



page 6

Open in Lowell



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Vitale's Wings



page 7

LHS
honor roll



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Lowell Area
Schools Sports



page 10

\$1.00



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Luke Marin – The king of window fishing

By Cliff Yankovich
contributing writer

Spend any time at all with Luke Marin and his love of fishing will make itself known. It is no wonder that he, and his wife, Rachel, decided to open Fish & Finn Outfitters and Consignment in 2022. Their shop is the best example of the truth that can be found in the real estate mantra of, “location, location, location,” this reporter has ever seen. The building at 98 East Main Street in Lowell is actually built over the Flat River. You read that correctly. Fish & Finn is one of a small group of stores on the south side of Main Street situated between two dams. The store is built on stilts over a small island.

Luke and Rachel jumped at the chance to be so close to a great fishing river, but the brainstorm to actually fish out of one of

the windows at the rear of the store did not come to Luke immediately. “Well, I had to go to work,” Marin explained. “It made logical sense to stay here in the store so that I can help customers at the same time rather than go down by the river to fish.”

Talk about a win-win situation. Window fishing at Fish & Finn provides shelter from the wildly changing weather we face in Michigan. The window provides a nicely heated or cooled environment, as well as protection from rain or snow. It also serves as a perfect place to demonstrate the equipment the Marins stock in the store. Luke swept his arm from side-to-side in order to draw my attention to the ten different fishing poles that

**Window fishing,
continued page 16**



A look up at Luke Marin - The king of window fishing.

St. Pat’s Parish Festival offers three days of fun

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

Famous chicken dinners, Las Vegas tent, a car show, and live action, are the staples of the annual St. Pat’s Parish festival in Parnell.

What started as a dinner in 1923, when parish families were asked to donate eight chickens to make it possible, has grown into a full-blown three-day

event. The price for chicken dinner was 50 cents.

The first festivals were parish picnics started back in 1865 as a fellowship time to gather for the small church community. Over time, the picnics grew and transformed into a festival and fundraiser. By the 1950s, the parish was known in West Michigan for the festivals. St Patrick’s has

continued to host the festival almost every year since its beginning in 1865.

“While we pride ourselves on the many traditions held at our festival, we are always seeking to provide an improved experience for

**Festival, continued
page 2**



Desmond Jones to perform at Showboat Sizzlin’ Concert

By Bill Lee
contributing writer

National touring band, Desmond Jones, will make a stop in Lowell for the Showboat Sizzlin’ Summer Concert Series on Thursday, June 29th at 7:00 pm. Desmond Jones is known for its eclectic style whose music pushes the boundaries of many genres. “We take a lot of inspiration from The Grateful Dead and Phish in terms of a structure and how we are presenting the music so the idea of long sets with long improvised sections of the songs and trying not to play the same song in the same way,” said Chris Bota, guitarist and vocalist for the band. “The new idea of music nowadays is kind of experimenting with genres and doing a collage of different styles and combining different aspects of music. Kind of like fusion.”

The band formed at Michigan State University and have been performing

in earnest for almost ten years. In the beginning, Desmond Jones played exclusively in Michigan but in recent years have traveled the country, particularly the Northeast and Midwest. The members of Desmond Jones are Bota (guitar/vocals), Isaac Berkowitz (guitar/drums/vocals), George Falk (saxophone/vocals), John Nowak (drums/vocals/guitar), and Taylor Watson (bass). Desmond Jones is looking forward to making a stop in Lowell before it heads out on its summer tour. Concerts in Lowell are family-friendly and wheelchair accessible. Bleacher seating is available, or bring a chair. Admission to the concerts and parking are free.

Desmond Jones new album, *Rays of Light and Stardust*, can be found on all streaming platforms. Also you can find Desmond Jones music on You Tube, Spotify, Apple Music and on their website desmondjonesband.com

Festival, continued

the community,” Fr. Tom Cavera said.

This year, the festival will have food trucks for dining options on Friday and Saturday provided by Red Hot Inn, Sweet Day Dream Ice Creams, and the local Knights of Columbus.

“We’re happy to bring back the Vegas tent this year for the first time in four years,” Cavera said. “We have a very unique history here in Parnell and pride ourselves on being a focal point where the community can gather for family-friendly activities.”

One of the main attractions of the festival has always been the chicken dinner which is served on Sundays. At one point, the festival was serving more than 2,000 dinners each year.

The event is not only the biggest event of the year, but it also serves as the largest fundraiser for the school and parish.

The festival would not be possible without the help of community members. Each year, more than 400 volunteer slots must be filled to make the event a success.

The kids’ tent on Sundays is a hit for families, while the beer tent attracts the older generation. “It’s a great community event with fun for the entire family,” Cavera said. “Our events throughout the weekend offer fun for everyone in between.”

The live auction features unique items such, as a reserved church parking spot for the highest bidder, art from each classroom, and dinner in the rectory with the clergy. “I love the live auction,” Cavera said. “Aside from all of the fun, the auction is the biggest fundraising effort of the weekend.”

For decades, the auctioneer has been one of the parishioners, which adds another special element

to the live auction. Every year, there are thousands of attendees at the auction.

“It’s great seeing parishioners, school families, and visitors alike coming together,” Cavera said.

One of the examples of how the festival has grown from a single-day parish picnic to a weekend of fun, is the 5K run on Friday organized by Johnny Agar. “Johnny has a compelling story to tell about his own journey in the world of racing and overcoming physical challenges,” Cavera said.

“My hope for this year’s festival is for many families to come and experience the charm of the Saint Patrick Parnell community, to have fun, and to help raise money,” Cavera said.

The profit from the festival will help to fill the gaps in the tuition assistance program and



Family fun.

help with the upkeep of the historic church.

“I am most proud of how this parish festival has always been about providing a fun gathering for the local community,” Cavera said. “We look forward to continuing this fun community event.”

Those willing to help for an hour or two can sign up at tinyurl.com/FestivalSignUp23

Friday, June 23rd
5 pm - midnight: beer tent, food trucks
6 pm Euchre

tournament registration and tournament begins at 6:30 pm

7 pm Johnny’s Run 5k and 8 pm Johnny’s Impossible Mile

8 pm - midnight: Live music with the Decade’s Band

Saturday, June 24th
2 pm confessions
4 pm mass
5 pm - midnight: beer tent, food trucks
5:30 pm Live auction registration/silent auction begins
6 pm live auction begins

7 pm - midnight: Vegas tent

8 pm - midnight: Live music with party band The ID10T5

Sunday, June 25th
8 am & 10:30am: mass
9 am - 5 pm: antique car/truck/tractor show
12-4 pm: Kids games, quilt exhibit
12-4:30 pm Bingo
12-5 pm chicken dinner (\$15 adult/\$7 for kids/5 and under are free), beer tent, live music with the Stan Mroz Jr Band



Live auction at St. Pat’s Parish Festival.



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Board of Education hears 2023-24 budget and progress report, welcomes new Director of Operations

By Michelle Smith
contributing writer

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education met for its regular meeting June 12, at the administrative offices building.

Chief Financial Officer, Sonia Hodge, presented a special Truth in Taxation Hearing which detailed the state of the LAS budget. While many factors of the 2023-24 budget are still unknown, Hodge presented estimates to give the Board an idea of what to expect.

Some of the unknowns for the coming year are: exact enrollment numbers and the foundation allowance that the state provides per student. Hodge provided an estimate of 3,475 students this fall, which is 30 fewer students from the 2022-23 year. The estimated per student allowance from the state is \$9,600, which is \$450 more than last year. Hodge said final allowance numbers will be known when the state finalizes its budget this summer. Final enrollment numbers will be known in the fall.

Hodge said there will no longer be any ESSER funds from the state that were received in the past due to COVID. ESSER funds are emergency relief funds for elementary and secondary schools. Hodge said she is also keeping an eye on inflation and how that impacts operating expenses.

The overall budget is anticipating \$48,623,594 in total revenue and \$49,418,504 in total expenses. Hodge said the district needs to look at ways to narrow the deficit, including absorbing positions as people retire or resign as much as possible. She said the district is acquiring one new school bus this coming year as opposed to the usual three that have been purchased in previous years.

Hodge pointed out that LAS is facing a potential “fiscal cliff” of an over \$2 million deficit in 2025.

“When we look at the year after next we are going to have a significant gap in our revenue and expenditures after these ESSER dollars go away. We’re going to need to make some decisions on how we close that gap,” Hodge said.

Director of Curriculum, Dan VanderMeulen, presented a District Goals Progress Report on math and reading for grades 1-8. The report is based on assessment scores that measure growth and proficiency and reflects the 2022-23 school year.

VanderMeulen said 62 percent of students met growth targets in reading and 57 percent met growth targets in math. He said the assessment shows improvements or lack thereof in the subjects.

“I should mention that this is about showing growth from the beginning to the end, so recognize that many of our students scored very high to begin with,” he said.

“Our goal is that all our students would reach their growth target. That particular language is probably not realistic, in truth, that 100 percent of all our students, who are tested, would meet their growth targets.”

Vandermeulen said overall the LAS students showed strong numbers in comparison to other districts.

Fifth grade math showed only 25 percent growth and is lower than what has been seen in the past. VanderMeulen said this will be analyzed to try to find why this score is lower than expected, and he emphasized that the score doesn’t factor in students with initial high scores.

Grades K-5 will be using a new math curriculum, “Reveal”, next

year. VanderMeulen is hopeful that it will be a good fit for the district, once it is fully implemented. He also reported that there were not a lot of variants for economically disadvantaged students in LAS who generally outperformed economically disadvantaged students from other districts.

The full Board approved the budget appropriations, millage rates, a renewal of the Michigan Association of School Boards membership, and the Michigan High School Athletic Association membership all for the 2023-24 school year. It also approved the \$35,000 purchase of K-5 math manipulatives to accompany the new math curriculum.

Director of Human Resources, Dustin Cichocki, reported that former LAS superintendent, Greg Pratt, has been hired as the new Director of Operations. Pratt, who was superintendent for nearly 15 years, retired as LAS superintendent in August 2020. He will replace Steve Turnbull June 30. Current LAS Superintendent, Nate Fowler, said Pratt is a good choice for the director of operations position since he is very familiar with the district.

Cichocki said he is seeking to hire a new grounds person and a maintenance person, as well as two teachers and several paraprofessionals. He also reported the LAS nurse, Delynn Wright, had 383 medical encounters during the 2022-23 school year, with three of them being considered “critical.” Wright also performed 133 training sessions with LAS teachers and staff to educate them on what to do in case of an emergency or how to administer medications.

VanderMeulen said summer learning programs

began June 12 including Arrows Camp, Math on the Move, and Arrow Readers on the Move. A Wellness Camp will be held in August.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, retired teacher, Kim Lum, encouraged teachers to find unique ways to teach students. She mentioned the recent “Strumming My Six String” program at the high school as an example of how this can be done. Students in this program designed a playable guitar in class.

Stefanie Boone said she is concerned about the budget report. She said it is eye opening to see the things being reported that are not the “best of news.”

“A lot of what is being talked about are survival tactics and ways we can keep going status quo right up until we fall off that fiscal cliff,” she said.

Recent LAS graduate and former student council representative, Emma Sage, said she is thankful for the opportunities and support given to her while a LAS student. She encouraged the community to not restrict opportunities in the library. “Each student should be able to read books that interest and benefit them personally,” Sage said.

Superintendent Fowler reported on a study done by the US Surgeon General regarding the use of social media and its effects on children and teens. He urged families to be aware of their child’s presence online and

to discuss the dangers and pitfalls of being on social media. He said the school district would find ways to raise awareness on this issue.

Fowler addressed a response to the Lowell Police Department complaint from Kent County Prosecutor Chris Becker. In May, the Board voted 6 -1 to accept a book committee’s recommendation to not remove the book, *The Sun and Her Flowers*, from the LAS media center.

A complaint was filed

because of this action by the Board. Becker stated in a letter, that the Board accepting the recommendation of the book committee and approving the book in the media center, is not a criminal offense.

Fowler said the Board continues to support the LAS media center and intends to continue to show respect for each family’s values, maintain communication with them, and make sure that their choices are honored.



Sonia Hodge, LAS chief financial officer, presents to the Board of Education June 12, 2023

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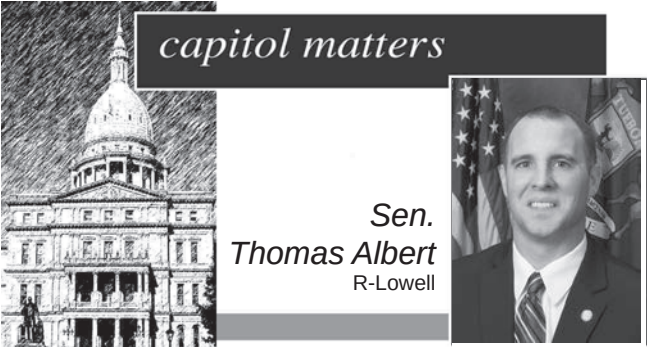
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LIGHTHOUSE



Sen. Albert: Can't trust Gov. Whitmer to reverse Michigan's population woes

Michigan has lost population the past two years. Only eight states have lost a higher percentage of their residents since 2020. If we don't find a way to reverse this trend, even more of our children and grandchildren will move away in search of other opportunities.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer would like us to think she can fix this problem. She recently announced a new council tasked with turning around Michigan's population trends. The irony is that Whitmer's policies are making Michigan's population crisis even worse. With her Democratic colleagues in the Legislature, she is turning our once vibrant Michigan peninsulas into desolate islands.

It's reminiscent of when she created or took advice from advisory councils to strategize the recovery of schools and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic — largely symbolic and ineffective attempts to address problems at least partially of her own creation.

Stagnant population has been a concern in Michigan for decades, but the situation is worsening under Whitmer. The state's overall population trends were not great under former Gov. Rick Snyder, either, but at least there were signs of hope. At one point the state gained population for several consecutive years on his watch. Net migration trends generally improved, including among working age adults.

Whitmer's COVID shutdowns during the pandemic likely contributed to the state's population loss. The policies she is pushing this year with her new Democratic legislative majority will not help bring people back, either.

Democrats have advanced tax policies that are complicated, unfairly applied, and won't spark economic growth. The state's income tax rate will decline to 4.05% for 2023 — but Democrats tried to avoid that rate reduction and now want it to last only one year. Republicans want tax relief to be permanent so our state will be more attractive to people who might want to move here.

Democrats repealed Michigan's "Right to Work" law that gave workers a choice on whether they wanted to join unions, and helped the state emerge from its massive recession in the early 2000s. With that law gone, some job providers are likely to cross Michigan off their list of potential expansion locations. That will make it more difficult for our state to grow organically — and the expensive, taxpayer-funded corporate welfare favored by Democrats is a poor replacement. It won't work as a long-term strategy because funds are limited and the return on investment is lacking on too many projects.

Michigan public schools are underperforming, but rather than enforcing standards to help students succeed, Democrats are going the other way. They have undermined Michigan's law aimed at ensuring students read at a satisfactory level before advancing to the third grade. Democrats repealed the A-F letter grade ranking of how schools themselves are performing.

There also is continued discussion about no longer linking teacher performance evaluations to student achievement, which would be another huge step backward.

Perhaps the most glaring hypocrisy in Whitmer's call to reverse the population decline is her pro-abortion policy. The number of induced abortions has increased in each of the last five years through 2021, according to the Department of Health and Human Services statistics, and there have been more than 1.2 million abortions in Michigan since 1982. Michigan's decision to make it even easier to have abortions isn't going to increase the population — obviously, it will do the exact opposite.

What is the alternative plan? Embrace economic growth through competitive tax rates, commonsense regulation and worker freedom instead of handouts to corporations and union bosses. Prepare the next generation with education policies that improve outcomes for students instead of special interest groups. Stop following the failed liberal policies of California, New York and Illinois — all of which are also losing population — and adopt policies with a track record of building up instead of tearing down.

Unless the governor and her Democratic colleagues change course themselves, her population council will be nothing more than a modern-day version of the blind leading the blind.

State Sen. Thomas Albert represents the 18th District, which includes Barry County and portions of Allegan, Calhoun, Kalamazoo, Kent, and Ionia counties.

Michigan's youth turnout in the 2022 election was best in the nation

Young people in Michigan turned out to vote last November at a higher rate than anywhere else in the country, according to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) at Tufts University.

Voters, ages 18-29, turned out at a rate of 37% in Michigan, higher than any other state CIRCLE analyzed, and far higher than the national average youth turnout-rate of 23%. Additionally, Michigan was one of only four states where youth turnout was higher in 2022 than in 2018.

"We continue working with Michigan's colleges and universities and their

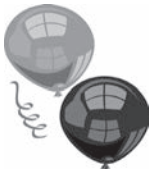
local clerks to ensure that young citizens can conveniently cast their ballot and know how to do so, and I'm thrilled to see data recognizing the impact of our work," said Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. "A strong democracy requires informed and engaged citizens - and Michigan is leading the way in ensuring our youngest voters are active participants in determining our future."

Benson's administration worked on voter access and education for students and leaders at colleges and universities across the state, and with high schools, large employers and other organizations that

interact with young people. She also implemented same-day and automatic voter registration and no-excuse absentee voting, after Michigan's voters overwhelmingly approved a 2018 constitutional amendment that mandated they be provided to all eligible citizens. In 2019, she also enabled online voter registration.

"As members of the College Student Advisory Task Force (CSATF), we know firsthand, the impact of youth voter turnout initiatives, sharing our experiences with each other, and building institutional support for voting in our college communities," said Rose Reilly, CSATF member, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor. "The work we did last year, to gather voting information specific to students and share tips to engage our peers, supports a rise in youth voting in our state. We hope that the knowledge we gained and shared in our policy change recommendations contribute to a continuing trend of future youth voter turnout increases."

happy birthday



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- JUNE 23**

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- JUNE 24**

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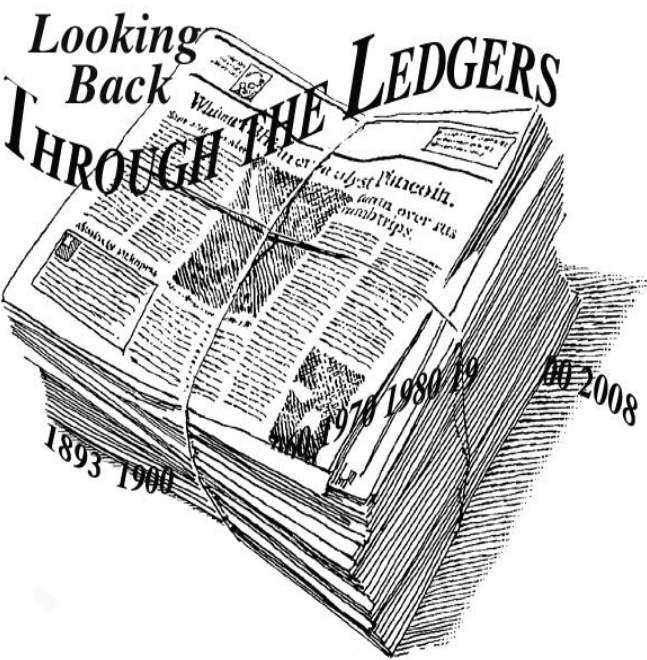
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viewpoint



150 years ago The Lowell Journal June 18, 1873

The last of the Flat river drive of logs is this side of the raging waters of Greenville.
Corn is backward about getting forward this season. Pulverized charcoal is one of the best remedies known for sick headache, and the doctors can't beat it.
The marshal has been "pounding" pork, and the owners of cooped swine have had to pay C O D. A warning to hog proprietors.
Subscribers must pay five cents every three months for postage on county papers, starting July 1. Pay at the office of delivery. The editor calls this law shameful.

125 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 23, 1898

Dr. W.G. Sperry of Olivet College addresses the seven high school graduates at Music Hall Ceremonies.
A one-legged acrobat performs on the street, walking a slack wire with a balancing pole.
Mark Rubens notices a customer's coat has a tear under the arm as the man walks by on Main Street; he calls the man in, gives him a new coat and sends him on his way.
Fruit growers meet at Matthew Hunter's and report on their crops and problems with dropping fruits and bugs.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 21, 1923

The class of 1923 has 44 graduates.
William Atchinson, age 19 years, of Keene township, was accidentally drowned Monday evening below the Lowell Light & Power dam at Smyrna while bathing.
Many Lowell stores will stay open Wednesday evening and close Thursday afternoon for the summer.
The empty Peckham Furniture Co. warehouse and some C.H. Runciman coal sheds burn down near the freight station, which is saved. The new chemical engine of the fire department can't be used because of the extreme heat.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 17, 1948

WGRD has a 6:30 am program, "Party Line RFD," that includes reading news from weekly newspapers in West Michigan.
Driver Training will continue as a very popular and helpful program. Ford, Dodge and Pontiac will furnish a car the next three years, in that order.
Michigan will have the first state-wide pasteurization law, starting July 1. All milk and milk products are included, except for sales at the farm.
Vertie Morse, of Lowell, wins the first 25 lbs. of King Milling flour with her recipe for Old Fashioned Molasses Cake.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life June 21, 1973

Car dealers will take summer Saturdays off, staying open Monday and Wednesday evenings.
Proceeds from this year's vanity license plates will go to highway litter cleanup.
Norm Borgerson refutes the notion of discontinuing Showboat in a letter to the editor, citing its contributions to the city, schools and civic organizations.
City and schools are working with property owners on a sidewalk to the new middle school.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 24, 1998

GM strike has impact on local dealerships and part manufacturers. Wittenbach Olds, Pontiac GMC normally has 60-70 new cars delivered to its lot in July. Unless GM's strike is settled, there will not be any new cars coming this July.
Joel Laud won the first-place prize at the Lowell Moose Lodge 809's annual Kids Fishing Derby at Stoney-Lakeside Park. His prize was a Shakespeare Combo (reel and rod).
Karen Burd has taught kindergarten for 18 years in the Lowell School District. Starting in the fall, she will be the new principal at Bushnell Elementary.
Cherry Creek principal, Bill Markovich will be leaving Lowell and taking a high school position with Marcellus.

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outdoors

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Habitat loss is a major factor affecting the survival of wildlife. Highways, residential housing, and industrial and business development are a few of the reasons why wild birds, animals, and insects are finding it more difficult to make a living.
Millions of acres of federal and state land are managed with the interest of wildlife as a major priority. Three quarters of Michigan land is in private ownership which leaves the management of wildlife habitat and potential habitat in the hands of the state's citizens.
A few folks own large parcels for farming, timber production, and recreational activities like hunting. It is possible for these owners to make a significant impact on the welfare of resident wildlife species. Federal and state agencies, as well as universities provide information, advice, and often hands-on assistance to support landowner efforts to manage their land for commercial, recreational, and sustainable wildlife habitat.
Owners of smaller parcels own a large portion of the total Michigan landscape. Homeowners don't usually see themselves as having any direct responsibility for wildlife management. But, by being aware of the needs of wildlife there are measures that can be taken, when implemented by enough homeowners and renters together, that can make a meaningful impact on many species. For example, containers of all sorts can provide vessels for growing flowers and vegetables in very small spaces. An urban balcony can provide a rest stop for pollinators and birds on the move.
If the neighbors will tolerate it, leaving areas of suburban lots to grow in naturally will save on labor and support wildlife. Pollinators are adversely affected by lack of habitat and pesticide use. By planting certain shrubs and flowers and avoiding pesticides, bees can thrive in an urban setting. Monarch butterflies require milk weed to complete their life cycle.
There are plenty of on-line resources as well as personal assistance available to aid in managing one's property for the benefit of wildlife. If everyone pitches in to help, we will be better neighbors to the creatures we share the planet with.

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.
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At Your Local Library

Storytime

Mondays, June 26, July 10, 10:30 - 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.

Honeybees

Tuesday, June 27, 1:30 - 2:30 pm. Learn the three types of bees and their roles in a hive, see how bees gather nectar and turn it into honey, make a hand-rolled beeswax candle to take home and much more! Presented by Thornapple Woodlands Beekeeper Don Snoeyink. For ages 5-10.

Bullet Journals with Mo

Tuesday, June 27, 4-5 pm. Get organized with this crash course in bullet journaling. We will learn the art of habit tracking, goal setting, future planning and how to make a bullet journal work for you. Space is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 15 minutes before the program begins and you may save one seat for a friend. For ages 11-17.

Ruff Readers

Tuesday, June 27, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. This unique read-aloud program in partnership with West Michigan Therapy Dogs, Inc. pairs kids with a trained therapy dog and their handler. Kids read their favorite book and the pooches curl up, listen and enjoy. Arrive 15 minutes early to sign in and secure a time slot. First come, first served. For ages 5-10.

Animals Need Animals

Tuesday, July 11, 1:30 - 2:30 pm. Do wild animals have timeshares? Who makes the burrows and the tree cavities for the animals that can’t dig? Who shares their winter homes? Join us as we visit with the Outdoor Discovery Center animals that depend on other animals to survive. Live animals, taxidermy and artifacts will be used during the presentation. For ages 5-10.



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ABCs of Lowell history

The ABCs of Lowell History is back for another round. This popular series explores a wide variety of topics in Lowell area history. *Items submitted by Lowell Area Historical Museum.*

E is for Escape

On May 24, 1932, just before noon, the Grand Rapids Savings Bank, Wealthy Branch in Grand Rapids was robbed by four bank robbers. Three of the robbers entered the bank while one remained in the car. Eventually, two additional men would be suspected to have played a role in the robbery, totaling six participating robbers.

This robbery is significant in Lowell history, because after the robbery, the robbers split up, with two of them taking M-21 to return to Detroit. As they headed east through Lowell, Deputy Charles Knapp attempted to stop the fleeing car but was shot and killed. Though mortally wounded, Deputy Knapp was able to fire shots at the fleeing bank robbers.

The robbers initially escaped, despite the best efforts of the village of Lowell. The citizens and



Charles Kent

local law enforcement responded instantly. The first to begin pursuit of the bandits were Deputy Pat Bowes and Tony Gazella. Paul Kellogg was on the lookout and was getting gas at the Dixie Station on East Main Street. Kellogg had a gun, so he jumped in his car and followed, overtaking the Bowes car, as his car was faster, but he couldn’t shoot and drive; Kellogg stopped, and Tony

Gazella jumped in with him. Unfortunately, they went all the way to Saranac before realizing the robbers had turned. A.H. Stormzand and Dr. Stryker were in close pursuit. V.E. Ashley, Forrest Smith and a *Ledger* reporter headed north. Additional armed citizens in automobiles were in pursuit, lending their aid to law enforcement. In all, upwards of 300 men engaged in one of the greatest man hunts in the state’s history.

Though it took from four hours to twenty-two years, all six men were apprehended, faced their day in court, and all, but one, were sentenced to prison.

The first to be captured was James Gallagher, whose name was actually Walter Galloway. Gallagher was captured at 4 pm, four hours after the robbery. He was picked up in Smyrna, while asking Carl Gasper, a farmer, for a ride to Belding. He confessed and testified against the others. He was sentenced to Jackson prison for 20-30 years. He served 11 years.

The next day, Henry Marshall and Jack Scherr were captured in Smyrna, attempting to recover the loot. Henry Marshall, whose birth name was Henry Marszalek, was identified as the shooter who murdered Deputy Knapp. He was sentenced on June 16, 1932, to life in prison and was sent to Marquette Prison. He was transferred to Jackson for a time, and eventually his sentence was commuted by Governor Williams on March 30, 1959. He later died on May 16, 1963.

Jack Scherr was found to be uninvolved in the robbery. He had been asked

by Marshall to drive him to Smyrna. Marshall intended to dig up the loot he had buried, but stated, he had not told Scherr of his plans or the robbery.

Louis Gold, whose name was Louis Goldberg, was convicted of armed robbery, though he was not at the robbery himself. His role was to lend the robbers his car, which they used when they split up after the robbery. Vincent Henry and Carrol Johnson escaped in Gold’s car and dropped it off in front of Gold’s Detroit home. Gold’s wife then drove the car back to Grand Rapids to pick up Gold from her sister’s house, where he had stayed for several days. Gold was sent to Jackson prison for 40 - 50 years on June 30, 1932. He was paroled on July 22, 1941, and was discharged on July 22, 1946.

Carrol Johnson, whose name was Charles Kent, was arrested in February of 1934 in Camden, New Jersey, on charges of a payroll robbery. He was then connected to the Grand Rapids robbery through his fingerprints. He served his time in New Jersey before being brought to Grand Rapids. He was sentenced to Jackson and served his time from May 20, 1953, until he was paroled on March 3, 1954.

Vincent Henry was the last to be found. He was arrested in Bayone, New Jersey, in 1946, when he couldn’t produce a draft card. Ironically, he had not registered for the draft for fear of being caught. He was convicted and sent to Jackson on November 8, 1946, for 5 - 15 years. He served his time there until April 29, 1954, when he was paroled to the custody of the Illinois parole authority.



Marshall’s mugshot from Marquette.

area churches

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Pastor Ryan Landt
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Website: calvarylowell.org

Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays 7 PM
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Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists
"Praying and studying together"
Saturday service begins at 10:30 AM

10300 Vergennes St. SE, Lowell
616-987-0567
www.lowellriverside.com
Pastor Darrel le Roux

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway
(Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

Sunday Services - 10:30 am
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

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Traditional Service: 9 am
Contemporary Service: 10:30 am
Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

Wings at Vitale’s Pizza of Ada

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

Lowell’s Main Street goes by a number of names as it stretches from Grand Rapids to Flint. The state of Michigan has named the east-west state trunkline highway M-21, once you hit Ionia County, it is called Bluewater Highway, and in Muir it is East Maple Street, but as it heads to the West through Ada, it goes by the name of Fulton. Though Vitale’s Pizza of Ada is clearly not a Lowell establishment—Ada is in the name, after all—commuters coming to and from Lowell on Fulton have no choice but to pass by, and in many cases, are compelled to stop in for a bite. Vitale’s serves pizza, pasta, oven baked subs, and a number of other dinner entrees, but the finest dish served at this pizza place is the Vitale’s wings.

In the mid- to late-1990s, pizza chains like Pizza Hut and Domino’s began offering wings in addition to pizza at their

locations nationwide, and now people expect wings to be available at any pizza restaurant they set foot in. Sam Vitale opened the first Vitale’s location on Leonard Street in Grand Rapids in 1966, and a satellite location has operated out of Ada since 1985, but Vitale’s of Ada has only been at its current location of 6650 Fulton Avenue since 2017. Before then, the site was host to the beloved O’Brien’s Market and Deli. It is unclear when Vitale’s added chicken wings to the menu, but they have been a great reason to come to Vitale’s of Ada for at least as long as the restaurant has occupied the old O’Brien’s site.

According to the National Chicken Council, the long history of deep-fried chicken wings began in 1964 at the Anchor Bar in Buffalo, New York, hence the name Buffalo wings. Late one night, co-owner Teressa Bellissimo, cooked leftover chicken

wings in hot sauce for her son and some friends, and it was such a big hit that they added it to the menu the next day. It took another 20 years before chicken wings became extensively associated with watching American football, as sports fans in the 60s and 70s tended to cook a whole chicken as opposed to its battered, fried, and sauced legs and wings. The original chicken wings, invented by the Bellissimos, were served with celery slices and bleu cheese sauce, a tradition that, with the exception of subbing out the bleu cheese occasionally for ranch, has stayed the same since the cuisine’s inception.

Vitale’s wings are marinated in a banana pepper brine 24 hours prior to hitting the deep fryer, and diners may notice a significant lack of batter compared to those offered by other restaurants. Where other wings can be hard and messy, Vitale’s wings are



Vitale’s Sriracha dry rub wings with a side of ranch and celery sticks.

tender and perfectly cooked, as if they were baked and dressed to look like deep-fried chicken. Diners may order them in any of four denominations, either naked, dry rub, Frank’s hot, or barbecue. Though all four start with the same delicious base wings, the Sriracha dry rub wings are clearly superior, and they are often sold out as a result. The Sriracha has enough kick to garner the name hot wings, but not so much that it masks or corrupts the flavor. Children whose taste buds are still a bit too sensitive for spicy food may prefer the naked wings, which serve as a great stepping stone to higher quality wings when they come of age.

Many restaurants these days have chosen to serve chicken wings drenched in a two-inch-deep reservoir of Buffalo sauce alongside a cup of thick, decadent buttermilk ranch, but often an abundance of sauce covers over what is truly great about a properly

cooked piece of meat. In some instances, an overpowering sauce may intentionally mask the fact that a restaurant’s wings just are not that good. Vitale’s homemade ranch, on the other hand, is a perfect complement to the wings. The water-thin sauce serves as a loose coating to the chicken, providing a creamy hint without dulling the kick of the dry rub. It joins a tradition of pragmatic sauces at Vitale’s of Ada, like the thick and sweet marinara sauce that clings so easily to the thick club-like breadsticks and delights the tongue.

For those who wish to argue that pizza is the reason one ought to dine at Vitale’s Pizza of Ada, there is no need to scuffle. Whether it is the simple but bold Vitale’s Fire pizza with capicola, soppressata, red onion, pepperoncini, and chili flakes, or a simple pepperoni pizza that the

whole family can enjoy, the pizza at Vitale’s is indeed delectable. However, there is no reason one would not order a pizza, breadsticks, wings, and maybe even a salad. It is true that Vitale’s is a high end pizza restaurant, and price may certainly be a limiting factor for some families, but the food you get when you eat there is just as good—and in some cases better!—the next day. It is not necessary to dine at Vitale’s every week if it is beyond your means to do so; with indoor and outdoor seating, a bar, and numerous televisions, Vitale’s is a great place to go for a special occasion, and the wait staff is not afraid to jam a few tables together if you bring your whole family. On the flip side, Vitale’s is just as good in the cozy confines of your home, eaten right out of the box, and if you need it, the wait staff will bring your order right out to your car.

Most popular baby names in Michigan for 2022

The Social Security Administration recently announced the most popular baby names in Michigan for 2022. Noah and Charlotte topped the list.

The top five boys’ names in Michigan were: Noah, Oliver, Theodore, Henry and Liam.

Top five girls’ names were: Charlotte, Olivia, Amelia, Ava and Emma.

The agency announced last week that Olivia and Liam were the most popular baby names in the U.S. How does Michigan compare to the rest of the country? Check out Social Security’s website -- www.ssa.gov -- to see the top national baby names for 2022 and see where your name ranks now and over the past 100 years.

Social Security began compiling the baby names list in 1997, with names dating back to 1880. Each year, the list reveals the effect of pop-culture on naming trends. In addition to each state’s top baby names (and names for U.S. territories), Social Security’s website has a list of

the 1,000 most popular boys’ and girls’ names for 2022 and the fastest rising girls’ and boys’ names.

“Just like your name, Social Security is with you from day one. One of the first things parents do for their newborn is get them a Social Security number. That makes Social Security the ultimate source for the most popular baby names each year!” said Kilolo Kijakazi, Acting Commissioner of Social Security. “And just like a name, Social Security is with you through life’s journey. See what else you can do at www.ssa.gov while you’re online.”

Visitors will experience a fresh homepage and new design to help them find what they need more easily, with clear paths to the tasks customers need to accomplish. This is part of ongoing efforts to improve how the public can do business with the agency.

While online, users can create my Social Security accounts. my Social Security is a personalized online account that people can use

beginning in their working years and continuing into retirement. Nearly 80 million people have signed up at www.ssa.gov/myaccount and benefited from the many secure and convenient self-service options. They can request a replacement Social Security card online if they meet certain requirements. If they already receive Social Security benefits, they can start or change direct deposit online, request a replacement SSA-1099, and if they need proof of their benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter from their account.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN

The Probate Court for the County of Kent

IN THE MATTER OF: Horace Grinlaw, Guardianship File No. 23-213,494-GA, Conservatorship File No. 23-213495-CA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his daughter and son, Carl Grinlaw and any other children and heirs, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on July 25, 2023, at 9:00 AM at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180

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

Dated: June 13, 2023

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Martin Luther King Jr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 401-7113

VAN ESSEN and ASSOCIATES PLLC, Attys for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001)
109 E. Main St. Suite 11
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Pink Arrow banners provide cancer support in Lowell

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

The year 2023 marks the 16th year of Pink Arrow Pride, a cancer fundraising event, inspired by former Lowell football coach, Noel Dean. Though the Pink Arrow football game does not take place until late September, the season begins with a fundraising drive for Pink Arrow banners hung along Main Street in Lowell, and applications are already available. Teresa Beachum is a volunteer with Pink Arrow Pride.

“We always like to cre-



ate enthusiasm in the community by first hanging the banners on Main Street,” Beachum said.

Not only do the Pink Arrow banners call attention to a football game played for a good cause, but they offer an opportunity to honor someone who has walked a cancer journey, whether in memory of someone who has passed, in celebration of someone who has beaten their diagnosis, or solidarity with someone who currently struggles with cancer.

Beachum has been involved with Pink Arrow Pride since the beginning, and it brings purpose to her own experience with cancer. Beachum’s brother, Jeff Timpson, passed away from cancer nearly thirty years ago, and it is still difficult for her to think about it.

“We miss him incredibly,” Beachum said. “When his banner is displayed on Main Street, it gives me the hope that his memory is alive in the hearts and minds of those in his community.”

For Beachum, Pink Arrow is personal, as it is for so many people. According to the

National Cancer Institute, 39.5 percent of men and women will receive a cancer diagnosis at some point in their lifetime, and that means that cancer is personal for everyone. It stands to reason that Beachum is not the only one looking for a way to make good on what has been a deeply emotional struggle.

This is where the Pink Arrow banner sale comes in. Banners can be purchased by businesses, organizations, or individuals either in memory of someone who has passed or in honor of a survivor. Theoretically, if there were someone in the community who has never been touched by a cancer story, that person too could pay for a banner in support of what Pink Arrow does. The price is \$199 to purchase a new banner or \$100 to hang an existing banner, and proceeds go to Gilda’s Club of Lowell.

It is worth noting that Gilda’s Club of Lowell, which helps anyone on a cancer journey or anyone struggling with grief, related to a death of any cause, was founded following the first Pink Arrow game in 2008. Beachum and Dean approached Gilda’s Club of Grand Rapids and showed them some properties where they might set up a Lowell

Clubhouse. Gilda’s Club of Lowell partnered with Senior Neighbors to occupy an old farmhouse on Hudson Street. Fast forward to 2023, and Gilda’s Club of Lowell will experience its first Pink Arrow game from its new home at First Congregational Church of Lowell.

“I do want to remind people that, from the very beginning, all these years, Pink Arrow has been 100 percent volunteer,” Beachum said. “All proceeds from Pink Arrow stay local and support families on a cancer journey.”

Lowell Light & Power works in conjunction with Pink Arrow to hang the banners. Beachum said that they attempt to align banners so they are adjacent to the businesses who sponsor them, but that is not always possible.

Following Lowell’s Pink Arrow event, a number of other schools chose to do similar events. Forest Hills Central, for example, started the Purple Community benefit to support cancer research at Van Andel Institute. However, Pink Arrow has been much more than a regional success.

“From the very beginning, from many years ago, we have had communities, schools in particular, call me from everywhere across the country, from Florida, from

Pennsylvania, from Ohio, asking me how they can mimic Pink Arrow,” Beachum said. “Lowell is not unlike any other community.”

During the month of August, Lowell will honor those on a cancer journey through the Main Street banners, and Pink Arrow Perseverance stories will be back each week in August leading up to the Pink Arrow Community Day on Thursday, September 7 at the high school. Friday, September 22 is Pink Arrow game day, featuring a football match against Greenville, a soccer match against Forest Hills Central, and a volleyball match against Jenison. On Saturday the 23rd and Sunday the 24th, Pink Arrow is introducing a T.A.G. beach volleyball competition at Lowell Riverfront Park.

“The entire Pink Arrow event from beginning to end is just another fine example of what this community stands for,” Beachum said. “We encourage one another, we support one another, and we work for the betterment of all.”



The deadline to order a new banner is Monday, July 31, and the deadline for previous year banners is one week later on Monday, August 7. The application can be found in print in *The Lowell Ledger* or online at pinkarrowpride.org. Whatever the reason for purchasing a Pink Arrow banner, the proceeds benefit local patient support, family support, and education for people whose worlds have been turned upside-down.

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Baseball concludes season

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

The district championship game, it’s where Lowell wanted to be earlier this month, and it’s exactly where they were. Unfortunately, it was Caledonia who came away with the district championship, bringing Lowell’s season to an end.

Lowell knocked off Forest Hills Central 5-3 in the district semifinals before falling to the Fighting Scots 5-0 in the championship game.

The Red Arrows finished the season at 20-18, and with a 7-14 record in a challenging OK White conference schedule, a seventh place finish in front of Greenville. The conference had one state champion, and that was Grand Rapids Christian in Division 2. Lowell’s 20 wins brings them 36 away from the 1000 win mark over their history.

Just prior to playoffs, Lowell knocked off Unity Christian in walk-off fashion, on an Owen Dennings single on a 2-2 count to win 6-5.

Aidan Dennings earned HM all-conference honors for the Red Arrows. Peyton Teachworth was Lowell’s lone all-conference selection. He also earned all-region honors and led the team with a .411 average, 83 hits, 62 RBIs, and 11 home runs.

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Live the Life You Want

With Melissa Spino, MA, LPC, CDMS
Life Transitions Therapy, LLC

Handling relationship conflict

I have written many relationship articles but have only briefly touched on conflict. So, I want to share some tips on handling relationship conflict. Relationship conflict mainly happens due to different perspectives, different opinions, conflicting needs, or misunderstandings. While conflict can be challenging, it doesn't have to be destructive or hurtful. Conflict can actually be a chance to learn, grow, and improve your relationship.

Suggestions for handling conflict

There is no "one size fits all" when it comes to what does and does not work in a relationship. Below are some general tips for handling conflict to try and see what works best in your relationship.

- **Be willing to communicate.** Communication is key to any healthy relationship. When you're in conflict, it's important to be able to communicate your feelings and needs without attacking

or letting anger take over. This can be difficult, but it's important to remember that the other person is not a mind reader. Letting them assume what you're thinking just causes more problems. They can't truly know what you're thinking or feeling unless you tell them. So be vulnerable and honest about your feelings by sharing them.

- **Listening to understand.** This is a key relationship skill. Try to set aside your assumptions and judgement about what you think is correct and really try to understand the other person's point of view. This doesn't mean that you have to agree with everything they say or believe, but knowing how they think and feel helps with possible solutions.

- **Communicate and act as if you care.** Talk to the other person with respect and show that you care.

- **Work toward a win-win outcome.** Try to find a solution that works for both of you. If one side has to compromise, too much resentment and anger often occurs.

- **Establish boundaries.** Every relationship has boundaries. Make sure the other person is aware of yours, and that

they are respected, even during conflict

- **Avoid name-calling and insults.** Personal attacks are never helpful in any situation. They only serve to worsen the conflict and make it more difficult to resolve. It results in frustration, hurt feelings, and resentment.

- **Take a break if needed.** If you're feeling overwhelmed or unable to communicate effectively, it's okay to take a break from the conflict. This will give you both a chance to cool down and collect your thoughts. It's important to address it at a later time and not just ignore the conflict.

If you ignore it, resentment and hurt feeling often occur.

- **Find the real issue behind the conflict.** Disagreements often happen when one person's wants or needs are not being met. However, don't fall into the trap of trying to figure out who is right and who is wrong, as this usually results in the hamster-wheel effect of going round and round without any resolution.

- **Focus on finding a solution.** Once you've both had a chance to cool down, it's time to focus on finding a solution to the conflict. This may involve compromise and negotiation.

While conflict is a normal part of any relationship, it's how you handle it that matters. You want to avoid feelings of resentment and hurt, as this can cause damage to the relationship. Work to communicate effectively, be honest but tactful when communicating, listen to understand, and focus on finding win-win solutions. You can use conflict as an opportunity to grow and improve your relationship. I hope you find this info helpful. This article is not intended to provide advice, diagnose, or treat and is for informational purposes only. Be safe and well!



Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

Biggest threats to a comfortable retirement?

If you save and invest for decades, you'd like to know you can retire without financial worries. Nonetheless, you still have to be aware of some threats to a comfortable retirement — and how to respond to them.

These threats include:

Inflation — Inflation has been high recently, but even a mild inflation rate can seriously erode your purchasing power. In fact, with just a 3% inflation rate, your expenses could double in about 25 years — and your retirement could easily last that long. So, if you're going to rely on your investment portfolio for a sizable part of your retirement income, you will need to own a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments, such as stocks or stock-based funds, whose potential returns can equal or exceed the inflation rate.

Excessive withdrawals — Once you retire, you should establish a withdrawal rate for your portfolio — an amount you can take out each year and still feel secure that you won't run out of money. Some people make the mistake of withdrawing too much, too soon, once they're retired. Your withdrawal rate should be based on several factors, including your age at retirement, the size of your portfolio and the amount of income you receive from other sources, such as Social Security. A financial professional can help you determine a withdrawal rate that's appropriate for your needs.

Market volatility — The financial markets will always fluctuate. When you're still working, this volatility may not be such a problem, as you have years or decades to recover from short-term downturns. But when you retire, you don't want to have to sell investments when their price is down. To help prevent this, you can tap into the cash in your portfolio, assuming you have enough to cover several months' worth of living expenses. You could also draw on a CD "ladder" — a group of CDs that mature at different times — to provide you with resources for the next few years and allow your equity investments time to recover their value.

Unexpected costs — You had them when you were working, and you'll probably have them when you're retired: the furnace that breaks down, the car that needs a major repair, and so on. But if you've established an emergency fund containing a year's worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account, you may be able to "ride out" these costs without jeopardizing your investment portfolio. Be sure to keep these reserves separate from your typical day-to-day accounts to avoid the temptation of spending your emergency money.

Health — Retirees may face more health concerns than younger people, and those concerns often come with larger medical bills. That's why it's important to maximize the benefits from Medicare or your Medicare Advantage plan. Also, if you contributed to a Health Savings Account (HSA) while you were working, and you haven't depleted it, you can use the money in retirement. As long as the HSA funds are used for qualified medical expenses, withdrawals are tax- and penalty-free, and won't be included in your income. This could help keep your income below certain levels, lower your Medicare premiums or avoid the 3.8% surtax on net investment income that can be assessed on high-net-worth taxpayers.

Retirement can be a pleasant time in your life — and you'll enjoy it more if you're prepared for the challenges that face all retirees.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the Lowell Planning Citizens Advisory Commission will hold a public hearing at Lowell City Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM. The subject of the hearing will be the following:

Rezoning Request for 112 Horatio St, 805 E Main St, 825 E Main St.

An application for rezoning has been submitted by CopperRock Construction to rezone three parcels of land located at 112 Horatio St, 805 E Main St, and 825 E Main St as follows:

Address	Current Zoning District	Proposed Zoning District
112 Horatio Street	R-3 Multiple Family Residential	MU Mixed Use
805 E Main Street	C-3 General Commercial	MU Mixed Use
825 E Main Street	C-3 General Commercial	MU Mixed Use

The purpose of the rezoning request is to facilitate the development of a 44-unit multiple-family residential development that would include approximately 3,800 square feet of commercial space.

Copies of the application and the City's Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing during regular business hours at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. Written comments will be received until the night of the hearing.

The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon three (3) days' notice to the City Clerk. Individuals who require such services should contact the City at the address listed above or by telephone at 616-897-8457.



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Lowell City Clerk

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Red Arrow

- LACROSSE

SPORTS

Lacrosse banquet celebrates historic run

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Last Monday, at Fallasburg Park, the 2023 boys lacrosse season officially came to an end following one of the biggest underdog runs in the sports history in the state of Michigan.

The Red Arrows finished as Division 2 semifinalists under Head Coach Austin Buckius.

“I’ve never felt more support from a program,” said Coach Buckius, specifically referencing the program’s cornhole fundraiser that kicked off the year, parent help, and the fan support for the team in their playoff run. The Red Arrows had a run of 25 straight days, after spring break, with games or practices, just three days off in that stretch.

The evening, after the food was eaten and desserts dove into, began with JV Head Coach, Cole Huisman, discussing the season for JV. There’s been a big trend in programs in West Michigan dropping JV lacrosse do to numbers, and while Lowell likes to develop players at the JV level, teams, including state champion FHC, despite large numbers aren’t ready to.

Seven Lowell seniors were honored and gave speeches to the group. Many of those seniors noted outgoing program director Paul Lixie’s speech following the team’s second loss to Byron Center as a spark point to their historic playoff run. Lixie is stepping

down as his last son, Connor, a Lowell lacrosse senior, follows in his brother, Sam’s, footsteps in heading to the University of Tennessee.

“I couldn’t of asked for a better senior season. This was a special group, that just needed a spark to show what we were capable of, and we provided just that,” Connor said. He led the team in forced turnovers, was a captain, all-conference, scholar-athletic, academic all-state, HM all-state, and all-regional player.

For his part, Paul Lixie steps down thrilled with where the program is at. “When I started in 2017, my goal was for this to be a fun and competitive program to play for. Since then, the team has gone from Tier 3 to Tier 2, and beaten Tier 1 teams. They’ve become much more passing oriented, with substantial improvements in the assist category. The playoff run and regional championship was icing on the cake. This team worked hard, all of you, it’s a coaches dream. You saw what happens when a group of guys comes together.” Paul said

Other seniors honored we Conor McDowell, Case Huisman, Hunter Stepanovich, Morgan Kistler, Jace Blakely, and CJ Steinebach.

“After the win over Caledonia, it showed us we could really go on a run, we started to believe,” said McDowell in his senior speech. Coach Buckius made note of McDowell’s work ethic cleaning up the gym after the first event of the season, noting he led by action.

Coach Bill Lee, Lowell’s offensive coach, noted three players that were critical to the team’s run; Steinebach, Teige Bredin, and Jackson Roudabush.

“We needed help on offense to make a run in the postseason, we needed more goalscorers, and those guys just came to life in the playoffs,” said Lee. Steinebach came up with a huge goal against Caledonia to give Lowell the lead, while against EGR, he got the game-tying goal and had the go-ahead assist. Teige, son of Lowell’s first boys lacrosse coach, Eric Bredin, had 23 points in the regular season, and in just five playoff games, had 18 points. Roudabush had a statline of 28 in the regular season and 14 in the playoffs.

Coach Jordan Nurmikko noted goalkeeper, Tevin VanderBoon, came up with some big saves that kept Lowell in games. “We challenged him with a lot of new systems and he really stepped up,” added Nurmikko. The defense led by defensive MVP, Kailen Stokely, Stepanovich, McDowell, Austin Parcheta, among others was an important catalyst especially against EGR.

“It was 9-9 with seven minutes left, and that defense played four minutes straight

of defense without giving up a goal. Seven shots, two hit the pipe, a big save, and two failed clears before we finally got that out of there. That’s impressive to hold that long,” said Lee, the most experienced member of the coaching staff, with over 30 years of experience under his belt.

When that game was over, people were taking notice. “What in the world is going on in Lowell,” Lee added.

Andrew Rogers led the team offensively with most points and was named offensive MVP. He was also captain, all-conference, third team all-state, and all-region. Weston Godbold was also a key contributor on offense, a captain, HM all-conference, all-region, and earned team first award. “Never seen someone run the field like that,” Coach Buckius said of the Lowell juniors’ stamina. He scored the game winner over EGR in the closing seconds, certain to be among the biggest goals in program history.

Paul Lixie closed off the night with his farewell speech, and after honoring guys like Graham Boonstra, an academic all-state player with over a 3.95 GPA and Stepanovich, getting a full ride to Alabama, it was fitting that Lixie highlighted academics.

“Spring sports are tough because we lose kids for various reasons each year, but this year we kept every single senior. This is a smart group of not just seniors, but as a team. Make academics your No. 1 sport,” concluded Lixie.



Outgoing Program Director, Paul Lixie, celebrates the game-winning goal against EGR.

Softball falls in district championship game

By Justin Scott
contributing writer

A successful season came to an end for the Lowell softball program under first year Head Coach, Matt Dood, the Red Arrows fell to state power Rockford 9-2 in the district championship game.

The Arrows came into the postseason hot on a six-game winning streak before beating Cedar Springs 3-1 in the pre-district. FHC, who Lowell had dominated in games the prior week, gave Lowell a tough test in the semifinals before the Red Arrows came away with the win in extra innings 8-7.

Megan Lillie and Jordyn McClymont were named HM all-conference, while Katie Hofman, Courtney Witten, Taylor Clark, and Hope Rummelt all earned all-conference honors. The Red Arrows finished 8-2 in conference, just one game off first place Byron Center. East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Northern did not field softball teams in their school names.

Clark, Rummelt, and Witten were all selected to play in the John Box All-Star softball game which took place on Tuesday at Davenport University. Clark additionally was named all-region as a utility player.

Lowell finished their season with a 23-12-1 record.



CITY OF
LOWELL
PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that the Lowell Planning Citizens Advisory Commission will hold a public hearing at Lowell City Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM. The subject of the hearing will be the following:

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment

The amendment represents a comprehensive update and revision to Chapter 20, Signs to include content-neutral regulations. The amendment includes an expanded intent and purpose statement along with revisions to the sign definitions, general sign provisions, signs not requiring permits, supplementary signs, and signs permitted by zoning district. In addition, a substitution clause and savings and severability clause will be added. Copies of the application and the City’s Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing during regular business hours at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. Written comments will be received until the night of the hearing.

The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon three (3) days’ notice to the City Clerk. Individuals who require such services should contact the City at the address listed above or by telephone at 616-897-8457.



Respectfully,
Susan Ullery
Lowell City Clerk

obituaries

BATY

Joan “Hat Lady” Baty was born January 28, 1935. She passed away on June 15, 2023. She was preceded in death by her son, Michael Pifer. Joan is survived by her daughter, Sandra Sturgeon, grandchildren Michael Pifer Jr., Lisa Pifer, Shannon Sturgeon and Amanda Sturgeon (Justin Cutler), and great-grandchildren Jaiden Sturgeon, Kamron Cooper, Karter Sayko and Adrian Sturgeon. Joan was known for her enduring love of cats, as well as loved by her community for her homemade hats that fit every occasion. Joan’s sassy and honest personality will be greatly missed by those she impacted.

KIRKBY

Janet Lou Kirkby, age 69 of Lowell, passed away, Tuesday, May 16, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, Duane and Audrey Hill; sisters, Pat and Cathy; nieces Lisa and Becky; and dear friend Barb. Janet is survived by her husband, John Kirkby; daughter, Katie (Josh) Hunt; sister, Pamela Hill; many nieces and nephews, and life-long friend, Sue Case. Janet served the Ionia SDA School for many years as a home and school leader, always organizing different activities for the youth. She enjoyed gatherings with her group of Blodgett gals from her days as an OB Aide, and gatherings with the Byron Center class of ’72. Janet was known for her charitable heart, giving of her time to others. She was an avid communicator, always keeping in touch with loved ones. Her most favorite times were spent chatting and catching up with her daughter, Katie. The family would like to give special thanks to friends and family who supported Janet through her battle with dementia. Visitation with the family will be held from 2-4 pm on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson Lowell, MI 49331, with a memorial service starting at 4pm. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions can be made to the family for final expenses.



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PIERCE

Nancy A. Pierce, 79 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, June 17, 2023. Nancy was born to Warren Bellows Hall and Georga Hall on March 24, 1944 in Eaton Rapids, Mich. She was preceded in death by her two sisters, Sharon Stat, of Eaton Rapids and Jane Brooks, of Lansing/Eaton Rapids. She graduated from Eaton Rapids High School, received her Associate Degree from Lansing Community College and a BA from Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, in Business and Communications. She is survived by husband, of 17 years, John Pierce; John’s son Jim (Buffy) of Charlotte, three grandsons, Cody (Savannah), of Lake Odessa, Travis (Marlyn), of Sunfield, Jeremiah (fiance Aryn Hufnagle), of Lake Odessa, her best friend (like her daughter) Cathy Woern and husband Al, of Lowell. She loved all her nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews; sister-in-law Marsha Pierce and family, of Morenci, MI. Also her best friend Rebecca Ferris, of Holland, MI. Nancy was involved with 4H clubs with horses in Eaton County, Montcalm County and Kent County. She was a mentor and a leader to

VROMA

Lily “Lil” May Vroma, age 85 of Ada, passed away June 18, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband, Howard Vroma; sons, baby David Lee, and Steven Vroma; parents, Raymond and Beatrice (Abraham) Byrne; sisters, Sr. Annette Byrne, Avis Rose (Frank) Noor; brothers-in-law, Ron Walthorn, Jay Smith, and Jim Smith. Lil is survived by her children, Christy (Terry) Frederick, Phillip (Sherry) Vroma; grandchildren, Anthony (Beth) Huhn, Melanie Huhn, Stephanie (Corey) Lamb, Johanna Miller; great-grandchildren, Dylan Lamb, Leighanna Lamb, Hazel Huhn, Scarlett Miller, Jack Miller; brother, Norm (Rosemary) Byrne; sisters, Zeta Smith, Bess Walthorn, Rose Smith, Margie (Gene) Smith, Leona (Mike) Scott; and brother-in-law, Gene (Ann) Vroma; along with many nieces and nephews. After losing her husband in 1977, Lil was left to raise three children alone. She



riders in 4H, and was a cheerleader and encouraged Lowell riders in English Dressage. She did not have children, but their children were the many 4H horse riders. She was also involved with Boy Scouts in the Alto area with her ex-husband, Richard Snyder, and Dick Blair. She was in sales of Mary Kay Cosmetics for several years. Recently she walked for the annual Mary Kay Be Brave 5K Run/Walk race raising donations for cancer research. She was a two-time breast cancer survivor and was recognized at the event with others who survived cancer. Funeral will be held on Thursday June 22, 2023 at Lake Funeral Home in Ionia, with internment in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. Services by long-time friend and neighbor Richard L. Blair, Community of Christ Church, Alaska, Michigan. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made for funeral expenses to John and/or the Nancy A. Pierce Equestrian rest site at the new Kent Co. Fairgrounds for seating, trees and flowers. Celebration of life for Nancy will be held July, 22, 2023 at Equuteus Farm, 8989 4 Mile Rd, Ada, Michigan 49301.

was a strong, independent, single mother who raised her kids to put God first. Lil retired from Amway after 28 years, and then went on to work for Byrne Electric for another 10 years before retiring yet again. In 2015, Lil was named Spirit of Ireland, she was also a founding member of the LAOH. She was active her entire life within both St. Patrick Catholic Church and St. Mary’s Catholic Church. She volunteered much of her time to others, whether she was crocheting blankets, participating in Vacation Bible School, making rosaries, making bag mats, or serving popcorn at the schools, she was always giving of her time. Lil had a servant’s heart and truly lived to help others in need. She was known as the leader of the pack within her family. Through all her losses and blessings, Lil lived her life for others and never wavered in her strong Irish/Catholic faith. Visitation with the family will be held from 6-8pm on Thursday, June 22, 2023, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331, with Rosary being recited at 7:30pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11am on Friday, June 23, 2023, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave NE, Ada, MI 49301, with visitation one hour prior. Fr. Thomas Cavera presiding. Interment St. Mary Cemetery, Lowell, MI. Memorial contributions can be directed to St. Patrick Catholic School.



...
I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories.
~Leo Buscaglia

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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING
STATE OF MICHIGAN

The Probate Court for the County of Kent

IN THE MATTER OF: Patrick Osburn, Guardianship File No. 23-213,146-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including his brother(s) and sister(s) and any other children and heirs, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on July 31, 2023, at 9:00 AM at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180

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

Dated: June 10, 2023

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner
121 Martin Luther King Jr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 260-6443

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

office hours:
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Closed Fri., Sat. & Sun.

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

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

misc.

SCANNING SERVICE - Do you need something scanned & emailed? The Buyers Guide/Lowell Ledger now offers this service! Mon. - Thurs., 8 - 5 p.m. & Fri., 8-noon. Ph. 897-9555 with any questions.

misc.

BLUEGRASS MUSIC EVENT - Camp & Jam. Free admission, June 30 & July 1, 2023. Lowell Fairgrounds. Join us to play or listen. Questions call Ed at 269-806-8561 or see WMBMA on facebook.

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

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

ATTN LOWELL WIDOWS - We are meeting at various places for lunch or dinner most Mondays. All are welcome. Questions on location, call Elaine 616-856-8022 for more information.

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3rd trimester Lowell High School Honor Roll

Lowell High School has announced the Honor Roll for the 3rd trimester – 2022-23 school year. 3rd trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify based on final grades

9 th Grade	Aliya Kyes
Elliot Albert	Audrey Latchaw
Claire Allen	Sophie Liley
Shaniah Amaya	Zoe Liley
Ian Anchors	Molly Lincolnhol
Graham Bailey	Sydney Luxford
Ruben Baker	Cecilia
David Barney	Martinez Garcia
Savannah Barrett	Ava McCormick
Rylie Barriger	Micah McDonald
Rylan Bartnick	Lyn Melby
Drew Beers	Daniel Mendez
Sienna Berg	Bryce Mervau
Evan Berrington	Madelyn Miller
Drew Bierlein	Hannah Minier
Izabella Blanchard	Hailey Morin
Claire Block	Evan Nanninga
Olivia Blood	Brennen Nelson
Emmalee Bonn	Jenna Niemeyer
Leah Bosscher	Olivia Nisbet
Brooklyn Braun	Delani Ostrander
Grace Brower	Nicholas Parcheta
Madison Brown	Madilyn Parker
Landen Butler	Collin Pellerito
Cooper Byrne	Owen Perkins
McGuire Carpenter	Madison Pethers
Brynn Chapman	Andrea Plantz
Ayla Charon	Griffin Ponchaud
Faith Chipman	Carmine Posati
Remington	Cody Proctor
Christensen	Marek Pullen
Ajay Clark	Sawyer Raden
Annalise Clark	Connor Rapson
Lily Collins	Ainsley Ray
Preston Compton	AbigailRice
Natalie Cornell	Callan Richardson
Isabella Cramer	Sophie Richmond
Christopher	Brooke Riemer
Crawford	Mason Rose
Seth Cross	Calli Rottier
Nathan Curtis	Corrie Sakowski
Suri Darling	Ava Sanchez
Emilyn Davidson	Lily Sandborn
Max Davidson	Mason Saylor
Logan Dawson	Morgan Saylor
Evelyn Deur	Natalie Saylor
Maddyson DeWitt	Emmett Schaedig
Kaleb DeYoung	Reece Schroeder
Morgan Diekevers	Mayah Schuch
Ethan Doezema	Julian
Frances Eddy	Schultz-Forward
Rowan Eldred	Cole Schulz
Harmon Esch	Leah Schwinkendorf
Lorelei Fonner	Nathan Shaffer
Alexander Force	Brooke Shellenbarger
Cody Foss	Gracen Simmons
Rylee Foster	Alison Smith
Gideon Franciscotty	Brady Smith
Evalynn Frey	Brayden Smith
Mackenzie Frey	Jarrett Smith
Ana Fritzsche	Oliver Sobie
Jose Garcia	Taylor Spitzley
Ruby German	Kyle Stauffer
Hailey Grochowalski	Gabrielle Stodola
Seth Harvey	Jozelyn Stroud
Brayden Hekman	Gavyn Sullivan
Kaitlin Hettinga	Paige Swanson
Evan Hudson	Kaylee Sweany
Jack Hughes	Emily Swint
Anika Huhn	Veronica Tapia
Brianna Huisman	Cooper Teft
Miranna Hulbert	Abigail Tuuri
Mileah Ismail	Grace Valle
Amaya Jackson	Elyse Veldman
James Jannenga	Jordan Velzen
Calihan Janowiak	EmersonVriesman
Jacob Johnson	Claire Weeks
Kylie Joyce	Elijah Wilcox
Thomas Judge	Paige Wilcox
Elliott Kemp	Kalin Williams
Mia Kinney	Brooklyn Wobma
Julia Kinsey	
Kenton Kolp	10 th Grade
Avery Krieger	Ella Acheson
Myles Kuehle	James Albert



Gabriela Amoroso	Claire Mitchell
Lillyan Andrews	Jacob Mitchell
Sienna Arnett	Quinn Mitchell
Benjamin Atkins	Paula
Christopher	Morilla Exposito
Baldwin	William Mrozinski
Benjamin Bannan	Allison Munson
Niiwin Bardwell	Joset Nelson
Eghan Bellingar	Owen Newland
Lily Bergeron	Claire O’Boyle
Nicholas Binns	Norah Orth
Logan Bledsoe	Spencer Orth
Tyler Boersen	Emily Patyi
Lily Boland	Brody Pearson
Brady Boonstra	Kari Petersen
Natalie Brigham	Elizabeth Plank
Leah Bryce	Dylan Polczak
Paige Bunting	Harper Postema
Noah Burton	Luisa Priolo
Grace Cadwell	Jonathan Rapelje
Conner Casarez	Carter Ray
Julie Celori	Anna Reedy
Wei-Ting Chang	Wyatt Remar
Lucas Charboneau	Rasmus Rewitz
Dalton Charon	Kaci Reynolds
Noah Chipman	Titus Rhodes
Carter Cichocki	Ashlyn Richards
Claire Comeaux	Deaken Roth
Nolan Compton	Jackson Roudabush
Caden Cone	Kaylee Royer
Olivia Cooley	Alexandria Roys
Lesly Cowles	Graham Rutz
Brylee Craycraft	Jackson Sage
Benjamin Cross	Parker Salgat
Sydney Darling	Rabina Sandhu
Lauren Deeds	Corey Sandman
Owen Dennings	Maya Schilling
Madison DeSmyter	Owen Segorski
Cadence DeWit	John Seif
Eyan Dial	Gabriel Selover
Jaidyn Dutkiewicz	Makenzie Simkins
Josephine Elkins	Blake Sitzter
Rylie Elsie	Arba Six
Kaylee Elve	Vivienne Skinner
Jillian Fabis	Romyn Slagell
Anika Ferrill	Gabrielle Sluss
Ania Fleszar	Braelyn Spivey
Hannah Flickinger	Isabelle Sternisha
Aliiina Forester	Gavin Stewart
Anna Forney	Tori Stewart
Paul Fowler	Mason Stiegemeier
Clara Frederickson	Anderson Stoner
Ariana Fredricks	Ethan Swanson
Marcus Christopher	Madison Tarachanowicz
French	Gwyneth Taylor
Maya Fritzsche	Brantley Tiede
Mercie Fuentes	Phantouch
Brianna Fullerton	Tiyavatcharapong
Hope Gale	Kaylynn VanAlstine
Colin Garrison	Aysha VandenBosch
Gracie Gasper	Natalie VanLaan
Abigail Geelhoed	Zachary Vaughn
Isabel German	Hayden Videan
Noah Ginsberg	Benjamin Vonderheide
Ezequiel Gonzalez	Reese Wagamon
Kailyn Gustin	Ty Wasilenski
Josephine Hackett	Maximus Wasilew
Ava Halfmann	Noah Wattenhofer
Gracyn Hamilton	Addison Weed
Sarah Harper	Rylei Weller
Thomas Hayes	Alanna Wester
Brady Hays	Christopher
Haley Haywood	Wigger
Elizabeth Hoffman	Tucker Wilk
Kaitlyn Hofman	Rowan Williams
Brandon Hofmann	Elijah Wilterink
Patrick Hoke	Mason Wilterink
Emma Jenks	Abygail Winglar
Timeo Jesson	Rylan Winn
Peyton Kahn	Ava Winter
Zaiden Keith	Allie Wirth
Braddock King	Landon Wolfe-Pearce
Jacob Kissinger	Ean Wolters
Samuel Konyndyk	Hope Worsley
Sophia Konyndyk	Kaylee Ybarra
Leah Krieger	Canon Zaske
Autumn LaKous	Emily Zou
Tyler Lamoreaux	
Molly Landgren	11 th Grade
Austin Lay	Logan Acheson
Beatriz Lima Freires	Sutton Alexander
Louna Marie	Jack Bacon
Ivy Marsh	Braxcynn Baker
Rafaella Martinelli	Grace Barnett
Pozzebom Cavalcante	Alaina Belleville
Unai	Brianna Berg
Martinez Salcedo	Kiera Bishop
Quinn Massey	Zachary Boehr
Elena Mauri	Jared Boone
Jordyn McClymont	Graham Boonstra
Julia Meier	Ryan Booth
Alyse Miles	Emma Boston
Marisa Miller	Evan Bray

Teige Bredin	Claire Nead
Alice Bredwell	Rylee Nichols
Tyson Bruinekool	McKenna Nietupski
Mara Carbines	Ellery Ostrander
Reese Carpenter	Vaughn Outman
Antonio Casarez	Austin Parcheta
Keegan Cisler	Todd Parcheta
Alexis Clark	Mya Pender
Olive Compton	Brycen Peters
Ainsley Cooper	Josiah Peters
Ella Curtis	Elly Phillips
Jaiden Darling	Logan Pilling
Cloey DeGlopper	Claire Pohl
Caden Dennie	Leianna Posati
Jacob DeVries	Ashley Powell
Kyle Dietz	Victor Preiss
Jace Dixon	Danica Ransom
Sophia Dommer	Jacob Rapelje
Matthew Doyle	Joseph Rapelje
Wyatt Duimstra	Kelsey Rasch
Hiyori Eldred	Taylor Rasch
Avery Elmhirst	Skylar Redumski
Brooklyn Elsie	Jackson Reisbig
Samuel Elve	Elaina Reutter
Lynsi Fetterhoff	Andrew Rogers
Logan Foss	Christopher
Jadyn Franciscotty	Rogers
Jayden Franks	Katie Rogers
Michael Andrew	Jackson Schaedig
French	Jake Schmidt
Mason Fuentes	Grace Simkins
Wyatt Fuss	Alaina Smith
Emily Garcia	Andrew Smith
Isabella Garcia	Jacob Spaulding
Benjamin Gaskin	Owen Spike
Antony Gieske	Kelsey Staley
Weston Godbold	Haleigh Stickney
Jailizza	Kailen Stokely
Gomez-Tellez	Melanie Swanson
Tacho Gonzales	Brady Swift
Hayden Gough	Mitchell Swint
Jacob Graham	Carter Szymanski
LillyAnn Gravitt	Matthew Tava
Mya Griesinger	Ella Todd
Kieryn Gruizenga	Joseph Tuuri
Maris Guppy	Tristan Tyler
Morgan Hale	Tevin VanderBoon
Emmah Handlon	Faith VanDuinen
Jacob Hasapis	Spencer VanVeelen
Eli Hawk	Kamie Venema
Samantha Hayes	Matilyn Vogel
Leo Hiler	Melanie Wade
Jacob Hofman	Molly Wade
Timothy Hollern	Naomi Wattenhofer
Brayden Holst	Drew Weber
Lincoln Homolka	Nicholas Williams
Carly Hornbrook	Alexander Winter
Kiara Hulbert	Nathaniel Worsley
Braylon Ikiri	Jadyn Young
Taryn Jackson	Xavier Young
Elle Jenks	
Rosalia Jimenez	12 th Grade
Hannah Johnson	Alyssa Aguilar
Oliver Jones	Emily Ake
Hope Kaminski	Jordan Alcala
Gwynneth Kelly	Colin Baas
Maya Kemp	Ryan Baker
Kenneth Kinyon	Gracie Bassett
Jacob Kooi	Landon Battle
Joseph Korcek	Cole Beach
Isabella Kuntz	Hannah Bechill
Tori Labron	Haylie Beers
Brena Lacey	Olivia Berg
Noah LaMore	Ian Berrington
Jacquelyn	Kayla Bibbler
Landman	Alexander Binns
Owen LaRose	Jace Blakely
Nichole Larsen	Collin Blattner
Aubree Lee	Evan Blazo
Liam Lincolnhol	Vivianne Bledsoe
Nicholas Lothian	Kyra Boersma
Nolan Lowrie	Brenden Brandt
Owen MacNaughton	Benjamin Bromley
Ava MacPherson	Alonzo Bruinekool
Lauren Malone	Abbey Brummel
Tru Marsh	Logan Buckingham
Alexis Martin	Tristan Bulthuis
KyraMartino	Joclynn Burkholder
Breanna Mason	Hayden Burt
Jonathan Mathews	Colton Byrne
Abigail McDonald	Katie Camphouse
Megan McDonald	Sophia Campos
Ari McFarland	Zachary Chambers
Trevor Mead	Alaina Clark
Carmen Milka	Eleanora Clark
Daniel Mitchell	Taylor Clark
Nathan Mohr	Alexander Compton
Addison Molter	Samantha Conrad
Madilynne Morgensen	Carson Crace
Jacob Morrell	Keara Crawford
Maia Moser	Riley Curnow
Noah Moser	Jacob Davidson
Kayleigh Nanninga	

Leah Davidson	McKenzie Munson
Patrick de Voest	GunnarNelson
Wyatt	Aubriegh Oswald
DeBard-Slater	Ryan Parsons
Emma DeGlopper	Liberty Parzyszek
Josalyn Deible	Caroline Peal
Aidan Dennings	Lauren Pearson
Kelton DeVito	Ayden Pellerito
Maeve Dougherty	Karina Peplinski
Dawson Douma	Elisha Peters
Brooklynn	Ramsey Ponchaud
Dusendang	Emma Proctor
Gage Dutkiewicz	Savannah Redumski
Reid Eldred	IlanaRhodes
Brooke Ellsworth	Easton Rich
Christopher	Emma Rich
Ellwell	Jeffrey Richards
Drew Ferrill	Aidan Richardson
Isabelle Field	Dustin Richardson
Aidan Fitzpatrick	Grace Richmond
Ezekiel Flentje	Jack Rickert
Sophia Flickinger	Jazmin Rios Soriano
Lucinda Foreman	Addisen Rodriguez
Kyleigh Foss	Hope Rummelt
Aidan Foster	Zahna Rutz
David Foster	Emma Sage
Hannah Fountaine	Annika Sandman
Noah Franz	Katrina Sandman
Alfredo	Keira Sandman
Garcia-Tinoco	Rhys Sandman
Grant Gasper	Anna Seddon
Lillian Geelhoed	Nicholas Seddon
Ian George	Allyson SeEVERS
Abigail German	Alanee Selover
Audrie Gessler	OdinSever
Jadelynn Ginsberg	Julian Shafer
Ryan Goggins	Maddox Simcoe
Isaac Graham	Dannion Simmet
Braden Granholm	Nolan Simmons
Rebecca Gray	Steven Skinner
Kaden Gruizenga	Ava Skoog
Amelia Hancock	Cameron Sluss
Tate Hare	Alex Smith
Landon Hart	Connor Smith
Summer Havey	David Smith
Anthony Havlik	KaitlynSmith
Mason Hescbe	Andrew Snell
Abigail Hewitt	Kalea Sobie
Kendra Hoffert	Makayla Socall
Lily Homik	Alyssa Spanbauer
Alexis Howell	Stephanie Spinella
Dawson Huhn	Olivia Staley
Case Huisman	Katie Stauffer
Delaney Huizinga	Charles Steinebach
Nolan Jannenga	Hunter Stepanovich
Rylee Jannenga	Noah Sternisha
Daniel Johnson	Trevor Stewart
David Johnston	Brady Strouse
Chloe Jones	Celso Tapia
Krista Jungblut	Leonardo Tavarone
Payton Karle	Peyton Teachworth
Ashlyn Karp	Jacob Thomas
Gwendolyn Kinney	Wyatt Thompson
Josiah Kissinger	Kadence Tiede
Jonah Kniss	Brooke Tindall
William Kolp	Kevin Topolinski
Jason Korzen	Kiera Troost
Ethan Krieger	Alexis Tyler
Makayla Kyes	Kira VanGorp
Jaylin LaForce	Noah VanLaan
Alexis Lamoreaux	Kenadie VanSyckle
Autumn Lamoreaux	Grace VanTimmeren
Grace Larson	Andrew Veldman
Rhyan LeBarre	Delaney Viewig
Riley Lester	Lauren Visscher
Megan Liddle	Henry Vredevelt
Connor Lixie	Mason Wade
Elly Looman	Emmaline Wasciuk
Easton Lyons	Tallin
Keith MacDermaid	Westrate-Critchett
Murphy Malcolm	Ryleigh Wilder
Ava Mallindine	AbigailWinn
SamuelMartin	Hannah Witherell
Kaidance Martino	Courtney Witten
Gavin Mazarka	Brenden Wittenbach
Emma McCormick	Alyssa Woern
Augustus McDonald	Luke Wolters
Ivy McDonald	Gabrielle Yeary
Luke McMillan	Caleb Yomtoob
Janessa Mead	Jacob Zerilli
Jack Meier	
Kaylee Meyer	
Katelyn Meyers	
Zoey Mierendorf	
Avery Miles	
Avery Miller	
Conner Miller	
Fayth Miller	
LandonMiller	
Levi Mills	
Kayden Mitchell	
Eva Morgan	
Halie Morgan	

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Alabama on June 20, 1949. I found early success as a member of a 1970s R&B group, before branching out into a solo career. I co-wrote the hit single “We Are the World.”

Answer: Lionel Richie

	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				

HURRICANE SEASON WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions
on page 13

HURRICANE SEASON
WORD SEARCH

ADVISORY
ALERTS
ATMOSPHERE
CENTER

COAST
CYCLONE
EYE WALL
GALE
HURRICANE
INTENSITY
INUNDATION

LANDFALL
LOCATION
POSITION
PRECAUTION
RAINING
SEASON
STORMY

TRACKING
TYPHOON
VORTEX
WARNING
WATCH
WINDS

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to hurricanes.

O F R E C

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Force

CLUES ACROSS

1. Understand intuitively
5. Two of something
9. Not involving computer tech
11. Acclaimed
13. Undermine
15. The condition of being concealed or hidden
16. Irritate
17. The process of developing a theory
19. Ceramic jar
21. Not fresh
22. Dad's fashion accessory
23. Popular review site
25. New Mexico county
26. '___ death do us part
27. Fees
29. Takes with force
31. One-time Yankees rookie sensation
33. Gordon and Snider are two
34. Body parts
36. Arranges
38. Fiddler crabs
39. Mimics
41. Witnesses
43. They ___

CLUES DOWN

44. Lasso
46. Runs down
48. In response to
52. Bird-like dinosaur
53. Metamorphic stages
54. Conditions of incapacity
56. Sodas are sold in these units
57. Break away from
58. Ethereal
59. Boggy

1. Mangled
2. Ruffled some feathers
3. Not young
4. Lakers legend
5. Nocturnal S. American rodent
6. Direction (Scottish)
7. Intestinal inflammation
8. Spring back in fear
9. Owl genus
10. Girls
11. Unbeliefs
12. Force unit
14. Expired trade agreement
15. Went alone
18. Animal noises
20. Woman who graduated

- from a specific school
24. The very top
26. Organs in males
28. Earnings
30. Z Z Z
32. Reddish browns
34. A salt or ester of acetic acid
35. A place to get off your feet
37. More disreputable
38. Kidney condition
40. Cease moving
42. Quick
43. Extra seed covering
45. "Survivor: Panama" winner
47. Six
49. One who inspects lamps
50. Small parrot
51. Primordial matter of the universe
55. ___ fi (slang)

Window fishing, continued

were within easy reach. The view from the window is perfect. While we were talking, Luke baited a hook with one of the minnows he traps and sells and when he dropped it in the Flat River he quickly pulled it out before a turtle, he could see heading toward it, could grab a snack. Think of a flying bridge on a charter fishing boat, only without all the pitching back and forth from the movement of the water. No Dramamine is needed to window fish.

Luke recalled that the biggest fish he has taken from the window weighed

about 10 pounds. He said that recently someone caught a female king salmon that weighed about 20 pounds. He didn't try to reel that big one up to the window, but he guided it to the edge of the island so a friend could scoop it up with a net. If you want to get a smile, head to their page on Facebook and take a look at the great pictures of fish caught from the window.

"People have caught tiger muskie, bluegill, sunfish, large mouth bass, small mouth bass, and king salmon from this window," Luke said. "I catch and

release a lot more than I take home. One time I caught a silver and black goldfish that was about ten inches long." He figures someone tossed their pet into the river. He put it back.

Fish & Finn is about as family-friendly as a store can get. To that point, the Marins named it after their two boys; Fisher and Finnian. They actually had the desire to open the store for several years before they did it. We mention this because they settled on the name way before the birth of their daughter, Elowyn aka "Lowie". Not to worry,

just because her name is not part of the store, you can rest assured that she is the queen of the place. When we last visited she was watching over the operation from her seat on the counter.

Anyone is welcome to stop in and do some window fishing. Luke told me about a family who asked if they could try it. When he assured them they could, they went home and got their grandma and they spent several hours trying their luck. Prior to her visit, Grandma was not a huge fan of fishing, but the fun she had window fishing put things in a whole new light.

To better understand how much Luke loves and knows about fishing, a little background is in order. He was born in the Virgin Islands. When his parents, who were both from Michigan, divorced, Luke would spend the school year in Michigan and summers in St Thomas with his dad. He got involved in competitive fishing as a young man. After graduation, he trained to become a professional guide at the Bald Mountain Outfitter Guide and Training School in Wyoming. He guided hunters in Texas for



Fish & Finn t-shirts promoting Lowell.

a while and served as First Mate on a couple of charter fishing boats in the Virgin Islands.

Rachel came from a bit of a different background. She was in cosmetology and trained cosmetology students at Douglas J before they opened the store. "Well, the store is kind of chaotic," she said when comparing the two. "But in a way there was a lot of chaos dealing with the students I had." After doing a lot of searching on the internet, Rachel felt secure in declaring Fish & Finn as "The Window Fishing Capital of The World." We did our own research and the only reference we could find was right in line with Rachel's. We both found references to a publicity stunt by The Beatles, when they were touring the US and fished out of the window of a hotel. When we consider the evidence gathered from

their Facebook posts, we have to agree with their claim to fame.

Speaking of Lowell, the Marins absolutely love living, raising their family, and owning a business here. "I wasn't born here, but I got here as quick as I could," Luke said with a smile as he quoted a bumper sticker he had seen in Texas.

Rachel and Luke, along with Fisher, Finnian, and Lowie, would love to introduce you to the wonderful world of Window Fishing. Their store is open seven days a week and it is chock full of everything you might need to fish out of a window or from a boat or the bank of a river. Stop by and chances are pretty good you can meet the King of Window Fishing in person. You can get a great preview of all the fun at their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/FishAndFinnOutfitters



Fish & Finn is on stilts above the Flat River just below a dam.

BUY
LOCAL
OR
BYE-BYE
LOCAL

Educating
Readers
On Why To
Buy Local
Is Up To You!

the lowell
ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331

ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

616-897-9261



Luke Marin loves to fish out of the window.

Faxing

\$1.00
First Sheet

50¢
each additional sheet

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ledger

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