



Sunday, Nov. 5



page 6

Lowell native's connection to Ted Bundy



page 3

Lowell Area Schools Sports



pages 10 & 11

\$1.00



Artists Market vendors offer unique gifts

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

The Lowell Arts gallery will change into a unique gift shop, starting on Nov. 9 through Dec. 23, with an artists' reception on Nov. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. The market, formerly known as "Sleigh Bells and Holly", has a long history starting in the old building on Hudson Street. The name was updated in 2017, at the new location of the gallery, on Main Street.

"We have everything covered," said Lowell Arts Director, Janet Teunis. "We have one-of-a-kind items available for sale at a range of price points. The annual market is a great place for people to purchase handmade items during the gift-giving season."

Truly, the market features everything from pottery, paintings, photography, books, CDs,



Artists are the soul of the gallery.

Artist Market,
continued page 2

Local trailhead upgraded with bike repair station

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

The Foreman Street trailhead of the Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Rail-Trail is newly adorned with fallen leaves of yellow, orange, and red, and a paved rest stop, with benches, maps, and a trash can, now features a Fixit

bike-repair station, thanks to the efforts of the Rotary Club of Lowell.

Jeff Wilterink is a bicycle enthusiast, and he sits on the Rotary Club's service committee. "My wife and I did a lot of biking throughout the state

of Michigan," Wilterink said, "and over the years, we started seeing these bike pump stations popping up around a number of cities."

In particular, Wilterink was inspired by well-placed bike repair stations in Ludington and nearby Saranac. During a brainstorming session, Wilterink brought up the idea for a bike-repair station in Lowell, and the group was supportive. It would join the massive Creekside Kingdom renovation on Rotary's slate of active projects.

Originally, Wilterink had hoped to target one of the trails managed by Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA), a network that connects the Wittenbach-Wege Agriscience Center to the North with Lowell High School, Cooper Woodland Preserve, and other trails to the South. In particular, Wilterink thought the Grand River Riverfront Park



The new Fixit bike-repair station at the Foreman Street trailhead of the Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Rail-Trail.

Repair station,
continued page 2

LHS fall play "Trap" set for this weekend

By Aliina Forester
LHS contributing writer

Lowell High School is presenting a psychological thriller play this year named *Trap*. This play is outside-the-box for the theatre department because it is so different from any plays they have done in the past. This play is in a documentary-style, so it's interview after interview of various people trying to figure out "who did it". It really grabs the attention of the audience and surprises them.

Playscripts gave the summary as, "An incomprehensible event: every person in the audience of a high school play falls unconscious—every person but one. Using interviews with witnesses, loved ones, first responders, and the investigators pursuing the case, a theatre ensemble brings the

story of the strange event to life, documentary-style. But as the strands weave together into an increasingly dangerous web, it becomes clear that this phenomenon might not be entirely in the past. Unnerving, exhilarating, and wildly inventive, you've never walked into anything quite like *Trap*."

Cast and crew are bigger than most plays that LHS has put on. There are 26 students on cast and 15 on crew. Crew jobs include sets, props, lighting, costumes, makeup, sound, and so much more. There are 46 roles for the cast so most people have more than one role; most shows don't have this many characters, which is just another thing that makes this production so special and different

Play, continued
page 2

Artists Market, continued

jewelry, textiles, glasswork, handbags, wood work, metalwork, ornaments, ceramics, wearable pieces such as mittens, wooden bowls, spoons and sculptures. There will be 50 plus vendors, including 10 new vendors.

Peak attendance is during Christmas through Lowell (CTL), this year

Artists are the soul of the gallery with their labor of love.

~Lowell Arts Director, Janet Teunis

the pottery is made on potter's wheels or hand-built and kiln-fired glazed. "We operate like a store," Teunis said. "We get a lot of foot traffic. It's not a high stress environment so it's a different holiday shopping experience." The artists from

West Michigan take turns running the show in the gallery. "It's nice to support the artists by purchasing their art," Teunis said. "The handmade quality makes a nice gift made by a local regional artist."

set for Nov. 17, 18 & 19. "Our venue in downtown is a must-see during CTL," Teunis said. "It's a laid-back experience. We're able to keep up with the flow of traffic. The shoppers make a point to come to Lowell." Teunis said she hopes

the artists will have great sales numbers. "Our number of artists has increased," she said. "I hope that people come out and support their work. It's more of a boutique atmosphere."

Artists Market is a great opportunity to check off people on your gift giving list. Approximately 50 people a day visit the market. Lowell Arts keeps a percentage of the sales for operational expenses. "It has become more of a fundraising event for us because we do more retail business," Teunis said. "But the main goal is to support the artists."

The artists' reception will offer a sneak preview of the art work, while the Flat River Gallery will also be open. The hours of the



market are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am-6pm & Sunday, 12-5pm

To apply for next year's Holiday Market, you can fill out an app by the August deadline; you must be an active member of Lowell Arts, for \$40 per individual. If artists living farther away and cannot work the gift shop, or for health reasons, Lowell Arts takes a higher percentage.

Lowell Arts is located at 223. W. Main Street.

Repair station, continued

could benefit from a bike-repair station on the far side of the bridge. However, Rotary ultimately chose the Foreman Street trailhead of the Fred Meijer Trail with the possibility of addressing another local site at some point in the future.

"If it wasn't for the support of the community," Wilterink said, "we'd never be able to complete any of these projects. The community is where we get our money for these sorts of projects." Including shipping and installation, the bill for the Fixit bike-repair station came to just over \$2000, and it was fully funded by the

community. Anyone who bought food from Lowell Rotary at the Fallasburg Fall Festival, or purchased a raffle ticket during one of the Sizzlin' Summer Concerts at the Lowell Riverwalk, contributed resources to make this project possible.

Wilterink was joined by Trail Manager, Ron Gunderson, for the installation of the repair station. Gunderson is responsible for trail maintenance for the entire Fred Meijer Trail, and that now includes maintenance for the new bike-repair station. "They do a nice job with that trail," Wilterink

said.

The most easily recognizable component of the Fixit bike-repair station is an air pump that bikers can use to fill a low or flat tire, but there are also a number of important tools that a savvy bicyclist can use to address upkeep and repair issues, including Philips and flathead screwdrivers, Allen wrenches and box wrenches of multiple sizes, a headset wrench, a pedal wrench, and two tire levers.

Though temperatures are expected to dip down below freezing in the upcoming weeks, with teasers here and there of snow accumulation, there is still plenty of time left to bike the Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Rail-Trail, especially for those whose bikes are equipped with fat tires for winter cycling. With the tools now available via the newly-installed Fixit bike-repair station, the snow and cold will be the only deterrent to a pleasant ride.

Play, continued

from Lowell's productions in the past.

The cast and crew have worked so hard to make this production be amazing. They have rehearsed for months, making this play unforgettable for their audience. I interviewed a couple of them, to let their voice be heard about this play, from a backstage perspective.

Sarah Harper, who is in the junior class playing Candelaria Ortiz said that the biggest challenge about this play is that, "There are several difficult aspects of this performance. This complex production includes multiple moments where placement and timing are key. Oftentimes, a few different things will take place simultaneously. The show definitely requires joint collaboration between cast and crew. We'd be lost without the crew."

The crew is just as important as the cast, in shows this complex; for everything to run smoothly the actors rely on their crewmates to help them

other and we just have a lot of fun."

Finally I interviewed the director, Amanita Fahrni, who really makes the show come to life. She said that



Conner Casarez plays Detective Heche in the Lowell Area Schools fall production of "Traps".

out so they can put on the best show possible for their audience.

Reiley Frueh is a freshman who is on crew, working as a following spot; Reiley's favorite part about the show is that, "I get to see the actors and actresses have fun, while I do too."

Faith Van Duinen, a senior, who plays Marion Jay, said that her favorite part of the show is that, "I love the community of people backstage. Everyone is very supportive of each

the biggest challenge about this play is that, "This is my first year directing fall play, so learning the process and meeting the deadlines has been a challenge."

All of the students and staff, who have been a part of this production, have worked so incredibly hard to make this the best play that they can put on. Come see *Trap* on November 3 and 4, at 7:00 pm, and November 5, at 2:00 pm, to see their hard work come to life on stage!



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Lowell native worked with Ted Bundy at Crisis Center

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

Author Ann Rule’s relevance to *Lowell Ledger* audiences stems from the fact that she was born in 1931 in Lowell, Michigan. Then Ann Stackhouse - she married into the Rule family - she was the daughter of Sophie (Hansen) and Chester Stackhouse. Those with a deep knowledge of college sports may recognize Chester Stackhouse’s name - after playing football, basketball, and track at Central Michigan University in the late ‘20s, he became the assistant track coach for University of Michigan from 1935-1941. Her father’s coaching career would take the family from Michigan to California, Oregon, and Pennsylvania, before Rule eventually ended up in Washington state. Ann Rule’s life in Lowell was brief, enough years to count on one hand.

Rule’s relevance to the rest of the nation, and to history, for that matter, started when she met serial killer, Ted Bundy, while working at a suicide crisis hotline in Seattle, in 1971. At that time, Bundy had not begun his campaign of terror against intelligent young women with long, brown hair, nor would anyone have expected him to be anything but a shining star in an otherwise dark sky. His killing spree is believed to have begun in 1974, a statistic that is undermined by a casual remark Bundy later made about murdering hundreds of women that the police did not even know of. Washington police attempted to tie him to missing persons and murder cases as early as the 1960s, before Bundy had even moved to the state.

After Rule concluded her career as a police officer for the Seattle Police

Department, she began writing for *True Detective* magazine, publishing true crime narratives under the pen name, “Andy Stack.” It was because of her writing credentials that Rule was assigned to write about a series of murders, spanning across Washington, Utah, and Florida. It was perhaps the greatest coincidence in the history of the world, as Rule would later learn that the murders were committed by, none other, than her good friend, Ted. In her book titled, *The Stranger Beside Me*, Rule details the strange ways in which her fate was intertwined with Bundy’s. The two had lived in many of the same states, only at different times. For example, while Ann Arbor had been Rule’s home when she started primary school in the ‘30s, the college town was a layover for Ted Bundy in the ‘70s, between his escape from prison in Colorado Springs and his arrival in Florida, where he would ultimately be apprehended by the law, but not until after he murdered at least three women in the state.

Though Bundy, a master manipulator, had wrapped many women around his finger, from longtime girlfriend Elizabeth Kloepfer, who Rule refers to by the pseudonym, Meg Anders, to the myriad Ted-fans, who insisted on both his innocence and their love for him up until the very end, Rule writes that her relationship with Bundy was unique, and she may have known more about him than anyone alive. It is difficult to gauge the veracity of this claim. Most of Bundy’s followers fit the same description as his victims, young and brilliant, and while Rule was certainly brilliant, the divorcée and mother of four counted

herself a few too many years the other side of young to be Ted’s type. Despite this, her correspondence with Ted, the person, began shortly after he met Kloepfer and lasted almost to the very end, when Bundy was electrocuted in 1989. Reading the letters they exchanged, it is clear that she was a friend first, a parental figure second, and an equal throughout. It was not until Rule published *The Stranger Beside Me*, in 1980, that the relationship between Rule and Bundy soured. Bundy had just married Carole Ann Boone in the very courtroom where one of his murder trials had been held, and he was clearly disappointed that Rule had finally admitted his guilt. In one of his last letters to Rule, Bundy asked her to deliver a cut of her book’s earnings to his wife. It is possible, of course, that the unparalleled closeness Rule boasted of was merely a means of selling stories, which she relied on to support her family, once she could no longer expect child support from her former husband.

The Stranger Beside Me is far from the end-all, be-all of Ted Bundy literature. It currently sits at No. 15 on Amazon’s list of Ted Bundy merchandise, with survivor Kathy Kleiner Rubin’s firsthand account *A Light in the Dark*, the *Ted Bundy: Falling for a Killer* miniseries on Prime Video, and a dramatization, starring Chad Michael Murray, rounding-out the top three. However, Rule was able to gain deeper access into police files on murders, both because she was once a police officer herself, and moreover, because her writing showed a great deal of care and sympathy for murder victims and their families, something that one

may not expect from books like *The Big Book of Serial Killers* and *The Ultimate Serial Killer Trivia Book*, which both outrank Rule’s book on Amazon. She describes Bundy’s victims in loving, if a bit outdated, terms, and she avoids some of the more gruesome details in favor of standard police jargon.

Ted Bundy is known for many things; for his groupies, his multiple successful escape attempts, his chameleonic appearance, and for his desire to represent himself in court, but Rule’s book provides, perhaps, the most even-keeled accounts of the effect Bundy had on people around him. Kloepfer’s account is filled with remorse, guilt, and responsibility for the murders that happened, often right under her nose. The fact that Rubin could have easily been one of his murder victims, colors her opinion of Bundy pretty heavily, as well. By contrast, Rule was a no-nonsense cop from a long line of cops, her grandfather and uncle both serving as sheriffs in Michigan. She may have found Bundy attractive, but she never seriously considered him as a partner, nor Bundy her. Though she may have seen some similarity between Bundy and the illustrations of “Ted”, spread throughout the papers in the Pacific Northwest, she suspended judgment until

the conclusion of the first Florida trial, in 1979.

Rule outlasted Bundy by 26 years. She passed away on July 26, 2015, as a result of congestive heart failure. Following the publication of *The Stranger Beside Me*, she published over 30 true crime books, and she was commonly

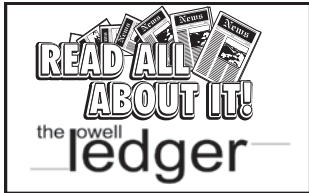
light on an atypical criminal profile, a mass killer with no history of torturing animals, no criminal record prior to his first killing, and problems socializing with other people. As the title of Rule’s book suggests, a serial killer does not have to be a blood-slaked monster in a clown costume; it could



Author, Ann Rule, met serial killer, Ted Bundy, while working at a suicide crisis hotline in Seattle in 1971. In her book titled *The Stranger Beside Me*, Rule details the strange ways in which her fate was intertwined with Bundy’s.

invited to lecture on what she learned about serial murder from the Bundy case. Her family are no longer Michiganders, but they were never Michiganders for long-her parents’ generation stemmed from Ohio, and her children were natives of Washington. Rule is responsible for shedding

just as easily be that former coworker, who you thought you knew inside and out, but who was harboring a terrible secret all along.



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Hickman's G.O.D.S. is a wonderful Whovian Surprise

Once Upon a Time at the End of the World #10 (Boom! Studios, 10/25/23) delivers a heartbreaking conclusion to the series' second arc. Batman/Superman: World's Finest #20 (DC Comics, 10/18/23) reunites writer Mark Waid with the Kingdom Come alternate reality he created nearly 30 years ago. Matthew Rosenberg reviews the secret behind the two Jokers in The Joker: The Man Who Stopped Laughing #11 (DC Comics, 10/4/23). Local Man returns after a four month hiatus with issue #6 (Image Comics, 10/18/23), just as Rainbow Rowell and Andrés Genolet return with more Jen Walters stories in Sensational She-Hulk #1

(Marvel Comics, 10/18/23). Here are the top three comics published in October!

G.O.D.S. #1 (Marvel Comics, 10/4/23)

Like any great, all-encompassing, high-continuity opus—the ABC series LOST is a perfect example—fatigue sets in after a couple of years, and new folks just starting to get into the series can feel... well... lost. Coming on the heels of Jonathan Hickman's Krakoa era of X-Men, and advertised in the fateful X-Men: Hellfire Gala 2023 no less, many people committed to reading Hickman's new G.O.D.S. series out of

habit, but few expected to actually like it. It would be yet another long-winded, diagram-laden monstrosity of variable genius, and more than anything, it would be a labor to read.

But then it wasn't.

On Wednesday, October 4, 2023, there was a communal lightening of hearts as comic fans across the world had their first chance to read Hickman's G.O.D.S. #1 and generally, found it fun, breezy, and incredibly charming. What was originally a begrudging read became the highlight of the month, and this result was close to unanimous. It was unheard of, yes, but the framework for this moment had been visible for some time. Many readers compared the characters in G.O.D.S., and the feeling they had while reading it, to Doctor Who, and that should come as no surprise. In the fall of 2022, Marvel's parent company Disney brokered a deal with BBC to distribute future Doctor Who content, globally the same day it airs on BBC in Great Britain. G.O.D.S. is not Doctor Who, but it is

Whovian in spirit, and it is certainly worth a read.

Transformers #1 (Image Comics, 10/4/23)

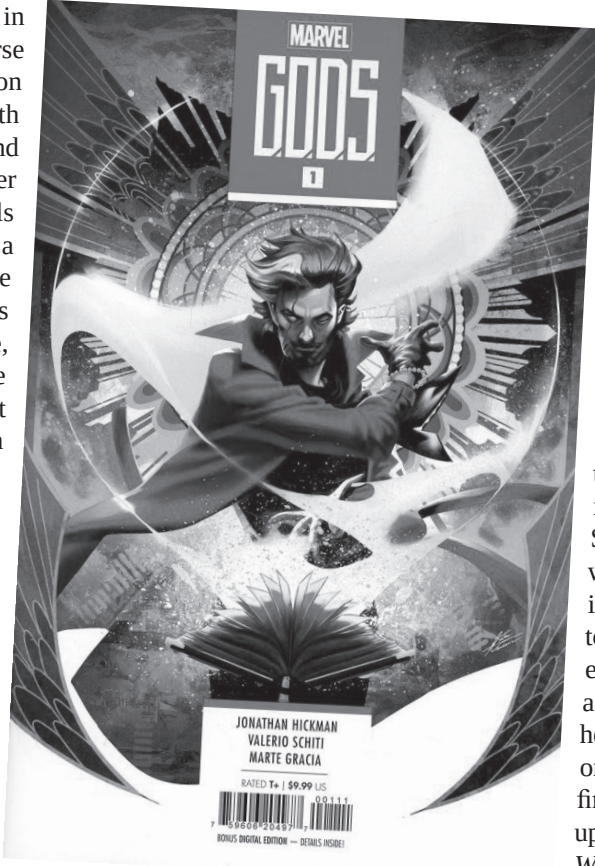
Transformers is a crossroads. For some, the Transformers property on its own is reason enough to pick up this title. For fans of Murder Falcon, Wonder Woman: Dead Earth, Beta Ray Bill: Argent Star, or Do A Powerbomb, the fact that writer/illustrator Daniel Warren Johnson is attached to the project makes it a must read. For still others, the fact that this title's existence in the Energon Universe means that Johnson is a collaborator with Walking Dead and Invincible writer Robert Kirkman seals the deal. There was a lot of hype behind the new Image Comics Transformers title, and it would have been the biggest news of the month if G.O.D.S. #1, published on the same day, had not come out of nowhere and stolen the spotlight.

One of the reasons Transformers is fantastic is because Johnson does not use his illustration credentials as a crutch; he works hard to tell heartfelt, character-driven stories, and the sequential art is the medium through which he accomplishes that task. Taking a step back from the alternately triumphant and heartbreaking experience of reading Transformers #1, a second read reveals the high level of craft at work in this title. Following a first page, which shows a number of disconnected images and hints at personal tragedy, protagonist Spike meets his father drunk in a VFW bar, and in one page, Johnson establishes the death of Spike's brother Jimmy, the resultant despondency of his father, and Spike's desire to follow along in his brother's footsteps using looks, insinuations, and terse dialogue. Later, countless

years of Transformers history and politics unravel during a brief alien battle with loads of casualties.

Transformers, like Kirkman's Void Rivals title before it and likely the entire Energon line, is focused on the reality of war in a science fiction setting, and this is thrilling. Come for Transformers, Daniel Warren Johnson, or Kirkman-adjacency, but stay for intense themes and high quality stories.

Wonder Woman #2 (DC Comics,



inspection of Diana, Steve, and Sargent Steel's motives and explores the way current events have made their destinies inextricable.

King, like many before him, has taken elements of the X-Men's "protecting a world that hates and fears them" thesis statement and used it to rehabilitate a title. It worked wonders for the Avengers when Mark Millar did it during Civil War, and one could argue that it was an equally powerful force for DC's teen superheroes in the Young Justice animated series. In universe, it is unclear why King would apply this same treatment to Wonder Woman, which was not exactly a failing title to begin with. This inconsistency forces one to wonder if perhaps Sargent Steel's war on women is a reference to something else, something a bit closer to home. Only one way to find out—pick up Tom King's Wonder Woman.

10/25/23)

Tom King's Wonder Woman has been a one-two punch. The first issue outlined the beginnings of a domestic war between the United States government and any Amazon woman on American soil, following a pool-hall massacre at the hands of an Amazon named Emelie. The second issue examines the emotional stakes for Wonder Woman, who finds herself at war, against not only the entirety of U.S. armed forces, but also against her paramour Steve Trevor. Where the first issue goes big, tackling the implications of the Amazon diaspora in the US, the second issue, audacious as it may seem, goes small—the aircraft, tanks, and soldiers serve as a backdrop for in

Other

Noteworthy October 2023 Comics –

Boom! Studios: Mighty Morphin Power Rangers #113 (10/25/23); DC Comics: Action Comics #1058 (10/25/23), Batman #138 (10/4/23), Danger Street #10 (10/11/23), Green Lantern #4 (10/11/23), Nightwing #107 (10/18/23), Penguin #3 (10/25/23), Shazam! #4 (10/4/23), Titans #4 (10/18/23), World's Finest: Teen Titans #4 (10/11/23); Image Comics: Radiant Black #26 (10/25/23), Rogue Sun #16 (10/18/23), Void Rivals #5 (10/25/23), What's The Furthest Place From Here #15 (10/25/23); Marvel Comics: Daredevil #2 (10/18/23), Fantastic Four #12 (10/4/23), Immortal Thor #3 (10/25/23), Immortal X-Men #16 (10/4/23), Incredible Hulk #5 (10/18/23), Invincible Iron Man #11 (10/18/23), Jean Grey #3 (10/25/23), Ms. Marvel: The New Mutant #3 (10/25/23), Scarlet Witch #9 (10/18/23), Uncanny Avengers #3 (10/25/23), Wolverine #38 (10/11/23), X-Men: Red #16 (10/11/23), X-Men #27 (10/4/23), X-Men Unlimited Infinity Comic #109 (10/16/23)

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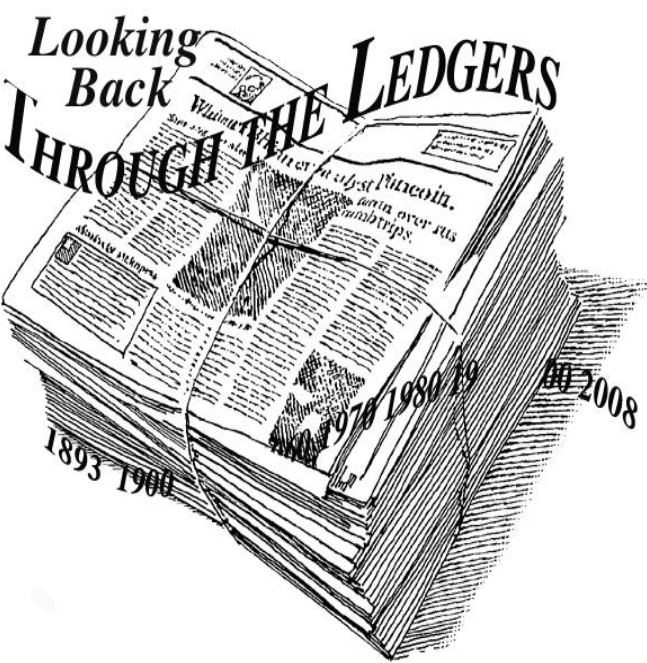
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viewpoint



150 years ago
The Lowell Journal
October 29, 1873

Mr. H.H. Jencks was taken from Lowell to Detroit in a special car, last Saturday. His spine and side still trouble him greatly, and his prospects for speedy recovery is not at all encouraging.

We want every man’s account on our books settled before the first day of December, 1873. Bear this in mind.
- Editor

A saloon keeper in this village offers to bet five dollars that he can surround fifty glasses of lager beer in ten hours, and his nearest neighbor offers to bet twice that amount that the man who takes that bet gets euchred out of five dollars.

125 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
November 3, 1898

England forms a General Power Distribution Company, which plans to convert coal energy to electricity at the mine and send it to a dense manufacturing district, saving coal shipment costs and smoke nuisance.

Seal hunting in northern waters is way down, due to overhunting.

The Grand Rapids Carnival this year was full of riot, vulgarity and nastiness.

The last log house on the East Paris-Cascade area is torn down to make way for a frame house.

100 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
November 1, 1923

Heavy fines can be imposed on persons who break the quarantine laws. A near-epidemic of scarlet fever in the school district is blamed on persons who violated quarantine.

Pres. College faces the difficult task of appointing a new ambassador to Great Britain, who must be “rich and brainy.”

Recent extensive forest fires in the Ontonagon area, caused by carelessness, have burned over most of the county, and incidentally, revealed many illegal stills.

75 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
November 4, 1948

Harry S. Truman wins over Tom Dewey and Earl Warren, G. Mennen Willias over Sig Sigler, Gerald R. Ford for congress and Roger O. McMahon of Lowell for prosecuting attorney.

Common Council tables rural residents’ request to change the name of Vergennes Road (which changes its name to Lincoln Lake when it gets to the city limits). Frank McMahon says it used to be called Washington Avenue.

The new “Christmas Tree Act” requires a bill of sale, or written permission from the owner of land, where Christmas trees are cut, to curb increasing thefts.

Harvey Callier sells the Stand Theatre to the Earl Evans family of Muskegon.

50 years ago
Lowell Ledger Suburban Life
November 1, 1973

The Outdoor Education Committee of the Middle School asks for volunteers to help build a corduroy road through Waldon Pond’s marsh.

A Kent County tracking dog seraches out a stolen truck, even on a 17-hour-old scent.

Lowell Light and Power, also faced with the world fuel oil shortage, asks customers to conserve electricity, including all outside Christmas lighting this year.

Dode Dey and Shirley Smith open “That Special Place” apparel shop on West Main Street.

Studded snow tires will still be legal this winter.

25 years ago
The Lowell Ledger
October 28, 1998

Lowell’s MEAP scores continue to indicate progress. However, the 13 percent of Kent Intermediate School District juniors who chose not to take the test, indicate that there is a fallout on the test’s importance and purpose, among a pocket of students, county and statewide.

The Lowell Boy Scout Troop 102 honors The Lowell Ledger and Gary’s Meat Market for helping to make the troop’s chicken barbecue a success over the years.

Many volunteers helped with Flat River Outreach Ministries Thrift Shop renovation work. The Thrift Shop will be located at the old Bodyworks Gym on E. Main Street.

Brother and sister, Frank (senior) and Molly (freshman)

Kirsch, will compete in the Class A cross country meet at the Michigan Speedway in Brooklyn. Senior Dan Rottier will join the sibling at the state meet, as well.



At home or on the go: Social Security is online

By Hillary Hatch,
Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

When you retire, if you become disabled, or if someone you depend on dies— we are there when you need us. With your personal and secure my Social Security account, you can access your information, benefits, and important services from just about anywhere. Having a personal my Social Security account allows you to:

- Compare future benefit estimates for different dates or ages when you may want to begin receiving benefits.
 - Check the status of your benefits application or appeal.
 - Review your earnings history.
 - Request a replacement Social Security card (in most states).
- If you already receive benefits, you can also:
- Get a benefit verification or proof of income letter.
 - Set up or change your direct deposit.

- Change your address.
- Get a Social Security 1099 form (SSA-1099).

You can even use your personal my Social Security account to opt out of receiving certain notices by mail, including the annual cost-of-living adjustments notice and the income-related monthly adjustment amount notice. These notices are available in your Message Center when you sign into your account. We will email you when you have a new message, so you never miss an important update.

It’s easy to sign up for a my Social Security account. Please let your friends and family know that they can create their own my Social Security account today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.



We love to hear from you!



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

The requirements are:

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

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



At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at 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.

Teen Advisory Board

Thursday, Nov. 1, 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.

Night Owls Book Club

Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Join a fun, informal discussion of great books. This month, we’ll discuss *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. For ages 18+

Storytime

Friday, Nov. 3, 10 - 11 am. Nurture your child’s love of books and build early literacy skills through stories, rhymes, music and movement. For ages 0-5.

KDL Lab Experience: Architecture Adventure

Saturday, Nov. 11, 10 - 11 am. Don’t miss your chance to have your own architecture adventure and build the tallest tower or coolest castle with all sorts of different materials. The only limit at this program is your imagination — and the amount of supplies available. For ages 5-10.

Chess Anyone?

Saturday, Nov. 11, 3-4 pm. Drop-in and play chess at the library! All skill levels welcome. An adult is usually on hand to help with your game or match you with a worthy opponent. For all ages.

ABCs of Lowell history

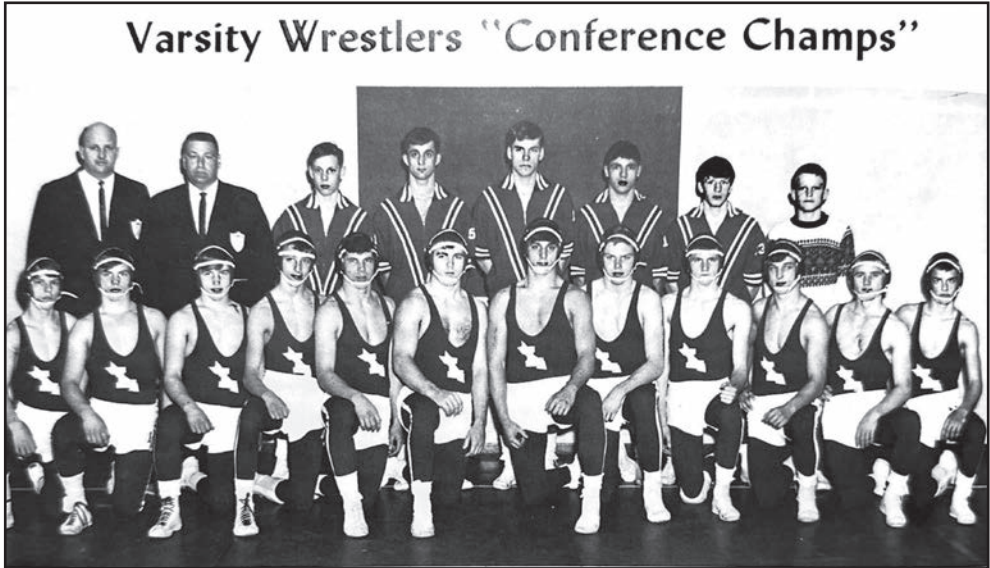
The ABCs of Lowell History is back for another round. This popular series explores a wide variety of topics in Lowell area history, in weekly online articles. Information provided by the Lowell Area Historical Museum

W is for Wrestling

Lowell is known for its victorious wrestling program. Lowell wrestling has numerous Conference



A yearbook photo showing the first team 1958-1959. They are back row, left to right: Mr. Kelly, Bill Smith, Evertt Onan, John Videan, Lewis Marvin, Noel Smith, Jack Houlihan, John Wakefield, and Tom Evans. First row: Ken Spooner, Roger Depew, Jim Green, Roger Kropf, Dean Collins, Charles Kyser, Larry Wingeier, Egbert Boes, Ron Potter, and Gordon Kerr.



Conference Champions 1966

Championship titles, and they also boast of thirteen State Championships. Streaks worth mentioning are: State Championships 10 straight, 15 Academic All-State Teams, 16 straight years with an individual state champion. Statistics show that three Lowell wrestlers have won more than 200 matches. These are Brandon Kinney with 217 wins, Joe Mendez with 211 wins, and Bill Stouffer with 207 wins.

Wrestling became a high school sport during

the 1958-1959 winter season. The first match was played on January 7, 1959. The number of young men increased during the season, from nine at the start of the season, to 26 by the end.

The program prides itself on the four core values listed below and has a mission statement to create an environment that cultivates opportunities for young student-athletes to learn how to be well-adjusted adults through the trials of hard work, competition, volunteering

and service, and being a good teammate.

It only took four years for the young Lowell team to take home the conference title, followed by the Conference Championship in the 1961-62 season. Lowell wrestled in the newly formed Tri-River League. The 1962-63 season brought the conference title again, and Lowell won the regional tournament. In the 1963-64 season, the Lowell wrestlers took the conference title again.

The museum’s artifact collection includes the varsity sweater that once belonged to John Dawson, who was the captain of the wrestling team from 1965-1967. The ‘L’ on the front of the sweater reads “Champs” The 1965-1966 season was the fourth time Lowell won the Conference Championship. The team proudly proclaimed, “We can take on ANYBODY using only four fingers!!”

These early championships led to the first state championship in 2002. The wrestlers repeated the win in 2004, 2009, 2014, and every year since, including the present, 2023!

Coaching always defines a team, and the Lowell wrestling program has only had five coaches since 1958. Don Kelly (1958-1960), Gary Rivers (1960-1998), Dave Strejc (1998 – 2007), Dave Dean (2007-2014) and RJ Boudro (2014-Present).

Lowell has a wrestling

ABCs, continued
page 12

area churches

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
897-7060
Pastor Ryan Landt
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Website: calvarylowell.org
Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays 7 PM
Barrier-Free

happy birthday

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
Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am
Confession: Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm
Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 9 am to 4:45 pm
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Pastor Shannon Jammal-Hollemans
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Open Table (No-cost meal)
Thursdays 5:00 - 6:30 PM
Open & Affirming • LGBTQ+ Inclusive
616-897-5906

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Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor
Pastor Andrew Bolcom • Pastor of Discipleship

SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM (Nursery provided)
LIFE GROUPS 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) **Wednesday, 6:15 PM**

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897-5938
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

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

NOVEMBER 1
Walt Batt, Abbot
Kastanek, Brenda Lea
Owen, Suzanne Olin,
Anthony Kiedis, John Luc
Richmond.

NOVEMBER 2
Barb DeLoof, John
Mogor.

NOVEMBER 3
Connie Stencel,
Jennifer Zoodsma, Denise
Davidson, Christina Dixon,
Becky Myers, Ken Kline.

NOVEMBER 4
Ken VanDerWarf, Carol
Hunt, Meghan Plutschouw,
Laura Gildner, Joanna Barr.

NOVEMBER 5
Holly Stouffer, Mart
DeYoung.

NOVEMBER 6
Cathy Kehoe, Becky
Chamberlain, Kimberly
Doyle, Matthew Yeiter.

NOVEMBER 7
Keegan Geldersma,
Charlene Butler, Kelsey
Ligman, Carl Blough,
Rachel Plotner.

Community mourns young child killed in fire

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

Late night, as Wednesday, October 25 became Thursday, October 26, a fire broke out in the 700 block of Flat River Drive, resulting in three residents hospitalized for smoke inhalation, one critically injured, and a four-year-old boy dead. As of the following day, Fire Chief, Shannon Witherell, had not received any update from Michigan State Police fire investigators as to the cause of the fire, nor had he received word from the sheriff's office regarding the condition of the critically injured 27-year-old.

On the night of the fire, Chief Witherell and Battalion Chief, Sean Donahue, were the first firefighters on the scene. The family members who had gathered in the yard,

expressed that they believed the four-year-old was in the kitchen area. Though the fire engine had not yet arrived, Chief Witherell and BC Donahue entered through the back of the house, did a quick 360-degree search and found an entryway to the kitchen. Following the one in, one out safety standard, BC Donahue entered the kitchen area to attempt rescue.

"There was going to be a few minutes before the full crew arrived," Chief Witherell said, "but, as we say, 'Those are not our minutes to waste.'"

Conditions changed quickly in the erupting fire, and BC Donahue notified Chief Witherell, as a precautionary effort, that he was having a problem getting out. Shortly thereafter, the hose team

arrived to put water on the fire and a search team was deployed, meeting up with BC Donahue and continuing his search. The team located the child and brought him out to the EMS team on the premises, but he was declared dead five minutes later.

The Lowell Area Fire Department was assisted throughout the night by Ada, Cascade, Alto, Grattan, and Saranac Fire Departments. Chief Witherell noted that these crews train multiple times per year for situations like this, and the firefighters did exactly as they are supposed to, according to their training. When news of the tragedy first broke, Lowell area social media pages erupted with support for the recovering family, as they grieve this terrible loss of life.



The fire that claimed one life and left another critically injured, took place at this house on Flat River Drive, a large, old, balloon-frame farmhouse, built before it became a standard practice to install flame-retardant material, or fire breaks, into the walls to help contain a fire.

GM's deal with UAW ends 46-day auto strike

Union Auto Workers members are soon headed back to work after the likely conclusion of a nearly seven-week walkout against the three domestic automakers, all with headquarters in southeast Michigan.

The union reached a tentative agreement with General Motors Corp. on Monday morning, two sources with knowledge of the deal told Bridge Michigan.

The deal adds to accords reached in recent days with Ford Motor Co. and Stellantis, the maker of Jeep and Ram vehicles.

The UAW launched its historic "stand-up strike" against targeted plants on Sept. 15, costing the U.S. economy an estimated \$9.3 billion in the first five weeks of walkouts.

The latest tentative agreement means that about 145,000 UAW members at the Detroit-area automakers may soon be covered by a new and more lucrative 4.5-year contract.

Details were not immediately available on the deal with GM, which had offered 25 percent raises in recent days to match tentative contracts with Ford and Stellantis.

Those deals also included enhanced retirement benefits and a faster progression to the top pay rate of over \$40 per hour, or about \$83,000 per year. GM reportedly had been close to similar financial outcomes.

"The Stand Up Strike will go down in history as an inflection point for our union, and for our movement," according to a UAW statement on Monday that did not confirm the pending GM deal.

The tentative agreement with GM comes six days after UAW President, Shawn Fain, escalated the strike by calling a walkout at GM's Arlington, Texas, assembly plant, sending 5,000 workers to the picket line at the highly profitable factory that makes full-size SUVs.

More recently, 3,500 employees at GM's Spring Hill, Tennessee factory went on strike Saturday night, the same day Stellantis reached a deal with the union. The factory makes SUVs, including the Cadillac XT5 and ST6 and the all-electric Lyric. It's also the site of a new EV battery plant, where GM expects to launch Ultium platform battery production

early next year.

Progress toward a contract had been reported, notably after an hours-long meeting between Fain and GM CEO Mary Barra on Thursday. By Saturday evening, after reportedly negotiating nearly nonstop, both sides expressed frustration.

The recent walkouts at GM put about 18,000 of its hourly employees, across multiple states, on strike. Among them were several thousand in Michigan, with the most at the Lansing Delta Township Assembly and Flint Processing Center.

Aside from pay and benefits, the UAW had pushed for job security. The deal with Stellantis restores production at its Belvidere, Illinois, Jeep Cherokee factory, near Chicago, that it closed in February. Stellantis also reportedly agreed to keep the Trenton engine plant operating. All told, Fain said Saturday, the UAW agreement with Stellantis retains 5,000 jobs and will add that many to its U.S. manufacturing sites.

The Ford contract details released on Sunday calls for investments into new products at existing

facilities, along with what union leaders called a pathway for EV battery plants to unionize and

earnings last week, saying the strike had cost it \$800 million. The automaker was estimating ongoing costs of

called for pre-tax profits of \$12 billion to \$14 billion this year.

Ratification on all three



employ Ford workers under their contract.

The UAW had battled GM for the company to bring its EV battery workers under union contracts. Fain said midway through the strike that GM had made that commitment, but the automaker hadn't confirmed that.

As GM settles the strike, the automaker stands to avoid steeper losses from production halts. GM reported its third-quarter

\$200 million per week. The strike costs reported on Tuesday were enough for GM to give up on its earlier forecast that

tentative deals will follow over the next several weeks. — Paula Gardner

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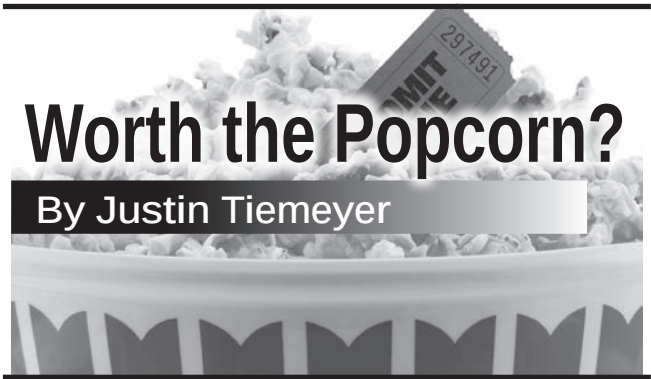
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Worth the Popcorn?

By Justin Tiemeyer

PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie

PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie is the sequel to the 2021 film PAW Patrol: The Movie, and a big screen supplement to the PAW Patrol media empire, which includes a decade worth of television programming, a number of video games, and more merchandise than you can fetch-a-stick at. The 93-minute Canadian animated film features an ensemble voice cast, including Taraji P. Henson, Kim Kardashian, Chris Rock, Lil Rel Howery, Serena Williams, James Marsden, and Kristin Bell. When villainous mastermind, Victoria Vance (Henson), snatches a magic meteor using an invention called the Meteor Magnet, PAW Patrol members, Chase, Skye, Marshall, Zuma, Rocky, and Liberty gain, and then subsequently lose, superhero powers. Long-time fans of the show may be excited to learn of the return of quintessential antagonist, Mayor Humdinger, from imprisonment due to various cat-and-dog-oriented capers and political overreach.

According to Rotten Tomatoes, PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie is certified fresh, with a 76 percent Tomatometer score and a 94 percent audience score. Even taking into account the fact that Rotten Tomatoes

typically over-rates animated children’s movies by at least 10 percent (and similarly under-rates horror films by the same margin), the Rotten Tomatoes score is so far off of the mark, it feels like it must be for a completely different movie. Perhaps Canadian and American audiences each viewed different films. One young girl at Ada Lowell 5 slept through nearly the entire movie, and she had the right of it. She was also young enough that her parents probably did not have to pay for her ticket, which also seems like a victory.

PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie offers little in the way of entertainment for adults—save for a bizarre bit of toilet humor that left a number of parents laughing uncomfortably—and that is fine. In decades past, perhaps too much effort has gone into making children’s films entertaining for adult chaperones. In fact, the recent success of the Australian animated series, Bluey, suggests that it is possible to do children’s content so well that it becomes appealing to adults. Children’s films should be dedicated to enriching the lives of children, and unfortunately, there was very little substance for even the primary audience of young viewers.

Perhaps the previous assessment needs further qualification. For children who are excited to engage with the world, learning new things about nature, human interaction, and personal development, any movie would be better than PAW

Patrol: The Mighty Movie. For children who are nothing more than mindless maws for the consumption of licensed paraphernalia, PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie is great.

at least one ringed planet in-between. Of course, one must suspend disbelief when enjoying fantasy fiction—this is, after all, a film about talking dogs with a defense-sized budget using state-of-

films were done by Mikros Animation in Montreal, Quebec, the same folks responsible for the visually stunning Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem earlier this year. However, this is where the comparison with Mutant Mayhem ends, because there is nothing challenging or exciting about PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie’s visual presentation. It looks just good enough to slide under the radar of critics, and it never gets in the way of the franchise’s merchandising traps.

For a certain portion of the population who already has the equivalent of a PAW Patrol wing of their house, this movie is a must, and it will play on-repeat on home entertainment systems over the next three years. For others, if there is an opportunity to avoid PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie,

or at least to avoid it until it is playing on a streaming platform that you have already paid for, please do so. Like a t-shirt whose image depicts a brand name, this film is nothing more than a purchase that will lead to other purchases. It is a walking dollar sign. The trouble with movies like this is the same as the trouble with tribbles in the 1967 Star Trek episode of the same name: if you keep feeding them, they will keep coming, and they will choke-out all other forms of expression.



Thank goodness Paramount Pictures brought this film to theaters far enough ahead of Black Friday for parents to add PAW Patrol vehicles, stuffies, playsets, sleepwear, and furniture to their children’s wish-lists.

While the film can be forgiven for not teaching science and literature, it is a bit more difficult to justify the bits that were actively ignorant of and antithetical to facts. For example, the solar system’s asteroid belt, which is one planet away from Earth, just past Mars, was falsely depicted as several planets away, with

the-art equipment to deal with problems that other, lower-paid municipal employees could just as easily handle—but it does not seem too much to ask for creators to depict a round planet, seven continents, and an orderly solar system, so long as it is not an integral part of the plot to present the opposite.

On the bright side, PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie, like PAW Patrol: The Movie before it, is given a significant upgrade in terms of animation quality and budget compared to the animated series. Both

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Lowell Area Schools | lowellschools.com

The typewriter is dead, long live the typewriter

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

On July 6, 1995, Marc Fisher, of the *Washington Post*, published a punny article titled, “The Typewriter Reaches the End of the Line,” in which he wrote, “Smith Corona Corp., one of the last U.S. companies to make typewriters, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection yesterday after a long illness. The company suffered from personal computers.” On April 26, 2011, nearly 16 years later, Rex Huppke, of the *Chicago Tribune*, disagreed with Fisher’s assessment in an article titled, “End of the Typewriter? Not Quite.” While the Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company in India had announced earlier in the month that it was selling off its final 500 typewriters, this merely signaled the end of the manual typewriter era, not the electric typewriter.

For Scott Dittenber and Fred Bivens, of West Michigan Avid TypeWriters, the death of the primary typewriter market, at the

so they put on their first typewriter demonstration, and it was such a big hit that they started to make a habit of it. “We did our first event because the two of us wanted to show off our typewriters,” Dittenber said. “We had no idea that they would be so dang popular.”

Bivens was the first mover, when it came to West Michigan Avid TypeWriters, making a point to collect \$5 typewriters at garage sales and tinker with them with hopes of getting them back to working order. Dittenber kept a lookout for cheap typewriters for his friend and colleague, up until 2018, at least, when he found a typewriter he did not want to part with.

“I fell in love with it,” Dittenber said. “I said, ‘Sorry, Fred. You can’t have this typewriter,’ and that was it for me. Fred never got another typewriter from me.”

In the five years since Dittenber started looking out for himself, he accumulated over 50 typewriters, but

and never stop. Dittenber recounted an occasion where one such woman seemed instantly enamored with writing on a typewriter, and he actually sent her home with a typewriter from his own collection.

Dittenber admits to no skill when it comes to poetry or storytelling, but he has been known to type correspondence letters out and mail them to friends and family members. “It’s a much better way to type than on a computer,” Dittenber said, “because you must think about everything you want to say so you can say it right the first time. There’s a backspace button, but no delete, so it forces you to be a better writer.”

In the nineteenth century, when authors like Charles Dickens and Fyodor Dostoyevsky composed letters, typically using quill and ink—this was before even typewriters were commonplace—writers were commonly criticized for writing letters for the sake of history and posterity,



Recently featured at Lowell’s Market on Main, Fallasburg Arts Festival, and Fallasburg Historical Society Village Celebration, West Michigan Avid TypeWriters is a group of six organizers and about 50 followers, who dust off their old typewriters for members of the public to play around on.



A table full of typewriters at Fallasburg Festival in September. Photo courtesy of West Michigan Avid Typewriters facebook page.

hands of the personal computer and later the smartphone, led to the birth of an exciting new hobby. Recently featured at Lowell’s Market on Main, Fallasburg Arts Festival, and Fallasburg Historical Society Village Celebration, West Michigan Avid TypeWriters is a group of six organizers, and about 50 followers, who dust off their old typewriters for members of the public to play around on.

Dittenber and Bivens met as organizers for Grand Rapids Festival of Arts, and the spark for West Michigan Avid TypeWriters began when there was a two-hour gap in the Festival schedule that needed to be filled. Dittenber and Bivens, by this time, were both typewriter collectors and aficionados,

that’s just the beginning. Bivens has well-over 150 typewriters, and he has shown no sign of stopping. While Dittenber has a degree in industrial maintenance technologies, he cannot do much more than minor repair on the typewriters he buys. Fred, in addition to being the more prolific collector, is also much handier with typewriter repairs.

Many of the people who participate in typewriter demonstrations, put on by West Michigan Avid TypeWriters, have never touched, seen, or even heard of a typewriter before. However, instead of shunning what they may deem antiquated technology, many of these people have fun messing around with a piece of history, and Dittenber has seen a number of people get hooked

shunning the emotional needs of those to whom they mailed the letters for the sake of self-aggrandizement. This is not the case with Dittenber, who does not believe anyone will read anything he writes, except for the person who receives his letter, and that person, only once.

There are a number of typewriters Dittenber prefers over others. Olympia typewriters, for example, are solid, well-built, and incredibly pragmatic. Oliver models, with their frightening, baroque bat wings, are shocking and wonderful in their presentation. Then there are Mercedes typewriters, which Dittenber describes as “absolutely stunning,” and Royal typewriters with curious glass sides. Some of these fragile, antique machines are more of a pipe

dream for Dittenber than anything; Bivens, on the other hand, has a number of the classic models.

Dittenber provided some advice for others interested in collecting typewriters. Before shopping, a collector should become familiar with the working of a typewriter. This may mean borrowing a friend’s typewriter for a few days or attending a typewriter demonstration. Once at the garage sale, Dittenber recommends asking the seller for a trial run on the device in question. From there, it’s just a matter of determining how much the typewriter is worth. Another thing to keep in mind, Dittenber notes, is that typewriters are heavy. It may be too big of a burden to walk, skate, or bike home with a typewriter in-tow, better to bring a car, if possible. Additionally, not

all tables are built to support the weight of a 40-45 pound typewriter, and collectors may find themselves in the market for a typewriter-specific table, as well.

As for West Michigan Avid TypeWriters, they are open to just about any kind of event—political events, proms, class reunions, weddings, anything where somebody wants a unique interaction experience. Dittenber and company create unique telegrams for each event, using monogrammed pieces of paper that attendees can type a letter on and send to someone special. Getting in touch is as easy as searching the West Michigan Avid Typewriters Facebook page or emailing the group at westmichiganavidtypewriters@gmail.com.

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-FOOTBALL

SPORTS

Football concludes season

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Facing the number one ranked team in their division in the first round of the playoffs for the third straight year, the Lowell football team easily could have felt frustrated in their 35-20 loss to the Rangers.

Mount Pleasant squeaked by a Northview team in the other matchup, a team Lowell beat 43-0. The winner of this region would have the potential to make a long playoff run, and if Lowell could knock off the No. 1-ranked Rangers, well,

they could've been playing well into November.

There were points in the night that Lowell could've gotten down on their luck. With seconds to go in the first half, after Lowell had pulled to within a score, the Rangers scored on a play action pass, arcing a ball over the Red Arrow defense, expecting a run at the goal line. When Lowell QB, Jackson Reisbig, came out of a pile with the ball, only to have the fumble recovery still awarded to FHC. When Lowell's biggest play of the night was called back

for holding, or when the Rangers scored two quick touchdowns to make it a 35-7 lead in the third quarter. Any one of those things could've knocked the wind out of Lowell's sails, but for every negative that night, Lowell fought back.

The sideline for LHS always seemed to have energy, a belief. The entire night though, even at points, victory seemed out of reach; they were kids having fun.

Lowell got the opening kickoff, but after a stalled drive, had to punt it back to FHC. It was a rematch of a game that happened just two weeks ago, a 37-12 win for FHC in the pouring rain. Just like that game, the Rangers marched methodically down the field to take a 7-0 lead.

The next Lowell possession, Lowell would lose the football on the first play, with QB, Reisbig coming out with the ball. After deliberation, officials believed there was a clear recovery for FHC before. A tough break for the Red Arrows, who were unable to stop FHC from inside the redzone and they made it a 14-0 game.

Lowell responded with methodical drive of their



Nico Binns and kicker, Todd Parcheta, after an extra point



Lowell walks off the field for the last time in 2023.

own, set up by a 26-yard run from Reisbig on third and five down to the nine-yard line, or so it seemed. That is, until a holding penalty negated the big play and now Lowell faced a third and fifteen. It was the type of penalty that ends drives. Lowell was able to show some of that grit, the word appearing on the back of their playoff shirts, and responded with a swing pass out to No. 40 out of the backfield, down the thirteen-

yard line and overcoming the penalty.

Reisbig snuck it in from two yards out to put Lowell on the board, down just 14-7 with four minutes to play in the first half. The Rangers would respond with that pop-up touchdown throw, with just seconds left in the first half, to push the lead to 21-7.

At halftime, a cold-front moved in and as the FHC marching band left the field, the rain started to come

in. A downpour hit in a late fall storm, but fortunately, it lacked any thunder and lightning, avoiding a delay. The rain lasted briefly, just extending into the third quarter before letting up.

Ben Gaskin provided a huge jolt of energy for the Red Arrows with a 46-yard diving touchdown catch on a play-action pass. Trailing 35-14, Lowell came down with a defensive stop, aided by a first down tackle for loss by Marshall VanWagner, and all of a sudden, there was plenty of optimism on the sidelines and in the stands too. Despite the downpour at halftime, and the deficit, there were few fans who left early.

On-offense Lowell, having to turn to the passing game more and more, had a new adversary, a whipping wind that had picked up since the halftime downpour. Both teams traded possessions before Tacho Gonzales cut the lead to 35-20. Only trailing two scores and with all three timeouts, there was still hope with six minutes to play.

FHC was able to cover the pop-up onside kick, and would be able to run out the clock, however. As the clock wound down, reality set in and seniors embraced, reflecting on an exciting Lowell football career from flag football through youth, middle school, and high school.

FHC advanced to head to Mt. Pleasant next week. The Red Arrows finished the season at 6-4, a sizeable senior class who had been in the playoffs every single year of high school, able to enjoy one last time on the gridiron with their classmates.

Four soccer players earn All-Conference honors

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

All-conference honors are a tough thing to come by, especially when your conference is loaded with perennial state championship contenders.

Four Red Arrows were recently honored by the OK White for their play this season. Todd Parcheta and Bryce Thompson earned honorable mention all-conference honors. Defender Jace Dixon

and goalkeeper Lincoln Homolka earned all-conference honors.

All four players were seniors this year for the Lowell Red Arrows soccer team.



Todd Parcheta was one of four Red Arrows to receive Conference Honors this season.

Boys cross country closes season at regional meet

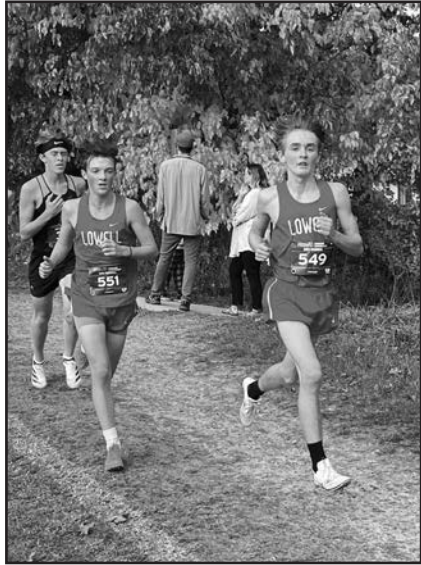
Submitted by Coach Clay VanderWarf

The Lowell boys cross country team concluded their season with a ninth-place finish in a competitive field, at Portage Central Regional Finals, last Friday. Kalamazoo Central claimed first place with 41

points, while Forest Hills Central and East Kentwood punched their tickets to team finals with second and third places.

Cooper Byrne ran to an impressive finish of 16.49, good for 25th place. Marshall Huhn and Drew

Swayze followed with times of 17.25 and 17.37, 41st and 48th. Mason Saylor was not far behind with a time of 17.42, 54th. Wyatt Remar was the fifth man in to cap the score in 73rd place, good for 18.35. Colin Stawasz and Paul Fowler concluded the varsity lineup with times of 18.41 and 18.54, 76th and 77th.



551: Drew Swayze and 549: Mason Saylor in competition at the Regional cross country meet last week.

Red Arrow

- NEW CONFERENCE

SPORTS

River Cities Alliance bypasses conference vote

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

During Tuesday’s OK Conference vote, 48 conference members cast their votes whether to allow the River Cities Seven; Lowell, Cedar Springs, Kenowa Hills, Sparta, Greenville, Coopersville, and Allendale, to leave the OK Conference. Voting yes were the Rivers Cities Seven, of course, along with six other schools. 35 opposed the measure, meaning the seven schools fell well-short of the 75 percent needed to formally leave early by conference bylaws. It didn’t matter. Lowell will be leaving the OK Conference.

The following statement was released by the River Cities Alliance: “It is with great excitement and purpose that the member school districts announce the creation of the River Cities Alliance. Beginning in the fall of 2024, the River Cities Alliance will become a school-based conference throughout West Michigan, collaborating in athletics, the arts, and academics.”

The inaugural members are Allendale Public Schools, Cedar Springs Public Schools, Coopersville Area Schools, Greenville Public Schools, Lowell Area Schools, Kenowa Hills Public Schools, and Sparta Area Schools.

The River Cities Alliance was formed to pursue a partnership between nearby school districts, of similar

size, to create localized competition and a more community-centric atmosphere for students to share their athletic, artistic, and academic skills. “As part of the River Cities Alliance, we are committed to ensuring the best interests of our students and their families always come first,” said Kenowa Hills Public Schools Superintendent, Gerald Hopkins. “Our commitment is rooted in the shared desire for all students to have the opportunity to compete at more local venues, showcasing their talents against athletes and scholars from nearby schools of similar size.”

Beginning in the fall of 2024, the school districts that make-up the River Cities Alliance

will compete against each other, as any other athletic conference would, while continuing to compete in non-conference games. The member districts are also focused on supporting other co-curricular experiences through competition in academic groups, like robotics, math, and debate clubs, as well as shining a brighter light on fine arts programs by having all-conference band and choir competitions. “We are excited to see this alliance come to life,” added Hopkins. “Hometown rivalries, closer travel for our students and their families, and a shared network of resources between seven committed districts will only enrich the experiences of our

students.”

Pete Bush, a seasoned educator and leader, has been appointed Commissioner of the River Cities Alliance. With a Master of Arts in Athletic Administration from Central Michigan University, Bush’s career has been marked by a commitment to the development and well-being of young students and athletes. With a background that includes serving as athletic director in Cedar Springs, and coaching varsity basketball and baseball at Lowell High School, his passion for sports education and mentorship began at the school level and progressed through his career. As a former superintendent of Sparta Area Schools, as well as a high school principal at Coopersville High School, Bush’s leadership has consistently emphasized the importance of youth sports in shaping character and fostering growth. He has previously served as President of the OK Conference and OK Blue Division and became a National Certified Athletic Administrator in 2007.

Bush’s appointment signals a bright future for youth sports, with dedication and mentorship at its core. “I’m thrilled to be a part of the River Cities Alliance, working alongside educators with a student-first mindset,” said River Cities Alliance Commissioner, Pete Bush. “I’ve had the privilege, over my career, to work with four of the seven River City Alliance schools and I’m honored to be able to return to my passion for youth sports, and also help build the alliance to further support competition in both academics and the arts.”

Bush is a former Lowell baseball coach and math teacher, from 1995-2002, will serve as the River Cities’ first commissioner. He most recently worked as a senior educational consultant after serving as Sparta’s Superintendent for four years.

The move cements Lowell’s conference spot next year, and will eliminate what would have been lengthy road trips to three Muskegon schools; Muskegon, Reeths-Puffer, and Mona Shores. It also will force another wave of realignment within the OK Conference. The only remaining members, of what would have been the OK Black, are those Muskegon schools and Northview.

O’Boyle punches ticket at Regional meet

Submitted by Coach Paul Judd

Lowell returned to the course where their season started, as Portage Central played host to the MHSAA Region 3 meet held at Portage West MS. It was the same course where the Arrows punched their ticket as a team for the state meet in 2022, so magic has been known to occur there.

On paper, Lowell was showing as the twelve-place team and Claire O’Boyle as the 24th fastest runner and 10th individual place. The team strategy was simple, as the girls were asked to lengthen their stride when the wind was at their back, and drive the arms and knees when running into the wind. O’Boyle had an added instruction to go out right behind the lead group and battle to stay there.

O’Boyle’s chances seemed slim, as her time in August on the same course was 22:16, her PR was 20:04; generally, you need to be in the 19’s to qualify for the state meet, and you must finish in the top 15 or be one of the top seven runners that aren’t part of the first three teams. O’Boyle ran her fastest opening mile of the year and “planted” herself around 10th place and pretty much hung-out there for the entire race as she negative-split the third mile to close the deal, finishing in 11th place with a PR time of 19:56. What is really amazing is that out of the 88 runners in the girls race, only eight ran PR’s. As a team, Lowell battled hard and finished in 10th place with 212 pts. OK White foe FHC won the meet with 57

points, followed by Kalamazoo Central and Portage Central. The top three teams earn the right to race next week at MIS.

Following O’Boyle were Evie Deur (29th place) running 20:42, Audrey Latchaw (42nd place) running 21:22, Brooklyn Jackson (59th place) running 22:22, Olivia Lothian (71st place) running 22:55, Veronica Tapia (83rd place) running 24:19, and Jadyn Young (84th place) running 24:34.

The state meet is Saturday, November 4th, at Michigan International Speedway.



Claire O’Boyle is heading to the Cross Country state meet this weekend.

Volleyball starts playoff run

The Red Arrow volleyball team start their postseason run this week, drawing Forest Hills Central in Wednesday’s district semifinal.

The winner will face either Forest Hills Northern, East Grand Rapids, or Northview for the district championship. Lowell has swept FHC 3-0, both times the teams have played this year. FHN, the district host and favorite to emerge from the other side

of the bracket, has beaten Lowell 3-1 and 3-0 this year.

The Huskies are ranked sixth in the state, while Lowell is an honorable mention-ranked team, so if the two do indeed face off on Thursday at FHN, it should be an exciting night of volleyball! District finals would begin at 6:00 pm.

LHS is 23-14-1 heading into the postseason.

Red Arrow Fall

SPORTS SCHEDULES

Can be viewed on LAS
website page - under athletics
www.lowellschools.com

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obituaries

VANDER ZIEL

Steven Mark Vander Ziel, age 61 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, October 28, 2023. He was preceded in death by his father, Henry Vander Ziel. Steve is survived by his wife, Joan Vander Ziel; children, Amy (Foster) Hovey, Andy Vander Ziel, Melissa (Matt) Rozelle, Kelly (Alex) Repke, Kyle Vander Ziel; grandchildren, Noah Hovey, and Baby Rozelle; mother, Yvonne Vander Ziel; brother, Paul (Ann) Vander Ziel; and many nieces and nephews. Everything Steve did was from the ground up, his house, pond, barn, tractors, and businesses. In the family he had the mentality of “figure it out”, go drive that excavator or back up this trailer because he knew we could do it and it came from a deep love of family and a desire for his kids to succeed in life. His many projects brought the family together and taught many life lessons. In business, he believed in treating people how they would want to be treated with integrity, honesty, and respect. He tried to be fair in business deals, one of his favorite sayings was, “Pigs get fat, hogs get slaughtered.” Steve built a successful business from the ground up that has reached people all over the world. In his later years, he ventured first in John Deere



tractors and then any brand as long as it was old. He lived by the mentality that if someone built it, he could fix it. That is exactly what he did, he brought home “tractors” in crates and after a while they would drive out of his barn under their own power. He created a tight knit community of tractor friends which he thoroughly enjoyed. Steve was always two feet in for all his projects and his gas tank was always empty. He will be missed. **Visitation will be held from 5-8pm on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at “The Barn” 12166 52nd St. Lowell, MI 49331. Funeral Services will be held at 11 am on Friday, November 3, 2023, at NorthPointe Christian Schools, 3101 Leonard St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525.** Memorial contributions can be made to NorthPointe Christian Schools (NPC Foundation in memory of Steve VanderZiel), or Lowell Township for the Parks (Steve VanderZiel Family Endowment Fund), 2910 Alden Nash SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent’s Estate

CASE NO. and JUDGE
23-214150-DE
Court Address: 180 Ottawa
Ave NW, STE. 2500, Grand
Rapids, MI 49503

Estate of Kirk Stanley
Craig, date of birth:
January 27, 1955

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Kirk Stanley
Craig, died August 31, 2023
Creditors of the decedent
are notified that all claims
against the estate will be

forever barred unless
presented to Amanda
Daggett, personal
representative, or to
both the probate court at
180 Ottawa Ave NW, Ste
2500, Grand Rapids, MI
49503 and the personal
representative within 4
months after the date of
publication of this notice.

October 10, 2023

Mary L. Benedict (P45285)
4519 Cascade Rd SE, Ste
14
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-942-0020

Amanda Daggett
2540 Emery Dr SE
Lowell, MI 49331
616-318-0227

BOOMERS

Gary A. Boomers, age 72 of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, October 24, 2023. He was preceded in death by his sister, Linda Hoffman; and brother-in-law, John Homan. Gary is survived by his wife of 48 years, Leslie Boomers; children, Ben (Nichole) Boomers, Sarah Boomers; grandchildren,



playing poker with his son, and yard work was his favorite thing to do, next to spending time with his grandsons. Private services were held by the family.

Wyatt & Emmett; brother, Mike (Laura) Boomers; sisters, Connie (Dean) Gage, Donna Homan, Mary (Dave) Eteo, and Nancy (Phil) Badenhop. Gary graduated from Forest Hills in 1969. He went on to own and operate Prestige Printing. Gary loved old cars, collecting coins, going to the casino,

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PRICE

Ricky Price aged 69, of Clarksville, went to walk with the Lord on October 25, 2023. Rick enjoyed spending time with family and his grandkids, being outside, fishing and hunting. He loved his classic rock music and Sunday morning jazz, cutting wood, playing euchre, and watching football with friends. He was a handyman who enjoyed building. Ricky loved to drive 25 miles an hour so that he could farm it as he said. He was preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Marian Kilgus Price. Ricky is survived by his wife of 40 years Pam Price; children, Ryan and Darcie

Erickson, Andrea Price (Rob Talsma), Nathan Price and his fiancé Kayla Martin; his grandkids, Lillian, Carissa, Kenton, Brinleigh and Lexi; siblings, Gary (Anne) Price, Susan (Gary) Price, Kathy (Al) Seif, Julie (Tim) Kosten; and several nieces and nephews. There will be no service per Rick’s request he will be cremated, and a celebration of life will be held at a later date for his family. Memorial contributions can be made to Freeport Historical Society, 127 S. Warren St. P.O. Box 127, Freeport, MI 49325.

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Disability: Part of the equity equation

By Hillary Hatch, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

People with disabilities play an important role in a diverse and inclusive workforce. We would like to tell you about Amy and her path to financial independence through work. Meet Amy: Amy has a developmental disability that affects her speech, learning, and social interactions. When she was ready to find a path to financial independence through work, Amy turned to her State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency for help. Amy’s VR counselor told her about Social Security’s Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program.

The Ticket Program supports career development for people with disabilities who want to work. Adults, ages 18 through 64, who receive Social Security disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) qualify for this free and voluntary program. Through the Ticket Program, service providers offer free employment support services. Amy had questions about how employment could affect her benefits. Her State VR counselor connected her with Full Circle Employment Solutions. Full Circle is an Employment Network (EN) with benefits counselors on staff who explained how working might affect her disability benefits. Amy’s benefits counselor also told her about Work Incentives. Work Incentives make it easier for adults with disabilities to enhance their job skills and gain work experience. They do so while receiving Medicaid or Medicare and Social Security benefits or SSI payments.

With a better understanding of these supports, Amy was ready to explore her employment options. She pursued an internship with Project SEARCH, a training program for young adults with developmental disabilities. Through Project SEARCH, Amy landed an internship that led to a permanent position with her local government. Amy earned her way to financial independence and no longer receives SSI. Now, she’s a union member, receives benefits through her job, and enjoys the security and stability that come with full-time employment. She’s grateful for the support she received through the Ticket Program and looks forward to building the future she always hoped for. “This job makes me feel needed and welcomed,” she says. “I have learned about what motivates me and how to keep going, even when things get hard.” Learn More: To learn more about the Ticket Program, visit choosework.ssa.gov where you also can see a list of service providers. Or you can call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, and ask for a list of service providers. You can also learn more by registering for a free, on-line Work Incentives Seminar Event webinar at choosework.ssa.gov/wise. Or you can text TICKET to 474747 to receive Ticket Program texts. Standard messaging rates may apply, and you can opt out at any time. Please share this information with friends and family who may need it.

ABCs, continued

tradition, a culture of family. It is one big family. This was developed by Lowell’s “Hall of Fame” wrestling Coach, Gary Rivers. Rivers coached three generations. He preached “rewards come from working hard and never giving up.” Scott Vashaw said he was “big on hard work, having a big heart, never backing down and never giving up. He genuinely cared about the kids.” He was a five-time regional coach of the year, three-time State of Michigan Coach of the Year, inducted into the Michigan Wrestling Hall of Fame, Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame, and in 2007, was added to Lowell’s Athletic Honor Wall.

wrestling program is alive and well. Over the past decade, it has maintained a youth program that averages 200+ wrestlers each year, and a varsity program that averages 50+ wrestlers each year. This has been possible from the foundation laid by Coach Gary Rivers and the descendants of his program. One of Coach Rivers’ assistant coaches, Dave Strejc, carried on his legacy and won two state championships, and then handed the program over to Dave Dean, who himself, won two state championships. This strong foundation set-up the program for 10 state championships in a row, 2014 to present, under Coach R.J. Budro.

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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, Tra-ditions & 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.

AL-NON IN PERSON MEETINGS - are held at the FROM Building, 11535 Fulton E. on Fridays at 10 am in the Lowell Serenity Club Room and Tuesdays at 7 pm in Room 21. En-ter through the southeast parking lot door. Al-Anon principles can help those affected by someone's problem drinking. There are no dues or fees. For more info call 616-987-6587.

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

AUXILIARY BINGO - Every Tuesday, 1-5 pm. Doors open at noon. Public wel-come! Must be 18 or older. Food & beverages avail-able. Hard cards & chips format. 25¢ per card per game. No up front buy in required. Alto American Legion Post 528. License A22680.

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



The Restless Viking

The World Less Traveled
With Chuck & Martha Hayden
www.restless-viking.com

~ First roadside table

by Martha Hayden

Just south of Saranac, in Ionia County sits the first roadside table. Allan Williams’ vision in 1929 has enhanced our travels even today. Join my husband, Chuck, and I as we stop at this site and learn more about how a

coffee in a pot.

Guardrails Repurposed

As an engineer on the Ionia Road Commission, Allan Williams pursed his lips as he eyed a pile of old guardrails. He instructed his

Detroit. As automobiles traveled this trek, resting spots would assist in the journey.

Summoned to the State Road Commission

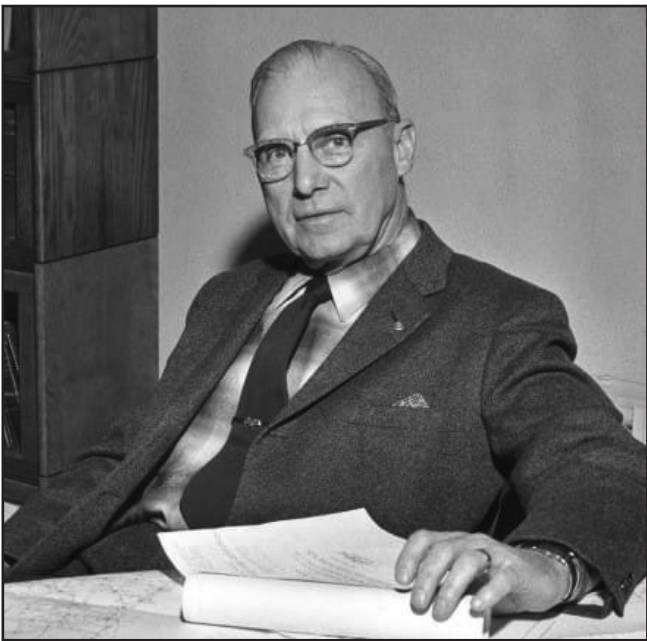
Maintenance greeted him warmly. The Chief had received praise from travelers about the roadside table. He had genuinely been excited about this hospitable idea.

More Tables were Ordered

The Chief ordered more tables to be built and placed along the roadways of Michigan. Allan Williams led the construction of over 100 tables, which were then dotted along Michigan’s roads.

As travelers experienced these thoughtful tables, letters of gratitude began arriving from all over the country. Allan Williams partnered with his co-worker, Jacob Moore, and the duo proceeded to oversee the construction of a thousand more picnic tables. Colin Williams, one of Allan’s and Esther’s seven children, recalled, “I can remember them out in the yard making those tables.”

Eventually, as demand

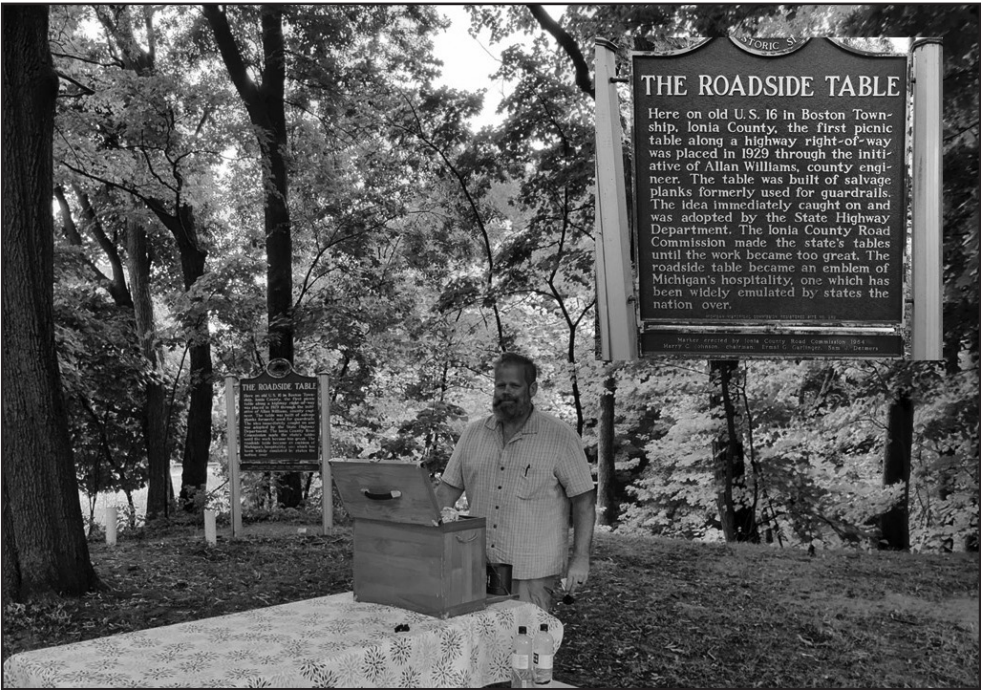


Allan Williams. Photo Credit: Michigan Department of Transportation

for more tables grew, the State of Michigan Highway Maintenance took over the task. Other states in our nation began to install roadside tables, too. Allan Williams’ idea had branched-out across our nation linking our highways with convenient spots for

make winter travel safer.

Not only had Allan Williams worked for 43 years at the road commission, but he left a legacy in Ionia County. He had served as the Ionia County Free Fair President for twelve years. He helped engineer Bertha Brock Park,



The First Roadside Table is located near the corner of Grand River Avenue and Morrison Lake Road.

single individual can make a difference for our nation.

Early Travel

With muddy roadways and frequent breakdowns, people often had to put their survival skills into practice as automobiles had become a new method of travel. When 1916 University of Michigan engineering graduate, Allan Williams, witnessed these travelers parked alongside the road, an idea began to brew like

crew to build a picnic table.

Placing the First Roadside Table

As the snow melted and the ground thawed in 1929, Allan and his crew placed the table on a spot of state land, along U.S. 16, south of Saranac. This location would be an ideal stop for people traveling between Grand Rapids and Lansing.

U.S. 16 had once been a native trail stretching 210 miles from Muskegon to

Within a short time, Allan had been summoned to the State Road Commission Office. “My dad thought he was going to get a bawlin’ out for using that planking,” son Colin Williams, 84 recalled to Garret Ellison, an MLive reporter.

With worries about being reprimanded, Allan approached the building. To Allan’s surprise, the State Chief of Highway



Photo Credit: www.restareahistory.org

a break. By the 1960’s, rest stops had become a normal convenience for travelers trekking all over our country! But that’s not all Allan had achieved . . .

Allan Williams

Allan Williams’ son, Colin, had stated “I think the table was just another thing to him. He was involved with so many things.” Colin continued, “He would work Saturday and Sunday and often go back to his office at 6:30 p.m. to work until 10 p.m.”

Innovations for safe, efficient travel had been a key to Allan Williams’ mission. He helped to create the first official Michigan roadmap. The diamond-shaped signs, which designate trucking lines, had been his invention, too. As well as, he had initiated the use of angled, concave and straight-lined front-mounted snow plows to

as well as the Ionia County Airport.

Allan Williams lived 87 years on this Earth, until 1979. His son, Colin, and wife, Eleanor, pass by the first roadside table, often on their way to and from their Saranac home. “Every time, I think about him,” Colin Williams said.

A portrait of Allan Williams hangs in Lansing’s ‘Michigan Department of Transportation’ building. Allan Williams was inducted into the Michigan Transportation Hall of Honor in 2006.

Take Note

Please take note that the littlest ideas can make a big impact! Stay curious and offer your creativity to make our world a better place.

Resources:
Historical Marker Database
Michigan Department of Transportation website
MLive Article interviewing Colin Williams

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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!

MEN'S HEALTH WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions
on page 13

MEN'S HEALTH WORD
SEARCH

ANXIETY
BALDING
BENIGN
CANCER

COLONOSCOPY
DEPRESSION
DIABETES
DOCTOR
DYSFUNCTION
EXAM
GENETIC

HEALTH
HEART DISEASE
INFERTILITY
KIDNEYS
MOVEMBER
OBESITY
OVERWEIGHT

PROSTATE
STRENGTH
STROKE
TESTICULAR
TESTOSTERONE

Guess Who?

I am a journalist born in London on November 3, 1949. I am well-known in the fashion industry. For many years, I was the editor-in-chief of a well-known fashion magazine, then going on to direct the publishing house of that magazine. I am known for my signature sunglasses.

Answer: Anna Wintour

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to men's care.

R H T A E

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Heart

CLUES ACROSS

1. A way to drop
4. Bits per inch
7. Ghosts
12. Presents
15. Noises
16. Honorable fourth name in ancient Rome
18. Elevated railroad
19. A way to drench
20. The Tarheel State
21. Lilly and Manning are two
24. Where golfers begin
27. Harvester
30. Unit of subjective loudness
31. Jewish calendar month
33. Dash
34. Armed conflict
35. Daisy __: Broadway actress
37. Jump
39. Get free of
41. A written proposal or reminder
42. Organic chemistry reactive structure
44. African country
47. Cool!
48. Used to treat Parkinson's disease

49. __ route
50. Ed Murrow's home
52. Lethal dose
53. Give cards incorrectly
56. A treeless grassy plain
61. Famed R.L. Stevenson novel
63. In an incisive way
64. Mark Wahlberg's screen partner
65. Criticize

CLUES DOWN

1. Mountain in the Julian Alps
2. A domed or vaulted recess
3. Trade agreement
4. Larger
5. Edged
6. Data
7. Something curved in shape
8. Root mean square (abbr.)
9. Farm state
10. Pre-1917 emperor of Russia
11. Short-term memory
12. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
13. Honor as holy

14. Monetary unit of Samoa
17. Company that rings receipts
22. City in Finland
23. Small finch
24. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
25. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
26. Very willing
28. Partner to "oohed"
29. Turntable
32. Major Hindu deity
36. Move head slightly
38. Plain-woven fabric
40. Die
43. Shipped as cargo
44. Something highly prized
45. Individual thing or person
46. Humbled
51. Speak indistinctly
54. No seats available
55. Financial obligation
56. Green vegetable
57. Tough outer skin of fruit
58. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
59. Troubles
60. Singer Charles
62. Camper

Eric Hemenway will talk about Odawa in the Revolutionary War

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

The Lowell Area Historical Museum (LAHM) offers a series of speakers each year. The museum brings in experts to discuss an area of history that they specialize in, according to Director, Lisa Plank.

Speaker, Eric Hemenway, is the Director of Repatriation, Archives and Records for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, will speak on Nov. 2 at 6 pm. The talk will examine some of the events leading up to the Revolutionary War, key people involved, and the reasons that the Odawa, along with other Michigan tribal nations, took up arms against the Americans. Participation in the war was

shaped by experiences in the Great Lakes Region, prior to the war.

“Learn how the Odawa shaped a changing political, economic and social landscape,” Plank said. “The American Revolutionary War had numerous tribal participants, including those from Michigan.” Lowell, itself, had a large Odawa settlement.

Hemenway will explain the role the Odawa people played in the Revolutionary War and changing times; why they sided with the British rather than Americans.

“A committee, in the fall, looks at topics that relate to Lowell’s history from any era,” Plank said.

This year the topics were: Lowell native, Timothy R. Alfson, spoke about life aboard the Edwin

H. Gott, a Great Lakes Freighter. Alfson attended the Great Lakes Academy and has worked for the Great Lakes Flight his entire career. In 2011, he became Captain of the Edwin H. Gott.

Another speaker, Adam Oster, talked about Michigan’s Poor Farms system and coming up on Nov. 14 at 1pm is speaker and Director of the Zeeland Historical Society, Katelyn VerMerris, who will talk about Women in World War I – “The Spirit of Woman-Power”, at the Vergennes Township Hall. The focus will be on mobilization of women on the home front.

Hemenway’s talk is virtual and registration is required on <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/>

upIpceivqDguE9fLu-Nu_ZHaQ2zgAy2fs591

The presentation will also be shown at Vergennes Township Hall, located at 69 Lincoln Avenue, if you would prefer to watch with a group.

“We get an equally good turnout for each topic,” Plank said. “I hope that people register from the comfort of their homes. Eric is an excellent speaker. We’re excited to have him. We offer high-quality programs and get positive feedback. We bring in professional speakers and they come back.”

The approximate turnout is 50 to 70 people. The program, free-of-charge, is made possible by a Michigan Historic Alliance grant from the Michigan Historical Society.



Speaker Eric Hemenway

Lowell's Lindsey Garcia features on NBC's *The Voice*

By Justin Scott
sports reporter

Since moving to Lowell 14 years ago, 27-year-old Lindsey Garcia has always known she could sing. Singing by yourself and singing in front of other people, that’s a whole other monster. In front of a national television audience, Garcia wowed on NBC’s *The Voice*. Garcia who performs under the stage name of LVNDR, performed a jazzy rendition of Drake’s ‘Hotline Bling’.

Garcia, who was homeschooled growing up, moved to Lowell from Memphis in 2009. At the age of 16, just three years later, Garcia performed at the Kent County Youth Fair, to get out of her shell and pursue her dream of singing. She ended up placing third. “That showed me I wasn’t the only one who thought I could sing,” Garcia told the *Ledger*.

The Voice is an NBC TV show in its 24th season, where singers perform in front of four judges in round one, in a blind audition. There, competing with some of the top voices in the nation, they’ll compete for a small number of spots on each judge’s team. This year’s judges span a wide variety of genres and are Gwen Stefani, John Legend, Niall Horan, and Reba McEntire.

“When I was 17, I had just put out a video on YouTube. Somehow, a talent scout for *The Voice* had found me and asked me to come audition. From there, I got selected to go to L.A. for the producer rounds and they flew me out. I wasn’t anywhere near used to singing in front of people and I ended up freezing, forgetting my lyrics, and got sent home. It was pretty rough. Ever since, I’ve wanted to “redeem” myself

but it wasn’t until now that I truly felt I was ready. I had been working hard the past couple of years on my stage presence and nerves so that I could give it all I had this time, and, well, I suppose it paid off,” Garcia said of her past with the show.

In the past few years, she had been performing around Grand Rapids, including Harmony Hall, Garage Bar, Fulton St. Pub. “I really love playing at places like Midtown GR & The Stray, since they are more intimate venues. It’s nice to go somewhere and have people truly listen to you play. I also love working with Dogtown Studios in Grand Rapids and they’ve really helped me meet more Grand Rapids musicians, as well as, put out a ton of high-quality content for my social media platforms. I hope to add a venue in Lowell to my list soon,” Garcia added.

This year, her blind

audience came as a surprise, when she was reached out to by show producers requesting a blind audition. For the blind audition, she went to her personal favorite. “Where I personally feel

like the artist does, so instead, I make them fit my voice instead of me trying to fit into the song. I chose ‘Hot Line Bling’ because I knew that would be something different and show the skill

see. The YouTube video of her performance has nearly 600,000 views on YouTube, and importantly, judge Neill Horan turned his chair immediately, wanting LVNDR on his team. John



LVNDR Performs Daring Version of Drake’s “Hotline Bling” on the The Voice Blind Auditions on NBC. Photo off NBCs *The Voice* website.

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like I do best, is taking well-known songs and twist them into my own style. I can’t typically sing songs exactly

set that I wanted America to see,” she added.

It was what America and the judges wanted to

THANKS
for supporting local business!

Legend wasn’t far behind. McEntire regretted not turning her chair, as well. She would eventually choose Horan’s team, the one-time One Direction standout, not before giving a name-drop of her hometown of Lowell on the broadcast.

“Thank you so much for the support. Lowell has been so kind to me with this journey and I’m proud to be able to put this town on the map,” Garcia concluded.

You can next see LVNDR at November 18th at The Stray for the writer’s round, as well as soon on Spotify and Apple Music.