

**New Lowell business**



**Heating, Cooling & Plumbing**

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**Realtor in transition**



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**Decorating contest**



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**LHS sports**  
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50¢



## Lowell Christmas parade lights up Main St.

by Gerald Browning  
contributing reporter

Lowell came out in full force for the annual Christmas parade on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Throughout the day, downtown Lowell was full of activity in celebration of Christmas and the beginning of the winter season.

With special events such as the pancake supper, a visit from Santa Claus and the library book sale, Lowell was packed with many different activities. They culminated in the popular parade featuring many local businesses and organizations. One can find many local businesses featuring their crafts and products throughout the month of December.

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce had volunteers on hand to help hand out bags of candy and goodies for everyone. Sponsored by the Laurels of Kent, Litehouse, Metro Health, Green Acres, Consumer's Energy and others, bags filled with candy were given out to the kids.

"This is so much fun," a volunteer student who was all smiles said while handing out the bags and waving at the children that walked by.

The main attraction in the festivities was the parade that began at 6 pm.

"This is a great place to take the kids out and experience the family oriented fun that we have in Lowell," a busy parent said as she managed to keep an eye on her children and take in the amazing floats after the parade began at 6 pm.

First responders from the Lowell fire and police departments kicked off the parade with their lights, sirens and officers in uniform and smiles. They were followed by The Lowell High School marching band, bringing delightful music and pomp and circumstance.

Even though it was a very chilly Saturday evening, many residents of the Lowell area were in attendance and many were in excited about the parade. They were



The parade had to take a break for a minute so Lowell firefighter Donnie Shaffer could propose to his girlfriend, Taylor Bierling.

Photo by Bruce Doll

bundled up in their winter garb and patiently waited for the procession to move by.

One highlight of the parade was a surprise proposal from Donnie Shaffer, a Lowell firefighter, to his longtime

girlfriend, Taylor Bierling. She said, "Yes!"

At the end of the parade Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus were, as usual, in attendance and were the highlight of the parade. The young residents

gasped and were awed by the sight of the couple. The two waved and wished everyone "Merry Christmas" as their sleigh moved by.

Parade, continued, page 9

## Young man needs help finishing home's construction after father's sudden death



This home on Foreman is almost finished, it just needs some drywall, a basement floor, the furnace installed and some light plumbing work.

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

A young Lowell Township man needs a little bit of help from the community so he can legally move into the home that his father was building for him by hand when he suddenly passed away.

"Thomas Yarch, a resident of Lowell Township, started building a house on that property on Foreman

back when it was just a foundation, basically," said Lowell Township ordinance enforcement officer Marc Larabel. "His dream has always been to have this house for his son, and then him and his son would live there. Unfortunately, Tom died on Sunday, Nov. 24. He bought the property about 13 years ago and started building the house of his

dreams that he was going to build for his son Joseph Yarch, who at the time was about eight years old. He's now 21, and his mom also passed away some time ago. She has been out of the picture for quite some time. The building inspector [Brian Wilson] and I have worked along with Tom for the last 13 years to get him to achieve occupancy for this house. We just kind of walked him along through the process. He's done a lot of the work himself."

Larabel met Yarch during the extended construction process of the home, and the two men became friends.

"I came to know Tom through my job here at the township," Larabel said. "He was a good, church-going guy, a veteran of the Army, a great friend of mine and a good father to his kid. He always told me he came from a good, Polish family. He was such a helpful soul, he would help anyone with anything

if they were suffering instead of focusing on his own priorities. He passed away in the house while he was working on it. I felt so bad when I heard about it. He was actually in my office the Tuesday before his death and we talked about things. He said, 'I want to get occupancy by spring, that is my intention.' Tom loved to go off in 20 different directions instead of staying focused on one. I told him if he focused on certain things he could have occupancy by Christmas."

Right now, Larabel is looking for volunteers, people with experience in these matters who could donate their time and services to aid a young man in need.

"I would really love to see Tom's dream fulfilled," Larabel said. "I'm just so afraid his dream is not going to come true. It's not going to take a lot to get Joseph occupancy for that house so he can actually

live in it. It just needs the bathroom to be workable, and he has the furnace in the basement but he doesn't have the basement closed in completely to allow for it to be heated. It doesn't have water right now either, and the basement has a dirt floor. A furnace has to sit on cement, it can't sit on dirt. It's studded out and pretty much plumbed, it just doesn't have the drywall up and the finished plumbing to connect to the basement. The building inspector and I are going to meet out there and decide, bare bones, what needs to happen to get that place occupancy so Joseph can legally live there."

If you think you can help or know somebody who might be able to help, contact Larabel at 616-897-7600 or oeo@twp.lowell.mi.us.

"It's not really a whole lot that he needs, but he definitely needs it," Larabel said.

# Denker Culligan of Ionia expanding to Lowell office



Russell Denker III and Pamela Denker are expanding their Ionia-based Culligan and Home Experts businesses to Lowell next spring. Russ's grandfather started the company in 1960.

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Next spring, Denker Culligan of Ionia is going to expand to a second Culligan location and add a heating, cooling and plumbing business at 2531 W. Main.

The company is owned by Russell and Pamela Denker, the third generation of this family business. The fourth generation, Russ Denker IV and Katie Denker, are currently working for the company in Ionia.

Lowell since 1960," said Russ Denker. "My dad and I survived through lots of good times and bad times for almost 60 years as a family business, and the business has grown enough to need a service tech over here. Now, instead of driving 20-25 minutes for every call, we'll be dispatching from right here."

"Russ purchased the company from his dad in 2000 and we added heating,

his grandfather. We really are in it for those long-term relationships."

"I have installed units at homes for families with all these little kids running around," Russ Denker said. "Next thing you know, those little kids are all grown up and calling us, and they've got their own kids. Staying in business this long, you kind of see the families grow, and you grow with them. It's kind of cool."

The old building at the site, most recently the home of Bowne Construction, was demolished in October. A new structure will be built to house Home Experts Heating, Cooling and Plumbing and Denker's Culligan Water of Lowell. The new building is currently in the design phase.

"We live in Ada, but in the Lowell school district," Pamela Denker said. "We are doing more and more business west of us and we just love the town of Lowell.

It is within our Culligan franchise territory, so we already do quite a bit of work there, but we didn't feel like we were really part of the community so we wanted to figure out how we could do more in Lowell. We also wanted to do more heating, cooling and plumbing. We realized the best way to do this was to put down some roots. So then began the search for property."

"Everybody we dealt with at the city of Lowell,

demolition process took way too long. Removing that eyesore of a building was our Christmas gift to the city of Lowell! We are in the middle of finalizing plans of what the new building will look like. We'll start as soon as we can and break ground in the spring. We're hoping to put it up really quickly and be open for business in the spring. Lowell is not that far from Ionia, but it adds up. This just makes a lot more sense to us, especially since

get closer. I know that I'll need a customer service representative, for one, I'm hoping to find some great, talented heating and cooling guys, and at this point, my guess is that we'll also have to hire another driver for deliveries of salt and water. Eventually, we're going to need somebody in sales and possibly some type of operations manager for the area. It's hard to tell right now. It will take us a little bit to figure that out. We might be hiring more than we think. Do you know any plumbers? We're looking for a plumber."

The Denkers live in Ada and the company is based in Ionia, but they said they've had a Lowell phone number "for 40 to 50 years." Their service area encompasses Ada, Alto, Belding, Clarksville, Fenwick, Hubbardston, Ionia, Lake Odessa, Lowell, Lyons, Muir, Mulliken, Orleans, Palo, Pewamo, Portland, Saranac, Smyrna and Sunfield.

"We used to live on Morrison Lake, then we moved to Ada," said Russ Denker. "Our girls go to Ada Christian, but we're actually in the Lowell school district. We see what's going on here and we just can't wait to be a part of the community and everything that's going on here. And we have a lot of friends who live in this area, so we're excited about it."

There is a \$25 coupon and more information about the company and its services on their website, homexperts.us. To learn more about their Culligan services and products, call 616-897-0008.

"I was taught that anybody can sell any product in the world, but fixing it and servicing customers is what really keeps you in business, so that is really what we focus on," said Russ Denker. "Of course we enjoy selling equipment if that's what the customer needs, but that is not our main goal."

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"Russ is the third generation, his father and his grandfather started it in the 60s," said Pamela Denker. "We have been serving

cooling and plumbing to the mix in 2006," said Pamela Denker. "It sounds like a cliché, but a customer may have known his father or

**HOME EXPERTS**  
Heating, Cooling & Plumbing

the water department and Lowell Light & Power were so fabulous," Russ Denker said. "You'd call them and they were there the next day to do what they said they were going to do."

"In May of this year we purchased the old Bowne Construction building on Main, and we just finally demolished it," Pamela Denker said. "The

we have so many trips for delivery of water and salt for Culligan."

Their precise staffing needs have not yet been determined, but they will eventually require a variety of employees from the Lowell market. The company will perform heating, air conditioning, plumbing, furnace repair, duct cleaning and annual maintenance services in addition to their Culligan water activities.

"We will definitely need to hire once we open, but I don't know how many positions," Pamela Denker said. "We'll see how it goes with promoting from within and hiring new people. We'll know more as we



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## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell Cable TV (LCTV) Endowment Fund Board is now accepting grant applications for 2020. Application forms and instructions are available at Lowell City Hall, Lowell Charter Township Hall, Vergennes Township Hall, Englehardt Public Library, Lowell Area Schools Administration Building and online on the City and Township websites. The LCTV Endowment Fund is a nonprofit fund established in late 2007 from the sale of the assets of Lowell Cable Television and is invested and administered by the Grand Rapids Community Fund. The LCTV Endowment Fund supports and promotes projects that benefit a broad segment of the Lowell area community, enhances the quality of life in the area, encourages cooperation among the communities and qualifies as a one-time capital improvement.

2020 grant applications should be submitted to the Lowell City Clerk's office, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331. The deadline for submitting 2020 applications is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 7, 2020. Questions should be directed to Susan Ullery, City Clerk.

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# 'Muscle car' museum coming to Gilmore in 2021

by Luke Froncheck  
staff writer

Muscle cars will have a permanent home at the Gilmore Car Museum.

Museum officials announced they intend to add some muscle to the 90-acre campus by adding a new building to their Dealership Row.

"The museum has been



The story of the American muscle car is their next chapter, Gilmore Car Museum officials say.



This muscle car showroom rendering is on fliers recently released by the Gilmore Car Museum.

growing a lot," Stacie Longwell Sadowski, development and engagement manager, said. "The new building will allow for us to double the amount

of muscle cars on display. "It's a great opportunity to fill out the muscle car era." Along with a recent press release, one of several fliers said: "A museum built on

muscle. Because no kid ever hung a poster of a compact car on their wall." Their literature puts it this way: "Today's younger generation have little

recollection of the role the muscle car played in shaping American culture. Instead, the muscle car has been relegated to media nostalgia via magazines, TV and films.

We want to change that."

Construction on the new facility will begin in the summer of 2020. The new addition is set to open in 2021.

The new facility will feature 25,000 square feet of interactive exhibit space, 3,000 square feet of changing exhibit space, a replica dealership showroom, a vintage speed shop, a timeline of the muscle car era, exhibits that provide context regarding the current events surrounding the era, a drag racing display, and new restroom facilities.

The projected cost is \$5 million, \$3 million of which will go toward the construction of the building. Another \$1.5 million will go toward increasing endorsements. The remaining \$500,000 will go

toward professional exhibit design.

The museum also will be collecting donations for the project, ranging from cash, pledge, stock gift, or with a bequest. Naming opportunities are available for major gifts.

As various automotive groups across the country have chosen Gilmore Car Museum for their permanent exhibits and collections, the Hickory Corners site has become the largest automobile museum in North America. Its collections now include buildings dedicated to such vehicles as Cadillac and LaSalle, H.H. Franklin, Lincoln Motor Car, Model A Ford, Pierce-Arrow, as well as the Classic Car Club of America Museum and the Checker Motors Historical Records and Archives.

# Gov, legislature make deal on budget, other changes

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and legislative leaders finalized a deal to iron out the last 65 days of budget cuts, money transfers and executive authority consternation, but it's not all being made public for now.

The bills needed to consummate the agreement won't be finished until next week, but details of the Administrative Board changes were discovered by MIRS late Wednesday evening.

Parts of the deal did start to move Wednesday, however.

The Senate unanimously passed a combined \$573.5 million in restored funding

(\$261 million General Fund, \$70 million School Aid Fund). The House and Senate passed a shell bill that will make some changes in state Administrative Board powers and a new July 1 budget deadline for lawmakers. A fourth piece is also part of the deal, MIRS has learned, but details on what that is weren't available.

House Speaker Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) and Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) ducked in and out of the governor's Capitol office Wednesday to iron out the deal.

The end product looks a lot like what Chatfield and Whitmer came up with nearly a month ago but does include a version of statutory changes that Shirkey insisted upon, MIRS has learned.

The crafting of the exact language has begun and won't be ready until next week when the Legislature is expected to wrap up session action for 2019. In concept, Whitmer would no longer have the unilateral authority to rearrange budgets with lawmakers sitting by to watch.

Instead, if she decides to use the State Administrative Board to do that, she must

bring both chambers into the loop by giving them a 30-day window to sign off or object to her proposals. After the cooling-off period, she could act, but not without a legislative blessing.

The governor and the two Republican leaders agreed that if cornered by the media they would not release any details.

The movement came Wednesday so bills could satisfy the Constitution's five-day requirement that bills first passed from one chamber sit for five days before being passed by another.

On Thursday, some Republican members are

attending an American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) conference in Scottsdale, Ariz. Some Democratic legislators are going to Puerto Rico for a Council of State Governments conference, and there's a Black Caucus event, as well.

The \$459 million spending bill is a collection of the major line-items Republican lawmakers separated out two months ago in 47 separate bills.

The spending returned to circulation includes: \$38 million in private college scholarships, \$35 million for charter schools, \$27.4 million for local

governments in lieu of taxes (PILT payments), \$16.6 million for rural healthcare, \$15 million for IT upgrades, \$14.8 million for county jails, \$13.1 million for secondary road patrol, \$10.5 million to hire new corrections officers, \$10.7 million for pediatric psychiatrist raises, \$10.5 million for early literacy coaches, \$10 million for school security upgrades, \$5.1 million for 37 "critical access" hospitals, \$4.5 million for lead paint abatement, \$4 million in veterans grants, \$1.25 million for autism navigators and \$350,000 for autism intervention.

Deal, continued, page 4

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## Deal, continued

The \$13 million in individual bridge projects Whitmer vetoed is now going into the larger transportation budget for general road and bridge repair.

The supplementals, SB 0376 and SB 0377, do not include the vetoed money for Pure Michigan nor the \$175 million the governor wanted for her Reconnect Michigan program. She did get the funding scheme she wanted for the Department of Corrections so tethers can be replaced and prisoner programming can continue.

Whitmer also got the \$10 million for the 2020 Census and \$2 million for the implementation of Proposal 2. The \$37.26 million for the Going Pro skilled trades training program didn't make it into the bills.

"The governor is pleased that the House and Senate each took initial action on a supplemental budget that will restore critical funding for public health, public safety, and public education," said Whitmer

Press Secretary Tiffany Brown. "This is an important, bipartisan step forward for our state to ensure we are providing essential services to Michigan families and she is hopeful we can finalize it next week."

More spending may be added next year in additional supplementals, but these bills are the only ones lawmakers will consider this year.

"While this does not restore all of the governor's vetoes and transfers, it is a good first step in the right direction," said Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Jim Stamas (R-Midland).

The other measures that make up the deal that passed Wednesday included:

Rep. Shane Hernandez's (R-Port Huron) HB 5176 and Sen. Aric Nesbitt's (R-Lawton) SB 0616, which will ultimately lay out some changes to the state Administrative Board, passed on party-line votes in their respective chambers.

Whitmer on Oct. 1 used

the seven-member Ad Board, made up of herself, the state superintendent and five other Democratic elected officials and appointees, to move around \$625 million in funding, passed on party-line votes in each chamber.

Rep. Greg Van Woerkom's (R-Norton Shores) HB 5177 and Sen. Peter MacGregor's SB 0618, which mandates that the Legislature provide the governor with the next year's spending bill by July 1 passed unanimously in the bills' respective chamber.

Chatfield told reporters after session that the day was "incredibly productive."

"A lot of progress was made and I look forward to finalizing this deal and moving forward as a state next week," he said.

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) told reporters, "It is the first steps toward what a deal could look like. It's a very positive sign. I would take my earlier prediction of 80 percent of this getting done to 90 percent."

## Nat'l Newspaper Assoc. applauds postal bill

National Newspaper Association President Matt Adelman, publisher of the Douglas (Wyoming) Budget, announced that a postal reform bill supported by NNA has achieved a sufficient number of both Democrats and Republicans as sponsors and action has been recommended to Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Adelman thanked Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., for his leadership in moving HR 2382 to possible action on the House consensus calendar, which is a streamlined process for quick passage of legislation.

"We have worked for more than a decade to lift the burden of prefunding retiree health benefits from the U.S. Postal Service. This one requirement, unique among federal government

agencies, has led to the most staggering debt by USPS of any measure we have seen in the more than 100 years that NNA has worked on postal policy. Congress took a big risk in 2006 when it decided to impose this burden. USPS has been unable to pay the obligation, so the debt just keeps mounting.

"Now a wide majority of House members recognize that it is time to rethink the requirement," Adelman said. "NNA appreciates their attention to the plight of our nation's universal service network. Community newspapers need for USPS to be stable and effective."

The obligation imposed in 2006 was for prefunding about \$72 billion in anticipated retiree health benefits covering a 75-year

time span into the future. The fund has nearly \$40 billion in it now, which achieves a higher level of prefunding than the rest of the federal government and more than most private sector businesses with health fund obligations. But USPS announced a decade ago that it could not continue adding to the fund as required if it was to continue delivering the mail.

With the assistance of NNA's Congressional Action Team, HR 2382 now has 292 co-sponsors, from both sides of the aisle.

A companion Senate bill by Sens. Steve Daines (R-Mont.) and Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) has been introduced this week. The bill is identical to the House bill and is numbered S 2965.

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2.3% 2.3% of adults made a purchase in the last 90 days as the result of a billboard ad\*

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Sources: \*eMarketer; \*Lamar Advertising; \*Triad/Coda Ventures - The Newspaper Generation Study; \*Pulse of America 2018; \*NAA

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate  
FILE NO. 19-206647-DE  
Estate of FRANCES GLAZ. Date of birth: 03-08-1931.

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO

CREDITORS: The decedent, Frances Glaz, died 11-09-2019

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Linda M. Glaz, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, and the personal representative

within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

December 3, 2019  
John D. Mitus (P-31244)  
410 Bridge Street, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-774-4001

Linda M. Glaz  
2632 Falcon Pointe,  
N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49534

# viewpoint



**125 years ago  
Lowell Ledger  
December 12, 1894**

A company has been incorporated to seek the lost treasure of the ship Pewabic, that was sunk in Lake Huron some thirty years ago, and in attempting to recover which three lives have already been sacrificed. The stout oaken hull lies 20 fathoms deep opposite the entrance to Thunder Bay. In it are supposed to be 500 tons of pure copper and coined gold to the amount of \$300,000 or \$500,000. The company has been formed by Minneapolis, Detroit, Duluth and Chicago capitalists. The work will be done under patents for subaqueous travel owned by a resident of Harrisburg, Pa. He believes he can go to the great depth and come up alive. The wreck was located in 1892 and the spot was marked by a buoy. Next season the attempt to get the treasure will be made.

In the senate yesterday a resolution was offered calling on the president to begin negotiations to secure the independence of Cuba. Senator Morgan spoke in favor of the Nicaragua canal bill.

**100 years ago  
The Lowell Ledger  
December 11, 1919**

The coal strike has hit Lowell and the Grand Trunk and Pere Marquette railroads will each cut off two passenger trains beginning Wednesday of this week.

Almost out of a clear sky comes the rumble of another storm of war. The allies may again fight Germany. President Wilson is prompt to tell us that the failure of the United States senate to ratify the treaty of peace is the cause of Germany's refusal to do as the allies wish. But that argument probably will not stampede the senate.

At a meeting of the Kent county road commission Tuesday afternoon, it was announced that the commission has purchased a snowplow attachment for its motor trucks and will endeavor to keep the concrete roads in this vicinity clear of snow throughout the winter. Should the device prove the success expected, others will be added to the equipment. Three more Nash quad trucks will be put in service by the commission this week.

**75 years  
The Lowell Ledger  
December 14, 1944**

Sgt. Dennis Bowler is home after having served 32 months in the Southwest Pacific Theatre of War. After

a three weeks' furlough he will report at Miami, Fla., Jan. 1. Sgt. Bowler went first to Australia, then to New Guinea, where he took part in the Buna campaign with the famous 32nd Division. After contracting malaria fever he was sent back to Australia for treatment and was later transferred into the branch of service and supply, where he did administrative work for 18 months.

Square glass milk bottles will soon be on the Grand Rapids market if not already here. One recommended feature of this new milk container will be the saving of storage space in the refrigerator.

Lowell citizens were no doubt somewhat surprised to read in a recent news dispatch from Washington, that the civil aeronautics administration had included Lowell in a recommendation to Congress for a billion dollar postwar program which listed 213 airport projects in Michigan. The recommendation for Lowell was \$25,000.

**50 years  
The Lowell Ledger  
December 11, 1969**

Lowell police are conducting a search for thieves who broke into the warehouse of J. B. Burroughs & Son and took off with eight 100 lb. sacks of ready-for-shipment red kidney beans.

A group of Attwood Corporation employees were among the mourners at funeral services for two co-workers who lost their lives in a freak accident last Friday in Grattan Township. The victims were Theodore Austin, 65, and Arthur Magarell, 52, both of Cedar Springs.

According to Lt. Larry Flynn of the Kent County Sheriff's Department, at least one juvenile has admitted being a member of a group which participated in several break-ins over last weekend in the Forest Hills area. The youth reported to police that he and others, still under investigation, broke into several homes from which they took shotgun shells, a shotgun and a rifle, a pistol, jewelry, flashlights, and a mini-bike.

**25 years  
The Lowell Ledger  
December 14, 1994**

Six Lowell High School juniors will take advantage of a "Hands-on" experience in local government offered through a program put together by the Kent County Board of Commissioners, Kent County 4-H, and the Kent Intermediate School District.

Raising their pay may not solve the shortage problem of substitute teachers, but it can't hurt either. The decreasing market of substitute teachers can be attributed to the state's extremely low unemployment rate.

The Vergennes Township Board and Fallasburg Historical Society have adopted a set of guidelines designed to detail how funds are granted to the society. The guidelines are necessary since there have been no formal procedures in the past. Also the township is often used by the historical society to procure grants from organizations which are leery of societies not directly affiliated with a governmental unit.

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## outdoors

now what?

Dave Stegehuis

Fall hunting seasons, along with Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays keep Michigan families very busy this time of year. After the New Year things begin to slow down a bit. Add to that, short days, slippery roads, and cold temperatures, and one may experience an emotional letdown. Don't despair because with a positive attitude we can find plenty to do during the winter in Michigan. Weather permitting of course.

Snowmobiling requires a lot of neat equipment. Trails are many and long all around the state, and trail conditions vary with the weather. Clubs help maintain trails and sponsor events.

Downhill skiing is a popular wintertime sport. Hill conditions rely on winter weather and snow making machines to provide skiing opportunities. Cross country skiing provides an intimate connection with nature as well as plenty of exercise. Cross country trails are identified by skill level and physical ability, so there is something for all ages.

Fishermen can enjoy a year around season by gearing up to fish through the ice for species that are

legal during the winter. Warm clothing, electronics, and power augers take the hard work as well as guess work out of fishing. Ice skating and hockey are great alternatives if the fish don't bite.

Predator hunting with calls and special firearms helps to maintain balance in wild game populations. Rabbit hunters can hunt solo or let noisy beagle hounds do the leg work.

Everyone usually has extra time off from work or school around the holidays, so now might be a good time to plan and prepare for future wintertime activities. There is still time to explore a new or unfamiliar outdoor activity. There are some good shopping deals out there, so it might be a good time to purchase equipment. Hinting about gift ideas may be a rewarding strategy. Experienced outdoorsmen as well as newcomers should be ready to get out when a window of opportunity arises.

Outdoor activities keep folks active during what could be a long cold winter. With determination and good luck with weather, a Michigan winter can be as interesting and eventful as any other season. Get ready to get out and go.

## 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

## - viral gastroenteritis

Viral gastroenteritis is also known as the “stomach flu”. This is vastly different from influenza which is a respiratory virus. Gastroenteritis attacks the intestines. This causes watery diarrhea, nausea/vomiting, abdominal cramps and pain, headache, muscle aches, and a low grade fever.

Symptoms appear one to three days after exposure. Symptoms last from two to ten days and can be mild to quite severe.

You should see a doctor if you are unable to keep down fluids for 24 hours, vomiting blood or blood in

stools, or are dehydrated.

Gastroenteritis is caused by a number of viruses, but norovirus and rotavirus are most common. It is spread by eating or drinking contaminated food or liquids.

There is no cure for gastroenteritis. Treatment is focused on preventing dehydration which is the biggest complication.

Prevention is key and hand washing prior to eating is the best way to do this. Avoid sharing eating utensils and use separate towels. If someone in the home has it, disinfect counters, doorknobs, and faucets.

# engagements

## Norden/Krey



Lacey Norden and Kurt Krey

Lacey Pearl Norden will become the bride of Kurt Patrick Krey on January 18, 2020. The bride-to-be and her parents, Michelle Norden, are of Alto. The future groom and his parents, Ed Krey and Margaret Krey, are of Lowell. The wedding will take place in Alto with Ryan Krey officiating.

# happy birthday



## DECEMBER 11

Dave Rhodes, Kathryn Zalewski, Amber Waldron, Mike Kline, Billie Fallstrom.

## DECEMBER 15

Karen Latva, Tammy Baird, Roger Brown, Kathryn Duiven, Kristin Ellis, Danielle Brenk, Marea Borg, Kimberly Kline, Kelly Potter, Tom Kehoe.

## DECEMBER 12

Brad Briggs, Matt Newhouse, Sally Hacker, Charlie Young.

## DECEMBER 16

Timmy Buechler.

## DECEMBER 13

Chrys Thaler, Jeff Bowne, Michelle Fyan.

## DECEMBER 17

Bill Ellison, Jerry Scott, Amy Riddle.

## DECEMBER 14

Chris Kropf, Bryan Robert Roth, Perry Beachum.

# college news

Peter Wills of Lowell, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Wills was initiated at Western Michigan University.

Wills is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each

year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

# Eat. Shop. Explore. LOCAL

Lowell Moose #809

## Kids Christmas Party

**Dec. 14, 9 am - noon**

- Visit with Santa
- Free Gift Bags
- Breakfast is free for kids & \$5 for adults

*Everyone is Welcome!*

**Lowell Moose Recreational Building**  
1320 E. Main, Lowell

## LIVE NATIVITY

Sat., Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> • 6 to 8 pm  
Bowne Center  
United Methodist Church  
Located at Alden Nash (M-50) and 84th St., Alto

Get into the true spirit of Christmas. See the Nativity, pet the animals. (YES LIVE CAMELS), then chat with your neighbors in the warm fellowship hall. Cookies and hot chocolate provided.

The Historical Museum and one room School House will be open to enjoy.

## First Baptist Church of Lowell

Presents a Christmas Musical...

# Under a Starry Sky

**December 15 at 6 pm**

2275 W. Main Street, Lowell

# area churches



### CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL

897-7060  
Pastor Ryan Landt  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM  
Sunday School.....11:20 AM  
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

### GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
www.goodshepherdlowell.org

Worship Service ..... Sunday - 10:30 AM  
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

### St. Mary Catholic Church

402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820  
Website: www.stmarylowell.com

Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am  
Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm

Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

865 Lincoln Lake SE • lowellucc.org

Pastor Alyssa Anten  
Christmas Eve Service 8 PM  
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM  
Open Table (No-cost meal) - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM  
**Open & Affirming • LGBTQ+ Inclusive**  
616-897-5906

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 • www.fbclowell.org  
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor  
Pastor Andrew Bolkom • Pastor of Discipleship  
Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries

SUNDAY WORSHIP....9:30 AM (Nursery provided)  
LIFE GROUPS.....11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)  
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM

### LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

discover. grow. share

621 E. Main Street  
897-5938  
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

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

So Many Reasons to Shop Local!

# Dino Arnold: reviving the lost art of the automobile

by Greg Chandler  
staff writer

“I don’t build replicas. I build re-creations.”

Those are the words of Dean “Dino” Arnold, a Middleville man who has made building custom cars his lifework for more than a half-century.

Arnold has built cars for celebrities and classic car enthusiasts alike. His cars have appeared in movies such as “The Fast and Furious 2,” “Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom” and “Con Air.” He is a member of the National Rod and Custom Car Hall of Fame.

Now, because of another movie in the theaters - “Ford v. Ferrari” - there is renewed interest in Arnold’s cars. His re-creation of the Daytona Shelby that raced in the 24 hours of Le Mans race was on display in downtown Hastings Friday night. The film stars Matt Damon and Christian Bale.

“It’s probably one of the best darn movies that’s come along in a long time,” he said, adding that the filmmakers did a great job of accurately portraying the story of how legendary car builder Carroll Shelby and driver Ken Miles teamed up to break the domination of Ferrari cars in the Le Mans race, despite interference from Ford management at times.

To be clear, Arnold did not build the Daytona Shelby or Ford GT-40 that raced in the movie itself, but he has built re-creations of those classic cars. They are among his best-known works.

Arnold, 67, didn’t start out his building career by working on cars. At age 13, he started working on hydroplanes – racing boats. His father was a hydroplane racer.

“I learned how to do fiberglass by working on the boats,” he said.

But soon, Arnold began building cars. He built his own racer for the famed Soap Box Derby race in Akron, Ohio, out of fiberglass. He

didn’t win the race - “I could never get past third place,” he said – but he won awards for best paint job and best upholstery.

At 18, Arnold joined the Air Force, but his interest in fast cars didn’t stop. He raced in drag races on the weekends. Through that experience, he learned how to make his cars better.

“Not only did I do the work (building the car), I drove the car. And, if something was wrong, I knew what was wrong, and I’d take it back and I could fix it,” he said.

“That’s where all the old-school engineering came from. It was trial and error.”

After four years in the Air Force, Arnold opened his first body shop and started building cars. His creations started winning awards at car shows. He owned shops in Washington state, California, Nevada and Indiana. Along the way, he married his wife, Suzie, and raised five daughters.

“She allowed me to be who I was,” Arnold said of his wife. “I didn’t have to come home at 5 o’clock. I worked every night until midnight... She worked in the office, some of the kids worked in the office, some of the kids worked in the shop at early ages.”

Arnold was in the process of building a car for his wife – a re-creation of a 1961 Ford Thunderbird that was dubbed the “Thunderflite” – when she died in 2008. Collaborating with legendary car designer Don Johnson – best known for his work on the Chevrolet Corvette - Arnold finished the project in her memory.

Alan Mulally, at the time Ford’s chief executive officer, knew of Arnold because of his past work on classic Ford vehicles. Mulally requested that the Thunderflite be displayed at the company’s world headquarters in Dearborn, where it remained for six months.

Arnold relocated to Middleville in 2012 and opened Dino’s Rod and Custom. He operates out of two different locations – one inside Harkema Automotive and Trailer Sales on M-37 and a second location just north of Hastings, also on M-37.

“I make all the frames, build the motors, brakelines, all the upholstery, paint and polish – out the door. Everything’s done right here in Middleville,” Arnold said.

Arnold is assisted at Dino’s by Kathleen “Kit Kat” Harrigan, an internationally-known pinstripe artist who does detailed artwork on his creations. Harrigan has been a commercial painter since the age of 15 and once owned a sign shop in Cascade, a suburb of Grand Rapids, but her forte is pinstripe work on hot rods and motorcycles.

“He literally works every day of the week. He’s nonstop,” Harrigan said of Arnold.

In August 2017, Arnold survived a close call. He and a friend were traveling on M-37 near Fawn Avenue in Thornapple Township. A piston blew in the engine, and the car rolled over several times. Arnold and his companion were seriously injured. He still undergoes rehabilitation from those injuries today.

“The good Lord was looking out for us that day,” Arnold said.

While many at his age might be looking toward retirement, Arnold is looking ahead to his next major project. He plans to build 300 custom Corvettes over the next four years, and is looking for a location where the cars can be manufactured. He expects to employ at least 30 people once production gets going on these cars.

“We’re working on a 100,000-square-foot factory right now. We hope to have it open by March,” Arnold said.



Dean “Dino” Arnold’s re-creation of the 1961 Ford Thunderbird, known as the “Thunderflite,” is featured in this poster from a 2009 auction in Auburn, Indiana.

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

**In the matter of CIARA PAUL Guardianship File No. 19-206,681-DD**

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including her parents, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred**

**or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on January 15, 2020, at 8:45 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian for a person with a developmental disability.**

**Dated: December 9, 2019**

**Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 690-7176**

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

# LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND ACCEPTS GRANT PROPOSALS

**To be considered, all proposals must be submitted online by December 20, 2019.**

**Visit [www.grfoundation.org/lowell](http://www.grfoundation.org/lowell) to submit your application.**

*The Lowell Area Community Fund, a fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, awards grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organizations that have an impact in the Lowell Area. The LACF funds innovative projects or programs that encourage community cooperation.*

# Greenridge Realty undergoing management transition

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Rick Seese has managed the Greenridge Realty office in Lowell since 1989. This month he plans to “step back” from this role after 30 years and turn the reins over to Greenridge agent Josh McCracken.

“I’m not going to retire, I’m just going to step back from management,” Seese said. “This will allow me to slow down a little bit but still take care of my clients, friends, neighbors and so forth, and their real estate needs. This is fairly exciting to me!”

Seese’s career in real estate began 43 years ago in 1976. When Greenridge Realty purchased the Reedy Realty office in Lowell in November 1989, they made Seese the manager.

“I was a salesperson for several years before I became the manager here in ‘89,” Seese said. “I was just selling then. I hate that word, though! I’ve never been too pleased with the ‘sales pitch’ aspect of this business.”

Seese grew up in Lowell and has had a positive impact on the local community for decades through his volunteer work with events and organizations such as Flat River Outreach Ministries, the Lowell YMCA, Food Fight, Pink Arrow Pride, LowellArts and the Lowell Area Historical Museum. For these and a great many other efforts and affiliations, he was named “Person of the

Year” by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce in 2014.

“I have enjoyed doing that, I love doing all of those things,” Seese said. “It’s this community that I love, so wherever I can help out, that’s what I try to do.”

Seese has also been an influential figure on the Lowell music scene since



the 1960s as the drummer for many local rock bands including the Plague, Scragg Zoster, the Great Lakes Band and Time Hungry. He often emcees the Sizzlin’ Summer Concerts on the Lowell Showboat if he isn’t playing in one of the bands.

McCracken grew up in rural Pennsylvania, went to college in rural Canada and lives in Lowell with his wife Leslie and their three children, Piper, Ruby and Nora. Leslie works as a travel agent, so the couple

enjoys traveling to exotic locales together, most recently Ireland and Greece.

“I came on as a salesperson here on Nov. 6, 2014,” McCracken. “Prior to that, I was in ministry for 10 years. I spent four years as student ministry director at Impact Church and then I spent some time in Azerbaijan doing humanitarian work.

I came back to Lowell and managed the Main Street Inn for about a year, then I got my real estate license.”

McCracken said that he was floundering when he first encountered Seese, dissatisfied with his career choices up to that point and trying to find more rewarding work.

“I was looking at going back to school for medicine, hospitality, law, different things,” McCracken said. “My mind was just wide open, I really was an open book at that point. Maybe I was having a pre-midlife crisis. Can you have one of those? My mother-in-law, Deb Canfield, said I would be an excellent real estate agent and suggested I talk to Rick Seese. I knew absolutely nothing about real estate and I was skeptical that anybody could make a living that way, but I reached out to Rick because I wanted to pick his brain. I just wanted to know about real estate, I didn’t know it was a job interview! At the end of our conversation he asked me, ‘Do you want to come work for us?’ I was like, ‘Ummmmm, let me think about that!’ It took about two days, but I decided this was what I wanted to do.”

“I wanted to make sure that when I left this position, Greenridge was going to be well taken care of,” Seese said. “I knew fairly quickly that this guy



Josh McCracken and Rick Seese at Greenridge Realty last week.

was going to be the guy. I was already thinking about this ‘end of management’ thing for about six months before I interviewed him, and I walked out of that conference room sensing great things ahead for Josh. It was meant to be.”

In addition to his regular work with clients, McCracken will now be responsible for 18 of his fellow real estate agents.

“I will continue to work with buyers and sellers, to list homes, to sell properties and help people buy homes,” McCracken said. “That doesn’t change at all. My clients are now my buyers, my sellers and my agents.”

McCracken admits he has “big shoes to fill,” but said he is not nervous so much as cautious about his new responsibilities. McCracken is an ordained minister; with those influences and Seese’s mentorship, he has developed a rather

metaphysical philosophy about the real estate business.

“This isn’t really a sales job, this is customer service,” McCracken said. “It’s also like the ministry because you’re always thinking about others, how you can help them grow, prosper and learn. I always enjoy seeing people succeed. It’s like the old saying goes, ‘a rising tide lifts all boats.’ A house purchase goes beyond a financial transaction and into the lives of families, into their problems and struggles. I will try to make wise decisions and carry the mantle of care as we go forward. Care for our agents, care for our clients and care for our community. I want to be careful that I don’t change anything that doesn’t need to be changed, and so on.”

“And I will still be here to help support however I can support,” Seese said. “I’m hoping that agents will still come to me with questions.”

“I’m sure they will, you can’t buy 40-plus years of experience,” McCracken said. “I know I still have so much to learn.”

“I will be here all the time because real estate is more than a full time job,” Seese said. “We work mornings, evenings and weekends. When we are needed, we go.”

“We often work when our clients are not working,” McCracken said. “That was how life was in ministry, so I was already used to that.”

McCracken said he plans to continue Seese’s tradition of being involved in the community in various positive ways.

“I am truly passionate about community involvement,” McCracken said. “I love Lowell. I’ve been here 13 years, aside from the year and a half I spent overseas, and it’s home, it’s where my girls are going to school. I will be looking, now, for more ways to personally get involved and to keep Greenridge involved.”

“Josh is a community-minded person,” Seese said. “He is a family man and he carries values that Greenridge definitely wants held in this office. The respect the community has for Josh is well-known, and things are going to carry right on with his leadership as they have for the 30 years that I’ve been here. He has skills that I didn’t have when I started, so I’m looking forward to it.” For more information about the company, visit [greenridge.com/offices/950-lowell-office](http://greenridge.com/offices/950-lowell-office), call 616-897-9239 or go to at 1160 W. Main.

## GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Synopsis of Minutes  
November 18, 2019

### Motions Approved:

1. To approve quote number 177 from IAI for \$3,120 to be split 50% (\$1,560.00) paid by Big Pine Island Lake Association.
2. To approve Resolution 2019-021 a resolution of support for certain amendments/ revisions to the Kehoe’s Park-Ratigan Lake Plat.
3. To approve Resolution 2019-022 a resolution to approve the extension of the Grattan Township Sewer Service district to include property located at 4435 Causeway Drive.
4. To approve ORD 2019-008 an Ordinance/ Ordinance amendment to rezone the property owned by Kathleen Siebelink which is commonly known as 13094 Heffron Street NE, Belding, Michigan 48809 from the A-2 to the A-1 agricultural zoning district designation.
5. To approve Resolution 2019-020 a resolution to levy Road Millage.

Our next Township Meeting will be  
**December 9 at 9 a.m.**

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

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\*Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018

# Lowell Christmas parade photos by Bruce Doll



Red Arrow

- GYMNASTICS

# SPORTS

## Gymnastics team ready for new season

by Justin Scott  
contributing reporter

The Lowell Red Arrows gymnastics team has been a team state qualifier three of the last four years and is looking to make another strong run this season.

“Taeghan Ronchetti, Aubri Lemke, Marlie McDonald, Lily Kooistra, Greta Forward all made it to state last year, so hoping for some consistency and good, solid scores from them this year,” Coach

Michele DeHaan told us. Ronchetti was one of two who made the state gymnastics team last season, with an 8th place on the balance beam. Corah Miller, who graduated last year, also placed, finishing

10th on vault and sixth on bars. Marissa Wever and Ivy McDonald are two newcomers to the team this year who are looking to have a big impact.

The Red Arrows start out the season next Wednesday for a non-conference quad at Rockford. The Lowell Invitational on the 11th of January is one that DeHaan would definitely recommend attending. The Saturday Invitational is the team’s sixth annual Military Tribute Meet. Each

year, the team honors those who have served, or are currently serving, inviting them out to be recognized during a special ceremony and wearing military-themed leotards. It’s always a highlight for the team each year to be able to recognize those who have served.

The team is looking to continue their excellence this season. “We’re looking to qualify states as a team, qualify every girl on the team to individual regionals and hopefully qualify some

individuals to state.” Coach DeHaan said.

Last year, Lowell qualified six gymnasts to the state meet and only lost one (Miller) to graduation. The team was edged out by just .225 points, placing fourth at team regionals last season. The Red Arrows had made three straight team state finals prior to last year.



**Pictured Left: Members of the Lowell gymnastics team in military leotards. (Photo courtesy of Lowell High School varsity gymnastics on Facebook).**

## Competitive cheer looks to continue rise this year

by Justin Scott  
contributing reporter

The Lowell varsity competitive cheer team officially kicks off their competition season this week. The Lady Arrows, coached by Dayna Crumback, will aim to build on their success from last year.

“Our main goal this season is making it to regionals. We were extremely close last year, and this year our district has gained some harder competitors, so it will definitely challenge us,” said Coach Crumback.

Last year, Lowell narrowly missed out on regionals, only 1.8 points off fourth place Owosso. The top four teams in each district advance and Lowell

finished fifth out of 13 teams.

“In order for us to get to regionals, back tucks are needed in our round two, so we will need 10 athletes to have them. We have four so far with many athletes very close to sticking the landing. Another goal to help us get to regionals is team back handsprings for round three and we are almost there already,” Coach Crumback told us.

The team held their annual showcase this Tuesday at Cherry Creek Elementary, previewing the middle school, junior varsity and varsity team. The showcase was their only performance before their first team competition this Friday at Charlotte.

“We have many three and four year varsity seniors and their experience will be important for the newer members of the squad,” added Crumback. The Red Arrows do not have a home meet this season, but will compete at many close locations including Aquinas, FHC, Rockford, Northview and Wyoming.

The meet on the calendar this year the team is most looking forward to is Lakewood on February 14, 2020. “It’s right before districts and that is usually our district routine that we are competing that weekend. It’s also a chance for us to perform for judges and teams we don’t get to see all season,” stated Crumback.



**Members of the Lowell competitive cheer team during a conference jamboree at Northview last year.**

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Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

# SPORTS

## Wrestling Media Day presented by NUVU Fuels showcases 6 time defending state champions

by Justin Scott  
contributing reporter

The Lowell wrestling team will be looking to add to their record-breaking sixth straight team state championship this upcoming season. Despite departures of several starters from last year's team, including Avry Mutschler (Kent State) and Jeff Leach (Olivet), the Red Arrows have another solid team ready for the year. Lowell will again be competing in Division 2 come postseason time, and the Red Arrows enter the season ranked first in the state within the division.

The team was introduced to local media

several returning starters. Other wrestlers looking to have a big impact this year include Keegan Nugent, Landon Miller, Carson Crace, James Link, Cole Huisman, Grant Pratt, Nate Cleaver.

The Red Arrows will have several key matches happening throughout the year. On Wednesday, December 11, Lowell will travel to Novi for Detroit Catholic Central's annual assembly dual. The Shamrocks are nationally ranked in the top 10. The annual Gary Rivers Memorial Tournament will take place at LHS on January 18. The following week on the 25th, Lowell



Lowell wrestlers present FROM with a \$1,000 check.



Coach RJ Boudro talks strategy during practice.

last Wednesday in their first ever media day presented by NUVU Fuels. The team photo was taken, practice was held, and interviews were given by coaches and wrestlers. The team practices at Cherry Creek Elementary.

Ramsy Mutschler, Nick Korhorn, Bryce McCune, Zeth Strejc, Dawson Jankowski, Austin Boone, Will Link, James Fotis, Doak Dean, Jacob Lee, Derek Mohr, Jacob Hough, and Tyler Delooff are

will then host Division 1's Davison and Division 3's Dundee for a tri-meet. An assembly dual vs. Brighton for LHS students is scheduled for January 31. Team districts and postseason action will begin starting February 13. The full schedule can be found at [lowellwrestlingclub.com](http://lowellwrestlingclub.com)

"There are five Michigan teams in the national ranking this year which is the most ever since high school teams have been ranked across the

USA. We are one of those teams and we wrestle the other four so we will have plenty of opportunities to see what this team is made of. We do not see Gaylord, Eaton Rapids, or Warren Woods Tower at all this year and I think that they will all be in Kalamazoo for the Team State Finals, I look forward to the opportunity to see those programs if we are fortunate enough to make it there," coach Boudro added.

During media day, Lowell wrestlers presented

Flat River Outreach Ministries with a check for \$1,000. The funds, donated through the clubs annual golf outing, will go to help those in need in the Lowell area.

Asked about some goals for the season, Coach Boudro knows a team state championship is the ultimate goal, but is looking forward to seeing how his team can do as individuals as well. "This is one of the hardest working and most advanced group of guys that I have coached and I know that they have high expectations for themselves. We have never advanced 14 individuals to the individual state tournament and I know our guys would love to accomplish that feat."

Senior wrestler Austin Boone will be looking to make history of his own this season. "There has never been a 4X individual and team state champion and Austin Boone has the opportunity to do that this year. There is a lot that has to fall into place for that to happen but it is pretty cool that he even has that opportunity," coach Boudro added.

Despite winning six straight team state titles, the team is not worried about any sort of pressure. "We don't worry about the expectations or what

happened in the past, we just focus on what we're going to do each day," senior wrestler Austin Boone told reporters.

### RED ARROW WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

**BOYS VARSITY WRESTLING**

\* Denotes a home game  
12/14 time TBA Grappler Gold  
12/14 9 am Allegan Southwest Classic

**BOYS VARSITY SWIM & DIVE**

1/9 at 6 pm at Grand Rapids Union

**GIRLS GYMNASTICS**

\* Denotes a home game at LHS  
12/18 at 7 pm non-conference quad at Rockford

**GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL**

\* Denotes a game at LHS main gym  
12/13 at 7 pm Coopersville\*

**BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL**

\* Denotes a home game at LHS main gym  
12/13 at 7 pm at Coopersville  
12/17 at 7 pm East Grand Rapids\*

**GIRLS COMPETITIVE CHEER**

12/13/19 TBA CCCAM Meet at Charlotte  
12/18 at 6 pm Jenison Invite

**BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY**

\* Denotes a home game at Kentwood Ice Arena  
12/13 at 8 pm Forest Hills Northern  
12/14 at 6 pm Forest Hills Central  
12/18 at 8 pm Grand Rapids Christian\*

**BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING**

\* Denotes a meet at The Bowling Alley - Ionia  
12/16 at 3:30 pm Forest Hills Northern\*  
12/18 at 3:30 pm Greenville\*

**BOYS & GIRLS SKIING**

All held at Cannonsburg, unless noted  
1/7 at 4:30 pm Race #1 - GS

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

the lowell ledger

# obituaries

## WISSMAN



Nick Alan Wissman, age 45 of Coopersville, formerly of Lowell, unexpectedly passed away of natural causes Monday, November 25, 2019. He is survived by parents, H. Fred (Carol) Wissman, Sharon (Dick) Treviso;

brothers, Chris (Cindy) Wissman, Dennis Wissman; nieces, Maggie and Cate Wissman; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins. Nick was a 1993 graduate of Lowell High School and served in the United States Navy from 2007-2011. He did a tour in Iraq and Afghanistan as a Corpsman. Services were held Monday, December 9, 2019 at 1:00 pm at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331 with visitation one hour prior. Memorial contributions may be made to Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Ave NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Interment Oakwood Cemetery at a later date.



www.gerstfuneralhomes.com

\*\*\*

**There's a fine line between genius and insanity. I have erased this line.**

**- Oscar Levant**

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

# Rep. Albert schedules local office hours

State Rep. Thomas Albert of Lowell will host district office hours in December to meet with local residents of the 86th District.

"I'm proud of our legislative achievements of 2019," Rep. Albert said. "I welcome all to attend for a legislative update and learn more about my priorities moving into the New Year."

Office hours are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 13 at the following times and locations:

- 5 to 6 pm at Sozo Coffee, 576 N State St. in Ionia; and
- 7 to 8 pm at Cascade Twp. Biggby Coffee, 2700

Kraft Ave. SE in Grand Rapids. No appointment is

necessary. Residents unable to attend may contact Rep. Albert's office by calling

(517) 373-0846 or by email at ThomasAlbert@House.mi.gov



# You can get Social with Social Security

Social Security means many different things to many different people. To a spouse who has lost their partner, it may mean a monthly check to help with childcare costs. For a wounded warrior, Social Security might mean a lifeline of income that improves their quality of life. And chances are, you'll rely on us one day as well.

Social Security provides millions of people with retirement and disability benefits. This means we need to be able to start a conversation and answer questions for those millions of deserving people. Social media allows us to quickly help people in a cost-effective and agile way.

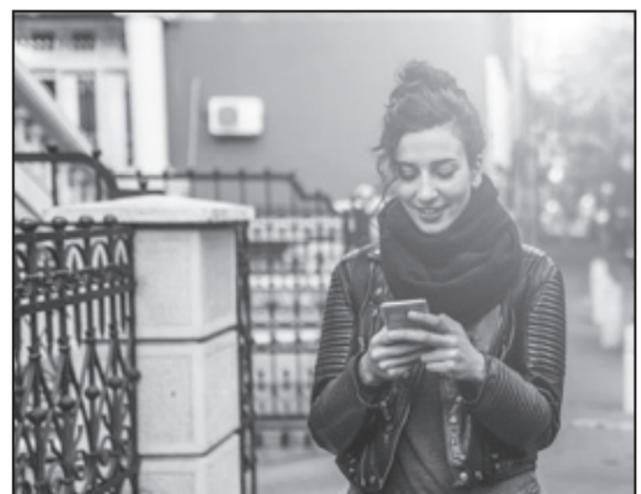
We use our Facebook page to share information about our programs, policies, and services with our vast network of followers and advocacy groups. We also monitor and provide quick-turnaround

responses to select questions and comments that people post. We also hold Facebook Live events to dive deep into topics that matter to you. [www.facebook.com/socialsecurity](http://www.facebook.com/socialsecurity).

Our blog, named *Social Security Matters*, gives readers information about a variety of topics, including our programs, online services, current events, and human-interest stories, usually in greater detail than typically shared on our other social media platforms. Our blog encourages discussion and offers important retirement- and disability-related solutions. [blog.ssa.gov](http://blog.ssa.gov).

Our Instagram page is a mostly visual outlet where we share our top ten baby names of the year and other trend-setting stats. We use this page to share information about our programs, policies, and services. [www.instagram.com/socialsecurity](http://www.instagram.com/socialsecurity).

Do you prefer getting information from videos? Social Security's YouTube channel is an archive of informative videos. [www.youtube.com/user/SocialSecurityOnline](http://www.youtube.com/user/SocialSecurityOnline).



Our Twitter page is updated frequently with up-to-date information that is easy to share. [twitter.com/socialsecurity](http://twitter.com/socialsecurity).

Follow us today! Be

part of the conversation. Share our posts with friends and family who may not know about our services.

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

K Z T E L A S E L O H W F G W P G Z T X  
M R X G N I S W O R B W F O C R D Z E M  
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105 N. Broadway  
897-9261  
Mon.-Thurs. 8-5; Fri 8-noon

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

# classifieds

## for sale

15% OF HAMMOND WHOLESALE PROFITS - are donated to non-profit charities. New appliances, furniture and mattresses. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.<sup>TFN</sup>

2003 HONDA PILOT - leather, good condition inside, needs motor. Asking \$1,500 obo. Call 269-838-6590.

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!<sup>TFN</sup>

USE SEAL N HEAL® - to seal wounds on dogs & cats with a bitter taste to prevent gnawing, allow healing. At Tractor Supply. (www.happyjackinc.com)

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

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

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 & must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555.

NEW DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE BUYER'S GUIDE & NEWS - Ads must now be in by noon on Thursday.

## 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).

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN LOWELL - 2 bedroom, 1 bath, laundry hookup, referral, background check. No pets. No smoking on premises. \$900/month, \$500 deposit. Call 616-813-8937.

**PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.**<sup>TFN</sup>

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3116 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. All Vets Coffee Hour the 3rd Thursday of each month at Keiser's. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.<sup>TFN EOW</sup>

## help wanted

**NEED EXTRA CASH? - We are taking applications for a driving route carrier to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturdays. We have an immediate opening in the Alto area. 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.**

**DRIVER WANTED - for taking me to my chiropractor. For details call Linda between 8 am - noon, 897-9202.**

## wanted

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

WANTED FREON R12: We pay CASH. R12 R500 R11 Convenient, Certified Professionals (312) 291-9169 RefrigerantFinders.com/ads

## services

WORK WANTED - Double D's Tree & Handyman Service. 40' & 70' bucket truck, tree trimming & removal, gutter cleaning, window washing, power washing, buildings, barns, homes, decks, etc. Insured. Call Dave Delinsky, 616-212-3008. Free estimates.

## services

TIME TO SHINE MAID SERVICE - is expanding and accepting new clients, residential and commercial office cleaning. Please call 616-292-0695 to set up your cleaning.

TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE - 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Open Mon - Fri. 8 am - 5 pm. 5400 Ivan Road, Saranac, call for a quote on auto repairs - 642-9180.

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

## services

PATRIOT STONE - kitchen & bath countertops & vanities. We fabricate, sell & install. Granite & quartz. Call for information, Steve Misner, 616-329-7274.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

SNOW PLOW SERVICE - Lowell, Saranac, Alto area. 28 years experience. 10% discount for early signup. Please call 616-808-0276.

HANDYMAN SERVICE PROJECTS/REPAIRS - 40 years experience, reasonable rates, 616-987-9272, leave message will reply ASAP.

## misc.

IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER WAS WRONG IN THE LOWELL CITY DIRECTORY LAST YEAR - Call us or drop us an email with the correct information and we will get it in the 2020 Lowell City Directory. Phone 897-9561 or email to: lowellcitydirectory@gmail.com

PORK STEAK DINNER - Fri., Dec. 13, 5-7:30 pm. Alto American Legion Post 528. Sunday breakfast, Dec. 15, 8-10:30 am. 6056 Linfield, Alto. Public welcome.

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

# Community Calendar AND ONGOING EVENTS December

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.

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING - Sat., Dec. 14, 11 am to 4 pm. Bring your Christmas gifts to Christian Life Center (3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell) and let theM put the right finishing touch on your special gifts. There is no charge, but any donations will go to the church sign fund.

TEEN ZONE - Mondays from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. Teen-only fun for you & your friends at the library. Stop by for activities that may include board games, food & more. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

SATURDAY CRAFTERNOON - Saturdays, 1 pm, now thru February 29. Come enjoy open crafting at the library! Bring your current project and see what others are working on. Hot beverages provided. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

COOKBOOK CLUB - Meets fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. Informal discussion about cookbooks & sample delectable examples, potluck style. Dec. 23 Cookie Swap. Stop by the branch for more details. If Lowell Schools is cancelled for the day, Bookworms will not meet. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

FAMILY YOGA - Saturdays at 11 am. Family yoga is an all-ages activity with a focus on the benefits of mindfulness. Together we will engage in fun poses, learn how to breathe, be creative with yoga

activities/games & relax. Space is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 30 minutes before the program begins. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

GINGERBREAD LANE - Thurs., Dec. 12 at 10 am. Create a gingerbread house. All supplies provided. Space is limited: first come, first served. This is a youth program so all seats will be available for children. Doors will open 30 minutes before the program begins. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

PICTURES WITH SANTA - and a special book reading. Dec. 21 from 10 - 11 am. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

PICTURES WITH SANTA - and a special book reading. Dec. 21 from noon - 1 pm. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

WINTER BREAK EVENT - Dec. 23 from 1-2 pm. For ages 5+ Holiday bead decorations for ornaments or wall hangings. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

CODING FOR KIDS - Thurs., Dec. 26, 1-4 pm. Using simple-to-use visual programming language based on Google's Blockly and littleBits coding kit, the camp is suited for children learning to code for the first time. Sponsored by the Friends of the Englehardt Library. Pre-registration is required due to limited space. For children grades 3-8 only. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

WINTER BREAK ACTIVITY - Dec. 26 from 11 am - noon. For ages 5+ Gingerbread cookie decorating. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

WINTER BREAK ACTIVITY - for family fun through Jan. 4. Stop in and join life size Candy Land beginning Dec. 26 and you may start your game at anytime. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

WINTER BREAK ACTIVITY - Dec. 26 from 11 am - noon. For ages 5 & up - Gingerbread Cookie Decorating. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

HARRY POTTER ESCAPE ROOM - Mon., Dec. 30, 1-7 pm. Pre-registration opens Nov. 13 & is required. Visit kdl.org/events to register. Challenge your brain during the holiday break! Sign up with your family or friends or meet new friends for a collaborative 45-minute challenge. Each person must be registered individually. Sessions in Harry Potter start promptly at the top of the hour & late entry is not possible. All seats of no-shows will be filled with waiting participants 5 minutes before the session. Children ages 10 & up are welcome if accompanied by an adult. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

WINTER BREAK MOVIE - Dec. 30 from 1- 3 pm. Showing "A Christmas Story" rated PG. Free popcorn & water. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY - a Christ-centered, Biblically-based 12 step program for people with hurts, hang-ups and habits. Meets every Thursday from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Impact, 11840 Fulton St., 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.

ART LAB - Third Tuesday of the month from 4-6 pm. A monthly art exploration with a different theme each month for ages 5 and up. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

NEEDLERS - Meet the second & fourth Tuesday of the month from, 5 to 8 pm at Franciscan Life Processing Center, 11650 Downes St. NE, Lowell.

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - at Wittenbach Wege Center, 11715 Vergennes, Lowell. Stewardship projects, trail maintenance - adopt a trail and community events (night hikes, luminary hikes, Winter Fest, Maple Syrup days & more!) Anyone interested in these opportunities please email Courtney Cheers: ccheers@lowellschools.com

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, 3116 Alden Nash SE, Lowell.

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

SENSORY TODDLER TIMES - Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30. Dec. 3 - Feb. 18. (except Dec. 24). Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org



# MLE announces Staff Member and Volunteer of the Month

Murray Lake Elementary has announced the Staff Member of the Month, Katherine Wills.

An MLE parent commented, "Mrs. Wills is exceptional and her style is amazing. I cannot tell you enough how impressed we were with the student-run parent-teacher conferences. What an amazing life skill to start teaching. As a

parent, it's so much easier to work with a child based on the feedback he played a part in. My child has been so committed to working on changing and I think that is huge as we think about development. I want my employees in business to take ownership - why shouldn't I expect the same from my kids?"

"I love working at

Murray Lake! The staff and students are truly wonderful. Over the last few years I have met amazing families and friends. I have also gotten the opportunity to have my two boys come to school with me and be a part of the MLE community. I am so lucky to be at Murray Lake and look forward to many more years to come," said Wills.



MLE Staff Member of the Month, Katherine Wills.

Murray Lake Elementary has announced the Volunteer of the Month, Jennie Forney.

Patti Harreld said, "She is awesome and works so

well with our students. Mrs. Forney has a full schedule, volunteering and leading programs at her church with students there. She's a busy mom of three great kids but still manages to find time to volunteer in the building."

"MLE is an amazing elementary school with teachers and staff who put their hearts into everything they do. My goal volunteering here is to support them in whatever way I can. Volunteering at the library is very

rewarding. Mrs. Harreld puts a tremendous amount of thought into the books she selects to read to the kids - books that teach character, empathy, and kindness. The students are always drawn in to the story. It is so much fun to hear kids come back each week excited to share about the books they have read," commented Forney.



MLE Volunteer of the Month, Jennie Forney.



## Lowell Red Arrow bowling kicks off the season at Wyoming Invitational

The Lowell High School bowling teams welcome new head coaches for the 2019-2020 high school bowling season. Raymond and Heather Phillips are assuming the head coach roles for the boys and girls teams, respectively. Long-time coaches Chris and Jennifer Clark have transitioned to assistant coach roles in preparation for planned "retirement" at the end of this season.

The Red Arrows participated in a tune-up tournament at Eastbrook Lanes, hosted by Wyoming High School on Saturday, December 7. There were 16 teams from the west Michigan area participating. The Red Arrow coaching staff used the opportunity to introduce new team members to tournament format, while observing all available

team members, new and returning, in match play.

Bowling for the girls were: returning seniors Olivia Dennie, Jessica Hull and Emma Blakie; returning sophomore Savannah Escobedo and freshmen Haylie Beers and Courtney Witten. The girls bowled consistently from the start and ended the qualifying round in second place advancing to match play. Unfortunately, they struggled with spare shooting in the first round, losing their two game baker match against Sparta by a total of seven pins. They finished in seventh place Emma Blake earned fourth place finish on the All-Tournament Team.

Bowling for the boys were: returning seniors Collin Clark and Aaron Fritsma; returning junior Jakob Reynolds; returning sophomore

Nathaniel DeWitt and new team members sophomore Mitchell Anderson and freshmen Keith Macdermaid, Gunnar Nelson, and Dustin Richardson. The boys finished tenth. Collin Clark earned second place finish on the All-Tournament Team.

The Red Arrow bowling teams will be back in action in a non-conference match against Hudsonville at The Bowling Alley of Ionia on Wed., December 11, at 3:30 pm. The full season schedule can be found on the Lowell Red Arrow website. Home matches are bowled at The Bowling Alley of Ionia, on Dexter Street, just south of M-21.



## GET A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE ON OUR COMMUNITY

From community developments to a look at new businesses in town, interesting people in our community, dining, sports, entertainment and much more, it can all be found in the Lowell Ledger!

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the lowell ledger

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Keep it fresh by supporting the independent local merchants who make our community unique!

**Shop Local - Shop Lowell!**

# FUN PAGE

## SUDOKO

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

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!

# RETAIL WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 12

**RETAIL WORD SEARCH**

AISLES  
ANCHOR  
BIG BOX  
BROWSING  
CASH

**CLIENTELE CUSTOMERS CUSTOMIZATION**

DATA  
DEMOGRAPHIC  
FORMULA  
INVENTORY  
LOSS LEADER

**MOBILE PAYMENTS PRICING**

RETAIL  
RETURNS  
SALES  
SHIPPING  
SHOPPING

**STOCK SUPPLY WHOLESALE**

## Guess Who?

I am an actress born in Georgia on December 10, 1985. As a youngster, I got my start as a model and I appeared in many commercials. I got a big break on a family show in the early 1990s. Later I went on to star in my own series.

Answer: Raven Symone

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to shopping.

**C T I D E R**

□	□	□	□	□	□
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Answer: Credit

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

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Rope used as a lasso
- 7. Lomb's partner
- 13. North African nation
- 14. Rounds up cattle
- 16. Densest naturally occurring element
- 17. Home of the Brewers
- 19. Atomic #44
- 20. Vetches
- 22. Moved earth with a tool
- 23. Cavalry sword
- 25. Supplements with difficulty
- 26. Encouraged
- 28. Speech defect
- 29. Periodical (abbr.)
- 30. Very cold
- 31. \_\_\_ Paulo, city
- 33. Former OSS
- 34. Approves food
- 36. Cars need them
- 38. Sweden's dominant phone company
- 40. Long lock of a woman's hair
- 41. North American natives
- 43. Fly high
- 44. One type is fire
- 45. Nocturnal bird
- 47. More than one male
- 48. LOTR actor McKellen
- 51. Employee stock ownership

plan

- 53. Tony-winning actress Daisy
- 55. Tennis star Kournikova
- 56. Pulitzer-winning composer
- 58. The opposite to pro
- 59. Safecrackers
- 60. Denotes past
- 61. Parrots
- 64. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
- 65. Reduce the importance of
- 67. Stiffly
- 69. In a sensible way
- 70. Signs

(abbr.)

- 21. One who monitors
- 24. Petty quarreling
- 26. Fiddler crabs
- 27. Touch lightly
- 30. American state
- 32. Pro wrestler Randy
- 35. Indicates spelling mistake
- 37. Macaws
- 38. Gradually narrowed
- 39. Installments
- 42. Female sheep
- 43. Politician
- 46. Servant
- 47. Said to facilitate concentration
- 49. California ballplayers
- 50. Once Toledo's tallest building
- 52. A type of pie
- 54. State of southwestern India
- 55. Principal member of Norse religion
- 57. Counterspy
- 59. Wellness practice
- 62. \_\_\_-de-sac: dead end street
- 63. Used to cook
- 66. Type of hospital
- 68. Direct message

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Capital of Zambia
- 2. Article
- 3. Country star LeAnn
- 4. Egyptian goddess
- 5. Afflict in mind or body
- 6. Showy but cheap
- 7. Belgian urban center
- 8. Short-winged diving seabird
- 9. Deploys
- 10. Ballplayers can legally do it
- 11. Centiliter
- 12. Contrary beliefs
- 13. Type of pole
- 15. Distinguish oneself
- 18. 8th month of the year

# Battle of the Businesses decorating/lights contest

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Downtown businesses are lit for the holidays thanks to the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's "Battle of the Businesses" holiday decorating contest on Thursday, Dec. 5. The winner turned out to be Fans in the Stands, 207 E. Main.

"They followed the criteria, and a big part of the criteria was the theme," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker.

The second place award for "honorable mention" went to the elaborate display at North Star Antiques, 211 W. Main.

"One of my dealers, Cindy Louwsma, volunteered and I let her run with it," said North Star Antiques owner Tonia North. "The only stipulation I put on it was that I really wanted a moving train so it would have that old-fashioned Christmas look to it, like the old downtown department store windows you used to see with moving, mechanical things. That was the thought that I had, personally, and Cindy blended that with everything you see. Cindy did an outstanding job. She worked on that for two or three days at least. It was a lot of work, she spent a lot of hours. We teased her that she was the 'elf on a shelf' because she was literally working on that shelf for days. It was tricky to get the train set up because there was a lot of things we were trying to fit into the window, and the train took up a lot of room. A customer, Bev and Carlton Anderson, let us use the train that they normally put under their tree."

Fans in the Stands will receive a trophy they can display year-round if they so desire.



Window by the champions at Fans in the Stands. [photo by Liz Baker]



Honorable mention went to North Star Antiques. [photo by Liz Baker]



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