



page 3

Dirt roads



page 14

Big fun at 23rd annual Lowell Expo

by Patrick Misner and Tim McAllister

Saturday, March 23 was the 23rd annual Lowell Community Expo at Lowell High School. Thousands wandered around entering drawings, chatting, sampling products and collecting coupons, toys and other promotional handouts at over 160 booths from local businesses, churches, schools and other organizations.

"This is the busiest morning I've ever seen, and Greenridge has been at every Expo since the beginning," said Rick Seese from Greenridge Realty, who provided a soft couch for people to rest on after a few hours wandering around the high school. "We're giving out little trinkets, but we're more about just saying hi, greeting people and building relationships rather than doing gimmicky things."

Attendees were greeted with the smell of baked goods when they entered the auxiliary gym at the Expo. Deirdre and her husband George Olszewski passed out mini-cupcake and chocolate chip cookie samples at the Deirdre's Cakes and Bakes booth. This was their first Lowell Expo as Deirdre Olszewski began the company in January.

"I run a custom cake and cookie business out of my home," explained Olszewski.

"So I'll do custom cakes for weddings, celebrations, birthday parties, graduation parties. I have a classic cookie collection, I have a shortbread cookie collection, or I'll do decorated sugar cookies, basically anything tailored to your event."

The booth was busy, and Deirdre was excited so many people were showing interest in her new company.

"I've been going through the Small Business Development Council out of Grand Rapids, so they've been helping," Olszewski said. "They kind of counsel you on how to get a business up and going. I operate under cottage law, so I operate out of my home. It's been a learning experience, I will say that, but it's been fun."

Music was the theme of a few booths at the Expo. President John Lakatos and vice president Ed Vronson of the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association were a part of a group playing traditional folk and bluegrass songs during the event. They discussed some of the activities the association hosts, which include the JuneGrass festival at the end of June and the Fall Camp and Jam.

"I invite everyone to come Expo, continued, page 8



Flip to the back page for lots more photos from the "Showboat Showdown" game show!

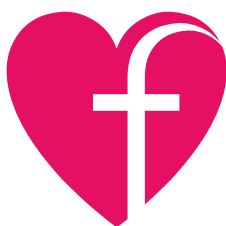
FROM tax preparation earns A+ on IRS audit

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Last week the Internal Revenue Service showed up unannounced and performed an audit on the free tax preparation services at Flat River Outreach Ministries. FROM announced later in the week that they received a perfect "100 percent" score from the IRS on the surprise audit.

"Two women came from the IRS on Tuesday [March 19]," said FROM/VITA volunteer Dianne LaWarre. "They were there for a couple hours during their visit. They asked a lot of questions and even reviewed a tax return. We got 100 percent. It was great. We were very pleased."

The VITA sites are not audited every single year, only frequently enough to keep everybody on their toes.



FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

LaWarre said that this was only FROM's third surprise IRS audit in 11 years.

"I think the last time we were audited was three years ago, but they can show up anytime," LaWarre said. "We didn't expect them at all. They're probably more particular with free sites like us than the paid businesses, so we were very proud of the results."

"I observed this site as being organized and well-managed," said the the audit report by IRS tax consultant Rhonda Terrell. "This was evident by the streamlined

process you have in place for taxpayers signing in, waiting to be assisted and having a quality reviewer available."

For over a decade, FROM and the United Way have offered free tax preparation in Lowell through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. FROM's 11 VITA tax preparers were trained by the IRS and have to re-certify every year.

VITA was created to guide taxpayers with family incomes of less than \$66,000 per year through the tax

FROM, continued, page 4

Superintendent Pratt on May 7 school bond proposal

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Earlier this month, Lowell Area Schools announced they will ask voters to approve a \$52,095,000 bond on May 7, 2019. The bond will pay for sorely-needed improvements and upgrades at schools throughout the district.

LAS superintendent Greg Pratt said it all started back in 2011 when architectural firm Tower Pinkster and construction management firm Owen-Ames-Kimball created a "Facility Needs Assessment" report for the district. The report examined all the buildings

in the district for safety and security, accessibility, structural, electrical, exterior and interior conditions and mechanicals like the heating, cooling and plumbing. At that time, the district created a 1 mill "building and sinking fund" and Pratt said that now they are ready to go ahead on these projects without increasing the millage rate.

"It's a seven year extension on our current bond, but essentially it's a new bond," Pratt said.

Bond, continued, page 7

Aretha Franklin



page 7

50¢



Bruce Matthews Band is next LowellArts concert

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell-based singer-songwriter Bruce Matthews and his band will perform a special, intimate house concert in the gallery at LowellArts, 223 W. Main, at 7 pm on Saturday, March 30.

“Many of the band members live in and around the area as well, so Lowell is home for us,” Matthews said. “I’m fortunate to live in Lowell. Lowell is home by choice. I worked in Washington DC for ten years or so before coming to West Michigan. When deciding on where to locate, based on just about anywhere in the country, I chose West Michigan. There’s a great vibe here, including music. We’ve got world-class outdoors opportunities and four seasons in which to enjoy them. Lowell’s a great town to live and work in. I particularly love the vibrant arts scene and the many ways LowellArts and Lowell Area Schools encourage the arts. Food options aren’t bad either, though my wife is still holding out for a local frozen yogurt place!”

According to Matthews, his band is “a loose conglomeration of musicians.” People are constantly coming and going. But he said he is very proud of the current makeup of his group.

“My band is made up of over 20 musicians who, over the years, have played for our CDs and performances,” Matthews said. “I’ve been really blessed by their talents. Many of them I’ve met through our leading worship together at Ada Bible Church. For the March 30 concert at LowellArts I’ve got these folks: Sheila DeGroot plays keyboards and sings, Alison Myers plays flute and whistle and Joey Fester plays electric bass.

Alison is also with Peat and the Creel, a great traditional Celtic music band. We’ll do some covers, for example we covered “Shenandoah” and “Run On” on our last CD. Mostly, because you like the song, it speaks to you. For example, “One Voice” by The Wailin’ Jennys is a wonderful song with a great message that we love to sing.”

It’s a relatively rare live outing for Matthews and his band. He eschews the bar scene and prefers playing at festivals and more intimate spaces like LowellArts.

“We don’t play out all that much, preferring a ‘front porch’ style of music that doesn’t work all that well with traditional bar-style venues,” Matthews said. “When your music is contemplative or tells a story, it’s a rough go competing with the usual bar sounds and noise level.”

A native of the East Coast, Matthews got his start as a youth touring with New York rock bands, eventually settling into the ruminative yet humorous acoustic performer you’ll see at LowellArts on Saturday. He has since retired, but he spent a decade in Lowell working for the North Country Trail Association.

“I’m retired now, but nothing’s changed about why I loved my job at the NCTA,” Matthews said. “Passing on a love for the natural world, building an outdoor legacy, in this case a hiking trail, and serving hard-working volunteers who just want to build a trail. I think my working career has pretty much been characterized by connecting people with the outdoors in meaningful ways. Some of my songs do that too. [I am inspired by] whatever



Bruce Matthews [Facebook photo]

happens to be walking in my heart at the moment the music arrives. Things tug at you. Outside, it’s the natural world, its beauty and complexity, the way birds fly and the role we need to play in caring for it and passing it on. Inside, it’s maybe a lesson you learned, should have learned, or

learned the hard way, a relationship that worked or didn’t, stuff like that. Music helps me unpack my baggage. Music helps me stay centered. It helps me celebrate what’s really important. It helps me leave something for my family to remember me by. One of my newest songs is called “What You Leave

Behind.” Sometimes [inspiration comes from] a particular thing like my grandson’s potty training (“Double Dookie Dude”) or my wife’s predilection for making me eat right (“Mayo Blues”). Sometimes it’s about healing and redemption (“Second Step,” “Best Ain’t Good Enough”), or people (“My Brother’s Wings,” “Elena’s Song,” “Kyara’s Song”). Then there’s life lessons (“Can’t Be About Me,” “Gotta Go”). I love history. Imagining what it must have been

like for a soldier in battle led to “Cherries at Gettysburg.” Telling the story of an Adirondack hermit led to “Ballad of Foxy Brown.” I think it’s easy to see a God thread throughout most of my work, though I wouldn’t classify much of it as ‘praise songs.’ Subjects? I guess redemption and relationships, maybe. Certainly celebrating and caring for the natural world.”

The Bruce Matthews Band has released two CDs, “So Far” in 2014 and “Roll Your Windows Down” in 2018. They are available for listening or purchasing online at reverbNation.com, cDbaby.com, iTunes.com, Spotify.com or in person at the LowellArts show. Matthews said he doesn’t know why songwriting is his main creative outlet, but he definitely enjoys doing it and then performing the results in front of a live audience.

“I guess I’m just wired that way,” Matthews said. “I’d love to be a competent painter or a productive writer. Working with my hands with wood is tremendously satisfying, but I’m not real good at it. There’s something about singing and playing that, when you get it right, is transformative. Makes you feel like you’re soaring.”

Tickets to this LowellArts House Concert are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door that night. For more information about LowellArts, visit lowellartsMI.org, call 616-897-8545 or stop by the gallery during business hours.



the lowell ledger

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*The process for determining each applicant's disability benefits varies greatly, and can take upwards of two years.

Street Smarts: What to do with the Fairgrounds?



Denise Smith, Lowell

"That's a tough one. You've got the flood area there, so it's going to have to be something that can withstand the flooding. I'd like to see something that would attract more people."



Eve Pulcifer, Saranac

"There are all kinds of things they could do. They should put in a nice park for the kids, a picnic area by the river, a canoe rental or something like that. It'll be great!"



Jason Lee, Belmont

"It floods, so you couldn't build houses or anything, so maybe a sporting complex or something like that would be cool to have, with soccer fields and stuff."



Kathy Herioux, Lowell

"It would be nice to see an integrated park, meaning not just for young children but an activity park of some sort that would be for the community, with different activities throughout it, like a splash pad, for all ages to enjoy. Or maybe an extension of the dog park"



Ryan Ward, Lowell

"I can see it being a large, open field, a nice green space."



Stacey Eldred, Lowell

"A nice community park would be ideal. The area is nice and pretty right there by the river, but it's in the flood plain so spring would be kind of rough until it dries up."

From time to time our Ledger reporters will pose a question while out on the streets of Lowell. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SPEAK OUT. If you have a question you think would be an excellent conversation starter, feel free to suggest one. Send your Street Smarts questions to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com subject line - "Street Smarts"

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

When the KCYF moves their operations to Deer Run Golf Club in a couple years, the city will be left with Recreation Park, a sort of clean slate where, within certain limits, they can create any type of park that residents and city leaders can dream up. We asked Expo attendees what they think should be done with that area after the fair moves.

If you want to have a real impact on the park designing process, attend one of the "Design Day" sessions at Lowell city hall, 301 E. Main, on Wednesday, April 17. The first session is going to be from 2 pm until 4 pm and the second session will be from 5 pm until 7 pm.

the lowell ledger

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The Lowell Ledger

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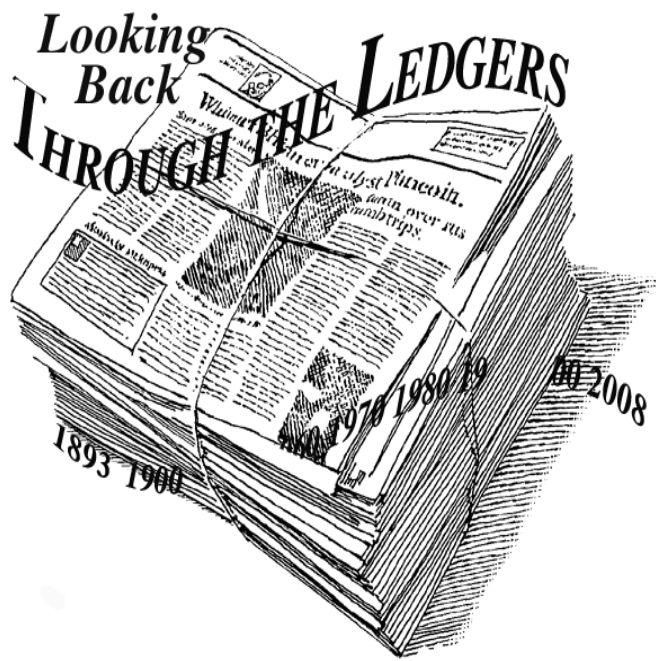
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viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Ledger March 31, 1894

John Nicklen fell down stairs and broke his arm above the elbow while coming from the gymnasium on Sunday last.

A veritable jack of all trades came to town Tuesday. He struck the Ledger office for twenty-five cents on the strength of being a printer. Then he went to the bakery and asked for aid because he was a baker. From there he went to a harness shop and asked if they did not want to assist a harness maker. At least accounts he was working the blacksmith shops on the score of being a smith, and what his trade is now goodness only knows.

Since his successful wrestle with Levant Sinclair, Claud Giles is in receipt of a challenge from a Grand Haven man for a wrestle for large stakes. Our Claude is gaining considerable notoriety.

100 years The Lowell Ledger March 27, 1919

Four boys from the Morse Lake school had a contest to see which could build the nicest bird house and Richard Fairchild won the prize. Miss O'Harrow gave the prize and Chas. R. Foote was the judge.

A Lowell-Grand Rapids bus line is again in operation, making three round trips daily via Ada, leaving the city at 7 and 10:30 a.m., and 5 p.m., and leaving Lowell at 8:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. Fare one way 75¢. Fare from Ada to city is 40¢.

"Shall it be made legal for the state of Michigan to borrow money to build roads? Are you in favor of a measure that will make it possible for the legislature to increase or cut the salary of judges while they are in office? Shall the sale of wines, beer, ales and porter be again made lawful in Michigan?" It will be upon these three questions, according to Coleman C. Vaughn, secretary of state, that voters in Michigan will be asked to give their decision when they go to the polls on April 7. All three questions will be printed upon a single ballot, copies of which have already been received locally.

75 years The Lowell Ledger March 30, 1944

Food rationing became simpler for everybody Monday as the OPA removed the expiration dates from all red and blue stamps. There will be no change in the rate at which stamps become valid: Three red stamps for meat and fats will become valid every second

Sunday, and five blue stamps for canned foods on the first of every month. The WFA has announced that civilians will have more butter and cheese, but slightly less meat, during April, May and June, compared with the first three months of the year.

No more Caledonia butter. That will be hard news for many homes in Western Michigan. Last week the Caledonia Co-op Creamery closed its doors after 23 years of very successful occupation. The creamery is the victim of an expansion in a market milk area combined with demand for other dairy products than butter.

50 years The Lowell Ledger March 27, 1969

Grants totaling \$5,000 have been made by the board of directors of Lowell Showboat, Inc. to five local organizations. Recipients of \$1,000 each were the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8303, the Lowell YMCA for the King Memorial Pool, Lowell school bands, Rotary Club and Lions Club.

Plans for renovating Lowell's antiquated city hall are expected to be shelved at the next meeting of the city council. The city's planning commission, after hearing from consultant J. Paul Jones and architect Donnelly Palmer, forwarded a recommendation at its meeting Monday night that council abandon the remodeling program and investigate the feasibility of constructing a new civic center.

Judge Joseph B. White of the 63rd District Court today warned motorists using M-21 that his court will impose severe penalties, including jail terms, for violations occurring on the stretch of highway known as "Accident Alley."

25 years The Lowell Ledger March 30, 1994

It was a value George E. Dey left his six children and time and time again practiced within the community of Lowell over the past 38 years. "Dad, and mom too (Dode Dey), instilled in us the value of becoming involved and doing for others," said Dey's daughter, Mary Wernett.

After complaining to township and county officials for the past ten years, Val Walker may see his dream of a paved bike path along Grand River Ave. come true. Walker is one of many citizens who travel along the designated bike path on Grand River Ave. to Division Ave. Although there has yet to be an accident involving a motorist and a biker, Walker feels it is just a matter of time.

A proposal for the smallest percentage increase in postage rates in more than 25 years was approved by the Postal Service Board of Governors. "The request asks for a three-cent increase on the first-class stamp, from 29 cents to 32 cents. New rates will not take effect before 1995," said Sylvia Taylor, Postmaster of Lowell. The unprecedented proposal calls for an across-the-board 10.3 percent increase in most other classes of mail.

State Income Tax Returns Due in Less Than a Month

The Michigan Department of Treasury (Treasury) is reminding taxpayers that state income tax returns are due in less than a month.

State income tax returns must be submitted electronically or postmarked through the U.S. Postal Service by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 15.

"The end of tax season is quickly approaching," said Deputy State Treasurer Glenn White, who oversees Treasury's Tax Administration programs. "To avoid delays or penalties for late filing, we encourage all taxpayers to file their Michigan taxes before the deadline."

Choosing electronic filing and direct deposit is fast, safe and secure. Last year, more than 4.2 million Michigan taxpayers e-filed, which is nearly 85 percent of state income tax filers.

For more information about e-filing, go to www.mifastfile.org.

Printed tax forms are available at public libraries, post offices in the northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, Department of Health and Human Services county offices, and Treasury field offices.

For the convenience of taxpayers, both federal and state tax returns are due on Monday, April 15.

To learn more about Michigan's individual income tax or to download forms, go to www.michigan.gov/incometax or follow the state Treasury Department on Twitter at @MITreasury.



We love to hear from you!

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

The requirements are:

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



HEALTH

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



- gas, bloating and belching

Most people have had excess gas, bloating, or belching. Sometimes these symptoms can cause problems and pain.

Bloating is a sensation of belly fullness. Sometimes your belly looks bigger, but not always. People with bloating do not necessarily have too much gas in their stomach, but they are often much more sensitive to stomach symptoms. Belching (or burping) is usually caused by swallowing too much air, eating or drinking too fast, drinking carbonated or caffeinated drinks, smoking, or a nervous habit. Flatulence is the release of excess gas in the colon. It is usually related to diet.

Most of the time, one or more of these disorders - irritable bowel syndrome, dyspepsia, or chronic constipation, are the cause of gas, bloating, and belching. These are not typical symptoms of cancer or other dangerous conditions, even if you have abdominal pain, diarrhea, or

constipation. However, you should let your doctor know if you are losing weight, have fevers, or bleeding. These symptoms can be more serious.

Even severe symptoms usually improve over time with diet and lifestyle changes. For diet, try to eat and drink more slowly to swallow less air. Limit fatty and spicy foods. Avoid caffeine, carbonated drinks, and artificial sweeteners. Avoid gas-causing foods, such as broccoli, cauliflower, and cabbage. Fiber has many benefits, although too much fiber may increase the amount of gas in the intestines.

Regular daily exercise often reduces symptoms in the stomach and intestines. OTC laxatives, such as Miralax, may help with constipation but probably not with stomach pains. Probiotics are found in some OTC supplements and yogurt. These sometimes help with the gas and bloating symptoms.

college news

More than 1,150 Grand Valley State University students participated in commencement ceremonies on December 8 at Van Andel Arena in Grand Rapids. Local students who graduated at the conclusion of the Fall 2018 semester in December include:

Ada: Victoria C. Armstrong, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Karissa K. Cloud, Bachelor of Science; Kathryn E. Coash, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Nicole M. De Windt, Master of Arts; Megan F. Dlugos, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Sage A. Moore, Bachelor of Arts; Macie L. Pasciak, Bachelor of Business Administration; McKenzie L. Slupe, Bachelor of Science;

Alto: Carly C. Byam, Bachelor of Arts; Rachel R. Chester, Bachelor of Science; Sarah M. DeVries, Bachelor of Science; Mariah C. Nieto, Master of Public Administration; Kaitlyn M. Schweda, Bachelor of Arts; Laurie K. Steffen, Bachelor of Science.

Lowell: Kiersten A. Ashenbrenner, Bachelor of Science; Jacob A. Geers, Bachelor of Science; Daniel H. Johnson, Bachelor of Science; Jonathan P. Newsome, Master of Science in Accounting; Keaton D. Pomper, Bachelor of Science; Jessica M. Solis, Master of Public Administration; Sara P. Spear, Master of Education.

See what you can do online during national social security month-part one

For generations, Social Security has been evolving to meet your changing needs. In April, we celebrate National Social Security Month by letting you know what you can do online with a *my Social Security* account.

Replacing a lost or stolen Social Security number (SSN) card has never been easier. You can request a replacement SSN card online in most states. There's no need to sit in traffic or visit a local office or Card Center. As long as you're only requesting a replacement card, and no

a copy of your SSA-1099 or 1042S, simply go online and get an instant, printable replacement form with a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Another important thing you can do is check the status of your Social Security benefit application or claim. This feature can be accessed anywhere you can log in to your *my Social Security* account. Knowing the status of your pending claim is important for a number of reasons, and now you can get the up-to-date status when you want it.

happy birthday



MARCH 27
Joel Roudabush, Kelly Geldersma.

MARCH 28
Amie Thaler, Aaron Kastanek, Beck Butler.

MARCH 29
John Ellison, Sandra VanWeelden, Judith Schafer Eiseman, Laura Rasch, Robin Burns, Casey Yonker, Brianna Homrich, Priscilla Nearing.

MARCH 30
Deb Maxim, Erin Wade, Delores Ellison, Laurinda Horsley, Patrick Drake.

MARCH 31
Katelynn Fonger, Jennifer McCaul, Ben Lobbezoo, Tera Raab, Rudy Smith, Michaela Blough.

APRIL 1
Christopher Vollink, Denny McClure, Kurt Wernet.

APRIL 2
Kyle Geldersma, Ron Metternick, Alec Newhouse, Chris Rittersdorf, Blake Bergy, Nicole Wilcox, Alex Hazard.



other changes, you can use our free online service from anywhere. All you need to do is log in to or create a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

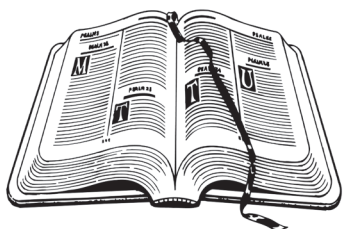
You can also get a copy of your Social Security 1099 (SSA-1099) or Benefit Statement, which is a tax form Social Security mails each year in January. It shows the total amount of benefits you received from Social Security in the previous year so you know how much Social Security income to report to the IRS on your tax return. If you live in the United States and you need

Please know that securing your identity and personal information is important to us. We protect your information by using strict identity verification and security features. The application process has built-in features to detect fraud and confirm your identity.

Replacing documents and checking status can be time consuming, but Social Security has made it as easy as possible. Share what you can do online with friends and family with a *my Social Security* account at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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area churches



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Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 19-205085-DE

Estate of LYNN J. HILL,
deceased. Date of birth:
06/07/1920.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lynn J. Hill, died 03/14/2019.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against

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

Craig A. Bruggink (P29358)
429 Turner Ave. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-456-5048

Betsy Midkiff
1837 Gratiot NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-774-8147

Bond, continued

“With that new bond, it will extend the current millage rate for seven more years. The 1 mill sinking fund was something that was passed roughly six or seven years ago to improve our roofs, asphalt and safety and security. This is a bond, so we would be looking for voters to approve us to go out and sell bonds so that we can continue the construction plan. We’re not expecting an increase by any means, that’s the nice part. Rather than see an increase in your current taxes, it will be extended over a seven year period. We have been planning for this work since 2011, that was when we started looking at potential upgrades. Now that we have some bonding capacity and we feel we can get some quality bids for this type of work, we feel pretty fortunate. We work in a very supportive community.”

Pratt described the projects in the schools as “needs versus wants.” For example, at the three community forums the district held recently, many residents mentioned a swimming pool as something they’d like to see added to one of the schools. A pool is not on the list of updates.

“There is not a lot of frill within the bond,” Pratt said. “The vast majority of this bond is classroom-related stuff. I know there were conversations about a pool. Just to be very honest, some of the needs outweigh the things that we would like to have. A pool is one of those things we would like to have, but these other updates are needed first. We really have to address these issues. There are many more things that people want than we could actually put on the list of improvements, like the pool. We really had to concentrate our efforts to make sure we were impacting the classrooms the best way we possibly can. There are some athletic upgrades up at the high school, but they were a long time coming as well.”

According to the LAS website, Alto Elementary needs \$3.8 million for new classrooms. That building

also needs “secure vestibule off the playground, replace mechanical units, provide corridor ventilation and air conditioning, enclose three classrooms near the media center computer and technology replacements.”

“We have a lot of students at Alto Elementary and it’s getting too tight out there,” Pratt said. “We want to add five classrooms to the north side of the building. Those are primarily early childhood classrooms. Currently, some of our teachers are working off of carts, they don’t have a classroom anymore, they’re moving around. We have reading teachers who are providing reading instruction from up on the stage. There is a capacity issue there.”

Middle school additions and renovations are the largest part of the project, those updates are budgeted at \$34.185 million and will take two years to complete.

“The middle school is just starting to show its age,” Pratt said. “A lot of the infrastructure, the heating and cooling, it’s starting to come to end-of-life and needs to be updated. The building itself has been added onto several times, and that’s where our biggest renovation is going to be, and most of the dollars. The footprint will change slightly, but that is a good core of a building and our goal is to use what’s working there. The gymnasium is in great shape. We want to maintain some of those more expensive areas so that we don’t have to go out and build a new building. The front wing, which is the oldest part, will no longer be there once construction is done. There will be an addition in the back and a few more classrooms where the sixth grade is currently. You’ll have a better traffic pattern for drop-off and pick-up. It will be easier for students to move to and from class and circulate throughout the building. The size of the classrooms at the middle school is relatively small in comparison to some of our other classrooms, so those classrooms will be a

little larger.”

The LAS website says that athletic improvements at the high school will include “multi-purpose soccer/lacrosse field (new press box and restrooms), new dugouts and press box at ball fields, replace tennis courts, improve drainage at practice/track field, new batting cages, fencing at softball/baseball field.”

“We haven’t put a lot of dollars into our athletic facilities in the past ten years,” Pratt said. “Therefore, just to keep those facilities matching what our competitors have, we’re going to try to make sure that we have some improvements in there. If you go up to our tennis area, there are a lot of cracks in the surface. It needs to be redone, so the tennis courts that we currently have would be replaced. There are no dugouts and there is no press box. Probably the largest piece at the high school would be a small stadium to accommodate soccer and lacrosse field, that would have synthetic turf. There are just so many events. We have events almost every night at our current stadium in the spring and fall, and it’s getting to the point where we almost can’t accommodate the activities that we have. The field at the stadium currently, the grass, typically is matted down. We’ve all seen how beat up it can get. That’s because of the use.”

According to the LAS website, at Bushnell Elementary the plan is to “replace mechanical units, replace public address system, replace boilers, ventilation, air conditioning, computer and technology replacements;” at Cherry Creek Elementary to “replace exterior doors, upgrade office cooling system, replace public address system, roof replacement, computer and technology replacements;” at Murray Lake Elementary to “replace low voltage lighting systems, replace

public address system, new parent drop-off, computer and technology replacements, for additions and renovations at the middle school including “additional two story wing to building, renovation to existing building, replace existing metal panel fascia, exterior doors and windows, new air conditioning system, replace air handling units, replace asphalt on tennis courts, computer and technology replacements;” and Runciman Building to “remove stage in gym, install new flooring, computer and technology replacements.” Infrastructure needs at all schools would cost \$5.86 million, Alto classrooms would cost \$3.8 million, athletic improvements would cost \$5.15 million, and technology and furnishings would cost \$3.1 million for a total price tag of \$52,095,000.

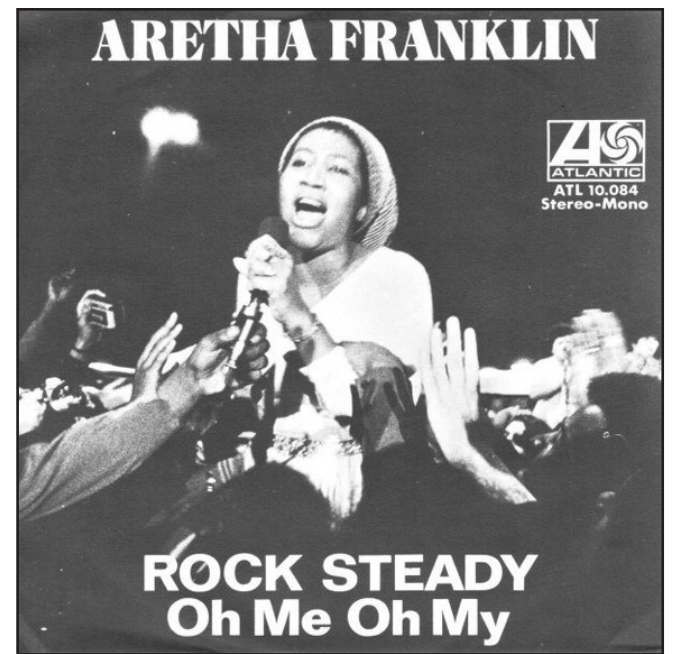
“We’re projecting that, down the road, there will be growth in our district,” Pratt said. “Most of that is due to new students moving here, and that’s good. We know that going through a remodeling or renovation can be difficult, but the savings is tremendous when you look at the cost of a brand new middle school being around \$60 million. We’re going to get that done for \$34.185 million by using the good bones that are there.”

If the bond measure passes, work will probably start by fall and will last about two and a half years. Pratt said that, regardless of the results of the May 7 election, most of the work will need to be done at some point. If it does not pass, Pratt said there will have to be very severe budget cuts.

“There are no easy cuts,” Pratt said.

For comprehensive information about the May 7 ballot measure, visit lowellschools.com/our-district/superintendent/2019-bond-election.

Michigan street to be named for Aretha Franklin



by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

A section of Michigan highway could be renamed to honor the “Queen of Soul,” singer Aretha Franklin, who passed away last August.

The Michigan House voted 101-6 on Tuesday, March 19 to name a Detroit section of M-10 “The Aretha L. Franklin Memorial Highway.” Franklin grew up, spent the majority of her lifetime, died and is buried in Detroit. The section of road starts near New Bethel Baptist Church, where her father C.L. Franklin was the pastor, and ends at I-94.

The legislation (HB 4060) was sponsored by Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit). Love described Franklin as a “special lady” because of her charity work and her work for civil rights, and said that Franklin’s music “gave us all a soundtrack to our lives.”

The six votes against the change were from Shane Hernandez (R-Port Huron), Matt Maddock (R-White Lake), Steve Johnson (R-Wayland), Phil Green (R-Millington), Luke Meerman (R-Polkin Township) and John Reilly (R-Oakland Township).

“People who did a service to our state or nation, we can give them that honor and recognition and we should keep it reserved for them,” Rep. Hernandez said in an interview with the Detroit Free Press. “I don’t deny the great things [Franklin] accomplished and wonderful things she did. It’s just my personal opinion to keep it to first responders and military veterans.”

The legislation’s next stop is the Michigan Senate.

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BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

The public accuracy testing for the May 7, 2019 Special Election request of Lowell Area Public Schools of a Bond Proposal will be held in the Bowne Township Historic Hall located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue SE., Alto, Michigan 49302 on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

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Expo, continued

to the JuneGrass festival," Lakatos commented. "It's always a great time and I am looking forward to it again this year."

"It is very family-oriented," Vronson added.

The Ada Conservatory of Music was also at the event and giving away free

the same people, but there [are] different people every year as well, new businesses, up-and-coming businesses. I think there are some that are not here this year [because] they are so busy that they don't necessarily need more business, so that is an interesting problem to



Lowell police and fire vehicles were shined up and on display at the Expo, including their brand new fire truck.

music lessons to a raffle winner. The Conservatory offers lessons in flute, piano, voice, violin, viola, cello, composition, guitar, bass guitar, and ukulele. Jordan Waller, the owner and one of the piano instructors, discussed what they do and some of the changes occurring at the company.

"We have been a company for six years," remarked Waller. "Right now we are located right downtown Ada Village, but we are going to move to 8100 E. Fulton, just about a mile away from our current location."

Dr. Jim Chichester from Lowell Family Chiropractic was at the event for the 11th straight year. Chichester commented on some of the ways the Expo has changed and some of the ways the Expo has remained the same since he started participating.

"I feel like [the Expo] is bigger," Chichester said. "I feel like there [are] a lot of

have. Because of the way the economy is, it is really good, people have a lot of work."

There were a variety of booths dedicated to more civic-oriented projects and events at the Expo as well. The city of Lowell's assistant city manager and director of public works Rich LaBombard was stationed at the Recreation Park Design Day booth to tell people about an upcoming meeting on Wednesday, April 17 to discuss how the former Lowell fairgrounds location will be used in the future. People could take maps of the area with the fairgrounds portion left blank and draw in what they would like to see put there.

"Once the fair leaves, we are going to be repurposing this property into something else [with more] of a recreational focus," LaBombard remarked. "There is going to be a design day coming up on

April 17th. There [are] going to be two sessions for the design day and [there will be] scaled pieces that people can move around on [a] blank sheet, and you can put on a swimming pool, a campground... whatever you want to fit in this property, and then that will generate the ideas of how we repurpose this property in the future. Williams and Works is working with the city, they are the ones driving the design process, and then ultimately they will get all of the information gathered up, and they will turn it over to the city, and that will be what we'll focus on as we start to redevelop this property in the coming year."

Betsy Davidson and Lowell city council member Greg Canfield were at the event promoting the new 2.2 mile trail that will be going through Lowell. The trail will be the final part of the larger 125 mile Fred Meijer Midwest Michigan Trail network, which goes from Owosso to Alma. Connecting the surrounding trails through Lowell has been a long process.

"People are getting more excited about the current trail we have in place, but then also this connecting trail that will connect us to the [larger trail]," Davidson commented. "This was a dream like 15 years ago [when it was] presented to us. Well, then within about 10 years we really got serious about it, because hey, it could really happen! Well, now it's happening. The rail trail group worked really hard to get to this point where we could even come up with a connection."

"We've raised \$5 million of the \$6.5 million that we need, so we are closing in on our final donations," Canfield explained. "We're looking at construction in 2021, we're about two years out. We have state grants that have helped with about 70 percent of the funding on

that we would gladly accept the donation of \$1.5 billion to help us clean up our final fund drive." But he added, "any smaller amounts also would be accepted."

Ken Tamke, the President of the Fallasburg Historical Society, was also at the Expo promoting the events they sponsor throughout the year.

"Our events for 2019 [include] Spring into the Past, [which] is our first event that comes up," Tamke said. "We have our 25th annual covered bridge bike tour, and that is in July, and we sort of piggy back on the Fallasburg Fall Festival of the Arts. That same weekend, across the bridge in Fallasburg Village, we have some additional tents set up as the Fallasburg Bazaar. We are not part of the arts festival, but we have arts and crafts. And then our baseball team, we have a vintage baseball team, plays a tournament in Fallas field. They have a four team tournament on the Saturday of that weekend. And then our last event is Christmas in Fallasburg, when we do a dinner in our schoolhouse with a live band and then we have a huge bonfire in the field across from the school after the dinner party is over."

Tamke was also excited about a website the group is creating that will have information about Fallasburg Village, along with a digital archive of the material they have collected related to the area through the years.

In the booth right next to Tamke's, Sharon Vosovic and Ardis Barber were representing the Lowell Area Historical Museum, which was debuting its own new online digital archives that day.

"We digitized our artifacts, and if people want to search for maybe a location on Main St., something about the Showboat, or Robert Graham, you can go to the website and just get information that way and see



The free root beer floats from Alto's Root Beer Cart were a very popular Expo treat.

coming up," Vosovic said. "This one is actually going to be on the Graham family. Robert Graham designed and built the house that the museum is housed in, plus his son went on to design Wrigley Field and some museums in Chicago."

"We have Spring into the Past coming up, so all of the small museums associated with the Tri-River Historical Museum Network are going to be open for free the first weekend in May," Barber also remarked.

A delegation from the Lowell 4-H club had interesting displays and activities related to bees, including a simulation of how the world looks through the eyes of a bee.

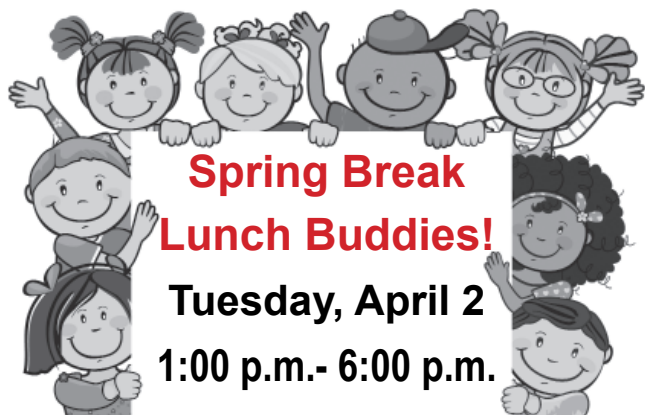
"We're from the 4-H council and we're showing how bees pollinate, how they collect pollen and how they see in ultraviolet light," said Tammy Peteresen from the Lowell 4-H. "Their vision makes it possible for them to see pollen on the flowers that we can't see. They see that ultraviolet light, they don't see red or the other colors on the spectrum."

"When a bee travels from flower to flower, it collects pollen through static electricity, so we also have balloons for a static electricity experiment," said Dale Thompson from the Kent County 4-H.

"We have a bin of eggs, strings and straws, we have crafts and we have a wonderful basket that people can enter to win," said Kathy Burch from Curiosity Corner Preschool. "I am having a lot of fun. There are lots of people here!"

"We brought her here in the back of a car, a Suburban, and that was pretty tough," said Hope and Sofia from Dairy Discovery, who were at the Expo watching over a two and a half week old female Holstein heifer. "And it may have been a little messy."

"We're fundraising, trying to sell stuff and trying to sign kids up for Little League this season," said Lowell Little League president Mike Minier. "Games will start April 20 but practices start right after spring break. We're getting work done on our fields and hopefully



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Kids and teens enjoyed playing games like miniature bowling.

this and then private donors for the last 28 percent."

Canfield continued jokingly, "We have to raise a little more money, so we're letting people know if they win the Powerball tonight

what else we have," Vosovic explained. "That was just launched today."

Vosovic also discussed the museum's upcoming exhibit on Robert Graham.

"We have a new exhibit

Expo, continued



Sharon Vosovic from the Lowell Area Historical Museum.



George and Deirdre Olszewski from Deirdre's Cakes and Bakes.



Greg Canfield and Betsy Davidson representing the Lowell Area Trailway.



Ken Tamke, Melanie Brim and Katie Brim from the Fallsburg Historical Society.



Dr. Jim Chichester from Lowell Family Chiropractic.



John Lakatos, Ed Vronson and others from the West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association.



Cheater B's Band (above) and the Easy Idle Band also performed.



Lowell mayor Michael DeVore (left) and city manager Michael Burns at the city's "Recreation Park Design Day" booth. More about that on page 3.



It wasn't easy getting her to the event, but this adorable two and a half week old Holstein spent the day at the Expo.



Josh Tozer from the Lowell Church of the Nazarene making free cotton candy.



The junior court from the Kent County Youth Fair.



Among the Expo entertainers were the Middle School Jazz Band and the High School Jazz Band (above).



Toll increase at International Bridge starts April 1

The passenger vehicle cash tolls will increase from the current \$3.50 (in U.S. dollars) per trip to \$4 on April 1. Regular commuters receiving a full discount will see an increase from \$2.45 to \$2.80 per trip. Commercial rates will increase from \$4.50 to \$5 per axle. Canadian dollar rates, with equity adjustments, will also change correspondingly.

The increase, approved in November 2013, was prompted by the Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority Board of Directors' review of the operational and capital improvement project needs of the bridge for the next 30 years. This is the second and final toll increase approved at that time as part of the Authority's long-range business plan. Previously, the base rate increased from \$3 to \$3.50 on April 1, 2014.

"Capital improvement projects are expected to total about \$9.4 million in the next 10 years and up to \$50 million (USD) over the next 15 years to keep the bridge and plaza facilities structurally sound and operationally safe," said Peter Petainen, general manager of the International Bridge Administration (IBA). "All toll revenue is dedicated to covering the capital costs, maintenance and operations for the bridge. The money is used to ensure the bridge is safe and available for use by all customers. This is an investment in the sustainable future of our vital link between the U.S. and Canada."

Petainen also noted the toll increase is an investment in the communities on both sides of the crossing, as well. "We put about \$6.2 million back into the local economy on an annual basis, split equally between both Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan."

No further changes to the base rate toll are currently planned. Future rate changes would require board action and public hearings. Canadian dollar rates will continue to fluctuate up or down every six months depending on the average six-month exchange rate.

The operation and maintenance of the International Bridge is totally self-funded, primarily through bridge tolls. It is not subsidized by any state, provincial or federal government entity. More information, including commercial vehicle toll rates and details of frequent user

"prox card" program, can be found on the IBA website at www.Michigan.gov/IBA and at www.saultbridge.com. Follow the IBA on Twitter at www.twitter.com/saultbridge.

Need firewood? Fuelwood permits available starting April 1

Michigan residents who heat their homes with wood can obtain fuelwood permits to cut dead and downed trees on designated state forest lands beginning April 1.

"This program allows people to cut up to five standard cords of firewood for personal use," said Donovan Asselin, timber sales specialist for the DNR. The DNR manages 4 million acres of state forest in the northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula. Some wood also may be available in state game areas where forests are managed to create habitat.

Contact your local DNR office to determine what areas are available this year for wood collection. Quality and quantity of wood varies by location, so scout where you'd like to cut to make sure wood is available before purchasing a permit.

Fuelwood is for personal use only and cannot be resold or traded. Wood must be dead and down within 200 feet of a road.

Fuelwood permits cost \$20 and are good for 90 days after they are issued. For more information about the DNR's fuelwood permits, visit Michigan.gov/Fuelwood or contact Donovan Asselin at 517-284-5843.

New boating and fishing laws took effect March 21

If your leisure-time plans include boating or fishing, recent changes in Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) may affect you. Beginning March 21, watercraft users in the state are required to take steps to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Also, anyone fishing with live or cut bait or practicing catch-and-release fishing will need to take precautions to limit the movement of invasive species and fish diseases.

What boaters need to know

People cleaning weeds and debris from a boatFor boaters, amendments to Sec. 41325 of NREPA (Act 451 of 1994), finalized near the close of the 2018 legislative session, affect both motorized and nonmotorized watercraft, trailers and other conveyances used to move watercraft.

In addition to the existing law requiring all aquatic plants be removed from boats and trailers before launching, the changes require the following, prior to transporting any watercraft over land:

Removing all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells.

Draining all water from any live wells and bilges.

Ensuring the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants.

This means after trailering boats, and before getting on the road, boaters must pull plugs, drain water and remove plants and debris from all watercraft, trailers and other conveyances. A short video from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality shows the steps boaters can take to comply with the new law.

What anglers need to know

For anglers, NREPA amendments codify the Michigan DNR's Fisheries Order 245 regarding the release of baitfish, collection and use of baitfish and cut bait, and release of captured fish, specifically:

A person shall not release baitfish in any waters of this state. A person who collects fish shall not use the fish as bait or cut bait except in the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the inland lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.

A person, who catches fish other than baitfish in a lake, stream, Great Lake, or connecting waterway shall only release the fish in the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught, or in a connecting waterway of the lake, stream, or Great Lake where the fish was caught if the fish could freely move between the original location of capture and the location of release.

A net full of baitfishWhether purchased or collected, unused baitfish should be disposed of on land or in the trash – never in the water. Any baitfish an angler collects may be used only in the waters where it was originally collected.

Why it matters

"Many invasive species move from one location to another with the help of human transportation," said Kevin Walters, an aquatic biologist with the DEQ. "Plants like Eurasian watermilfoil or starry stonewort can travel from lake to lake on boats and trailers. Just one plant fragment can start a new population."

Draining boats and cleaning trailers can limit the spread of zebra and quagga mussels, which are common in some inland lakes. A more recent invader, the tiny New Zealand mudsnail, can hitchhike from river to river when mud or debris is left on kayaks, canoes and gear.

Moving fish from one body of water to another can spread fish diseases, like heterosporis (a parasite of yellow perch) and viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV), a serious disease that can affect many fish species. Fish diseases also can be spread to new locations when water carrying parasites or infection is transferred via bilges, live wells or ballast tanks.

35 Acres in 4 Separate Parcels, Home, Outbuilding & Personal Property Live Auctions

Personal Property: Thurs., April 11 - 5 pm - 10384 Kehoe Dr NE, Ada
Real Estate Auction: Thurs., April 18 - 6 pm - Lowell VFW 3166 Alden Nash, Lowell

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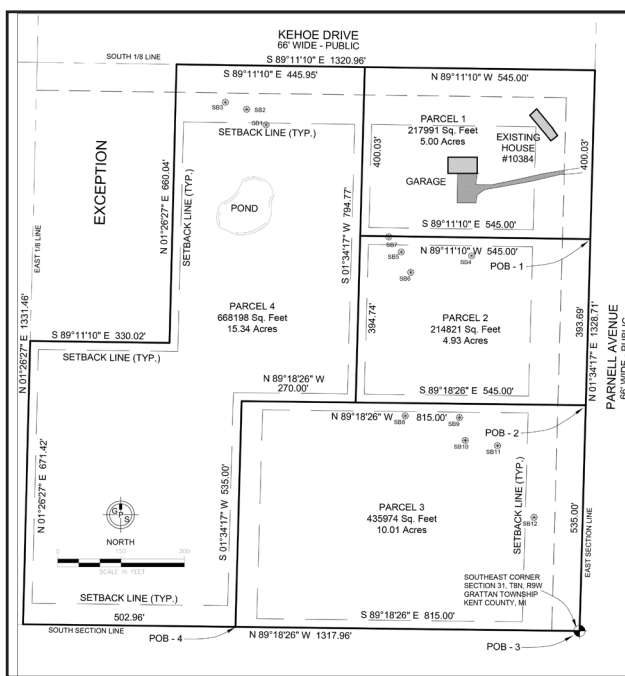
Parcel #1: Home, 2 Stall Garage, Outbuilding on 5 Acres

Parcel #2: 4.93 Acres of Vacant Land

Parcel #3: 10.01 Acres of Vacant Land

Parcel #4: 15.34 Acres of Vacant Land

Property Address: 10384 Kehoe Dr NE, Ada



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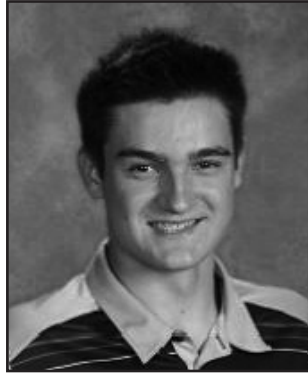


Not good w/any other offer! Good on initial presentation

LHS announces the Students of the Month for March

Lowell High School has announced that Grady McDonald, 11th grade, and Brooke Rempalski, 10th grade, are the Lowell High School March 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, so this is quite an accomplishment for McDonald and Rempalski. The students receive a



Grady McDonald

\$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

McDonald was nominated by Lindsay Bredin and she writes, "This is the second time I've had Grady as a student, and he is such an amazing young man. He's incredibly attentive and focused in class each day, always prepared and ready to learn, diligent from bell to bell. He seeks to understand and confidently asks questions. Furthermore, we frequently work in small groups, and Grady is a quiet leader who is clearly respected by his peers. He's

particularly patient and kind with struggling students, a trait I so appreciate in this College and Test Prep class. However, Grady's work



Brooke Rempalski

ethic impresses me the most. Whether in the classroom or on the football field, his determination is a wonder. As I raise my three boys, I can only hope they will grow to be students like Grady; this young man blesses any roster."

Mike Michaud nominated Rempalski and he writes, "Brooke, as a sophomore, is the only student in my three sections of Algebra 2 to receive an A for the 2nd trimester. Brooke is both naturally curious and gifted in her approach to

math. Brooke is sincere, humble, and almost military-courteous with her responses, "Yes/No sir." Though Brooke also deals with a medical condition that requires her to wear knee braces daily, she never draws attention to it nor does she ever ask for special accommodations because of it. Brooke is one of those special students that every teacher loves to have in class."

House panel votes out Albert's plan preventing youth e-cigarette usage

Initiative bans possession, sales of e-cigs to minors, helps enforce regulation

The House Regulatory Reform Committee overwhelmingly approved state Rep. Thomas Albert's safety measure banning the sale of e-cigarettes

addictive products capable of bearing long-term health effects," said Albert, of Lowell. "Michigan is currently one of two states in the country without any regulation banning the possession and sales of e-cigarettes to minors. We must do better. This

flavoring without burning tobacco. Many devices are colorful and designed to look harmless – including a version that looks just like a computer USB flash drive – making them appealing to teens and difficult to detect in schools.

The U.S. Surgeon General recently declared youth e-cigarette usage an "epidemic". In a 2018 Centers for Disease Control survey, roughly one in five high school students reported using such products – up 78 percent from 2017.

"This growing epidemic has infested our communities' K-12 schools, including recent reports of e-cigarette usage by students as early as middle school," Albert said. "Kids are watching their peers 'vape' and assume it's the 'cool' thing to do without knowing the health risks that are associated with these addictive products. Schools and local law enforcement know firsthand how quickly this situation is spiraling out of control. With this vote, we are one step closer

to getting this legislation across the finish line and protecting our kids."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration bans the sale of e-cigarettes to those under 18, but Michigan state law does not. With the adoption of Albert's plan, law enforcement and schools will have a pathway to keeping addictive, unregulated chemicals off campuses.

House Bill 4164 now moves to the House Judiciary Committee for further consideration.



to minors, as well as possession by individuals under 18.

"For each day that passes without critical action, teenagers across the state are exposing themselves to harmful,

legislation is all about keeping vaping devices out of the hands our children and prevent a health crisis down the road."

Electronic cigarettes are battery-operated devices that deliver nicotine and

LEGAL NOTICE

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COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 19-205039-DE

Estate of VIVIAN
G. KOLDERMAN,
deceased Date of birth:
12/14/1919.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS: The
decendent, Vivian
G. Kolderman, died
11/22/2018.

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

March 21, 2019

Meredith Curless
(P782325)
410 Bridge St. NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-458-3699

Linda Bailey
1560 Woodhill Ct. SW
Wyoming, MI 49509
616-915-7499

Family + Teachers + Students = Success
Lowell Area Schools • 2019 - 2020
Kindergarten Enrollment Information Packets
Available Now at www.lowellschools.com as well as at Alto,
Bushnell and Murray Lake Elementary School Buildings

*After pre-enrollment form has been submitted,
you will be contacted to sign up for a visitation time.*

**Students must be five years old by September 1, 2019
to be eligible for kindergarten in the 2019-2020 school year.**

ALTO ELEMENTARY
6150 Bancroft Avenue SE • 616.987.2600
Parent Meeting and Student Visitation - Tues., April 16, 2019

MURRAY LAKE ELEMENTARY
3275 Alden Nash Ave NE • 616.987.2750
Parent Meeting and Student Visitation - Tues., April 16, 2019

BUSHNELL ELEMENTARY
700 Elizabeth Street • 616.987.2650
Student Visitation (parents & students) Fri., April 19, 2019
Visitation is for students who have not attended preschool at Bushnell

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

ACCURACY TEST OF VOTING EQUIPMENT

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the May 7, 2019 Special Election will be held on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 11:15 a.m. in the Vergennes Township Board room located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Heather Hoffman
Vergennes Township Clerk

obituaries

GANSMILLER

Patricia "Pat" Gansmiller, age 73 of Wyoming, died Monday, March 18, 2019. She was preceded in death by her parents, Asa and Flora Kelley; brother, Robert Kelley; sisters, Joan Lewis and Charlotte Kelley; several nieces and nephews. She is survived by her children, Tina Willham, Tracy Willham, Timothy Smalley, Gail (Duane Williams) Gansmiller; brothers, Stan Kelley, Gordon (Marcia) Kelley, Sr., Leo (Elaine) Kelley, Ray (Helen) Kelley; sister, Donna (Jim) Anderson; 8 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; special friends, Tina, Dee and Dave; and her cat, Angel. Pat retired from Meijer after 27 years. She loved spending time with friends and family. She loved all Detroit teams, enjoyed crafts, puzzles, coloring, Friday shopping with Tina and was very patriotic. Pat always had an angel on her shoulder. Visitation and services were held Saturday, March 23, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 Noon with at service at 12:00 at Whitneyville Bible Church, 8655 Whitneyville, SE, Alto, Pastor David Deets, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Mel Trotter Ministries, 225 Commerce SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Grace A. Green, age 99, of Lowell, went to be with her Lord and Savior on March 25, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband of 49 years, Rev. Harold Green; her parents, Lloyd and Mary (Alexander) Dennie; brothers, Howard and Richard Dennie; and sons-in-law, Larry Daniels and Gary Lance. Grace is loved and survived by her children, Judy (John Geeregat) Daniels of Lake Odessa, Karen (John) Bush of Belding, Janet Lance of Thomasville, NC, Philip (Evelyn) Green of Lapeer; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; sister, Leila Evans; brother, Donald (Gloria) Dennie; sister-in-law, Marie Dennie; many nieces and nephews; and her dearest friends, Norann Deloof, Ruthan Fahrni and Betty and Leo Haybarker. Grace was born on November 12, 1919, in Lowell where she was also raised. She went to Lowell High School and graduated in 1939. She married Harold, who was also from Lowell, in 1939. Grace moved from Lowell in 1947 and returned to her hometown in 1986. She was a licensed practical nurse for 30 years, a profession she truly loved. Grace resided at Schneider Manor from 1987 until 2018 when she moved to Green Acres. Visitation will be Thursday, March 28 from 4-7 PM at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. The funeral service will be held on Friday, March 29 at 11 AM at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kent District Library, Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St, Lowell, MI 49331.



RITTENGER

Sharon Ann Rittenger, age 75, of Lowell, peacefully passed away on March 25, 2019, at her home. She was preceded in death by her husband of 22 wonderful years, Robert Rittenger; her parents, Elton Joseph and Alice (Stapish) Pedley; brother, Gene Pedly; son, Dale Mayer; great-granddaughter, Destiney Rose; and her beloved dog Mitzy. Sharon is survived by her brother Elton (Audle) Pedley; children, Donna (John) Browne, Denise (Chris) DeLong; stepchildren, Denise Rittenger, Diane (Paul) Papranec, Paul (Jennifer) Rittenger; grandchildren, Aleisha Moran, Crystal Kemerer, John Browne V., Karen and Jeffery Maksymowski, Curtis Browne, Megan and Michelle DeLong; together with several great-grandchildren. Sharon was born in Wyndaoette, Michigan. She will be remembered for her love for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed reading, watching the Hallmark channel and game shows. Visitation will be held on Wednesday March 27 from 2-4 PM and 6-8 PM at Roth-Gerst Chapel 305 N. Hudson, Lowell MI 49331. The funeral service will be Thursday March 28 at 11 AM at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Rev. Gordon Barry officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery.



GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Synopsis of Minutes
February 25, 2019

Motions Approved

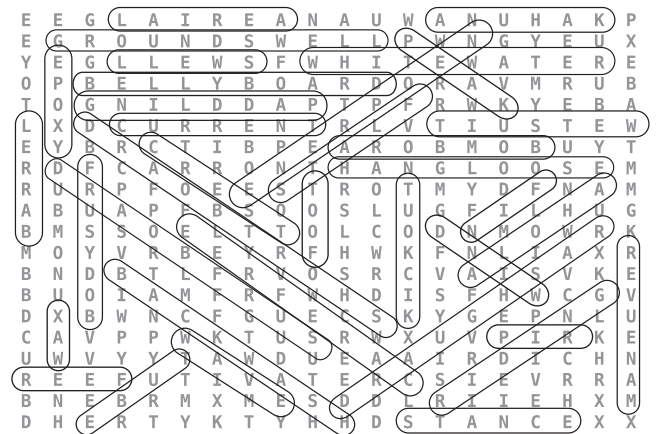
- To approve Infrastructure Alternatives to review the engineering plans for the Cowan Lake Sanitary Sewer system.
- To amend the Employee Benefits section of the employee handbook in regards to paid time off and holiday pay.
- To approve the Township pay for a portion of the Plummer's invoice and resident pay remainder of the Sewer repair costs.

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Synopsis of Minutes
March 11, 2019

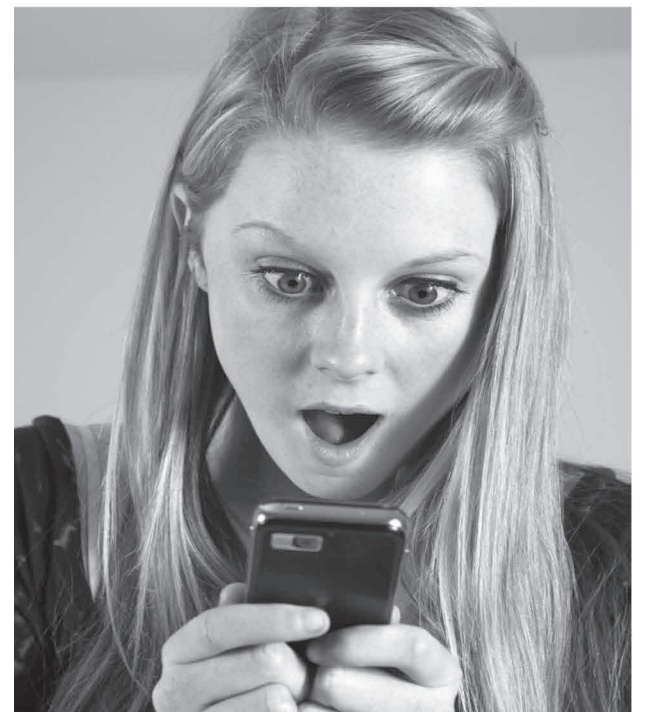
Motions Approved

- Resolution 2019-012 Closing Parnell Road for St.Patricks 5K.
- To approve an amendment to the Grattan Township Zoning ordinance regarding solar panels, solar energy systems and related uses and matters.
- To approve an amendment to the Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance regarding recreational marihuana and service stations.
- To approve an ordinance/ordinance amendment to rezone the property owned by Dennis Heffron.
- To approve the Phil Rolfe Jr. as the PC alternate for the ZBA.
- To approve the Kent county Fire Commissions Member contract revisions.

Our next Township Meeting will be **March 25 at 7 pm and April 8 at 7 pm**
The approved minutes may be reviewed on our website at www.grattantownship.org



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



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

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



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

classifieds

for sale

FISH FOR STOCKING - Most varieties pond, lakes. Laggis' Fish Farm, 269-628-2056 or 269-624-6215 (eves).

2015 DIESEL JOHN DEERE GATOR - 4 wheel drive, dump box, service records. Also want to buy antiques. Call 616-527-2274.

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}

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

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

BOB'S 22ND ANNUAL SPRING BIRDHOUSE SALE - Bluebird scouts will be here soon! Welcome them with a fresh new bluebird house. Also have wren houses, bat houses, screech owl boxes, wood duck houses, bird feeders, squirrel feeders and beautiful butterfly boxes (great gift idea for Mother's Day). All cedar built to last many seasons, best prices. 11 am to 5:30 pm, call first for availability, Bob's Birdhouses, 12279 60th St, Alto, 616-868-6633.

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

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. No refunds if ad is cancelled early. Call 897-9555.

card of thanks

Amanda Goodblood called the Lowell Fire Dept. on March 8, 2019 because I can't get out to get batteries for my old fire alarms. I want to thank them for coming to the house to install new 10-year fire alarms.
 John Erickson

sales

JEWELRY, PURSE & BOOK SALE - Unity Church, 6025 Ada Dr. SE. April 5, 9-6 pm & April 6, 9-3 pm. \$1 adm. fee gets you into the drawing for the Grand Prize. You won't believe the prices!

help wanted

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST WANTED - Part-time position available, dental experience required with Dentrix or Eagle Soft software. Send resume to Reagan Family Dentistry (RFD) at 207 W. Main St., Lowell or email: contactus@jamesreagandds.com

HELP WANTED - Experienced waitress & kitchen help. Apply in person, Backwater Cafe, 109 Riverside Dr.

AWARD WINNING LARKINS RESTAURANT - Is looking to expand our staff. Experienced cooks and servers needed. Apply in person, 301 W. Main, Lowell.

NOW HIRING CDL-A or B DRIVERS - Seasonal CDL truck drivers with class A or B needed immediately! Must have a valid driver's license, pass pre-employment drug screen & meet company requirements. Drivers will load, drive & deliver fertilizer, crop protection products &/or seed to local customers. During peak season, hours may be extended. Apply within at Nutrien Ag Solutions: 211 Milbourne St., Lake Odessa.

IMMEDIATE OPENING - in the Alto area. Delivery 350 Buyers Guides. Route takes approx. 3.5 hours. Must be dependable! Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. 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}

ADA RENTAL HOME - Private country home on one acre, 2 bedroom ranch, \$800 plus deposit and utilities. Available April 1. 676-3378.

services

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

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

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

services

ZOOLAND DAYCARE - has 3 before and after school openings and 2 summer time openings. 897-8386 or 308-0195.

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.

GET AN EARLY JUMP ON SPRING CLEANING - Call Time to Shine for all your housecleaning and window washing needs. Call 616-292-0695.

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & re-

wanted

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

misc

LENTEN FISH FRY - Knights of Columbus #7719 at St. Mary's Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell. Fridays March 8 through April 12, 5-7 pm. Dine in or take out. \$8 ages 13 & up, \$4 for children 12 & under or \$25 for families. Cash, check & credit cards accepted. All you can eat menu: baked & fried cod, mac & cheese, fries, cole slaw, applesauce, cornbread, juice & coffee. Proceeds to be dedicated to: FROM, Lowell Baby Pantry, Archdiocese for the Military Services & Vacation Bible School.

misc

ATTN: LOWELL CLASS OF 1969 - 50-year class reunion on June 22 at King Building, 224 S. Broadway, Lowell (old field house). Please email Mary Miller Strauss at marystrauss15@yahoo.com for more information. Please pass this info onto any classmates.

Attention: Oxygen Users! Gain freedom with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator! No more heavy tanks and refills! Guaranteed Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen Concentrator Store: 855-496-0417 (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)

Community Calendar
April

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.

MATTER OF BALANCE - 8-week program, Thursdays, March 28 - May 16, 1:30 - 3:30 pm. This 8-week program meets 2 hours per week & helps many older adults learn ways to manage & conquer their fear of falling, leading to less falls & a more active & engaged lifestyle. In partnership with Senior Neighbors. Reserve spot by calling 616-233-0283. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

TECH SAVY SENIORS - 3rd Wednesday (April 17, May 15), 1-2 pm. For older people in a digital world, it's easy to become overwhelmed or feel intimidated by all the new technology around us. Join us to discuss current tech topics & gain the skills and confidence to access information & services online. No registration required. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

MINECRAFT - 1st Monday (April 1, May 6) at 4:30 pm. Get your Minecraft fix & show off your world-building skills. The library has a limited number of computers & licenses for Minecraft. First come, first served. No registration required. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

FAMILY STORYTIME - March 14 - April 25, 10 am. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

TODDLER TIME - Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. Now thru May 7. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

ATTN: LOWELL CLASS OF 1969 - 50-year class reunion on June 22 at King Building, 224 S. Broadway, Lowell (old field house). Please email Mary Miller Strauss at marystrauss15@yahoo.com for more information. Please pass this info onto any classmates.

CODING CAMP FOR KIDS - April 1, 1-4 pm. Using simple-to-use visual programming language based on Google's Blockly and littleBits new coding kit, the four-day camp is perfectly suited for children learning to code for the first time. Coding basics help nurture creativity, logical thinking and problem-solving skills, preparing students for the future regardless of their ultimate field of study or occupation. Sponsored by the Friends of the Englehardt Library. Pre-registration required. Register online at kdl.org/events or call 784-2007.

ESCAPE ROOM - April 3, 1-7 pm. Challenge your brain during spring break! Sign up your family or friends or meet new friends for a collaborative 45 minute challenge to follow the clues to escape destruction. Sessions start promptly at the top of the hour and late entry is not possible. Children age 8-12 are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration for teens and adults is required. Register online at kdl.org/events or call 784-2007. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

KDL LAB EXPERIENCE KEVA PLANKS - (school age). Sat., April 6 at 1 pm. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

SPRING BREAK FAMILY MOVIE - Fri., April 5 at 1 pm. ET - The Extra-Terrestrial, rated PG. Join us for a special retro spring break

screening of ET - the Extra-Terrestrial. Doors open at 12:30 pm. Refreshments will be provided. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

BOOKWORMS BOOK DISCUSSION - April 9, 10 am. The Art of Hearing Heartbeats, by Jan-Philipp Sendker. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

NIGHT OWLS BOOK DISCUSSION - Wed., April 10 at 6:30 pm Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB MEETING - at the Englehardt Library on Mon., April 15 at 6:30 pm. Fungal Wonders: Adventure with a Mycophile by Nicole Mathias. New members welcomed.

LETTER WRITING SOCIAL - "The Write Thing," Fri., April 26, 10 am - noon, open house style. Englehardt library community room, 200 N. Monroes, Lowell. It's Free! Snacks, paper & pens to use, prizes. Just come & join us to write that note you have been wanting to. Early Bird surprises too!

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-centred, 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.

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.

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

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

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.

Life on a dirt road idyllic but not perfect

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

For some people, one of the main reasons they move to the Lowell area is because it's possible to obtain some degree of isolation. This can mean living on an unpaved street, and that presents its own unique challenges.

"Our protocol is to handle the roads with the most traffic first so we can service the most residents as quickly as possible," said Jerry Byrne, director of maintenance at the Kent County Road Commission. "Gravel roads are our lowest volume roads, so that means they're typically going to be the last ones that see winter service."

The city no longer has any dirt roads, but there are a few gravel driveways the city maintains.

"There are no unpaved public streets in the city of Lowell," said assistant Lowell city manager Rich LaBombard. "Washington St. was the last gravel street to be paved, and that was north of Fremont St. to the city limits. The city does have gravel drives on public property at Recreation Park (the Fairgrounds), Lowell City Airport and Stoney Lakeside Park. Our maintenance routine on those gravel drives is to grade them periodically and apply dust control once or twice a year on an as-needed basis. Street maintenance in the city is performed by the department of public works. Outside the city limits, maintenance is typically performed by the Kent County Road Commission."

If you have school-age children, an unpaved road can make it difficult for the school bus to pick them up or drop them off.

"If it rains and it is below freezing, unpaved roads get icy pretty quick, and since they can't be salted [school buses] usually cannot go down them," said Kara Mrozinski, Lowell area Schools operations office manager. "If it rains a lot, it oftentimes washes the roads out, creates multiple huge potholes or huge mud divots that buses can get stuck in."

Also, moving to the outskirts does not mean extra weather days for your students, even if your road is totally impassable.

"I am unsure of the exact number of students who live on the unpaved roads, but they do not get extra days off," Mrozinski said. "We create a list of alternate stops where parents can meet us to allow the students to ride the bus to and from school."

After all the record-breaking rotten weather last winter, Byrne said the KCRC did not have any major issues.

"We have seen years where people had to park their cars and walk to their houses, we did not have that this year," Byrne said.

Winter maintenance of a gravel road is different than for a paved road. For example, you can't put any salt on them and you have to scrape them very gently.

"In the winter, we can't put salt on gravel roads because it turns the gravel to mud and continues to turn it to mud throughout the year," Byrne said. "To keep them clear, we scrape them off mechanically as much as possible, and then we apply some sort of sand or aggregate to give it some traction."

When the snow melts in the spring, it reveals all the fresh potholes. Unfortunately, they will have to fester for a while before the county can deal with them, because if they start work too soon they could end up destroying the whole road.

"If you live on a gravel road, right now they're muddy, I don't care what county you live in," Byrne said. "What we're going to do is scrape the areas with the really bad potholes and try to level them off. But if we try to scrape the entire road when it's that wet, it gets like a big mud puddle. The more we stir it up, without dry sun and wind, we're just making more mud. The longer we can let it be, the better off we are. It takes Mother Nature with some sunshine, some dry weather and some wind to dry them off."

Despite all of the inconveniences, there would most likely be a big uproar among dirt road residents if the KCRC decided to pave all their unpaved streets.

"People like that rural character," Byrne said. "When we discuss

paving, most folks aren't interested. If we wanted to improve those gravel roads, we could improve them. Cut the trees, dig some ditches, build the road up and you'd have

a better road, but that is not very popular. We have about 315 miles of gravel roads in the county, and most of those will remain gravel. In Lowell

Township, there are 15 miles, in Ada Township, there are 15.25 miles and in Vergennes Township they are just shy of 26 miles of gravel roads. We

pave about one mile a year, maybe two or three. People like the trees and they think it keeps the traffic level and the speed down."



BREAKING NEWS

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF WHAT YOU KNOW

Government has the power to force citizens from their homes and decide where to locate hazardous facilities. It has the power to confiscate your property or throw you in jail.

Your government claims it can save money by posting notices about tax increases, property seizure and new spending on its website. That seems well-intentioned. But doing that creates a system where **government is in control of what you know.**

71% of Michigan citizens polled said that they trust a local newspaper/newspaper website.

19% of those polled would allow for Government-site ONLY posting.

72% of Michigan citizens polled said they found their local newspaper/newspaper website to be more effective than posting on a government website.

Only 19% feel that a Government-only website is effective.

Government websites put government in control of what we know. Citizens need an independent, trustworthy and effective check and balance on the government that's supposed to serve them. Public notices in newspapers provide that.

DON'T LET GOVERNMENT CONTROL WHAT YOU KNOW.

KEEP PUBLIC NOTICES WHERE THE PUBLIC NOTICES:

IN NEWSPAPERS

***Contact your state legislators and let them know you feel keeping government notices in a permanent legal format independent of government is important in maintaining your right to know.**

MPA
MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Sight Poll: EPIC/MRA, June 2015

FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

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Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

HANG TEN WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Puzzle solutions
on page 12

HANG TEN WORD SEARCH

AERIAL
ALOHA
BACKWASH
BARREL
BELLYBOARD
BODYSURF
BOMBORA
CAREFREE

CREST
CURRENT
EPOXY
FIN
FLATS
FOOT
GROUND SWELL
HANG LOOSE
KAHUNA
KICKOUT

MANEUVER
NEOPRENE
PADDLING
PEAK
RASH GUARD
REEF
RIDING
RIP
SHORTBOARD
STANCE

SURFBOARD
SWELL
TUBE
WAVE
WAX
WETSUIT
WHITEWATER
WIND

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in Iowa on January 28, 1981. I began my career as a child model and even appeared in a Paula Abdul video. I am best known for playing a hobbit in "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy.

Answer: Elijah Wood

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to jazz.

E T A S B

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Beats

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

CLUES ACROSS

- Tenor
- Panthers' signal caller
- Systems, doctrines, theories
- Rulers
- Indonesian coastal town
- Type of cuisine
- Kids
- Single Lens Reflex
- Extra seed-covering
- Force out
- Feline
- __ & Stitch
- Semantic relations
- A larval frog or toad
- Sport for speedsters
- One who is learning
- Request
- Famed WWII conference
- Relieved
- English broadcaster
- Car signal
- Grass part
- Trivially
- Serve as a warning
- Centers of activity
- An electrically charged atom
- Small swelling of cells
- Irritates

- “__ your i’s, cross your t’s”
- Removed
- “Death in the Family” author
- When you hope to arrive
- German district
- Turner and Kennedy
- Midway between south and southeast
- Emerald Isle

CLUES DOWN

- Mathematical optimization search method
- Country along the Arabian peninsula
- Pointed parts of pens
- Lake __, one of the Great
- Peruvian region
- State capital of Georgia
- Those killed for their beliefs
- Typeface
- Shrill cry
- Sends via the Postal Service
- Holds grain
- Occurring at a fitting time
- Vogue
- Born of
- Get the job done
- Teletype (Computers)
- Small southern constellation
- Decaliters
- Area near the concert stage
- Social insect living in organized colonies
- Winter activity
- Snakelike fish
- Not wet
- In addition to
- In league
- Barrels per day (abbr.)
- Monetary unit
- Marked
- Emerges
- Shape by heating
- Early Slavic society
- Italian automaker
- Racing legend Eamhardt
- A type of name
- __ Strauss, jeans maker
- Famed garden

Expo, continued



The "Showboat Showdown" game show with emcee Cliff Yankovich, announcer AI Eckman and stage hand Kristen Bruwer (far right) is always a big hit.



The contestant in this game (on the left in the picture above) had to roll a quarter across a board and in between the tines of a fork, and she did it!



City of Lowell, Michigan Advertisement for Bids

Sealed bids for the **2019-2021 Mowing and Trimming** will be received by the City Clerk at Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan until **2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2019**, and then publicly opened and read aloud at Lowell City Hall.

Bid documents and specifications may be obtained from the City Clerk. The City reserves the right to waive any informality or to reject any or all bids.

Key Dates:

- April 5, 2019 – Last day to submit questions
- April 5, 2019 – Last day to schedule a walk thru
- April 8, 2019 – Bids Due
- April 8, 2019 – 2:00 p.m. – Public Bid Opening
- April 16, 2019 – City Council Meeting
- April 17, 2019 – Tentative Contract Award



FULL TIME COLLISION REPAIR TECH WANTED!

Harvey All Car Collision in Grand Rapids - repairing all makes & models - at 2601 29th Street (behind Harvey Cadillac)

Requirements:

- ◆ State Certification
- ◆ Body shop/collision experience
- ◆ ICAR experience preferred
- ◆ Ability to multi-task in a busy workplace

Benefits:

- ◆ Continued training
- ◆ Vacation time
- ◆ 401k program
- ◆ Available medical/dental/vision plans

Interested in this opportunity?
e-mail resume or work history to jhoekstra@harveyautomotive.com
or call 616-954-1164

