



## US Rep. John Moolenaar visited his new district, including Lowell, last Friday

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

US Rep. John Moolenaar visited the Lowell area on Friday, March 4 to check out the new areas in his district, which was expanded recently due to redistricting in the state.

Moolenaar, a Republican, said he hadn't spent much time Lowell yet, but knows many people from the area. A native of Midland, Moolenaar said he is moving to Caledonia in the very near future.

"It's a great district, and it's a large district: 20 counties," Moolenaar said. "It goes all the way north up to Manistee and Cadillac, south down to Hastings, on the west end it has all the lakeshore and then northern/eastern Kent County, and then it goes as far east as Midland and

Gladwin County. So it's 20 counties, and the largest city is Mount Pleasant, so it's a fairly rural district. I've represented about half of the district. I've represented Mount Pleasant, Greenville, Cadillac, which are some of the larger cities, but the western part is new for me so I'm very excited. Dave Hildenbrand has talked a lot about Lowell over the years, and I've had friendships over the years with people from Lowell, but this will be my first opportunity to meet people and earn the opportunity to represent them. [...] My wife was widowed in her early thirties, she had three children when we got married and then we've had three together. She grew up in Grand Rapids. She

and her husband moved to Midland in their late 20s, and then he passed away from a brain tumor. We got married, and had three children, they're ranging from 21 to 39. Our youngest is a junior at Michigan State this year, he's in business/public relations. We're actually going to be moving to Caledonia. This will be closer to her family and it's part of the new district so we're very excited about it. For close to 30 years she's lived on my side of the state. I'm really excited about the new district and the chance to work to earn votes throughout the district."

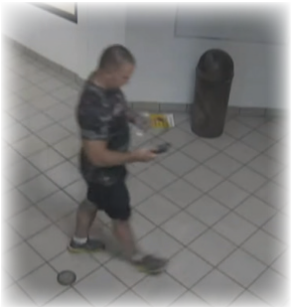
Moolenaar was born and

Moolenaar, continued,  
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US Rep. John Moolenaar visited Lowell last Friday, including a meet and greet at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce on the Riverwalk.

### LPD Sgt. Vansolkema trespassing



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### Lowell city council meeting



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50¢



by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell resident Dayne Hoffman officially kicked off his campaign for a seat in the state House of Representatives with a meet and greet at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, March 1.

"I ask for your support, and I hope I can earn it," Hoffman said. "I hope I get the opportunity to meet tons and tons of Lowell residents in this effort. It's exciting to go into a different area, something I have not previously done but that I've been very interested in, so I'm excited about that and just hope I can earn their support."

Hoffman works in the healthcare industry, attended Forest Hills Central High School and has a bachelor's degree in health science from Stony Brook University in New York and a master's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University.

Describing himself as a "principled conservative," Hoffman said he decided to run for office as a reaction against the path our country has been on for the past several years.

"The last two or three years have been alarming in terms of what we've seen with government growth

and government overreach," Hoffman said. "That has really got me more interested in serving, running for office and doing my part that I believe I can do, to fight back and push back against that. The principles that I focus on and that I run on are limited, local and responsible government, the sanctity of life and constitutional rights. So, obviously, that all makes sense. Over the last three years we've seen some of those things getting attacked. So that's really my emphasis and my focus and why I've reached a point where I said I wanted to get involved and do it in a very official sense, by running for office."

Hoffman describes himself as "principled," but also says that former President Donald Trump "did a great job."

"There were a lot of things that President Trump did that I absolutely agreed with," Hoffman said. "I think, from a policy standpoint, it's hard to find things, because he enacted, arguably, more conservative policy than any president that we've had. So the conservative policies and the conservative stances that he has, I agree with those. And, again, being principled,

Hoffman, continued,  
page 4

## Lowell man kicks off state rep. campaign



Dayne Hoffman outside of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce building on the Riverwalk where he kicked off his campaign for state representative on Tuesday, March 1.



# Moolenaar, continued

grew up in Midland. He went to Hope College where he earned a bachelor of science degree in 1983 and he earned a master of public administration degree from Harvard University in 1989. He worked at Dow Chemical Company as a chemist for eight months before entering politics. His first position was on the Midland City Council. He served three terms in the Michigan House of Representatives from 2003 to 2008, one term in the Michigan Senate from 2011 to 2014 and has represented Michigan's 4th congressional district since 2015. His current term ends on Jan. 3, 2023.

"I grew up in a community in Midland where Dow Chemical is based," Moolenaar said. "My dad was a chemist, and you look at either side of the street and there's a chemical engineer, a chemist, someone who works in

the plant, so for me, it was kind of a natural thing. I went to Hope College and I was a chemistry major there, and I think I had the benefit of seeing how chemistry affects our daily lives. When you see how research is being done, how products are being developed, and then you see how Ziploc Bags, Saran Wrap, Scrubbing Bubbles and different products affect our daily lives, you understand that there's chemistry behind that. Although I quickly moved from the science side to more the business side. I found that there are certain people who go into a laboratory and they are happy to spend eight hours by themselves working on solving problems that they've been thinking about the night before. And I was like, 'When am I going to see somebody and talk to somebody?' So I ended up going more into

the business development. And then around that time I got more interested in in politics and public service, and I went back to school for a master's degree in public administration. That's where I got to study the history, government and politics that I'd been reading about and was interested in but never had a formal training in, so that was a good opportunity to learn. For me, I always enjoyed reading history and reading biographies about leaders, and always enjoyed, in sports, seeing leadership on teams. I never connected that with politics at all until I was in my 20s, because I really didn't know anyone in politics. And then later Bill Schuette was someone who ran for Congress when he was in his late 20s. I didn't know him well, but I started tracking it more. And then, you know, I've always had the desire to help people, and viewing

public service through that lens has really given me a vision to to work in this arena. [...] Our office helps veterans with VA benefits when, sometimes, they're frustrated with the federal bureaucracy. We've helped veterans get medals that they were owed and never received. We help people who are struggling relating to the IRS, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security. Those are all things where you get to help people, and you see it make a difference in their lives. You know you need people of good will working together to solve problems and, to me, that's something you want to do with some core principles in mind of what you believe can help the country. And sometimes politics gets in the way of that, and it's unfortunate that sometimes there's gamesmanship that reduces the level of progress that you'd like to see."

Infrastructure,

particularly rural broadband, is one of Moolenaar's pet issues.

"Well, it's really defining what infrastructure is," Moolenaar said. "I would say roads, bridges, definitely even broadband internet. I hear that message over and over. Now, when you start getting into the Green New Deal and some of the Democratic wish list stuff that gets thrown into some of these bills, then it becomes problematic, but I think there's an agreement that we want to fund basic infrastructure, and I've been involved. The Soo Locks, for instance, I had a chance to work on that. Congress twice had authorized it, but for 30 years never was any progress made in terms of appropriations. I worked with President Trump and we ended up getting it going, and now there's a new lock being built at the Soo Locks. It was 100 years old, and Homeland Security did a report that said if it ever went down, it would be the Achilles heel of the North American industrial economy. And Congress hadn't been able to do anything, so we had a chance to brief the president on it and get his support, he came out and embraced it, and now there's this new lock being built, which is going to help generations. But those kinds of infrastructure projects, where you can identify the need, the benefit and target resources, I think that we could make a lot of progress in Congress. [...] I have some legislation called the BOOST Act. A lot is being done where we're investing in building out fiber, and I think that's important. We've had appropriations and a lot of people doing good work doing that. Unfortunately, in rural areas, it's taking a lot longer because there's that 'last mile' economic cost/benefit, so the BOOST Act actually gives a tax credit that incentivizes and allows people who may be in areas that won't have fiber for five more years to access

wireless technologies and be able to have access to the internet sooner than five years. That's the goal with that legislation, and it's got strong bipartisan support. I hope we continue to make progress on that. [...] A couple years ago, [Midland] had the two dams fail. Right now, if you go over US-10, it almost looks like a different planet, there are trees growing up where the lake was. But the good news is there's a lot of work being done to try and help rebuild the dams and bring it back to the way it was, but with more safeguards and better infrastructure. I'm encouraged by the progress, but still, for families who own property there, they don't have a lake."

Another one of his pet issues is a federal balanced budget amendment.

"Serving in state government, there is a balanced budget requirement," Moolenaar said. "That served as a backstop against spending and, to me, the federal government would benefit from that if it was enforced. And that is a challenge on the federal side. But even if we make progress by getting back to what's called regular order in the appropriations process. For instance, right now the house should be passing 12 appropriations bills, the senate should be passing 12 appropriations bills, they should meet for a conference committee and then have that go into effect to be the final spending plan. The way it's done right now is the house has passed maybe eight or nine, the senate hasn't passed any and we are in the midst of a continuing resolution, which is basically keeping on the same spending trajectory as it's been on, with the idea that an omnibus bill is being negotiated apart from having those bills cross through the two chambers. To me, that's a lack of discipline, it's a lack of clarity and it takes the public scrutiny out of it, so I

Moolenaar, continued, page 8

## Mark your calendars for Lowell Expo on Saturday, March 26

One of Lowell's biggest and most popular springtime events is the annual Lowell Expo, held this year on Saturday, March 26 from 9 am until 2 pm. The Expo is a chance to explore various local businesses without having to drive all over town.

The event was cancelled in 2020 and moved outdoors in 2021, but this year's Expo is returning to its traditional location, Lowell High School, 11700 Vergennes SE.

"The Expo is a great place where local businesses can come and talk to folks in the community about what they have to offer and

what they can bring the table," said Josh Bruwer, one of the people in charge of organizing the Lowell Expo, in a 2019 interview. "Sometimes folks will just come to the Expo because it's something to do on a Saturday, and they'll stumble upon a service that they're in need of. It's a great way for them to get some questions answered, and if they've got a lot of things going on there's a lot of folks they can meet up with and talk to there. It's a great way to see a lot of local vendors all in one place. It's a way to get a lot done in a short period of time all in one place."

"Everyone's welcome and it's free to anyone who wants to come," said

Larry Milkulski, one of the original creators of the Expo, in a 2019 interview. "If you just moved here or you've lived in the area for years, it doesn't matter. It's well worth your time to go through it. You'll learn something new."

Details are still being sorted out, but there will be dozens of booths from area businesses and organizations, who will show off their wares, hand out samples and perform demonstrations of their services. In past years, the Expo has featured live music, haircuts, a fashion show, a live game show, free massages, free blood pressure checks, a farmers market, tons of free candy and snacks and a blood drive.

Once it's ready, an Expo

booklet with a map and a ton of information about the many vendors, will be available at the Ledger office and at many downtown businesses.

"It's fun to see the different vendors and the entertainment acts," Bruwer said. "They get to see what's new and upcoming, a lot of vendors have special offers and giveaways. It's a great way for residents and non-residents alike to be able to know what's going on in our community. It really captures what our community is all about while highlighting businesses, organizations and folks that help move our community forward."

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# LPD Sgt. Vansolkema charged with trespassing at Forest Hills Central High School

Lowell police Sgt. Scot Vansolkema has been charged with misdemeanor trespassing after two incidents at Forest Hills Central High School on Aug. 24 and Dec. 14, 2021.

According to the Kent County Sheriff, Vansolkema was given a "no trespass order" for all Forest Hills Public School properties on Aug. 24, 2021, when he snuck into the school behind a student during a protest against school mask mandates.

According to a report on WZZM, when Kent County resource officer deputy James Svoboda stopped Vansolkema,

he replied, "Sometimes it's easier to ask for forgiveness than it is to ask for permission." Vansolkema is also alleged to have "checked things out" in a classroom.

Then, on Dec. 14, Vansolkema drove his car onto the school's sidewalk in order to bypass the other vehicles waiting in line for their students at the end of the school day. At that time, Vansolkema was issued a trespassing citation and a civil infraction for careless driving.

Vansolkema, age 43, was hired by LPD in 2004. His arraignment is scheduled for Friday, March 18.



Screenshot of surveillance video showing LPD Sgt. Scot Vansolkema wandering around Forest Hills Central High School unauthorized on Aug. 24, 2021.

## Lowell Rotary to host "Denim and Diamonds" auction April 22

# Rotary



The Rotary Club of Lowell is very pleased to announce the return of the Lowell Rotary auction. This year's title is "Denim and Diamonds" with proceeds to benefit Flat River Outreach Ministries' food storage room upgrades and Rotary International's humanitarian projects.

This will be an evening of food and fun. It will include dinner, a cash bar, and silent and live auctions for many great products and services. There will be a drawing for a chance to win a custom designed diamond pendant valued at over \$2,000. Tickets for the drawing will be available at the auction.

The auction will be Friday, April 22 at Noto's Old World, 6600 28th St, in Grand Rapids, doors opening at 5:30 pm. Purchase tickets in advance by Thursday, April 14 for \$65 per ticket or \$750 to sponsor a table of 10.

They are accepting auction items and monetary donations. To purchase tickets or donate, please visit [lowellrotary.org](http://lowellrotary.org), email [info@lowellrotary.org](mailto:info@lowellrotary.org) or call 616-293-3206

The Rotary Club of Lowell is part of Rotary International, an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. The Rotary motto is "Service Above Self"

The Lowell Rotary meets

Wednesdays at noon at Lowell city hall. Our club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business

and professional men and women. We are nonpolitical, nonreligious and open to all cultures, races and creeds.

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to become connected to your community, work with others in addressing community needs, assist with Rotary International's humanitarian service efforts, establish contacts with an international network of professionals, develop leadership skills and involve family in promoting service efforts.



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## PUBLIC NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW

### NOTICE TO: TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

The Vergennes Township Board of Review will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. for the Organizational Meeting  
 No taxpayer appeals will be heard at this meeting.

Public hearings will be held at  
 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE Lowell, MI 49331:  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022,**  
**from 1:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2022,**  
**from 1:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

The Board will meet for the purpose of reviewing the Assessment Roll and hearing objections thereto.

Appointments are required to appear before the BOR. Appeals may also be made by letter if you are unable to be present during meeting hours. Letter appeals must be received no later than March 18, 2022.

All BOR meetings and hearings are held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 297 of 1976, as amended, MCL 41.72a (2) and (4), and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Persons wishing to file for a Disabled Veterans Exemption or Poverty Exemption should have all required forms submitted to the Board of Review in advance of the meeting dates noted above.

The tentative ratios and factors for Vergennes Township for tax year 2022 are:

	Ratio	Factor
Agricultural	39.36%	1.27032
Commercial	42.47%	1.17730
Industrial	45.55%	1.09769
Residential	46.00%	1.08695
Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000

All ratios are expected to be 50% and all multipliers are expected to be 1.00000 after 2022 assessment adjustments are made.

Cory Burns  
Township Assessor



# Get Lucky in Lowell on Saturday, March 12

by Bill Lee  
contributing reporter



The last of three merchant-driven events this winter will take place on Saturday March 12 from 10 am until 5 pm in downtown Lowell. To help celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Get Lucky in Lowell will take place in stores, merchants and restaurants on Main Street. Although January's event, Wine About Winter, and February's event, the Chocolate Stroll, were well attended, both events were also quite cold, with temperatures ranging in the mid-teens.

"We had lots of people who came out in the freezing cold

again," said Martha Davis, owner of the Tap House Boutique and organizer of the winter events. "It was a lot of fun and Lowell was full. We like for people to get out and enjoy their town."

Get Lucky in Lowell will be a similar event to the previous two, but this time there will be live hourly raffles at each merchant starting at noon and continuing on through the day. The winners will receive "Lowell Bucks" and will be notified by email and Facebook if they are not present during the drawing. Also, participating

## LIVE. PLAY. SHOP. LOCAL. LOWELL BUCKS

restaurants will be offering drink and food specials throughout the day.

Davis has been in Lowell for seven years now and has seen tremendous growth in the town and with the merchants as well.

"It's been very exciting to watch Lowell grow and new families come in and just enjoying their town with all

the activity that we have," said Davis. "It was nothing like this when I first came in. If you go down through Main Street past the historic district, more buildings are going up."

Davis has also seen a lot of growth with businesses in town and admits the businesses could not continue to succeed without

the support of Lowell residents.

"I just think that as a community everybody has really supported our small businesses and we can't thank you enough," Davis said.

For more information about Get Lucky in Lowell, please visit its Facebook page.

# business directory

**FRY DADDY'S**  
608 West Main Street  
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**897-FISH**  
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## Hoffman, continued

that's what I agree with. Some of the delivery and some of the mechanisms he uses, I don't necessarily agree with, and that's where there's a differentiation, but in terms of policy and conservative agenda, I think he did a great job at that, and that's where he and I would definitely align."

Hoffman attended Stony Brook University on a football scholarship, but sadly the NFL career didn't

work out. "Unfortunately, I had a few too many injuries," Hoffman said. "Not one too many, a few too many injuries for that. I actually hurt both of my knees, and I had reconstructive surgery on both of my knees before I even got to college. So I was very fortunate to get my education paid for and play Division I football. But then, once I got to college, I played quarterback and

I hurt my throwing elbow. So after a reconstructive surgery on the elbow, it kind of hit a point where I said, 'I don't know that I'm going to be able to make this happen professionally,' unfortunately."

Hoffman's professional experience has been as a consultant for hospitals that are trying to streamline their processes.

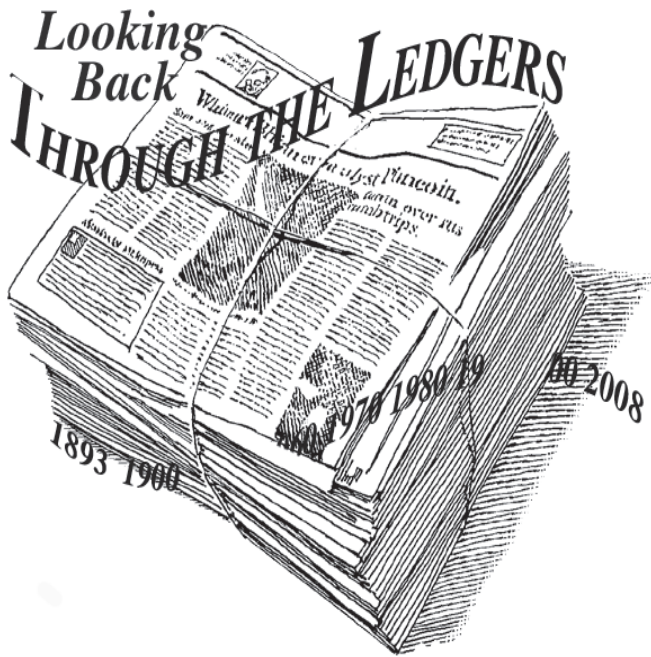
"The last decade plus I've been working in the healthcare consulting industry," Hoffman said. "Anyone who's been to the doctor understands the complexity behind that. What I've done in that industry is work with people all over the country, like different governments. I've seen how different states have worked, I've seen regulation, I've seen all those challenges. What I do in that industry, is help hospitals with their day to day operations and business type problems. It comes down to being a problem solver, and I want to take the problem-solving ability that I've used in the private sector and use that to make our government run smoother and solve the problems that we face as a country, through the prism of that principled conservative stance that I have."

For information about the candidate, visit [daynehoffman.com](http://daynehoffman.com).

**VERGENNES TOWNSHIP**  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET HEARING**  
The residents of Vergennes Township will hold an Annual Meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.  
Regular March Board Meeting will follow at 7 p.m. There will be public hearing during the regular board meeting regarding the proposed 2022 - 23 budget. It will be reviewed and considered for adoption during the Regular Meeting. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Township offices.  
The Annual Meeting and Regular Meeting will all be held at the Township Board Room/Community Room located at 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE, Lowell, MI 49331.  
Shantell Ford  
Vergennes Township Clerk



# viewpoint



## 125 years ago Lowell Ledger March 12, 1897

This edition of the Lowell Ledger is missing.

## 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger March 16, 1922

Lowell citizens friendly to the candidacy of Dexter G. Look for the Legislature will hold a smoker at the City hall Thursday evening, March 23. All citizens of the Second representative district comprising the township of Grand Rapids, Ada, Vergennes, Wyoming, Paris, Cascade, Lowell, Byron, Gaines, Caledonia and Bowne are invited.

Miss Beacraft and Miss MacDougall of the Salvation Army visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lawyer, Friday, Mar. 10 and brought them greetings from their son, Sgt. Chas. Lawyer. They left Coblene, Germany, Feb. 13, sailed on the S. S. Zeeland, arriving in New York Mar. 4, after a very strenuous voyage. On March 8, Miss Beacraft and Miss MacDougall arrived in Flint, their home town, where they were given a rousing reception and banquet by the Salvation Army and the American Legion.

With hard coal costing Mr. Ultimate Consumer around \$16 per ton, on account of disagreement between mine operators and miners, a strike is due to start April first and it will be a strike designed to make the innocent public—already twice robbed—suffer still more. If it persists, the mines should be taken over by the government and operated for the people.

## 75 years The Lowell Ledger March 13, 1947

A few days ago when a biting wind was blowing at a 20-mile clip, ye editor met up with a bevy of school girls, laughing and talking like all get out, which was their right, but what really interested me was their bare legs, although one of them was wearing funny mittens reaching to her elbows. Blind men really see interesting sights sometimes.

Ray Bergin, salesman at the Coons store, met with a rather unusual accident last Saturday, which will keep him confined to his home for several days. A sprayer containing a DDT solution for moths, which he was using, became clogged and exploded as the cap was being unscrewed, causing burns on the thumb and two fingers of each hand.

Elmer G. Schaefer, who has been serving as vice president of the Lowell Board of Trade for the past year, was promoted to president at the forty-first annual meeting of the Board, which was held in the dining room of the Methodist Church Wednesday evening of this week.

## 50 years The Lowell Ledger March 16, 1972

Some board members were visibly upset Monday night at the request of the school custodians to be represented in bargaining sessions. The custodial and maintenance personnel recently formed the Lowell Area Maintenance and Custodial Association, a group that is strictly local and not affiliated with any organized union.

Heavy snow fell early Monday morning after a Saturday and Sunday weekend of near Spring weather. The heavy, wet snow quickly made Lowell streets slippery and difficult to drive on. By 10 am the snow had stopped and a sleet-type hail was falling, making walking more difficult. Ice-laden power lines that snapped so readily in the area south of Lowell, put a lot of residents without electricity for several hours. Only slight faulters for the duration of the day were encountered in the Lowell area.

"It was a wild ride!" is what Greg Gillions of Woodland, Michigan said as he told our photographer what happened when the rear two wheels of the grain truck he was driving fell off. The truck and grain, owned by the Smith Brothers, was en route to King Milling in Lowell when the wheels dislocated themselves just west of Saranac.

## 25 years The Lowell Ledger March 12, 1997

Lowell Charter Township officials must decide the next step in getting a 4 ½ acre parcel of land back in the tax roll. The township received the land located on

Lowell View Avenue over a year ago when the owner could not pay back taxes. The land is zoned residential and is suitable for the building of one house. It can not be split in an effort to build two homes, according to township zoning.

For the first time in the school's history, Lowell's symphonic and concert bands each attained a division one rating at the District 10 Concert Band Festival. This accomplishment allows both bands to play at the state band festival in April.

When Evergreen Missionary Church settled in Lowell Charter Township, they had little idea of how fast the congregation would grow and, as such, made rough estimates on future development to their property. "We started with no one, so our faith on how fast we would grow wasn't big enough," explained Pastor Glen Marks as he presented plans to expand the church located at 10501 Settlewood Drive.

## business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Ryan Hesche received Realtor of the Month.

This award recognizes Hesche for his outstanding success and achievements.



## Eat. Shop. Explore. LOCAL



### 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.

Letters can be sent to emailed to [ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com)  
Deadline is noon on Mondays



# HEALTH

**M** UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH-WEST  
MICHIGAN MEDICINE

Johnathan G. Meier, D.O.    Laura E. Kass, PA-C  
Wayne A. Christenson, D.O.    Kaili M. Walker, PA-C  
Tracy L. Lixie, D.O.    Alexandria Clum, PA-C  
Bradley Ophoff, PA-C  
Catherine S. Smith, NP-C

# ABCs of Lowell history

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 fourth round of the alphabet.

## S is for Frank Stephens

Frank Stephens wore many hats and squeezed many adventures into one lifetime. He loved many things, including his community. He worked many jobs, but all were for the community. In his law enforcement work he saw the ugly side of society. But still, he had a job to do. In his own words his job was "to protect the people of Lowell, sometimes, from themselves."

Frank was born in Illinois in 1894. His family moved to Lowell in 1910, but he soon left to Montana to be a cowboy, then came World War I.

On October 20, 1916 Frank joined the army at Fort Douglas Colorado. Between then and his discharge in October of 1920, Frank traveled to San Francisco, Honolulu Hawaii, Guam, Manila, Philippines, Japan, Vladivostok, Siberia and China. He was in Siberia when the Bolshevik Revolution broke out. He worked intelligence, scouting out enemy lines at night. He was later involved in a subversive intelligence action by going to China to bring American prisoners



Frank Stephens receiving a flag.

home to California. During his time in the army he suffered an appendicitis attack while on a ship, was stabbed and had a gunshot wound in the shoulder.

Returning from the war, Frank married Ruth Green and they went on to add five children to their family.

Even in his careers, Frank Stephens wore many hats. Early in his married life he 'clammed' on the Grand River, gathering clams to sell to the button factory. He worked construction, and had his own tire and accessory business on Main Street. This business is where Lowell Granite now stands. One memory his daughter Linda has is of walking to the police station to meet her dad when she missed the school bus home. She would wait there until he went home. It was here that she met later to be President, Jerry Ford, a friend of her father's.

Stephens and Ford remained friends, exchanging letters throughout their lifetimes.

Frank began working for the Kent County Sheriff Department in 1930 and continued on even when he accepted the job of Lowell Chief of Police. As far as is known, Frank Stephens has been the only one in history to work for the Lowell Police and be deputized by the Kent County Sheriff Department, giving him authority past the city limits. Stephens had been on duty in 1932, working a roadblock, when Officer Charlie Knapp was shot and killed in Lowell by escaping Grand Rapids robbers. As a Sheriff Deputy, Stephens issued drivers licenses through the Drivers' License Bureau. He continued this until the Lowell office closed in 1965. He retired as police chief at the end of 1959, but continued on as a deputy sheriff. True to his

character, when he retired from law enforcement he assured Lowell that in case of an emergency or a disaster he would help in any way that he was able.

One interesting call Stephens had was at the home of Ray Fullington in 1951. The issue was that a big parachute had landed on the Fullington farm. With World War II in the recent past, the Fullingtons were apprehensive about approaching the balloon. Upon examining it, Stephens found it had come from an aeronautical research laboratory in Minneapolis. It was a radio-sonde instrument balloon used for testing humidity, temperature and atmospheric temperature at high altitudes. At their request, Stephens sent the instruments back the Minneapolis lab.

ABCs continued, page 14

## -essential tremor

An essential tremor is a disorder of the nervous system which causes a rhythmic involuntary shaking. It most often occurs in the hands, but can also occur in the head. It typically worsens over time and can cause problems with simple tasks like writing, eating, drinking, or even tying shoelaces. It most often occurs in those over 40 years of age.

It typically begins on one side of the body. It becomes worse with movement. The head tremor can be up and down or side to side. It can worsen with caffeine, stress, and fatigue.

Essential tremor is often confused with Parkinson's disease.

However, the tremor with Parkinson's disease occurs at rest. Parkinson's disease will also cause a shuffling gait, slow movement, a stooped posture, and flat facial expression.

Essential tremor can be an inherited condition, called a familial tremor. It is an autosomal dominant trait, which means only one parent has to have it to transfer to their children.

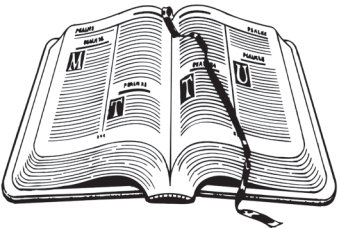
Diagnosing this disorder is typically made by ruling out other possible causes.

Treatment involves certain oral medications and sometimes botox injections. Physical therapy can also help. For severe tremors, deep brain stimulation surgery is available.



**Men's Breakfast**  
Sat., March 12  
8 to 9:30 am  
**Vergennes Church**  
Corner of Bailey Drive & Parnell

# area churches



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
865 Lincoln Lake SE • lowellucc.org  
Pastor Alyssa Anten  
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM  
Open Table (No-cost meal) - Thursdays 5 - 6 PM  
**Open & Affirming • LGBTQ+ Inclusive**  
616-897-5906

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
10305 Bluewater Highway  
(Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
**Sunday Services - 10:30 am**  
www.gslc.church  
Joseph Fremer, Pastor **897-8307**  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES  
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 • www.fbclowell.org  
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor  
Pastor Andrew Bolkom • Pastor of Discipleship  
Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM** (Nursery provided)  
**LIFE GROUPS.....11:00 AM** (Nursery-Adult)  
**Awana** (K-5 during school year) **Wednesday, 6:15 PM**

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
Pastor Ryan Landt  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI  
Website: calvarylowell.org  
Morning Worship.....10:00 AM  
Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays ....7 PM  
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  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

**LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
discover. grow. share  
621 E. Main Street  
897-5938  
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance  
WORSHIP  
Traditional Service: 9 am  
Contemporary Service: 10:30 am  
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

# happy birthday

**MARCH 9**  
Bob Vezino, Marsha Stephens, Mark Richmond, Pam Cebelak.

**MARCH 10**  
Daniel Miller, Randy Kuiper.

**MARCH 11**  
Pat Ball, Renee Nugent, Larry Martin.

**MARCH 12**  
David Baird, Lisa Homrich, Laura Horsley, Julie Idema, Kathy Fyan.

**MARCH 13**  
Paul Seese, Tyler Schneider, Jack Robert Malone.

**MARCH 14**  
Mike Stevens, Dan Baird, Kari Merriman, Chase Peterson, Shannon Lambert, Sara Schoen, Layla Yeiter.

**MARCH 15**  
Daniel Vegter, Ward Boulard Jr., Brett Hobrla, Margot Miller.





# Council discusses LARA, skate park, other items at Monday, March 7 meeting

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at 7 pm on Monday, March 7. The meeting lasted approximately 1 hour and 18 minutes and there were two participants in public comment.

First, city clerk Sue Ullery read aloud a letter from Lowell resident James Pfaller about a possible violation of the agreement that formed the Lowell Area Recreation Authority.

“I was serving as a council member when the LARA board was formed,” Pfaller’s

com/lowellmi/03-07-2022.pdf

“It’s not just this board or the LARA agreement, we need to go back and look at several of those agreements and update them,” said councilor James Salzwedel. “Find out what things need to be updated, what needs to be taken out, so that we have something up to date.”

“Every LARA agreement I’ve seen, that the city has in possession, I have not seen anything pertaining to that tax dollars can’t be used,” said city manager Michael

has gone extremely well, and hopefully I hear some more good news later today. But fundraising has moved along. Our goal was to get fundraising done in July, and I’m hoping to be done mid-April. Because of that, I’ve had another group of people come to me and ask if we could do... They call it a pool. I don’t want to call it a pool. I want to call it a bowl, for obvious reasons. But they would like to add one of those sunken in, empty, swimming pool-kind of looking things. I told them



YouTube screenshot of the Monday, March 7 Lowell city council meeting.

After reviewing and discussing the grant applications, the board agreed to fund the requests as follows:

Applicant	Description	Rec. Amt.
City of Lowell	LTV Fund Administration Expenses.....	\$4,000.00
City of Lowell	Front Entry Replacement at 325 W. Main .....	\$25,000.00
Fallsburg Historical Society	Misner House Climate Control .....	\$1,958.50
Flat River Outreach Ministries	FROM Marketing Project .....	\$6,200.00
Impact Church	Skate Park Renovation/Remodel .....	\$30,000.00
Lowell Area Fire Department	Firefighter Body Armor .....	\$6,846.00
Lowell Area Hist. Museum	Historic District Building History Project .....	\$9,000.00
Lowell Area Arts Council	Technology Upgrades.....	\$2,630.00
Lowell Police Department	Bola Wrap System .....	\$10,596.85
Lowells Open Table	To-go Containers .....	\$1,500.00
Vergennes Township	Handicap Access to Building .....	\$5,800.00
YMCA of Greater GR	LiveStrong at the Lowell Family YMCA – Supplies	\$600.00

Excerpt from minutes of Feb. 16, 2022 LCTV endowment fund board meeting listing this year’s grant recipients.

letter read. “One very sticky issue was that no tax dollars would be used to fund the trail system and that it would be a grant and privately funded entity with the exception of the \$2,000 from each member community for administration costs. [...] Please look into the original formation documents of LARA and the funding restrictions that were put in place at the time of formation.”

The complete text of Pfaller’s letter is available online at <https://files4.revize.com/lowellmi/03-07-2022.pdf>

Burns. “If someone has something, I’d like to see it, but everything that I’ve had, I’ve seen, it’s not in there.”

Next, Bob Rogers asked the council if it might support a public pool going in as part of a skate park project.

“I approached the parks and rec committee back in November [and] presented our idea of redoing the skate park on Bowes Road,” Rogers said. “They approved it, it went to city council, you all approved it. I appreciate that. Fundraising

that if we raised \$120,000, then we can, with city approval, start fundraising for that addition to that park. [...] I’d like to, once that’s done, to fundraise for that additional ‘bowl,’ and that’s another \$120,000. I feel like I can raise it and hopefully do construction in September or October.”

Rogers also said that there will be a public forum at Impact Church at 7:30 pm on March 24 with a representative from the Tony Hawk Foundation.

MI Sen. Winnie Brinks

visited the council with a legislative update and then Municipal Employees Retirement System regional manager Michael Overly went over a “MERS actuarial” report he prepared for the city. The complete MERS actuarial report is available online at <https://files4.revize.com/lowellmi/03-07-2022.pdf>

LCTV fund endowment board chair Dennis Kent was on hand to reveal their annual recommendations for grants. This year, the LCTV fund granted \$104,131.35 to 12 organizations. See image for details.

The council voted to rezone the former “line

shack” building at 115 Riverside from PF [public facility] to C-2 [central business district] and for \$124,155, to be spread over three years, for sanitary sewer cleaning to be performed by Plummer’s Environmental Services of Byron Center.

Lowell city council’s next regular meeting will take place at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, March 21.

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](http://archive.org).

## BOWNE NOTICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE 2022

The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet in the Township Office Building located at 8240 Alden Nash SE., Alto Michigan on:

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2022 – 1:00 P.M.**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022**  
**9:00 A.M. – NOON**  
**AND 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022**  
**1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

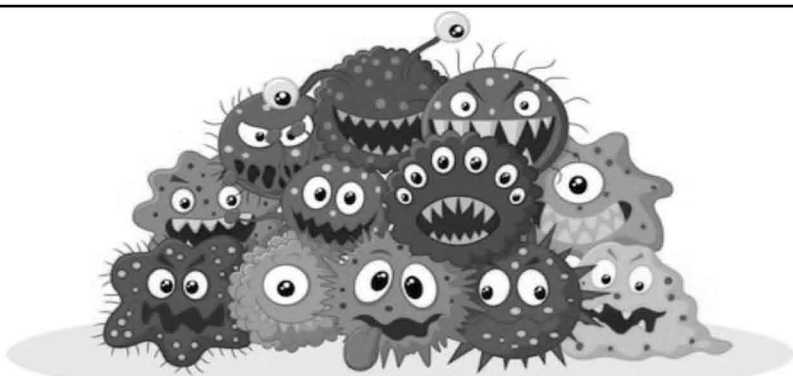
**PLEASE NOTE- EVENING HOURS ON MARCH 16, 2022 ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**  
**6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.**

DUE TO CORONAVIROUS CONCERNS THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP MARCH 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW IS OFFERING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO APPEAL THEIR 2022 ASSESSMENT/TAXABLE VALUE BY SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK. ALL APPOINTMENT REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE TOWNSHIP CLERK AT 616-868-6846 OR [clerk@bownetwp.org](mailto:clerk@bownetwp.org) PRIOR TO 3:00 P.M. MARCH 10, 2022. IN LIEU OF AN APPOINTMENT, IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED APPEALS BE SUBMITTED BY MAIL.

THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE:

AGRICULTURAL RATIO	48.84	MULTIPLIER	1.0238
COMMERCIAL RATIO	46.99	MULTIPLIER	1.0641
INDUSTRIAL RATIO	51.52	MULTIPLIER	.9705
RESIDENTIAL RATIO	47.21	MULTIPLIER	1.0591

DENNIS MCKELVEY-ASSESSOR  
RANDY WILCOX-SUPERVISOR  
TOWNSHIP OF BOWNE  
COUNTY OF KENT



## MOUTH BACTERIA MATTER

Ask about our in-office salivary testing



Family Dentistry of Lowell

Jennifer Byrd D.D.S. | Lindsay Isenhardt D.D.S

147 North Center Street

616-897-4835



# Moolenaar, continued



US Rep. John Moolenaar (right) and Dave Hildenbrand (left) in Lowell on Friday, March 4.

it, so I would like to see us getting back to regular order, where we're doing those bills. The balanced budget amendment would help with that, but even if there wasn't enough support for a balanced budget amendment, getting back to regular order would force discipline and force oversight, which is a fundamental role of congress."

Despite his background

as a scientist, Moolenaar is against COVID-related vaccine mandates.

"I've been a leader in the house on repealing the federal vaccine mandate, and here's why," Moolenaar said. "I don't believe we should have federal overreach that allows the President of the United States to force people to get a medical treatment. It's a slippery slope when you give the executive

branch that much power over people's lives. I supported Operation Warp Speed, funding the research and development of new medicines, and then getting information out to people and making sure they have the accurate information, as well as the distribution of protective equipment and medicines. But the vaccine mandates had the exact opposite effect. It created distrust. When you force

someone to get something against their will and the science is not, in some cases, conclusive, that creates distrust. You can take it all the way back to when President Biden was campaigning for president, and he and Kamala Harris both said that they had real concerns about the vaccine because it was being developed by the Trump administration. Right there, you start undermining. To me, the most important thing in the federal government is to provide accurate information [and]

be transparent about it. Say, 'This is what we know, this is what we don't know,' and then allow people to make their own medical decisions, because we value freedom in this country, and that's why I strongly oppose the vaccine mandate. What we've seen with that is it's added to labor shortages, which was compounded by paying people not to work for a period of time. [With] the vaccine mandate, you've had people who have chosen to leave their job rather than be forced to get a treatment that they don't want. Today was the first day I actually heard the CDC come out and talk about infection-based immunity being on par with vaccine immunity. To me, when you have nurses who have been on the front lines, heroes caring for people infected with COVID, and then you're telling them they need to also get a vaccine or they're going to get fired, that's just bad public policy, so that's why I've pushed back very strongly on the federal vaccine mandate. The court agreed with the part for OSHA, but still we have the healthcare piece that's in place."

Independence from foreign energy sources is another issue Moolenaar is focused on.

"I think people who would like [an electric car] and can afford one should buy one," Moolenaar said. "Oil and gas are vital, and being energy independent is really important for our country."

Only in the last week have we seen how significant this is for Europe, for the United States, that we never wanted to be dependent on a hostile foreign country. And so I'm a strong advocate of developing our natural resources in a responsible way, being energy independent, oil and gas, [Enbridge] Line Five, [Keystone] XL Pipeline, getting government out of the way and making sure that there are permits that are granted to continue to unleash American energy. And I believe the market should be determining, the consumers should be able to decide what kind of car they want. It shouldn't be forced on them. Now, I think there have been tremendous advances in technology with electric vehicles. More work needs to be done to improve the battery life span. But again, this should be the private sector innovating based on what their customers are asking for, and in the meantime we should be strongly energy independent."

This issue has become particularly relevant in light of the war between Russia and Ukraine.

"It's horrific what Vladimir Putin is doing, invading Ukraine, and I believe he is committing war crimes by targeting civilian areas and now targeting nuclear reactors," Moolenaar said. "He's merciless. I've supported the sanctions we have in place. I support stronger sanctions. I wish the administration would have moved more quickly on these sanctions and more quickly in getting lethal aid to Ukraine. That's something we've been advocating in Congress. But I would support no longer getting oil from Russia. Sadly, by receiving oil from Russia, we are helping to finance his ruthless attack, so I believe we should cut that off and continue to do everything we can to affect his economy to stop him in his tracks."

Moolenaar said he was not in the Capitol building during the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, but he was working in buildings nearby. He watched the events unfold on TV like everybody else.

"I started the in the Cannon building, which is where my office is, and was evacuated because there was a bomb that was discovered at the RNC, which is just across the street," Moolenaar said.



## SUNSHINE MATTERS

A hike in taxes, but you didn't know.

Drilling on state land, but without public input.

Toxic water polluting the community, but with no warning to you.

Sunshine Act and Right-to-Know laws prevent scenarios such as these by guaranteeing your right to access government meetings and public records. These laws ensure government transparency and accountability, the cornerstone of democracy.

Our journalists fight for access to government activity to keep you informed, securing your vital role in public decision-making.

Newspapers provide sunshine in the darkness.

### CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 22-01

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF LOWELL ZONING ORDINANCE MAP AS ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 3.02, "DISTRICT BOUNDARIES," OF CHAPTER 3, "ZONING DISTRICTS - GENERAL," OF APPENDIX A, "ZONING," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL TO REZONE 115 RIVERSIDE DRIVE SE FROM PF PUBLIC FACILITIES TO C-2 CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 22-01 amending the City of Lowell Zoning Ordinance Map to rezone 115 Riverside Drive SE from PF Public Facilities to C-2 Central Business District.

A copy of Ordinance No. 22-01 is available for inspection at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street in the City during regular business hours of the City.

Ordinance No. 22-01 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk



# Moolenaar, continued

“So I went over to the Longworth building and actually spent the day there. I wasn’t planning to speak on the house floor that day, so I worked out of the office there, actually Peter Meijer’s office, and a number of us were trying to get work done at the same time things were unfolding. Typically there are a lot of protests happening in Washington DC, so you would hear the protests. Being in one of the office buildings, not the capital, I wasn’t a first-hand observer. Most of what we saw was what people saw on TV, where people were breaching the capital, and we’d get reports the capital had been breached, but you didn’t know exactly what that meant at the time. Now, in hindsight, you see the footage, and I would support releasing all the footage. I think it’s important to have a clear understanding of everything that happened that day.”

Before and after the election, President Trump repeatedly expressed

his expectation that the Supreme Court would determine the election’s outcome. Once the election was over and it was evident that he lost, Trump’s legal team tried desperately to get a case in front of the Supreme Court, which has a 6-3 conservative majority and three justices appointed by Trump.

Moolenaar was of 126 members of the House of Representatives who signed an amicus brief in support of Texas v. Pennsylvania, a lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton that sought to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election. The suit claimed that Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin violated the US Constitution by changing election procedures to limit the spread of COVID-19 and increase voter turnout. On Dec. 11, the Supreme Court declined to hear the case on the basis that Texas lacked standing under Article III of the Constitution to challenge

the results of an election held by another state. House speaker Nancy Pelosi issued a statement that called signing the amicus brief “election subversion” and reprimanded the House members who supported the lawsuit.

Moolenaar said he does not regret signing the Texas v. Pennsylvania amicus brief.

“Here’s why I signed on to it. I, like many people in Michigan, received unsolicited absentee ballot applications at my home,” Moolenaar said. “We got it for our children who hadn’t lived in our house in years. And, to me, that was not appropriate. That, to me, violated confidentiality [and] the laws of our election system. When it came to some of these irregularities that we were seeing, I can never remember a time when the owner of Facebook suddenly supplied election materials across the country. To have that kind of private dollars going in, unprecedented. So there

were a lot of things that happened. What happened was unprecedented changes, circumventing election laws. There was a decision made by our secretary of state to presume the identity of an absentee voter. Unprecedented. So when it comes to that, what is the recourse? The recourse is the courts, and so I signed on to the amicus brief, because this wasn’t just happening in Michigan, this was happening in other states. So I signed on to the amicus brief that brought that to the court for a decision by the court, which is part of our system. So I don’t view that as gamesmanship. I view that as bringing clarity, and an opportunity for the court to administer justice. I think when there are identified issues that people are questioning legality of actions, in this case our secretary of state, I think it’s legitimate to bring that to the court. We signed on to an amicus brief, that was the the suit that was bringing these issues to the forefront, asking the Supreme Court

to adjudicate whether [there were] discrepancies between state law and the person administering the election. If there are discrepancies where someone is acting outside of the law and there are questions about legality, do you think it’s better not to? When a secretary of state unilaterally decides we are going to go away from voter identification and the process that has been used in the past, and I am just going to assume anyone who sends in an app, that’s who it is? A totally different process. Before, you had to prove you were who that was, and in this case it was, ‘We’re going to assume that whoever sends something, that’s who it is.’ There was a decision made to conduct this in a different way, and you put this in the backdrop also where Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats are trying to eliminate voter ID across the country through a federal law. So you combine those two, and those are very different ways of approaching

elections. I think it’s up to candidates to really draw people, and I think people should be encouraged to vote. I think candidates want to get people to vote, we want to make it easy to vote. But at the same time you want to have safeguards so you have integrity in the election. One other thing I would say is the Democrats named their election bill after John Lewis. I knew him, I served with him, he was a civil rights icon. He actually objected to the 2016 election. The reason he wasn’t successful doing it is because he couldn’t get a senator too. You have to have a house member and a senator agree to do it. So for all the platitudes about the John Lewis this and... it is kind of interesting. And again, I voted to certify, but I think it’s important that we have a process where, if people have objections, bring it to the court. We have a separation of powers, and the courts can make a decision. And once the courts decide that, then we have a rule of law.”

## New task force to support LGBTQ+ families

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced that it is forming a task force to support LGBTQ+ families who want to foster or adopt children.

The announcement comes as MDHHS signed a settlement agreement to end a lawsuit filed by Catholic Charities West Michigan, a private child welfare agency challenging the department’s non-discrimination policy. The settlement mirrors a settlement agreement in January with St. Vincent Catholic Charities of Lansing and comes following a unanimous Supreme Court decision.

“MDHHS recognizes, values, affirms, and appreciates the significant contributions made by the LGBTQ+ families caring for children in foster care and those choosing to adopt,” said Demetrius Starling, executive director of the department’s Children’s Services Agency. “For this reason, the department has begun creating the MiFamily Advancement and Leadership for LGBTQ+ Youth and families task force comprised of LGBTQ+ persons, allies and child welfare experts to determine how best to support LGBTQ+ families interested in becoming foster

and adoptive parents.”

The task force will assess how the child welfare system supports LGBTQ+ families, engage the LGBTQ+ community and learn from their perspectives, and make recommendations for how the department can best serve these families.

Peter Spadafore and Dr. Stacie Gibson will co-chair the task force. Spadafore serves on the Lansing City Council and is a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Gibson is the director of the Office of Workforce Development and Training for MDHHS. She is also a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Other members of the task force will be announced soon.

MDHHS’s commitment to welcoming and supporting LGBTQ+ families as valued foster and adoptive parents remains a top priority. The department intends to expand its support for LGBTQ+ families who want to become foster or adoptive parents as part of the department’s ongoing work to find loving homes for every child in foster care.

About 10,500 children are in foster care in Michigan and approximately 2,100 have a goal of adoption, with about 220 children still waiting for an adoptive family to be identified.

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*Full color in ad additional \$90*





Red Arrow

- HOCKEY

## SPORTS

## Lowell/Cal/TK playoff run ends in regional final

by Brett Bremer

He got one last shot off somehow.

Lowell/Caledonia/Thornapple Kellogg's Alex Skibinski glided into the left circle, with his left-handed shot, and took a whack as the puck dropped on a face-off with four-tenths of a second left in Wednesday evening's MHSAA Division 1 Hockey Regional Final at Lawson Ice Arena on the campus of Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

The Capital City Capitals had just iced the puck for the second time in the final ten seconds while Lowell/Cal/TK played with an empty net at the far end.

Skibinski's shot skipped across the top of the crease and within another fraction of a second that spot was covered with the sticks,

gloves and helmets of the celebrating Capitals. Capital City took a 3-2 victory over the Lowell/Cal/TK boys to earn a spot in Saturday's state quarterfinals.

Lowell/Cal/TK won two games during a tough regular season schedule, but surged to win two games to open the postseason in Kalamazoo before the one-goal loss Wednesday.

There may have been less urgency in the closing seconds if Lowell/Cal/TK captain Owen Carpenter hadn't ripped a shot from just inside the blue line straight out in front of the Capital City net that clanged off the cross bar and down into the goal with 2:48 to play in the third period Wednesday pulling his team within 3-2.

Capital City, a co-op for players from Laingsburg, Mason, Lansing Catholic,

St. Johns, Williamston and DeWitt, played much of the contest with a two-goal lead after going ahead 3-1 with 10:17 remaining in the second period.

Turnovers cost the Lowell/Cal/TK skaters a couple of times. Capital City got its first goal when senior forward Gunner Stirrett took the puck away at his own blue line and raced to the other end to jam the puck past Lowell/Cal/TK keeper Finn White.

Senior defenseman Logan Dunham scored his team's third goal, in the second period, when a LCTK clearing attempt didn't clear. It slid slowly to the top of the Capitals' offensive zone and Dunham had time to wind up a big slap shot that found its way through White.

Lowell/Cal/TK had tied the contest at 1-1 with 5:03 to go in the first period, but it was a tie that lasted all of 17 seconds.

Lowell/Cal/TK junior defenseman Zach Schneider made a nice play on the blue line to keep the puck in his team's offensive zone setting up his team's first-period goal. The puck found its way to senior forward Drew Klomparens who sent it down where sophomore forward Griffin Wolverton scored. Klomparens was credited with the only assist on the play.

After the ensuing face-off, Lowell/Cal/TK gave the Capitals' junior forward Bryan Matko a little too much time and space. Matko floated from the center into the left circle as traffic made its way in front of White,

and then fired a shot that worked its way through the crowd into the net. Duham earned an assist as his team went back up 2-1.

Great scoring chances were few and far between for both sides for much of the contest, even as the two teams traded a few penalties the rest of the way. A few of Lowell/Cal/TK's student supporters made their way to the yellow seats behind the penalty box in Lawson to taunt Stirrett a bit after he received a hooking penalty a minute and a half into the second period. He nearly made them pay for it rushing out of the box as his penalty expired to a pass through center ice for a breakaway in on White. White poked his stick out to his right and turned the chance away to keep it a one-goal deficit at

the time.

White also thwarted a one-on-one chance by Capitals forward Leo Clement late in the third period.

Lowell/Cal/TK had a goal waved off with 27.2 seconds to play in the second period as officials ruled it was knocked into the net with a hand pass.

Keeper Zach Dys made 24 saves in net for the Capitals.

Capital City improves to 15-7-1 with the victory and will face Midland in the MHSAA Division 1 State Quarterfinal at Suburban Ice Center in East Lansing Saturday at 7 p.m.

Lowell/Cal/TK closes the season with an overall record of 4-22.

## - BASKETBALL

## Girls give Rockford stern test

by Justin Scott  
sports reporter

Fans at Friday night's girls basketball game enjoyed a thoroughly entertaining battle between the young Lowell girls basketball team and Rockford in the district championship game.

Lowell got to the district finals by beating Forest Hills Northern and Greenville earlier in the week, and Friday were met with a gym full of fans both Lowell and Rockford packing the bleachers.

The game unfolded rather remarkably despite the differences between the two squads. Rockford

is one of the best teams in the state. They entered the game at 19-2, ranked sixth in class A. Rockford's enrollment, including their freshman center is 2480. For Lowell, that number is 1107. Entering the 2021-2022 school year, Lowell's record against the Rams is 263-365-18 with 21 unknown results across all sports since 1900. In Lowell's top-20 opponents by most results, that win percentage is second worst, only below FHC.

High school sports over a period of time's winning percentages against opponents can be

skewed not just by sport, but socioeconomic status and enrollment. While programs do not cite these, the bottom line is often when Lowell takes on Rockford in 2022, they are the underdog simply because there's a much smaller pool of students for Lowell.

That is the challenge the MHSAA faces when setting up tournaments. Class A consists of schools with enrollments of 835 and above. So, Rockford, the seventh-largest high school in the state is in the same class as Lowell, the 133rd largest school district in

the state. Macomb Dakota, who has 2876 students is in the same class as Harper Woods, with 835 students. So in theory, Dakota with over three times the number of students as Harper Woods can play in an MHSAA playoff, and it will always be a tough as for the latter. Lowell and Rockford's number are not quite as sharply distinct, but there is still a noticeable difference.

It's not an easily rectifiable situation for the MHSAA. There is the same number of schools per class. So, Lowell's problem is faced by every other school at the lower half of their class. Ionia has 828 students, and in Class B they can face Watervliet at 399. Eau Claire the top enrolled team in Class D had 188 students, can be matched up with Beaver Island Community school with just 17 students.

There's a reason you play the game though, and Lowell showed some March Madness-type magic going toe-to-toe with the Rams for nearly all four quarters. It was a perfect start for Lowell who held Rockford in check and Braxcynn Baker hit a corner three to give the Red Arrows a 5-0 lead. The



Students brought signs and player cuts-outs to cheer on the girls team Friday night.

Basketball, continued, page 14

## PUBLIC NOTICE

## CITY OF LOWELL

## 2022 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2022 will be held at Lowell City Hall, 301 E Main St SE, on the following dates:

**Organizational Meeting: March 7th, 10:00 am**

**Appeal Hearings:**

Wednesday, **March 16th**, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Thursday, **March 17th**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Meetings are by Appointment, to schedule, contact: City Hall @ ph. 616.897.8457

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2022 assessments

**By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 11th, 2022**

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2022 are as follows:

Commercial .....	45.64 .....	1.0960
Residential .....	45.39 .....	1.1020
Industrial .....	43.56 .....	1.148
Personal Property .....	50.00 .....	1.0000

**Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice**

The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days' notice.

Contact: Michael Burns – City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457





Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

# SPORTS

## Lowell wrestlers take on Ford Field

by Justin Scott  
sports reporter

1,120 of Michigan's best high school wrestlers came to Ford Field on Friday and Saturday with a dream.

Wrestling under the lights of Ford Field is the goal for MHSAA wrestlers around the state, and for Lowell, getting 14 wrestlers there, was a crowning achievement for the second time in program history (last in 2020).

Ten of Lowell's 14 wrestlers placed in the top eight, earning all-state honors, and after a day full of wrestling on Friday, six of 14 earned their way into Saturday's finals.

Following the placement matches in the morning, the grand march took place at 3:00, Lowell fans didn't have to wait long for their first finals opponent Carter Blough. The Lowell senior won easily in his first three bouts, by technical fall, major decision, and pinfall. The finals saw him face unbeaten Mattawan senior James Campbell. Campbell had pinned his way to the finals, and the match was certainly a good one.

Blough scored a first period takedown, second period reversal, and rode out the final two minutes to secure a 4-0 victory.

"It's indescribable.

At 103 was one of the more peculiar matches of the day. It was Lowell freshman Carter Cichocki against Detroit Mumford's Ja'marcus Smith - physically being freshman against senior. A win by Smith would make him the first ever wrestler from a Detroit Public School to win a state title. Mumford is the only wrestling program within DPS. Smith is a senior at 103. A rarity in the sport, to make weight at 103 as a senior is very difficult to do.

Smith went on to win, up 10-1 before scoring a last second pinfall. Ending up as runner-up in year one was a great accomplishment for Carter.

"I was dealing with sickness throughout the tournament, so to win my way to the finals I was very pleased. A couple things I need to work on, takedowns, and points given up, but I thought I wrestled pretty good," Cichocki told the Ledger after the finals.

Jackson Blum's time at Ford Field was just as dominant as the rest of his season. None of his matches went into the third period, scoring two pins and a technical fall before locking up a second period pinfall in the finals at the 112 pound weight class. He would've

large crowd.

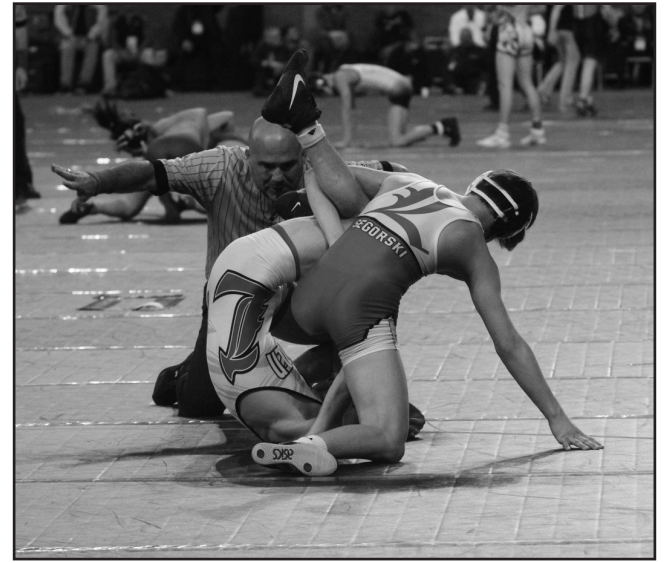
Lowell fans didn't have to wait long, getting their next state champion in the following weight class, 125. Owen Segorski the six-seed in his bracket won a 9-0 major decision against Goodrich's Ryan Angelo in round one. Chaos was the name of the 125 pound bracket where the four-seed and the top overall seeded wrestler were upset. Segorski won two more decisions before the final against Bryce Shingleton of Linden. The two wrestled a tight match, locked up 1-1 before Segorski scored a takedown with 26 seconds left, scoring back points and giving Lowell their third champion of the day.

"I knew I just had to stay

patient, wait for a mistake, and be able to capitalize on it," Segorski said of picking his spot.

The match of the day, perhaps across all of Ford Field, belonged to Ramsy Mutschler and Gaylord's Loudon Stradling. He entered the match 24-1, his only loss was to Mutschler in the team state finals only a week prior. The grudge match was equally as entertaining, with both wrestlers unable to get a takedown and trading escape points to advance to overtime.

After trading scoreless overtime periods, Mutschler earned an escape point and the opportunity for a 30-second ride out for a state championship. In a scramble to hold on, Stradling scored



Owen Segorski scores back points late in his championship win.

a reversal to take a 3-2 lead. As the final seconds ticked down Mutschler nearly scored a reversal of his own, but the clock hit 0:00 and that was that. Lowell coaches were frustrated with the reversal call as Mutschler had a hold of Stradling's leg.

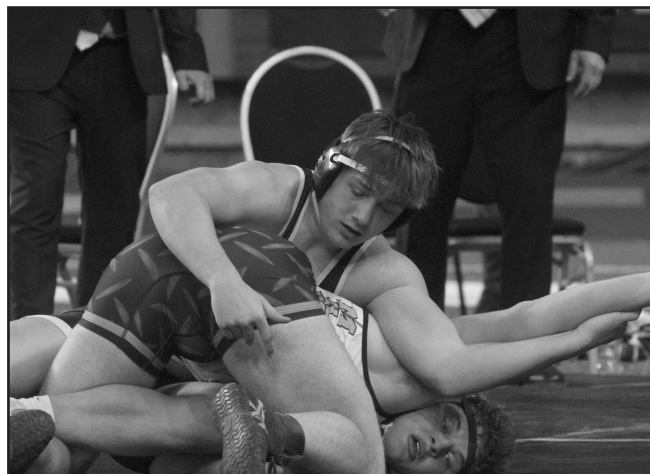
James Link at 135 was the last of Lowell's finalists. In the first round he won by fall over Luke Haney of Linden. Then in both the quarterfinals and semifinals won a pair of 5-1 decisions over opponents from Jackson Northwest and Gaylord respectively. The championship match was between the two-seed Link, and one-seed Aaron Lucio of Stevensville Lakeshore who came in with a 53-0

record and finished as state runner-up last year.

Link trailed 4-3 entering the third period and let an escape, to go for a match-tying takedown but it was Lucio who got the crucial takedown and would go on to win 7-4.

Other wrestlers placing for Lowell were Landon Miller, seventh; Jared Boone, third; Landon Musgrave, fifth and Carson Crace, fourth. On the girls side, Lowell's Kiara Hulbert became Lowell's first ever MHSAA girl's placer finishing eighth. It was the first year for MHSAA-sanction girls wrestling.

"It was really cool being able to compete with this group and all the support we get," Segorski concluded.



Senior Carter Blough during his 215 pound state championship match, Blough completed his high school wrestling journey by winning the state title.

- BASKETBALL

## Comeback against FHN falls just short

by Justin Scott  
sports reporter

In their regular season finale last Tuesday, the Lowell varsity boys basketball team hit the road for a matchup against a similarly rebuilding Forest Hills Northern team.

It was senior night for the Huskies, who had seven seniors to celebrate. Lowell starting lineup of Dawson Douma, CJ Steinebach, Kaleb Siebert, Drew Veldman and Gage Snarski had to weather a hot FHN start.

Husky senior Jonathan Fay started three for three from beyond the arc and the Huskies started seven of eight from the floor. Lowell hung in there though as Steiebach hit two three-pointers himself to end up down 17-16 following the first quarter.

Steinebach hit another three early in the second, but FHN always seemed to have the answer as Fay hit his fourth three, and the Huskies went on a 9-0 run to end the first half up 33-23.

They would maintain that lead throughout most of the third quarter, then in the fourth Lowell went on a run of their own down 44-36. Troy Taylor hit a jumpshot with 4:34 to play, then Steinebach hit a long three to put Lowell within one. The Red Arrows would tie the game

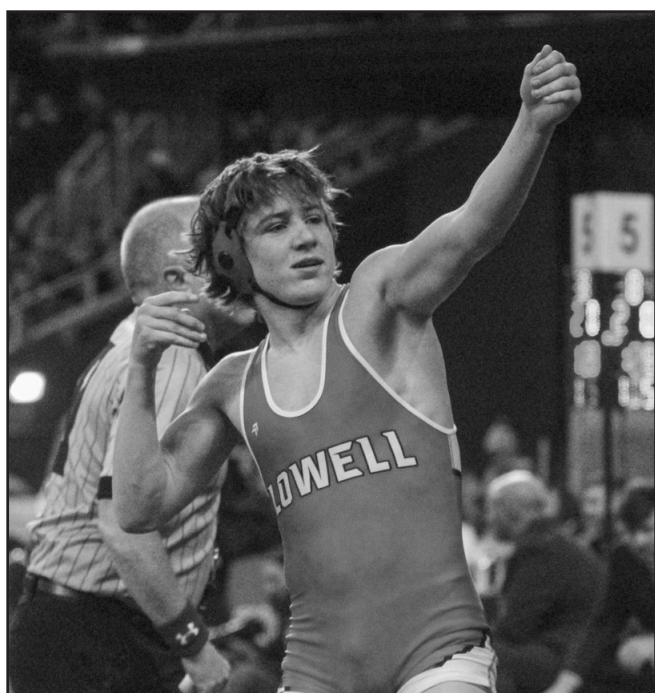


The Lowell team huddled at FHN during a timeout.

at 45-45 following a 9-1 run, but the Huskies scored the games last six points to wind up victorious.

The Red Arrows hosted Northview on Monday for

the opening district game.



Freshman Jackson Blum "Draws the Arrow" after winning the state title at 112.

I've been waiting for this moment since I was like six, I've been thinking about it all year. Just to go give my parents a hug, see my community cheering for me, it's the best feeling ever," Blough said after winning the state title.

won by technical fall if the pin had not been awarded.

"Our coaches prepared us so well that coming here feels just like any other tournament," Blum said of how he was able to maintain his high level of wrestling despite the bright lights and







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TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR 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. Please no phone calls regarding this position.

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

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. Feb, March & April Veterans Potluck at 2 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of puzzle solutions with letters filled in.

Grid of puzzle solutions with numbers filled in.

Large block of text containing puzzle solutions and words.





# ABCs continued

Frank Stephens briefly operated the South Side Garage located next to his home on Segwun Street. Oddly enough, the garage was located on a paper street, (Catherine Street) a street that was part of the Segwun plat that just never came to be. The garage sold gas, until the tanks were pumped out later, but the main attraction was the service work Frank performed. Before there was a bus garage Joe Green used to service the Lowell school busses there at the shop.

Frank served his community with volunteer hours also. During World War II he headed up several World War II bond drives, earning Certificates from the Federal Office of Price

Administration for his work. He organized the Lowell Civil Defense Organization, working out of a building at the fairgrounds. A part of the organization was The Ground Observer Corps. The GOC was a volunteer organization used by the Federal Government to track airplanes prior to the DEW-line radar network during the Cold War. Frank was one of the most enthusiastic CDO leaders in the state. He started with 40 observers, but grew the group to over 155 within six months. They were one of the few to cover full time, 24 hours a day. When Dr. B.H. Shepherd joined, Lowell was the first Post to have a medical officer on staff.

He served as head of the American Legion, Treasurer on the Lowell School Board, though rumor has it his wife Ruth helped him significantly with the work load, he was active in his church, the Snow United Methodist Church, the Rotary, and Masonic Lodge.

In 1932 he was part of the first Showboat. He continued to be involved with this for well over 30 years. He served as guide and pilot for 32 years, standing up at the wheel using a bell to signal the men at the motors which direction to turn. He served as Showboat Board President in the 1960's. In 1965 he was able to boast that he had sailed on every run since the beginning. He loved the Showboat and often invested his own money to help keep it alive.

Frank was part of the Levee Review Club, a group of eleven retired men who met for breakfast every day for over six years! (See ABC Round #1, L is for Levee.)

At his funeral, to honor and respect the many hours given the community, the Kent County Sheriff's Department, the Lowell Police Department and the American Legion all served as honor guards.



Frank Stephens in uniform.

# Basketball, continued

opening to the game energized a larger than usual Lowell crowd including the student section, standing up and well into the game.

This year's student section has grown in their coverage of sports across Instagram, a popular social media app for students. They would be happy with the first quarter, a 12-10 lead for the Red Arrows.

The three ball played a big part in the game, as did Taryn Jackson who hit a three, then assisted on a Piper Risdon layup to give Lowell a 17-16 lead. Both teams went into the break with 20 points.

Points were at a premium at times, but when Lowell needed points, Jackson continued to deliver scoring her 13th point on a driving layup and 16th on a three to give Lowell a 27-21 lead early in the third. The Rams would respond tying the game at 28 each before Risdon hit a three of her own for a 31-28 lead. Lowell had a 36-34 lead at the end of the third.



Lowell players try to force a turnover during the district final.

Early in the fourth Lexi Howell hit a difficult layup to make it 41-37 Lowell, and that's when things turned for Lowell. After a Rockford three, the Rams got the ball back down one with 6:41 left, back on defense Rockford's Sami DeKuiper took a step back three. Hitting it, Rockford took the lead and never looked back. The Rams went on a 15-0 run, as Lowell just couldn't get shots to fall in until a free

throw with under a minute to play. The Rams ended up winning 55-42 in a game that truly ended more lopsided than it was throughout the game.

The girls team ended the year with a 15-8 record and lost one senior. Baker and Risdon were awarded all-conference honors while Jackson and Emma Bruwer both earned honorable-mention all-conference honors.

## Haylie Beers ends season at state

Lowell junior Haylie Beers represented Lowell bowling this past Saturday in Canton. Competing against 60 of the best bowlers in the state, Beers placed 48th, bowling a high game of 188.

It was the third consecutive year that the

girls bowling program sent a bowler to the state tournament and second consecutive year for Beers.

Karli Vanduin of Whitehall won the state championship in Division 2.

## ★ In The Service ★

Seaman Mason Price completed eight weeks of intense Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, North Chicago, Illinois. He is a 2019 graduate of Grand Haven High School. He is the son of Jim and Hillary Price and Janna and Joe Ortiz and grandson of Jim and Helen Price of Lowell and John and Thea Beebe of Holland.

Seaman Price is currently attending "A" school in Pensacola, Florida to specialize in Cryptologic Technician Networking.



Seaman Mason Price

### LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE OF DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS**  
A Divorce action has been commenced by Plaintiff, Vivian Markus, against Defendant Ronald Markus, in the Kent Circuit Court for the State of Michigan, and Defendant must

answer or take other action permitted by law within 28 days after the last date of publication. If Defendant does not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against him for the relief demanded in the complaint.

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. and JUDGE: 22-210905-DE

Estate of ARLENE DOXTATER, Deceased.  
Date of birth: 12/18/1932.

c/o 410 Bridge St. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 2, 2022

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Arlene Duxtater, died 02/05/2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Laurel Ybarra

Meredith Curless (P78235)  
410 Bridge St. NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-458-3699

Laurel Ybarra  
344 Farnham SE  
Kentwood, MI 49548  
616-719-8260

### LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
KENT COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. and JUDGE: 22-210802-DE

Estate of CHARLES BYRON RIMBEY JR. Date of birth: July 22, 1949.

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Charles Byron Rimbey Jr., died December 20, 2021. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless

presented to Jeremiah Clayborn Rimbey, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 1, 2022

Emily K. Sheridan (P84658)  
688 Cascade W Pkwy SE  
Suite 230  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
616-648-6493

Jeremiah Clayborn Rimbey  
3976 York View Dr. NW  
Comstock Park, MI 49321  
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# FUN PAGE

## SUDOKU

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Level: Advanced

### 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!

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 Q O G A O A A H E A E G S V Q V R U C N  
 O R V U S O L U M N D S Y C M P E Q G A  
 E P T I G E S R A E I U A V I Q F I C E  
 S E P M A S I D E O T O Q F L P N M R O  
 R R F O S E L C I S S O N C D N M F U S  
 A P C P C V T Y O P S E M A E M M V A G  
 E L D D I M C N N H N G F R P V O N T Y

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

HEARING LOSS WORD SEARCH

CONDUCTIVE CONGENITAL DEAF

LOSS MIDDLE MILD

PINNA PROFOUND PROGRESSIVE

ACQUIRED AUDITORY CANAL COCHLEA

EAR EARDRUM HEARING INNER

MODERATE NEUROPATHY OSSICLES OUTER

SENSORINEURAL SEVERE SUDDEN

## Guess Who?

I am a singer/songwriter born in New Jersey on March 2, 1962. I used to skip school to record music with my cousin and I once worked as a janitor. My big break came in the early 1980s with a rock band named after me. I've also acted on television and in movies.

Answer: Jon Bon Jovi

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to hearing.

**E D F A**

--	--	--	--

Answer: Deaf

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

### CLUES ACROSS

- Central mail bureau
- Member of the family
- Partner to flow
- \_\_\_ Angeles
- Military mailbox
- Patriotic women
- Shallow lake
- Tear apart
- Middle Easterner
- Eat to excess
- Stained
- Certain peoples of equatorial Africa
- 1st day of month
- Skin disease
- Skating figure
- Annelids
- Gracefully slender
- Kids need it
- Swiss river
- Indents
- A sheer fabric of silk or nylon
- Belgian River
- \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
- Originate from
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Made less clean

### CLUES DOWN

- Scandinavian drink
- Washington river
- Fast-running flightless bird
- Nerve conditions
- Indicates near
- Immediate relevance
- Things you can eat
- Receptacles
- Retired Brewers great
- Month
- Happy New Year!
- Exclamation to convey truth
- Passports and licenses are two
- Ebert's partner Siskel
- Long skirt
- Scarf
- Yellow light
- Bird noise
- Opposite of start
- Bar bill
- Northeastern Mass. cape
- American rocker Snider
- Midway between northeast and east
- Part of company name
- Drugmaker \_\_\_ Lilly
- Electronic countermeasures
- Klutz
- Chinese statesman
- Stir with emotion
- Flat-bottomed boat
- Go-between
- This (Spanish)
- A plot of ground where seedlings are grown before transplanting
- Small waterfall
- Modern tech necessity (abbr.)
- Utter repeatedly
- One of the bravest
- Sun up in New York
- Space station
- Chilean seaport
- Hasidic spiritual leader
- They \_\_\_
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Single unit





LaughFestGR.org

PRESENTED BY GUN LAKE CASINO



TICKETS \$15

# RIVER CITY IMPROV

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18 AT 7:30PM  
THE OLD THEATER**

**About River City Improv:** Founded in 1993 by a couple of Calvin College (Grand Rapids, MI) grads who desired some more danger and adventure in their lives, River City Improv performs short-form improvisational comedy based on audience suggestions. Their style of clean, clever comedy is similar to that seen on ABC's *Whose Line is it Anyway?*



# DRUMS FOR ALL

FREE

WITH JOSH DUNIGAN

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18 AT 7PM  
LOWELL ARTS**

**Drums for All!** Is the product of the conversations and collaborations Josh had with the people in my life who live with disabilities of all different types. All you have to bring is your hands and smiles and he'll bring the drums! After spending some time discovering the music (and laughs) those in attendance will participate in guided activities.

Josh says, "We'll jam and make a musical night together."

Thanks to the support of the Lowell Community, Gilda's Club Lowell has been providing emotional health support to all on a cancer or grief journey for over 12 years!



**GILDA'S CLUB  
LOWELL**

An Affiliate of the **CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY**

Sponsored by the Lowell Area Community Fund at Grand Rapids Community Foundation



# Roanoke Ranch for Kids chosen for \$5,000 donation from local Meijer team members



Pictured, left to right: Erin, fashion department leader; Justin Morgan, food line leader; Mike Vander Ploeg, board president; Peg Willard, store director and Aaron Decker, founder of Roanoke Ranch.

Lowell Meijer team members chose to support Roanoke Ranch for Kids as part of nearly \$3M Meijer Team Gives fall donation program

Roanoke Ranch for Kids announced today that it received \$5,000 through the Meijer Team Gives fall donation program. The organization is one of an estimated 500 nonprofits to receive a surprise donation after being selected by a diverse panel of Meijer team members at the Lowell, MI Meijer store.

"We cannot thank the incredible team at Lowell Meijer enough for choosing Roanoke Ranch for Kids. We function solely

on donations from our community to serve local youth. We couldn't continue this mission without the help of amazing people and businesses like this," said Mike Vander Ploeg, Board President.

The first-ever Meijer Team Gives event will donate an estimated \$3 million to nonprofits, such as Roanoke Ranch for Kids identified by local Meijer team members in their communities across the Midwest.

"What makes this event so special is the hands-on role our team members played in nominating and selecting the nonprofits that would benefit in their own communities," said Cathy

Cooper, Senior Director of Community Partnerships and Giving for Meijer. "Our stores and distribution facilities know the needs of their communities because they live in and serve them every day, so we're pleased to have them lead this giving effort by identifying the local causes that matter most to them."

Earlier this fall, Meijer team members in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Wisconsin formed a diverse committee at each store and distribution facility to nominate a local nonprofit organization or two for consideration of a fall donation. Each store and distribution facility chose to award one local nonprofit \$10,000 or two nonprofits \$5,000 apiece in the Meijer Team Gives donation event.

Roanoke Ranch for Kids is committed to helping kids gain confidence and self-esteem. The \$5,000 donation will be used to support each child that visits the ranch in 2022.

Roanoke Ranch for Kids is a faith-based, non-profit organization in Lowell, MI. Their mission is to help at-risk youth gain confidence and self-esteem through working with horses. For more information on Roanoke Ranch for Kids, its efforts and how to support them, please visit [www.roanokeranch.com](http://www.roanokeranch.com)

For more information on Meijer and the retailer's commitment to its communities, team members and customers, please visit [www.meijercommunity.com](http://www.meijercommunity.com).

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell Charter Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2022/2023 at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash SE., Lowell, MI 49331 at a regular meeting on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** A complete copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Lowell Charter Township office or on the website [www.lowelltp.org](http://www.lowelltp.org)

Any interested party may submit written comments concerning the proposed budget until the date and time of the hearing.

Monica Burt, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township