch point
- 51. Leavening agent, pl.
- 54. Smelled offensively
- 56. Angry growl
- 57. Lounge, like in the sun
- 58. A sign
- 59. "_____ no good"
- 60. African tea
- 61. Shade-loving plant
- 62. Greek muse of history
- 63. River in Bohemia
- 64. *"Can't take my _____ off you..."
- 67. Hawaiian dish

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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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

The NFL is considering going cashless in stadiums. What's your preferred payment method?



- Cash
- Debit Card
- Credit Card

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LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Our poll asked ...

When do you use your car horn?

- At a stop light.....0%
- When people are texting.....0%
- Slow & fast drivers.....0%
- When I see a friend.....0%
- Never.....100%

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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

Handmade by Hanson

Young entrepreneur specializes in custom pieces

by Patrick Misner
contributing reporter

Jake Hanson is the young man behind Handmade by Hanson. He is a woodworker who specializes in custom pieces ranging anywhere from small gift items like pens to substantial home décor pieces such as coffee and end tables. He began woodworking during his freshman year at Lowell High School.

"One of the projects that we did was making a cutting board, so I did that and kind of fell in love with doing that side of it," Hanson said. "Because we got to do different designs and that kind

was my best friend for a lot of it just 'cause so much is on there, I can research as much as I want."

Although he started off making items at home on the table and miter saws, he has transitioned to often using more antiquated tools.

"I use only a couple of power tools, the rest is all with hand tools, usually from the early 1900s," Hanson explained. "Because my shop is in a basement, noise and sawdust are issues. So I can do it a little bit quieter. They are also a little bit cheaper, so I can

than most power tools.

For now, Handmade is a side project while he attends his first year at Kendall College of Art and Design in downtown Grand Rapids, where he is majoring in furniture design. He chose this major because he wanted to develop his woodworking interest.

"I wanted to get into [design work] just 'cause I was doing that kind of thing at home, and I wanted to actually turn that into more of a career," Hanson explained. "That way I could go work for one of the larger furniture companies like Baker or Kindel here in town, or something like Steelcase."

Hanson follows in the footsteps of Kendall's namesake, the famous furniture designer David Wolcott Kendall. Kendall worked as a designer in



Jake Hanson began woodworking as a freshman in high school.



A handcrafted wooden pens.

of thing, and [make] an actual usable piece. So I wanted to do those at home and do it outside of school, so I got a table saw and a miter saw, so I could actually start doing stuff like that at home. And then as I took shop, I took five of the classes, so I was able to do more furniture; more of what I wanted, so I could do larger pieces. And then learning how to weld, I could do wood and metal in the same piece."

He started off with cutting boards, but quickly learned how to make other items from the Internet.

"It was just kind of [just] jumping into it," Hanson said. "YouTube



do a little bit more. I can keep the noise down and do the same thing."

He gets some of these tools from Internet sources such as eBay and Facebook Marketplace, but he keeps his eye out for them wherever they may pop up. He has gotten many from antique stores in Michigan as well as North Carolina and Colorado during family vacations. Oftentimes they require restoration to put them back into working order, which he

also learned to do from watching YouTube. These tools are used mainly because of his circumstances, but he does not see them as limiting. Instead, he says it allows him to pay more attention to details in his work, as the older tools can be more precise

Grand Rapids during the time period that Grand Rapids got its moniker "furniture capital of the world," which still leaves its mark on the city with the presence of the companies Hanson hopes to work for.

Hanson's major and his woodworking are related, but learning to design is much different than the custom work he does for Handmade by Hanson. He said his classes prepare him more for the mass production side of furniture design. Even though he is a freshman at Kendall, he is already starting design classes.

"It has been good. It's been really busy," Hanson said. "I am taking four to five classes a semester, and those have a lot of work outside of class. I take classes for my major all four years, so you just kind of jump right into it instead of waiting two years to get into it."

Still, his background with handmade

woodwork has proved beneficial already.

"Because I've actually made pieces of furniture, when I design, I can see how [pieces] go together, and I can incorporate that," Hanson said. "So if I want the joints to be visible, and I want them to be structural too, I can make that show. So I can have some of those little details and also make sure my pieces are a little bit more realistic in how they are going to be made so they go together really easy."

Hanson runs the marketing side of Handmade by Hanson as well.

"A lot of it is either through Facebook, some of the advertising I've done on there, having my businesses cards at the bakery, Sweet Seasons," Hanson said. "I had them in the furniture store when they were in the old furniture factory. And then word of mouth is a big one, just reaching out to people."

He has also sold his work at a few different events around Lowell.

He has participated in Christmas through Lowell twice and had products at the Christmas craft show at Impact Church. He has also sold products at Sweet Seasons, the bakery and coffee shop in downtown Lowell. At these type of events, he predominantly sells his smaller and non-customized items.

"I did a lot of pens just because they were quick to produce, and then I had some bowls and some Christmas ornaments," Hanson said. "A couple of years ago when I [sold] at Sweet

Seasons, I had two tables with me; I did some rolling pins, cutting boards. I kind of expanded it a little bit, to see what I could sell."

He has also sold custom items to individuals around the United States through his Etsy site, [etsy.com/shop/JakesMakesCo](https://www.etsy.com/shop/JakesMakesCo). His Facebook page, [facebook.com/handmadebyhanson](https://www.facebook.com/handmadebyhanson), is where to find the most up-to-date information on what he is working on. He can be contacted through Facebook, his Etsy shop or his business email, handmadebyhanson@gmail.com.



Many of his woodworking tools are from the 1900s and were purchased at antique stores.

