

Liam Lopez-Wagner — he was born for this

By Cliff Yankovich
contributing writer

Class, our vocabulary word for today is “lepidopterist” — that is someone who studies butterflies and moths. To the best of my knowledge, Liam Lopez-Wagner is the very first lepidopterist to cross my path. If the seven-year-old Liam has his way, we could be meeting many more in the future.

The skeptical among you might be wondering, “How can a young man of seven earn the label ‘lepidopterist?’” Rightly so, that is a logical question. Will and Betsy, his parents, can testify that Liam took an active interest in these delicate winged creatures before he hit his second birthday.

“It was at the Smithsonian’s Museum of Natural History, during a work-related trip to Washington D.C. for World Ocean Day, that Liam attached the word ‘lepidopterist’ to himself after meeting one with his dad,” Betsy Lopez-Wagner recalled. “He became fascinated with the Madagascan moon moth in D.C. and loved the monarch’s colors and migration stories.”

Lepidopterist, continued, page 4



Junction Bar & Grill Opens



page 9

Apartment fire



page 2

Vascito



page 8



lhs sports
pages 10 - 11

50¢



The Cemetery Club opens

The play, Cemetery Club, by Ivan Menchell and directed by Sue Bradford with assistant Teresa Goldner, opened last weekend at Lowell Arts Gallery.

Pictured in the main roles are Sandy Graham Kirchinger as Lucille, Deb Canfield as Doris, and Martha Hayden as Ida. Ken Parrish plays Sam. Joanne Bailey-Boorsma plays

Mildred. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

The play continues on May 6 & 7 at 7 p.m., May 8 at 2 p.m.

Picture by Sue Grusnis.



The Elvis Show comes to Lowell on May 14

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

Tim Conley, of Clarksville, is an award-winning Elvis tribute artist. He got his first Elvis jumpsuit when he was 13 years old, and watched Elvis all the time with uncle Bill.

“Uncle Bill is a huge Elvis fan,” Conley said. “I do my best to pay tribute to Elvis and to bring back memories.”

Conley has performed at the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, Las Vegas, and Branson, Missouri. But the performance at The Old Theater will be his first one since the COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020.

He will be performing bits and pieces from

three different eras: 50s, 69 shows, and Madison Square Garden. He gets his Elvis jumpsuits from B&K Enterprises in Tennessee for \$1,500 a piece.

“I have \$10,000 worth of costumes,” he said. “I’ve made my money back.”

His favorite Elvis song is *Suspicious Minds*. “It’s an upbeat fun song,” he said. “I do everything I can to portray Elvis to the best of my ability. I am Elvis when I am on stage and myself off stage.”

Other than being Elvis, Conley owns a seal coating company doing

Elvis, continued, page 2

Apartment fire damages Lowell landmark

By Michelle Smith
contributing writer

A Lowell landmark caught fire April 15 and suffered mostly exterior damage, though its future is unclear.

of the building was engulfed in flames at the time of their arrival.

Fire Chief, Shannon Witherell, said all three units had occupants at home

Witherell said the fire most likely started on the back deck or the kitchen of the upper apartment. Most of the damage was in these areas, and the building's structure

fire under control. "Given the wind conditions on that day when we first arrived, we are pleased with the swift knockdown of the fire," Witherell said.



The Lowell Area Fire Department was called to a three-unit apartment building located at 2287 Segwun Ave. April 15 at 3 pm. The roof

during the time the fire began, but there were no injuries to any residents or fire personnel.



was still intact. The lower apartments suffered smoke and heat damage.

Members of the Alto and Cascade fire departments aided in putting out the fire, and an aerial unit from Caledonia assisted with putting out the fire on the roof. Witherell said it took about 30 minutes to get the

The apartment is currently abandoned and secured with no electrical power.

The building's location at the corner of Segwun Ave and Grand River Drive, as a standalone building and its unique facade, make it a landmark in Lowell. Lisa Plank, executive director of the Lowell Area Historical



Museum said the building was constructed in 1910 and was originally a grocery and general merchandise store, and later was used as a church from 1975-1986.

A representative from the property management

United Properties of Grand Rapids said a preliminary investigation is underway of the details of the building damage, and the future of the building is undecided.

...

I'm sick of following my dreams, man. I'm just going to ask where they're going and hook up with 'em later.
Mitch Hedberg (1968-2005)



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Elvis, continued

driveways and parking lots.

Conley stays motivated by his fans' appreciation of his entertainment, and he likes the venue in downtown Lowell.

"It's an old theater and I like to bring entertainment to my friend's venue and help with renovations," he said.

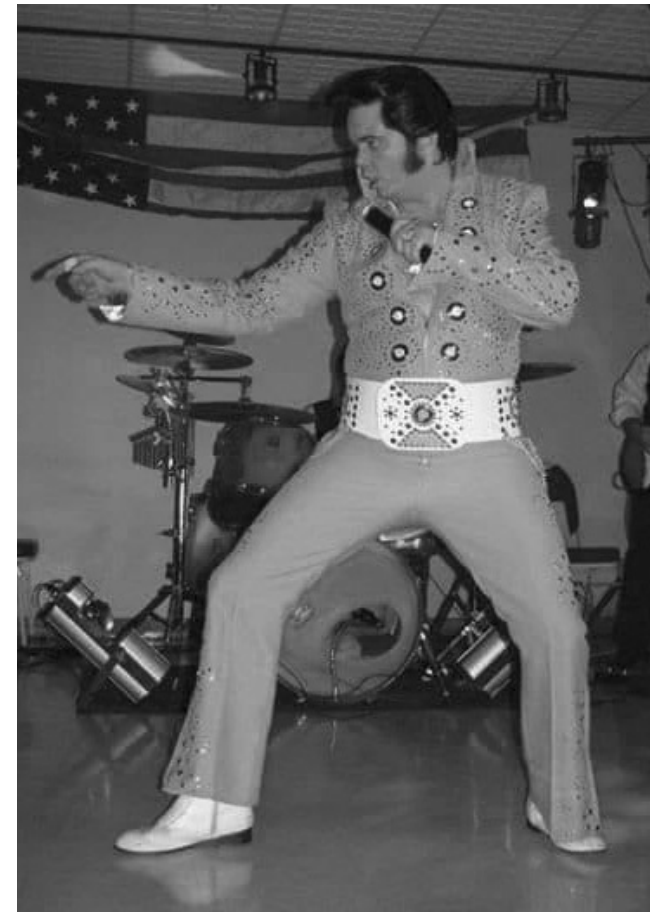
During the show, there will be a tribute to the veterans, law enforcement and honor mothers.

How did Conley master Elvis? By watching video after video of Elvis for a few months, Conley, 42, learned the routine. "I never got to see him," he said.

"It's a legacy that will never die."

The show is Saturday, May 14 with two times, 12 pm and 7 pm. The noon show: \$20 general admission, doors open at 11:30 am; \$30 VIP, doors open at 11 am. The 7 pm show with dinner: \$35 general admission, doors open at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6 pm; \$40 VIP, doors open at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm. Dinner tickets must be purchased by Tuesday, May 10. The 7 pm show only: \$20 general admission, \$30 VIP.

For tickets call 1-269-908-6745 or 1-616-897-0007 or www.tributeshows.ticketleap.com



Tim Conley as Elvis.

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Ryne Clarke to play at May 22 free concert at The Showboat

By Bill Lee
contributing writer

It is clear that when you walk into Ryne Clarke's home in Lowell and go up to the second floor which houses his performing area and modest recording studio, this 23-year-old loves and lives music. The rooms are covered with posters of bands and musical art, along with many different instruments – drums, keys, and specifically, a row of guitars (and a banjo) he has for every occasion. He started playing guitar at the age of 14 and has already released six albums and more music on his online platform called "The Ryne Experience." Clarke has lived in Lowell his entire life and even started his first band at Lowell High School called The Preservers. He, along with Patty PerShayla and the Mayhops and Sandra Effert, will be headlining a free concert by the Showboat on May 22. The brainchild of Cliff Yankovich, the free concert will celebrate Chimera Design's 20th anniversary in Lowell, and Clarke is excited for the event. "I'm glad he asked me to play for his 20th anniversary," said Clarke. "It's going to be fun. Playing outside is always great by the river."

Clarke's immediate influence when he was young was Weird Al Yankovic, and Clarke credits the comedy musician for getting him to play the accordion, his first instrument. From there, his father got him listening to some classic rock and he started playing acoustic and electric guitar. It took

a couple of years to get comfortable, but once he did, he started to play more and more and picked up other instruments as well – the bass, the piano, the drums, and even the electric kazoo, an instrument he discovered when trying to replicate a saxophone in Pink Floyd's "Money". "We took a dimestore kazoo, ran it up to a mic and taped it around," said Clarke. "It goes through a processing effect through a little amp. It has a real grainy sound. That's definitely a staple of the live show. It's fun to bring it out. It sounds pretty cool now."

Although he loves classic rock like The Who, The Beatles, and Pink Floyd, when you really listen closely, you can hear the sounds of less mainstream rockers like Lou Reed, and particularly, Wilco. He is naturally drawn to their unique sounds and styles. "It's bands like Wilco, Velvet Underground, and Pavement, these bands that don't have perfect sounds," said Clarke. "There's elements that are not musically perfect or correct and that interests me. When I hear something I feel that I can do, I relate to it. It feels a little atypical or out of the norm. It's something I can gravitate to more than just a pop song... A lot of it is vocal stuff too, because I started singing by not really wanting to and trying to find someone who more fit my vocal style (Jeff Tweedy of Wilco). He still has a really great voice, but not a perfect one, and that's why I like it."

For years, he has been collaborating with many musicians in the Lowell and Grand Rapids area and has gotten his name out there. The time he put in and the people he met helped him to make his most popular EP, *The Onion Tree*, which was released in 2020 and will be made into vinyl this summer. The album features live and recorded songs and has 37 musicians featured in some way throughout the album. *The Onion Tree* was centered around the live band that I put together for two years," said Clarke. "It was showcasing those musicians, as well as how far I could take collaboration... as well trying as keeping it band-centered. With *The Onion Tree* album, I kind of threw everybody that I worked with in blind. 'Come over today and do a song' and I wouldn't let them know what song we're going to do or what it sounded like and then started playing it, and it sounded really bad at first and then you get through it six or seven times and say, 'oh this is where this went', and that is the most exciting part."

Clarke has been working hard for many years and finally seems to be hitting his stride. His goal has been to work part-time, maybe take summers off, and be involved in music as much as possible. He seems to be there. This summer he'll play at least 40 shows throughout Michigan, from May to August, and he'll be renting his studio out to bands who are looking to



Ryne Clarke

record. "I'm going to try and keep grinding, which most of it is constant emailing and setting events up," said Clarke. "It's exhausting, but at the same time, I feel like I'm pushing past. I was able to quit the day job for two months last year. Hoping to take the summer off next year completely."

And when he is not performing, he'll be doing radio work, writing, collaborating, and helping other bands record music – something that has become a bit of a passion project for him. "I would like to do more of the engineering, mixing, and recording of other groups," said Clarke. "I've been getting paid

too, since winter time, whenever a band comes over, so it's been exciting to get compensated for doing audio. I want to help other people make music without charging them an arm or a leg."

In the end, he loves playing music and creating something that is true to himself. "There's no wrong way to do it, which is why I like music in general; it doesn't seem like you can do stuff right or wrong. It's really open-ended... all good music is selfish, making it for yourself. I feel glad saying that everything I recorded I've wanted to record it that way and made it how I wanted to. And if

people like it, great, but if not, I'll probably keep doing it."

When he plays on May 22 at the Showboat, he won't have to go very far, as he lives only a couple of streets down. You too will not have to go far either if you want to see Clarke, as he's played with the youth fair, the open mic with Riverwalk festival, a church right down the street from him, and sometimes on Saturdays at the Junction Bar and Grill on Main Street. Also, you can find his recordings and EPs on his website Ryneshyne.club, and Bandcamp, Spotify, and Youtube.

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answers to frequently asked questions or to find information about the application process.

Thinking about retirement or know a veteran who is? Military service members can receive Social Security benefits in addition to their military retirement benefits. For details, visit our webpage for veterans, available at www.ssa.gov/people/veterans.

Please share this information with the military families you know. We honor and thank the veterans who bravely served and died for our country and the military service members who serve today.

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

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Lepidopterist, continued

When the family returned to California, where they lived before moving to Lowell, Liam began to learn about the western monarch there and found out that the population was in danger and declining because their habitat was being destroyed. He decided then that he wanted to help.

"I first fell in love with butterflies when I was two," Liam related. "Why butterflies? Because they fly with four wings and they look so beautiful – with all the colors of the rainbow."

Fast forward five years,

and one can easily see, Liam has taken his vow to help butterflies very seriously. He has a website: www.amigosformonarchs.org where you can go to learn how to help his winged friends. You can find him and his amigos on Facebook as well. April 22nd marked his fourth year of giving away milkweed seed kits to help others put monarch gardens on their property to feed his friends as they travel. Liam is now offering a FREE seed kit on his website. His efforts caught the attention of Scholastic

News magazine which featured him as the cover story of their May/June edition. He recently spoke at Bushnell Elementary and has started receiving letters from school kids who read the story in Scholastic News.

Whew – this young man is so busy advocating for the planet, his parents have to hustle to keep up with him.

I can tell you firsthand that Liam is not a quiet-sit-in-the-corner-with-a-book seven year old. He has many passions, including rocks and minerals, his chickens, playing Pac-Man, and he

loves tooling around the family farm on his electric powered dirt quad razor. Liam was presented with the opportunity to learn how to change a tire when he "jumped" his razor over a wooden pallet.

Liam is very fond of his chickens. He once told his parents, "I hug chickens because I can't hug a butterfly."

His parents share his concern for nature and our planet. "Get outdoors" is a theme at their house. They love Michigan in all of its seasons and encourage people to experience

everything the earth has to offer and suggest picking up some litter while out enjoying the beach, woods or your favorite park. If we all do just a little to conserve and protect the planet that feeds us all, things will go better for the butterflies and other pollinators, as well as the future generations that Liam represents.

When asked if he was the only seven year old lepidopterist, Liam responded, "I don't know. I hope not! I want other kids to be one too."

He continued by reporting that kids seem to

respond to his messages about taking care of the environment for all creatures, and to avoid using pesticides and other "toxic things", better than adults. (NOTE: Come on grown-ups, we can do better.)

Lowell is very fortunate to have Liam as our resident lepidopterist. If anyone takes the time to reach out to him, you can be sure he will respond. Warning: his enthusiasm is very contagious.

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Book Corner

Caging Skies

By Christine Leunens

by Alison Yarger
Staff Writer

Whew! Have you ever read a book and just stuck with it because you knew, you absolutely knew, it couldn't get any worse the further you read on? Well, this one never did get any better and by the time you were finished, you could simply stare at a wall and perhaps get as much enjoyment as reading this story.

Having seen the movie *JoJo Rabbit*, which I thought was well done and because the movie was based upon

this book, I thought reading it would definitely give me more information and speculation about Johannes (JoJo). Never could I have been more wrong.

My husband finished the book first and was skeptical at recommending this for me. However, I took on the unpleasant task, which quickly turned into a chore.

The main character, Johannes, is a malicious young man who joins the Hitler Youth Group, living and breathing Nazism. Throughout the story, he doesn't change, despite

the outcome of the war. Elsa, who is the Jewish girl hidden in their home by her parents is never given a personality; she is all distortion and is subjected to not just Johannes twisted love for her but his brutal and malevolent behaviors. Johannes continues to keep Elsa locked away for four more years after the war, lying daily about who won the war.

Subjects like war, disability, religion, mental illness and poverty are treated like crutches to try to hold up the story, but the reader ends up understanding absolutely nothing about those subjects or how they truly impacted the characters in the story. The story is dull and passionless, and to me the only character given any personality or gumption is the grandmother.

A story that goes absolutely nowhere, I simply can't suggest that anyone take the time to read it. Watch *JoJo Rabbit* – you'll thank me.

I'd give this 1 out of 5 stars.



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MAY SCHEDULE

Robin Marvel, Framing a Family, Healing
Childhood Trauma, May 6
Diana Duell, special guest, May 13
Jon Stott, Summers at the Lake, May 20
Summer Porter, Maggie Chambers,
A Mouse Tail on Mackinac Island, May 27

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viewpoint



100 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 11, 1922

J.B. Yeiter, one of the oldest business men, retiring from active connection with the business on account of ill health. The business, Yeiter & Co. will be continued by O.J. Yeiter, the former junior member of the firm. Mr. Yeiter's business relations have been marked for honesty and square dealings.

On Monday, unfortunately, Fred Smith's body came in close contact with a colt's heels - result two broken ribs.

Erection of a new Butterworth hospital of 250 beds, involving an expediter of \$750,000 and expanding into a 400-bed institution with an investment of \$1,000,000, will begin as soon as plans are completed in detail by architects.

Open season started Monday on brook trout, all varieties, and on wall-eyed pike. The legal limit for trout during the season, which lasts until September 1, is seven inches in length. Only 20 can be caught in a day, and that number is the limit in possession at a stream. Forty can be legally possessed away from a stream.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 8, 1947

Richard Langa, age 4, was reported missing by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Langa of Cumberland Drive, 4 miles northwest of Lowell, Tuesday afternoon. A neighbor lady, Mrs. Ann Blocker, found the wandering boy about a mile from his house, tired but still moving along accompanied by his two faithful dogs.

Skeletons of three Indians have been discovered near the site of a trading post established around 1820 on the Grand River by Six Robinson, Grand Rapids pioneer. Frank Dumond, curator of the Kent County museum, said the remains probably were those of the tribe of Chief Hazy Cloud, which inhabited the area at the time the post was built.

At the meeting of the Village Council on Monday of this week, after long discussion, the tax rate for the coming year was left at 12 mills. Leaving the tax rate at this figure was decided in spite of the fact that the village went over \$6,000 in the red last fiscal year.

The annual Spring cleanup in Lowell starts next Monday, May 12. Citizens are requested to place tin cans and other articles at the curb.

50 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 11, 1972

The formation of a new Girls League Sports program, to play against other surrounding schools, was discussed briefly with Bob Perry, athletic director, at the school board meeting. Perry said that more and more schools are adding such a program since the recent court ruling allowing girls to take part in competitive sports. The board agreed to a basketball schedule next September with the possibility of adding tennis, softball, and volleyball at a later date.

Gary Weehoff, of Lowell, is only 17 but he is already a licensed pilot...plus, he owns his own plane...and he hopes to pursue a career in flying. He began by working part-time at the Lowell Airport. During that time, he spent nine of the months training for a pilot's license, and has earned 66 hours of flight credits. While in training, Gary used his money working at the airport to buy his training plane from Specialist Aviation.

Speeders beware! Last Monday marked the first week of the new township patrols in the area. The township patrols will be on duty around-the-clock except in Lowell, Bowne and Tyrone townships where manpower was not available. These townships will receive 16-hours service. Townships sharing a patrol car are Ada and Cascade, Lowell and Bowne, and Gaines and Caledonia.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger May 7, 1997

Saturday's Lowell Community Expo will feature area businesses, organizations, churches, recreational opportunities, and community services. Liz Baker, assistant director for the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce has used the event as an opportunity to pull all entities together to promote the aggressive growth to Lowell.

Lowell's third annual Lowell Area CROP Walk, was one of approximately 150 Michigan communities to participate in the Church Word Service fundraising event. Coordinating the event this year were Lowell First United Methodist Church pastors, Gordie Barry and Lee Feusse. While exact figures have not yet been tallied, Feusse said she believes over \$20,000 will have been raised, surpassing last year's total of roughly \$18,000.

The city has agreed to allow the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce to move its office from 524 E. Main to the old NAPA building, 113 Lafayette. The city has allocated \$20,000 from its 1997-98 budget for building renovation which will cover its primary area.

Seeing a need to pickup where the government has left off, the Bowne Center United Methodist Church has begun a fund drive for the construction of a Habitat for Humanity house. The fund drive began four weeks ago and has already raised over 25 percent of their goal of \$20,000 and 100 days of labor.

to the editor

Dear Editor,

Wow! The Lowell Arts Theater Company has yet another hit on their hands. I was privileged to attend the Saturday, April 30 performance of Ivan MENCHELL's delightful script that tells the story of three Jewish widows and the challenges presented by visits to their husbands graves and the subsequent transitions to new lives in their futures. The story is a wonderful representation of the human experience in dealing with the subject of death and how three women approach the changes that the subject thrusts upon their lives. The play moves quickly through anecdotal circumstances that many in the audience will be themselves witness too. The script is crisp and loaded with fine comedy and perhaps an occasional tear or two.

The community of Lowell is truly blessed with some very talented actors (and because I'm old school, actresses) who demonstrate that quality live theater can be had right on West Main Street.

The venue of the Lowell Arts Gallery provided an intimate locus right in the community's backyard, proving that you don't need to venture to New York or LA or even Grand Rapids to see good theater. The ensemble cast gave a memorable performances and provided plenty of smiles and more vocal laughter. The character creations of Martha Heyden, Sandy Kirchinger, Deb Canfield, Ken Parrish, and Joanne Bailey-Boorsma, all locals with considerable experiences with the Lowell Theater Company, proves once again that good live entertainment can be had for just over a sawbuck.

Well, the Lowell area has three more opportunities to enjoy a truly outstanding investment in good entertainment while supporting the hard work of community members, both on stage and behind the scenes, whose love of performing benefits us all. Don't miss The Cemetery Club...May 6, 7, or 8th at the Lowell Arts Gallery.

*Roger Royer
Lowell*

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
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At Your Local Library

Englehardt (Lowell) Branch of Kent District Library, 200 N. Monroe St., 616-784-2007, kdl.org. Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, noon - 8 pm; Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9:30 am - 5 pm.

Mahjongg

Fridays from 1-3 pm. American Mahjongg, a game of skill, strategy and calculation. All skill levels welcome.

Open Craft Lab

May 7, 1-3 pm. Try something new or bring in your own project! This month, creating a personal "command center" using cookie sheets. For adults 18+.

Bookworms Book Discussion


May 10, 10-11 am. Fun, informal discussions of great books. May's book, *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah.

Tea Tasting with Pour-d Tea Bar

May 11 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Tea is a mystery in a cup. Unravel the stories and history inside the teapot. Taste the five categories of tea. Learn how it's grown, processed and flavored. Explore its deep cultural influence, from Royal British tea parties. Registration opens April 11 at 12:00 am for adults 18+.

Summer Wonder teen crew orientation

May 31, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Enthusiastic and energetic teen volunteers are wanted to help with Summer Wonder at KDL. Fun times are guaranteed, with the added benefit of service experience. Registration is required via a paper application available at your branch. For teens ages 11-17.



Spaghetti Dinner

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ABCs of Lowell history

ABCs The ABC's of Lowell History was introduced in 2020 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

between the "townies" and the farmers. Suddenly, people could live on farms and work in the city. In order to accommodate automobiles, roads had to be improved. A major contributor in the growth of Lowell was the development of M-21, as there was no paved

Ionia. This alternate route was to follow a similar route as the stage coach line that ran from Grand Rapids to Ionia in the mid 1800's.

Members of the roads and bridges committee of the board of supervisors met for a picnic at the proposed county park along the north and west of Flat

Grand Rapids." Saranac leaders too expressed disapproval, as their town would also be bypassed. A delegation from Lowell met with the road board to make the case for the river route. There were nearly 70 delegates, including; State Representative Dexter G. Look, F.M. Johnson



M21 entering Lowell.

series will continue with a fourth round of the alphabet.

Z is for Zoom

"From walking and ox carts to automobiles, Lowell has seen many changes in how individuals zoom from one place to another." - Z is for Zoom, ABC's of Lowell History Round 3

As with the rest of the world, the automobile dramatically impacted life around Lowell. With a small city center and a sizable agricultural region surrounding, the car shrunk the disparity in lifestyle

roadway connecting Lowell to Grand Rapids. This state highway was intended to be international, going through Ontario and then into New York.

While following the river from Lowell to Ada seems so natural to us today, there was a debate about that route. In 1927 a new county park had been proposed, and Melville McPherson, supervisor of Vergennes Township, presented an alternate route request for M21. This new route would take the motorist to the proposed county park, and then on to

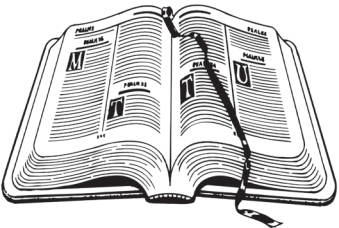
River above Fallsburg in Vergennes Township. Later the supervisors met together with the county road commission, and conferred with State Highway Commissioner Frank F. Rogers.

The community of Lowell voiced their disagreement to the rerouting of proposed M21, even stating "it goes without saying that any proposal to remove this State highway from Lowell Main Street will not be regarded as a friendly act by the citizens of the most populous town in Kent County outside of

of the Lowell Ledger, Charles Doyle of the King Milling Co., Harry Day of the City State Bank, Dr. S.S. Lee, O.J. Yeiter, who was village president, R.E. Springett, M.N. Henry, F.J. Hosley, E.D. McQueen, L.W. Rutherford, R.D. Stocking, C.H. Runciman, and J.M. Hutchinson of the Lowell Journal. The delegation's points were that the river route would have the most beautiful scenery in Michigan, it would be cheaper to upgrade the

ABCs continued, page 12

area churches



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LIFE GROUPS.....11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
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Website: calvarylowell.org

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays7 PM
Barrier-Free

St. Mary Catholic Church
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Website: www.stmarylowell.com

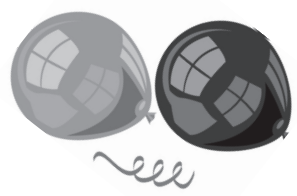
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Contemporary Service: 10:30 am
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

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- MAY 4**
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- MAY 5**
Scott Carpenter, Kevin Vezino, Kerry Vezino, Brenda Erickson, Robert Dalziel, Kaitlyn Kovacs, Lani Brown.
- MAY 6**
Jace Bellah.
- MAY 7**
John Schalow, LeAnn VanDyke, Duane Rasch.
- MAY 8**
Rhoda Greenman-Batt, Rhonda Timmers, Mary
- MAY 9**
Tasha Brand, Ashley Reinbold, Hillary Briggs, Eric Witherell, Bobbie Clouser, Amy VanDuinen.
- MAY 10**
Dee Korb, Rebecca Boruta, Jim Lindhout, Eric Swift.



The private-public school debate in high school athletics

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

It's one of the longstanding debates in Michigan high school sports, the complex workings of public and private schools, their differences, and whether the Michigan High School Athletic Association's rules have allowed for an even playing field for the state's public schools.

It wasn't until the 1980's that parochial schools really began to take root in American educational culture.

For definition purposes in this high school sports setting, we're going to call a private school a school with a tuition and selectivity process for students, while public schools are the government-backed free institutions. The new charter schools, becoming big in inner-cities around the state are considered public schools, though with distinct differences not pertaining to this article.

Lowell sits in an area where their very large school district doesn't deal with close private school borders. Transfers from Lowell to private schools are not as common as you might see at a school like Northview, with a variety of private schools right at its border.

In 2019, the MHSAA had 749 schools that competed in athletics. As of 2015, the number of non-public schools in the MHSAA was 14 percent. Of the 1914 team state championships won by either private or public schools, 41 percent were won by private schools. A statistical difference of 27 percent.

So there is some credence to the complaints. But is it true across all sports, or are private schools racking up titles in some sports, but not all?

The private schools that are racking up wins in the sports affluent schools tend to perform well in soccer, hockey, tennis, golf, and boys lacrosse. Soccer might be a surprise to some, but playing soccer at a high level in the United States requires a significant capital expense, something that has been discussed at the highest levels of US Soccer. The other four are quite expensive sports to play.

Football, of course, is the one everyone likes to focus on, and every football season when the trophies are hoisted at Ford Field, everyone is talking about how many private schools won. Again, 14 percent of schools in the state are private, and they're winning 32 percent of the state titles

have come against private schools. This makes sense, though few private schools competed against Lowell before the 1980's. Location wise, there aren't many private high schools around Lowell.

Statistically, Lowell holds their own against private schools. One school, though, has a statistical advantage over Lowell and that school is Grand Rapids Christian. Why is this? Most private schools in Grand Rapids are actually fairly small. The top schools, in terms of games played, are GR Christian, Unity Christian, GR Catholic Central, GR West Catholic, South Christian, Calvin Christian, Holland Christian, and NorthPointe Christian. Of those, only Grand Rapids Christian has constantly been in class A. It is likely why Lowell has held their own. Additionally, GR Christian is the one of those eight to have been in Lowell's conference. That conference standing meant more games between the two, more frequently, and across all sports.

It isn't the Grand Rapids private schools that dominate high school athletics conversations though. The GR private schools do have a stronghold in MHSAA's Division's 3-5, yes. It is the lower divisions where this issue is more exacerbated. Just a few weeks ago, Wyoming Tri-Unity Christian beat Ewen Trout Creek in the boys basketball state championship. ETC has less than 2000 people in its district. Tri-Unity Christian is in the shadow of a city with 200,000.

Sociologists have proven that the higher one's social class, the greater the average involvement in sport. This owing to less need for a teenage job, a higher likelihood of access to advanced lessons, and well as more capital for equipment.

The biggest schools will generally draw the most attention; that is why the Catholic High School League in Detroit always draws the most talk on the subject. The all-boys and all-girls high schools within the league have their enrollment doubled by the MHSAA being same-sex high schools. The names in this league are familiar ones to Lowell fans. Brother Rice, Detroit Catholic Central, and Warren de la Salle are just some of the 27 private catholic schools in the metro Detroit area; a very different playing field than the west side of the state.

Private School Power Sports

Sport	Public	Private	Total	Private Win %	Public Win %
Boys Lacrosse	10	22	32	68.75%	31.25%
Girls Soccer	40	44	84	52.38%	47.62%
Ice Hockey	30	33	63	52.38%	47.62%
Boys Soccer	42	46	88	52.27%	47.73%
Girls Tennis	89	71	160	44.38%	55.63%
Boys Golf	46	32	78	41.03%	58.97%
Boys Tennis	112	72	184	39.13%	60.87%
Volleyball	60	32	92	34.78%	65.22%
Baseball	55	29	84	34.52%	65.48%
Football	131	62	193	32.12%	67.88%

Public School Power Sports

Sport	Public	Private	Total	Private Win %	Public Win %
Gymnastics	21	0	21	0.00%	100.00%
Comp Cheer	59	1	60	1.67%	98.33%
Girls Bowling	59	1	60	1.67%	98.33%
Boys Ski	29	1	30	3.33%	96.67%
Boys Bowling	52	5	57	8.77%	91.23%
Wrestling	80	8	88	9.09%	90.91%
Girls Ski	27	3	30	10.00%	90.00%
Boys Track	75	9	84	10.71%	89.29%
Boys XC	77	11	88	12.50%	87.50%
Girls Swim	47	8	55	14.55%	85.45%

Is it true though? Are these schools winning at a tremendous pace or are they given a bad rep?

Lowell is tied for 28th most MHSAA state titles since 2000 with 15 on the below list, 11 from wrestling, three from football, one from bowling (equestrian is not an MHSAA sport so is not included in this list). All of the schools in the top 10 are either affluent public high schools or private schools, with the exception of Ann Arbor Pioneer, a diverse school who built up concurrent track, swimming, and tennis state powers in the early 2000's.

Some of these schools are good all around, but most are simply honed in and win championships in select few sports. For example, Ann Arbor Greenhills has 32 state championships since 2000. 29 of those have been in boys and girls tennis.

East Grand Rapids may represent the most diverse championship winner, with 12 sports represented. 65 total state championships, means that even the Pioneers are mostly winning titles in specific sports.

The statistics show it. Yes, private schools do have an advantage statistically in sports. It is why the TSSAA (Tennessee High School sports governing body) approved a public postseason and

private school postseason beginning in 2019-2020. Other states, particularly in the south, have similar rules, where some private schools are not just state powers but national powers like IMG Academy in Florida.

The state of Oregon sees it a different way; they think that money has more to do with success than the denotation of private vs. public, and that's why they have a multiplier based on free and reduced lunch numbers. The less students on free and reduced, the higher the multipliers.

This isn't news to the MHSAA. They know it, they understand it, and

they've faced petitions on it. Chad Phillips, a former Michigan High School head coach, started up the website fairplayoffs.com and consistently gets traction each year as private schools rack up sports titles.

There has been no good solution brought to the Michigan High School Athletic Association, and as such, the public, private, and charter schools are all mixing together. Everyone agrees that the best teams are winning, but not everyone agrees why the same teams are always winning.

School	Total Championships Since 2000	Public or Private
Detroit Country Day	65	Private
East Grand Rapids	65	Public
Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood	61	Private
Ann Arbor Pioneer	52	Public
Birmingham Brother Rice	39	Private
Detroit Catholic Central	38	Private
Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern	34	Public
Ann Arbor Greenhills	32	Private
Birmingham Seaholm	31	Public
Bloomfield Hills Marian	30	Private

The public-private school debate has been ongoing for decades in Michigan.

Few schools around the state have an archived set of athletic results, but one of those happens to be Lowell. The Red Arrows, in their history across all sports through 2021, have a cumulative record of 8831-7853-332 with 331 unknown results.

To keep things statistically relevant, I am pulling data from 2000 to present. If the MHSAA opted to separate the upper peninsula and lower peninsula for championships, I did not factor in the upper peninsula to avoid skewing data. There are an extremely small amount of private schools in the UP.

in football. It is a statistic worth noting.

Recruiting has always been finger-pointed at private schools, and it is true that, with no boundaries, private schools can take kids from public schools. The reverse is true with school of choice and has been in focus. On the other side, public schools, thanks to school of choice, do have plenty of movement. For example, Detroit Cass Tech is a public magnet school that consistently is loaded with Division 1 talent in football, often coming from other Detroit public schools.

So we've seen the MHSAA statistics, but what about here? Lowell hasn't played private schools very often. Only about six percent of Lowell's athletic results since 1900

ATTENTION MEDICAL STUDENTS

If you are a Lowell High School graduate and have been accepted into or are already attending a college or university which grants a medical degree (M.D. or D.O.), you are eligible to receive a scholarship grant from the Dr. Donald G. Gerard M.D. Honary Scholarship Fund.



If you qualify, please call Vicky Pratt at LHS, 616-987-2913.

You may also email her at vpratt@lowellschools.com

Applications are due by June 1, 2022



This is another installment in the Lowell Ledger's series of feature articles about the many different types of artisans who do business in the Lowell area. Some use the Internet as their storefront, others sell their wares out of a brick and mortar location. All of them are fascinating people and incredibly talented.

If you know of somebody who makes things and sells them, we want to do a story about it! Contact the Lowell Ledger at 616-897-9261 or send a message to ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Vascito

Slide-to-seal containers without lids save space

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

Brian Hudson likes to cook. One day he couldn't fit his spoon into a small spice container. Hudson, always an entrepreneur, was struck by an innovative idea that would save space and organize, and get rid of annoying lids that sometimes can't be screwed off. And the topless airtight storage container was born, but not overnight.

"I've always wanted my own business," Brian said. "My first business - I was a paperboy for Detroit

Inventors Network (GRIN), as well as Michigan Inventors Coalition. USA Patent, for a system of slide-to-seal technology, is pending for Lowell-based Vascito which stands for the speedy vessel in Latin.

They had prototypes everywhere and had them tested. When people didn't want to give them back, Brian and Sarah knew they were onto something.

The classic stash 12 oz. container is more than a spice jar, as it can organize everything from coffee beans and teas to cotton

One of the contributing facts that helped Brian make the important decision to leave the construction business, was the need to employ people who cannot pass exams, as in the case of lead abatement in buildings. "As we progress into the future, we plan to hire more people with barriers to employment," Brian said.

The interchangeable containers are made to last. In case the plastic jar BPA-free melts in the dishwasher at a high temperature, it will be replaced according to the warranty. "We will replace



Brian and Sarah Hudson, of Vascito, by the desktop organizer.



Stash jars in the fridge

News." And Brian even kept his newspaper wagon. Most recently, Brian was a construction manager for Habitat for Humanity, but ready to move on and develop his space-saving idea to fruition. The husband-and-wife team joined the Muskegon Inventors Network (MIN) and later the Grand Rapids

balls. The magnetic rim on the top attaches to a factory forged metal shelf plate with command strips and can be placed underneath anything in the kitchen or the bathroom cabinets, to metal ledges or shelves. "We redefine how space is used," Brian said. "We use vertical space, create new space, and declutter."

the jar for free," Sarah said. "Our goal is to get rid of single-use plastic containers and all the packaging. We're all about being sustainable."

The containers can also be placed in the fridge with cut-up snacks for healthy eating. They keep the scents and smells out.

With these containers, you can organize any space

efficiently and even display your memories on a metal ledge with containers underneath such as a photo collage. In their living room, the husband-and-wife team has on display their vinyl record collection with jars underneath containing snacks or souvenir tickets from concerts. You can also have entryway organizers,

taking it worldwide," Sarah said. "We already have sales in other countries like Norway."

One of the hottest sellers is the bathroom organizer of previously wasted space. Vascito works with four to five local Michigan suppliers and has three employees. "Everything is made in Michigan," Brian

said. Vascito works with injection molding and metal companies. Below is a code for 20 percent off from the website vascito.com

<https://vascito.com/discount/Best20> The code can be applied at checkout. The code is for 20 percent off for a limited time for your readers (and online subscribers).



Brian Hudson by the popular bathroom cabinet organizer.



Brian Hudson by the memory jars.

a pet station with treats and leashes, desktop organizers, and coffee stations. The stash jars also come in a value pack of three in different sizes. The standard stash jar is \$23.95. They are available on Amazon, Etsy, and vascito.com

"We have fun doing this," said Brian. "We want to create a work environment that is flexible for the employees."

And their plans are to go global with Vascito. "We want to export and bring outside money to Lowell," he said. "We're



Standard space-saving stash jars.

New Junction Bar & Grill brings back an old favorite

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

With a new name and an old favorite dish, Junction Bar, old Larkin's in downtown Lowell won't disappoint. Most of the changes to the bar elude the eye as they have happened behind the scenes, like the major renovations of the kitchen, new equipment and floors.

The booths have been removed and a new pool table took main stage in the adjacent room to the main

Wednesday nights are buy one burrito, get the second half off. However, there will be no Taco Tuesdays since Taqueria Rio Plano will be opening in June offering tacos. Taqueria will be located between Big Boiler and Junction on the bridge over the Flat River.

"We stopped the buffet because we have a full menu now," Schultz said.

Happy hour is Monday all day, Tuesday through Friday from 11 am to 6 pm with \$2.25 domestic drafts,

Guinness. Domestic on tap is \$2 for 16 oz.

Karaoke is every Friday from 8 pm until 1 am with Jenny and Brian. Bands are planned for Saturdays. The Ryne Experience is scheduled for May 7 from 8 until 11 pm.

If the bar is busy, it will stay open past the regular hours. Junction will also partake in the fall chili cook-off along with other restaurants.

Thursdays will serve up a basket of gizzards with



Outdoor seating area with board games.



Rae Mongar, bar manager with chef, JP, at Junction.

bar area. There's also a new juke box and the keno machine stayed.

"We're up-to-date on electrical, gas lines," said Sarah Schultz, operating partner of Big Boiler and Junction. "We have relaunched the new full menu."

The new full menu brought back an old-time favorite - savory chicken gizzards with dipping sauces. "We put our own twist on it," said Schultz. "They're fantastic, and we have chicken fritters. We still have wet burritos."

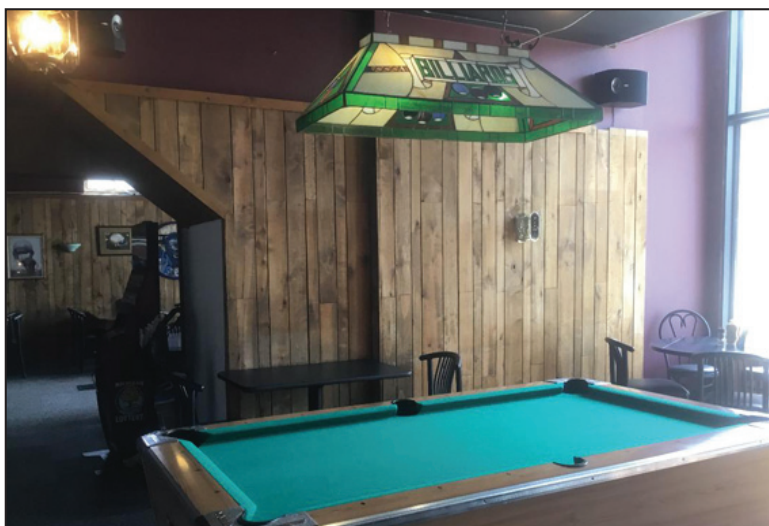
Based on feedback from the community, Junction has kept it's feel of a "dive" bar.

"We're embracing the dive bar, that's been our feedback," she said. "We don't want to change it too much."

Among the specials are: Monday nights are bike nights with \$3.25 domestic bottled beer plus a shot of Fireball, Tuesday night is Smashburger night with a bottled beer or soda for \$9,

wines \$5, and well drinks for \$3. Guest taps are Bells Two-Hearted, Bells Oberon, and

Seltzer or bottled beer for \$11. On Saturdays, you can get Moscow Mule for \$5 or a



New pool table.

flavored one for \$6.

"Gizzards are back freshly seasoned by our new chef, JP," said Rae Mongar, bar manager.

Chicken gizzards are one of the healthiest portions of chicken, according to liscious.in blog.

Rich in protein, they are also great for digestion and are a high source of vitamins. A "gizzard" is the stomach of birds where all the nutrients can be found.

One of the main benefits of chicken gizzards is that they are low in fat and high in vitamins. Most athletes and fitness enthusiasts are big fans of this. They try to include it in their diet at least two or three times a week. Chicken gizzards are relatively easy to cook once you know their basics and have a delicious recipe in hand. They're juicy, tender, and tasty to eat. Since they

are basically muscles, they can be chewy if not well done. There are numerous health benefits to a chicken gizzard; rich source of proteins, high source of vitamins, low in fat, immunity booster, breaks down proteins and converts them into amino acids, increases the level of

iron, zinc, phosphorus, and red blood cells, improves circulation of blood and bone function. They are relatively inexpensive. You can get them at Junction for \$8.

The outdoor seating area has summer board games.

For more info go to www.junctionlowell.com



Chicken gizzards with dipping sauces.

LIVE ON-SITE PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, MAY 7 • 10:00 AM

LOCATION: 12687 Finkbeiner Rd. Middleville, MI 49333 (Barry Co.)

DIRECTIONS: Take M-37 North of Middleville 1 miles or South of Caledonia 5 miles to Finkbeiner Rd., west 3 miles. OR take US-131 South of Grand Rapids or North of Kalamazoo to Exit #68 (142nd Ave.), east 6 miles to 2nd St., south 1/2 mile to 141st Ave., east 1 mile to Patterson Rd., north 1/2 mile to Finkbeiner Rd. then east.

Held to settle the estate of the late Bruce Blake. Bruce owned & operated MEI for many years. This is a complete liquidation of his shop, well known for custom building motorcycle racing engines & suspensions.

2000 AMA pro-racing motorcycle set (3) selling together with spare engines & parts: Suzuki GSXR 600 Supersport, Suzuki GSXR 750 Supersport, Suzuki GSXR 750 Superbike, all w/s Titles (not street legal) **MOTORCYCLES & PARTS:** 1982 Honda V-45 Magna V-4; 1985 Honda C-70 Delux Moped; 1983 Yamaha PW50; Hartzell Corp chassis break motorcycle dyno w/cooling fans; Pneumatic fork & shock dyno; (12+) Large totes full of motorcycle swap meet inventory; Totes full of suspension parts; 100's of motorcycle parts; 1000's of motorcycle valve shims; Exhaust pipes; Leather riding gear; Helmets; Many motorcycle repair manuals; Complete inventory of a shop building motorcycle racing engines & suspensions **TRACTOR & EQUIP:** 1977 Massey Ferguson 1085 diesel 90hp w/cab; 3pt equip; 12' tandem axle enclosed trailer **SHOP ITEMS:** Gorton vertical mill single phase; Six-Twelve surface grinder; Index vertical mill 3-phase w/converter (needs attention); Mitech AC-DC 200 arc welder w/carbon dioxide tank; Miller-Matic 250 arc welder; Large acetylene torch set; 220V 6 1/2hp 80 gal upright industrial air compressor; Floor mod drill presses; Ped grinders; Horz band saw; ENCO metal lathe 48" bed 14" throw w/accessories; 20-ton shop press & others; Snap-On tool box; Snap-On tools; Pneumatic tools; Engine pulling equipment; Sev roll-a-bout work benches; Power & shop tools; 100's of wrenches & hand tools; Cyclone sand blasting cabinet; Micro tire balancer; Super-Flow 100 flow bench; Parts cleaner; Performance testing equipment; Valve grinding unit; Many auto repair manuals; 2-ton cherry picker; 220V elect cords; Battery charger/starter; 650w generator; Paint sprayers & equipment; 4-ton port-a-power; scrap wire & iron & much more! **MISC:** Antiques & Farm Primitives; Office furniture & supplies; Fishing equipment; Blueprint cabinet; Exercise equipment; Lots of other misc. items **INSPECTION: Fr. May 6th 4PM-6PM**



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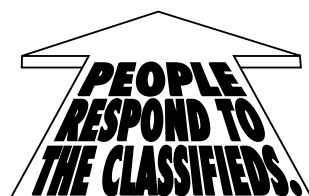
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Red Arrow

- TENNIS

SPORTS

Packed schedule no problem for Lowell tennis

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Thursday's tennis match against Kenowa Hills was everything great about high school sports.

Between points, the Lowell and Kenowa Hills players were casual chatting between each high schools' girls; upcoming AP tests, promposals, and everything in between. The friendliness between the two schools' players was evident in a relaxing sports setting at the newly remodeled LHS tennis courts.

Tennis also has the unique trait of being one of the few high school sports where players serve as the officials. Sportsmanship is paramount to the game, as players have to make the split-second decision of calling shots in or out, often with inches or less deciding the outcome.

It wasn't inches separating Lowell from the Knights though, as LHS won by a comfortable margin in their individual matches and 8-0 overall. Earlier in the day, Lowell beat Middleville Thornapple-Kellogg 7-1.

It was the last day of another busy week of competition for the girls tennis team.

Earlier in the week, Lowell played FHN, Byron Center, and Ottawa Hills. The Huskies beat Lowell

ranked No. 1 in the state and a perfect 15-0 on the season. Lowell scored a win as Brooke Knottnerus won her match 4-6, 6-2, 10-2 against Forest Hills Northern's Maria Jacobs.

Against former OK White member Ottawa Hills, Lowell lost five games total in a dominating showing. The doubles team of Sedona Bonter/Olivia Berg, and singles Ella Baker, Lexi Royer, and Knottnerus all went without losing a game

No. 1 singles Brooke Knottnerus finished off a strong week with a win against Kenowa Hills.

soundly across the 2nd-4th singles flights as well as all doubles flights. At No. 1 singles, not surprising considering the Huskies are

in 6-0, 6-0 wins, in tennis referred to as a "double bagel."

Knottnerus had a good week, also winning 6-4,



6-1 in the match against Byron Center. Royer at No. 2 singles won 7-5, 6-2, and Delaney Kelley won 6-1, 6-1 to give the Red

Arrows three wins against the Bulldogs. Unfortunately, Byron Center showed their strength in the doubles matchups and won at No. 4

singles to take a 5-3 win.

Lowell is 6-5 on the season with East Grand Rapids, Greenville, and Lakewood up next week.

-TRACK & FIELD

Arrows take two; place third on Saturday

submitted by Paul Judd
LHS track coach

Lowell came off their second place finish at the Kathy Talus Invite to take solid wins against EGR and FHN. Lowell set the tone early with wins in the high jump, hurdles, 400m, as well as grabbing some relay points. Lowell continued picking up the points in the remainder of the events and had a solid lead going into the final events.

The Red Arrows stand third place in the conference at 4-2, trailing both Byron Center and GR Christian who are 5-1. Lowell will complete the OK White regular season at home against Greenville on

Tuesday.

Team Scores were: Lowell 93, EGR 43 and Lowell 89, FHN 47.

Placing overall in the double dual for the Arrows were first place winners: Josh Rau 110MHH, 15.50, 300MH, 42.27 and 200m, 23.53; Sawyer Fowler 1600m, 4:35.86; Levi Mills 400m, 54.10; Jackson Fowler 800m, 2:06.83; Noah VanLaan high jump, 5-06.00; Keegan Cater discus, 121-03.00; Ramsey Ponchaud pole vault, 9-06.00; 1600m Relay (Northup, Wittenbach, J. Fowler, Mills), 3:42.46

Second place finishers were: Brenden Wittenbach 400m, 55.77; Cole Weston 1600m, 4:38.04 and 3200m,

10:14.62; Sawyer Fowler 800m, 2:07.04; Isaac Graham discus, 119-10.00; 800m relay (Young, Lowrie, Mills, Wittenbach), 1:39.30 and 3200m relay (J. Fowler, Cater, Bromley, Weston), 8:35.00.

Lowell spent another cold, windy, and rainy day against some stiff competition and persevered against both to grab a top three finish at Houseman Field. In spite of a strong headwind, the Arrows were still able to hit some personal records and move some marks up the Lowell record board. Josh Rau took home gold medal honors in the 110HH, going 15.38 into the strong head win, and then came from two hurdles behind to help the Lowell shuttle hurdle team to a second place finish. Sawyer Fowler moved to No. 4 on the record board in the 3200m running 9:53.18. Cole Weston moves up one spot to No. 8 on 1600m with 4:35.27.

Second place finishes were: Levi Mills 400m, 52.64; shuttle hurdle relay (VanLaan, Ponchaud, Wigger, Rau), 1:01.50.

The Arrows are at home on Tuesday hosting Greenville.



The Fowler brothers in competition last week.

Ladies split double dual; place fourth on Saturday

Submitted by Paul Judd
LHS track coach

Lowell took advantage of multiple personal records, points in distance, throws, and relays to earn a split against OK White rivals East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Northern.

The Arrows jumped out quick in the first five events scored to grab a good size lead on FHN and kept it close with EGR. Lowell kept it going against the Huskies to pull away but ran into the strong mid-distance crew from EGR to come up short at the end of the day. Highlights on the evening was Annika Sandman lowering her school record in the 3200m run going 11:07.82, while sister, Katrina moved to No. 6 on the record board in the same event going 12:12.

Team scores were: Lowell 93, FHN 44 and EGR 85, Lowell 52.

Taking firsts overall in the double dual for the Arrows were: Annika Sandman 3200m, 11:07.82 (school record); Jadan Sanders pole vault, 7-06.00; Aubrieh Oswald shot put, 33-10.50; Liberty Cook discus, 101-30.00

Second place finishers were: Emily German 110H, 16.84; Annika Sandman 1600m, 5:18.32; Leah Krieger 300H, 51.36; Isabel German pole vault, 7-06.00; Jadan Sander long jump, 13-05.00; 400m relay (Spaulding, Sayers, Seddon, Gustin), 56.32; 1600m relay (Sanders, Kowalska, Flickinger, I. German), 4:34.60; 3200m relay (Sandman, Sandman, German, Sandman), 10:39.41.

In play on Saturday at the Grand Rapids Elite Challenge, the ladies took advantage of great competition to throw down some of the best performances of the year,

helping them to a fourth place finish. In spite of some strong winds, the day was full of some personal records (PR), as well as a huge school record. Annika Sandman was one of the highlights of the meet with her win in the 3200m, running a school record 10:48.68 which is just shy of 20 seconds faster than her previous school record. In the throws Liberty Cook had a strong day moving up to No. 7 in the discus with a throw of 106-01 and followed that up with a PR in the shot with a toss 30-03. In the 1600m Katrina Sandman moved to No. 8 on the board running 5:33.39.

Second place finishes were: Swedish relay (Spaulding, Sayers, I. German, Krieger), 2:40.25; DMR (Sandman, Harper, Sandman, Sandman), 13:28.17.

The Arrows are at home on Tuesday hosting Greenville.

Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports

Go Red Arrows!

the lowell ledger

Red Arrow

- VOLLEYBALL

SPORTS

Boys volleyball starts season under new coaching

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

The boys volleyball team season is underway at LHS. The club sport, under consideration for MHSAA status in the future, has been at Lowell since 2018.

The new head coach, Drew Davidson, is an LHS class of 2018 graduate. He was a member of the first Lowell boys volleyball team and went on to compete for the Olivet men's team for one season. He takes over for Lowell girls volleyball head coach, Jordan Drake, who opted to move on from the boys program.

"Drew helped me assist last year and I felt the program was in good hands with him taking over, so I was comfortable stepping away," former coach Jordan Drake said.

"Plus, my wife and I have a one-year-old baby

girl and I get to spend more time with my daughter and wife now, taking the spring season off. It's been a very welcomed change and it's been great to see the boys still having success!"

During Davidson's time at Lowell he played football, golf, and for boys volleyball, was named first Team Metro All-Conference and first Team All-Region as a part of that inaugural team.

His younger sister, Leah, plays on the Lowell varsity girls soccer team, and younger brother, Max, is in middle school. He also has a cousin, Jacob, on the boys volleyball team. During his time at LHS he helped create graphics for athletic posts and has been able to take that skill to the new boys volleyball Instagram page "Lowellbvb."

Entering last week's home tournament, Lowell had won matches against Forest Hills Eastern, Greenville, Forest Hills Northern, and Grand Rapids Christian. Lowell has lost to Sparta and Grand Rapids Christian.

On the court, Lowell went 3-0 in their home quad. Lowell started off the night sweeping Rockford 25-20, 25-12. Against Greenville, Lowell won 25-10, 25-5. In the first set against Forest Hills Northern, Lowell won 25-9 before the Huskies took the second set 25-21. In the night's only three set match, the Red Arrows came away winning 15-6 in the final set.

Lowell plays in the GR North conference for boys volleyball, along with Sparta, GR Christian, Rockford, FHN, Northview, FHE, and Greenville.



Setter Lanndon Hamilton tries to keep a point alive against FHN.

- BASEBALL

Baseball bounces back to take series over FHC

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Despite losing the first of the week's three-game series with Forest Hills Central, Lowell's varsity baseball team bounced back with back-to-back wins and took two of three from the Rangers to continue their strong start to the conference slate of their schedule.

In game one, the Red Arrows lost a close back-and-forth game at the LHS north baseball field by a score of 6-5. Eric Bryce

highlighted the game for Lowell by tying the game with a bases-clearing RBI double. Aidan McWayne pitched six innings and had nine strikeouts.

Lowell bounced back in game two with a 12-1 win. A six-run second inning from Lowell broke the game open and Peyton Teachworth kept the FHC bats at bay in the win. Blake Bennett (1), Techworth (2), and Morgan North (2) all had RBIs in the second inning.

On Wednesday, in the series finale, Lowell won a

"pitcher's duel" against the Rangers by a scoreline of 2-1.

Kyler Spike started the game pitching for Lowell, giving up one run and three hits over five innings. He struck out six. Zach Hayes came in relief and was the winning pitcher for Lowell; he got two strikeouts in two scoreless innings.

Lowell plays Byron Center for a conference series and Calvin Christian in non-conference action coming up this week.

- GOLF

Golfers Take On Egypt Valley

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Regarded as one of the best golfers in history, Lee Trevino once called Egypt Valley a "big boy course." From 1994 to 2004, it was an annual stop on the PGA Champions Tour hosting the Farmer's Charity Classic. Later, the course would go on to host the U.S. Junior Amateur.

It's a course that is difficult, a course that is expensive to play, and a course that high school golfers get to play for free through school events. Home of the Forest Hills Northern Huskies, Lowell has been able to play at Egypt Valley frequently over the years. It's always one of the away courses that in high school qualifiers for Lowell, golfers may have a little extra motivation to qualify.

The challenge is a bit toned down from the U.S. Junior Amateur. OK conference play isn't generally played from the most far back tees, but it remains a course where some of the higher rounds in Lowell's program history have been scored. The deep valleys and high hills have claimed their share of golfers over the years with double bogey, triple bogeys, and worse coming.

Lowell held their own, with five of six golfers staying below 50. Every conference member would be looking up at the hosts, FHN, who utilized their home-course advantage to win last Wednesday's jamboree. The Huskies were led by senior Jack Zebkus, who shot an eye-popping three under par 33 off the blue tees on the front nine of Egypt Valley's "Ridge" course.

Patrick de Voest led Lowell with a two-over 38, recording five pars, three bogeys, and a birdie on the par four eighth hole. De Voest put his approach close before draining the putt. "Just remembering the basics helps," he said of the birdie.

He was followed by Cam Sluss (42), Drew Veldman (47), Ty Knottnerus (49), Adam Swanson (49), and JV call up sophomore Nicholas Lothian (62). Sluss was the other birdie on the day, birdieing the first hole.

"I was at a yardage I felt comfortable attacking the pin from, got it close, and from there just dropped the putt," Sluss said of the birdie. Lowell placed fifth, beating East Grand Rapids. Greenville and Northview did not participate in this jamboree.

The conference utilizes a rotation so that each nine-hole jamboree has six of the eight schools. This allows for 36 total golfers, one foursome per hole, and avoiding slow play where multiple foursomes are on the same hole.

Earlier in the week, the Yellowjackets hosted Lowell, GR Christian, Northview, East Grand Rapids, and Byron Center. With the two Forest Hills schools sitting out, Lowell took advantage placing fourth, but only six strokes off second place. GR Christian (152) won, followed by Byron Center (165), Northview (168), Lowell (171), EGR (180), and Greenville (210).

Drew Veldman's 39 led LHS, followed by de Voest (40), Sluss (45), Knottnerus (47), Lothian (53), and Trevor Mead (53).

Veldman recorded a birdie on Brookside's 16th hole. De Voest had two birdies on the card, both on par 5's while Sluss also birdied one hole. The boys headed to Grand Blanc on Monday for an 18-hole tournament, have the GR Christian jamboree on Wednesday at Quail Ridge, and close off the week on Friday at Old Channel Trail in the Montague Invitational.

Softball wins FHC series

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

A mix of high scoring bats and tough defense gave the Lowell Red Arrows varsity softball team a series victory over Forest Hills Central last week.

Like their baseball counterparts, Lowell lost one of the doubleheader games before recovering to take the series. In Monday's loss at FHC, Lowell jumped out to a 1-0 lead before FHC came back with a two-run first inning and a four-run second

inning to take control of the game. Trailing 8-1, Lowell mustered up three runs in the sixth but were unable to get any closer in the 8-4 loss. Karina Peplinski had two RBIs to lead the way in the loss.

In the Monday win, Lowell shut out FHC 4-0. Megan Lillie pitched a gem full game with six strikeouts, six hits, no walks, and most importantly for Lowell, no runs. Taylor Clark (2), Sami Hayes (1), and Lillie (1) all recorded RBIs.

The series finale was a

slugfest for Lowell who had 17 hits in the win. Three of those belonged to Lowell's Samantha Conrad who also had three RBIs in the 14-6 victory. Clark had four hits as well. Macy Huver and Lillie combined for nine strikeouts pitching.

Lowell plays Byron Center and Calvin Christian next week. The JV team improved to an impressive 11-0 last week as well.

obituaries

COBB

Daniel Leon Cobb Sr., age 74 formerly of Allegan, passed away April 28, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents, Roscoe and Helen Cobb. Dan is survived by his wife of

50 years, Linda Cobb; children, Dan (Tracy) Cobb Jr., Elizabeth (Chad) Fulton; grandsons, Noah Cobb, Ethan Cobb; sisters, Joyce Marshall, Debbie Cobb, Cheryl Miller; brothers-in-law, Glen (Margie) James, and Don James. He was a proud Veteran of the United States Army, serving during the Vietnam War. In his spare time, Dan enjoyed riding motorcycles and working in his garage. Interment at Trowbridge Cemetery will take place at a later date.



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NOALL

Annette R. Noall,

November 28, 1959 - December 10, 2021

Annette R. Noall, age 62 of Cedar Springs, passed away Friday, December 10, 2021. She was born November 28, 1959 in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Raymond and Barbara (Umlas) Miller. She is survived by her husband, Steven Noall; her mother, Barbara Miller; children, Andy (Jessica) Slone, Samantha (Brandon) Shoemaker,



Stephanie (Brandon) Girardi, and Sara Slone (Tim); 13 grandchildren; four step-children; three step-grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Michael (Kim) Miller, Jane Salo, Mark (Robin) Miller, Patrick (Deb) Miller, Julie (Eric) Klinger, Paul (Tammy) Miller, Steven (Jen) Miller; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Raymond Miller;

daughter, Sherry Hernandez (Francisco); sister, Linda Smith; and son-in-law, Roy Salo. A Memorial Service will be at 11:00 am, Saturday, May 14, 2022, at The Springs Church, 135 N. Grant St., Cedar Springs, MI. Family will greet friends at 10:30 am. A luncheon will follow the service.

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the matter of
Michael Sanders
Guardianship
File No. 22-211,259-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his brothers and sisters, and any unknown children and heirs, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on July 5, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids,

MI 49503 Courtroom 9C in person and via Zoom before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Appointment of a Guardian.

Dated: April 29, 2022

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Franklin St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 401-7113

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

BENCKER

Peter Lee Bencker, age 58, of Alto, went to be with his heavenly father Friday, April 29, 2022. Born May 31, 1963, he resided in Alto his entire life. He was the son of Lyle and Delores (Strouse) Bencker. Pete married Nancy J. Strong on August 17, 1991. They raised three daughters all while they ran their construction business and enjoyed many adventures traveling and camping throughout the years. He is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Nancy J. (Strong) Bencker; children, Emma (Andy) Vander Ziel, Analyse (Chad) Veenstra; and soon to be granddaughter, Kollyns Veenstra, Perry Bencker (Zachary Huver); mother, Delores P. Bencker; sisters, Michelle (Tom) Tava and Debbie (Tim) Craig; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Lyle Bencker; brothers, Larry (Sue) Bencker and Ronald (Linda)



Bencker. Pete was devoted to his family farm, his angus herd and spending cherished time with family and friends. He recently discovered his new passion for snorkeling! Pete was a loyal member of the Alto-Bowne Township Volunteer Fire Department for 29 years, giving up elements of his life and family time in his dedication to the department. He was a huge advocate for the community of Alto and Lowell. There will be a double memorial service for Pete and his brother Ron to be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at the Cascade Campus of Ada Bible Church, 8899 Cascade Road, Ada, Michigan. A short visitation will be held from 10:00 am to 10:45 am, followed by the memorial service with a prelude to a luncheon and then both graveside services with firetruck and Kenworth truck processions. In lieu of flowers, Memorial funds have been set up for the family through: Alto-Bowne Township Fire Depart, P.O. Box 92, Alto, MI 49302, Go Fund Me page for "Pete Bencker Memorial Fund". To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Pete's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory, please visit: www.MichiganCremation.com Arrangements are entrusted to Michigan Cremation & Funeral Care, Grand Rapids.

BENCKER

Ronald (Ron) Bencker age 68, of Alto, passed away unexpectedly in a tragic accident, Friday, April 29, 2022. Ron will be welcomed into the gates of heaven by his loving wife Linda Bencker who passed away in 2010 and his beloved dog "Teddy". Survived by his children, Kelly (Bill) Lemke, Daniel (Kim) Bencker and Troy (Angie) Sloan; loving grandchildren, Austin (Bailey) Lemke, Aubri Lemke, Braelin and Oakli Bencker, Emma and Will Neeley, Zayne Zeeuw; great grandchildren, Charlotte and Ruby Lemke; mother, Delores Bencker; sisters, Deb (Tim) Craig, Michelle (Tom) Tava; father-in-law, Chet (Lois) Lazoski; brothers-in-law, Chuck (Dee) Holt, David (Jane) Lazoski; also, several nieces and nephews. Ron was a hard worker who enjoyed driving truck, serving 29 years with Baker Furniture and 13 years with Landstar Transportation. Ron's life consisted of enjoyment with his friends and family, he knew how to have a good time. Ron was a terrific man with a self-less heart who touched many lives. Ron will truly be missed by all. Family and friends are invited

to attend visitation on Thursday, May 5, 2022, 10:00 to 10:45 am at Ada Bible Church located at 8899 Cascade Rd SE, Ada, with a Memorial Service at 11:00 am. Luncheon immediately following visitation and graveside burial to follow. To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Ron's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory, please visit: www.MichiganCremation.com Arrangements are entrusted to Michigan Cremation & Funeral Care, Grand Rapids.



ABCs, continued

current gravel road then to keep maintaining the current road and build and pave another road. They pleaded with the board to not allow Lowell to be isolated from the main line of travel. Further, they promised to widen the road in Lowell to accommodate increasing traffic and D. G. Mange who had previously said he would not consent to splitting his farm on the southeast quarter of section 3 for

M21 to cross, relented and agreed to allow the crossing. The gravel river road had followed the river all the way to Hudson. Land was needed to allow M21 to come right into Lowell. Bowes Road is where the previous gravel road continued on.

To the relief of the Lowell and Saranac delegation, Governor Green advised the delegations to go home and "rest in peace with the positive assurance that

M21 would not be removed from Lowell."

The construction of M21 was accomplished with labor from inmates from the Michigan Reformatory in Ionia. A 'convict camp' was set up on the Bibbler farm on the northeast quarter of section 34 in Vergennes Township. This is the southwest corner of today's intersection of Vergennes and Lincoln Lake. The camp began with 40 men but grew to at least 165. The community was assured that the men were under the control of armed guards, Deputy Pat Bowes himself was on duty for 12 hours at night, and that the men were fed good solid meals. An organ was donated to the camp and the area ministers rotated holding Sunday services at the camp.

After the planning, the route disagreements, all of the work involved, and the waiting, a large celebration was planned at the completion. On Tuesday, October 30, 1928, Grand Rapids, Ada, Lowell and Saranac celebrated the completion of M21 in this stretch. Main Street Lowell was adorned with flags and "local businesses closed so that factory and mill hands and people in general could join in the celebration

and in enjoyment of the band music". Guests were welcomed at city hall and then a luncheon was served at the Riverview Inn east of town. Speakers for the event included Frank F. Rogers, State Highway Commissioner, Dexter G. Look, State Representative, Warren G. Townsend, Chairman of the Kent County Road Commission, W.H. Anderson, Chairman of the State Highway Advisory Board, C.D. Livingston, State Commissioner of Insurance, and Charles Shean, Warden of Ionia State Reformatory. The tape was cut, and a four foot long floral key to the city was given to Frank Rogers from Dexter Look. The Lowell Board of Trade, the County and the State had created a roadway that almost a hundred years later, we cannot imagine being without.

This article completes the fourth round of the ABCs of Lowell History Series. Next week the Lowell Area Historical Museum will begin a new weekly series.

That series will look at the history of the buildings in the Historic District of Lowell.

It will feature a new building each week.

THE HOTTEST STARS



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

misc.

NEED AN AL-ANON MEETING? - Al-Anon is a fellowship of families and friends of alcoholics. Join us Sunday-Saturday at 10:30 AM and 7 PM on Zoom. Come learn the Steps, Traditions & Concepts of living and coping, in Serenity, with alcoholism. There are no dues or fees for Al-Anon. For Zoom meeting ID & Password, please call Joy at 616-901-7779.

ATTN LOWELL WIDOWS - We have a widows luncheon on the last Friday of each month at Keisers. Starts promptly at 1 pm, west side. All are welcome.

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) WEEKLY MEETINGS - Tuesdays, 6:30 pm at Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd., Lowell. Cost \$37 per year and \$5 per month... start losing weight TODAY

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sales

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BELDING LIVING ESTATE SALE - Wednesday, 5/11 thru Friday, 5/13, 9 am - 5 pm & Saturday 5/14, 9 am - 3 pm. Bedroom set, dining with china cabinet, vintage items, glassware, lamps, Christmas village, Coke items, outdoor table and chairs, pictures, household items and much more 6727 N. Hawley Hwy, Belding. CASH ONLY.



services

CALL FOR AUTHORS TO BE FEATURED - on "For the Love of Books Podcast" hosted by author and journalist Emma Palova of Lowell. Celebrating its one-year anniversary with 50 episodes, the show features Indie and small press authors, and their events. Email emmapalova123@gmail.com. Listen in on podbean and other major podcast apps: For the Love of Books Podcast

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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of puzzle solutions with words like HASP, BETTA, COATIS, SLOVENE, HAULING, ENDRAG, DSTMON, METLAO, MARILYN, MONROE, PARRINGS, TEALS, DERIDED, CUBIC, RAINE, SIVVA, AGNES, SEEP, BEES, SSEE.

Grid of numbers for a crossword puzzle.

Large grid of letters with some words highlighted in grey, including: WYGG, VTS, PXTG, CALKDW, XSOAG, STRETC, HIOKXP, PBVOR, STUYMI, WFRHKHSP, MRYPA, MTWK, GSDRGC, AXTP, YGRENE, UALOK, VFUKWGAO, RTDN, UOP, MOCY, XDIME, NEREX, BDAFH, BYEG, IVCL, STEC, ERFR, BENAK, FT, R, X, NN, BV, BEL, NR, OF, SAS, B, X, R, X, P, EG, RA, OK, LP, AT, BN, NDT, AI, AIE, EV, NX, R, XT, IL, SI, L, UL, V, CL, GB, GBC, OEU, TY, GAK, CA, YIS, PE, OM, NN, ON, CH, NN, GB, TT, V, FF, UHF, YUU, KH, PA, E, PA, FE, HT, RE, IT, TME, IIL, GYG, ST, RB, RH, NE, ET, TRUY, TIS, NE, TN, IH, SIL, EC, NT, NA, O, AR, DK, V, V, XS, SEM, IM, NL, MN, EEK, WL, GX, VP, FAN, EM, ES, PY, XI, SH, R, IB, M, US, CL, ES, OV, IR, EB, AT, SFO, IC, HY, KY, BF, XO, EY, NV, RL, U, YGW, F, MK, PE, BP, WM, CO, OL, DO, WN.



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~ Fairy Doors in Ann Arbor

by Martha Hayden

Fairy doors found in Ann Arbor

Were you aware that there are fairy doors placed all around Ann Arbor's downtown? This piqued my interest as I have created fairy gardens along the hiking path at our cabin and in our front yard. Filled with curiosity, I needed to hunt for these Ann Arbor fairy doors! Join me as I explore these portals and have coffee with the creator and author, Jonathan B. Wright.

Johnathan B. Wright – Fairyologist

Through research I found out that Jonathan B. Wright had started this trend of fairy doors in Ann Arbor. I contacted him through Facebook and he agreed to meet me when I came to town early on Thursday morning. With only two more days until Christmas, Jonathan had graciously agreed to meet me at 8:30 am at Sweetwater's Coffee Shop in Ann Arbor. I arrived at 8:00 brimming with anticipation. My smile grew as I spied a set of his books, a poster and a fairy door in the corner of the cafe.

I purchased a vanilla chai tea and positioned myself near the fairy display, facing the entrance. I didn't

is a young 5's



I fully understood how storytelling is a meaningful part of the culture!

"So I was restoring our 100 year old home in '93," Jonathan, a graphic design educator, explained. "I made three differently sized fairy doors under the stairway when we added on a hallway and room." Jonathan sketched on a napkin. These teeny entrances amused the preschool children who attended their in-home daycare.

After their daughters were born, Jonathan created another single door along

teacher and professional story teller. She grew up surrounded by folklore and fairytales," Jonathan beamed as he answered my question about why he'd created all these fairy doors around the town. "Her grandmother came from Glasgow, Ireland." I nodded and shared that my father is 100% Irish from County Cork and my maternal grandmother was Irish, too.

local tiny portals all around Ann Arbor. By 2005 he had become a self proclaimed, "certified fairyologist."

Jonathan's Book "Who's Behind The Fairy Doors?"

"Here, I signed my book for you." Jonathan handed me the copy. Not only did he personally inscribe it, but he also added a fairy drawing, just for me!

There have been over sixty notebooks placed alongside the fairy doors so children could record their sightings and wonderings. Jonathan has used their drawings as a rough draft for many of his fairy renderings.

As I leafed through the pages of the book, I was captivated by the mirrored images: the child's drawing on the left and Jonathan's "translation" on the right.

Children continue to enjoy hunting for the seven of the



Jonathan B. Wright met me at Sweetwaters Coffee Shop! Top Left: The Fairy Door Poster that Jonathan is pointing out. Top Right Photo Credit: US 103.1 article



The fairy door at Sweetwaters Coffee and Tea even has a mini sized fairy door poster. Many have left 'gifts' for the fairies: coins, a shell and a plastic bead.

recognize Jonathan at first, but his confident stroll toward me revealed his identity. I could see the smile in his eyes!

Jonathan didn't care for a beverage as he was heading to the dentist. "So, Jonathan, I am curious to know how you have gotten started with adding fairy doors throughout Ann Arbor?" I asked as he sat down. "My wife, Kathleen,

their fireplace baseboard when he made more renovations. "My daughters were captivated with this new addition! They were the right age!" Delaney, his youngest, had looked at all the sawdust and woodchips, "It's their garbage day, too!" She'd commented as they bagged up the wood shavings. Jonathan recalled the memory with fondness for his now grown child. According to his introduction of his book, "I have come to the conclusion that children between the ages of three and 11 are the

most prolific fairy spotters."

The first fairy door in the Ann Arbor community was located Sweetwater Coffee and Tea. (Pictured above... This is where we'd met.) Soon other entrances followed. At that time, Jonathan began a website to keep track of

original ten doors around town. Several other doors have been added. (See the map below under 'Resources.')

Have You Seen A Fairy?

I had to ask if Jonathan had ever seen a fairy. "You see them out of the corner of your eye. Or you'll look out and see one, then realize it was a fire plug." Jonathan grinned. "Children always report seeing them. They are prolific fairy spotters." Jonathan raised his eyebrows.

I found his answer in his fairy book. "As I have never seen a fairy and can only imagine them, I feel fortunate to tap into the creative notions and insights of others."

The Fairy Doors in Ann Arbor - Where Did They Come From?

These aren't new apparitions by any means. These fairy doors have been in the Ann Arbor area since the early 1990s.

Where Are The Fairy Doors Located?

There are several fairy doors outside of businesses along Main Street in Ann Arbor and a few inside as well. Red Shoes (332 Ashley) The Ann Arbor District Library (343 S. 5th Ave.), Nicola's Books in the Westgate Center (on Jackson Street) and The Michigan Theater (603 E. Liberty) are a quick jaunt by car. A list along with a map can be found at the end of the article.

Sadly, after 44 years the Peaceable Kingdom shop closed in May 2017. The door had appeared on April 17, 2005 and is still there today! Peek inside!

Following their 2005 appearance, other fairy doors started appearing in neighboring communities of Ypsilanti, Dexter and Saline.

In fact, Karen Anderson, a previous Ann Arbor resident, moved to Atlanta, Georgia. She started "Atlanta Tiny Doors" or ATD. She had said that Jonathan B. Wright had a direct influence on her decision to begin making fairy doors around her southern city. San Francisco and New York have similar trends happening in neighborhoods, too! I appreciate how these little notions keep enchantment and magic alive in so many communities!

Jonathan B. Wright's imagination and spirited 'translations' of fairies has impacted so many communities around our nation! I am looking forward to investigating other neighborhoods. Keep searching for the magic that surrounds you!

Resources

- Urban Fairy Doors Map
- Facebook Urban Fairy Doors of Ann Arbor Page
- US 103.1 article



Four of the doors featured above can be found at the following locations: (left to right/top to bottom) Crazy Wisdom bookstore (114 S. Main), Sweetwaters (123 W. Washington), Peaceable Kingdom and The Ark (316 Main).

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

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!

Puzzle solutions on page 13

GET FIT WORD SEARCH

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

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

GET FIT WORD SEARCH

AEROBIC
BALANCE
CIRCUIT
COMPOUND

COOL DOWN

DEADLIFT
ENERGY
FITNESS
HEART
INTENSITY
INTERVAL

ISOMETRICS

LUNGE
MOVEMENT
MUSCLES
OXYGEN
RECOVERY
RESISTANCE

STAMINA

STRENGTH
STRETCH
WARM UP
WORKOUT
YOGA

Guess Who?

I am an actor and wrestler born in California on May 2, 1972. I played football in college and later in the Canadian Football League. After becoming a professional wrestler, I became a wildly popular actor in several action films and franchises.

Answer: Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to exercise.

T S U A Q

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Squat

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				
36									
38								39	
40								41	
42									
								43	

CLUES ACROSS

- A power of perception
- Slotted hinged metal plate
- Popular crop
- Siamese fighting fish
- Larval crabs
- South American mammal
- Occur as a result of
- Slavic language
- An electric underground railway
- Transporting
- A direction
- Opposite of start
- Mock
- People love and hate it (abbr.)
- A people of Myanmar
- A Queens ballplayer
- Southern Thailand indigenous person
- Famed actress
- Thin strips
- Bluish greens
- Ridiculed

CLUES DOWN

- Having the shape of a cube
- Came down
- Indian religious god
- "Bewitched" actress Moorehead
- Leak through slowly
- Buzzing insects
- Midway between south and southeast
- Skin condition
- Earlier
- Right away
- Vomiting
- Go to
- "The Police" frontman
- Bullfighting maneuver
- Pacific island
- A system of algebraic notation
- A room used for the activities of a group
- The longest division of geological time
- Car mechanics group

CLUES ACROSS

- A barrel of liquid (abbr.)
- Bound to do
- Explosive
- Ridicules
- Adult male
- Military personnel
- French and Belgian river
- Found in the sea
- A share lost in default (abbr.)
- Type of medication (abbr.)
- City on the Rhine
- Animal disease
- They're in martinis
- Get away
- Wampum
- Lacking brightness

2022 FOOD FIGHT

NOW THROUGH JUNE 1!



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Match Used: \$3,825.00

FROM the heart

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Visa/MasterCard # _____
Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

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2022 WEEKLY BOX SCORE



	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	TOTALS
NORTH	5815	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	0
SOUTH	8285	XXXXX	XXXXX	XXXXX	0

Who will break the tie?



It's May and that can only mean one thing for FROM – the launch of our annual Food Fight Campaign!

From May 1 – June 1 we're encouraging everyone in our community to give from the heart in this friendly but fierce competition to see who can raise the most resources!

The 13th annual campaign divides the Greater Lowell Community into two teams – North and South with M-21 splitting the teams. Each dollar and food item that is donated to FROM counts as a point for that team.

For the last Food Fight campaign, \$127,455.00 was raised and 11,071 food items were donated.

"Food Fight helps us, help the community," Monica Light, Program Manager at FROM, said.