



**FALL
SPORTS
TEAMS**

pages 7-10



page 6

**Rogers
Neighborhood
Realty**

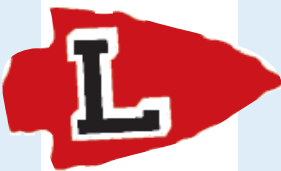


page 2

**School Board
Meeting**

page 3

**Lowell Area
Schools Sports**



page 11, 12 & 14

\$1.00



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Great weather for Fallasburg Arts Festival

Talented artists, from around the state and the country, apply every year to be part of the well-respected Fallasburg Arts Festival, held every September.

Artist booths are juried and a broad range of different mediums are represented, including: basketry, digital art, fibers, floral, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, soaps, wood, and more.

There are also food booths, a children's craft area, craft demonstrations, and music performed on an outdoor stage.

The annual raffle included over 75 artist-made items, donated by festival artists, and the grand prize was a quilt created by Mary Tobin.



Arts Festival,
continued page 16

Attendees of the 55th Annual Fallasburg Fall Festival enjoyed music, food and arts last Saturday and Sunday during a beautiful September weekend.

Alto impresses again at its annual Harvest Festival

By Bill Lee
Contributing writer

From many parts of Michigan - Grand Rapids, Bryon Center, and even Gaylord - people traveled from all over to enjoy the 42nd annual Alto Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 16.

There were several activities for all ages. The festival started with a pancake breakfast at 7:00 in the morning and an opening ceremony at 10:00 at Veterans Park.

The day featured many events, including a classic car show, food booths, bak-

ing and eating competitions, a Kids Zone play area, and great live music, featuring Magic Bus, a 1960s retro band from the Detroit area.

The classic car show featured over 175 vehicles. From Model T Fords to Chevy Corvettes; the show had something for everyone, especially car and truck connoisseurs. David Steffen and his son Logen, both from Alto, brought their jacked-up purple, 1985 Chevy Silverado. Hanging-out with them by the pick-up was the former owner, Chris Howarth from Byron Center. Howarth had added ¾ ton axles and 44-inch high, 18.5 inch-width tires, with 15-inch rims, to the Silverado before selling it to Steffen.

Also at the festival, along with craft and food booths, were several baking and food-eating contests. Samantha

Richardson, of Alto, participated in the youth pie-eating contest with several other children, of all ages.

Another wonderful part of the festival was a whole area relegated just for families with children. Sponsored by the Alto Baptist Church and located on their green, the Kid Zone offered an inflatable bouncy house and slide (both very popular with the kids), a face-painting station, a mini-car racing track, and a farm animal petting-station. The whole area was free for families, including free popcorn and water. Pastor Timothy Teall, and many volunteers, were happy to organize the event and be there for families. "Everyone here enjoys serving and interacting with the community," said Pastor Teall. "Also, one of our rules here is that everything is free."

One family from Cascade was enjoying the festivities, including the face-painting. The parents of children, Eleanor and Brody, had not been to the Alto Festival before. "We saw the information in a flyer and decided we would come by," said one of the parents. Also, brothers, Ben and Levi Moss, and their grandfather, Fred Moss (a

Korean War veteran), along with their friend Eli Zehr – all from Alto – were enjoying many parts of the Kid Zone.

One of the main highlights of the day was the performance of Magic Bus, a 1960s retro band complete with tie-dye shirts, headbands, round sunglasses, and other colorful clothing. The Michigan band entertained the audience with songs from the California scene to the Woodstock music festival. Lots of people dressed-up in their hippie outfits and danced to the groovy tunes, including David Maddix, who came all the way from Gaylord to see the band. "I follow these guys all over the place," said Maddix. Maddix, 72, is an ultra-marathoner who has run four marathons already and plans on completing two more this year. He was clearly having a blast and danced to many of the songs from Magic Bus.

Overall, it was another great Alto Harvest Festival with many local volunteers playing a major role in planning, organizing and covering the event.



Eleanor and Brody

**More Harvest
Festival Photos,
page 15**

Rogers Neighborhood Realty is growing

By Cliff Yankovich
Contributing writer

Amanda Rogers did not set out to be in the real estate business. Prior to meeting her husband, Bob, she went to college to become a legal assistant and was working as a clerk in a Probate Court in Traverse City.

“I was a circuit court clerk for Kent county until my kids [Daphne and Katie] started school. After experiencing life taking kids to daycare, then they went to school, then back to daycare, before I was able to get them home and spend all of two hours with them before they went to bed, we decided that wasn’t how we wanted to spend life. I became a stay-at-home mom shortly after Katie started first grade, and started my life as a ‘professional volunteer’,” Rogers recalled with a smile.

It is worth interjecting,

took a big change. “An area realtor was looking for an assistant and that eventually changed my life trajectory,” Amanda told us. “I loved every single thing about real estate. It’s never dull, never the same thing. I get to be helpful, I get to fight for what’s right, details, deadlines, lots of activity. All things I really enjoy.”

After a year or so working in the office, Rogers decided that she really enjoyed the business, so she studied and got her license. She loved that she found a career path that utilized her varied skill set and allowed her the freedom to remain involved in her daughters lives and activities.

In 2020, Amanda took another step and opened her own real estate brokerage, in a small office, in the Big Boiler building. It did not take long for her to

how she liked her new location. “I am loving it. There is just something so special about owning a piece of Lowell history and having the pictures from the previous years of all the things this building has been,” Rogers commented. [See sidebar.] She continued on to explain that the new location has room for the business to expand and also provides them with the ability to participate in some of the Chamber of Commerce events. For example, the Rogers team is looking forward to being a part of Christmas Through Lowell this year.

Both of the Amandas offered up what they believe makes Rogers Neighborhood Realty a little different from other real estate agencies. “I feel that we offer highly personalized, honest



Rogers Neighborhood Realty moved into their new location, at 317 East Main Street earlier this year.

team is that we work well together and are always happy to lend-a-hand and offer advice to one another. We are only competitive with ourselves. A win for any of our clients is a win

for all of us. We work anywhere within an hour drive of Lowell. If you have questions about a West Michigan neighborhood, school, lake, etc., we have an answer.”

You can learn more about Rogers Neighborhood Realty at their website: www.RogersNeighborhoodRealty.com



The Rogers Neighborhood Realty Team: Rachel VandenBosch, Kristy Nora, Amanda Rogers, and Amanda Hernandez

at this point, that while Amanda might be a little self-deprecating about her volunteerism, she and Bob do so many things for the Lowell Community they were recognized as Person(s) of the Year at the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner in 2021. Among the local organizations that have benefited from Amanda and Bob are Alpha Family Center, Lowell Area Recreation Authority (our trails), Flat River Outreach Ministries, Girls Scouts, Rotary, and Love Week events put on by Impact Church, where they attend.

Amanda was a busy stay-at-home mom because she combined motherhood, lots of community volunteer work, and an online Etsy business, where she sold crochet goods. Then her life

move into a bigger office suite there, as she added an assistant and then a couple more agents. By the fall of 2022, Rogers Neighborhood Realty was bursting at the seams of the larger office. She made arrangements to purchase a building across the street at, 317 East Main in Lowell, and she and Bob hustled and transformed the main floor into their new permanent location that officially opened earlier this year. There are four people working out of the new location. Amanda Hernandez is a licensed realtor who also works as Roger’s assistant. Joining them are two more licensed agents: Kristy Nora and Rachel VandenBosch.

Rogers was quick to answer our question about

service that can often be missed in a real estate agent,” Rogers stated. “We make every effort to fully learn our clients needs and wants, and we help guide them through what can be an overwhelming and highly emotional process, with ease.”

Amanda Hernandez wanted to make sure we were aware that all four of the agents are deeply-invested in the Lowell community and have lived in West Michigan for decades. They all live, work, volunteer, shop, and worship, here in the community. Hernandez continued by saying, “While Lowell is our first love, we have experiences with much of greater Grand Rapids. The beauty of our

A little history

When we visited their new space, Amanda shared some history about their building, and the Rogers family, selling real estate in Lowell. She has some great pictures in her office and passed some of them along to us.

Amanda’s real estate business has been in Lowell since 2020, but the Rogers family has some history in real estate here. It seems that Bob’s grandfather, Thad Rogers, operated a trucking company and sold real estate.

The history of Amanda’s office space, at 317 East Main, leans a little more toward transportation. In the past, it had been a livery and a car dealership. We forgot to ask, but we are pretty confident that Amanda no longer allows horses in the building. She and Bob are currently working with a contractor to explore the possibility of building-out the second story into a couple apartments.



Once upon a time, horses stood around where Amanda’s desk is now sitting.



The building followed progress in transportation and graduated to taking care of automobiles.

Photos courtesy of Rogers Neighborhood Realty and the Lowell Historical Museum



The Rogers family was selling real estate in Lowell over 100 years ago. L to R: Claude Streeter, TE “Thad” Rogers, Harry Waters, and a gent with the last name of Kaufman.

LAS Board announces new hires and new student rep

By Michelle Smith
contributing writer

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education met for its regular meeting Sept. 11 at the Administrative Offices building.

New Senior Class Student Council representative, Antonio Casarez, made his first report to the Board.

Casarez commented on the soft lockdown at the high school, Sept. 5. He said from his viewpoint, everyone involved in that incident took the possible threat and safety protocols seriously, and he felt protected and informed. “You know you are in good hands when your teacher shuts the windows and closes the blinds, and locks the door with a hockey stick, before double-checking his email to make sure we were safe,” he said.

The bomb threat was determined to be invalid. Charges have been filed against the person responsible. A soft lockdown is when students are told to stay in place, in whatever area of the building they are in, while authorities investigate the threat.

Casarez also reported that the new academic schedule has had the smoothest start he can remember. “I’ve heard little to no negative feedback from my peers, which is definitely a change from last year.”

LAS Superintendent, Nate Fowler, introduced the 2023-24 new hires.

- Emma Bailey, Bushnell Elementary, first grade
- Jeri Blough, Bushnell Elementary, music teacher
- Alexis Cook, Cherry Creek Elementary, CI Room
- Dayna Crumback, Lowell High School At Risk
- Kelly Gordon, Lowell Middle School, sixth grade social studies
- Heather Kresge, Cherry Creek Elementary, second grade

- Michele Morrell, Lowell High School, CI Room
- Renee Rowan, Bushnell Elementary, kindergarten
- Jodie Smith, Cherry Creek Elementary, fifth grade
- Logan Stephens, district social worker
- Sarah Sykes, district psychologist intern
- Nathan Vaught, Cherry Creek Elementary, fifth grade

Director of Human Resources, Dustin Cichocki, reported he is in the process of hiring more paraprofessionals, and bus drivers are being trained and road-tested. He said newly-hired staff are being CPR trained, and he credited the LAS nursing staff with doing an excellent job providing this service. “I can’t say it enough, having school nurses that can actually provide that p.d. (professional development), to take care of the CPR training, makes it really nice,” Cichocki said.

LAS Chief Financial Officer, Sonia Hodge, reported that \$540,000 was added to the fund balance for this year, which brings the balance to \$7,030,000 (14.9 percent) of expenditures. Hodges said this will help the district maintain a healthy fund balance in preparation for when the State’s Covid emergency dollars are no longer part of the budget. “The district has done a good job of being frugal,” Hodge said.

Director of Curriculum, Dan VanderMeulen, reported the district will be utilizing State funds to offer tutoring to high school and middle school students. He said the funds for this program must be used for specific students - those that qualify for free or reduced lunch, use English as a second language, have IEPs, or are classified as

homeless or in foster care. Sylvan Learning Centers will be providing the tutoring, under the direction of LAS teachers, three days a week, either in one-on-one sessions or in groups. VanderMeulen said the tutoring will be mostly in math and English, but could be in all subjects, and will begin in October.

VanderMeulen said the district’s world language resources are being replaced, and he plans to have a new curriculum for French and Spanish, to present to the Board in the spring. The middle school has begun a new pilot class to test the math curriculum, Reveal. This is the same curriculum that was recently approved for K-5 grades.

VanderMeulen also reported a reproductive health advisory board will be formed, as materials for LAS students need to be reviewed every two years. He said more regarding this will be reported at a later meeting.

During the public comments portion of the meeting, Lowell resident, Perry Beachum, said he is concerned about a “small group of citizens that is trying to impose their narrow-minded views and philosophies onto the school board.” He said the group does not consider the diversity of our community and asked what is the approximate cost in finances and resources put forth in responding to this group. Beachum said the group is responsible for a past board member recall attempt, criminal charges filed against the Board, and the chastisement toward the district for receiving emergency Covid funds. Most recently, Beachum said the group is encouraging parents to not

fill-out the free and reduced lunch form. This form is tied to enabling the district to get more state funding.

Resident, Kim Lum, encouraged the community to consider the Pink Arrow mission of community and used an acronym of the word “pink” to make her point. P for persistence, I for integrity, N for needed, and K for kindness.

Byron Center resident, Bob Pickard, who has a grandson attending Lowell schools, proposed better school security by having armed United States military veterans guarding the schools. He said he attends area school board meetings to present his ideas regarding the feasibility of this plan. No details on his plans or ideas were presented to the public.

Superintendent Fowler said this Board meeting is the first to be recorded and live-streamed. A permanent camera was installed in the meeting room, and recordings will be posted to the district’s website.

Fowler announced a series of community meetings, to take place this fall, to gather input regarding the needs in the schools to keep the buildings safe and secure. As an example, Cherry Creek Elementary was built in 1973, with an open-classroom concept, as a middle school. Fowler said movement and noise travels freely between the classrooms. This is one of the topics that will be addressed.

The meetings will be held:

- Oct. 10, 6:30 pm at Cherry Creek Elementary
- Nov. 7, 6:30 pm at Lowell Middle School

Fowler addressed the Aug. 24 football game that was evacuated due to a tornado warning, which led



Class of 2024 Student Council Representative, Antonio Casarez, made his first report to the Board of Education, Sept. 11.

to attendees taking shelter in the basement of the high school. Fowler admitted that the night was “chaotic,” but that it was also “gratifying” because of people working together to keep each other safe and helping students reunite with their families as soon as possible. He said both the bomb scare and tornado warning were instances when the community worked together and looked out for each other.

He also acknowledged that it is difficult to communicate in the midst of an emergency. “Communication is a struggle when we have

emergencies. We live in a community that doesn’t have reliable cell service everywhere that you go.”

Fowler said good relationships between the staff and students and first responders is crucial for safety in an emergency, and he believes the Lowell community has that. Fowler read a statement from the Kent County Sheriff’s office that stressed there are serious repercussions for threatening the safety of a school, even if you have no intention of following up on those threats. It is important for students to report any suspicious activities they encounter to adults.



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CITY OF LOWELL OAKWOOD CEMETERY FALL CLEAN UP NOTICE

The annual clean-up of Oakwood Cemetery in the City of Lowell will be Monday, October 16 through October 27, 2023.

Please remove all arrangements, baskets, etc. you wish to keep by Friday, October 27, 2023. Items not taken will be kept near the fence lot line for one year prior to being disposed of.



Susan Ullery
City Clerk

Former Oakwood Cemetery sexton receives Robert Graham Award

By Emma Palova
Contributing writer

Seven history books, two in-the-making, and thousands of obituaries from *The Lowell Ledger* supplied to the Lowell Area Historical Museum (LAHM), stand testimony to Don DeJong’s genuine love of history. For his intensive research and contributions to LAHM, DeJong, former Oakwood Cemetery Sexton and resident of Alto, has received the Robert Graham Award for Volunteer of the Year 2023.

The award was created to honor volunteers who have given, over a long period of time, in significant ways to the museum, according to LAHM Executive Director, Lisa Plank. “Each year, we also host a volunteer appreciation event for all of our volunteers,” she said. “We currently have 40 active volunteers.”

Even though DeJong missed the museum volunteer appreciation dinner, he’s thankful for the award. “It was great

to be appreciated,” he said. “Everything we do as humans, we like to be appreciated and get recognition. I was hoping for it.”

DeJong credits his fascination with history to his sexton’s job. He managed to transform people’s grief at the graves to live stories. “I thought it was just a temporary job,” he said. “The history stuff was icing on the cake.”

“I love history,” DeJong said. “It’s fun to learn the back stories of residents in the community. It’s a delight reflecting on how things were done, how different life was for people.”

DeJong assisted on a museum business-address project and distributed the two books, *The ABCs of Lowell*, to almost every business in Lowell. By the end of May, DeJong sold \$3,290 worth of ABCs. “I had lots of fun selling these ABCs,” he said. “It’s natural for me to chat and sell. I stopped at a lot of businesses.”

Instead of using the KDL library website at <https://archives.kdl.org/> for research, DeJong prefers to use obsolete technology in the form of a donated microfilm machine. DeJong takes pictures of the old microfilm articles from *The Lowell Ledger*, downloads them, and prints them out. “It’s time-consuming,” he said.

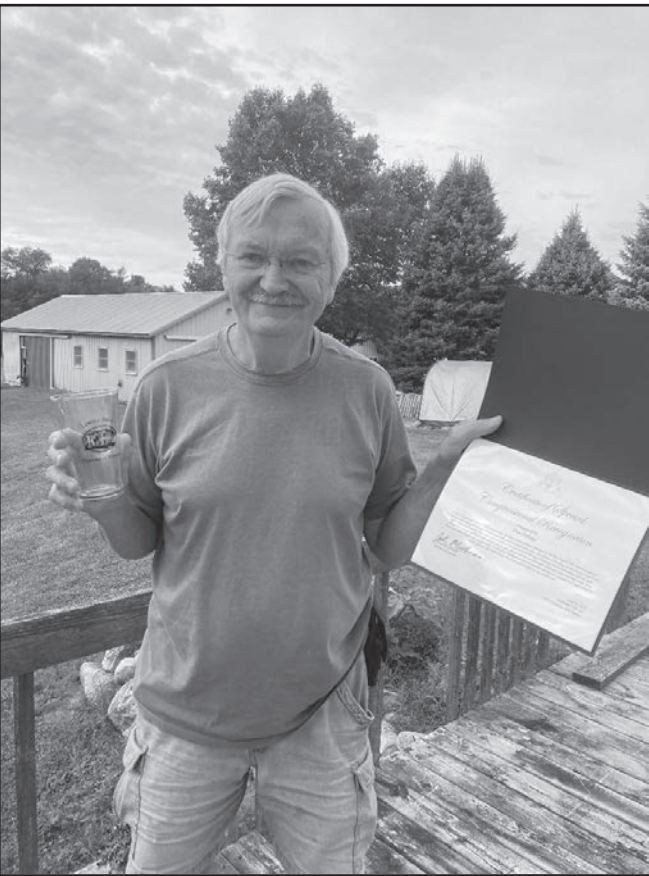
Whenever possible, he talks to families and gets pictures from them for the stories for his themed books focusing on the people buried at the Oakwood Cemetery. “Don is an avid researcher,” wrote LAHM President, Jim Doyle, in the museum’s newsletter. “Don has generously donated the profits from the sales of his books to the museum, over the years, contributing to the financial health of the museum.”

According to Doyle, Don has provided the museum with copies of enough obituaries to fill 70 large notebooks. “He has also copied and given

us articles for our business, local citizen, church, school, house, and subject research files,” he wrote. “These copies help researchers do genealogy, learn about their home or business location, and so much more.” DeJong’s cemetery books form the basis of the museum’s cemetery tour guide books.

Equipped with a bachelor’s degree in social work with a minor in anthropology, DeJong started working for the Lowell DPW on July 1, 1995. “It was the best money I’ve ever made,” he said. Now retired and happy, DeJong’s fascination with history continues into the future. He has been researching the history of the horse-racing industry in Lowell. There were eight horse breeders with offices in downtown Lowell from 1894 to 1895. “These will be stories about the horse racing and money that changed hands,” he said. At the time, a horse sold for \$500, while the average wage was \$300 to \$350.

More than 200 stories are waiting to be told in volumes V, VI & VII. One of the volumes will include the Ivan Blough story with info and pictures from the family.



Former Sexton, Don DeJong, with awards from the Lowell Area Historical Museum and Congressman John Moolenaar.

And what’s DeJong’s favorite story? “It’s hard for me to nail it down,” he said. After a long pause, DeJong mentioned two stories that came to his mind. One was the story of Mr. Hawk and the other of a person who knew Abe Lincoln personally.

In addition to the

award from LAHM, DeJong has received a certificate of recognition from Congressman John Moolenaar. “It surprised me,” he said. “I feel blessed.”

“I would never imagine that I could feel so fulfilled and blessed,” he said. “It was an honor to care for people as they grieved. Just be kind.”

The past recipients of the LAHM award include, 2018 Bev Anderson, 2019 Carolyn Jane Blough, 2020 Dale Kropf, 2021 Cathy Haefner, and 2022 Jim Doyle.

The museum is looking for more volunteers. They work with the oral history program, welcoming guests to the museum, giving school programs, working at fundraisers, and doing research.



Certificate from Congressman John Moolenaar.

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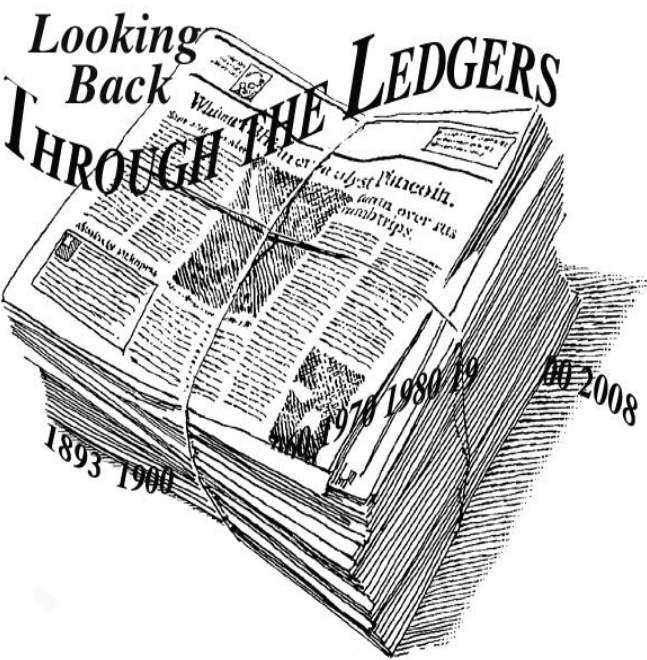
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viewpoint



150 years ago The Lowell Journal September 17, 1873

Bustles are going out-of-style, and the market for old newspapers is not so firm as it has been.

Gold has been found in so many places in Michigan that anything short of the discovery of a five-pound nugget will not sell the land.

A few nights ago, an attempt was made by somebody to enter Perry and Look's law offices, but after damaging the lock, the purpose was abandoned.

A few days ago, some poor sinner entered the house of A.P. Hunter, during the absence of the family, and took ninety cents out of a vest pocket, and a pie out of the pantry.

125 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 22, 1898

Anyone wishing to pay a years subscription to this paper by doing a weeks washing, apply at this office.

The survey of railway route has been completed to within a mile of this village and the result is favorable for extension of the Lowell & Hasting railroad line. The route takes in Alto and Smyrna; there is a strong probability that the extension will be built unless the land owners along the route get bullheaded and demand "the earth" for right of way.

Mrs. S.E. Hoag has successfully removed a cancer from the face of Uriel Snow.

Mrs. Hattie Bailey, of Grand Rapids, only sister of Frank Sherrard, has been taken to her home after a three months visit in Keene. She is stricken with consumption and is gradually failing.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 20, 1923

Lowell Specialty Co. gives all its employees, with three or more months service, insurance policies for \$750.

Lowell schools have grown; some elective classes were oversubscribed, though stores in town generally had enough textbooks.

All bounties on animals are cancelled except for sparrows and rats.

Three raids in Ionia destroy illegal liquor and stills.

The county works on reforestation and eradicating cattle tuberculosis.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 16, 1948

Curly Howard's Club Diner was broken into last Sunday night; the thieves taking eight dollars in pennies, candy, cigarettes and a flashlight.

It will be up to the audience to decide which plays a better game of softball, the donkeys or their riders when Forrest Buck's City Slickers clash with Mike Hoover's Barnyard Slingers, Tuesday night at Lowell Recreation Park.

The loan A&P store is just completing an extensive remodeling program. New shelves and display islands, at arm level, have been provided for the new self-serve policy.

Bruce Bergy of Alto continued his "4-H Chicken of Tomorrow" contest by winning at the State Show.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life August 30, 1973

Riverside Drive becomes a one-way street, going north.

Arbitration is ordered for the dispute between the city of Lowell and the Lowell Police Association.

A safety crossing guard is hired to solve the problem of students walking to school in the street on Foreman. Meanwhile, Foreman Road improvement is being planned.

Dirk Ritzema and Craig Mulder receive Eagle Scout Awards.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger September 23, 1998

Lowell City Council, petitioned by a group of Lowell students and parents, are hoping to create a skateboard park.

Fallasburg's 30th annual Fallasburg Fall Festival to be held this weekend.

Lowell football fans were beaming Friday night following their Red Arrow football team's win over Forest Hills Central. Final score: Lowell 28, FHC 14.

Retired Bushnell Elementary principal, Louie Dudeck, finds a Comstock Park class ring while metal detecting at Hoffmaster State Park. The ring belonged to Comstock Park senior, Cassandra Swanson, whose name was engraved into the ring. Dudeck contacted Comstock Park High School principal and arranged to give the ring back to Swanson.

Representative payees help you manage your Social Security

By Hillary Hatch,
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Some people who receive monthly Social Security benefits, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments, may need help managing their money. When we receive information that indicates you need help, we'll work with you to find the most suitable representative payee to manage your benefits. A representative payee is someone who receives your monthly benefit payment on your behalf and must use the money to pay for your current needs, including: food, clothing, personal care items, housing and utilities, medical and dental expenses, rehabilitation expenses (if you have a disability).

If you need help managing your benefits, tell a Social Security representative that there is someone you want to be your representative payee. Your representative payee should be someone you trust and see often, and who clearly understands your needs. Social service agencies, nursing homes, or other organizations

are also qualified to be a representative payee. Ask them to contact us.

You can write to us within 60 days of being assigned a representative payee, if you don't agree that you need one or if you want a different representative payee.

We also offer Advance Designation, which allows you to designate someone to be your representative payee in the future. There may come a time when you can no longer make your own financial decisions. You and your family will have peace of mind knowing that someone you trust may be appointed to manage your benefits for you.

You can submit your Advance Designation request when you apply for benefits or after you are already receiving benefits. You may do so through your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount or by calling and speaking to a Social Security representative.

You can find more information at www.ssa.gov/payee.

We love to hear from you!

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

The requirements are:

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

Letters can be sent to emailed to
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At Your Local Library



Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

ToddlerTime

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Nurture your toddler’s love of books through music, movement and stories while helping to develop their language, motor and social skills. For ages 0-5.

Storytime

Thursdays, 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.

Teddy Bear Check-Up

Thursday, Sept. 21, 10 - 11 am. Bring your favorite teddy bear or other stuffed animal to a check-up visit where you’re the doctor! With eye charts, stethoscopes and even band-aids for boo boos, your stuffie will be healthy and happy by the time they leave. For ages 0-5.

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Thursday, Sept. 21 and Oct. 5, 4-5 pm. Teens ages 11-17 are invited to meet with a teen librarian to develop teen programs, discuss teen books and make sure that our teen space is as fun and functional as possible. Meetings can count as volunteer hours for things like the National Honor Society. Students ages 14+ can apply for additional volunteer opportunities. For ages 11-17.

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Monday, Sept. 25, 6 - 8 pm. Explore new RPG systems during our monthly one-shot adventures! Join an all-raccoon racing team, take on a quest as a reanimated skeleton or plan a fool-proof heist as a group of bears. New and experienced players are welcome for these easy-to-learn adventures. For ages 11-17.



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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 in weekly online articles. Information provided by the Lowell Area Historical Museum

Q is for Quiggle Lake

Within the Lowell school district, in the Southeast corner of Section 14 of Cascade Township, present day, 36th Street and Quiggle, sits Quiggle Lake. The lake is almost perfectly round, covers about 30 acres and is estimated to be over 100 ft deep on the southeast side.

The lake is named after the Silas Quiggle family who came to the area in the 1850’s but returned to Ohio, only to return and settle on the hill, on the east side of the lake, in the 1860’s. The home is still there today. The sons of Silas Quiggle all settled and lived life within two miles of the lake they grew up on and talked of visits from native people who had once lived in the area. Charlie Quiggle, son of Silas, used to skate on the lake, every winter of his life, until his 80’s. Fred Quiggle told of a native camp area and the boys often searched for arrowheads there.

It was said the native people refused to canoe on it or eat fish from the lake. They believed the lake was inhabited by an evil spirit, in the form of a ‘great snake’. The Quiggle boys, sons of Silas, thought the old folks told the snake story to keep the kids out of the lake. It didn’t work. Parents were



Silas Quiggle Family.

afraid if someone drowned that they would never find the body. Boys played tricks on their folks and neighbors by rowing out into the lake. They would then turn the boat upside down, dive down and come up inside where they could breathe. They would stay there several minutes to scare people half-to-death. Their mother said she wished that the boat would sink so they couldn’t play in it.

Silas Quiggle’s grandson, Claude, lived on the lake and ran a successful rowboat rental business, until his death in 1987. During this time, the DNR stocked the lake with trout, and it was a popular place to fish. After Claude died, there was no public access to the lake and the DNR stopped stocking the lake with trout.

Controversy can be everywhere, even Quiggle Lake. Locally, it is explained that the lake was formerly called Gove Lake, named for E.D. Gove, who came to Cascade township in 1842 and lived near 36th St and Buttrick. The federal records show otherwise. In 1976, Dale Stevens, supervisor cartographer for the U.S. Geological Survey mid-continent region, studied the lake’s history and showed that the Department of the Interior only has the name of the lake as ‘Quiggle’, throughout history. While early 1900’s county and local maps show the lake as “Gove”, it is the federal decision that is official, so the ‘Gove Lake’ sign came down and was replaced by the current sign.

The lake is still there, although instead of a giant

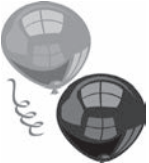
snake, some fishermen will tell of the giant snapping turtles that keep them from jumping in the water for a refreshing swim. Even though one brave resident still swims across the lake and back several times a week, not everyone is convinced that the turtles are harmless. In fact, they suspect that the monster spoken of through time was not a snake-like creature, but rather, a monster snapping turtle.

There are Quiggle family members remaining in the Lowell area. Though Claude’s cabin is no longer standing, many still remember the small shack and the thriving business, on a lake once misnamed and feared.

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Jennifer Haan, Linda Barnes.

SEPTEMBER 23
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SEPTEMBER 24
Kenneth Gregersen II, David Powell, Stephanie Vickers, Jake Baker, Samantha Clouser, Josie Stuckey.

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Micah Soyka, Jim Nikodemski, Torin Hacker, Alexis Shaffer.

SEPTEMBER 27
Brooke Tetzlaff.



2023 LHS FALL SPORTS TEAMS

FRESHMAN FOOTBALL



Wyatt Putnam, Jaxon White, Elijah Goldsmith, Gabriel Barrera-Wilder, Ethan Dennings, Sawyer Wilder, Cole Cichocki, Sabin Ingram, Zachary Rutan, Lincoln Pollema, Abram Kennedy, Cooper Hancock, Gage Lyons, Landon George, Mitchell Eikey, Mason Hoevenaar, Chase Miller, Izaiah Pollema, Isaac Aguilar, Grayson Moss, Evan Dressander, Kamden Kennedy, Kenneth Junglas IV, Colten Kahn, Rowen Smith, Dallas Marentette, Keith Tett, Noah McIntyre, Ethan Cobb, Henry Oesch, Kaden Seeley, Sawyer Hoff. Head Coach: Seth Munroe

JV FOOTBALL



Logan Dawson, David Barney, Dawson Morgan, Pistachio Gonzales, Brady Smith, Elliott Kemp, James Jannenga, Ransom Rathbun, Sabin Ingram, Kyle Stauffer, Ian Kuntz, Cody Foss, Kalin Williams, Marek Pullen, Graham Bailey, Elijah Knapp, Daniel Mendez, Preston Compton, Callan Richardson, John Graham, Oliver Sobie, Nash Darling, Landen Butler, Jack Iakiri, Logan Eidenier, Kenton Kolp, Alexander Balzeski, Maxson Bigard, Weston McFarland, Owen Perkins, Gabriel Olin. Head Coach: Justin Phillips.

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL



Olivia VanderWerf, Bella Calhoun, Remmi Beauchamp, Taylor Graham, Allyson Hollern, Josephine Costello, Kara Havey, Kara Bacon, Lindsey Plumley, Brooklyn Haywood, Keira Berg, Keagan Lackscheide, Layla Risdon. Coach: Rachael Partridge.

JV VOLLEYBALL



Laney Bieneman, Natalie Boonstra, Hannah Ake, Anika Huhn, Abigail Rice, Delaney Lowe, Emily Kushion, Frances Eddy, Ashley Pohl, Grace Broker, Madelyn Hayes. Coach Abi Mangus.

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GIRLS

CROSS COUNTRY

Evelyn Deur, Anna Forney, Mikenna Ismail, Brooklyn Jackson, Audrey Latchaw, Olivia Lothian, MacKenzie Moore, Clair O'Boyle, Lauren Seevers, Olivia Seevers, Analize Tapia, Veronia Tapia, Mia Vonderheide, Jadyn Young. Coaches: Paul Judd and Clay VanderWarf.



GOLF

Sienna Berg, Leah Bosscher, Camden Cardinal, Lilah Cone, Hannah Flickinger, Hope Gale, Isabel German, Mia Kinney, Avery Krieger, Leah Krieger, Sophie Liley, Grace Lyonnais, Ivy Marsh, Ava McCormick, Ellery Ostrander, Andrea Plantz, Kaila Richards, Daphne Rogers, Gabrielle Sluss, Mayson Swift, Elyse Veldman, Paige Wilcox, Brooklyn Wobma, Olivia Zahm



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2023 LHS FALL SPORTS TEAMS

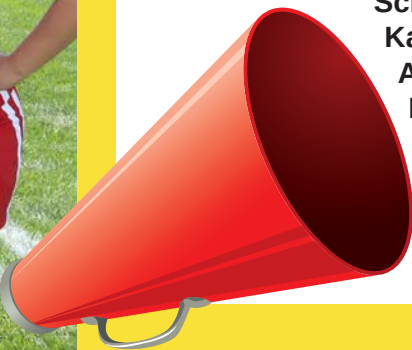


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VARSITY TENNIS

Jackson Abbott, Noah Cobb, Rowan Eldred, Riley Haynes, Noah LaMore, Nicholas Lothian, Micah McDonald, Alexander Repp, Gavin Stewart, Anderson Stoner, Elijah VanGronin, Wyatt Yantz.



VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Ruby German, Natalie Cornell, Annalise Clark, Jordyn McClymont, Braxcynn Baker, Haley Haywood, Amaya Jackson, Rylie Barriger, Alison Smith, Natalie VanLaan, Piper Risdon. Coach: Jordan Drake.



2023 LHS FALL SPORTS TEAMS

JV SOCCER



Sabin Ingram, Drew Gramza, Wesley Cooper, Maximus Wasilew, Franklin Kraft, Mason Rose, Levi VanLaan, Clayton Inman, Noah Brandt, Elliot Albert, Tanner Swayze, Evan McMinn, Morgan Diekevers, Ralan Gwisdalla, Bradley Farman, Jacob Ort, Seth Harvey, James Albert. Coach: Nick Struckmeyer, Assistant Coach: Sebastian Szymanski

JV CHEER



Lilly Albrecht, Madeline Bracey, Panita Chairattanamakorn, Alessandra Chappel, Hailey Craig, Maddyson DeWitt, Gianna Gates-Duprey, Taryn Genovich, Frances Hawley, Rowin Keely, Talia Lejeue, Irina Loskoutoff, Autumn Phillips, Ava Sanchez, Leni Siebert, Kayelynn Sisk, Layla Wilk



JV GOLF



Sienna Berg, Leah Bosscher, Camden Cardinel, Lilah Cone, Hope Gale, Isabel German, Sophie Liley, Grace Lyonnais, Ivy Marsh, Daphne Rogers, Mayson Swift, Paig Wilcox, Brookly Wobma, Olivia Zahm



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Go Team

Red Arrow

~ SOCCER

SPORTS

Soccer splits last week

By Justin Scott
Sports reporter

A quick start and an important second goal earned Lowell a win over Greenville last week. The Yellow Jackets were playing in their own end a good portion of the game as Lowell controlled play, but possession in soccer doesn't mean anything without the final product.

The Red Arrows, down two of their best goal scor-

ers, have had to adjust. Team leading goal scorer, Jackson Liley, had his season come to a close early this month to focus on his club team, while another key cog in the Red Arrow offense, Ben Homolka, has been dealing with a lower leg injury.

Plenty of pieces are in place to provide that scoring between the power from Bryce Thompson, midfield play of senior captain, Jack

Schaedig, and run from Owen Davis among other players. It was Thompson's power that gave Lowell the lead just seven minutes in as his free kick came in, was deflected, only to end up on the foot of Schaedig who tapped it into the net and gave Lowell a 1-0 lead.

Both teams ended the match with 10 players, Greenville's red card coming on a double yellow for interfering with a free kick



Jack Schaedig gets Lowell on the board.



The Colors presented during Lowell soccer's military and first responder tribute.

and Lowell's for dissent.

With six minutes to play, Lowell found the important second goal as Jace Dixon forced a Yellow Jacket turnover deep in their own end and came away with the ball, sending it to the bottom right corner and solidifying the win.

"This was a game our boys were not willing to lose. Our starting lineup was all seniors, giving them that chip on their shoulder from last year,"

Head Coach Elena Barriger said referring to Lowell's loss in conference play to Greenville last year.

The victory came on an important night for Lowell as they honored Military and First Responders. As fans entered, a fire truck was there along with a large banner thanking military members and first responders. Local first responder members and military, including a police canine, presented the colors before the game.

The Red Arrows face FHC and FHN respectively this week, the former during their Pink Arrow game on Thursday.



Two-team battle for conference crown taking shape

By Justin Scott
Sports reporter

Sports are games of inches, and no more so than golf. When the difference between a stroke can be, quite literally, a millimeter, one ball roll, a few blades of grass from the ball falling into the hole.

So when a golf team loses by one stroke, like the Red Arrow golf team did last week in the middle of a season-long battle for conference supremacy, it can be tough. Looking back and wondering how they could have improved? But that's what good teams do. Take a setback and turn it into a positive.

The good news for Lowell is that the Red Arrows placed second in the OK White jamboree at FHN. Scores were high at Egypt Valley's "Valley Course", across the board. For a high school track, Egypt Valley is extremely unforgiving. One

par-three goes over what is, quite literally, a valley, and at the bottom, is this thick and impossible-to-hit-out-of tall wheatgrass, and going in that can create a disaster.

Leah Krieger (43) and Elle Sluss (43) led the way for Lowell, followed by Hannah Flickinger (45) and Elyse Veldman (52). Byron Center maintained, what is a narrow lead on top of the conference standings, with a one-stroke victory. Both teams were well ahead of third place and home-course advantaged FHN. Sluss notched a birdie on the day.

Lowell took that energy from the one-stroke loss and turned it into gold (well gold in the form of a trophy), on Friday, as they won the Greenville Invitational. Lowell bested conference-foe FHN again, this time by nine strokes. Sluss, with an 84, led a balanced Lowell scoring effort followed by

Krieger (85), Veldman (87), and Flickinger (94). Krieger, Veldman, and Flickinger all carded birdies during the tournament.

The Red Arrows head home to Arrowhead this week for a dual-match with GR Christian and their conference jamboree.

2023
HOMECOMING
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Calling all Lowell clubs, organizations, community groups or school sports teams that would like to participate in the Homecoming Parade.
Friday, October 13 at 6 pm
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Email: nblough@lowellschools.com

RED ARROW FALL SPORTS SCHEDULES

VARSITY FOOTBALL

* Denotes a home game at Lowell Red Arrow Stadium
9/22 at 7 pm Greenville* Pink Arrow
9/29 at 7 pm at Byron Center

CROSS COUNTRY

* Denotes a home meet at Arrowhead Golf Course
9/23 time TBA Chargers Autumn Sunrise Invite
9/30 Allendale Falcon Invite

GIRLS GOLF

* Denotes a home game at Arrowhead Golf Course
9/25 at 3:30 pm OK White Jamboree at Quail Ridge

BOYS VARSITY SOCCER

* Denotes a game at LHS North Athletic Complex
9/26 at 6:45 pm GR Christian*
9/28 at 6:45 pm Newaygo* Senior Night

BOYS TENNIS

* Denotes a home game at LHS North Athletic Complex
9/25 at 4:15 pm at FHN
9/28 at 4:15 pm FHC*

GIRLS VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

* Denotes a home game at LHS
9/23 at 10 am Quad at Grand Haven
9/26 at 6 pm at Byron Center

Red Arrow

~ FOOTBALL

SPORTS

Lowell blanks Northview in road win

By Justin Scott
Sports reporter

Not many things went right for Northview on the field against the Red Arrows on Friday night in a 43-0 loss. Plenty went right off the field for the Wildcats though. It was youth football night, there was a packed home stadium cheering on an undefeated football team, oh and there was that famous Wildcat burger. Two burger patties, lettuce, thousand island dressing, stacked between two buns that earned a 10/10 in our book. Yeah it was good.

Lowell fans got the best of both worlds, enjoying a great road atmosphere and a near flawless performance by the Red Arrows as they beat the previously unbeaten Wildcats 43-0.

The Red Arrows struck first converting on a 3rd and 11 on a 33-yard pass to Xavier Young, which set up a TJ Hollern touchdown

run. The Lowell defense kept Northview’s offense from converting any similar big plays. An interception by Young put Lowell on the move again, this time with Jackson Reisbig going in for a touchdown. Casey Engle was among the Red Arrows to find the endzone in the first half, putting the score at 22-0 entering intermission.

Long runs were the name of the game for Lowell in the second half after a flawless first half. Up 22-0, Reisbig faked a hand-off and dashed to the right side for a 68-yard touchdown run. Brady Swift followed with a 57-yard touchdown run of his own, and at 36-0, backup QB, Logan Dawson, ran for a 74-yard score. Dawson is the JV team’s starting quarterback and is able to get in varsity snaps, as well under the MHSAA’s fifth quarter rule.

The Red Arrows have now won five straight

against the Wildcats, with their only loss since 1995 to Northview coming in 2018, and improved their record to 24-1 against Northview since 1995.

It was Lowell’s first shut-out win since 2019, a 40-0 win over Greenville. The Yellowjackets, Lowell’s next opponent for Pink Arrow on Friday night, enter Friday’s matchup 1-3 coming off a 42-0 loss against EGR.



#51 Alex Winter providing some crucial blocking on an extra point attempt.

Pink Arrow XVI this week

By Justin Scott
Sports reporter

The 16th edition of Pink Arrow Pride is happening this week, and organizers have been hard at work preparing. Now it’s time to get things underway.

Soccer - Thursday at 6:45 pm

The Red Arrows host conference foe FHC at the North Athletic Complex in their Pink Arrow game. The Thursday evening event is a departure from Friday afternoon games. Originally soccer would be played on Friday, coinciding with volleyball, making it difficult for spectators to follow each match. It also provided for logistical challenges playing both sports on the same field on the same day.

This gives volleyball and soccer their own center stage, and the opportunity for larger crowds for both teams.

Volleyball - Friday at 3:45 pm

Coach Drake and Lowell volleyball will be taking on Jenison in a scrimmage at the sport court in the end zone of the football field. The school cannot promote a volleyball scrimmage or report on scores due to MHSAA regulations. The end of the volleyball game will feed into the rest of the evening’s Pink Arrow activities at Bob Perry Field.

Football - 7:00 pm

Greenville comes to town, and the Yellow Jackets are used to the

environment having played in a Pink Arrow game before. Restaurant Row, the honoree ceremony, and the Survivor’s walk will highlight some of the other

activities happening on game day. A youth football game is also scheduled in between volleyball and community parade and honoree program.



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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent’s Estate

CASE NO. and JUDGE 23-213851-DE
Court address: 180 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, 616-632-5440

Estate of Verna Kathleen Magnuson, date of birth: 11-10-1925

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Verna Kathleen Magnuson, died 11-16-2018.

Creditors of the decedent

are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Mary VandeWater, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Ave NW, Grand Rapids and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

September 12, 2022

Jennifer Racine (P69709)
2905 Wilson Ave. SW
Suite 214C
Grandville, MI 49418
616-530-2332

Mary VandeWater
5459 Quest
Grandville, MI 49418
616-260-1648

LEGAL NOTICE

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The Settlor, Yvonne J. Dansby, born September 16, 1926, who lived at 3391 Prairie Street SW, Grandville, MI 49418, died May 22, 2023. There is no personal representative of the settlor’s estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Yvonne J. Dansby Trust Agreement dated July 1, 2010, will be forever banned unless presented to Leona Fox, Trustee, within 4 months

after the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Dated: September 12, 2023

Jennifer M. Racine, Atty. (P69709)
2905 Wilson Ave, SW, Suite 214C
Grandville, MI 49418
616-530-2332

Leona Fox, Trustee
2883 Vermont Ave. SW
Grandville, MI 49418
616-532-6396

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Red Arrow

~ TENNIS ~

SPORTS

Hastings and Lowell split matches

By Justin Scott
Sports reporter

Gavin Stewart led the way for the Red Arrow tennis team, with a comfortable 6-0, 6-0 win over Hastings last week, in non-conference action.

The Red Arrows won three matches in a battle



of undermanned squads. Noah LaMore, Lowell's #1 singles player, won 7-5, 6-1 in his match, while Lowell got a third win at #3 doubles, thanks to the team of Noah Cobb and Wyatt Yantz 6-1, 6-0.

Nick Lothian and Alexander Repp lost in what was the match of the day 6-7 (4), 7-5, 7-10.

It was an extremely busy week for LHS, who had three dual meets

and one tournament. In two conference matches, Lowell lost 8-0 to East Grand Rapids and 6-2 against Northview. LaMore bounced back from a first set loss to win his match against the Wildcats 2-1 (3-6, 7-5, 7-5). Stewart won 6-1, 6-1.

Lowell closed the week finishing fifth in a weekend tournament, besting Comstock Park and Ypsilanti.



Gavin Stewart returns a serve against Hastings.

Arrows race hard at Riverside

Submitted by Coach Paul Judd

The Lady Arrows lined up for the Ottawa Hills Invitational without two of the varsity runners, which made for tough challenge against a stacked field. The meet, which was won by perennial Division 1 powerhouse TC West,

was also a chance for many of Lowell's regional meet teams to see where they stacked up. The fast field gave the young Arrows a chance to go out and race against faster people which helped many to lower their personal best times. Of the thirteen girls

that lined up for Lowell, nine established new personal records on the fast Riverside course.

The varsity team was led by Audrey Latchaw as she finished 55th in 20:52 (PR), followed by Claire O'Boyle finishing in 68th in 21:15, Mia Vonderheide

finishing in 92nd in 22:01 (PR), Olivia Lothian finishing in 111th in 22:26 (PR), and Jadyn Young finishing in 145th in 24:00 (PR). Brooklyn Jackson and Anna Forney closed out the varsity finishing 147th and 158th respectively.

Tough competition for Lowell Harriers

Submitted by Clay VanderWarf

The Lowell boys cross country team took to a competitive field of teams to place 16th at the Ottawa Invitational, at Riverside Park, last Saturday. Forest Hills Central won the division with a convincing team score of 55 points, followed by Portage Central, 102 points and Kalamazoo Central, 115 points.

Cooper Byrne was the first Arrow in, at 30th place, breaking his previous PR with a new one of 16.52. Marshall Huhn, 67th, also broke his PR with a time of 17.41, while competing with just one shoe. Mason Saylor followed with a 86th place, good for 17.54. Drew Swayze and Cody Bromley wrapped-up the Arrows score with times of 18.26, 115th and 18.32, 120th. Wyatt Remar and Colin Stawasz closed-out the varsity lineup, neck and neck, with 137th and 138th places with the same time of 19.05



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CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Look Memorial Fund Board in now accepting grant applications for 2023. Applications are available at Lowell City Hall or on the website at www.lowellmi.gov.

Grant applications should be submitted to Susan Ullery, City Clerk, 301 East Street, Lowell, MI 49331. The deadline for submitting 2023 applications is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 30, 2023.

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David Steffen, Chris Howarth and Logen Steffen.



Above: Bea and Dave Maddix.

Below: Magic Bus.



Pastor Teall



Eli Zehr and The Mosses.



Samantha Richardson



Photo courtesy of Bruce Doll

Fallasburg Arts Festival, continued



All photos courtesy of Bruce Doll

