

## Harvest Festival draws crowds to downtown

by Bill Lee  
contributing writer

The annual Lowell Harvest Celebration took place on Saturday, with many activities for local residents. Starting with The FFA pancake breakfast and The Harvest Hustle 5K in the morning, and ending around 4 pm, with the Autumn Marketplace on Main, the dry but windy day provided families with much to do. The pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Future Farmers of America club of Lowell High School, was well-attended and included an apple tasting. Both took place at the Wittenbach Wege Center. Program advisor, Kevin Nugent, had around a dozen high school students helping with organizing and serving the breakfast. “We’ve been doing this for around eight years,” said Nugent. “When the students wanted a fundraiser for the Wittenbach, they decided this would be a good idea.” Among the high school students participating were Maddie Morgensen, Charlie Lyons, Ella Acheson, Autumn Jousma, Grady Eickoff, Lavonda Jousma, Jacob Grasmann and Miranna Hulbert.

Downtown Lowell was bustling throughout the day with many activities. The



Many people came downtown to test different restaurant's chilis. Ripple was one of the restaurants competing for Best Chili. Junction Bar and Grill, took home Best Chili for 2022. Photo courtesy of Bruce Doll.

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street merchants held an outdoor sidewalk sale all day, while many local restaurants competed in a “Best Chili” competition. Participants tasted

chili from Big Boiler Brewing, Grillin’ Guys, Junction Bar and Grill, Keiser’s Kitchen, Lowell Moose Lodge #809, Main Street BBQ, Miss P’s Catering, Mudpenny, Rio Plano Taqueria, Rip-

ple and Sneakers. Taking the top chili spot was Junction Bar and Grill, cooked up by Mark Todd and Evert Bek.

Also, as families walked Riverwalk Plaza, they were treated to more food and craft

vendors, along with Americana music provided by Cheater B’s Band. At the end of the Riverwalk, sponsored

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Meet the  
School Board  
Candidates



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golf &  
equestrian  
teams heading  
to state finals



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Lowell Area  
Schools Sports



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50¢



## Gallery Concert: Drew Nelson and Michael Robertson

By Cliff Yankovich  
Contributing writer

Singer-songwriter, Drew Nelson, brought his friend and very talented guitar player, Michael Robertson, with him to

the delight of the audience attending the last Gallery Concert of the season at Lowell Arts Saturday. Nelson laid the musical foundation for his lyrics

on his amplified acoustic, while Robertson and his sparkly Duesenberg guitar, went from simple back-up to soaring solos. Robertson made the most of his guitar,

thanks to his very evident prowess and the tasteful use of a slide and a moderate stomp box of effects and pedals.

Midway in the first set, Robertson did such a tasty solo, run in the middle of the song, that it took Nelson a moment to return to earth and sing his lyrics. At the end of the song, he laughed and spoke to Robertson, “Can you please dial down the awesome just a bit? I got caught-up watching you play and forgot the words.” Thankfully, Michael ignored that request and continued with his awesome for the rest of the show.

When asked about their origin stories when it came to guitar playing and music in general, Drew and Michael came back with interesting tales. Drew was the middle of three children, and he recalled that his older

brother got a guitar but did not play it much. Because he wanted to play guitar, Drew kept “borrowing” it. “I took a good thumping for it,” Nelson said. “But it ended up on my side of the bedroom.”

Early on, Nelson took some music lessons but reported that those didn’t work out so well, and he continued playing and teaching himself, not only the guitar, but the mandolin and banjo, as well. He recalled writing his first “song” as an elementary student, when he riffed about a squished toad he observed in the road as he waited for a bus. His lyrics these days have evolved into tunes celebrating working class people, life in the UP,

**Concert,  
continued page 2**



Drew Nelson and Michael Robertson.

# The Michigan Paranormal Alliance will conduct a paranormal investigation in historic Fallasburg

By Emma Palova  
contributing writer

Equipped with EMF electromagnetic field ghost meters and detectors, the MPA core group is coming back to Fallasburg on Oct. 15, with check-in at 6 pm, like the proverbial Ghostbusters after a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19.

“We’ve all had experiences in the village at different locations,” said Rosemary Lelieveld. “We want to help with restoration awareness and history in Fallasburg.”

The theory behind EMFs is that when a ghost is present in the area, that ghost can manipulate the EMF meters and makes them go off and on. “The idea is to capture ECP’s Electronic

voice phenomena with spirit voices on recorders,” Lelieveld said. “As a group, we are all intuitive. We can feel the presence or when something is going on.”

In addition to paranormal investigations, Lelieveld is the owner and operator of Sage Moon Wellness, a holistic wellness center in Dorr. She does readings and helps people connect with their deceased loved ones. She works by appointment as a psychic medium.

“We’re excited to be there, to show people how to use our equipment,” she said. “But the most important equipment is your physical self; using your five senses, and we all have a sixth sense, and be a keen observer.”

Lelieveld said she was honored to be a part of the event. People are going to be divided into groups to have that experience of the presence of a ghost.

“Never provoke and always be respectful to a ghost,” she said. “Don’t talk nasty. You’ll see how a professional group conducts an investigation. Hopefully, everyone will have a paranormal experience themselves.”

The event will last approximately two to three hours and it will focus on the cemetery, the schoolhouse, and the Fallas House.

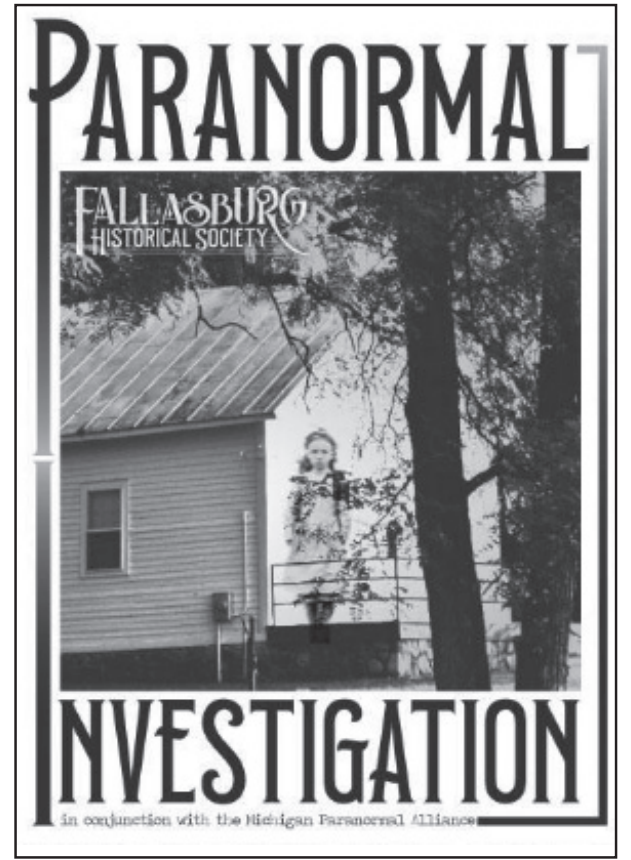
“We look forward to being there and to see how an investigation is being conducted,” Lelieveld said, “to see the ghosts, feel them and hear them.”

The MPA does mostly investigations of private residences and businesses. “People called us in for help when they had unexplainable phenomenon, heard noises or felt scared,” she said. “Everybody doesn’t see the same thing.”

Even though the experiences differ, all four team members have seen a full apparition.

Lelieveld said that the group gets together beforehand, deploys the devices, and asks for protection from our angels. “We immerse ourselves into the experience,” she said.

The team members are David Matson, Lisa Sekeet, Edwin and Rosemary Lelieveld.



## Concert, continued

and being a veteran. He shared that he has been most influenced by writers, rather than musicians, and gives a lot of credit to his mother’s daily practice of reading one poem and a section of the Bible every day to her three

children, for providing the impetus to write and sing.

Robertson grew up in the village of Breckenridge, outside of Midland, and lived in that area until he moved to Grand Rapids, just before the pandemic hit. He credits the Beatles and John Denver with planting the guitar-playing seed.

That seed went full bloom when his favorite uncle bribed a band at a family wedding to let the 12-year-old Michael sit in. The song he and the band settled on was “Johnny

B. Goode” by Chuck Berry. Robertson said that when the song concluded, the room “erupted in applause and the die was cast” on his musical career.

In addition to his work as a solo performer, Michael has played with a host of musicians, like Amy Petty and various bands, since moving to West Michigan; including two that were seated next to me during the second set: Kyle Rasche (Chain of Lakes) and Eric Janetsky (the Lucky Nows).

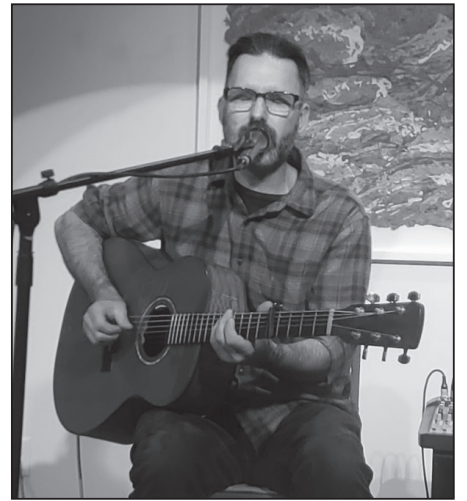
A few hours prior to the show, local musician Josh Rose crossed my path and his promise that the gallery show would be a great one was based in fact. Rose has performed, and fished, with Drew Nelson for many years. They share a love

for things Michigan, with extra love for the UP and pasties with ketchup! The combination of Nelson and Robertson was a real treat for the good-sized crowd in the Lowell Arts gallery. For several in the audience, it was their first visit to Lowell Arts, but judging from their enthusiasm, it will not be their last. The two were very comfortable performing together, and the one-two punch of heartfelt lyrics and fantastic fretworks, brought the house to their feet and an encore was demanded. It was a great ending to the Gallery Concert season, which will return in 2023 with more local and regional musicians. Nelson and Robertson can be quickly found on Facebook, and Michael Robertson is also at

www.MFR.me.

Continuing with the stated mission to connect artists and audiences through visual and performing arts, Lowell Arts will host a festival of ten minute plays; Playbytes by Playrights: Things that go Bump in the Night, Friday and Saturday, October 21-22, 23-29 at 7 pm and Sunday, October 23 and 30th at 2:00 pm. More information and tickets are available at www.LowellArtsMi.org and on their Facebook page.

I have often said that you meet the coolest people



Drew Nelson

at Lowell Arts. My personal list of talented writers, musicians and artists was expanded by two. It was a pleasure to finish off a lovely fall day with the talents of Drew Nelson and Michael Robertson in the intimate setting of the Lowell Arts Gallery.



Michael Robertson

## CITY OF LOWELL OAKWOOD CEMETERY FALL CLEAN UP NOTICE

The annual clean-up of Oakwood Cemetery in the City of Lowell will be Monday, October 17 through October 28, 2022.

Please remove all arrangements, baskets, etc. you wish to keep by Friday, October 28, 2022. Items not taken will be kept near the fence lot line for one year prior to being disposed of.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk

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# Voting 2022 – A look at Proposal 2

By Cliff Yankovich  
Contributing writer

It is my desire that every eligible voter in Lowell take the time to vote next month. Ballot proposals can be very confusing, especially with all the information and dis-information coming at us from news media outlets, social media, and that person down at the coffee shop, who knows everything there is to know about Michigan politics.

Here is the language of Proposal 2. You can then vote Yes or No:

A proposal to amend the state constitution to add provisions regarding elections.

This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Recognize the fundamental right to vote without harassing conduct
- Require military or overseas ballots be counted if postmarked by election day
- Provide voter right to verify identity with photo ID or signed statement
- Provide voter right to single application to vote absentee in all elections
- Require state-funded absentee-ballot drop boxes, and postage for absentee applications and ballots
- Provide that only election officials may conduct post-election audits
- Require nine days of early, in-person voting
- Allow donations to fund elections, which must be disclosed
- Require canvass boards certify election results based only on the official records of votes cast.

The first giant piece of mis-information being spread is that Prop 2 is going to eliminate the need for ID in order to vote. One of the prime movers behind the false claim is Michigan rock star, Ted Nugent. You might think – who cares what the Motor City Madman has to say about ballot proposals? Well, Mr. Nugent has some

3.5 million followers on social media. In the interest of accuracy, I read his post and made the mistake of reading some of the comments. The reason I call reading comments a mistake is because even though the post has been flagged as containing partially false information, folks reacted as if Ted’s post was gospel. It was flagged by PolitiFact and the untrue part of his rather long post is the part about eliminating ID in order to vote. Sadly, all of the comments I read totally ignored his distortion of the facts and chimed-in about how terrible it was that Michigan wants to eliminate the ID requirement.

Voters in Michigan have been required to show picture identification, or sign an affidavit verifying their identity, since 2007. An affidavit is a sworn, written statement that asserts certain facts — in this case, that someone’s identification details are true, under penalty of perjury.

Proposal 2 does not change this requirement. (Please commit that sentence to memory.) It is CLEARLY written right in the Proposal. Please see the third bullet point. Once upon a time, I sort of admired Ted Nugent, but now I regard him as another super-spreader of lies. His post did not include the language of Prop 2 for obvious reasons. He wanted to fan the flames of division in any way possible, and judging from comments, he accomplished his mission. The reality of Proposal 2 is that the current practice of requiring ID or an affidavit will be added to the State Constitution – the exact opposite of what Nugent, et al, are proclaiming.

Now that we all know what Prop 2 does not do, we can examine what it will do. To sum it up in one sentence: It seeks to make voting easier, and hopefully, encourage more people to vote. Here are the various

ways it does this. Some of the expansions of voting times and methods have been put into practice in other states, which should help legislators take the steps necessary to implement them should Prop 2 pass.

The measure eases time restrictions on absentee ballots, in general, and those sent in from members of the military serving in other states or countries. I could find no opposition to this common sense portion of the Proposal.

The measure would authorize voters to drop-off absentee ballots at drop boxes, and provide the right for a registered voter to receive an absentee ballot before each election by submitting an absentee ballot application covering all future elections. It would provide for state-funded secure drop boxes for every municipality, which would be accessible 24 hours a day for the 40 days prior to the election. The measure would require state-funded pre-paid postage to return an absentee ballot or absentee ballot application, as well as a state-funded system that would track and update the status of submitted ballots and ballot applications.

There is some pushback on these items, but they mainly come from critics who think the State does not have the funds to finance these things.

Proposal 2 would also allow for early voting at an early voting election site, open for nine consecutive days before the election. The site should be open at least 8 hours a day, and results from early voting will not be reported until after 8 PM on election day. The measure would require public disclosure of donations from private entities that were

used to pay for elections or audits. Proposal 2 also provides that elections will only be determined by the vote of electors casting ballots in the election, and provides for the legislature to establish a board of county canvassers. Under the measure, it would be the duty of county canvassers to certify an election based solely on the certified statements of votes from counties, or statements

state legislators to decide the election or alter the expressed will of the voters. It would also enshrine into the Constitution that any auditing of election results will be done under the supervision of the Secretary of State. Again, this prevents elected members of either party from participating in election audits, or worse yet, some outside company being hired to audit elections, as happened in Arizona when

people to vote. Voting is the foundation of how our system works. I am happy to report that a brief search for voting numbers actually indicates that more and more eligible voters are voting – this is great news. We have a ways to go to catch up two countries that actually require voting: Australia and Belgium.

I have always been bothered about the way in which we stick to having



or returns from precincts and absent voter counting boards in the county, and any corrected returns.

My read on the importance of this section is that the outcome of elections will rest solely on the counting of votes. This is in response to the attempt, in several states after our last national election, to empower the

multi-million dollar audit by Cyber Ninjas was proposed by Republicans. Their audit took months, cost the Arizona taxpayers millions, and found the same results that the Secretary of State’s office found – Biden won Maricopa County in Arizona.

My Two Cents: I say a hearty “Bravo” to any effort to enable more

elections on a Tuesday – a work day for most people. We pay lip service to the importance of voting, so why not make Election Day a holiday or have elections take place on Saturday and/or Sunday? Until that happens, Proposal 2 is a step in the right direction by making voter ID a part of the Constitution and making the acting of casting a ballot easier.

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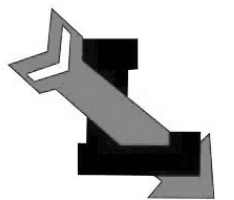
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## Live the Life You Want

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### National Depression Awareness Month

October is National Depression Awareness Month and mental health screening month. So, I want to provide some information about depression but also suggestions for when you may need to consider seeking help. Look for my other article, where I share free mental health screening resources.

Depression is a serious illness. About 1 in 10 will experience depression during their life and most individuals experience their first depressive episode between the ages of 20-30. Women are 2x more likely to develop depression. About half of those diagnosed with depression also have anxiety. About 60% of those that have committed suicide suffered from depression

or other mood disorder. Exercise has been shown to have antidepressant effects.

#### Signs Your Depression Needs Treatment

Depression is a serious illness that many individuals live with to various degrees. Some people may not even realize they have depression. They may just feel off, not like their normal self. If you have depression, it's not your fault. Depression is an illness that with proper treatment can have you feeling better and on your way to living your life again. There are differing degrees of depression.

Mild Depression - typically, does not require professional assistance. These feelings can often be alleviated by meditation,

mindfulness, exercise, being outdoors, light therapy (like the one used for people that have SAD), spending time with people you enjoy being around, and doing things you enjoy.

Moderate Depression - can interfere with daily life and often requires professional assistance.

Severe Depression - can be life-threatening and requires immediate intervention, such as therapy and medication.

When depression begins to negatively affect your life, such as your daily functioning, it is time to get assistance. For instance, having difficulty getting to work each day or not wanting to be around others (if this is abnormal for you) are signs that you may need to seek assistance.

Here are some additional signs that it's time to seek help:

- Thoughts of suicide, please get help immediately. Call the National Suicide Prevention line at 988, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room.

- Feeling consistently sad or worthless

- Wanting to isolate yourself from others when you are normally a social individual

- Feeling helpless or hopeless

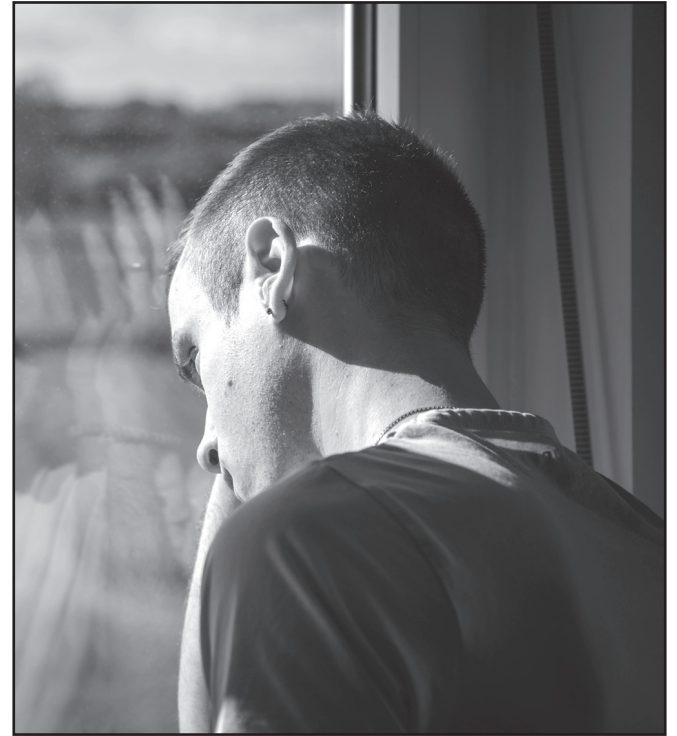
- Feelings of guilt or shame

- Having difficulty getting out of bed or taking care of yourself

- Extreme anger, irritability, or impatience

- Extreme change in eating habits (eating more or less than normal)

If you notice these signs, contact a counselor/therapist that specializes in mood disorders. I have a free depression screening tool, which can be found on my website under "helpful documents". It's based off the DSM-5 and is a Word document for downloading. Please note that this depression screening tool, is not a diagnosis. Only a licensed therapist/counselor, or a qualified doctor with mental health training, can accurately



diagnose depression after meeting with you. The depression screening tool can be found at <https://lifetransitionstherapy.biz/>

Know that you are not alone; help is available. If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts or are in

crisis, call 988, which is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, call 911, or go to the nearest emergency room. This article is not meant to treat or diagnose. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

## outdoors

find a balance

Dave Stegehuis

We live in what can be busy, complicated, and sometimes, stressful times. Every generation is faced with unique challenges. Young people today are no exception. Urbanization, suburbanization, and digital technology have had an impact on the lives of children.

Spending free-range time outdoors has become a rare activity for our children. Fields and woods are being swept up in commercial and

neighborhood development. No trespassing signs bar the unauthorized from entering vacant natural areas. Electronic devices with screens have become a focus of attention for adults, as well as young people. Organized sports have become a major interest for youth of all ages, which is a very worthwhile activity, consuming substantial time and resources. There are cultural and political issues which influence attitudes

toward fishing and hunting. These are examples of distractions, which make it less likely for youth to spend quality time outdoors.

Studies have shown, spending time outdoors and connecting in some way with the natural world has positive mental and physical effects, which improve our quality of life. We only need the will and determination to get out-and-about in nature.

The good news is that while there are many distractions making it hard to get outside, there are also incentives to make a transition to an outdoor lifestyle possible and enjoyable. In recent years, there has been more concern by the public for protecting and conserving air, water, land, and wildlife. In appreciation for our natural surroundings, emphasis has been placed on making natural areas more accessible to the general public. Parkland and natural areas have been set aside for people to use for all types of recreation. Folks can camp, hike, ride, walk, run, fish, hunt, watch birds, or just sit quietly in the solitude and peace of nature. Conservation organizations welcome young volunteers to get hands on experiences, such as tree planting or river clean-up projects. Planting a garden provides a direct connection between the land and our lives.

It is important for young people to sustain contact with the outdoors to enrich their lives and to ensure our natural heritage for generations to come. It is possible to find a balance between the demands of modern life and maintaining a solid connection with nature.



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#### OCTOBER SCHEDULE

T.J. London, Man of War, Oct. 7  
Joanna Walitalo, Woodburnings, Oct. 14  
Kathryn Den Houter, Prison Shadows, Oct. 21  
Chris Stark, Carnival Lights, Oct. 28

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# viewpoint



## 125 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 14, 1897

Frank Patterson, aged 45, a painter, fell 75 feet from a church steeple today, and yet lives to tell about it. He not only lives, but apparently uninjured, his pipe being all that was broken.

Lowell people were aroused from their slumbers Monday morning at 2 o'clock by the clanging of the fire bells. The fire department turned out, accompanied by something less than 100 panting, breathless citizens, all on account of a blaze in a rail pile at the rear of Dr. Elsworth's house. The flames were extinguished without loss to life or property; and the fire laddies retired to their downy beds and slept the sleep of the just.

The school board is facing the problem of heating the Central school building comfortably this winter, without going to an expense for an extra furnace that might not be the things wanted in case of adding another apartment to the building next year.

## 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 19, 1922

It appears that the hunting licenses some procure seems to grant them a perfect right to steal what-so-ever they care to want, as well as to hunt game. The Emery Orchard Co. and the Hill Crest orchard have this season's crop just about cleaned up.

A new Chevrolet touring car, driven by a Carson City man, was smashed beyond recognition by a Grand Trunk freight train, Saturday evening on Cheetham crossing, just east of town.

Herman Glathart has rented the Maynard building, south of the Lowell State bank, and is fitting the same for use as a creamery. The necessary machinery and paraphernalia will be installed and the same will be ready for business as soon as possible.

Five dollars reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons throwing apples and other rubbish on my porch. D.S. Simon

## 75 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 16, 1947

There's a 15 1/2 pound female raccoon, wearing ear tag No. 6360 that hunters might very well spare if they catch her in the season, beginning Nov. 1. She is eight and a half years old, the oldest living wild 'coon' of which the conservation has a record.

Lowell United Methodist Church will be celebrating the reopening of the church on Sunday evenings, following the redecorating of the sanctuary.

Archie Condon suffered several fractured ribs and

facial lacerations Saturday night, when the car he was driving ran into the back of the Edwin Marshall car ,parked on East Main Street.

Walter Wittenbach, of Grattan township, suffered a broken back last Thursday when he fell from an apple tree. He was taken to Butterworth Hospital for treatment, and it is expected that he will be able to return home sometime this week.

## 50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life October 12, 1972

Lippert's Pharmacy, in the heart of the downtown area, purchased the empty supermarket building on East Main Street, next to McCaul's Texaco, where they will have over 8,000 more square feet of selling area to serve their customers.

A fifth complaint of larceny was made Oct. 4 to Lowell Police by Mrs. David Coons of North Division Street. Mrs. Coons revealed that a young man was in the house, but had left the house and rode down the hill on Division Street. The subject was apprehended and later admitted that he was the one who broke into the house.

The Michigan Water Resources commission is seeking an injunction in Ionia County Circuit Court, to halt ground water pollution by Saranac Manufacturing Company, a metal-plating firm operated by Harry J. Swanson, Jr. The Commission, in its suit ,charges the firm discharging water into seepage lagoons, which eventually enters the ground water.

## 25 years ago The Lowell Ledger October 15, 1997

School convinced ground contamination poses no threat to middle school or Bushnell students or staff. Recent tests performed have indicated that some of the groundwater pollution has extended across portions to the middle and elementary school property. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, which is overseeing the clean-up, has received two other outside opinions from private firms about the contamination.

The contamination took place several years ago and Root-Lowell has since discontinued the manufacturing operations that caused it.

An anonymous donor makes a donation of \$1,500 toward middle school homework hotline. Maureen Gruel and Marlene Landstra donated golf clubs, bags and balls to the Lowell athletic department.

Mike and Carolyn Stahl have opened Shorebird Gallery & Gifts, at 215 W. Main, specializing in wildlife art and related outdoor items.

Lowell Police Department's newest full-time patrol officer is Sandra Lee. She is the first-full time police woman in Lowell.

Lowell High School's 1997 Homecoming king is Bill McPherson, and homecoming queen is Lori Catlin.

## to the editor

*Letter writer opinions are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this publication.*

To the editor:

All district voters will be asked on Nov. 8 to choose three of seven candidates for the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education. Two are incumbents: Patrick Nugent and Jessica Curtis. Both have admirably demonstrated their willingness and their capability to perform the duties and responsibilities necessary to lead the district, as well as to listen with respect and respond to complaints of some who have put rights above, rather than alongside, responsibilities to all families, students and community members. They have also weathered an unfounded, and ultimately failed recall attempt, from a small but loud group of those who cannot seem to find much right with the district, yet have not offered solutions or volunteered their time to do so.

That all our current Board members have endured these unnecessary distractions and remained focused on operating a school district, speaks volumes for their dedication.

Two newcomers,

Parker Liu and Jennifer Dougherty, have shared their commitment to keeping the focus on LAS students, rather than on divisive talking points that have, after district consideration, not found to be issues at LAS. With only three available seats, it is essential for the community to rally.

The three others who are running are, unfortunately, aligned with the group behind the divisive, potentially expensive recall attempt our community flatly and resoundingly rejected last year.

Please vote for Curtis, Dougherty, Nugent or Liu, at the bottom of your ballot, by Nov. 8. Leaving this race blank could cost our taxpayers, and our district, years in unwarranted distractions from the education and well-being of our students.

*Morgan Jarema*  
former Lowell  
Education Foundation  
member Vergennes  
Township

**Letters,  
continued page 12**

## We love to hear from you!



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

The requirements are:

- All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification. All that will be printed is the writer's name and community of residence. We do not publish anonymous letters, and names will be withheld at the editor's discretion for compelling reasons only.
- Letters that contain statements that are libelous or slanderous will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and sense.
- Letters that serve as testimonials for or criticisms of businesses will not be accepted.
- Letters serving the function of "cards of thanks" will not be accepted unless there is a compelling public interest, which will be determined by the editor.
- Letters that include attacks of a personal nature will not be published or will be edited heavily.
- "Crossfire" letters between the same two people on one issue will be limited to one for each writer.
- In an effort to keep opinions varied, there is a limit of one letter per person per month.
- We prefer letters to be printed legibly or typed, double-spaced. We have a 500-word limit.

**Letters can be sent to emailed to  
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com  
Deadline is noon on Mondays**



## At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Alto Branch, 6071 Linfield Ave SE. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

### All Aboard! Book Club

Thurs., Oct. 13, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Join a fun, informal discussion of great books. This month, we'll discuss *On the Clock* by Emily Guendelsberger. Adults 18+

### Senior Neighbors: Make Giving Back Your Second

Thurs., Oct. 13, 6 - 7 pm. Programs by AmeriCorps Seniors connect individuals age 55+ to local organizations tackling tough challenges. Come learn about the benefits of serving and how you can use your unique skillset and experience to give back to your community as an AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer. For seniors 55+

### Scrabble for Seniors,

Fri., Oct. 14 & 28 from 1-3 pm. Sit down and enjoy a word game, unplugged, with other fans. For 18+ and skill levels welcome!

### Storytime

Mondays 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Nurture your child's love of books and build early literacy skills through stories, rhymes, music and movement. For ages 0-5 with parent or guardian.

### Spooky Storytime

Mon., Oct. 31, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Bring the whole family, enjoy some not-too-spooky stories. Costumes welcome! Ages 0-5



Ph. 616-897-9261

# ABCs of Lowell history

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is introducing a new weekly series. Each week we will explore the history one of the buildings in the downtown Historic District.

Address: 229 E. Main  
Built: 1869  
Owner/Builder: Robert Graham did masonry work; Reuben Quick did carpentry work  
Building name: Graham Block  
1st business: Devendorf & Blain, Dry goods & carpets

Robert Graham built this two-storefront building in 1869. It was originally three stories high; the top story was removed in 1910. In 1872, Devendorf and Blain opened a store selling dry goods, carpets and corsets in the eastern storefront. Blain purchased the interest of his partner in 1875 and occupied "the Corner Store" as Norman B. Blain, Dry Goods until 1901. A. W. Weekes clerked for Blain from 1872-1880 and Anna Childs clerked later. She married Neil Cameron and they bought Blain's house, which later became known as the "Highland Hill" house.

In 1901, Blain's Dry Goods was assigned and sold because there was a shortfall in the books he kept for the Lowell Building and Loan Association. He was later found innocent of the charge of embezzlement. "The directors had given Blain (the long-time Treasurer) permission to speculate to a certain extent with the money he was keeping, believing that the association was fully protected by



R. D. Hahn operated a Grocery from 1923-1943. At first it was called "People's Grocery". He added a meat department as soon as refrigeration made it possible. He provided delivery service to homes. Employee Carl Munroe (left) and Robert Hahn (right).

his bondsmen. He took advantage of the offer, but the fates were against him and his speculations proved losses." The bondsmen did cover \$2,000 of the \$3,000 shortfall but Blain could not cover the rest (\$1,000) at that time.

Offices upstairs included: The Lowell Journal office in 1873 when James W. Hine published it; John Romig the barber; the Lowell Library when Robert Graham was Librarian, 1880s; Dr. Towsley, MD (eye, ear, nose and throat), 1894-1905; and A. E. Campbell, dentist, 1890s.

Grocery stores followed. It was Guy H. Troub, Grocery; C. F. Hosmer, Grocery; Wolcott Grocery and John O. Clark Grocery. In 1915, Clark's Grocery advertised as the largest grocery in Western Michigan. In 1916, the building owner, L. J. Post,

Painted the storefront and put side windows in it. Perhaps, that is when "Clark" was etched into the cement in front of the store. In 1917, Clark sold to F. D. Vos, who returned it within a week; Clark then sold it to J. W. Morse, who sold it to Shaw, who sold it to Frank MacFarlane. R. D. Hahn purchased the building and operated the Grocery from 1923-1943. Carl Munroe owned the Grocery from 1944 to 1956. Earl Kropf of Stark Bros. Nurseries and Sam Kropf, Carpenter, were upstairs in the 1940s.

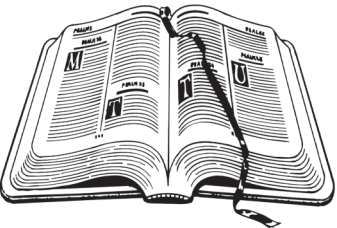
From 1956 into the 1980s, Carl and Louisa Smith operated the Western Auto home and auto supply store, which was a chain of stores founded in 1909 just as automobiles were in their infancy. He cut an opening between 229 and 219 E. Main so he could utilize both storefronts of the Graham

building. Western Auto was an authorized State License Bureau during the 1960s. Lowell Floor Coverings, Paint and Wallpaper was here, 1989-1996.

The North Country Trail Association established their headquarters here in 2002; they partner with the National Park Service to build, maintain, protect and promote the North Country National Scenic Trail. This trail is the longest in the National Trails System, stretching 4,800 miles across eight states from North Dakota to Vermont. Lowell, Michigan, is near the center of the trail system. In 2013, the mural

Painted by Lowell Arts! student artists was hung on the exterior east wall of the building along Monroe Street. It depicts what is seen along the trail and commemorates Lowell as an official Trail Town.

# area churches



**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

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

**St. Mary Catholic Church**  
402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820  
Website: [www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)  
Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am  
Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm  
Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

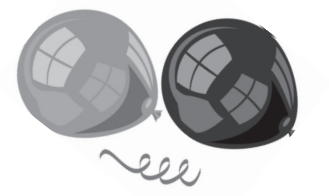
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES  
2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 • [www.fbcloowell.org](http://www.fbcloowell.org)  
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor  
Pastor Andrew Bolkcom • Pastor of Discipleship  
Christi Swain • Director of Children's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

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

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
865 Lincoln Lake SE • [lowellucc.org](http://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

# happy birthday

- OCTOBER 13**  
Adam Thaler, Joe VanLaan, Patrick Doyle, Kurtis Clouser, Jr.
- OCTOBER 14**  
Ericka Onan, Barb Erickson, Debra Duiven, Court Duiven, Kyle Hildenbrand, Stacey Kinyon, Kelsey Callihan, Caleb Baker, Jim Watrous.
- OCTOBER 15**  
Jamie Roth, Jason Roth, Elizabeth Raab, Jan Lippert, Annie Oesch, Kevin Clouser, Frank Grudzinskas, Doug Felling.
- OCTOBER 16**  
Paula Blough.
- OCTOBER 17**  
Collin Kaeb, Kurt Telman, Jason Nearing.
- OCTOBER 18**  
Mary Ellen Rivers Barber, Brian Willmarth, Brian Scott Kunard, Hayden Andrews/Snyder.
- OCTOBER 19**  
Lydia Brenk, Nancy Brenk, Zachary Lee, Ty Stanford, Diane Merriman.



# Playbytes by Playwrights begins October 21

by Bill Lee  
contributing writer

Beginning on Friday, October 21, and ending on October 30, LowellArts will be presenting its biannual Playbytes by Playwrights, a series of ten 10-minute, one-act plays. All of the selected plays will revolve around this year's Halloween theme: "Things that Goo Bump in the Night." Technically, because of COVID, the last Playbytes by Playwrights took place three years ago in 2019, so the folks at LowellArts are excited to get the festival back up and running. It was an idea LowellArts had many years ago as a way to support local playwrights, directors, and actors. "We had the idea because we had some playwrights in our group, so we wanted to hold this festival and competition for playwrights, experienced and new," said Laurel Conrad, program manager at Lowell Arts. "For people to get their work out there and potentially to be produced on stage is a pretty big deal for a playwright. Ten minutes is really nice, and enjoyable for the audience, to be able to get a tasting platter of plays, and we can showcase as many

playwrights as possible." A few months ago, LowellArts put out a call for play submissions from playwrights from anywhere. This year they received a total of sixty-four 10-minute plays from the Grand Rapids area and across the world, including a couple of submissions from New Zealand. All 64 plays were read by five readers, including co-directors, Laurel Conrad and Mary Beth Quillen, and three other readers familiar with theater productions. Conrad admits that the process for choosing the final ten plays was very difficult, as there were many excellent entries. "This year we created a long list," said Conrad. "Of the 64, we just named anything that we liked or resonated, and then from there, we created a short list. There were so many good selections. There's lots of discussion like 'Okay, we like these two plays. Is there one that would use the space better or is the casting too difficult?'" Conrad and Quillen will direct five plays each but will also help each other out with the other plays. It is a partnership that Conrad is excited about, as Quillen has many years of

experience in the theater. "It's kind of nice for me, since I only graduated from college in 2018," said Conrad. "Mary Beth has a lot of insight that she passes on to me. Also, she and her husband, Gary Mitchell, have their own company called Gem Theatrics and they produce two-person shows that they can take anywhere."

After choosing the ten plays, Conrad and Quillen had an open casting call for actors who wanted to be part of the production. Also a difficult process, the co-directors chose 16 actors to be a part of the plays – some will act in more than one play. Both directors are very excited about the actors involved in the productions. "I love the mix that we have," said Conrad. "We have some younger kids (10 and 14) involved, all the way up to folks in their mid to late 60s. It's a great diverse group. We have local people we all know and love and new folks from the Grand Rapids area. It's good for us to include others from outside the community." Since the actors are volunteers and most have day jobs that don't involve acting, the rehearsal process has to

be flexible for everyone involved. Recently, they have been getting together at LowellArts or at St. John's United Church in Grand Rapids. "The rehearsal process is going really well," said Conrad. "Everybody seems to be having a good time. The shows, themselves, are really well-written, and we're enjoying having these

fun in the sense of getting to change it up," said Conrad. "When you're working on the same long piece for so long, you do get to know it inside and out, which can be a very good thing but can also drive you bonkers in the end ... in a loving way. With ten-minute plays we get more variety, a little comedy here and

theme will add an interesting element to the productions. "I hope people come out to the shows and enjoy it," said Conrad. "The folks who come to see the show really like it because it is new work, things they wouldn't have seen elsewhere, so it is really different than any other theatrical experience you might find in Lowell or



new works that haven't been produced before, at least not in Lowell."

The plays, themselves, will be a healthy mix of dramas and comedies and everything in between. The storylines range from Beavis and Butthead type characters, summoning demons, to seriously spooky ghost stories about the afterlife. The ten-minute format allows for a lot of flexibility and fun for the actors and directors. "It's

drama over there." Conrad is confident that people will enjoy the ten shows, and audiences will also be able to choose a "People's Choice Award" for the play they like the best. "Picking a favorite out of ten is not going to be easy," Conrad admitted.

Overall, Playbytes by Playwrights has been a unique experience for theater people and audiences alike, and this year's spooky

in the Grand Rapids area." Performances will take place at LowellArts on West Main Street with 7 pm shows on Friday and Saturday nights (October 21, 22, 28, 29), and Sunday matinee shows at 2 pm (October 23 and 30). Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door with a \$2 discount for LowellArts members. You can find tickets by visiting [lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org)

## Absentee ballots available for Nov. 8 election

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 8 general election are now being mailed to Michigan voters who requested them and are available in city and township clerk offices. "Michigan citizens have options to vote, including the right to vote by mail, the right to vote early with an absentee ballot at their local clerks office, and the right to vote at their polling

place on Election Day," said Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson. "Every option is secure and all valid votes will be counted fairly and accurately, thanks to the professional election officials and workers across the state." Michigan citizens voted overwhelmingly in 2018 to enshrine in our state Constitution the right to vote absentee without providing

a reason. They also granted eligible citizens the right to register to vote up to, and on, Election Day at their local clerk's office. Citizens can also register online at [Michigan.gov/Vote](http://Michigan.gov/Vote), or by mail, through Oct. 24. Additional election information at [Michigan.gov/Vote](http://Michigan.gov/Vote), eligible citizens can: Register to vote (through Oct. 24); check their registration status; request

an absentee ballot; find their local clerk's office location, hours, contact information, and absentee ballot drop box locations; find their polling place; track their absentee ballot; view their sample ballot. General election information is available at [Michigan.gov/Elections](http://Michigan.gov/Elections) and commonly misunderstood election topics are explained at [Michigan.gov/SOSFactCheck](http://Michigan.gov/SOSFactCheck).

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE FOR TESTING OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 8, 2022, General Election will be conducted Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, MI 49331.

The public accuracy test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law.

Monica Burt, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

## HELP WANTED

### Part-Time Newspaper Reporter

**The Lowell Ledger is looking for a news/feature reporter with strong writing skills and can meet a deadline.**

*This is a stringer position - paid by the story*

Please send writing samples and brief resume to:  
The Lowell Ledger  
PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331  
email:  
[ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com](mailto:ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com)



## CITY OF LOWELL

### Kent County, Michigan

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE OF KING MILLING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Lowell has been requested to hold a public hearing to consider the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate by King Milling (the "Applicant"), pursuant to Act 198 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1974, as amended.

The facilities will be located at 139 S. Broadway SE, Lowell, Michigan. The application of King Milling, is on file and available for review in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Lowell.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the public hearing shall be held on Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., local time, at the City Hall at 301 E. Main Street in the City, at which time the City Commission shall afford the Applicant, the City Assessor, a representative of each taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes in the City, and residents and taxpayers of the City an opportunity to be heard regarding the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the Applicant.



City Clerk  
City of Lowell

# Meet the Lowell Area School Board Candidates

*In the next few weeks we will feature all candidates for the Lowell Area School Board.*

*There are three positions open on the board this year. All information is courtesy of SupportLAS*

## Candidate's Corner



**Jared Blough**

Blough is a lifetime Lowell-Alto resident and district parent. The family name is well-known in the area: a relative, Gary Blough, was a longtime LAS Board member, who chose not to run in November to retain his seat. "I just felt it was my duty to carry the torch," said Blough of running for the Board of Education. Other relatives own and operate Heidi's Farm Stand in Lowell Township and saw mills in Clarksville.

He and his wife of 25 years have four children, three of whom are LHS graduates and the youngest a student there. His sons were members of the LHS varsity wrestling team for eight of nine state titles, and his eldest daughter was on the school's first volleyball team to compete in a state championship.

A regional mechanical maintenance supervisor

for Crestwood Midstream Partners, he has volunteered for his children's sports activities and his church.

"I love to hunt and fish," he said. "This town allows me to enjoy the great outdoors, watch my kids compete at the highest levels and with their Red Arrow experiences and education, shift into their new roles seamlessly."

Jared Blough  
Survey Responses:

**What do you think are the 2 biggest successes/strengths of Lowell Area Schools, and what are the district's 2 biggest challenges?**

One of LAS' biggest strengths is its ability to prepare students for their future after LAS. Whether it's the great academics and AP course curriculums for college bound students, or

Kent Career Tech Center for hands-on-learning in a plethora of job fields chosen by the student. The second biggest LAS strength that allowed my student athletes to follow their dreams was sports and athletics. LAS has a sport for all skills and abilities, and the community support each sport gets is incredible. The team bond and support for the athletes really feels like family. The wins and losses are for record books but the relationships they form and the leadership the athletes learn, makes them better prepared for future rolls in life.

I think one of the biggest challenges for LAS is recognizing and avoiding the outside influence. Whether it's a policy or program coming down from the State board or some thing being taught to the educators in a workshop. The community and LAS are attractive to people, they come to Lowell to be a part of who we are and our core values. An additional challenge for LAS is the school book and online book content policy. The books in the schools, libraries and individual classrooms, plus the online versions that are available to the students need to be vetted. I don't know if it's something an individual can handle or a small group but someone has to be accountable for what the students have access to read at school. The policy needs to

be standardized across the district, not each building having their own set of rules.

**If you could have an impact on our school district's curriculum, what changes would you make? What would you keep the same?**

I think the curriculum is working well the way it is, but if I could tweak it a bit, I would suggest making classes, like Personal Finance, mandatory and not an elective. These classes show students things they all will use after their time in LAS and be better prepared for real world experiences. The one thing I would not change is the option to take AP classes. For many kids, they use these classes as a scale to see how hard a college class is

and if they want to pursue college. The students planning on college, challenge themselves and schedule as many AP classes as they can to earn these early credits.

**How well do you think the district meets the needs of our special education students and their families, and what would you improve upon?**

LAS does a good job of meeting the State/Federal requirements and continually evaluating students to verify LAS is the best placement for each student and looking at resources to support them. A couple ways to improve the program would be to extend the school year; these students thrive on routine and consistency. Also provide some after-school programs or sports; the need

for inclusion and stimulation doesn't end at the end of the school day for these students. Forest Hills offers some special Olympic-type sports and after school inclusion programs.

**What role do you think standardized tests should play at Lowell Area Schools?**

Standardized testing is needed in the schools, to show the amount of information students are retaining and what level their learning ability is. I don't think educators should have to take any time away from teaching the curriculum or stray away from the curriculum to answer certain ques-

**Blough,**  
continued page 14

## Candidate's Corner



**Jessica Curtis**

of the district, and I want future generations to feel the same way after graduating from Lowell Schools.

"Serving on the school board is a big commitment, but the past year has taught me how we, as a district, being faced with challenging times, have shown through diligence, hard work, adaptability and support in not only facing what sometimes seemed insurmountable, but in endeavoring to continue the very best educational process for all of our students. This is what being a Red Arrow represents to me."

Jessica Curtis  
Survey Responses:

**What do you think are the 2 biggest successes/strengths of Lowell Area Schools, and what are the district's 2 biggest challenges?**

One of the biggest strengths of LAS is our community. One example is, Pink Arrow, seeing how we can all come together to support those with needs is AMAZING! This event is not simple to put on and requires many hands to pull off and we are still successfully doing it after 15 years. This shows the level of character and moral within our district. Our district has supportive parents that are actively involved within our schools. Another strength is the teachers, staff, and administration that offer endless educational opportunities to ensure that students are encouraged and guided to reach their fullest poten-

**Curtis,**  
continued page 14

## ★ Honoring Our Area Veterans ★

**The Ledger, along with local businesses, will once again be saluting area Veterans.**

The names and pictures we receive will appear in our November 9 edition in honor of Veterans Day, November 11, 2022.

If you would like to spotlight a Veteran living in our area, please mail or bring their picture along with their name, branch of service and years served to:

The Lowell Ledger/Veterans Page  
105 N. Broadway • PO Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331

**OR email:** ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Put "Veterans" on the subject line, type the name, branch of service and years served into the body of the email and attach the picture.

## NOTICE

**If the veteran you want to honor was in last year, we still have their photo. No need to resubmit.**

**Deadline for submission is noon, Monday, Nov. 7, 2022**

**For more information call the Ledger at 616.897.9261**

You or the Veteran you are honoring must be from the Lowell area.



Veterans Day, November 11, 2022



# Harvest Festival, continued

by Lowell Light and Power, was a pumpkin-decorating station for children. It was a culmination of many activities for LL&P throughout the week, which included free goodie bags for Lowell residents who stopped by their office. The bags contained free LED lightbulbs, a power strip, other treats, and excellent information on how to conserve energy.

Lowell residents, Samantha Norman and her son, Ashton, enjoyed their first year at the Harvest Celebration, as they decorated pumpkins along with participating in some other activities. "It's been good to get a chance to support some local businesses," said Samantha Norman. Ada residents, Peter and Megan Rizzo and daughter, Son-

ny, also enjoyed their time in Lowell. "We've never been to downtown Lowell," said Megan Rizzo. "It's really nice. It's a great setting by the river with lots

of vendors and lots to do." The wind was a bit of a nuisance throughout the day, as it did not play nicely with the vendor's tents and products but overall, The Harvest Celebration was well-attended and enjoyed by all.



Samantha Norman and her son, Ashton, decorated pumpkins.



The Rizzo family from Ada.



FFA Students from left to right: Maddie Morgensen, Charlie Lyons, Ella Acheson, Autumn Jousma, Grady Eickoff, and Lavonda Jousma



Photo courtesy of Bruce Doll



Photo courtesy of Bruce Doll



Photo courtesy of Bruce Doll

Red Arrow

- GOLF

## SPORTS

## Golfers triumph in historical program milestone

*The Lowell girls golf team overcame a crowded field to win their first regional in dramatic fashion*

By Justin Scott  
sports reporter

If you've ever seen the Masters Tournament, you know that in golf a final round can be especially chaotic. Lead changes, the noise from the crowds all over the course, and inches the difference between winning and falling just short of perhaps the most prestigious award in golf.

On Tuesday at Arrowhead Golf Course, the MHSAA Girls Golf Regional had its own version of chaos. Coaches

playing members of the varsity girls team, were a nervous wreck headed down the stretch.

Things had transpired exactly as the Lowell Girls Golf program had hoped they would. Of the six contenders going in, East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Central struggled out of the gates. A surprise, but a pleasant one for the Red Arrows. Sparta's fourth golfer had a high score, leaving them just off pace of the top three. So for FHN,

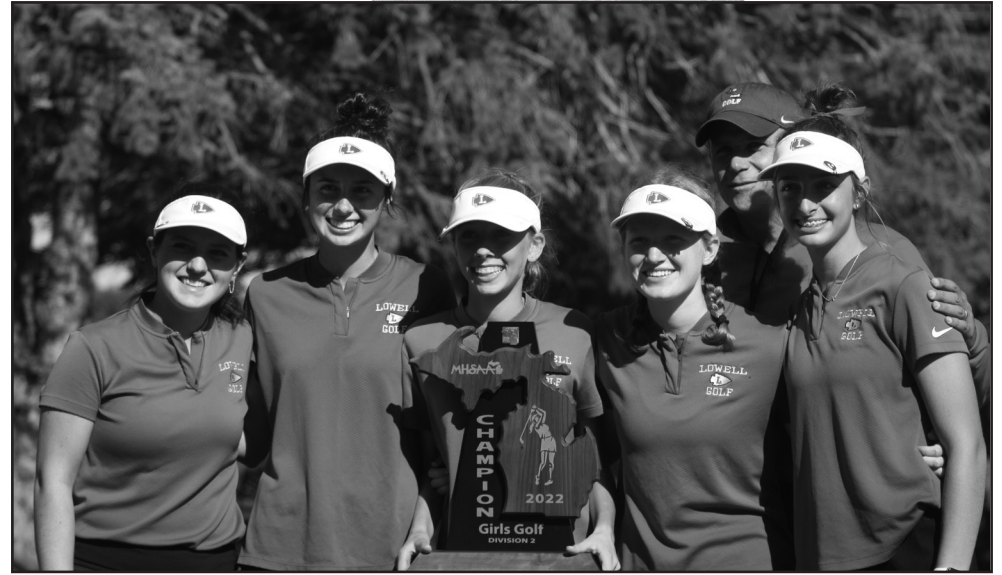
had the lead seven holes in. There was a caveat to this. Cadillac was playing in slower groups, and thus, their scores were about two scores behind. Giving the illusion of playing better than they were, and for that reason, Cadillac was giving everyone a scare. Cadillac's fifth place finish and 24 strokes off pace meant they never truly were a threat to the top three teams, but was nonetheless, an impressive feat for them.

So while Cadillac was always in the minds of the top three, and Sparta wasn't truly far off, what slowly became the reality down the stretch was a three-way battle between Lowell, Forest Hills Northern, and Coopersville for the regional championship. Top three was the goal going in for Lowell, and cautious optimism during the last few holes was that it was going to happen. At some point though, the Red Arrows began to realize they could actually win this tournament.

The home course advantage that left FHC, EGR, and Sparta in the dust had paid off. FHN and Coopersville remained, and as golfers came in, and the live scores began to finalize, the drama really notched up. In a unique set of circumstances, both FHN (361) and Coopersville (360), finished as two Lowell golfers were on the course; Emma Jo McCormick and Leah Krieger. Lowell could afford 2 over par on the final two holes between the two golfers to win.

The Lowell contingent sat on hole 7. A lengthy par four at Arrowhead with a pond nestled on the right side before the green, a difficult hole. They watched Krieger's par putt on seven. It looked perfect, ready-to-fall, before hitting the pin and lipping out. There are seldom roars from the crowd in high school golf, but that might have been it. It was a tap-in bogey, however.

"What did Emma shoot," was the talk amongst the crowd. JV players, sent to investigate the result on nearby hole 8, came back with news. "A six," one said. Disbelief and hung heads. "No it was a five," another said. Now, nobody knew for sure, then the score came in. A refresh of the scoring



The Lowell girls golf team poses with the regional championship trophy.

app showed a double bogey, but in a stunning surprise, Lowell's score remained the same, and why quickly dawned on the crowd. Only the top four scores in high school golf count. Since Stephanie Spinella shot a 92, McCormick's double bogey pushed her to a 93, which became the new fifth score. Lowell had that 92 locked in, which became the fourth score. It had come down to Krieger the entire time, and nobody had quite realized that in the pandemonium.

It meant that Krieger's two putt had secured the tie, which Lowell knew they would win a tiebreaker, as McCormick's 93 far outpaced Coopersville's fifth score. It meant Lowell had won.

"I had no idea," Krieger said after the round. Most golfers avoid looking at the leaderboards too much, though the live-scoring app permits it. "I was just trying to finish my round with a bogey or less."

Nobody really said anything. Waiting to confirm. Not wanting to celebrate until they were absolutely sure, but as Krieger left the green and coach Josh Bruwer embraced her, the beaming smile of Krieger sent the JV team and members of the crowd running toward them.

"After the hole, though, I looked at the leaderboard for the first time and was amazed. My teammates came running over and we were all so genuinely happy and proud of each other," Krieger added.

The walk back to the clubhouse, a fun one, and at the bottom of the hill, on hole nine, the team embraced each other and the celebration was on.

"With only one stroke separating first from third

place. I was keeping my fingers crossed that there were not any scores input wrong in the app that could change the final outcome. Once I saw our kids celebrating with the trophy, I figured we were in the clear," Lowell head coach, Josh Bruwer said after the round.

While McCormick finished with a six, her score was what mattered in the end. The tiebreaker, McCormick's 93, earned Lowell the win.

"I love that we won by utilizing all five scorers. We've always said that we have such a great and deep team that the more scorers that are needed to determine the outcome of a match, the greater the advantage swings to us. Consistency has been a strength of our team all season," Bruwer said.

"We had a few matches that had all of our scorers separated by only two strokes. Most teams are driven by one top scorer but our team is very well-balanced. That might be my favorite thing about this team. They push and pull for each other. They all push each other and have the underlying competition of wanting to be in the starting lineup. If their name is not called, they are all in for their teammates."

Lowell had not only punched their first ticket to state since 2006-2007, but had won their first-ever regional championship. They had pushed through the wall of fourth-place finishes that had stacked-up over the last decade and had done it.

Lowell at 360 won the regional tournament, followed by Coopersville at 360. The Broncos lost via tiebreaker because tiebreakers are based on fifth

scores, which Lowell easily had won.

Forest Hills Northern, seen as the favorites coming in, settled for third, just one stroke behind at 361. Sparta finished 4th at 377, the highest-ranked team in the field. Cadillac, the tournament's Cinderella story, came in fifth. Them beating sixth place FHC and seventh place EGR, an incredible story in itself. Mona Shores, Greenville, Northview, Kenowa Hills, and Reeths-Puffer rounded out the placers.

One of the subplots of the day; how would local track Arrowhead stand up to some of the best golfers the area had to offer? It has its easy holes, and the layout isn't extremely long, but as it turns out, Arrowhead held its own and then some. The course was meticulously prepared for the event. Trimmed trees, an improved bridge on hole one, clearly defined hazards, and difficult pins were just some of the changes grounds crew members worked on prior to the tournament. One player, Lauren Davis of Coopersville (73), shot in the 70's. Sparta's Emalynn Benham finished 2nd with an 80, qualifying for states as an individual.

Elle Sluss led Lowell with an 88, followed by Rylee Jannenga (89), Leah Krieger (91), Stephanie Spinella (92), and Emma Jo McCormick (93). The Red Arrows compete at the state tournament this week. "Golf is a very individual-driven sport. However, the kids have committed to a culture that puts the team first," Bruwer concluded.



Elle Sluss drives on hole 9 during regionals.

and parents checking the live scoring application every minute on their phone, whispers of what was going on echoed throughout the course. The Lowell contingent, which included parents, family, friends, the JV girls team, and non-

Lowell, and Coopersville, things were good right? A coast to the top three?

Not quite. One team was the talk of the tournament early in the round, and that team was Cadillac. A team, averaging 420 strokes heading into the tournament,

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Red Arrow

# SPORTS

- FOOTBALL

## Football runs wild over Eagles

By Justin Scott  
sports reporter

A timely interception and 35-point first-half scoring run gave Lowell all the momentum it needed on Friday night, as they beat Grand Rapids Christian, 56-14, on the road. The Red Arrows gashed the Eagles on the ground, averaging over 10 yards a carry, on 41 rushing attempts, for 416 rushing yards and 8 touchdowns.

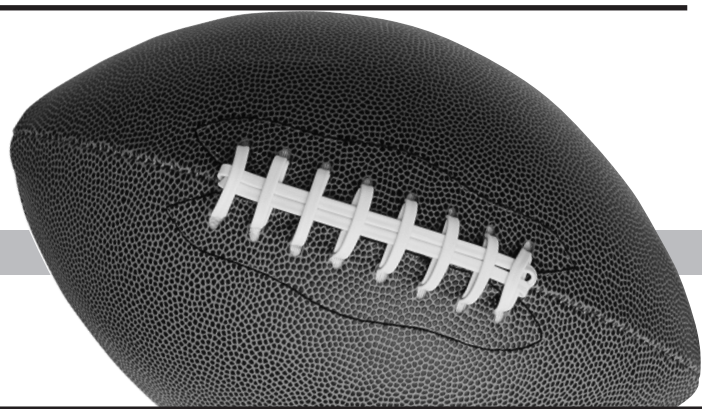
It was the Eagles who

by quarterback, Jackson Reisbig, who had a huge night with six rushing touchdowns, five of seven passing for 65 yards, and 160 rushing yards.

As the Eagles crossed midfield on the ensuing possession, quarterback pressure from the Red Arrow defensive line forced a Hail Mary type throw from GR Christian QB, Alek Wickstrom, which Aidan Fitzpatrick (4 tackles, 2 pass defends, 1 INT)

Carson Crace, and kept it on a quarterback keeper, 35 yards to the endzone. After an Eagle three and out, GR Christian's punter booted a 48-yard punt, but Lowell would march 58 yards anyway, and Reisbig would find his third touchdown on the ground to make it 21-7.

The next two touchdowns came from Tacho Gonzales on a 5-yard run, and a 5-yard run from Reisbig, leading 35-7 at halftime, prior to



Nolan Jannenga gets pressure on the quarterback.



Brady Swift records a sack against Grand Rapids Christian.

kicked off the scoring with a 15-yard touchdown run to start the first quarter; those were the only first-half points they would be able to muster. The Red Arrows were quick to respond with an 18-yard touchdown, run

snagged out of the air to swing momentum in the Red Arrows favor, and from there Lowell poured it on.

In a play very similar to their first touchdown run, Jackson Reisbig faked a hand-off to fullback,

the homecoming halftime activities from the host Eagles. Gonzales had 160 rush yards on the night, in addition to the touchdown.

Following another Reisbig touchdown run, the defense stepped up again

as pressure forced another errant Eagle throw, this time being intercepted by Maddox Simcoe. In addition to the interception, Simcoe had three receptions for 50 yards on offense, and four tackles defensively. Reisbig went up the middle for his sixth touchdown of the night, this one from 10 yards, to make it 49-7.

GRC's Wickstrom found Jude Klunder on a pass play over the top for a big gain, and the Eagles scored a couple plays later to make it 49-14. Lowell, in their final offensive scoring drive, were looking to run the clock out and ice the game, but CJ Poole found the endzone anyway, breaking

a run to the outside and running down the sideline for a 70-yard touchdown. Todd Parcheta hit the extra point of which he went eight for eight on the evening.

Ethan Krieger and Carson Crace combined for 14 tackles on the night.

With two games left in the season, Lowell's playoff chances look strong; a win over East Grand Rapids or Northview would all but assure that position in the postseason. The MHSAA playoff rankings give strong credence to the strength of the OK White, a team like East Grand Rapids, at a potential 3-6, has a chance at a playoff berth; a new perk of the current playoff system,

a benefit to teams in tough conferences particularly.

This Friday is not only the homecoming game at LHS, but also a celebration of the 2002 state championship team, and 1997 first OK White conference winning title team. Former Lowell coaches, Noel Dean and the late Mark Russell, will also be inducted into the Wall of Fame. Due to the homecoming parade, kickoff will be at 7:30 pm at Bob Perry Field, instead of the usual 7 pm. Lowell will face East Grand Rapids.

- SOCCER

## Soccer takes narrow losses

by Justin Scott  
sports reporter

There was a silver lining to Lowell's loss to Byron Center in the second round of the OK White Tournament last Wednesday, and that was, a chance at redemption.

Lowell gets a rematch with Greenville this week against the Yellow Jackets, a game they controlled earlier this season, but lost. Now Lowell will look to finish the conference tournament in style, with a win, and give them some momentum heading into their district matchup with Ionia.

The Red Arrows took narrow defeats in the OK Conference Tournament; first a 1-0 loss to state-ranked EGR, and then a 2-0 loss to Byron Center,

who the team drew 0-0 with earlier this season.

The Bulldogs are likely the best draw Lowell could've gotten in the district, though they will represent a challenge. Both teams have a common opponent in Hastings, who Ionia beat 6-2 and Lowell 7-0. Greenville beat Ionia 3-0 earlier this year, as well, who Lowell lost to 1-0.

If Lowell can get past Ionia, they'll have a rematch in the Division 2 district semifinal against East Grand Rapids. That game would potentially take place next Tuesday at Forest Hills Central.

- CROSS COUNTRY

## Harriers finished sixth in Jamboree

Submitted by Clay VanderWarf  
Boys cross country coach

Lowell boys cross country team took to their home course on Wednesday in the third OK White Jamboree at Lowell High School. East Grand Rapids won the meet with 31 points, followed by Forest Hills Central, 53 points, and Grand Rapids Christian, third with 54 points. The Red Arrows placed sixth with 136 points.

Ben Bromley led the Arrows with a 16th-place finish at 17.54, followed

by Levi Mills, 23rd, 18.18. Rhys Sandman was the third Arrow in at 32nd, 18.54. Close behind was Mason Saylor, 35th, 18.57 and Dannion Simmet, 36th, 19.07. Finishing the varsity lineup were Antonio Casarez, 40th, 19.15 and Braylon Iakiri, 41st, 19.17.

Lowell's next meet will be Saturday, Oct. 15, at Gainey Athletic Complex, for the Kent Ottawa Invite and then wrap up the regular season with the OK White Championship, Wednesday, Oct. 19, at Riverside Park.





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## obituaries

### BAIRD

Judith "Judy" Ann Baird, age 83 of Lowell, passed away peacefully at her home on October 9, 2022. Judy was proud to be the high school sweetheart then devoted wife of Allan C Baird. She was a constant cheerleader for Allan and his sports teams during their over 55 years together (Go Zzanos!). She and Allan coordinated numerous reunions for the Lowell Class of 1957. Judy was a wonderful hostess, cook, and seamstress. Her delicious lasagna at noon on opening day of deer hunting season is legendary. She enjoyed giving her children beautiful custom-made clothing and the greatest birthday and graduation parties. She welcomed all friends for meals and sleepovers. Some of her kids' friends stayed for years. Judy and Allan

delighted to spend time and have travel adventures making memories with their beloved grandchildren including camping and annual fishing trips to Rice Lake in Canada. She was the proud owner of Baird Farm Kennels where she bred and sold award winning champion collies. Judy extensively researched family genealogy years before Ancestry.com was even an idea then published her research in book form titled Calling All Condons. Judy significantly contributed to the success of Baird Brothers farm by bookkeeping and registering livestock. She annually gave tours of the Baird farm to classes of grade school students which concluded with ice cream bars to help the students understand the link between, feed to cows, to milk, to yummy ice cream. Judy was active in local historical preservation. She was a lifelong supporter of the history and preservation of Alton Church and Cemetery. She spent many years being part of the Fallasburg Historical Society while securing funding and Society ownership of several historical structures in the village. She was a former Amway employee. Judy was preceded in death by her husband, Allan C Baird; granddaughter, Shelby Baird; parents, Carroll and Dorothy Potter; and brothers, Gary and Roger Potter. Judy will be lovingly remembered by her children, David (Kim Crissman) Baird, Carol (Robert) Leyman, Christine Baird, Bonnie Baird; grandchildren, Eric (Keerstin Bazan) and Daniel Baird, Jay Clark, Timothy (Susan) Hill, Fritz (Anna) Ball and Brad Ball; great grandchildren, Hayleigh, Karly and Alexis Baird, Ivy Thuston, Zackary Ward, Brenden and Amaris Hill, Alton Ball; sister, Carol Sue Baer; and brother, Ron Potter; brother-in-law, Bruce (Marcia) Baird; and nieces and nephews. Visitation will be held at 12-2PM, Saturday, October 15, 2022, Alton Bible Church, 2780 Lincoln Lake Ave NE, Lowell, MI 49931. Funeral services will be held at 2pm at the church. Interment to follow at Alton Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Alton Church Society, c/o Ken Wittenbach, 2655 Lincoln Lake Avenue, Lowell, MI 49931.



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### JACKSON HARRISON

January 23, 1925 – October 2, 2022

Gloria Ann Jackson Harrison (Tufts), age 97 of Lowell, went to be with her Lord on Sunday, October 2, 2022. She was preceded in death by her husbands, Dr. Robert T. Harrison and Leonard Jackson; brother, Lloyd Tufts; and sister, Vivian Ranville. Gloria is survived by her beloved children, Robert (Susan) Harrison and William (Margaret) Harrison; five grandchildren, Mandy (Michael) Knight, Molly Harrison (Josh Wyckoff), William (Andrea) Harrison, Daniel (Grace) Harrison, and Chelsea (Dr. Reid) Meador; 11 great-grandchildren, Alexi Knight, Bailey Knight, Robert Knight, Riley Snyder, Avery Harrison, Zoey Harrison, Theodore Harrison, Finn Harrison, Louis Harrison, Jocelyn Meador and Harrison Meador; sister, Joane Hedgecock; brother, William (Ellamae) Tufts; many nieces and nephews; and all of her dear friends.



Gloria grew up on the north side of Grand Rapids and graduated from Creston High School in 1942. She then went on to attend Butterworth School of Nursing and worked as a Registered Nurse at the VA Hospital in Battle Creek. Gloria's greatest love was her family, and she never wanted to miss out on anything, especially her grandchildren's activities. She enjoyed traveling, spending time on Murray Lake, playing cards, tennis, swimming, breakfast with her closest friends, and singing while she played the ukulele. Gloria enjoyed being around others and was always quick to start up a conversation. She was an active member at the First Congregational Church in Lowell. Her sense of style, jokes, stories, and most importantly, the love she had for her family and friends will be missed. A service in memory of Gloria will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at the First Congregational Church in Lowell, 865 Lincoln Lake, Lowell, MI 49931, starting at 11:00am.

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## to the editor

### Continued

*Letter writer opinions are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this publication.*

Dear Editor,

In November, we will be voting on Proposal Three. I ask you and your readers the following questions:

Do you really want your child to have serious medical procedures without your permission or your loving support?

Do you really want medical procedures performed in unregulated facilities by unlicensed providers - that will have no liability if there is a

complication from the procedure?

Do you really want abortion allowed in the seventh, eighth and ninth months of pregnancy - or after the child is born?

This is not just a new law but a change to our constitution. This is what Proposal Three will enshrine in our Michigan Constitution. Think long and hard about it. Vote "no" on Proposal Three.

*Elizabeth Pfaller,  
Lowell*

### VANWINGEN

June Lee (Anderson) VanWingen, age 71 years of Grand Rapids, passed from life Saturday, October 8, 2022, at Spectrum Butterworth Hospital, following a lengthy illness, surrounded by her family. She was born in Grand Rapids on December 31, 1950 to the late Marvin L. Anderson and Carol Cline Anderson and raised on her family's farm on Kissing Rock Ave. Lowell. She was predeceased by her husband, William Martin VanWingen, whom she met during their military service, her infant daughter, Elizabeth in 1974, sisters, Joan Cunningham in 2022, Kay Shank in 2018 and Christy Olson in 1996. June graduated with the Class of 1969 from Lowell High School and entered the U.S. Navy. Upon completion of her military service, she earned her Master's Degree in Library Science from Grand Valley State University and was employed as Law Librarian for the Western District of Michigan US Attorney, Department of Justice for 30 years. She was also a long time employee of Kent District Library. June had a love of books, was an avid reader and had a passion for learning. She was an eternal optimist, loyal, generous and kind. She is survived by her son, Chad VanWingen, daughter, Theresa VanWingen, and grandsons, Scott, Ted and Ben VanWingen. June is also survived by siblings, Keith (Carol) Anderson of Holland, Julie (Paul) Heydenburg of Sparta and Linda (Dan) DesJarden, Pam Anderson, Tim Anderson, Joel Anderson, Richard (Toni) Anderson all of Lowell, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. The family would like to extend appreciation and gratitude to Spectrum Health Medical ICU staff and Spectrum Health Hospice for their compassionate care given to June. A memorial service with luncheon immediately following will be Friday, October 21, 2022 at Alpine Immanuel Baptist Church 692 Seven Mile Rd NW, Comstock Park, MI 49321 at 11 o'clock am. Interment will take place at Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell.



## National savings day reminds us to plan for the future

This year, October 12th is National Savings Day. This day serves as an important reminder to plan for your financial future.

Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your Social Security Statement using your personal my Social Security account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount). Your Statement is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and survivors benefits.

Our Plan for Retirement tool in your personal my

Social Security account allows you to check various benefit estimate scenarios. You can compare the effect different future earnings and retirement benefit start dates have on your future benefit amount.

Please let friends and family know they can take steps to improve their financial knowledge by signing in to their secure my Social Security account. If they don't have an account, they can easily create one at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

*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 [vonda.vantil@ssa.gov](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov)*

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## Blough continued

tions on these tests. The tests should only take up a couple class periods per trimester.

**How do you think Lowell Area Schools could make schools a safer place for students and staff?**

Making schools safer for students and staff has been a top priority for LAS. I know most recently, Murray Lake had some safety up grades; the Middle school project also had safety features included in the construction. The new camera project will also be a great asset in keeping LAS safer. I think as new safety products, ideas and safety plans evolve, we allow the local authorities to tell LAS the best choices. Then we introduce those ideas to the community, and collaboratively, we incorporate the safety

changes into the district. To keep up with these evolving changes, funding will be needed and I don't believe these funds should be on the top of the list for any cuts.

**As the district continues to grow more diverse, how can it best meet the needs of all students?**

Since the school board sets the tone for the district, diversity needs to be a priority, not just a buzz word. It's important that diversity issues are included in the districts strategic plan, mission statement and vision statement. Hiring more diverse teachers or attracting more diverse substitute teachers to our district would help LAS. The district is growing because the community attracts families and people here. I think

keeping our core values is equally important to creating a more diverse culture.

**What programs will you work to build and/or expand that support career readiness?**

With the states reauthorization of the Carl D Perkins Act- Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act and merging that with the Career Readiness Cross sector by the Michigan Education Department. LAS already has a great partnership with the Kent Career Technical Center but there are several programs and grants available for career development. The FPME program, Future Proud Michigan Educators program, stands out to me, not only because of the shortage of teachers but

many of those young teachers, will filter back into this community and district. RED ARROWS FOR LIFE!

**What mental health supports, services and classes do you think are needed at Lowell Area Schools? What will you do as a school board member to support student and staff mental and emotional health/well-being?**

Mental health is of great concern for all districts, students and educators. I think we should partner with local Mental health providers to provide assessments and referrals from qualified, licensed mental health providers. The Mental Health care provider should develop and integrate a comprehensive support plan to ensure the delivery of district-wide qual-

ity, mental health services to students and families. These services should also provide screening to aid in behavior management, case management and crisis intervention. LAS educators have access to mental health resources through their insurance. I support a group called Kid's Hope, where assessed students are paired with an adult volunteer from the community to lend an open ear and give a kind word.

**What should be our school district's top spending priorities? Alternatively, if school funding is reduced, what programs/budget items should be less prioritized?**

In my opinion, the district's top spending priorities should be school safety, technology and growth.

Keeping the kids safe while getting a superior education with the latest technology available and continuing to make room for our growing community. Budget cuts are always a tough conversation, and I believe the best place for students is in school. If the district can still meet State/Federal requirements with shorter days or with a 4-day learning week, I would be on-board with that. To pick and choose programs and positions that we are currently using and benefitting from would not be productive. I know other neighboring districts have operated on shorter learning schedules.

## Curtis, continued

tial, not only in academics but numerous extracurricular activities and clubs. Without these strengths, I don't think our school district could be where we are today.

One of the challenges in our district is finding balance. Our district must continue to work towards how to best engage its students, staff, and stakeholders within the community. How to work on balancing a sustainable budget for the long-term, when we were given one-time funds to use. Balancing the right amount of technology we are using with students. We know that technology has no doubt brought more efficiency into our lives but are we too dependent on it? Our Middle School & High School created policies to restrict cell phone usage so that students are free from distractions while they are in the classroom but is this balance still being created when we are supplying students with Chromebooks?

**If you could have**

**an impact on our school district's curriculum, what changes would you make? What would you keep the same?**

If I had the chance to make changes to the district's curriculum, it would be to continue exploring elective classes and programs to better serve our students for their future. With the ever-changing world, we may have to make changes to the curriculum as needed. I do feel that LAS has a strong curriculum that provides students with core class that support those that are advanced learners and those that need a little more support. The middle school and high school provide many electives that provide additional opportunities for our students to learn about areas of interest to them, as well as provide them with life skills that are necessary for their future. High school students have the option to explore Kent Career Technical Center to learn technical

skills and trades, along with the option of taking a variety of Advanced Placement classes to earn college credit.

**How well do you think the district meets the needs of our special education students and their families, and what would you improve upon?**

Our district is responsible to provide a quality education for all students, including those with special needs. Although the needs of special education students may differ from other students, LAS needs to offer opportunities for all students to learn and excel at their own ability levels. As a member of the Board of Education, I will support initiatives that ensure these students receive the education they are entitled to along with the support and the appropriate instruction needed. I would also like to see LAS collaborate with outside local programs that provide these students with work opportunities and the possibility of co-op programs with business' in Lowell.

**What role do you think standardized tests should play at Lowell Area Schools?**

Standardized testing is a way of ensuring that students are properly learning the information that is being taught to them. With the data provided from the test scores, we can compare our students to their peers at other schools to determine what we're doing well within our educational continuum and where we need to invest more time and resources. The M-Step, Michigan's standardized test that ultimately leads to funding and staff evaluations is federally mandated. Although, the

data may be useful to view how students are learning and evaluate the methods on how they are taught, I think it is vital to not allow the standardized test scores to be a definitive value of learning. Some students are not great test takers but are amazing in other areas.

**How do you think Lowell Area Schools could make schools a safer place for students and staff?**

School safety is an ever-changing and learning process. I wish there was a simple solution to fix this area of concern. Students need to feel safe in order to learn, and staff needs to feel safe so they can focus on teaching. I feel that focusing on communication with students and families, so they are well-informed about safety concerns, and how they are being addressed within the schools; To provide additional support staff for mental and emotional health for our students and staff; To continue to optimize security at each one of our schools, that includes secured entrances for visitors during school hours; Continue building relationships with local law enforcement.

**As the district continues to grow more diverse, how can it best meet the needs of all students?**

West Michigan is a growing region with increasing diversity. Lowell's Board of Education should continue to make decisions that ensure that all students feel safe, respected, and valued so they can focus on reaching their fullest potential while in school. As a district, we should always be focusing on continuous improvement by questioning, examining, revising, refin-

ing, and revisiting issues related to student achievement.

**What programs will you work to build and/or expand that support career readiness?**

I would love to expand STEM in all areas, as it teaches students to be innovative and helps to develop critical and creative thinking skills. These are important elements that students will use in college, future careers, and life in general. Also, working with more local programs that bring real life business owners and employees into the schools and our students out into the workforce; Supporting programs that highlight careers that are in-demand and able to obtain whether its through further education at a college, a trade school, etc. can be imperative to fast track a student's road to success after graduation. The more exposure we can provide these students with the better.

**What mental health supports, services and classes do you think are needed at Lowell Area Schools? What will you do as a school board member to support student and staff mental and emotional health/well-being?**

A key goal for the district is to provide an education for every child to succeed in school and life. To realize this promise, every child must be given resources, support and interventions based on their needs. Lowell Area Schools uses a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) model to reflect on behavior, academics, and social/emotional learning. We consider universal supports in place that are available for all students. We also consider potential intervention op-

tions for students that display concerns as related to mental health. Systems are in place in our schools through social workers, counselors, other itinerant staff, as well as through child-study teams. By putting value into such programs, this will help students and staff with proactive approaches to problems that may rise, rather than dealt with after the problem has surfaced. As a board member, I will support funding and initiatives to increase support in mental health for students and our staff.

**What should be our school district's top spending priorities? Alternatively, if school funding is reduced, what programs/budget items should be less prioritized?**

I feel our schools top spending priorities should be hiring and retaining teachers and staff to best support our students. They are our districts greatest asset. Our second priority is our students and providing them with a first-class education and the life skills needed for their future.

If school funding is reduced, we would have to come up with creative ways to save money in the areas that least effect our staff and students. We may have to wait on making improvements to our building and try to get by with what we have. Using our furniture longer than expected, getting carpets cleaned rather than replacing, etc. Our district has done a great job of being fiscally responsible and planning ahead in case of unprecedented times, therefore, the items cut, hopefully wouldn't have to be drastic measures.



# FUN PAGE

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

# PHYSICAL THERAPY WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

### PHYSICAL THERAPY WORD SEARCH

ABDUCTION  
 ADDUCTION  
 BILATERAL  
 CORE

DISTAL  
 DYNAMIC  
 EXTENSION  
 FLEXION  
 GROSS MOTOR  
 HAMSTRINGS  
 aHYPOTONIC

INSTABILITY  
 LUMBAR  
 MIDLINE  
 MOTION  
 MUSCLE  
 PLANNING  
 PRONE

PROXIMAL  
 RANGE  
 REFLEX  
 ROTATION  
 VERTEBRAE

## Guess Who?

I am an athlete born in Mississippi on October 10, 1969. A car accident in 1990 nearly claimed by life, but I had a comeback that jump-started my football career. I am the first quarterback to throw for more than 70,000 yards.

Answer: Bret Favre

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the body.

N J I O T

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Joint

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

### CLUES ACROSS

- Towards the mouth or oral region
- A way to season
- North-central Indian city
- Emaciation
- Actress de Armas
- A way to score in basketball
- Odd
- Scripting languages on IBM machines
- A right of local jurisdiction
- Hard, colorless compound
- Diving seabird
- Wild goat of the mountains
- Not shortened
- Someone who learns from a teacher
- Is inclined
- Still asleep
- Antidepressants (abbr.)
- Town in Surrey, England
- Indian music patterns
- Birth control means
- People tend to be on one
- A way to keep meat moist
- Home of the Crimson Tide
- Pasta type
- Late 1990s rapper
- One circuit of a track
- Surrounded by water

### CLUES DOWN

- Late "Growing Pains" actor Thicke
- Married couples say it
- Drool
- Sicilian city
- Airline worker perk (abbr.)
- Grayish-black mixture
- Systems, doctrines, theories
- Midway between east and southeast
- Athletes who get paid
- Genus of owls
- Hindu queen
- Cain and \_\_\_
- Hindu female deity
- Islamic calendar month
- Changes posture
- More stubborn
- Give work to
- Round maps of the Earth
- Gathered fallen leaves
- Popular credit card
- Separation of church and state
- Founder of Sikhism
- They \_\_\_
- Where you find the milk
- Institute legal proceedings against

- The neural structure consisting of the brain and spinal cord
- Expresses surprise
- Have a debt to
- Businessman
- State on India's western coast
- Practice of managing financial risks (abbr.)
- Patty Hearst's captors
- Put into service
- 10-year periods
- Crony
- Surgical clamp
- Leave unable to move due to lack of wind
- Where rockers work
- Valleys
- Ancient lyric poem
- Wise men
- It lights a room
- Assert
- Fifth Roman Emperor
- Ancient Greek city in Thrace

## Equestrian team moves on to state finals this weekend



The Lowell equestrian team is moving on to the state finals this weekend, after winning the regional championship. They'll be competing against Bay City Western, Bullock Creek, Coldwater, Forest Hills, Grand Haven, Lakeland, Montague, Owosso, and Sand Creek in the MIHA Division B state championship meet, October 13-16, at the Midland County Fairgrounds. We'll have a full story on the team's state finals appearance in next week's Lowell Ledger!

## Arrows finish fifth at Jamboree

Submitted by Paul Judd  
Girls cross country coach

Lowell earned a fifth-place finish in the third OK White Jamboree, which was held on the Lowell HS campus. The hilly course was a different look for all the teams, as most have been racing on flat courses for the past week.

Lowell's top finisher was Annika Sandman, who finished third with a time of 19:20. Katrina Sandman earned some all-conference points with a fifteenth-place finish in 21:01, while Keira Sandman finished 22nd in 21:26, Claire O'Boyle finished 26th in 21:42, and Evie Deur finished in 34th in 22:13.

Arrows are off until October 15th, when they race in the Kent County Invite.



### - GOLF

## State finals preview - girls golf

by Justin Scott  
sports reporter

In 2017, the Lowell bowling team came into states unranked and won the state championship. In 2022,

the girls golf team is coming into states unranked, after beating out three state-ranked teams in the regional.

Of course, the Lowell girls golf team is simply excited to be playing at Forest Akers West, home of the Michigan State University golf team, on Friday. They've already broken two school records this year and accomplished a program first by winning a regional championship.

"The majority of the team are seniors and sophomores. Most of the seniors arrived at the varsity level as juniors and the current sophomores made the team as freshmen. So the dynamic was interesting in that they all arrived at the varsity at once in 2021. We knew we had potential but we were going to take our lumps at times early on, especially with the competition in our conference. They embraced the role of underdog as juniors and freshmen, with the goal of shedding that by the end of this year. Winning the Regional, and having the season they did, allowed them to prove to themselves that they can compete at the highest level," head coach, Josh Bruwer, said.

For Lowell to win a state championship would be a monumental task. Of the 18 state-qualifiers, though, Lowell's 360 would've finished fifth. The Red Arrows ability to compete on Friday isn't in doubt. The pro-

gram's best finish at the state tournament came in 1991-1992, a third-place finish.

The competition on Friday will be fierce. South Lyon (321) and Farmington Mercy (328), lit up regionals and ranked first and fourth in the state, respectively, will be among the favorites. As will OK White conference member Byron Center, ranked second and shooting a 345. Other teams competing in Division 2 are South Lyon East, Mason, Dexter, Ypsilanti Lincoln, Petoskey, Midland Dow, Gibraltar Carlson, Dewitt, Grosse Pointe South, Portage Northern, Swartz Creek, Gull Lake, Coopersville, and FHN.

At regionals, Lowell beat sixth-ranked Sparta and seventh-ranked FHN, proof they can compete with the states best.

Golf is a weird sport, though; it just takes four good scores to win. Coach Josh Bruwer has said of his team that if six scores were counted, Lowell could beat anyone in the state. A testament to the Red Arrows depth. So on Friday, if the Red Arrows can post four scores in the 80's, they have just as good a chance as any team.

"We obviously are there to win and perform at a high level. More than anything, we have found out what it takes to win, that we can win, and we want to do it again and again and not be satisfied," Bruwer concluded.



## What a Wonderful World...

By Gina Johnsen

It wasn't that long ago one could hear Louis Armstrong or another singer belt out the famous ballad What A Wonderful World. It's a beautiful tune, a gentle two-step, with lyrics full of hope and wonder. A man

of color singing about his wonderful life in a wonderful world, with nature, beauty, babies and love all around him.

Today, in our own wonderful community, an 84-year-old woman going door to door and sharing with neighbors about the worst ballot proposal the world has ever seen, gets shot in the shoulder. Why? Just because that neighbor didn't agree with her viewpoint on Proposal 3. What could have been a wonderful discussion, became a near death experience. So, what is behind Proposal 3 and why is it causing all this violence? It's just politics and rhetoric, right? What's the wonderful big deal?

Let's examine Proposal 3, deceptively termed "Right to Reproductive Freedom Initiative", which will forever change our Michigan Constitution, with no hope of any legislator altering it in the future. It overrides parental rights, giving super-rights to anyone who would like to exercise vague freedoms over any individual, minors included, in relation to reproductive organs, processes, transgender surgeries, abortions, sterilizations, castrations, etc. The list is long with what it includes, like anytime abortion (after birth), by anyone (not a doctor), in any clinic or room or whatever, without oversight or question, with no parental consent or knowledge, deleting all current state laws and protections that might challenge any part of these new rights...this is evil!

Can you smell the aroma of people at the top of this food chain controlling victims and making a whole lot of money? What is the purpose of this proposal? Is it to promote childhood sexual anarchy? Every not-wonderful thing you can think of from pedophilia to sex-trafficking to rape to abuse of minors...all these included, without the benefit of current state laws that protect women, children, and parents from these evils. Michigan Board of Canvassers states plainly that if this proposal passes, it will "invalidate all state laws that conflict with it" (which

are the current legal protections against it).

Additionally, Planned Parenthood's multi-billion-dollar industry, the ACLU, and Jane's Revenge (a militant pro-abortion group) partner together to threaten any who would question their flow of revenue. In light of the challenges to this Proposal 3, pregnancy centers in Michigan found notes like this on their doors: "Warning: this is a fake clinic. If abortions aren't safe, neither are you. Next time we will visit your homes, your churches, and your sponsors. Expect us." And how interesting it is that the groups that claim they want abortion to be "safe and rare", are the ones now threatening everyone's lives and attempting to bully us all into submission. Who could possibly trust them?!

If you knew nothing at all about the topic of Proposal 3, but were aware of all the threats, the violence, the gun shots, and the hate, you might just be okay concluding that you would certainly vote NO on it. Who wants all that drama and violence?! Whether we are Christian or not, we all know good from evil. It is evil to encourage children to make decisions that will impact their lives irreversibly. Enough said - it's not wonderful!

Proposal 3 is actually simple. It turns parents into weak, powerless bystanders while enabling the government/school to change and mold their children into physically unfit and abnormal barren young people. And there's a whole lot of money in sex-trafficking, abortion, transgender surgeries, and the sale of puberty-blocking drugs. The only thing stopping this flow of MONEY is us and our votes! Those of us who are committed to being informed are going to vote our consciences and emphatically say NO to this and the other two bad proposals on the November 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. Proposal 3 is actually the worst proposal the entire world has ever seen.

Satan has planted his flag in Michigan and thinks he will lead destruction of America right here in our home state. You might say he is trying to connect New York to California via mid-American Michigan. Are we going to stop this movement? Are we going to admit this is wrong? Will we win this battle against such tremendous evil and gross assault on humanity? It's up to us - VOTE NO and help us defeat it. Contact [www.protectlifefemi.org](http://www.protectlifefemi.org) or [www.support-miwomenandchildren.org](http://www.support-miwomenandchildren.org).

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." -- John Adams

