

State Champs! Seventh consecutive year!



Seven fingers in the air, Lowell celebrates their seventh straight team state title. Photo courtesy of Jamie McNinch. See the story on page 11. Congratulations from all of us at the Lowell Ledger office!

Janet Teunis:
LowellArts



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Lowell's only movie theater files bankruptcy

by Greg Chandler
J-Ad staff writer

The future of Lowell's only movie theater is up in the air; its owner has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Goodrich Quality Theaters, which owns the Ada/Lowell 5 theater at 2175 W. Main, issued the filing Tuesday in US Bankruptcy Court in Grand Rapids. Goodrich has owned the theater since it opened in the summer of 1996.

A show cause hearing in the case has been set for Wednesday, March 4, before Chief Bankruptcy Judge Scott Dales, said Kelly Hagan, one of the trustees assigned to the case.

Based in Grand Rapids, Goodrich owns 30 theaters in five states.

In its filing, Goodrich cited estimated assets at between \$50 million and \$100 million, and liabilities at between \$10 million and \$50 million. The number of creditors the company owes money to is listed at between 50 and 99, court records show.

The largest creditor listed in the filing is Vistar Corporation, a food service company based in the Detroit suburb of Belleville. Vistar has a claim of \$1,086,417 against Goodrich.

Other unsecured claims listed in the filing include:

Universal Film Exchange, Dallas, \$303,523

Spirit Master Funding X, Dallas, \$460,934 (mortgages on four of Goodrich's theaters)

Sony Releasing, \$224,570

Christie Digital Systems, Los Angeles, \$203,013

Warner Brothers, Atlanta, \$121,048

PepsiCo, Chicago, \$103,000

IMAX Corporation, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, \$87,244

Walt Disney Studios, Burbank, Calif., \$81,063

Goodrich came under fire in December 2019 over a policy change where it said it would no longer employ workers under the age of 18. An advertisement on the chain's website indicated it was looking for part-time help, but applicants had to be at least 18.

Rose Lambert, a Hastings 4 employee, submitted an online petition on the website change.org, alleging Goodrich's actions were "unfair and disrespectful to the teens currently working in the business."

"I definitely think he got what was coming," Lambert wrote in an email message



The Ada/Lowell 5 cinema is one of several theaters affected by Tuesday's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing by Goodrich Quality Theaters.

to the Hastings Banner. "Most of his customers and employees were teenagers or started as teenagers."

More than 10,000 people signed the online petition, according to the website.

Goodrich did not respond to the Banner's requests for comments on the policy change, but a state youth employment specialist, Tara Bride, told the Banner at the time that a possible reason for the move may have been connected with the chain's addition of alcohol at some of its theaters. A 1978 Michigan law says a minor cannot be issued a work permit in an establishment where alcohol is sold for consumption on the premises. The Hastings 4 where Lambert worked

was not one of the locations where alcohol was being added.

A meeting of creditors, also known as a 341 meeting in the US Bankruptcy Code, is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24, Hagan said.

The Hastings Banner attempted to contact Tyrone Byrum, a Grand Rapids attorney who is representing Goodrich in the bankruptcy case, but did not receive a call back.

The Ada/Lowell 5 opened in August 1996. Current releases at that time were "Flipper," "Fear," "Escape From LA," "Independence Day," "The Rock," "Kingpin," "Phenomenon" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." According

to an article in the Aug. 14, 1996 Lowell Ledger, the new theater boasted "the best in moviegoing comfort and style in one 13,000 square foot building. Besides rocking chair seats with padded cup holder armrests, the theater features DTS digital stereo sound. [...] The theater will offer the latest hits as they come out in an effort to save Lowell residents a 20-30 minute drive to Grand Rapids theaters."

The Ada/Lowell 5 will continue to show movies for the time being. The theater is currently screening "Invisible Man," "Call of the Wild," "Blumhouse's Fantasy Island," "Sonic the Hedgehog" and "Dolittle."

50¢



Vergennes Twp to seek construction bids for new offices

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Vergennes Township will start soliciting construction bids soon for the renovations and additions to their recently-purchased office building, the former Jehovah's Witnesses' Kingdom Hall at 69 Lincoln Lake Rd. Construction should begin in the spring and is scheduled to end sometime around the beginning of November.

"The original meeting space will be retained and renovated to accommodate township meetings, election precincts and community meeting space," said Vergennes Township clerk Heather Hoffman. "The addition will accommodate offices for staff and officials, reception, conference areas, record storage and updated



mechanicals."

The township purchased the building last May for \$209,900, paid in full from the general fund. Timothy

A. Spitzley Architects LLC were hired by the township to create the comprehensive construction plans, represent the township during the

bidding phase and perform contract administration during construction.

"There are no official plans for the existing

township hall property, but one of the options on the table is to sell the property as-is using a bidding process in the fall of 2020," Hoffman said. "The revenue from the sale of the 10318 Bailey property, along with the revenue from the recent sale of 19.3 acres of township land, will be used towards the renovation and addition costs for the 69 Lincoln Lake building."

The township is currently headquartered at 10381 Bailey Dr, an old Grange Hall from the 1800s.

"This building has certainly served our township and its people well over the last several decades, but we know, as with everything, there is a season," Hoffman wrote in the township's winter

newsletter to residents. "We know that at this time next year, this old building will no longer serve as our township hall, its contents will have been packed up and relocated and we will bid it a farewell as we move to a newly renovated and expanded township hall. For some, this may bring a sense of sadness to see the old building go, but for me and many others, we see this new township hall as a positive change for our community. Vergennes Township is growing and thriving and we do not see this trend ending anytime soon. Our new township hall building will serve the people of Vergennes for many decades, and for that I am beyond thankful."

Governor activates center to coordinate state response to coronavirus

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer activated the state Emergency Operations Center on Friday to coordinate with state, local and federal agencies in an effort to help prevent the spread of Novel Coronavirus.

Whitmer, Chief Medical Executive Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Director Major General Paul Rogers, and Capt. Emmitt McGowan of the Michigan State Police provided an update on coronavirus disease 2019

(COVID-19) in Michigan to inform residents about how the state is preparing to protect public health.

As of Friday, there were no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan, but residents are being told to take all necessary precautions to prepare and keep themselves and their families safe.

"Right now, we're harnessing all of the resources of state government to help people prepare and keep themselves and their families safe," Whitmer said. "By activating the

State Emergency Operations Center, we're ensuring that every branch of state government is on alert, and actively coordinating to prevent the spread of coronavirus if it comes to Michigan.

"We are taking this step out of an abundance of caution. We will continue to take every necessary precaution to keep Michiganders safe."

"While the current risk to the general public of getting COVID-19 is low, we need to use all of our public health tools to make sure we are prepared," said Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health for Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. "Michiganders can be assured that we are taking this seriously and we will continue to make preparations to limit the spread and impact of



COVID 19.

"Everyone can do basic things like washing hands frequently, covering their coughs appropriately, and staying home if they feel unwell to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses."

COVID-19 has been identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan City in the Hubei Province of China. As of Feb. 27, 81,000 cases have been confirmed globally,

with over 78,000 of those in China, and more than 2,600 deaths in China.

Investigations are ongoing to learn more, but person-to-person spread of the virus has occurred, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Patients with confirmed infection reportedly have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath.

On Feb. 3, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services activated the Community Health

Emergency Coordination Center to support local and state response to the outbreak.

MDHHS is working with health care providers, local public health departments, and the CDC to identify potential cases of COVID-19 in Michigan. MDHHS has implemented emergency response standard operating procedures that address infectious disease outbreaks and new or emerging illnesses, such as this one.

Information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.



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New Whites Bridge construction reaches halfway point

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Construction of the new Whites Bridge replica is about halfway through. The bridge is scheduled to be completed by July 3. In an email to the Ledger, Tom Byle, Kent County Road Commission assistant director of engineering and Whites Bridge Historical Society president, said there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony at that time, as well as the installation of “a donor plaque of some sort.” Byle also reported in his email that the price of the project is approximately \$617,000. This does not include lighting, security, abutment repairs or construction inspection.

“We raised \$900,000, expecting the contract to be about \$700,000 [to] \$750,000,” Byle wrote. “Donors [included] the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the Meijer Foundation, one of the Van Andels, King Milling, Eco Demolition donated the fire debris cleanup, plus [there were] numerous smaller donations. The extra monies will be used for ongoing lighting and security costs and future maintenance such as renewing the fire retardant coating, reroofing, etc.”



The new bridge will have some restrictions, Byle said. “It’s only one lane as before, 12 feet high and [will have] a weight restriction,” Byle wrote. “It can’t take an 80,000 pound semi, but it can handle an ambulance, school bus and a road commission truck. [MDOT] will determine the weight posting.”

Whites Bridge was built across the Flat River in 1869. It stood for 144 years until an arsonist burned it down on July 7, 2013. The perpetrator of this crime has never been caught. If you have any information about the fire, call the Lowell Police Department.



LaughFest bringing comic Ralph Harris to Larkin’s The Other Place



Gilda’s LaughFest, the nation’s first-ever community-wide festival of laughter, is based in Grand Rapids and includes events throughout West Michigan. Created by Gilda’s Club of Grand Rapids and launched in March 2011 to celebrate “laughter for the health of it,” the festival features stand-up, improv, showcases and a variety of “seriously funny stuff.”

This year, they are holding several events in Lowell. All but one of the Lowell events are free and appropriate for the whole family.

The main event in Lowell this year is veteran comedian Ralph Harris, who will perform at Larkin’s The Other Place on Friday, March 13, at 7 pm and 9 pm. Tickets to either show are \$25.

Harris’ many film and television credits include “Dreamgirls,” “Evan Almighty,”

“Seinfeld,” “Living Single,” “In Living Color,” “Last Comic Standing,” “The Tonight Show Starring Jay Leno” and “Late Night with Conan O’Brien.” During 1994 and 1995, Harris was the star of his own sitcom on ABC’s iconic Friday night “TGIF” programming block. Harris played the oldest of seven siblings whose parents were killed in a car crash, and he also occasionally dressed in drag to play their Aunt Jelcinda. Incidentally, Harris’ siblings on the show were played by a young Jussie Smollet and his real life brothers and sisters.

A native of Philadelphia, Harris has been a professional touring stand up comedian for over 30 years. His material is character-driven and family-focused; his biggest influences include storytellers like Eddie Murphy, Bill Cosby, Jonathan Winters and Whoopi Goldberg.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit laughfestgr.org.

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There will be a bake sale during the dinner sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women of St. Mary’s Church

Additional sale of frozen pasty’s (\$5 each) will also be held at the dinner provided by Viki’s Bridge Street Pasty Shop in Saranac.

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State reaches \$80M settlement in juvenile inmate suit

The Michigan Department of Corrections will pay \$80 million to settle a federal lawsuit alleging sexual abuse and other harm to juvenile prisoners housed with adult prisoners.

Under the agreement, the settlement will be paid in installments: \$25 million within two days after court approval of the settlement, \$15 million by October 2021 and \$15 million by October 2022.

The settlement, which resolves all current federal and state cases first brought in 2013 on behalf of an estimated 1,300 youthful male prisoners, will go before the Washtenaw County Circuit Court on April 9, and the court will determine if the agreement is fair, reasonable and in the best interest of the parties.

Attorney General Dana Nessel said the state had vigorously fought the lawsuits, filing 31 appeals, and has exhausted "every legal argument." She said it's clear, however, that continuing litigation wasn't in the people's best interest.

"I do not subscribe to the notion that incarcerated individuals are unworthy of proper treatment or that anything that happens to them is somehow deserved because they've been convicted of a crime," Nessel said in a statement read by Chief of Operations Christina Grossi during a teleconference with journalists.

"I believe prisoners are entitled to be treated with respect and basic human dignity," she added. "The foundation of this case is that felons under the age of 18 should not be housed in adult prisons."

The class-action suit, filed on behalf of youthful inmates ranging in age from 13 to 17 who entered adult

prisons since October 2010, alleged adult prisoners and MDOC staff subjected the teens to physical and sexual abuse, assaults, harassment and other degrading treatment as well as solitary confinement and deprivation of educational and rehabilitative services.

In the teleconference, MDOC Director Heidi Washington noted that "almost all the allegations of sexual abuse and sexual assault" was not about staff abuse, but about older prisoners assaulting younger prisoners.

Grossi added that the settlement includes a "continual denial of [...] liability," and that MDOC "has never corroborated" widespread sexual abuse or sexual assault allegations.

Plaintiffs' attorney Deborah LaBelle said to not believe there was widespread abuse is to simply not believe "the detailed and heart-wrenching reports of sexual assaults by scores of youth who stepped forward" to tell their stories.

"Denying the statements of sexual abuse survivors simply adds to their trauma and leads to continued abuse by the failure to recognize the problem and take preventative steps," she said.

Under the agreement, the MDOC will implement a policy within six months specifically tailored to youthful offenders to address segregation, discipline, use of force, staff training, and the reporting and tracking of incidents of sexual abuse and harassment above and beyond the protection of federal law.

Washington called on the Legislature to end the practice of sentencing youthful offenders to adult prisons.

Currently, Michigan law allows individuals as young as 13 to come into the adult

prison system. Youthful offenders age 17 were housed with adult offenders prior to 2016, but are now housed in separately from the adults in the Thumb Correctional Facility in Lapeer.

Lawmakers considered the matter last year as part of the Raise the Age legislation, but one bill containing a provision to keep juvenile offenders from being placed in adult prisons was removed.

"Michigan law currently allows for blended sentences, but I can tell you from my time in this department that that option is not utilized," Washington said. "Most youthful offenders are sent directly to adult prisons. [...] We would like to see the Legislature make blended sentences a requirement rather than an option for youthful offenders."

Thursday, MDOC has about 38,000 prisoners, 29 of whom are youthful offenders.

The class members, between 1,200 and 1,400, can opt out of the settlement and bring their own suit. The state will not participate in discussions on how the settlement will be distributed, leaving that up to the plaintiffs' attorneys and the Washtenaw County Circuit judge who will determine if attorney fees are reasonable.

An estimated one-third is likely to go to the legal team.

Under the settlement, any crime victims who are owed restitution, custodial parent-owed child support or any court that extended resources to a prisoner benefiting from the settlement, must be paid first out of settlement proceeds.

The settlement ranks second to a \$100 million settlement in 2009 in a lawsuit alleging correctional officers had sexually abused female prisoners.

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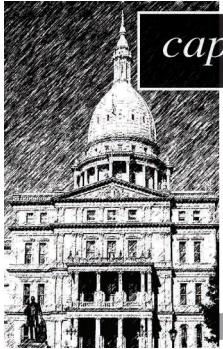


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viewpoint



capitol matters

State Representative Thomas Albert



Governor's road bonding plan does more harm than good

Governor Whitmer recently announced a unilateral plan to use debt to finance \$3.5 billion in road funding. The controversial action has resulted in a lot of debate. This financing plan will impact road funding for decades, so I wanted to give it a deeper dive and make sure people are well informed about the issue.

On a fundamental level,

maintaining a state funding plan is no different than the way all Michiganders budget for their homes or businesses. When one faces a situation where their monthly bills are greater than their monthly income, then changes must be made. To fix this monthly shortfall, there are only two real solutions. One can increase their monthly income, through a better paying

job or working more, or find areas to cut spending. There is, of course, a third option of filling in the gap with credit cards. This is a dangerous option that usually only delays reality and leads to fiscal distress – in many cases, bankruptcy. Debt adds risk and is never a real solution.

The road funding debate is no different than a family budget that is short on its monthly bills. Republicans in the Legislature wanted to find areas in the existing budget to reduce spending before raising new revenue. Last year, Governor Whitmer proposed to fill the gap by raising the gas tax by 45 cents per gallon. This plan was roundly rejected by both parties in the Legislature because it simply placed too big of

a burden on hardworking Michiganders.

Instead of working with the Legislature, Governor Whitmer is attempting to fix our roads by using debt. Unfortunately, in the upcoming years we are going to find ourselves using a large amount of road funding for debt payments. Instead of paying down debt to free up cash flow, we are moving in the opposite direction. Debt payments will decrease our future ability to maintain our roads.

Governor Whitmer's use of debt to provide road funding is not a solution and it will place significant pressure on our future road funding. I do not support this plan because it is going to cause more harm than good.

sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

I would like to take this opportunity to say "thank you" to our bus drivers for ensuring the safe transport of students. Our drivers' dedication to safety and their commitment to the community are truly appreciated. Our bus drivers are the first faces our students see in the morning, which can set the tone for the entire day.

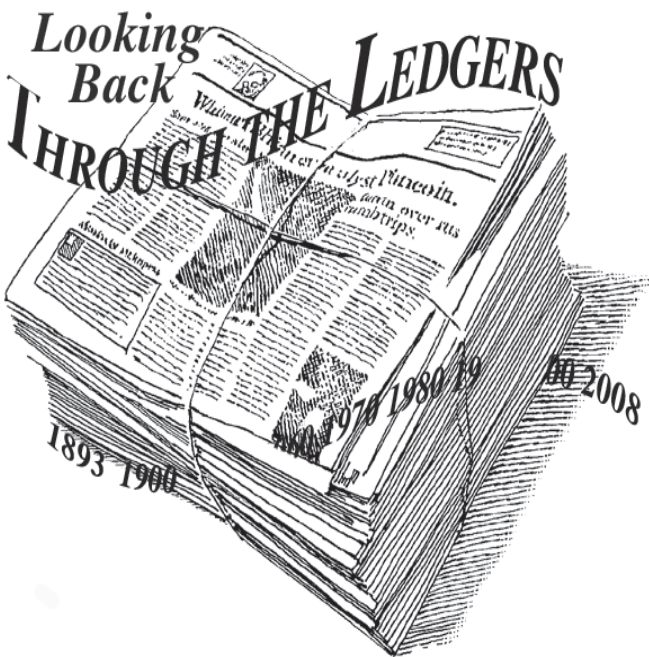
Every morning our drivers are up before the sun and they travel through all kinds of weather to deliver our students. They cheerfully greet our students day after day. Sometimes our students are loud, sometimes an emergency may arise, but many times it's just a long

drive around the same old route. I don't know what brought them to this job, but I'm thankful they are here.

A bus driver's job is not easy. Driving is difficult in the winter with snowy and icy conditions. It is especially difficult this time of year when spring fever hits and all the students have a lot of extra energy, looking forward to spring break.

I appreciate the job that our drivers do and the way they do it. Thank you "drivers" for your excellent work.

Fun Fact: Our drivers travel 2,650 miles every day. That is equivalent to driving to Orlando, Florida and back every day.



125 years ago Lowell Ledger March 8, 1895

Michael Sullivan and Mrs. Calla Robinson-White, wife of Benson White of Ada were lodged in jail Tuesday night on the charge of improper relations. The former was caught at Peep's tie mill near Sunnyside, where he was engineer, and the latter was arrested at the home of her husband in Ada. Both arrests were made by Deputy Sheriff Husted. Sullivan is 25 years of age and Mrs. White is but 21 years old. The woman is illiterate, and when taken to jail she laughed and appeared to think it a good joke. She asked if "Mike" was there, and when she learned that he was she seemed to be contented. Mrs. White has two children, one of three years and the other but twelve months old.

A very sad and fatal accident occurred Saturday afternoon, March 2, in which one boy lost his life, and another narrowly escaped. Clare, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fox, of Fox's Corners, and a little playmate, Claude James, were out with their sleds riding down hill. They would slide out onto a pond, and had made four successful trips, when the ice broke, letting them into the water which was five or six feet

deep. Claude being the smaller, and being of the hind end of the sled, succeeded in getting out, but Clare could not.

Last Friday night, the large farm barn of Seigle Graham of this township was entirely destroyed by fire. Six thoroughbred Galloway cattle, one horse and all the farming tools were consumed. Insured in the Kent County Mutual.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 4, 1920

A detachment of five soldiers, all expert linguists, armed with Army literature printed in various foreign tongues, established a recruiting station at Ellis Island. The soldiers interview young immigrants arriving here, and point out advantages offered by Army Life, coupled with the opportunity to gain American citizenship after three years. Soldiers of European armies will be particular objects of campaign, members of the detachment said.

Milfred Lovely went to his barn Monday morning and found one of his cows had hung herself in her stanchion. Poor thing, she must have been tired of the winter.

75 years The Lowell Ledger March 8, 1945

A message received here lately tells of the safe arrival of Lt. Bruce Walter, U. S. N. R., at Guam. The message did not tell of any enemy interruptions along the way, but did say that the men spent many hours in the life jackets. There is a new ruling in the navy stating that the commanding officer may allow his crew to mention places and action taken, not less than thirty days after taking place. This should make very interesting reading in future letters from our service men.

Lowell is growing. Village Clerk L. E. Johnson reports that upwards of 100 new names were added to the poll list during the recent registration period.

An unusual sight for the present day made its



We love to hear from you!

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

The requirements are:

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

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- advanced directives

Advanced directives are written instructions that you prepare to help guide your medical care. They apply in specific situations when you are no longer capable of making your own health care decisions.

One common example of an advanced directive is a living will. In a living will, you explain what medical treatments you want, and do not want, for yourself. These treatments may include CPR, a ventilator, certain medications, feeding tubes, dialysis, etc.

Another common directive is naming a friend or family member your medical power of attorney. This involves choosing someone you can trust to make decisions about your medical care in the event

you are unable to make those decisions for yourself.

Advanced directives are not just for elderly or ill patients. Every adult should consider preparing advanced directives, in the event of an unexpected illness or injury. Adults with young children especially should consider who would obtain guardianship of their children in the event they were no longer able to care for them on their own.

Talk to your loved ones, and your health care provider, about your own advanced directive wishes. Not sure where to get started? Ask your health care provider for assistance, there are step-by-step guides available to help you establish advanced directives.

college news

Minnesota State University, Mankato has announced the Academic High Honor and Honor lists (Dean's lists) for the past fall semester.

Josie Dorf, of Ada, was among the 2,530 students who earned a 3.5 to 3.99 average to qualify for the Honor List.

To qualify for academic honors, undergraduate students must be enrolled

for at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

Scott Henderson, of Ada, earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree from Arcadia University at a Commencement ceremony on Jan. 19. In total, 254 members of the Class of 2020 earned degrees that day.

outdoors

camping styles

Dave Stegehuis

Michigan has close to 4.6 million acres of state-owned land. The federal government manages another 3.6 million plus acres. More than a thousand private and public R.V. parks and campgrounds are scattered throughout the state. Most of the over 100 state parks and 138 state forest campgrounds, as well as federal campsites are on or near water. Camping is a great recreational opportunity in Michigan.

Camping styles include everything from tents to motorhomes. Competition in the R.V. industry is intense, so manufactures are continually improving products and adding new features to keep the interest of the camping public.

At one time, tents all but disappeared from campsites. Tenting has been steadily gaining popularity with the younger campers in recent years. Tents are inexpensive to buy, easy to store, and provide a more traditional camping experience.

Pop-up campers have fold out walls so are easy to tow with lighter vehicles. These units provide basic comfort and convenience without a big investment.

Pick-up campers load in the bed of a truck and afford the ability to pull a boat or tow a trailer for hauling extra gear, motor sport vehicles, or horses.

Pick up campers can be set up off the truck.

Travel trailers come in a variety of sizes and amenities. Larger units have multiple slide-outs and feature all the comforts of home. A special weight distribution hitch is required on the tow vehicle for most trailers.

Fifth wheel trailers connect to the tow vehicle with a hitch system located over the rear axle. Fifth wheels tend to be the largest and most expensive of towable vehicles.

Class A motorhomes resemble a bus. Class A coaches with slide-outs are usually very luxurious. Class B units are built like a van. Class C campers are built on a truck chassis. Motorhomes are convenient to park and set-up.

Each camping alternative from tents to motorhomes has advantages and disadvantages. One must decide what type of unit will be compatible with the intended recreational activities. Tow vehicles requirements, tolerance for operational and maintenance tasks, as well as cost must also be considered when choosing a camping unit.

Camping in Michigan outdoors is enjoyed by thousands of residents and visitors alike. There must be something special about camping. Check it out.

happy birthday



MARCH 4

Scott Vashaw, Bryce Tulppo, Patrick N. Johnson, Jared Brzezniak, Dawn Emelander.

Marshal Mooney, Michael Barnes, Shirley Canfield.

MARCH 8

Amber Rittersdorf, DJ Main, Charles Drake, Colleen Lally.

MARCH 5

Don Silvis, Michael Nearing, Brandy Washburn.

MARCH 9

Bob Vezino, Marsha Stephens, Mark Richmond, Pam Cebleak.

MARCH 6

Pat Covell, Darlene Waldron.

MARCH 10

Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.

MARCH 7

Carrie Metternick,

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION POST 528.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6
5:00-7:30 p.m.

PRIME RIB DINNER

\$15

with potato, veggie and roll

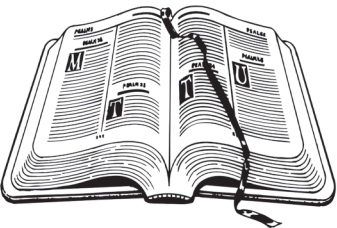
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Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
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Worship Service Sunday - 10:30 AM
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

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

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL

897-7060
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

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
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Pastor Alyssa Anten
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM
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Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor
Pastor Andrew Bolkcom • 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

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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

At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

Gilda's Laughfest Presents Kids Joke Time

Come and tell some jokes and join in the laughter! Held in conjunction with Gilda's Club Laughfest. For all ages. Saturday, March 7 at 1 pm.

Sci-Fi Book Club

Join us for an informal book discussion where we will talk about science fiction titles, as well as speculative fiction, fantasy, and dystopian selections. Monday, March 9 at 6:30 pm, *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood.

Bookworms Book Club

Join us for a lively book discussion Tuesday, March 10 at 10 am for *Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan. Please note, if Lowell Area Schools is cancelled for the day, Bookworms will not meet.

Tech Savvy Seniors

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 on Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 pm to discuss current tech topics and gain the skills and confidence to access information and services online.

House narrowly votes to join 31 state nursing compact

Nurses licensed in Michigan could practice in 31 other states and nurses from those states could come work here without having to apply for a new license, under legislation that narrowly passed the House Wednesday.

Members voted 55-50 Wednesday to approve HB 4042. That counts as a majority because one district is vacant in Flint. A special election is scheduled to fill that vacant seat March 10.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Mary Whiteford (R-Casco Twp.), would sign the state up to join the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact.

Whiteford testified previously that the bill would remove “unnecessary barriers” and allow health care organizations to fill open positions more readily by increasing the pool of eligible nurses. Those living near the border could work across state lines.

But others fear it could lead to snowbird nurses.

“Rep. Whiteford had one of her friends actually sit in committee and testify that it would be nice if she could just spend three months of the winter in Florida and practice there because she is licensed in Michigan and Florida is part of the pact. Then she wouldn’t have to be here in the winter,” said

Rep. Frank Liberati (D-Allen Park), who voted no. “I took that as, geez, in winter where are all our nurses going to go if they can go to the warm state. I looked at that as a negative, and she looked at it as a positive.”

He also had concerns that requirements for nurses here are more stringent than in other states in the compact. In joining, the state would have to accept the pact with no changes.

“So, would that dilute, which I believe it would, the requirements of nurses that practice in Michigan. Yes, we still have the same requirements to be licensed in Michigan, but if you are licensed in Ohio with lower

educational requirements, training requirements, then we are accepting that de facto as our requirements,” Liberati said.

The vote was mostly along party lines, but one Republican who crossed the aisle was Rep. Jeff Yaroch (R-Richmond). The bill was not scheduled for final passage, so he said he didn’t have time to do research.

“Whenever I’m in doubt I vote no,” Yaroch said. “I had concerns about how we deal with complaints against nurses. If you are licensed in another compact state and you are working in Michigan and (someone) needs to file a complaint, do you have to find out what state a nurse

is licensed in so you can file complaint against a nurse in that state.”

Complaints against nurses licensed in Michigan go to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, he pointed out.

Rep. Beau LaFave (R-Iron Mountain) said he was excited about the bill.

“It allows border communities, border counties such as mine on the Wisconsin border to get new health practitioners into and serve the people that I work for. I don’t care if the nurse lives in Florida and spends her summers up in the U.P. or across the river in Aurora, Wisconsin and wants to serve people across the river, I think that’s great. More health care is always better,” he said.

In the 55-50 vote, no Democrats voted in favor of the bill.

The only Republicans to vote no were Yaroch and Rep. Roger Hauck (R-Union Twp).

Rep. Lynn Afendoulis (R-Grand Rapids), Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit), Rep. Kristy Pagan (D-Canton) and Rep. Karen Whitsett (D-Detroit) were absent.

The Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) is opposed to the bill.

“The Michigan Nurses Association Board has voted to oppose Michigan becoming a compact state because we want to maintain the high standards that Michigan has for nurses who practice here,” said MNA president Jamie Brown in statement Wednesday. “In the compact, it’s a matter of the lowest common denominator among states. Patients deserve better than that. If nurses want to be licensed in more than one state, there is already a process they can follow, and that is the system we should preserve rather than changing Michigan to one that’s riskier and more complicated.”

Six tips on how to manage bipolar disorder in your life

It can be very challenging in dealing with bipolar disorder. Bipolar disorder can cause changes in your moods, energy levels, concentration and your day-to-day activities.

As a result, here are six tips on how to effectively deal with bipolar disorder in your life.

1. Learn about bipolar disorder. It is important to learn as much as you can about bipolar disorder and how it may interfere with your life. A person can talk to a counselor, read some

books, or go online to find out how to deal with bipolar disorder in their life.

2. Find coping strategies that work for you. When you are dealing with bipolar disorder, it’s important to know what coping strategies work for you. Talking to a mental health counselor is the best way in learning those strategies in dealing with bipolar disorder.

3. Be aware of your mood and symptoms. If you start noticing minor changes in your moods you can work with others to prevent the situation from becoming worse. Be aware of any red

flags that could trigger an episode. Talk to a counselor for more advice on what you can do to help manage your bipolar situation.

4. Have a strong support system. Having others to help you with your bipolar disorder is important. The help of your doctor, therapist, family members, and friends can help manage your bipolar disorder. Joining a support group of other people with bipolar disorder can also be beneficial.

5. Avoid stressful activities in your life. Stress can be a big trigger for people with bipolar disorder.

Identify areas of your life where you experience the most stress and explore better ways to manage it, or eliminate it, if you can.

6. Avoid drugs and alcohol. Drugs and alcohol can make your bipolar disorder symptoms worse and could trigger a manic or depression event. Your best option is to find more effective ways in dealing with your bipolar disorder.

Stan Popovich is the author of “A Layman’s Guide to Managing Fear Using Psychology, Christianity and Non Resistant Methods.” For more info go to Stan’s website at <http://www.managingfear.com/>

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the matter of Marion Anderson Guardianship File No. 20-207,062-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including her son, Raymond Anderson and any other unknown relatives and heirs, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on March 25, 2020, at 1:30 P.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.

Dated: February 26, 2020

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-5242

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001) 109 E. Main St. Ste. 11 Zeeland, MI 49464 (616) 633-0196.

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TIME TO TURN UP THE VOLUME



JAKE OWEN
FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Dick Fox's GOLDEN BOYS Starring

FRANKIE AVALON • FABIAN • BOBBY RYDELL
FRIDAY, APRIL 3

RANDY HOUSER
THURSDAY, MAY 7

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BATTLE CREEK

I-94 to Exit 104 | 11177 Michigan Avenue | Battle Creek, MI 49014
Must be 21 or older. Tickets based on availability. Schedule subject to change.

2020 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

Lowell Charter Township
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
Lowell, Mi. 49331

2020 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2020 will be held at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 9 a.m. =
Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2020
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 12, 2020
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2020 assessments.

By board resolution, residents are allowed to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 9, 2020.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2020 are as follows:

Agricultural	44.26	1.1297
Commercial	44.01	1.1362
Residential	47.31	1.0569
Industrial	48.76	1.0255
Personal	50.00	1.0000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice.

Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
616-897-7600

Board of Review Members, Sandra Graham, Nancie Mathews & James Foerch.
Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review.



Name: Janet Teunis
Position: LowellArts project director
Education: BA, University of Michigan
Residence: Byron Center
Family: Husband, children, dog, cats, old goldfish

Janet Teunis: LowellArts project director

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Janet Teunis is the project director at LowellArts. Teunis, a native of Jenison and resident of Byron Center, has devoted over 20 years of her working life to the arts. She has been affiliated with LowellArts since 2013.

“Janet is the driving force behind setting up the gallery exhibitions, and she does a killer job at making all the cool, diverse pieces of art flow together,” said Lowell city councilor and Chimera Design owner Cliff Yankovich. “She also directs most of the marketing efforts for LowellArts and is an accomplished artist in her own right. I constantly hear people talking at the concerts - both band members AND audience folk - about what a cool space we have. Janet is responsible for a lot of that.”

“There are just three of us on the staff here,” Teunis said. “I’m mainly in charge of the gallery programs and the marketing of everything that we do. What I do in any given week depends on what is going on. Working at a non-profit, you just sort of jump in where you’re needed. My title is project director but that’s kind of a catch-all term, it means I’m responsible for pretty much anything. I guess the main thing is that I’m organizing people behind the scenes. We have many volunteers within the LowellArts organization, and our gallery committee is made up of about 10 artists who live nearby. The committee meets on a monthly basis to plan the shows. When we get close to an install week, the volunteers will

sign up for different shifts. We’ll have the art dropped off and then we’ll do the installation. There is a lot of email correspondence that has to happen with the artists participating in the shows. They need to know when to drop off their pieces and what information to provide. When the artists come in to drop off their work, we will be checking that their name is spelled correctly, the title of their piece and the price. We’ve got things streamlined so it’s easier for us to do every single time. In olden days, people would do data entry. I’m not about doing data entry! Our computer system gives us more time to pay attention to the more fun details like deciding where things get to hang. It starts with the artists and how they apply to the show. We use an online system. When the artists apply online, they have to enter all of their information like the size and the medium and all that stuff. Part of my job is to set that up. For our next show, we have an outside juror. I’m in contact with the juror and I get him everything he needs so that he can jury the show. The juror, who is on the other side of the state, selects which pieces he wants in the show. From there, I’m able to use the computer system to let people know that they’ve been invited to be in the show... or not invited. And then from there, I can

download a spreadsheet that has all of the artists’ information. I’ve become pretty good at negotiating that spreadsheet! I keep the website updated and there are some graphics that I make. I love doing the graphics. I had the opportunity to learn different computer programs when I started here at LowellArts. They let me take some classes, that was really cool. Within the marketing, there’s also a good amount of writing that I have to do. Every show, every program, they all have a blurb, so I’m constantly putting blurbs together for press releases and stuff. It’s a lot to keep track of, I always go back to my spreadsheet! A big part of my job is just knowing what it’s like to be an artist and managing all of those things. The most challenging or difficult part of my job is probably corralling all of the artists, but because I’m an artist myself, I know where the people are coming from. Everybody wants to be the exception to the rules, but we make these rules for a purpose. So I kind of have to lay down the law sometimes. My committee still thinks I’m way too nice! We’re just always trying to improve things so it goes smoother for everybody. I try to keep everything moving so that we can function like a well-oiled machine, because then we can do more stuff.”

Teunis’ first professional job in the art world was in the gift shop at the LaFontsee Galleries in Grand Rapids.



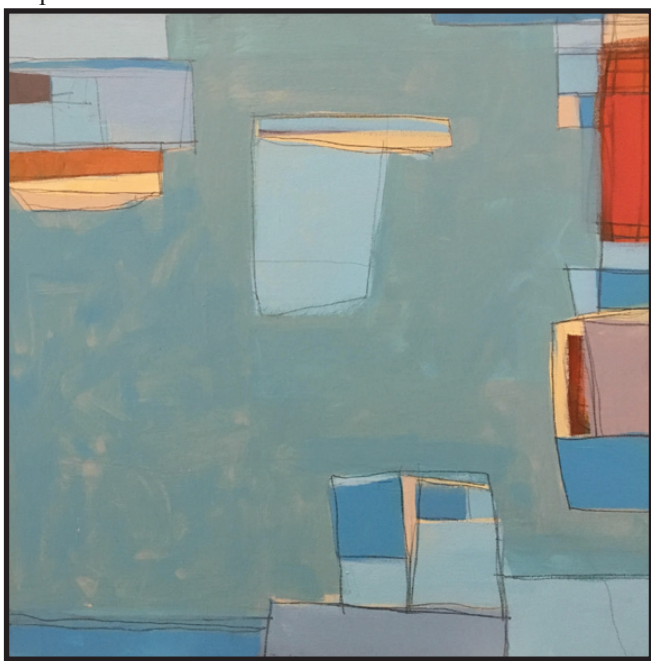
Janet Teunis

Active and ambitious, and behold, it went from a part time job to a full time job and 14 years passed! Then in 2000, Teunis was offered an administrative position at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, eventually taking on roles in artistic leadership, program management and operations. She was deeply involved when the UICA moved to its current location at the corner of Fulton and Division in downtown Grand Rapids and left the organization not long after the project was completed. Her final title there was “director of operations.”

“Working at the UICA in its early years felt a lot like it does here now,” Teunis said. “We had volunteers, a committee and it was very hands-on. Then things developed over there. Lo

and behold, it went from a part time job to a full time job and 14 years passed! It was kind of a wild ride, it got pretty intense, and it was great experience. I was thrilled when the job opportunity here came up. I live in Byron Center and I commute to Lowell every day. I don’t mind the distance because this is such a cool place to work. There are not very many places like this around, not even in Grand Rapids. Here at LowellArts, we have that grassroots involvement that feels really good.”

Teunis is a trained visual artist; she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Michigan in 1998. Her work is held in many private and public collections, including the



West Michigan Youth Ballet Presents

Coppélia
THE MAGICAL DOLL

Friday, March 27 at 7:00
Saturday, March 28 at 1:00 & 4:30
Storytime Saturday with Coppélia at 11:30!

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center



Tickets online at wmyb.org



Thank you from Donna Jean Ford

I just want to say
thank you to all my
friends and family for
helping me celebrate
my 90th Birthday with
your calls, cards,
visits and well wishes!
I am so lucky to have
you all in my life!





Janet Teunis

Janet Teunis: LowellArts project director

Spectrum Heart Center and Mercantile Bank.

“I grew up in Jenison, then I went then to the University of Michigan, and then I moved back home because I was out of money,” Teunis said. “When you’re young, you say, ‘I’m gonna be an artist’ and everybody is always like, ‘Okay, but what are you really going to do?’ Then I got married and had a baby, and now I have two kids, a 14-year-old and a 17-year-old. They’re a freshman and a senior this year. So I went to school to be an artist, I did not go to school to be a graphic designer or do marketing. I still have aspirations to someday be able to make a living by being an artist, but in the meantime I’m having a lot of fun having this job. If I’m going to have to work, I wanted to work in the arts!”

Teunis lives about 40 minutes away in Byron Center with her family and a small menagerie of pets.

“My daughter is a senior and she’s looking to go to college so it’s a really big year for us,” Teunis said. “Her passion is dance, but she’s going to go to school for education. She’s also very artistic, she does more of the fiber arts like

needlepoint, knitting and textiles. My son, being a freshman, has boundless energy and he keeps us really busy. He enjoys sports. You name it, he does it. Right now we’re concentrating on baseball and tennis. My husband is an architect, he works downtown around a lot of creative people and is very interested in art. He has been very supportive of my art career over all these years. He recently built me a ‘studio’ in the corner of our barn. It means a lot to me to be able to have a dedicated space of my own, it’s really cool. Previously my studio was in a bedroom in our basement, which was hard because it was right next to the laundry room, so I always ended up feeling like, ‘You’ve got to do the laundry!’ And the kids would come in there and make messes, so now they can go make their messes somewhere else! Eventually, it kind of turned into my daughter’s craft room. We’ve got lots of craft supplies... We also have a golden retriever, two cats and a goldfish who is just a few years younger than my daughter. They can live for a long time! He’s just a really old fish.”

Right now, LowellArts

staff and volunteers are in the middle of installing the artwork for the annual West Michigan Art Competition exhibition. Teunis must oversee the artists, the staff and anyone who volunteers to help out, she must interact with the contest’s judge and she must ensure all the artwork is displayed in the most sensitive, eye-catching fashion. Teunis said that putting the gallery together for a show is “definitely my favorite part of my job” even though it involves math.

“This is a beautiful space to work with, so it’s great to have the opportunity to do shows in here,” Teunis said. “We do about five shows a year. Does that seem like a lot? Well, part of our mission is giving opportunities to artists. This show is a juried competition, so an artist might not get in that show for whatever reason. But there’s going to be another show on the schedule that they could apply for. I kind of want each show to have its own personality and be different. We try to do a variety, and there are shows scheduled through the end of 2021. I know, that sounds like a long way away! When we’re doing our concert

series, there are a limited amount of places where I can put the walls, but I try to be creative and work around that. We just have to keep the middle of the space open for the chairs and the stage, so there are endless possibilities beyond that. I know this sounds really weird, but this is super fun for me! It’s like a game or a puzzle. I think part of my job is to make every artist’s work in the show look the best it can. I don’t play favorites. It’s not about my opinion, it’s about giving each artwork the space that it needs. Some pieces need a lot of space because there is a lot of little detail, so a lot of white space around it would be good. When we have a really large show, sometimes we have to stack two pieces on top of each other, meaning hang one directly above the other. But I never stack more than two, that is somewhat overwhelming. We also hang everything at eye-level. That is a museum-type thing, where everything is at a consistent eye level. But I’m kind of short, so my eye level is obviously very different than somebody else’s! We picked an average



of 60 inches, because it’s a nice even number and I’m not very good at math. But sometimes you have to use it!”

For more information about events at LowellArts, visit lowellartsmi.org, call 616-897-8545, send a message to info@lowellartsmi.org or find them on social media.

The gallery is open to the public Tuesday through

Friday from 10 am until 6 pm and Saturday from 10 am until 5 pm.

“The most rewarding aspect of my job is just seeing everybody’s hard work appreciated by people,” Teunis said. “I know what needs to get done and I enjoy helping to make it happen. I’m just a small piece of the bigger puzzle of putting all this stuff together.”

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the matter of BRIAN BROWN Guardianship File No. 20-207,075-DD

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his father and siblings: Terra Taylor, Justin Taylor, and Jason Brown, 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 March 18, 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: February 27, 2020,

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 350-3691

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001) 109 E. Main St. Ste. 11 Zeeland, MI 49464 (616) 633-0196.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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- BOWLING

SPORTS

Clark and Witten advance to states

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

Lowell bowling's seasons will continue thanks to the individual efforts of Collin Clark and Courtney Witten. Both Lowell bowlers placed top ten in the MHSAA District 2 Individual regionals to move on to the state competition.

At team regionals, both teams had up and down days finishing fourth and ninth respectively. The Lady Arrows took fourth in the field of 16. The top three teams in the region moved on to regionals, those were Northview, Cedar Springs and Mona Shores. Lowell was 200 pins behind third place Mona Shores. High scores for the girls were recorded by Courtney Witten (210 and 187), Emma Blakie (188) and Olivia Dennie (186).

The boys took ninth in the field of 18 teams.

Leading LHS were Collin Clark (234 and 223) and Jakob Reynolds (210 and 207). Lowell tied for the second highest baker game during the tournament with a 226, but struggled to keep pace with the top three (Kenowa Hills, Sparta, and Northview) in the individual games.

Clark would continue his fine bowling on Saturday at the MHSAA Individual Regional held at Westgate Bowl with a near 200 per game average. He finished seventh in the field of 104 to advance to state. His brother Carson, was a state semifinalist in 2018, the best finish ever for a Lowell bowler. Freshman Courtney Witten joined Collin in advancing to state, placing fifth out of the 88 bowlers competing. She was one of three freshman girls to

advance. Both Clark and Witten will compete this Saturday at Century Bowl in Waterford.

Other results for LHS were Savannah Escobedo (T-17th), Emma Blakie (22nd), Olivia Dennie (T-39th), Haylie Beers (51st), Jessica Hull (70th), Jakob Reynolds (38th), Lucas Sloma (52nd), Aaron Fritsma (63rd), Taylor Chambers (82nd) and Mitchell Anderson (101st). The OK White had a strong day overall, sending on 14 bowlers from the OK White's teams.

High scores were recorded by Clark (227), Reynolds (206), Witten (227) and Escobedo (193). All three of Lowell's senior boys bowlers rolled games of over 180 (Fritsma, Anderson, and Clark).



Courtney Witten and Collin Clark after advancing to state. Photo courtesy of Chris Witten.

Lowell Rotary

Service Above Self

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

GRACE OSTRANDER



Lowell Rotary Foundation Scholarship recipient, Grace Ostrander, is currently studying nursing at Spring Arbor University. After receiving her CNA and working in a nursing home the summer after her senior year, Ostrander quickly recognized that nursing was the right path for her, "I chose this because my favorite thing in the world is making people feel loved and cared for."

As a student at Lowell High School, Ostrander was involved in 4-H, the school musical, track and field, Interact and National Honor Society.

She spent many hours volunteering through NHS and the Interact club, as well as Impact Church's youth group, Impact Student Ministries.

Says Ostrander of her community service experience, "Volunteering through interact/rotary has taught me so much about how lucky I am to live the life that I do, and how much I love pouring into the hearts of others. I met so many people who changed my high school experience for the better. The Rotary scholarship has allowed me to pursue what I love—caring for others—at an amazing school. I am so thankful!"

Ostrander continues to dedicate her time to helping others, despite her rigorous academic schedule. She has served as a bell-ringer for the Salvation Army and is volunteering at a local homeless shelter.

The Rotary Club of Lowell is proud to support the continuing education of this star student and wishes to salute her for her ongoing dedication to her community.

Rotary is composed of people from a variety of experiences and perspectives. We strive to change our communities and our world through service. The Lowell Rotary Club invites you to connect with others and learn more about what we are doing locally in Lowell and globally in places like La Gonave, Haiti. We invite you to join us for lunch during one of our weekly meetings at 12:00 noon on Wednesdays in City Hall.

Rotary



The Service Above Self Student Spotlight is sponsored by Lowell Rotary Club and Rotary District 6290

Arrow ski duo finish season at state

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

Competing against 70 of the top skiers in the state, Kaylee Byrne finished an excellent sophomore season with a third-place finish at the MHSAA Division 2 ski state finals held at Nub's Nob. Her third-place finish came in the giant slalom, where she finished in 13th place as a freshman last year.

She recorded a time of 53.37 seconds over her two runs. The winner, Northview's Megan Paasche recorded a time of 52.9 seconds. Only 0.47 seconds separated the two.

Also competing at the finals, concluding his freshman year campaign was Colton Byrne. He finished 23rd with a time of 54.57 seconds in division two in the grand slalom. Harbor Springs' Andrew Truman won the race with an overall time of 50.19 seconds.

Forest Hills Northern-Eastern's girls team took second in the state in Division 1. Lowell class of 2013 graduate Abi Ellis is working as an assistant coach with the program. She skied for LHS in the

Kenowa Hills-Lowell-Comstock Park co-op team.

Petoskey (D2) and Marquette (D1) won the boys team titles. Notre Dame Prep (D2) and Marquette (D1) won the girls team titles.

While Kaylee Byrne's season as a Red Arrow is over, she has qualified to compete with the top national racers in the Rocky Central U16 Junior Olympics being held throughout the week at Winter Park Resort in Colorado. She took second place in grand slalom, in the Central USSA Division last weekend earning her spot.



Kaylee Byrne third from the right, took third in Grand Slalom. Photo courtesy of Lowell Red Arrows ski team.

Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

SPORTS

CHAMPIONS - Lowell wrestling team wins seventh straight with near perfect weekend in Kalamazoo

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

The tension and excitement at Wings West in Kalamazoo on Saturday afternoon was palpable. The historic grand march of Michigan's eight best wrestling teams was there. With Queen's "We are the Champions" echoing in the background, the teams came out to cheers from all sides of the arena. Lowell's Landon Miller took center stage holding the American flag during the National Anthem. The stage was set, and Lowell would wrestle for the seventh consecutive team state championship.

It would be a day of wild ups and downs across the four mats, but there was one constant across the four divisions. It was the Lowell wrestling team's performance, which was nearly flawless.

The Red Arrows won their seventh team state championship and tenth overall on Saturday, defeating Gaylord, the division's second-ranked

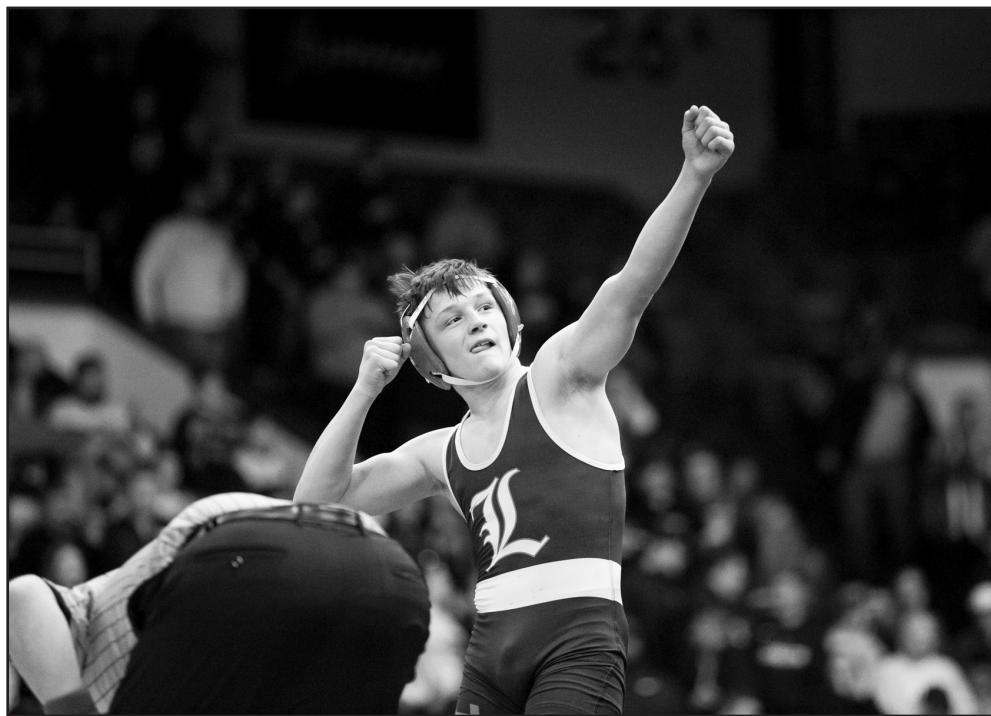
Brian Boudro, Kyle Slocum, Max Pennock, Matt Dood, and Chris Ebrom. These guys put in a ton of work this year and boy did it pay off," Lowell wrestling head coach RJ Boudro told us after the dual.

The dual began with neither side knowing what would happen. Gaylord came into Saturday with a misleading 13-4 record, a result of a brutal schedule that saw them wrestle each of the three other state champions that day. Following a 15-0 technical fall by Nick Korhorn, James Link won the first of several swing matches that all went the Red Arrows way. A 5-2 decision over the eighth-ranked wrestler in the state, Will Sides.

The Arrows were about to hit the gauntlet, Gaylord's middle part of their lineup where two number-one ranked wrestlers and a number-two ranked wrestler were waiting. Top-ranked John Henry Sosa beat Zeth

Gaylord absolutely needed to win. Link dominated the matchup from the offset, controlling the tempo. A takedown by Link put Brown on his back, and a pin looked inevitable when Gaylord coach Jerry Lajoie came on the mat and intervened. The match would come to a deflating end as an injury forfeit. While the way the match ended was unexpected, the six points Link earned for the team was a huge boost for the Red Arrows. In what would be considered a "must-win" for Gaylord, it put the Blue Devils needing wins fast to stay in the dual.

Given no time to recover, the crowd at Wings West got a treat in two of the top wrestlers in the state facing off. Lowell's Austin Boone, a three-time state champion, against two-time state champion Chayse Lajoie. From the start, Boone controlled the match, scoring an 11-3 win. Boone had taken Lajoie to his back early in the match several times. Lajoie was able to



Sophomore Ramsy Mutschler does the signature drawing the arrow celebration to the Lowell crowd. Photo courtesy of Jamie McNinch

The dual all but decided, Lowell emerged from Gaylord's strength of their lineup up 22-4 primed for a run of their own.

A run they made, taking the next 31 points with decisions for James

the number-four ranked wrestler in the state 5-0.

The finals atmosphere proved to be powerful. Lowell and Gaylord would be sandwiched between Division 1 and Division 3 finals, with Division 4 at the other end of the arena. If your team wasn't standing up roaring in cheers, somewhere in the arena there was another crowd doing exactly that.

Dundee scored a win over Richmond in Division 3, in what has become a bit of an annual matchup. The two teams have met in the finals seven of the last eight years. In Division 4, Clinton trailed three-time defending champions Hudson 18-0 early on. They would come back to win that dual and their first state title. Detroit Catholic Central won their fourth straight state title over Davison in a battle of nationally-ranked squads.

The Red Arrows started out the weekend on Friday with a 63-10 win over eighth seed and unranked Crosswell-Lexington. It was the Pioneers first trip to states, and first meeting with the Red Arrows. The match was marked by a major upset as Cole Huisman, who did not enter the individual tournament this year, stunned number-two ranked (and defending state champion) Chris Lilly by scoring a pin. One person who was not surprised however, was Coach Boudro.

"This is the deepest

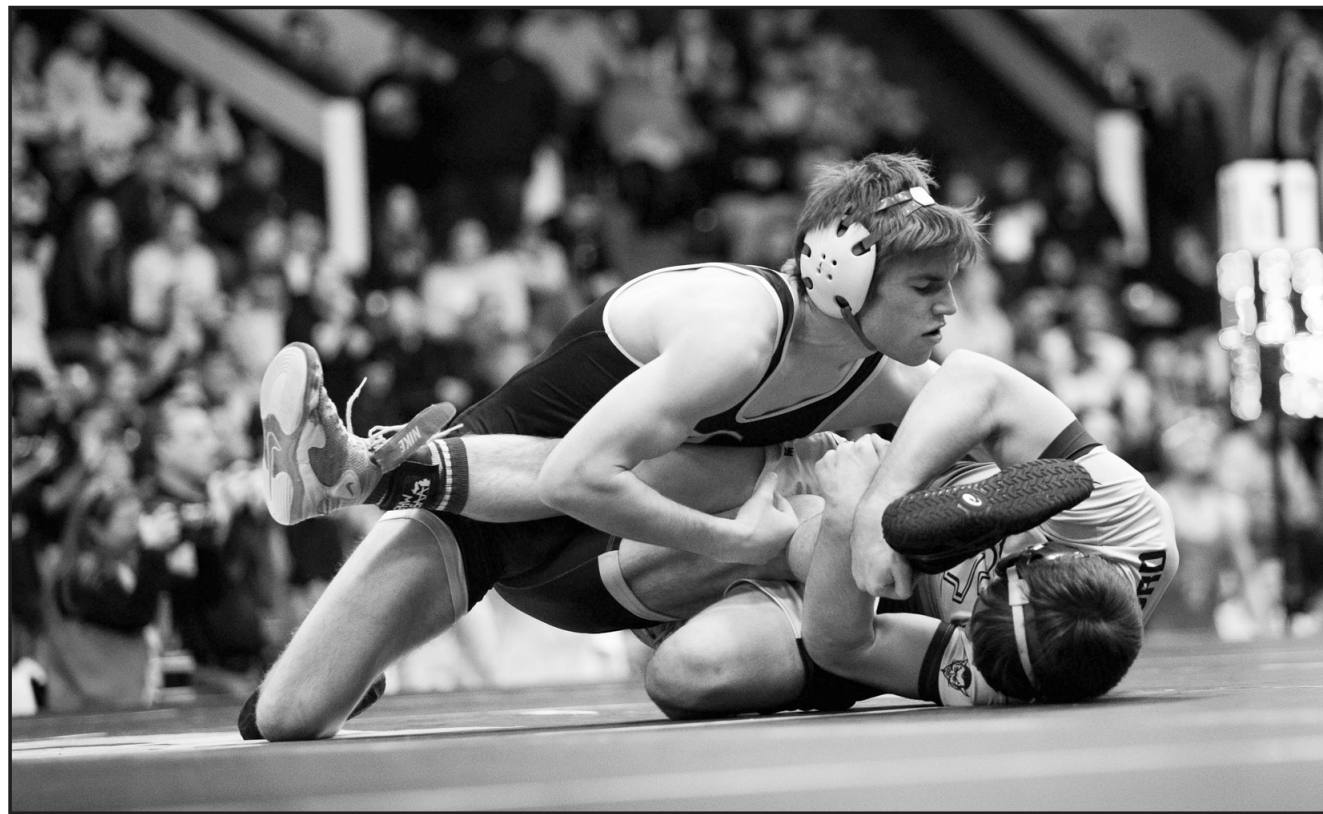
team I have ever coached. Having beat four ranked teams with our B team this season which Cole was a part of all year. Our staff has a ton of faith in Cole Huisman and we were not surprised with what he did to Chris Lilly. We all know he has that potential every time he steps on the mat. He is going to have an awesome year next season. This was one of my favorite moments of the season though. Seeing him come off the mat and being embraced by the whole team was amazing."

The semifinal match saw Lowell increase their historical record against Muskegon Reeths-Puffer to 10-0 thanks to a 58-9 win. The fifth seeded Rockets scored a minor upset win over Warren Woods-Tower in the quarterfinals. James Link scored the dual clinching blow with a pin for Lowell at 125.

Lowell's run of titles is now at seven, an MHSAA record. Since 1999, Lowell has appeared in the state title match 16 of 22 times, with a 10-6 record in those duals. Of all those state titles, this one is perhaps the most impressive as Lowell outscored their state finals opponents by an astonishing 174-23.

In addressing the crowd at the club's annual post-tournament gathering, Coach Boudro thanked all those who made the

Champs continued, page 14



Austin Boone puts Gaylord's Chayse Lajoie on his back in the state finals match. Photo courtesy of Jamie McNinch

squad by a resounding 53-4 scoreline.

"This one was very special. To dominate the way we did against a very good Gaylord team is extremely impressive. Our community is amazing and has helped our boys since they were four and five years old. Hats off to our coaching staff. Josh Cooper,

Strejc to make it 8-4 Lowell. It would be the only match Gaylord would win.

Dawson Jankowski scored a 13-2 major before a match that held all the ups and downs of wrestling. Lowell's Will Link faced off with Gaylord's Rico Brown, number three and number one at their respective weight classes, and a match

evade a pinfall, but never made up the points.

"Boone vs Lajoie was a huge match for the dual and for the sport of wrestling. We wanted the match to happen and so did they. I was very happy with how Austin handled the match and the pressure of the situation. Austin is incredible," coach said.

Fotis, Doak Dean, Tyler Delooff, Miller, and Ramsy Mutschler. Grant Pratt took a void in that stretch as Gaylord did not have a heavyweight wrestler. Jacob Lee scored a pin as well. It would be Jacob Hough's 8-0 major decision at 189 that sealed the victory. Miller's win was impressive as he pitched a shutout by beating

obituaries

HOFFMAN

Cameron "Cam" H. Hoffman, 89, of Lowell, passed away peacefully on Monday, March 2, 2020. He is survived by wife of 40 years, Joan Hoffman; children, Joe (Teresa) Hoffman, Mike (Jennifer) Hale; sister, Sue Morton; sisters-in-law, Donna Smit, Ann Huver; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Cameron was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Hoffman; son, Jim Hale; brothers, Bruce Hoffman, Robert Hoffman, and David Hoffman. He served in the United States Army for 20 years. Cameron was Sergeant 1st Class and served during the Korean Conflict and Vietnam War. He was the Commander of the Artillery Half Section at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. Cameron had a love for horses but his greatest love was his family. Funeral services will be held 11am Friday, March 6th at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell with visitation one hour prior. Rev. Aaron Ferris of St. Mary Catholic Church, officiating. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Ave NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505 or Spectrum Health Hospice, 100 Michigan St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



TYMES

Randall "Randy" Jay Tymes, age 70 of Lowell, passed away peacefully in his sleep after a long battle with lung cancer Monday, March 2, 2020. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Nancy; children, Tony Tymes and Tammy Newberg; grandchildren, Taylor Ann, Kevin and Cara. Randy was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the US Army. He worked at Knoll for over 40 years, was an avid fisherman and was a true "Jack of All Trades - Master of None". Funerals services will be Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 2PM at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell with visitation from 12PM - 2PM. Pastor Mick Tiede of Evergreen Missionary Church, officiating. Interment Restlawn Memorial Gardens in Holland, MI.



Looking Back, continued

appearance on Main St. last Monday and drew the attention of many along the street. It was a double buggy with a black canopy top, drawn by a fine team of dapple gray horses, driven and owned by Mrs. Clara Townsend of Clarksville, who says she has been using that mode of travel for the past two years.

50 years The Lowell Ledger March 5, 1970

Assessed valuation of real and personal property in Lowell is expected to increase about \$774,000 pending possible revision by the city's Board of Review, the Kent County Equalization Bureau or the Michigan Tax Commission. This was the word from City Manager Blaine Bacon in a bi-monthly report to members of the City Council Monday night.

A co-operative movement, spearheaded by the Bushnell Parents Club and backed by the Lowell Police Department, to organize a Block Parents Association in Lowell and the areas serviced by the Lowell school system was launched Monday evening. Designed primarily to help children who may encounter trouble on their way to or from school, Block Parents has enjoyed great success in many metropolitan areas.

25 years The Lowell Ledger March 8, 1995

Lowell and Bowne Township residents will soon be able to enjoy a bigger and better Alto Library. Plans are under way to move the library from its current building "two doors down" to a bigger facility. "The new building used to be an old grocery store. We're going from 675 square feet to more than 3,500 square feet. I'm very excited about it," said alto branch manager Sandy Graham.

A 22-year old male suspect was taken into custody and arrested for breaking and entering with malicious destruction at Lowell's First United Methodist Church Sunday morning around 7 am.

Artwork by three Lowell Middle School students was selected for the State Middle School Art Show. Kim Drougal, Heather Halbeisen and Joe Zeeuw will have their artwork on display at the Capitol and state library in Lansing on March 26.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

In the matter of Carol Shindler Guardianship File No. 20-207,058-GA

Dated: February 26, 2020

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including her daughter, Jennifer Shindler and any other unknown children and heirs, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on March 25, 2020, at 1:30 P.M. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW,

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-5242

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001) 109 E. Main St. Ste. 11 Zeeland, MI 49464 (616) 633-0196.

Help a loved one with Social Security

The aged and people with disabilities may need extra assistance to manage their finances. If you have a loved one who needs your help, you may be able to become a representative payee. A representative payee appropriately on behalf of the beneficiary. If we choose you to serve as a representative payee, that appointment is only to manage Social Security and SSI funds, not to manage non-Social Security money or medical matters.



receives the beneficiary's payments and is given the authority to manage them on the beneficiary's behalf. We recognize that turning someone's finances over to someone else is a big deal so we make sure that the beneficiary needs the help and that you are the best person to offer that help. We may also monitor that you spend the benefits

As a representative payee, you must know what the beneficiary's needs are so you can decide the best use of benefits for their care and well-being. Each year, Social Security may ask you to complete an annual Representative Payee Report to account for the benefits you've received

Social Security, continued, page 14



PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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DINING TRESTLE TABLE - with 2 benches, 2 leaves & table pads. 71 1/2 inches long without leaves, 39 1/2 inches wide. Leaves are 15 inches wide. Solid pine. Dark finish. Needs some TLC. \$100 cash. Call 897-8793.

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NEWSPAPER ENROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE - Many uses, table cover, art projects, packaging, etc. Usually \$3-\$5 each. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

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

lost

LOST DOG - Vergennes St. area. Medium brown with little white on chest. Flea collar & choke chain on. Missing since March 1. If found, please call anytime. 897-3013.

help wanted

SUNNY CREST YOUTH RANCH - home for neglected & abused boys, located in Sunfield, is looking for Volunteers to assist with computer needs. Must be at least 18. If interested, call Wes Vandenberg, 616-558-7464.

help wanted

NEED EXTRA CASH? - We are taking applications carriers to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturdays. Must be dependable! Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. No phone calls accepted regarding this position.

TIME TO SHINE MAID SERVICE - is expanding & looking to hire a new cleaning member to our team. Applicants must be reliable, trustworthy, detail oriented & be able to pass a drug screen & background check. Please call 616-292-0695 or email resume to: kimp.timetoshinecleaning@gmail.com

misc.

ADOPTION: Couple seeking to adopt a baby to join our family. Expenses Paid. Call/text Morgan and Brian (929) 336-1555 or visit morganbrianadopting.com

FARMERS, LANDSCAPERS or GARDENERS, did you or a loved one use Roundup Weed Killer and were diagnosed with NON-HODGKINS LYMPHOMA (Cancer)? You may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles Johnson 1-800-535-5727

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services

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

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK - Call Dan, 616-970-3832.

SCANNING SERVICE - Do you need something scanned & emailed? The Buyers Guide/Lowell Ledger now offers this service!

TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE - 5400 Ivan Rd., Saranac, 616-642-9180. 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Hours Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm. Dave Traver head mechanic.

services

STUMP GRINDING - Call Dan for free estimate, 616-970-3832.

UPS SHIPPING & PICKUP - At the Buyers Guide office, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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

wanted

WANTED - Used wood snow fencing & artificial Christmas trees. Call 616-581-2662.

I WANT TO BUY - a refrigerator, stove, washer & dryer. Have cash. Call 517-204-0600. ^{TFN}

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

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 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. ^{TFN EOW}

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

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.

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 the 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

EXHIBITION - Now - April 8. The 34th Annual West Michigan Art Competition highlights outstanding artwork by lower West Michigan artists. Artwork is selected by a guest juror. Art in all visual media is eligible, by artists 18 yrs. and older who reside in a 25-county region. Five cash awards totaling \$2500 are presented. Gallery Hours: Tues. - Fri. 10 am-6 pm and Sat 10-5 pm. More info at LowellArtsMI.org.

COOKBOOK CLUB - 4th Monday of the month, 6:30 pm. Join us for an informal discussion about cookbooks and sample delectable examples, potluck style. March 23 book - The Compete American Test Kitchen TV Show Cookbook by America Test Kitchen. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

SCI-FI BOOK CLUB - Meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. March 9 book: The Testaments by Margaret Atwood. 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
BOOKWORMS - 2nd Tuesday of the month, 10 am. Join us for a lively book discussion. Please note, if Lowell Area Schools is cancelled for the day, Bookworms will not meet. March 10 - Crazy Rich Asians by Kevin Swan. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

SPEAKER & TEA - Susan B. Anthony Brings the National Suffrage Movement to Grand Rapids Thursday, March 12 at 1 pm. at Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash. Presented by the Lowell Area Historical Museum and Friends of the Englehardt Library. Susan B. Anthony had visited West Michigan many times between 1873 and 1899. But her last appearance was probably at the 1899 National American Woman Suffrage Association's annual convention in Grand Rapids, the only time the NAWSA ever met in Michigan. Melissa Fox from the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council will consider what brought Susan B. Anthony to Grand Rapids, what other well-known suffragists (both local and national) joined her and how West Michigan came to host it.

MAHJONG AT THE LIBRARY - Every Friday at 1 pm. Join us for American Mahjong; a game of skill, strategy & calculation. All skill levels welcome. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

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.

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. Thru Feb. 18. Englehardt Branch Library,

200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

WITTENBACH WEGE CENTER - 11715 Vergennes, Lowell. Trails are open dusk to dawn, 365 days a year.

STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION? - Lowell Serenity Club is available for all in need of relief and hope. LSC offers 12 step meetings, 365 days a year. Meetings daily 8-9 pm, Mon. - Fri. 12-1 pm, Tues. & Fri. 4:30-5:30 pm and Sat. & Sun. 10-11 am. 11535 Fulton St. E, Lowell, 616-550-6688.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - A monthly support group for those diagnosed with breast cancer to learn and share together. We will meet the second Tuesday of every month from 6-7:30 pm. Gilda's Club, Lowell Clubhouse, 314 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-8600.

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

FROM'S MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN CLOSET - is open Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm; donate gently used medical equipment or borrow equipment including wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and more.

QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org for information. New members welcome.

MINECRAFT - 1st Monday of the month 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

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

AND ONGOING EVENTS



LMS students of the second trimester



Lowell Middle School has announced the Students of the 2nd Trimester. Each trimester teachers chose a student from their classes that are outstanding in the categories of academics, citizenship, and attitude.

Row 1: Aubrey Harris, Conner Casarez, Ben Atkins, Alysse Harper, Claire Weeks, Jaela Font, Natalie Saylor, Mason Saylor, Brennen Nelson,

Griffin Ponchaud, Rylan Bartnick, Jacob Johnson, Thomas Judge, Oliver Sobie

Row 2: Brylee Craycraft, Olivia Cooley, Molly Dusendang, Zaiden Keith, Reese Wagamon, Sarah Harper, Julie Celori, Erin Fife, Olivia Peterson, Aysha VandenBosch, Max Wasilew, Landon Wolfe-Pearce, Anderson Stoner, Austin Heydenburg, Gracyn Hamilton, Emily Zou

Row 3: Joshua Smith, Nolan Lowrie, Elle Jenks, Logan Acheson, Emma Boston, Kiara Hulbert, Anne Greenfield, Ellery Ostrander, Sarah Bogoski, Jared Boone, Ari McFarland, Jackson Reisbig, Gavin Gahan, Lydia Wells

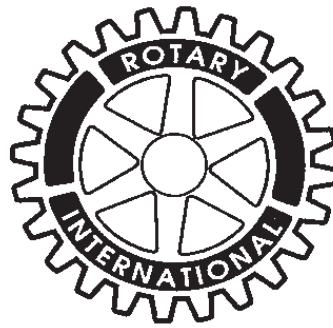
Not Pictured: Liam TenHarmsel

Rotary Club accepting applications for scholarships

The Rotary Club Scholarships. The Rotary of Lowell is currently accepting applications for Rotary Foundation scholarships annually. These scholarships are open

to all graduating seniors of Lowell High School, as well as those residing in the Lowell area who have graduated from any public, private, charter, or home-based school. To date, the Foundation has awarded \$250,000 to nearly 100 Lowell area high school graduates.

In line with the Rotary motto of "Not Self, but Service" community service is the primary factor considered. In addition to the geographical eligibility requirements, applicants must submit a "Service Above Self" essay detailing



their previous community service experiences.

Applications must be received by March 27, 2020 and are available at the Alto and Englehardt libraries, the Lowell High School Counselor's office, and online at: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3319/>

Social Security, continued

and spent on their behalf. You can either fill out the form and return it to Social Security or go online at www.socialsecurity.gov/payee to file the report.

Due to a recent change in the law, we no longer require the following payees to complete the annual report:

Natural or adoptive parents of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child

Legal guardians of a minor child beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household as the child

Natural or adoptive parents of a disabled adult beneficiary who primarily reside in the same household with the beneficiary

Spouse of a beneficiary

We've also made it easier for caregivers who are representative payees to do business with us. If you're a representative payee, check out our new Representative Payee Portal at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount, which lets representative payees conduct their own business or manage direct deposits, wage reporting, and annual reporting for their beneficiaries.

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

CITY OF LOWELL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The City of Lowell will conduct a public meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell Michigan 49331. The purpose of the Public Meeting is to receive input and comments from the public on the proposed application by the City to the 2020 Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for a grant for the construction of non-motorized trail improvements.

The proposed improvements include the installation of new paved non-motorized trails, pedestrian bridges, benches, picnic shelters and signage. This project will go through the Lowell community will connect to the existing Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail network which extends to Belding, Saranac and points beyond. A copy of the proposed trail route is available for viewing at City Hall and on line at <http://www.lowellmi.gov/>.

Following the public comment period, the City Council will consider a resolution authorizing submittal of their application, which is due on or before April 1, 2020.

Interested persons may offer comments at the public meeting or submit them in writing prior to the meeting directly to the City Hall address or email to sullery@ci.lowell.mi.us.



Sue Ullery, City Clerk
City of Lowell

Champs, continued

experience possible. This included parents, the wrestlers for their hard work, fellow coaches, and the fans for their support.

"I'd also like to give thanks to Dee Crowley and Steve Gough, Greg Pratt and Dustin Cichocki, the administration at the LHS is very supportive and is a big reason for this program's success. The list goes on and on but we are very thankful to live in the Community of Lowell." coach Boudro added

The team turns their focus to this weekend's individual state tournament, where

for the first time Lowell will have a school-record 14 wrestlers competing. Austin Boone, one of those, will look to make history of his own. Only one wrestler in MHSAA history has won four individual state titles, and four team state titles. Brent Metcalf of Davison can be joined by Austin if he comes out on top of the podium this weekend. The other 13 wrestlers competing are Pratt, Jacob Hough, Jankowski, Dean, Fotis, Mutschler, Korhorn, Will Link, James Link, Delooff, Lee, Strejc, and Keegan Nugent.



FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

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

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!

ON THE COURT WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 12

ON THE COURT WORD SEARCH

AIRBALL
 ASSIST
 BACKBOARD
 BASKET
 BENCH

BOUNCE
 BOX
 CARRY
 CHARGING
 CLOCK
 COURT
 DEFENSE
 DUNK

FORWARDS
 FOUL
 GUARDS
 LAYUP
 OFFENSE
 PASS
 PLAYERS
 PRESS

REBOUND
 TRAVELING
 TURNOVER

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Canada on March 1, 1994. I kept my singing ability and aspirations largely to myself as a child. However, after performing a cover song on YouTube in 2007, I gained traction and became a pop sensation and international star.

Answer: Justin Bieber

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to basketball.

I N P T O

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Point

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			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Yields Manila hemp
6. A type of gin
10. Japanese ankle sock
14. Swiss city
15. Applied to
17. Achievements
19. Japanese title
20. Possesses
21. Belgian city
22. Child
23. Great delight
24. Petty quarrel
26. Gathered
29. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
31. Path
32. Legendary hoops coach Riley
34. A citizen of Denmark
35. Flat
37. Upper-class young women
38. Payment (abbr.)
39. Distort
40. Affirmative! (slang)
41. One who has a child
43. Without
45. Workplace safety agency
46. Political action committee
47. Period of plant and animal life

CLUES DOWN

49. Swiss river
50. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
53. State of being kept secret
57. Hobbies
58. One-time Korean ruler
59. Sudden attack
60. Born of
61. Assists
1. Ancient Greek sophist
2. Famed composer
3. Spore-bearing fungi cells
4. Chief executive officer
5. Defunct Syrian political party
6. Thin wood
7. Polynesian garlands
8. Fluid replacement (abbr.)
9. Flammable hydrocarbon gas
10. Multi-leveled
11. Influential diarist
12. Gambles
13. Many subconsciousnesses
16. Current unit
18. Illumination unit
22. Tantalum
23. Steps leading down to a river

24. Kids love him
25. Before
27. Fencing swords
28. Mountain range in China
29. Payroll company
30. A way to pack together
31. Business designation
33. Thyroid-stimulating hormone (abbr.)
35. Forage fish
36. Greek temple pillars
37. Internet mgmt. company
39. Rouse oneself
42. In a way, covered
43. Elaborate silk garment
44. Cooling unit
46. Riley and O'Brien are two
47. ___ fide: genuine
48. Ancient Incan sun god
49. Poker stake
50. Trigonometric function
51. Interesting tidbit
52. Adieu
53. U.S. Treasury position
54. Midway between east and southeast
55. Doctors' group
56. Women's ___ movement

SOLUTIONS ACROSS

Counties, cities get more road money under bills

Counties, cities and local governments would get a larger share of the state's road funding pot under legislation introduced by Sen. Ken Horn (R-Frankenmuth) and Rep. Mike Mueller (R-Linden).

SB 796 and HB 5489 would set aside 43.1 percent of the Michigan Transportation Fund to counties as opposed to the current 39.1 percent. Cities and villages would get 35.1 percent as opposed to the current 21.8 percent and 21.8 percent to state highways and freeways as opposed to 39.1 percent.

Horn said the bill flips the funding formula to benefit fixing of local roads, a chief criticism of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's bonding plan.

"We know that, especially with the bonding that's going on, the trunklines are going to be taken care of, but zero local roads will be addressed," Horn said. "We also know 42 percent of local roads are in critical condition. What we're looking for is taking existing funding and changing it around so the state trunklines get the least percentage of the PA 51 money while counties and municipalities get the bulk of it."

"As long as the Michigan Department of Transportation has the ability to borrow money to fix its roads -- of which only 19 percent are in critical condition -- then let them do that," Horn said. "However,



Lowell city streets are typically in very poor condition.

we do need to have discussions about restraints on what is borrowed. But, as long as we have that ability to deal with our (the state's) roads, I think we need to spend existing dollars where we need it the most."

State trunklines carry 53 percent of all traffic in the state and more than 70 percent of the commercial traffic, according to MDOT.

MDOT spokesperson Jeff Cranson said that fighting about how a small pie is divided will never lead to solutions. He noted that Dennis Kolar of the Oakland County Road Commission agreed in an op-ed this week that revising the Act 51 funding formula will not solve the problem.

"Until we follow the lead of other states and raise more revenue to invest in our roads, this will be a perpetual fight, putting Michigan further behind other states competing for economic growth."

On Wednesday, Senate Majority Leader Mike

Shirkey (R-Clarklake) told reporters that legislative Republicans were beginning to work on a plan to get more road funding to local communities.

MIRS asked Horn if a key aspect behind this approach includes the likelihood that every lawmaker, Republicans and Democrats, will be very interested in getting those dollars to local communities?

"Yeah, our constituents need to get back and forth from work," Horn asserted. "We need to be able to move freight inside our communities, and local roads are in the worst conditions. On the trunk lines, with the new financing they'll get, we'll only be fixing about 20 percent of what needs to be fixed. What we're looking at is the other 80 percent that needs to get a lot of attention."

"Do you think this could be a measure Gov. Gretchen Whitmer might sign?" MIRS asked. "We hope so," Horn said.

"We think it can be part of a solution. We're still always going to have to be focused on roads. This might buy us a little time to find a suitable, sustainable formula."

Mueller put out a press release on his plan earlier in the week in which he said, "Michigan drivers are burdened by the potholes and crumbling roads right outside their front doors, on the local streets they drive on every day to come home," Mueller said. "Gov. Whitmer has created her plan to address state roads, and regardless of whether I agree with that plan, the fact remains that it doesn't address our local roads. My plan will."

Future debt service spendings shouldn't rise above the \$118 million authorized in Fiscal Year 2020 and shouldn't stretch for longer than 10 years, according to a Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Jim Stamas (R-Midland) resolution introduced Thursday. SR 22 comes in response

to Gov. Whitmer's \$3.5 million bonding program through the state Transportation Commission, which wouldn't fit under the restrictions Stamas is proposing. According to the House Fiscal Agency, the debt service against the State Transportation Fund on previous transportation projects goes down to \$114 million in FY 2021 and FY 2022, \$75 million in FY 2023 and \$19.5 million in FY 2024.

He said bonding is a financing mechanism, not a funding source. Treating it as a funding mechanism will cost Michigan families more than \$5 billion to pay off, he said.

"After proposing a 45-cent gas tax increase last year that the people of Michigan overwhelmingly opposed, the Governor has rushed a plan to take on billions of dollars in new debt -- just four months after she vetoed a \$400 million increase to fix local roads," Stamas said.

"Instead of going it alone, it's time for the Governor to come to the table and work with the Legislature on an affordable, long-term plan that improves all the roads in our state."

MIRS asked if the resolution is basically a way of expressing the Legislature's concerns about the Governor's bonding proposal.

"I think it is an expression," Stamas said. "But I think it is also to put forward a sound practice for the Transportation Commission taking up bonds, along with putting the bonding companies on notice that this is where our legislative belief is regarding where we should be going with this."

Cranson responded to the proposal by saying, "The Governor came to the table with a comprehensive, sustainable funding solution for roads at all levels. The Legislature is yet to offer anything. The Governor's plan is fiscally responsible, fixing 122 roads and bridges now because we cannot afford to wait."

PUBLIC NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP 2020 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Vergennes Township Board of Review for 2020 will be held at the

NEW VERGENNES TOWNSHIP HALL
69 LINCOLN LAKE AVE NE,
LOWELL MI 49331

on the following dates:

Organizational Meeting:
Tuesday, March 3th, 9am

Appeal Hearings:
Monday, March 9th, 3:00pm to 9:00pm
Tuesday, March 10th, 9:00am to 3:00pm

Meetings are by Appointment, to schedule, contact: Township Office at 616-897-5671

The Board of Review will meet additional days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2020 assessments

By Board Resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 5, 2020

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2020 are as follows:

Agricultural.....	50.08	.....	0.9984
Commercial	45.27	.....	1.1044
Residential.....	47.05	.....	1.0626
Industrial	47.16	.....	1.0602
Personal Property.....	50.00	.....	1.0000

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days' notice. Contact: Tim Wittenbach – Township Supervisor at 616-897-5671

Assisted Living and Memory Care
"Together, Living Better"
OPENING JULY, 2020!

Please contact us for information, tours and reservations.

www.MapleRidgeManor.com
Rachel: 989-903-5405
12020 Foreman St.
Lowell, MI 49331