

Lowell Middle School band



page 8

May 17 Lowell city council meeting report

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had a one hour, seven minute regular meeting, both in person and over Zoom, at 7 pm on Monday, May 17.

There was one public comment at the meeting in the form of a letter from the Lowell Little League board that was read aloud into the public record.

The letter expressed the organization's concerns regarding "recent conversations about a community center taking

over Creekside Park" that would diminish their access to baseball fields.

"If Creekside Park's field were to go away, our league would not have enough spots in the city to continue to provide this great opportunity to the community," the letter said. "We feel Creekside Park's fields being eliminated for the use of a community center would do the opposite of the mission of a community center. We believe putting

the community center in this location would hinder the community as a whole."

Lowell police chief Christopher Hurst updated the council with some data generated by the increased downtown traffic law enforcement that he announced at the May 3 meeting.

When the LPD spent a total of three hours at various times of the day monitoring traffic in the 100 block of E. Main on Wednesday, May

12, they found that 98.3 percent of all traffic was traveling at or below 30 mph and concluded that rampant speeding downtown was not really a problem.

City manager Michael Burns said later in the meeting that he recently heard from MDOT that

City council, continued, page 2

Downtown historical markers



page 2



Zoom screenshot of Lowell city council in discussion during their regular meeting on Monday, May 17.

LPD chief Christopher Hurst



Starts on page 3

Betten Baker GMC demolishing old facilities to make way for new showroom, adding Buick and Hummer lines

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Betten Baker GMC, 749 W. Main, will be completely demolished and rebuilt this summer. The dealership is also adding Buick and Hummer products to their offerings.

"We hope to break ground on our brand new facility by mid-summer, and we're also adding brands," said Charlie Jeffrey, Betten Baker GMC director of operations. "Buick will be coming before the end of this month, the last time that was in town was in 2009, and when the new building is done and available, we will also become a Hummer dealer. It will be good to have Buick and GMC under one roof and, with Hummer, we will have all three brands available."

It will still be split between the north and south sides of the street, but there will no

longer be entrances and exits on Main St.

"The new facility is going to be where the current used car building is now," Jeffrey said. "That will be coming down as step one of the process. That building needed to go years ago. It's well, well past its time. Approximately where that building sits now will be about the middle of the new building. Then we'll start excavating and that type of stuff. We really hoped to be building by now but, due to COVID, we're backlogged like everybody else. The way the new layout will work, all the entrances will be from Pleasant St., there will be no entrance off of Main St. That's a state requirement, because it's the state highway M-21 and M-21 doesn't belong to the city. The final plans are

being worked out with the general contractor Pioneer Construction right now. They are a local contractor and they build all of our buildings. We'll be using as many local vendors as we can, as far as excavating, electrical and that type of stuff, to try to put some more money back in this community. It'll be about 18,000 square feet, bigger than this current facility. Everything will be modern, everything will be new, and we are adding additional technicians and a couple more sales people. It's going to be the nicest facility in West Michigan, that's for sure! The body shop will be the last step over there. When that comes down, the body shop will be moved to the service facility. So

Betten Baker, continued, page 4



LHS sports
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50¢



Lowell museum installs historical markers, has raffle

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Historical Museum has installed 19 unique historical markers around downtown Lowell.

“The interpretive board project was conceived to be an opportunity to share Lowell’s history with our residents and visitors,” Plank said. “By the nature of their being located outside, they are always available to view. The boards are spread throughout the Downtown Historic District and Riverwalk. Topics covered on the interpretive boards feature topics in Lowell area history as well as the history of specific blocks. General topics include Native American history, early settlers, Island Park and waterpower. Some of the specific blocks highlighted include the Lyon block and the Union block. The boards were researched and written

fabricated the boards which were then installed by the museum. The project was funded from grant support. The grantors are featured on each board.”

The museum’s spring raffle is currently underway, one of their biggest annual fundraisers. This year, the list of prizes includes merchandise and services from several area merchants.

“Funds from the annual raffle are used to help fund the services the museum provides the community including public programs, exhibits and general operations of the museum,” Plank said. “Prizes for the raffle were generously donated by local businesses. This year’s prizes include a night’s stay at Main Street Inn, Lowell Bucks, a museum package including a rental, membership and



There are 19 different historical markers like these in strategic locations all over downtown Lowell.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM RAFFLE			
1st Place - 1 Night Stay at Main Street Inn with Lowell Bucks (Value \$150)			
2nd Place - Lowell Area Historical Museum Facility Rental with Family Membership & book (Value \$125)			
3rd Place - Lowell Craft Beer Package (Value \$100)			
4th Place - Lowell Ice Cream Package (Value \$100)			
DRAWING: June 22, 2021 @ 1:00 p.m. at Museum, 325 W. Main St., Lowell, MI			
TICKETS: \$2 EACH, 3 for \$5 or 10 for \$10			
RAFFLE LICENSE NO. X04311		NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN	
Name	Address	City	Phone

Raffle tickets are available at the museum now, the drawing is June 22. Proceeds will be used to operate the museum.

by the museum. Local artist Gary Eldridge did the design work. Fossil Inc. book, a craft beer package featuring items from New Union and Big Boiler and an

ice cream package featuring gift cards to local ice cream vendors. The raffle is one of the museum’s fundraisers and a good way to support both the museum and local businesses.”

Because of the pandemic, the raffle is going to be handled via the US Mail. To buy a ticket or some tickets, send a message to history@lowellmuseum.org or call 616-897-7688.

The drawing will take place at the museum at 1 pm on Tuesday, June 22.

City council, continued

the city does not qualify for additional speed radar signs, and it would require undergoing another speed study to move the existing ones. Burns pointed out that doing another speed study risked leaving the city with “a result we don’t want.”

The council discussed insuring the new Lowell Showboat venue, scheduled for its public debut in less than a month. The city historically paid the insurance for the old Lowell Showboat, which cost approximately \$6,000 a year. They estimate it could cost around \$35,000 annually to insure the new facility.

It was revealed that there will be approximately \$207,000 left after the construction by Wolverine is completed. This money is likely going to be used to construct public bathrooms in the building across the Riverwalk from the

Showboat.

After some discussion, the council decided that the Showboat Committee had two options to pay those hefty annual premiums, they could either borrow the money or, as Lowell mayor Michael DeVore put it at the meeting, “pay it out of their kitty.”

There was also some financial action, the council accepted a \$326,231 bid from CL Trucking & Excavating of Ionia for the Amity St. improvement project, paid \$35,500 to Williams & Works for engineering

services on the Amity St. improvement project and paid another \$26,500 to Williams & Works for engineering services related to the Jane Ellen Dr. improvement project.

Lowell city council’s next regular meeting is scheduled to take place in person and on Zoom at 7 pm on Monday, June 7.

To watch previous city council, board and commission meetings, look for the “City of Lowell” and “Lowell Light and Power” channels on YouTube or visit archive.org.

•••

I've noticed that when people are joking, they're usually dead serious, and when they're dead serious, it's usually pretty funny.

~ Jim Morrison (1943-1971)

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LPD chief Christopher Hurst still enjoying the challenges after 10 months on the job

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Christopher Hurst has been Lowell's police chief for 10 months. He took over the position in July 2020, when the previous police chief abruptly resigned.

Hurst has degrees from Grand Rapids Community College and Northwestern University, and is a 20-year veteran of the US Army and the Michigan Army National Guard. After several years as an EMT for Rockford Ambulance, he was hired by the Lowell Police Department in March 1994.

Hurst was acting chief for a period in 2017, and also served as a patrol officer, DARE liaison, detective, firearms instructor, training coordinator and sergeant before he was chief.

Hurst said his biggest challenges over the past 10 months have related to staffing, budgeting and keeping the department's training and certification up to date.

"The job is challenging, but I'm still enjoying the job," Hurst said. "Right now, the biggest challenge for the department is finding qualified people. Right now we have pretty much a full roster, but we've got a few guys that are going to want to move on, so just finding qualified people to work is one of the biggest challenges. Because of all the stuff in the press, I think some people are choosing not to go into

law enforcement. Because we have a part-time staff, we can't hire everybody full-time, and then finding people that are available during the week to work open spots on the schedule has been kind of difficult. We had a couple guys that were hurt, it was nothing serious, but they had to be off the schedule. They had long-term and short-term disability to take care of their income, but then we have a hole in our schedule that we have to fill. We usually pick up some people like recently retired officers who are just looking for a part-time job. Well, those people no longer want anything to do with law enforcement now, so we are kind of struggling in that area. We used to have people knocking down our doors to get into our department, but it's not that way anymore. Now we're having to actually go out and ask around and search and things like that."

"The other thing having to do with the schedule is, we have the Social District now, and the DDA wanted an officer dedicated to it, just to kind of keep an eye on that," Hurst said. "It was fairly easy, because officer Jesalyn Heard, who has left us this week, took over all those shifts. She is going to the sheriff's department, and we're really sad to see her leave because she's a great person and she did that really well. But we've got to fill

those shifts right now! It's a Saturday and Sunday, but eventually, probably after Memorial Day, the police department will expand to Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons, just to keep an eye on that, so we've got to find somebody to fill those shifts. Just when I think I'm going to have a few days where it's going to be easy, something pops up that needs to be taken care of. But it's not like I'm coming in and pulling my hair out everyday! You just try to plan for stuff, and then something unexpected pops up. Then it's like, well, why didn't I think of that? But we've got a great team, and I'm not the only one making decisions. I'm constantly going to Sgt. Scot VanSolkema, Det. Gordy Lauren, administrative clerk Leslie Heffron and administrative clerk Eileen DeVries for advice, and we all work together to make it work. We're not all compartmentalized, we're a small department so we have to know how to do a lot of different things, and I don't have to know everything. I just have to know who to talk to in order to find out the answers."

"The budget is always a big challenge, with all of these things you don't plan on, like cars getting broken or people getting hurt," Hurst said. "You have a

uniform budget, you have to budget for vehicles, budget for equipment, budget for training. I'm always looking at the budget, there are always wants and needs, but can we afford it? If we spend all this money now, will we need something later? I've never done budgets before, just in class, never for real, so I've been working with Lowell city manager Mike Burns and Sue Olin, our treasurer."

"Training was a big challenge this year because of the virus," Hurst said. "When we get someone from the academy, they're not qualified in everything they need to be qualified in yet. They're qualified as a police officer, but there is a lot they don't teach them. They don't qualify them on the radar, the police car, the breath test machine, basic stuff that they're going to do constantly, but the academies don't teach that, they just teach the basics. Just enough to be dangerous as a police officer. They don't necessarily have to have these qualifications to be a police officer, but if they don't have them, then they're relying on someone else to do those things for them. For example, if they arrested a drunk driver and were not qualified [with the breath test machine] yet, they would have to call another qualified officer, either from the sheriff's department or one of us, to go with them to the jail to conduct the breath test. You're having two officers doing one thing. We belong to the West Michigan Criminal Justice Training Consortium, which we pay a subscription fee to. They organize a yearly training schedule, and those things come up once a year. So when your new officers come in, you get them in that class, they get qualified, they get trained and then they're



Lowell police chief Christopher Hurst

good to go. But this year, because of COVID, any training is just now starting to open up."

"LPD officer Mike Stephens went to the Taser instructor class because we don't have a Taser instructor at the moment," Hurst said. "Sgt. Scot VanSolkema's certification expired, and he couldn't get into a class, so Mike's going to take over that. And then we need what are called field training officers, which are people who come in and mentor the new people, get them up to speed on our policies and our procedures, make sure they know what they're doing. Basically, they're working with the new officer for five, six, seven, eight weeks, to make sure that they are good to be by themselves. And we need officers that are trained to be an FTO, or be a mentor. Mike Stephens and Ian Shears, both experienced

officers, will be going to that school in June, and that is a week-long school. And we also need a defensive tactics instructor, which Mike Stephens is going to be doing also. Mike is going to go to training for about three weeks in June, so we've got to fill his shifts those three weeks."

Hurst said his favorite, most rewarding aspects of his chief position are the regular daytime schedule, the influence he can have in the what happens in the department and the chance to honor his fellow officers.

"I worked nights forever, so it's kind of nice to finally get to see what happens around the city during the day," Hurst said. "It's nice having more say in what happens at the department. I come from the military, so

Chief Hurst continued, page 9



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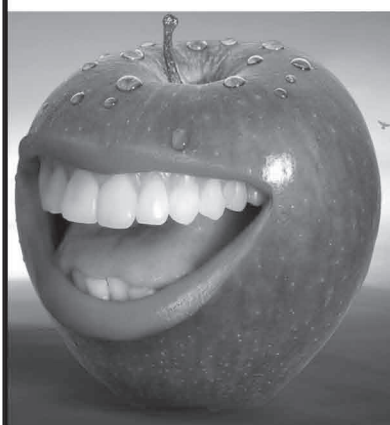


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Betten Baker, continued

the south side of the street will be new Buick, GMC and, eventually, Hummer, and 16 bays of service. Then, on the other side of the street, we will have the used car center, the body shop, as well as detailing, where we can recondition our cars for both stores. When we get it all said and done, there will be a facelift to one building, a brand new building over there, an expanded body shop with new equipment and a lot more room, so we can add some additional technicians that we've needed for a long time. Modern day cars require it. You've got to have state-of-the-art equipment and state-of-the-art facilities to be able to really compete. We have a lot more diagnostic equipment than we do wrenches. It's a lot like the doctor, you tell then your symptoms and they don't just start guessing what's wrong with you, they run you through a bunch of tests to see what is really wrong with you. We're kind of the same way, when a car has an issue, we go through a proper diagnostic to really determine what the cause

is." In the automobile industry, it is uncommon for dealerships to obtain new licenses, such as Buick or Hummer. "We've been very fortunate since Betten Baker took over about four years ago," Jeffrey said. "GM has what's called a sales index. If you're at 100, that means you sold exactly the number of vehicles GM thinks you should sell. We consistently run over 200 percent, so we do double what GM anticipated us to do and what the demographic area was supposed to do. They reward dealers who can perform, and we've been very blessed. Lowell has been a growing community, and we got here at the right time. The community has been very supportive and we try to support the community. The Lowell community is our core and our base. They're loyal to us, so we do our absolute best to not lose that loyalty by providing services, taking care of our customers and keeping some really good long-term employees. I've got several employees that have put

well over 30 years into this facility, it's amazing. You build up relationships over those years, the customers trust us and have faith in us. Sometimes it's not always great news, but they understand that it's good information and we're not trying to sell them something they don't need." Jeffrey said that, despite the pandemic and the many supply chain problems it's caused his industry, Betten Baker GMC has had an excellent year in sales. "We've been asked many times if we're going out of business, and we're not going out of business," Jeffrey said. "That's because of our low inventories, a chip shortage and those types of things, and we're all being affected by it. But I want the general public to know that we are far from going out of business. We've had some great months, we had our best year ever, and we're looking to invest millions of dollars in the Lowell community by expanding, building new facilities and adding brands. We really feel Lowell is a great place to be right now."



These old familiar buildings are going away soon. Below is an artist's sketch of what the new facility will look like.



viewpoint

to the editor

Tuesday Musings 5/11
To the Editor:

Well, we're deep into the season we call spring and as sure as the flora re-emerges from its winter nap with vibrant colors and the fauna too, shows its face, perhaps dominated by the song of countless birds who have returned from points south, those aren't the only changes about.

Yep, 'the times they are

a changing' so the song says and I fear it might not be for the better. Everywhere you look there are help wanted signs in windows and signboards of a myriad of businesses. Many of these establishments are owned or operated by our neighbors and they are struggling attempting to recover from the tragedy of the last year. Yes, the pandemic has done more to change the face of

American commerce than any conflict of the past. Perhaps you have noticed the empty storefronts and idle manufacturing facilities that abound. These were choices for the consumer to make when selecting goods and services. They were opportunities for employment to put cash in your pocket to make house and car payments, provide for insurances, save for vacations or college expenses for our children and groceries on the proverbial table. Now for many, these opportunities have vanished like yesterday's sunshine.

What is to happen?

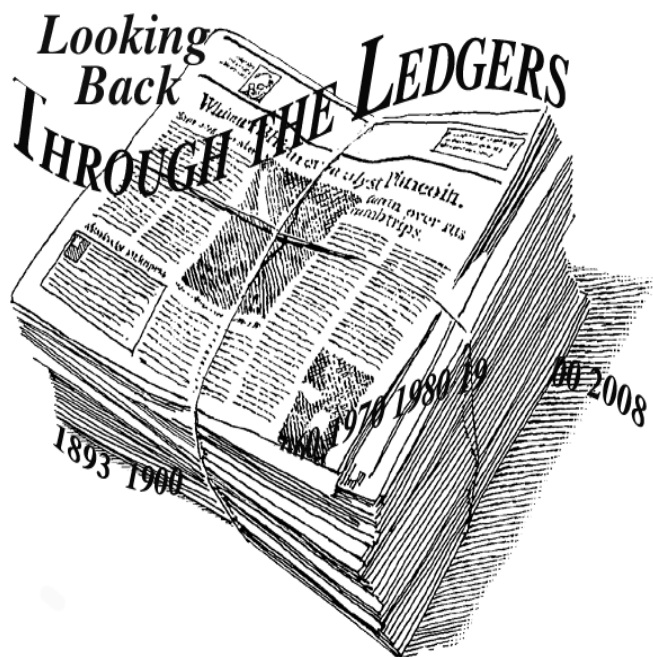
I fear there are no easy answers. Our friends in Washington DC and Lansing do not have the answer in spite of the volume of rhetoric they put forth, and the money that they wave in our faces, it too is not the answer. It is but a temporary sugar high that will soon dissipate and must be paid for by future generations. No, we hold the answers in our hearts and our heads. They lie in the choices we make with our pocketbooks. I would challenge each and everyone of you to think carefully when you make

your purchases. Now I know that you can't find all your needs just around the corner, but if you make a little effort you can secure the majority of your needs right here in your own backyard. I encourage you to look around and you'll be surprised that you don't need to buy from an online vendor several states away. Those dollars that you spend here at home multiply as they move through the community. They pay taxes to support local government, funding for your schools, sponsoring your children's

sports teams, the Red Arrow program, and yes, even the new Showboat. These and countless other needs of the community are supported by the businesses that offer goods and services for you right here. They need our help and we need to maintain the choices that they provide.

It has been a rough year for all of us, but if we pull together and keep our dollars here at home we can enjoy a productive and satisfying future.

Roger Royer
Lowell



125 years ago
Lowell Ledger
May 22, 1896

Miss Henriette Sparrow, sister of millionaire Edward W. Sparrow, has gone into hiding. She was recently committed to an asylum for the insane by the probate court, from whose order the supreme court, from whose order the supreme court this week decided there was no appeal. The night this decision was made Miss Sparrow and her trunks were taken away from her brother's house. Mr. Sparrow is in California, where he went before the finding of the probate court was announced. It is said that the patient is about to be married.

A windstorm, with a velocity of 55 miles an hour, from the southwest, struck this section about four o'clock Sunday morning and continued until evening. Shade trees, skylights, windmills, etc., suffered severely, and it is feared that the peach crop has been damaged.

A Detroit bird on Sunday broke the world's 300-mile homing pigeon record. Seventy-five pigeons were liberated at Sidney, Ill., Sunday, and one of them, a three-year-old bird belonging to Fred Ruoff, made the distance, 300 miles, in four hours and fifty-four minutes, the average rate of speed being 1,852 years per minute, beating the record by 146 years per minute.

100 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
May 26, 1921

The farm house on the Maynard farm burned to the ground Thursday at 2 a.m., and all the household goods of Mr. and Mrs. John Vos, who occupied it, were lost. The occupants barely escaped with their lives and what little clothing they could grab as they ran. The house was insured, but the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Vos was total. The family have taken temporary refuge in the barn.

Less than two-fifths of America's original forest area is said to remain, according to Hugh P. Baker, secretary of the American Pulp and Paper Association. If it continues to be "unconstitutional" to punish the big coal thieves, one-fifth will soon be nearer the truth. Restore the coal mines to the people, to whom of right they belong, and save the remnants of our forests.

Forty-seven of the 146 candidates who took county teachers examinations in April successfully passed the tests and are qualified to take positions in rural schools of Kent county, according to Commissioner of Schools Allen M. Freeland.

75 years
The Lowell Ledger
May 23, 1946

Harry Eickhoff who served as a corporal in an ambulance company in the European theatre received the bronze star and oak leaf cluster in place of another bronze star for courageous action under fire, from the War Department this week.

Housekeepers should bear in mind that there is a direct relation between the spacing of waste fats and their supply of soap. This country, and every other country, is short on fats and without fats there could be no soap. Every housewife should save fats and take it to her grocer, who will pay her for it.

Gordon Johnson reports that the Grand River gauge shows that two inches of rain fell in this locality between Thursday morning of last week and Monday morning of this week. Truly a boon to everyone.

50 years
The Lowell Ledger
May 27, 1971

A building on East Main Street, which houses a restaurant, a pizza parlor and four second-floor apartments was shortened, height-wise Monday morning when deterioration and Sunday's late rain caused the roof to collapse. The three-story building which is the oldest building left on Main Street, is known by many as the old Masonic Temple.

The Mayor of Portland, Fred Rowe, and his wife, along with other city officials, were guests of the City of Lowell Friday in the alternate exchange of mayors, celebrating Michigan Week. The visiting mayor and his group of city officials were escorted through town by the Lowell High School Band and Dick McNeal with the Showboat calliope. At the city hall, Mayor Rowe was presented with a gavel engraved with "Mayors Exchange day, Lowell, Michigan, May 21, 1971."

It was a great day in May, as the saying goes, when Spec. 4 Dave Postema returned home from thirteen months in Vietnam, and to let him know how they felt, his family all joined forces to paint a huge sign centered with an eighteen inch photograph of Dave. Dave, who is the son of the Jacob Postema's of Hall Street, S.E., is a graduate of East Christian High School and of Grand Rapids Junior College.

25 years
The Lowell Ledger
May 22, 1996

For 27 years Jeane Metsker has owned and operated her horse farm with her "children." However,

Looking back, continued, page 12

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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ABCs of Lowell history

submitted by the Lowell Area Historical Museum

The ABC's of Lowell History was introduced last year as a way to share some of the many fascinating stories from Lowell's past. It was initiated in-part by the pandemic shutdown which led the museum to seek alternative ways to share local history with the community. The series will continue with a third round of the alphabet.

F is for Fallasburg Park

One of the things Lowell is known for throughout Kent County is Fallasburg Park. Have you ever wondered why the park is named "Fallasburg"? No, of course not, because that was the name of the Pioneer Village located there, so of course the county park is named Fallasburg Park!

While this is true, it was not that simple. The original name during the planning



stages of the park was "Johnson Park."

In 1927, Kent County began planning the park on the Flat River. The land for the park had been purchased from Mrs. Lena Reusser Eickhoff by the Kent County Road Commission. She also

donated a piece of land for the entrance, and a plaque was placed in her honor. Lena Eickhoff left her mark on the community through her children. Many today recognize the names and contributions of Irma Richmond, Thelma Roth and Ruby Christiansen, all daughters of Lena Eickhoff.

In January of 1928, after complaints over the name had surfaced, the secretary of the parks commission said "the commission was not disposed to change the name." Mrs. W.H. Rexford began a petition to present to the park commission. In addition, Charles W. Fallas, wholesale and retail druggist of Petoskey appealed to Mayor Elvin Swarthout and other city and county officials to name the county park after the first settlers. Fallas even promised that the Fallas descendants would place a memorial at the park.

John Wesley Fallas

settled here in 1837, and then wrote home begging his family to join him. His brother, Dr. Silas Fallas, and uncle, Arad Melvin soon joined him. The remainder of the Fallas family and the Brown family came later after John Wesley returned to New York and married his sweetheart, Phoebe Brown in 1842.

Mayor Swarthout stated that he was determined to support the Vergennes petitioners. He spoke highly of the Fallas family and their impact on the larger community. Silas Fallas was a doctor, a circuit judge for the twenty-eighth judicial circuit and a candidate for congress. Edwin Fallas, Civil War Veteran, was a prominent merchant, starting the Fallas Canning Company. He later had a business in Los Angeles but still summered here.

Supervisor Shank of the

History, continued, page 12

- caring for baby's teeth

On average, a baby's teeth begin to appear at six months of age. When teeth are about to appear, they can cause pain, fussiness and drooling. Cold teething rings, cold, wet washcloths and infant's Tylenol or Motrin are the best things to use for teething pain. Teething gels can also help, but their effect is short acting and can be harmful if overused. Contrary to popular belief, teething does not cause a fever. A fever is always associated with an illness and should be evaluated by your healthcare provider.

Cavities are holes in teeth that can cause pain and infections. Cavities occur when bacteria in the mouth use sugar to make acid. This acid eats away at the teeth. Cavities are the most common disease in children.

Good tooth care can prevent cavities in your child. Good tooth care begins with brushing your child's teeth twice a day, starting when the first tooth appears. A non-fluoride containing tooth gel should be used until the child is 18-24 months

old. At that point, the child can use fluoride toothpaste, but not more than half the size of a pea at a time. It is also important to begin visiting the dentist twice a year, beginning at age two. Limiting sugary foods (like cookies and candy) and limiting sugary drinks (like fruit juice, kool-aid and soda) can decrease your child's risk of cavities.

Inappropriate or overuse of bottles can increase your child's risk of cavities. Bottles should be replaced with sippy cups by 12 months of age. Bottles and sippy cups should never be left in the crib with a child.

Fluoride is important for the proper development of your child's teeth. Ideally, all water your child drinks should be fluorinated. City water should contain adequate fluoride, but well water may not. If you have a well, it's important to know the fluoride content of the water. If it is less than 0.6 parts per million, you should start your child on a fluoride supplement from your healthcare provider or dentist.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Carolyn Jane Blough



will be turning **90** on May 30th, 2021 & will be celebrating with her family members in Lowell. If anyone would like to send Carolyn a card or birthday greeting, please send them to "Mark Blough 308 E. South Holly Rd. Fenton, MI 48430 ATTN: Carolyn."

The cards and greetings will be presented to Carolyn on her birthday.

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LIFE GROUPS.....11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) **Wednesday, 6:15 PM**

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 Pastor Ryan Landt
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 Website: calvarylowell.org

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
 Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays7 PM
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MAY 19
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MAY 20
 Shanda Weed, Julie Beaton, Bryan Borton, Laura Brower.

MAY 21
 Eric Ellis, Kayla Mohr, Katelyn Bush.

MAY 22
 Tim Shurwood, Meghan Beachum Bradley, Mark Anderson, Joan Link.

MAY 23
 Wesley Patnode, Tory DeBord, Patrick Ortiz, Anna Richmond, Glenn Wittenbach.

MAY 24
 Matt McClure, Josh Buechler, Summer Bevan, Dylan Bevan.

MAY 25
 Rick Wernet, Phyllis Bieri.



NOTICE DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARY AND REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

DATE: Friday, June 4, 2021
TIME: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Office of the Kent County Drain Commissioner
 1500 Scribner Ave, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504

Or Alternatively Remote Electronic Access by Zoom
Meeting ID: 913 6393 9883
Passcode: 6042021
Call-In#: 1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

QUESTIONS: (616) 632-7910

The Day of Review is an opportunity to review the Boulard and Thompson Drain Drainage District boundaries and apportionment of benefit with the Drain Commissioner or a staff member. A map depicting the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions can be found attached to this notice and/or on the Drain Commissioner’s website at: https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm. The Drain is located and established in the following municipalities, and a general description of the lands proposed to be added or deleted, in whole or in part, include the following:

Drain No.	Drain Name	Municipalities	Portion of Section Added	Portion of Section Removed
8044	BOULARD AND THOMPSON	BOWNE TOWNSHIP	9, 10, 15 & 16	9, 10, 15 & 16

*The above listed Municipalities are subject to an At-Large Assessment

The Drain Commissioner intends to hold an in-person Day of Review at the location stated above. However, due to the ongoing coronavirus public health crisis, the Day of Review will alternatively be held through remote electronic access, as provided in this Notice, if public gatherings are unable to be held due to federal, state, or local orders, laws, regulations, and guidelines. Prior to the Day of Review, the Drain office shall post an update on its website whether in-person attendance will be available.

Prior to the Day of Review, you may contact the Drain Commissioner’s Office at (616) 632-7910 or visit its website at https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm to get information about your apportionment and assessment. Remote electronic access will be available even if in-person attendance is available.

Electronic participation will be conducted through Zoom. The Day of Review may be accessed through any device supporting the Zoom app, which includes many computers, laptops, smartphones. Users on a computer or laptop will be given the option to join the meeting through a web browser without downloading the Zoom app. Additionally, individuals may call into the Day of Review by telephone.

Prior to the Day of Review:

- **Website.** Please visit the Drain Commissioner’s website at [_https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm](https://www.accesskent.com/Departments/DrainCommissioner/meeting_notices.htm) for more information regarding the Day of Review, including a map of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions and proposed apportionment roll
- **Email.** If you would like to ask questions about your property or proposed apportionment prior to the Day of Review, please email drinfo@kentcountymi.gov and we will provide you information through email.
- **Telephone.** If you wish to speak with a staff member of the Drain Commissioner’s Office about your property or the proposed apportionment, please call (616) 632-7910
- **Special Access.** Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the Day of Review should contact the Drain Commissioner’s Office at the number noted above (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the Day of Review to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

On the Day of Review:

- The Drain Commissioner, engineers and/or other staff members will be available to assist individuals throughout the day. However, due to the coronavirus public health crisis, the facilities are requesting limited walk-in and request that an appointment be scheduled to limit the number of walk-in visitors. If you do enter the building, it will be strongly encouraged to wear a mask
- To participate electronically through Zoom, you can access the Day of Review through the following link: <https://kentcountymi.zoom.us/j/91363939883?pwd=T2ZLOXkyNG5FaEhFdktqMTIHZ0tsdz09>
- For participation on Zoom via telephone, please call: + 1 646 876 9923 US (New York). When prompted the **Meeting ID is 913 6393 9883 and the Passcode is 6042021**
- Once individuals have joined the Day of Review electronically, the Drain Commissioner will provide further information about procedures for participation.
- The computation of costs for the Drain will also be available at the Day of Review and will be on the Drain Commissioner’s Office website. Drain assessments are collected in the same manner as property taxes and will appear on your 2021 winter tax bill. If drain assessments are being collected for more than one (1) year, you may pay the assessment in full with any interest to date at any time and avoid further interest charges.

After the Day of Review:

You may appeal the Drain Commissioner’s decision to revise the district boundaries to the Kent County Circuit Court within ten (10) days, and you may also appeal the determination of apportionments to the Kent County Probate Court within ten (10) days.

The following is a condensed description of the several tracts or parcels of lands constituting the Special Assessment District of the Boulard and Thompson Drain: Portion of Sections 9, 10, 15 & 16 of Bowne Township.

The following county, townships, cities, and villages liable for at-large assessment: **Bowne Township**

Dated: May 21, 2021

Kenneth J. Yonker
 Kent County Drain Commissioner

Lowell Middle School band holds first live concert since pandemic



Sixth grader Adelle Krueger and seventh grader Jordan Velzen after the performance. They're cousins, and both play the flute. [photo submitted by Kate Bredwell]

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Last week, Lowell Middle School band had their first in person concert since February 2020.

The concert was held in the LMS gym on Wednesday, May 12.

The musicians were masked and spaced out six

feet apart, and the number of people in the audience was limited.

"The concert went really well, a lot of good things happened," said LMS band director Kate Bredwell. "The kids got to play musically and that

just went over really well with parents and there was big excitement from everybody. The biggest success was just that it happened. The kids were so excited. One of the best parts of being in a performing arts class

is the performing, and that's something the kids always look forward to. It was just so wonderful to have them making music in a group together and getting their parents to be able to see it. Things have definitely been tough this year with all the different hybrid times and virtual times. The kids have had to try to do this alone at home over Google Meet, but the technology doesn't exist for them to play live and have it come together. Everyone's got different Internet speeds, and it's just not the same. So it was just so, so cool to be able to do that and have the parents here."

The concert presented an opportunity to give out some well-deserved awards in person.

"We were also able to give out our traditional eighth grade band awards," Bredwell said. "There is a director's award, which I get to select, we do two MVPs, which the kids get to vote on and there's one called the MSBOA scholar instrumentalist that's sponsored by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association. Each band or orchestra program gets to select one student for that award each year, and this year the person was Brylee Craycraft. She is a percussionist in our eighth grade band, and an outstanding musician. She also received one of the MVP awards voted on by the students. I only have two percussionists in my eighth grade band, and Brylee would cover multiple things at the same time, figuring out creative ways to switch between

different instruments. You might go from snare drum to a bell part in another section, and you need to be a really, really outstanding musician to be able to do all that. Mya Richmond, a flute player, was the other MVP voted on by the students. The director's awards went to Zaiden Keith, he plays bari sax, Jacob Mitchell, he is a trombone player and the third was Sam Konyndyk, a trumpet player. Those awards are for kids with outstanding attitudes, who are helpful in class, good musicians and kind of embody that spirit of hard work, dedication and general awesomeness."

The concert was livestreamed on YouTube for those who couldn't or didn't want to attend. This is part of the increasing use of technology in education that has resulted from the pandemic.

"That is something I am hoping we can continue to do in the future, even when things are more normal, just because kids have grandparents who live out of state or a parent who has to work," Bredwell said. "One of the adaptations I've done this year is, a lot of times as class is running I will have my laptop open next to me with Google Meet open. A kid who's stuck at home can log into Google Meet and keep on mute and play along with the class that way. We had a few kids who were able to do that, but some kids struggle with Internet issues, so it wasn't all of them."

Getting three grades of musicians into one room is hard enough, some

mandatory standardized testing made scheduling even more difficult.

"Preparing was a challenge in that a few different things were going on," Bredwell said. "We had a lot of students quarantine on and off as we were preparing. We spent about a month, a month and a half before the concert working on the sheet music and everything for that event. Our sixth grade band was especially hit hard at that time with different kids who were out for a couple weeks at a time on quarantine. They did their best from home, and by the time we got to the concert we only had one kid quarantined out of all three bands. Another challenge that we had was that the M-Step test is being administered this time of year, even though we're in a pandemic. When we have our band lessons, sixth grade band and seventh grade band are each in two different classes, so we had to kind of pull them together and combine for some rehearsals during school in the couple weeks leading up to the concert. The teachers here are used to that. It's not ideal for them, but they understand and they tolerate it because they support the arts. But that M-Step test tossed an extra wrench in the gears, because we planned this big combined finale number with all three grades, and the only time we had to get in the gym, where there's enough space, and put that together was the day of the concert, Wednesday morning, and the M-Step was going on in the math classes that day. I am so lucky that we've got the best administration team here. We sat down together and went through the list to figure out which kids had math during the hours I wanted them for band, and they figured out another time and place for them to take the test that day, to make sure those kids could come and practice with the band and everything. So I am very lucky, because that wouldn't happen in every school. It's just the coolest thing that our administration and our staff support the arts enough to make that kind of thing happen."



Lowell Middle School band students Kamden Kennedy, Lindsey Plumley, Savannah Barrett, Gracie VandenBerg and Tyler Hart performing "Armed Forces on Parade." [photo submitted by Kate Bredwell]

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Chief Hurst, continued

when people do something well, I want to make sure it gets recognized. When Chief Barry Getzen was with us, he brought in a few policies from the state police, and one of them was the awards policy. I went out and bought pins that they can wear on their uniforms for different things. Ian and Scot got the life saving award, that was part of the awards policy. So I'm constantly looking for the good things and writing a letter of commendation, or just a pat on the back, which is nice. It happened before when I was an officer then a sergeant, but it never really got recognized formally, like with a certificate and a medal to put on your uniform. Another example, Kathy Butts just retired. She was only with us less than a year, but she did a great job while she was here, and so we recognized her with a commendation."

He also values the inside look at the inner workings of the police department, and takes his responsibility as steward of the taxpayers' money very seriously.

"I never realized how the money got spent, and that's what makes me the most nervous," Hurst said. "Am I doing this right, am I spending the money in the correct way? It's not our money, it's the city's money, which is really the residents' money, because that comes out of their property taxes and stuff. So I'm really nervous about that. It's kind of nerve-wracking sometimes."

Hurst's tenure has coincided with the proliferation of recreation marijuana stores in Lowell. There are two open right now and at least five more in various stages of planning and construction. Hurst said there has been no increase in crime as a result of the

stores, the only increase has been in the number of calls from people complaining about the stores.

"We haven't seen anything," Hurst said. "We were worried because it's a cash business and they deal in a lot of cash. We're still nervous about somebody coming in here with a big old truck, ramming into a building and trying to steal all their products or steal all their money. We visit the stores every now and then to see how things are going, and we're seeing normal people going into those stores, and they're getting it for either recreational use or medicinal use. We're not getting the dirt bags, they're still growing their own. We haven't seen a problem with having the marijuana stores in town, except when we get complaints from the citizens, but there's nothing we can do about it. It's a private business, and we can't put a

limit. People have suggested setting it up where you can only have so many stores, but we can't do that. It'd be like saying, 'We've already got five pizza restaurants, so you can't open another one.' If we put a limit on it, we would probably get sued. It wouldn't be worth it."

Hurst said that if another group is considering staging another Second Amendment march on Main Street, to please think twice about it. However, if that were to happen, there would be nothing the department could do about it.

"I would discourage it. I would highly discourage that," Hurst said. "If they're doing it legally, there is nothing I can do to stop them, to be honest. If it's an open carry thing and they're obeying the law, there is not a whole lot we can do stop it. We can ask them to stop, but we can't tell them to stop. I would say, 'Look, you're not

trained. If you want to protect your home and your family that's one thing, but the citizens of Lowell are paying us to do that.' And there are a lot of variables, like are they from town, are they not from town. And then how do we know who the good guys and the bad guys are? So if they were to stop at my office and say, 'Look, we're going to help you out here, we're going to do this like what happened last time.' I'd say, 'Please don't, we don't want you doing this. Go home and protect your own house, your own family, we'll take care of the city.' I understand the Second Amendment stuff. I'm a gun owner, I get it. I live near Sparta, and I would never go to Sparta and say, 'Look, I'm going to walk around touting my gun because I think you need protection.' I would never do that."

The LPD has a prescription drop-off, and they collect

winter coats and gift cards year-round for their Cold Weather Warriors program, spearheaded by Det. Gordy Lauren.

"As far as our medical drop-off stuff, we don't take liquids or needles," Hurst said. "The DEA collects all the drugs that get dropped off. I'm sure they take it to the incinerator, but if liquids go in the incinerator, it might blow up. Needles are just inherently dangerous, and we don't collect those. Gordy has been busy with Cold Weather Warriors this year, and we still take donations for that. He is only a part-time detective, and he is hammered with investigations right now, with the school stuff, the armed robbery that we had a few months ago and a few frauds that have been very involving. And he has also been going to leadership school a few days a month."

Enbridge would 'reassess' plans if Gov. closes Line 5

Enbridge said Wednesday it would "reassess the situation" regarding its plans to build an underground tunnel to house a replacement Line 5 pipeline if Gov. Gretchen Whitmer succeeds in getting the current lines to shut down.

The response from company spokesperson Ryan Duffy Wednesday came in response to a question about whether Enbridge believes it would be freed from past agreements it made with the

state to build the tunnel if it were forced to close the current lines.

That's the argument made in an amicus brief filed in support of Enbridge's case to keep the oil flowing in the pipelines beneath the Straits of Mackinac, which included chamber of commerce officials representing Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and the chambers for the United States and Canada signing on.

Valerie Brader, a former state official under Gov. Rick Snyder and an attorney with Rivenoak Law Group, said two agreements the state has with Enbridge that "obligate" the company to build the tunnel have termination clauses.

Brader said those clauses indicate that "Enbridge may terminate this agreement if Enbridge has involuntarily ceased operation of the existing Line 5 dual

pipelines at the direction of a governmental entity at any point during the design or construction of the tunnel."

Brader said termination of the tunnel project would have a "resoundingly negative outcome."

Asked if Enbridge agrees with the amicus brief reasoning, Duffy said "if Line 5 were shut down as the governor desires, like any business whose ability to operate is interrupted we would have to reassess the situation."

He added that the company has completed the engineering and design phase of the tunnel project and is "actively pursuing" state and federal permits.

Wednesday was the date by which the state told Enbridge to stop operating Line 5 after Whitmer gave notice that she was going to revoke the 1953 easement on which the pipelines sit. The company has said it will not

comply, and the two sides are duking it out in court.

Whitmer's administration has accused Enbridge of trespassing if it continues to operate Line 5 beyond this date and has threatened to seek any profits Enbridge derives from continued use of the lines, citing unjust enrichment.

Enbridge Wednesday announced other entities have filed amicus briefs in support of its position as well, including the Canadian government, the attorneys general of Ohio and Louisiana and North

America's Building Trades Unions and the United Steelworkers of America.

Meanwhile, anti-Line 5 activists planned a rally Wednesday night in Detroit and have plans to deliver eviction notices to Enbridge locations in Lansing and Mackinaw City on Thursday.

"In refusing to shut down Line 5, Enbridge's flagrant disregard for the law exposes a deep-rooted and reckless corporate culture of exceptionalism," said Liz Kirkwood, executive director of For Love of Water, in a separate announcement.

Snyder criminal team wants AG's office held in contempt

Former Gov. Rick Snyder wants a federal bankruptcy court to hold the Attorney General's office in contempt, alleging they recklessly and improperly released confidential information sealed by a federal judge.

Snyder's attorney, Brian Lennon of Warner, Norcross and Judd, filed a motion in Detroit alleging the AG's office released "tens of thousands of documents" to him in the criminal case against

Snyder. Those documents appear to be covered under a 2013 court order requiring confidentiality.

Lennon's motion, which seeks sanctions, defines the documents released as emails between participants, judges and mediators in the Detroit bankruptcy "Grand Bargain." The federal court sealed all mediation-related correspondence to ensure participants could speak freely with mediators and each other.

The mediation occurred when Flint officials were communicating with Detroit water officials about ending their water service.

Snyder is one of nine state and city officials charged in Genesee County in connection to the Flint water crisis.



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Red Arrow

- BASEBALL

SPORTS

Baseball hitting mid-season stride

by Justin Scott
sports reporter

Winners of 10 of the last 11 games and 15 of the last 17 games, the varsity baseball team has hit strong form as the season passes the midway point. The most recent 10-1 run started with Lowell holding off Calvin Christian for a 2-1 win.

The Red Arrows only allowed the Squires to get four hits, but it was in the sixth inning with Lowell holding on to a 2-0 lead where Calvin Christian put some hits together to bring in a run. Kyler Spike was brought on in relief and was able to get the last out of the sixth to maintain Lowell's 2-1 lead. Ethan Hall was the winning pitcher for LHS

with five strikeouts and only one run given up over 5 2/3 innings. Xander Reisbig and Zach Hayes each recorded two hits in the win.

The Red Arrows would follow up that win with a single game victory over FHN and a doubleheader win at East Kentwood. Lowell has benefitted from a tough start to the season, being swept in a triple header by Grand Rapids Christian, currently ranked No. 4 in the state in Division 2. Lowell also lost to Rockford twice, a team ranked third in Division 1.

Against East Grand Rapids, Lowell went 2-1, taking their only loss in the last 11 games. In a 3-1 win over the Pioneers, Reisbig

picked up the win pitching with Spike getting the save. Aiden Malone, Rohan Dixon, Jaxson Carlisle, Reisbig, Morgan North, and Kyle Teachworth each recorded at least a hit in the game.

Lowell recorded a pair of lopsided wins against Hopkins at home last Thursday by scores of 12-1 and 17-3. Dixon got the win in game one with Erik Bryce going 2-3 at the plate. In game two, Blake Bennett went 3-3 at the plate, with Hayes recording the win pitching. The Red Arrows then won a pair of games against Greenville and are going for the triple header sweep against GHS on Wednesday.



Kyler Spike recorded the save in a 2-1 win over Calvin Christian.

At 19-10 on the season, Lowell is working towards what will likely be a rematch

with Rockford in districts, which start on June 5. The Red Arrows currently play

their home games at Cherry Creek, with fields at the high school currently under construction.

- SOFTBALL

Busy week for the softball team

by Justin Scott
sports reporter

It was a mixed week for the Lowell varsity softball team with the Lady Arrows splitting eight games against multiple opponents. The Red Arrows started strong with a doubleheader sweep over conference rival East Grand Rapids.

Lowell put 32 runs past the Pioneers in 15-0 and 17-2 victories. Game one resulted in a mercy thanks in large part to a nine run first inning by LHS. Macy Huver had four RBIs on the day while Faith Worsley had

three. Huver also pitched all four innings earning the shutout. Kamie Venema recorded the win on the mound in the 17-2 game two win. Courtney Witten and Sydney Zandstra each scored three runs during the win.

Against Hopkins, the Red Arrows split a pair of games taking the first by a score of 11-1, then falling 8-6 in the nightcap. Witten had a four RBI day in the win, while Huver recorded the win on the

mound pitching all seven innings. In their two other non-conference games, Lowell fell to Rockford and Reeths-Puffer by scores of 12-1 and 6-3.

Back in conference play, Lowell dropped game one to Greenville before bouncing back to pick up a win in game two by a score of 9-3. Samantha Conrad, Jillian Weston, and Venema each recorded two RBIs in the game two win. Senior night is scheduled for May 25 at home against Northview.



Samantha Conrad playing in left field.

- TENNIS

Tennis wins two last week

by Justin Scott
sports reporter

It was a good week for the Lowell girls varsity tennis team who won a pair of conference games. Lowell defeated Greenville 8-0 on Monday, then followed that up with a 6-2 win over Northview.

In the 6-2 victory over Northview, Lowell recorded wins from all four singles flights, including Grace Nielsen at 2nd singles. She came back from a 6-4 set one loss to win 2-1 (4-6, 6-1, 6-3). Brooke Knottnerus (6-0, 6-1), Lexi Royer (6-2, 6-0), and Delaney Kelley (6-3, 7-5) all won in singles action as well. The doubles teams of Alana Peters/Emalie DeBoer recorded a 6-4, 6-4 win. Hallie Greenop and Ella Todd won 5-7, 6-3, 6-3 in a three set-match.

All flights won their respective matches against Greenville. Winners were



Brooke Knottnerus won both of her matches in team wins over Northview and Greenville.

Knottnerus, Nielsen, Royer, Northern. Lowell is in a region with East Grand Kelley, Peters/DeBoer, Rapids, Cedar Springs, Olivia Torline/Brynn Forest Hills Central, Jackson, Todd/Greenop, and Forest Hills Northern, Sedona Bonter/Ella Luers. Kenowa Hills, Northview, Greenville, Ottawa Hills, Mona Shores, and Reeths-Puffer.

LHS turns their attention to regionals this week hosted by Forest Hills

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Red Arrow

- GIRLS TRACK

SPORTS

Lady Arrows place second at the conference meet

submitted by Paul Judd

Perfect weather, super venue, and great competition is what Lowell High School offered their OK White guests at the 2021 OK White track and field conference meet and the student athletes did not disappoint as multiple records went down in the two day event. East Grand Rapids' score of 154.5 bested the Arrows as they used their state leading distance crew and three new OK White conference meet records to create the winning margin late in the second day.

The Arrows saw two school records go down as Annika Sandman broke her 1600m and 3200m record with times of 5:15.21, placing fifth and 11:17.56 placing fourth and also saw nine personal records. Kaylee Diamond was the

lone Arrow event winner and earned all-conference honors as she went 16-03 to win the long jump which followed up a second place finish in the high jump where she went 5-02.

Theresa Judd took advantage of two runner-up finishes in the 100H (15.51), 300H (48.81) and added a third place finish in the pole vault (10-06) to score 22 points and earn all-conference honors. Closing out the all-conference honors was Julia Tuuri as she earned enough points by taking second in the 100m (13.27), sixth in the 200m (28.15) and a couple of relays.

Lowell's second place finish is one place higher than their third place regular season finish and offered some redemption to the single point loss to Forest Hills Central as

they swapped spots at the conference meet.

Total team scoring was the name of the game as the meet started strong on the opening day when Liberty Cook took silver medalist honors in the discus with a toss of 88-11 and then followed it up with a sixth place throw in the shot put going 30-01.50.

Kaylee Byrne was a double medalist taking fourth in the shot put and seventh in the discus going 31-06.00 and 80.03 respectively.

The Arrows used solid performances by their relay teams to round out the scoring as they were able to put fourteen additional points on the board.

Other Lowell scorers were: Madison Brown, 200, seventh place with a time of 28.35; Jaden Sanders, 400m, sixth place with a

time of 64.15, eighth place in the long jump with 13-10.50 and seventh place in the pole vault with 8-00; Jeselyn Spaulding, shot put, eighth place with a throw of 27-02; Emily German, 100H, fourth place with a time of 18.05, seventh place in the 300H with a personal record time of 53.46; Keira Sandman, 800, sixth place

with a personal record time of 2:32.25; 400m relay team of Spaulding, Anna Seddon, Brown, Tuuri placing third with a time of 53.64; the 800m relay team of Spaulding, Brown, Tuuri, Diamond, placing fourth with a time of 1:52.95; the 3200m relay team of Keira Sandman, Abby German, A. Sandman, Katrina Sandman,

placing sixth with a time of 10:38.99.

Final team scores were: EGR 154.5, Lowell 110, FHC 107, Grand Rapids Christian 78.5, Forest Hills Northern 70, Byron Center 63, Northview 61.5, Greenville 14.5.

Lowell travels to Portage Central on Friday as they participate in the MHSAA 1-03 regional.



- BOYS TRACK

Arrows take second at the OK White conference meet

submitted by Paul Judd

Magical is how one OK White coach described the OK White conference meet at Red Arrow stadium as the stands were full and cameras were aplenty to watch some of the areas best student athletes compete. The kids did not disappoint as there were numerous photo finishes in both

sprints and distance races throughout the evening and those attending were able to see an old standing Lowell High School track and field record go down. The Arrows were also sporting some magic as there were 20 personal records met over the two days. Grand Rapids Christian matched their first place regular

season record by winning the event with 148 points, which was 51 points more than the Arrows.

Joshua Rau led a trio of Red Arrows earning all-conference honors as he medaled in three events, winning the 110HH, the 300H (40.07) and taking fourth in the shot put (42-05). The 110HH race was a super way to start the Friday night finals as Rau took down a 55-year-old school record as he went 14.82 which set the standard replacing the 1965 record of 14.88c set by Kurt Beimers.

With the stage set the Lowell distance crew took advantage of some rest and snagged an unexpected 1-2 finish in the 1600m run as Cole Weston snuck in at the line to out lean both teammate Sawyer Fowler and a FHC runner with

a time of 4:35.83, with Fowler hitting 4:36.01 just .47 ahead of third place. Weston matched his win with another finish line lean as he won the 3200m with a personal best time of 9:50.05 just .14 seconds ahead of the runner-up finisher. Fowler earned his necessary all conference points as he followed up with a seventh place finish in the 800m (2:06.17) and then capped it off with two fourth finishes in the relays giving him 12.50 points which was 1 point ahead of the all conference cut-off.

Lowell used the field events on day one to jump start the meet as Keegan Cater took silver medalist honors in the discus with a toss of 130-06 only to see fellow distance man Benjamin Bromley snag seventh with a toss of 114-00. Noah VanLaan took

third in the high jump going 5-08 and then capped that off on Friday with two medalist finishes in the 110HH and 300H going 17.41 placing seventh and 44.61 placing eighth respectively. Landon Grant grabbed some more medals earning eighth in both the high jump and long jump going 5-06 and 18-05.

Other Lowell medalists were: Ramsey Ponchaud sixth in pole vault with 10-00, seventh in 300H with a time of 44.52; Levi Mills sixth in 400m with a personal record time of 53.65; the 400m relay team of J. Schmidt, L. Rich, J. MacNaughton, B. Wittenbach, placing seventh in 47.75; the 1600m relay team of L. Mill, J. Fowler, S. Fowler, Cater, placing fourth with a time of 3:39.16; the 3200m relay team of Fowler,

Fowler, Bromley, Weston placing fourth 8:25.88.

Final team scores were: GR Christian 148, Lowell 97, Greenville 81, Byron Center 76, Forest Hills Central 73, Northview 67, Forest Hills Northern 65, East Grand Rapids 55.

Lowell travels to Portage Central on Friday as they participate in the MHSAA 1-03 regional.



JV Arrows compete at conference meet

submitted by Paul Judd

Grand Rapids Christian hosted the OK White JV Conference meet and the Arrows arrived ready to roll. The combined boys and girls teams left with 20 personal records. Lowell had two event winners as Delaney Huizinga won the fr/so high jump going 4'6" and was the overall meet winner in the event.

On the boys side Alex Weber led a Lowell sweep of the jr/sr 3200m with a

time of 11:08, followed by Caeden Kaufman and Evan Klein in 11:33 and 11:48 respectively.

Second place finishers were: Kaufman, jr/sr 1600m with a time of 5:31.41; Isabella Brabant, fr/so 300H in 59.41.

Third place finishers were: Dannon Simmet, fr/so 800m in 2:14.53; Vivianne Bledsoe, fr/so discus, 64-11 (a personal record); Hannah Witherell, fr/so 300H in 1:02.45.

Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

the lowell ledger

Go Red Arrows!

obituaries

BEIMERS

Alverta Marie Beimers, age 93 of Lowell, passed away Thursday, May 13, 2021. The daughter of Roscoe and Rachel (Mills) Day, she was born September 3, 1927 in LaPorte, Indiana. Alverta is survived by her children, Darrell R. Beimers of Newaygo, Barb (Beimers) Rush of Lowell, Glenn A. Beimers of Lowell; seven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Myrna Beimers; three nieces; and twelve nephews. Funeral services were held at Monday, May 17, 2021 at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Pastor Ken Ford of Alton Bible Church officiated. Masks and social distancing are required. Interment Bailey Cemetery.



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With so many friends and family, I am as rich as I ever could be.
~ Amy Ritchie

LEGAL NOTICES

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

In the matter of Theodore Kusmierz Guardianship File No. 21-209240-GA Conservatorship File No. 21-209139-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his son, James Kusmierz, 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 July 09, 2021, at 9:00 A.M. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa

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

Dated: May 11, 2021

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 260-4525

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The Rose M. Karpowicz Trust
Re: Rose M. Karpowicz, decedent. Date of Birth 08/06/1930.

trust will be forever barred unless presented to Kathleen A. Branch, Trustee, 3468 Diamond Leaf Dr., Vero Beach, FL 32966, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Rose M. Karpowicz, who lived at 272 Bona Vista Dr., N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504, died 04/22/2021.

May 12, 2021 John D. Mitus, Attorney (P-31244) 410 Bridge Street, N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-774-4001

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the deceased or the

Kathleen A. Branch, Trustee 3468 Diamond Leaf Dr. Vero Beach, FL 32966

BURTON

It is with heartbreaking sorrow and sadness that we share Howard James Burton went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, May 14, 2021. Howard fought the brave fight to the end because of his deep love and devotion to his wife and family. The son of Kenneth & Martha Burton, Howard was born on December 2, 1962. He grew up in Lowell, Michigan and enjoyed hunting, fishing, and of course everything to do with cars. It was on New Year's Eve, 1983 that Howard was to meet who would become the love of his life. His partner for 36 wonderfully fun years, Carol Marie Strouse. From then on it was forever, "Carol & Howard"; and he was embraced and loved by her family as one of their own. They married on October 20, 1984 and built a home in Lowell, where they raised two rambunctious, delightful little boys. They were the light of Howard's life. Howard was a faithful, loving husband and dad who delighted in teaching his boys about everything including hunting & fishing, cars, wrestling, baseball, 4H, and especially football. If they were involved in one of these activities, Howard was there, never missing an opportunity to cheer on his boys. Even after his boys were grown, he continued to support his nieces & nephews and great nieces & nephews in their activities. Family was everything to Howard and he lived it. Howard loved cooking, and we loved eating it. If you were fortunate enough to experience his cooking, then you were one of the lucky ones. We cannot express our love for Howard without sharing his dedicated contribution to the Lowell Area Schools for so many years as a bus driver and paraprofessional. He was a favorite of so many, he loved the kids and they loved him. One of Howard's greatest blessings in life was becoming a Grandpa. His heart lit up like a Christmas tree. June was his love, and he loved doing all the grandpa things and sharing about his sweet girl. Howard was a humble, kind, and sincere man with a heart of gold (with a bit of stubbornness thrown in). One of his greatest decisions in life, that was witnessed, was on September 10th, 2017; when Howard gave his heart to Christ and was baptized at Pebble Beach in Lowell. We will be united with you again Howard. Until we meet again dear husband, father, grandpa, brother, uncle, and son. We love you and miss you beyond what words can express. He was preceded in death by his mother, Martha Burton; brothers-in-law, Ken Miller, Ron Strouse; and nephew, Jason Schumaker. Howard is survived by his loving & dedicated wife, Carol Marie Burton; sons, Phil (Stacey) Burton, Matt Burton; granddaughter, June Lea; father, Ken Burton; brother, Larry Burton; sister, Linda Miller; parents-in-law, DeWaine & June Strouse, brothers & sisters-in-law, Robert & Becky Strouse, Mark & Lisa Strouse, Leanne Dysard; loving & adoring nieces & nephews, Meagen & Zac Kruger, Kylie & Nathan Vanderkolk, Bailey Strouse, Kenny Dysard, Braeden Strouse, Andrew Strouse, Charlene DuChemin, Mindy Galatine, Michelle & Nick Onan, Dan Burton; several great nieces & nephews; and special family friend, Jessica White. A celebration of life was held Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the Bob Perry Memorial Stadium (Lowell Red Arrow Football Stadium). Interment Bailey Cemetery. Contributions in Howard's memory can be directed to the Howard Burton Memorial Go Fund Me Page, <https://gofund.me/c2408dfa>



Howard was a faithful, loving husband and dad who delighted in teaching his boys about everything including hunting & fishing, cars, wrestling, baseball, 4H, and especially football. If they were involved in one of these activities, Howard was there, never missing an opportunity to cheer on his boys. Even after his boys were grown, he continued to support his nieces & nephews and great nieces & nephews in their activities. Family was everything to Howard and he lived it. Howard loved cooking, and we loved eating it. If you were fortunate enough to experience his cooking, then you were one of the lucky ones. We cannot express our love for Howard without sharing his dedicated contribution to the Lowell Area Schools for so many years as a bus driver and paraprofessional. He was a favorite of so many, he loved the kids and they loved him. One of Howard's greatest blessings in life was becoming a Grandpa. His heart lit up like a Christmas tree. June was his love, and he loved doing all the grandpa things and sharing about his sweet girl. Howard was a humble, kind, and sincere man with a heart of gold (with a bit of stubbornness thrown in). One of his greatest decisions in life, that was witnessed, was on September 10th, 2017; when Howard gave his heart to Christ and was baptized at Pebble Beach in Lowell. We will be united with you again Howard. Until we meet again dear husband, father, grandpa, brother, uncle, and son. We love you and miss you beyond what words can express. He was preceded in death by his mother, Martha Burton; brothers-in-law, Ken Miller, Ron Strouse; and nephew, Jason Schumaker. Howard is survived by his loving & dedicated wife, Carol Marie Burton; sons, Phil (Stacey) Burton, Matt Burton; granddaughter, June Lea; father, Ken Burton; brother, Larry Burton; sister, Linda Miller; parents-in-law, DeWaine & June Strouse, brothers & sisters-in-law, Robert & Becky Strouse, Mark & Lisa Strouse, Leanne Dysard; loving & adoring nieces & nephews, Meagen & Zac Kruger, Kylie & Nathan Vanderkolk, Bailey Strouse, Kenny Dysard, Braeden Strouse, Andrew Strouse, Charlene DuChemin, Mindy Galatine, Michelle & Nick Onan, Dan Burton; several great nieces & nephews; and special family friend, Jessica White. A celebration of life was held Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at the Bob Perry Memorial Stadium (Lowell Red Arrow Football Stadium). Interment Bailey Cemetery. Contributions in Howard's memory can be directed to the Howard Burton Memorial Go Fund Me Page, <https://gofund.me/c2408dfa>



...

Life becomes easier and more beautiful when we can see the good in other people.
~ Roy T. Bennett

Looking Back, continued

some neighbors have grown tired of her so-called children and have asked the Lowell Charter Township Board to take action. Metsker's "children" are not the two-legged kind many people think of; instead they are 15 dogs which inhabit the 40-acre farm with her.

The board approved Lowell superintendent Bert Bleke's recommendation to remove interim status from the positions of assistant principal at Lowell High and Middle Schools. Mark Weber, middle school assistant principal, and Phil Christensen, high school assistant principal, have worked the last year under interim status.

The first full week of renovation work of the downtown area is now in the Downtown Development Authority's rearview mirror, looking back at what one observed throughout the week was the partial demolition of Riverside and Broadway parking lot.

History, continued

Board of Supervisors made a resolution to change the name of Johnson Park to Fallas Park. In support of the resolution one supervisor stated, "No finer family, no sturdier pioneers ever settled in this country." The resolution was unanimously passed and accepted by the park commission.

Charles W. Fallas kept his promise and in 1930 a stone memorial arch was erected by Edwin Fallas in memory of his father and mother, William and Wealthy Fallas. (William was the older brother of John Wesley and Silas Fallas)

"Erected in 1930 By Edwin Fallas In Memory of His Father and Mother, William and Wealthy Fallas Who Brought Him to Fallasburg in 1845"

Today no one is surprised to see the name "Fallasburg" attached to the park, for as soon as you cross the covered bridge you are in the village of Fallasburg, and it all makes sense. But at one time the name of the park was not a sure thing.



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misc.

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Red Arrow

- SOCCER

SPORTS

Soccer wins back and forth game with Northview

by Justin Scott
sports reporter

After drawing with Northview in the regular season, the Lowell varsity girls soccer team bounced back with a win over the Wildcats this past Monday night in the OK White Tournament.

The game would start slow, with both teams having few chances before the first goal of the game. Lowell would start the scoring off with Maloryn Mrozinski knocking in a penalty kick. Northview quickly bounced back with a goal of their own to make it 1-1, and the scoring would only continue from there, with Lowell taking a 3-2 lead into halftime.

In the second half, both

teams traded goals before LHS put the game away with a late goal to make it 5-3. Goals were scored by Lilly Kooistra (2), Mrozinski (2), and Emily Ake. Assists were made by Kooistra (2), and Ava Peterson.

Last week, the Lady Arrows lost a pair of games against East Grand Rapids. The first loss came in a 1-0 loss on senior night. The second came in a 2-1 loss in the first round of the conference tournament. The team finishes conference play on Wednesday before heading to district action next week against Ionia. Lowell is 3-7-2 on the season following the win over Northview.



Senior Maloryn Mrozinski in a game earlier this season.

- ESPORTS

Lowell students win Esports playoff championship

Two Lowell students: Landon Burgess, a 9th grader, and Mason Wilterink, an 8th grader, teamed up recently to win the spring MiHSEF

(Michigan High School Esport Federation) Fortnite playoffs.

'Fortnite' is a fast-paced, action-packed online video survival game that

can be played on several platforms (PC, Xbox, PlayStation, etc.) It is estimated that 125 million now play the game released in 2017. It takes skill and

strategic thinking to be the 'last duo standing', called 'Victory Royale' at the end of each round.

During the ten-week regular season schedule, Burgess and Wilterink finished third out of 48 teams. The spring playoffs consisted of playing five rounds over two days. In each round, all 48 teams were competing against each other, looking to achieve 'Victory Royale'. In four out of the five games, the Burgess/Wilterink duo achieved 'Victory Royale' an incredible feat.

During the playoffs they bested Swan Valley and Detroit Catholic



Lowell Esports Club presented these trophies to Landon Burgess and Mason Wilterink for their full season accomplishments.

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Central, teams that finished ahead of them during the regular season. The top three MiHSEF finishers, following the playoffs, were: Lowell Red (Burgess and Wilterink) with 103 points, West Catholic with 75 points, and Swan Valley with 69 points.

The Lowell White Fortnite team consisting of Peter Kooi and Hunter Wieland finished the playoffs in fourth place with 54 points following their regular season twelfth-place finish.

FUN PAGE

BOATING BASICS WORD SEARCH

SUDOKO

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

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!

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

BOATING BASICS WORD SEARCH

ADRIFT
ANCHOR
BEAM
BELOW

BULKHEAD
BUOY
CABIN
CHART
CLEAT
CUDDY
CURRENT

DECK
FATHOM
FOULED
HITCH
HULL
INBOARD
KNOT

LINE
PIER
STERN
TACKLE
VESSEL
WINDWARD

Guess Who?

I am a dancer, singer and actress born in Nebraska on May 19, 2003. I began dancing at a young age and appeared on a dance competition show. I ended up becoming a social media celebrity and launched an entire brand of products.

Answer: Jolo Siwa

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to boats.

C S O D K

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Docks

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

CLUES ACROSS

- Prevents harm to young rodent
- "Losing My Religion" rockers
- Partner to pan
- Cavalry unit
- Peyton's little brother
- Mexican dish
- Disseminates info to the public
- Set an animal on
- Canadian flyers
- Elongated mouths of arthropods
- I (German)
- Opposite of west
- Glow
- Measures how quickly a car moves
- One who has gained wealth
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Extensive landed property
- Male aristocrat
- For each
- More fidgety
- Very happy
- A place to store info
- Helps to heal
- 12th month (abbr.)
- Broad, shallow craters

CLUES DOWN

- Nocturnal S. American
- Relaxing place
- Frost
- Political fundraising tool
- Ethiopian town
- Make a mistake
- Curved shapes
- Partner to Adam
- Company that rings receipts
- Tyrant
- Spiritual leader
- Unit of electrical resistance
- Sheep native to Sweden
- A history of one's life
- Cars need it
- Actor DiCaprio
- Partner to relaxation
- Sea eagle
- Avoiding being caught
- Scientist's high-resolution tool (abbr.)
- ___ de Mornay, actress
- Type of school
- Belonging to a thing
- Formal close (music)
- Not us
- Transmits high voltage
- Motorcars
- A way to occupy a certain area
- Capital of Bangladesh
- Draws out
- Ancient Greek sophist
- His Airness
- Practice boxing
- Nocturnal rodents
- ___ Grant, actor
- South American plants
- Swiss river
- Homestead
- S. Sudan river
- Bland or semiliquid food
- Forest resident
- A bumpkin
- The body needs it
- Atomic mass unit (abbr.)
- Spell
- Small island (British)



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WEEKLY BOX SCORE

	5/9/21	5/16/21	5/19/21	Week 4	TOTALS
NORTH	15,204	11,265	5,633	xxxxx	32,103
SOUTH	19,591	21,725	5,352	xxxxx	46,667

Food Facts with FROM

Our Food Pantry is our longest running program – more than 20 years! And with a program that's been running that long, there are lots of facts we have about it! Did you know all these Food Facts about FROM?



We provide 1,854 servings of fresh produce each month! If it was all one item, that would be 529 heads of broccoli, 14,832 strawberries, or 37,080 cherry tomatoes.

In ONE week, we serve an average of 450 pounds of fresh produce! Think 300 ears of corn, or 22 watermelons!

We serve the whole Lowell Area School District. We serve families and individuals beyond just the city of Lowell, we serve the whole school district, and our Food Pantry is open 3 days a week – Tuesday 2-4 p.m., Wednesday 5-7 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. – Noon!

In an average month in 2020, we served 133 families in our Food Pantry and 68 families through our Mobile Food Pantry! In fact, we have 6 different food programs throughout the year, and 4 offered every month!

Our Food pantry is so much more than a list of facts. In each and every interaction, we are focused on living out our core values of Equity, Integrity, Curiosity, Welcome, Value, Dignity and Empowerment.

Your donation to Food Fight helps us keep our food pantry stocked with healthy and wholesome food throughout the summer, and it help brings hope to our neighbors throughout the year!