

Annual Riverwalk Festival kicks off on Thursday night with The Soul Syndicate

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Riverwalk Festival, Lowell's huge, three-day summer party, begins Thursday, July 12 and runs for three consecutive days, ending on Saturday, June 14.

The Riverwalk Festival will start with live music on Thursday, when The Soul Syndicate [thesoulsyndicate.com] will perform classic rhythm and blues and soul music songs made famous by artists such as Sam and Dave, Stevie Wonder, Otis Redding, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin, the Temptations, Marvin Gaye and Wilson Pickett.

"We are going to kick our festival off on Thursday night with a Sizzlin' Summer Concert," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce executive director Liz Baker. "The Soul Syndicate will perform live. Friday night [July 13] is more kind of the party night. We're excited. That will be a good night."

Other Thursday events include the Lowell Area Farmers' Market, pontoon rides, a cruise-in, the Kidz Zone and a pig roast. Thursday is also the start

of Merchants Market Days, where a long list of businesses offer freebies and discounts. For example, Chimera Design is offering 20 percent off Nomination

Jewelry if you say the secret password, New Union Brewery has \$.50 off beer, Rookies Sportcards Plus is offering between 20 and 50 percent off board games and there are a lot more offers like that.

"The businesses on Main St. and the food establishments do very well during Riverwalk," Baker said. "We like people to patronize our businesses. If you just want to come and eat, there are lots of different things to eat. If you're just here to listen to entertainment, you can do that as well. Kids can go play in the Kid Zone and there's always lots of fun games for them to play."

On Friday, July 13, Alive & Well and the Adams Family will perform on the Showboat stage. These two bands are comprised of members from classic Lowell groups, such as the Headhunters, the Plague, Scragg Zoster, Stillwater and Trialism. Expect to hear classic rock, doo wop, soul, folk and jazz tunes from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s. Also on Friday, are pontoon rides

on the Flat River and the Englehardt Friends of the Library used book sale.

"The Englehardt Library used book sale, that's a biggie. That's always a huge hit at the Riverwalk Festival," Baker said.

Saturday is also the day of the Run the Riverwalk 5K, a kayak and canoe race, the "Dancin' in the Streets" parade and the "open mic" talent show on the Showboat. If you want to participate in that, you should register on the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce website.

"The parade starts at noon and the entertainment that day is always the open mic," Baker said. "We've done that the last couple years and that's gone really well. There's lots of people that come out and do it and that's fun."

The Duck Raffle is a chance to win a nice pile of money.

"Our Duck Raffle ticket sales will start that night as well," Baker said. "First prize is \$1,000, with five \$100 winners. Cold, hard cash."

There is never any shortage of food choices at the Riverwalk Festival. Choices will include barbecue, wood-fired pizzas and about eight other food booths and trucks. On Saturday, July 14, the Riverwalk Festival will close with a bang.

"We are still going to do the fireworks on Saturday night, that's our grand finale," Baker said. "A lot of people go to Stoney Lakeside Park on Bowes Road because that's where they shoot them from. But many people, like me, we go to the fairgrounds, because you can view them from over there as well. I like it there because it's open. Everybody has their favorite spot where they go for the fireworks."

A lot more information, including maps, a list of area hotels, vendor and parade applications and a schedule of events can be found on the official Riverwalk Festival website, riverwalkfestival.org or by calling the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce at 616-897-9161.

"There's a little bit for everybody to do, from classic cars to shopping," Baker said. "It really, truly is a family event."



lowellarts house concert



page 2

bangarang circus



page 4

orphaned alpaca



page 3

horoscopes and weird news



page 14

Sinkhole appears on track at Red Arrow football field



by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

A burst water pipe created a sinkhole on the south end of the track around the football field at Lowell High School on Sunday, July 1. The pipe was fixed but the hole remains.

"We had an irrigation pipe break over the weekend," said Lowell Area Schools superintendent Greg Pratt. "The hole was found Sunday and the pipe repaired during the week. The erosion from the water created the hole in the track."

"A community member discovered it while working out at the track," said LHS athletic director Dee Crowley. "[They] contacted the track coach who contacted [me] on Sunday, July 1st. [I] then contacted Superintendent Pratt and facilities staff."

It is unknown when the hole will be repaired.

"The district is currently working with the irrigation company and track replacement vendor to determine repair needs," Crowley said. "The cost and timeline for repair is yet to be determined, but our goal is to have it repaired prior to the start of fall sports season."

"We have repair estimates being made by companies that install tracks next week," Pratt said. "[There is] no timetable for a repair at this point in time."

The track is still in use even though school is out for the summer.

"The summer team camps that use the track/field have concluded this summer," Crowley said.

"The track is used by the public and a variety of teams for conditioning and practice," Pratt said.

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Concert to feature political folk punk by Maggie May

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Grand Rapids singer songwriter Maggie May will play political folk punk at LowellArts, 223 W. Main, at 6 pm on Sunday, July 15.

Admission is free with a suggested \$5 donation. The concert is part of the collaboration between LowellArts and R y n e S h y n e Enterprises, so the show will be broadcast live on 92.3-FM WRWW and will later be edited into music videos, podcasts and other projects.

“I have not performed in Lowell yet, so I’m excited to do that,” May said. “I haven’t visited Lowell yet either, so this will be a whole new experience. I’m sure I’ve driven through plenty of times, but I’ve never stopped. In Grand Rapids I’ve played at lots of places, like

Mulligan’s and Local 741 and I had the release party for my first album at Tip Top Deluxe down on the west side. I always like branching out of Grand Rapids as much as I can and traveling to new places, so I was excited when I heard about the LowellArts songwriter sessions. I jumped on it within five minutes of it being posted online. I was ready!”

May describes her genre as ‘folk punk,’ two concepts that seem directly opposed to each other but actually work well together. Her lyrics are as scathingly topical as classic punk bands like the Dead Kennedys and Black Flag, whose songs about current events

were expressed through harsh, irreverent, politically opinionated lyrics.

“A lot of the stuff I write is very political and I try to keep it pretty current

sucks, you’re the worst!’ The whole point of my music is to make people realize that it’s okay to be sad, it’s okay to be angry about politics and it’s okay to fight back.

old school country style with modern punk. I can’t scream and I don’t have the energy to run around the stage, I just want to stand in one place. I still love being in that punk setting, but I’m not meant

music, then you listen to the lyrics and you’re like, ‘Oh wow, that’s dark!’ I try to suck them in with a happy sound, get the tune stuck in peoples’ heads, then they

a huge inspiration because all his stuff was incredibly political and very blunt. It makes you think. Seeing that completely flipped how I write songs. His lyrics acknowledge the hard things that we have to look at about our society and American consumerism. He does a song called ‘the Holiday Song’ that talks about, ‘You look nice in your new shirt for Easter, but did the kid in the sweatshop get a new shirt too?’”

May said she became politically radicalized after reflecting on her childhood. Most of it was spent on military bases where she got a close-up view of the inner workings of the Military Industrial Complex.

“Some of the things that I sing about I didn’t believe years ago,” May said. “I wasn’t a radical, political person at all. I wasn’t raised via religion, I was raised to worship the government, the red white and blue, capitalism, money and power. My dad was a cop and was in the military, my mom was in the military and I was raised on military bases. They brainwash you, growing up on a base. I was completely brainwashed. Everyone is in uniform all the time. You don’t realize how weird it is until you don’t live there anymore. You get used to the big men guarding the big gates with their big guns. For example, every day at noon the national anthem plays on loudspeakers and if you don’t stop what you’re doing they yell at you for ‘not being a patriot.’ The hard part is, everyone is convinced they’re doing the right thing, that they’re ‘fighting for our freedom.’”

May has cut one album of original songs so far,

Maggie, continued, page 3



Maggie May will play political folk punk at LowellArts on Sunday, July 15 with “Sleeping” Timmy Rodriguez.

to the state of affairs that we’re in now,” May said. “Some people shy away from politics but I prefer to talk about it all the time and I always try to add a bit of humor to everything I write, even though they’re serious topics. I also write a lot of songs about my personal experiences. I write songs about dealing with mental illness, confrontations with the police and being in an abusive relationship. I do a song called ‘You’re the Worst.’ People think I’m talking to somebody else but in reality it’s talking to myself on those days when you just get everything wrong and you’re like, ‘This

There’s a song that I wrote about a year ago called ‘Knock ‘em Dead,’ it’s about a guy who’s in jail awaiting trial for killing a Nazi. When the judge asked him if he had anything to say, he was like, ‘I don’t regret anything.’”

Punk bands limit themselves to three chords, May knows six. Punks play guitars, jump around and holler their lungs out. May sits on chair, strums a ukulele and sings in a sweetly subversive voice.

“Punk music is very raw, they don’t censor themselves, but I was raised on folk music,” May said. “What I do is just a stripped down, more raw version of those two genres. It’s a mix of the

to scream into a microphone really loud. I can’t do it! This gives me an opportunity to be in the punk scene, enjoying the punk culture. I kind of like to put a happy vibe to the instrumental because it sucks people in, they don’t realize what they’re listening to, then they listen to the words. For example, I do a song called ‘I’d Do Anything for You Even If You Don’t Do [Expletive] for Me.’ The song is about somebody who gets committed to an asylum because they go crazy trying to be the perfect spouse. The person who accompanied me added a glockenspiel to that song, which makes it sound so happy and uplifting. It sounds like coffee shop

have time to process the message. That’s my method for getting people to pay attention.”

Her initial inspiration came when she witnessed a live performance by folk punker Derek Zanetti.

“I didn’t know folk punk was a thing for a long time until I saw this artist called the Homeless Gospel Choir who opened up for Anti-Flag [political punk band from Pittsburgh, formed in 1988] several years ago,” May said. “It was just this dude and his guitar opening for a loud punk band. I was like, ‘You can do that? I had no idea you can do that! I’m going to do that!’ The way he wrote his songs was also

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Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

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Maggie, continued

it's available to listen to on Soundcloud.com. She is currently in the process of recording her second album.

"The first album was just ukulele and vocals," May said. "I'm recording my second album right now. I'm having a whole band back me, so it's a little more time-consuming trying to get everybody in one place for recording."

"Maggie May" isn't her real name, it's actually a stage name taken from her middle name and a very popular 70s rock song.

"It originally came from my middle name, which is Margaret, so people started calling me Maggie," May said. "Then one day somebody was like, 'Is that from the Rod Stewart song?' and it just stuck. Everyone started calling me 'Maggie May' after that. It's a good way to get people to remember my name. Who could forget about Rod Stewart? Plus my dad is a huge Rod Stewart fan, so he was super happy about that. It could be worse, it could have been a Michael Bolton reference. I can't even go there!"

For more information about Maggie May, look for her on Facebook or Soundcloud.com. For more information about LowellArts, visit lowellartsmi.org. For more information about RyneShyne Enterprises, visit ryнешyne.club

"The first time I was on the radio I wrote all the words I wasn't allowed to say on my hand so I wouldn't just blurt them out when I was on the air," May said.



Using the criteria established by Maggie May and the folk punks, one could make the case for Woody Guthrie as the original folk punk. Guthrie, whose guitar had the slogan "This Machine Kills Fascists" painted across it, wrote hundreds of songs about all kinds of controversial topics like poverty, venereal disease and Fred Trump. In 1947 Guthrie even made a whole album called "Ballads of Sacco & Vanzetti" about his favorite anarchists.

...

Rules are important, but they're temporary and they're always supposed to be changed.

~ John Lydon

Orphaned alpaca at Red Barn Market

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

A young Lowellian has been dedicating her summer vacation to the care of an orphaned alpaca. Lauren Pearson, age 13, has been feeding the animal and keeping it company since it was born on June 25.

"I go there every couple days to see her. I visit with her and keep her company," Pearson said. "She gets a little bit lonely because she was basically orphaned. She likes to see people. Alpacas can be skittish, like any animal can be when they're around humans, but June is very sweet and curious."

"Lauren is 13 [and] very excited for when she is old enough to work in the Red Barn's petting farm," said Lauren's mother Amy Pearson, who also works at Red Barn Market. "For now, she just visits often."

The baby was rejected by the other two Red Barn alpacas, including its mother, for unknown reasons.

"No one knew that the alpaca was pregnant until last Monday around noon when a customer came in and told [Red Barn Market owner Barb Roth] that it had given birth," Pearson said. "Barb and her daughter went to collect it and they found baby. Mama hadn't taken care of her daughter at all, had abandoned her, and she was still covered in placenta. We still haven't figured out why she didn't want her. When she was born she weighed nine pounds [and] two ounces, so she was kind of on the smaller end. We named her June

because she was born on one of the last days of June."

Pearson has been feeding June special formula for alpacas from Tractor Supply in Lowell.

"On Tuesday she wasn't taking a bottle, so I spent Tuesday with her because she was sick and her body temperature was low," Pearson said. "She was so weak with low blood sugar so I was helping keep her body temperature up. The vet came and collected her that evening because she needed to be tube-fed, she still wasn't taking a bottle. The next morning she started taking a bottle."

Anyone can visit June and the other alpacas during Red Barn Market's regular business hours.

"You should go visit the Red Barn and see her, she's out there being all cute," Pearson said. "She usually will wake up when somebody comes. If she hears voices, she'll wake up to see who it is. She's a sweet little baby and if her mama's not going to be taking care of her, we should. She doesn't deserve to be alone."



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business directory

Circus of acrobats comes to Alto on July 17

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

The Bangarang Circus troupe of acrobats will perform at the Alto Library, 6071 Linfield, on Tuesday, July 17 at 1:30 pm.

"I've only been to Lowell briefly. I always thought it was really cute and super pleasant," said circus performer Rachel Finan.

Finan and a few other performance artists will set up their equipment and do stunts, tricks and feats of strength while flying around over the heads of the audience.

"We have a 25-foot, portable, aerial rig that essentially looks like a gigantic swing set," Finan said. "We are going to be doing aerial performances. We have aerial fabrics. We have an aerial hoop. We have an aerial swing, which is like a hammock. And then we also have two really amazing hula hoopers that are going to be performing on the ground. It's amazing. We're 25 feet in the air sometimes. You don't get to see this everyday, it's not like there's an aerialist on every corner. It's really unique and it's kind of shocking for the audience to watch sometimes. I've had audience members just look terrified for us the whole time. It's really funny to see. They're just so worried for us. They're probably moms! We also have a million hula

hoops that we bring with us. That's basically the last ten minutes of our program, it's just everybody hula hooping."

Skilled acrobats make their dangerous tricks look easy, but it takes hundreds of hours of practice to make them seem effortless.

"Because we practice so much, they're very safe for us," Finan said. "It's probably really dangerous for a person that's never been on any of these apparatuses. I would not recommend someone who's never tried it before get on it at all. Absolutely not. We spend many, many hours a week in the gym training with mats underneath us and lots of safety things in place so that when we perform we don't need any mats. We're really safe and we take every precaution to make it as safe as possible. Performing is so much different than training. It just has to be second nature for you."

Finan performs all over West Michigan with the Bangarang Circus and all over the country as a member of the Super Happy Funtime Burlesque show.

"The biggest show I've ever done in front of the most people was at Electric Forest during the String Cheese Incident and Lauryn Hill," Finan said. "That was pretty wild. There were like 5,000 people in the audience. The String Cheese Incident puts on a crazy show. They're always trying to make a spectacle.

They had fireworks, big screens behind them, they put inflatables out into the audience and they had lots of different performers doing lots of different things. We did an aerial act on stage next to them, which was really crazy. We were really stoked to do that. Their theme was 1980s video games. I was playing Princess Peach. A guy dressed like Donkey Kong chased me up a rope and spun me around. Meanwhile, all the Donkey Kong graphics were going on behind us, the band was playing and we were doing our thing. The video is really ridiculous."

Her interest in the circus arts was sparked as a child when she was awed by an aerialist she witnessed.

"When I was younger I was a gymnast and an ice skater. Then when I got older I went into theater, acting, dance, yoga and all that stuff," Finan said. "I just remember being a kid and seeing the girl in the sparkly leotard, seeing her doing amazing things, and wanting to be that person so badly. Now, sometimes that happens. We'll be in our sparkly leotards and these little girls will come up to us. I can see that look. I know it. I just say, 'Chase your dreams!'"

For more information about the Bangarang Circus, visit bangarangcircus.com. To learn more about programs and other services available at the Alto Library call 616-784-2007 or visit kdl.org

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viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Journal July 12, 1893

A survey of our town is being made with the view of putting in a system of sewers. Dorr Skeels, the veteran County surveyor is doing the work and will make his report the first of next week.

In the Gd. Rapids Herald, of last Saturday, it stated that Maud Worden, daughter of G. Worden, of Lowell, and aged 18 years, had been arrested for vagrancy and sentenced to the Industrial school for girls, at Adrian.

Last week the D., G. H. & M. Ry. placed a Flagman at the Hudson St. bridge crossing. This has, in the past, been a very dangerous crossing and it is fortunate that no accidents have happened there. However, now, the crossing will be amply guarded.

Pratts Lake is still yielding good sport to reward the patient fisherman, the latest yield being to Phil Reuteisterz, Jno. Collier and Will Dennick, 20 pickerel and to Thomas, Fred and Bert Charles, 9 pickerel.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 11, 1918

Edward Brown Campau, cashier of the Farmer's State bank at Alto, was killed; his wife and mother, Mrs. Carrie M. Campau, Alto; and Mrs. Albert Wagner, 1740 Jefferson avenue, S.E., and two infant children of Mr. and Mrs. Campau, though slightly injured, had miraculous escapes from death Sunday afternoon when the touring car driven by Mr. Campau backed down an embankment on the Cascade road about three-quarters of a mile east of that village. Mr. Campau was removed to the farm house of John Brass, nearby, and died within five minutes of the time of the accident, which occurred shortly after 3:30. He was 24 years old. The women and two children, 8 months and 2½ years old, were taken to Blodgett Memorial hospital, where it was stated that none suffered any broken bones or serious injuries, suffering mostly from the shock. The accident occurred after the hat of one of the women had been blown, from the machine and Mr. Campau attempted to back the machine down the hill to the spot where the hat rested. In doing so, however, he lost control of the machine and it plunged partially side-ways down a 20-foot embankment, turning over several times, striking a barbed wire fence at the foot of the embankment and rolling into the field. The women and children were thrown clear of the machine. Mr. Campau was crushed beneath the steering wheel as the car rolled over before coming to rest upside down, entangled in the wire. Stanley Janasek and Leon Abbott, both of Alto, who were following in a machine, stopped and with the aid of wire cutters, extricated Mr. Campau from the wire fence. He was still conscious, but died before he could be removed

to the Brass home. Under Sheriff J. R. Jackson and Special Deputy William Eardley, who had been at Alto during the afternoon and had stopped at Campau lake, about five miles from the scene of the accident, heard of the tragedy and took Mr. Campau's brother, George F. of Alto, 21 years old, who happened to be at the lake also, to the scene, but did not arrive until the victim was dead. Attempts to communicate with a coroner failed and Justice of the Peace Frank Houghton of Lowell township was notified and acted as coroner.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 15, 1943

Lowell Masons met for the first time Tuesday evening in their own home, the two story brick building, adjoining the City Hall, which they recently purchased. The "Lowell Masonic Temple Association" has been incorporated under the laws of Michigan to manage the property for the local fraternity, the officers being: D. H. Oatley, president; W. A. Roth, vice president; Royden Warner, secretary; D. A. Wingeier, treasurer; and George Story, chief auditor.

Ralph Warner, who went to Camp Shawondossee with the boy scouts last week, had an unfortunate accident which resulted in a broken leg. He was returned to Lowell on Tuesday and after treatment at a hospital was returned home where he will spend the rest of the summer in bed. This is the first serious accident that has ever occurred at the Boy Scout camp which is under excellent supervision.

Mr. Ed. Woods, telegraph editor of the Grand Rapids Press, was guest speaker at the Wednesday meeting of the Lowell Rotary Club. Mr. Woods spoke hopefully of the progress of the war, but warned against over optimism declaring that the United Nations had yet to face a hard and bitter struggle in order to obtain victory. The speaker further warned that we must not be fooled by the subtle propaganda of our enemies, the purpose of which is to fool us into thinking that we have the war won, and, by so doing, trick us into a negotiated peace that would amount to a victory for Hitler.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger July 11, 1968

Excessive use of the City of Lowell's Sanitary landfill operation has prompted City Manager Bernard C. Olson to establish more stringent regulations, effective tomorrow (July 12). No dumping will be allowed unless an attendant is on duty with hours established as 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. on Saturdays and from 10 a. m. to noon and 1:30 to 4 p. m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Olson said that a schedule of fees will be established and posted with the attendant. Further information may be obtained by calling City Hall, he said.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 14, 1993

The General Federation Women's Club Board of Lowell has chosen Marj Harding as the Woman of the Year. Harding has been a member since 1976 and has served in many positions over the years. Presently she is on the Board of Directors, the Scholarship Committee, and she's the Club Photographer. This year she was Chairman of the Christmas Pecan Sales and the White Elephant Sale. Her friendliest and warm smile has been responsible for increasing the membership by several members. Harding is also very active in the community of Lowell. She has been employed by FMB Bank since 1985. She is Treasurer of the Lowell Area Historical Association, as well as, involved in fund raising, the newsletter and membership capacities.

outdoors

find a way

Dave Stegehuis

Outdoor recreation can take many forms here in Michigan and across the country. Everyone should take time to get outdoors to enjoy natural surroundings while pursuing individual interests.

The hunting, fishing, and camping culture in Michigan naturally draws a large number of people to the woods, fields, and waters of the state. For those who may not be getting out and about, now would be a good time to check out the wide range of possible activities.

Many years ago, spending time outdoors was easy. Our culture and economy required people to get close to the land to carve out a living. Now, the opposite is true. Almost everyone works at an indoor occupation. Children today have technology to keep them inside and quiet. In the old days mom kicked the kids out of the house to get them from underfoot or do chores.

Recognizing the need for outdoor spaces, government on all levels and private businesses have, in recent times, committed resources both natural and monetary to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for the public.

Trail systems are a good example. In our own community we have nature

trails and walkways which provide a safe environment for people to walk, ride, jog, or walk the dog. Cross country ski trails wind through fields and forests all over Michigan for wintertime fun and exercise.

Equestrian trails give the horse folks a place to ride their favorite mounts in pleasant surroundings. All-terrain vehicle trails allow riders to get off the beaten path. In some parts of the state snowmobile trails are so extensive that those living in the area can leave the car in the garage when the snow flies. Long distance hikers can tap into the North Country Trail which crosses both peninsulas. Lakes and rivers offer a wide range of recreational opportunities too numerous to list here. Campgrounds dot the map from the southern border to Copper Harbor. Accommodations for bike riders are expanding in many places. In urban areas there are often parks and preserves within walking distance.

Although it may no longer be natural to get outdoors on a regular and extended basis, the opportunities are there for those willing to choose an activity and seek out a place to pursue their interest. Don't miss out, just find a way.

We love to hear from you!



Letters are required to bear the author's signature, phone number and address (for verification purposes only, not for publication). Letters will be published at the discretion of the publisher; duplicate comments/authors within a short period may be dismissed. Opinions expressed in "To The Editor" are not the views of the Ledger employees or the publisher. All letters are subject to editing. Thank you letters and advertising will not be printed.

Letters may be submitted via email to: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com ("to the Editor" in subject line) or dropped off or mailed to: The Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

anniversaries

DeYoung



Seventy years of marriage will be celebrated on July 17, 2018, by Martin and Lorema (DeLoof) DeYoung of Ada. The DeYongs owned DeYoung's Orchard on Bailey Drive for many years.

The couple has two children, Martin (Cheryl) DeYoung of Saranac and Chris (Craig) Yeiter of



Ada. Their son Roger died in 1971. They have six grandchildren: Tammy (Brad) Janowiak, Karrie DeYoung, Shanda (Rich) Weed, Sheila Yeiter, Martin DeYoung and Tasha (Rich) Brand; and six great-granddaughters: Hayleigh Borton, Kennedi, Addison and Harper Weed, Calihan Janowiak and Emerson Brand.

A family celebration is in the works for later this month.

health

- diabetes and heart disease

If you have diabetes, you're at increased risk of having a heart attack or stroke compared to the general public. Diabetes is considered one of the five risk factors for heart disease. The other four consist of family history of heart disease, smoking, high cholesterol and hypertension (high blood pressure). If you have diabetes, there are things you can do to reduce your risk of heart disease. Learning the ABCS of diabetes can help you control your condition and stay healthy.

A stands for the A1C test. This test, also called the glycosylated hemoglobin test, gives a three-month average of your blood sugar levels. This test should be performed every three to six months and should be kept below seven percent.

B stands for blood pressure. Having high blood pressure overworks your heart. All diabetics and non-

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Wayne A. Chritenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

diabetics should be screened regularly for high blood pressure. However, diabetics must keep their blood pressures below 130/80, which is lower than required for non-diabetics, who must stay below 140/90.

C stands for cholesterol. "Bad" cholesterol or low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, can build up and clog your arteries. Diabetics should have their cholesterol checked yearly and keep their LDL below 100. Once again, this value is lower than the level required for non-diabetics, who must stay below 130.

S stands for smoking. This is an obvious one. All smokers are at increased risk of heart disease, but if you're diabetic, that risk is more than doubled.

If you have questions about managing your diabetes and reducing your risk of heart disease, see your healthcare provider.

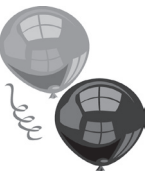
college news

Parker Groom, 2014 Lowell High School, graduated with honors from the chemistry department of the University of Michigan and received his Bachelor of Science in biomolecular sciences. Groom is the son of Sue and Terry Groom of Lowell.

St. Cloud State University graduated more than 1,120 students during spring semester 2018. Commencement ceremonies took place Friday, May 4, 2018.

Local students were, of Ada, Mitchell North, Bachelor of Science, marketing, Cum Laude; and Mitchell North, certificate, professional selling specialization.

happy birthday



JULY 11

Dina DeCator, Jodi Hutchinson, Savannah Rice.

JULY 14

Ernestine Bundy, Katie Stouffer, Richard Ellison, Mindy Tykocki, Bethany Kaczanowski.

JULY 12

Cole Burdette, Samantha Bellah, Jill Taylor, Hayley Fritz, Georgan Watrous.

JULY 15

Mari Stone, Joyce VanDyke, Keenan Hacker.

JULY 13

Travis Thomet, Cheryl Doyle, Justin Craig, Janet Burns, Esther Newell, John Jones, Izzy Tackmann, Sharon Landman.

JULY 16

James Stanley Smith, Caleb Rinard.

JULY 17

Vicki VanDerWarf, Ken Willmarth, Tom Karp.

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July 17, 2018

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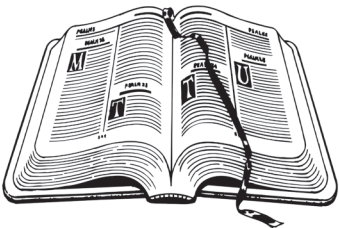
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area churches



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Pastor Phil Severn • Youth Pastor
Christi Swain, Director of Children's Ministries

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SUNDAY School..... 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
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Kid's Crew 11:15 AM
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perseverance

A community fighting cancer

Throughout July the Lowell Ledger and the Buyer's Guide & News will once again highlight the stories of area cancer survivors and those who are dealing with grief. Each writer will convey, in their own words, their experiences as they walk through the many phases of their personal journey.

~ All photos courtesy of Heather Eveland Photography

Kathy Noskey

Hello, we are Kathy and Dick Noskey. We moved to Lowell in 1970 from Grand Rapids. We moved into our new house on Woodbushe in Eastgate with our two sons. Brent, our oldest son, was about a year and a half [years] old and Todd, our younger son, was a few weeks old. We love Lowell. It seemed like a nice place to raise a family. Wendy, our oldest daughter, was born in 1972. Heidi, our younger daughter, was born in 1979. We are getting real close to 50 years here in Lowell. We feel blessed to have lived in this town of Lowell.

We have 10 grandchildren. Four have graduated from Lowell. Three are attending school. Two are in the Lowell Middle School. One is currently at Lowell High School. We also have three grandchildren who grew up in Cedar Springs.

On January 5, 2018, an ultrasound at the Lack's Center indicated two masses (tumors) in my uterus. They



We all come together in Lowell to walk this journey together as the strongest Little Town of Lowell. Thanks to everyone who is walking this journey with me.

~ Kathy Noskey

were cancerous. Yes, that was a big shock for both my husband Dick and I.

Now we needed to share this with our kids and their spouses (who are like our [own] kids as well).

We invited all [the kids] over and the three youngest grandkids were able to come as they live in Lowell. Our other seven grandkids live out of town.

We wanted to tell them face-to-face. We knew not a text or email was the way to go. No mom or dad or grandma or grandpa wants to tell their kids or grandkids this news.

"Your mom/grandma has cancer." But Dick took over and explained it all to them.

The look on their faces said it all. As a mom and grandma, I hugged each person in the room and gave them a kiss and said, "I love you."

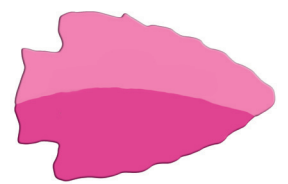
We all needed each other to walk this journey together with The Lord. [I] received calls and texts and emails from the rest of the grandchildren who live away from home.

I had six chemo treatments and family would come up that day and bring lunch. I will have 27 radiation treatments and I just finished my first week and have four more weeks to go.

Living in Lowell is also a blessing when walking this journey. I have a number of people in Lowell who stop and ask, "how are you doing?" Or say, "I am praying for you."

One of the most beautiful events in Lowell has been and is the Pink

Arrow week here in Lowell. I am humbled to have been invited to tell my story. As I write this, there are tears of joy that I can share my story and tears of sadness, as I have lost a brother-in-law, Ron Pawloski; [and] a very good friend, Maureen Mikulski; and have known others that have lost the battle. We all come together in Lowell to walk this journey together as the strongest Little Town of Lowell. Thanks to everyone who is walking this journey with me. Kathy Noskey



SAVE THE DATE

PINK ARROW
QUIVER

SAVE THE DATE

5K RUN & FAMILY WALK
SEPTEMBER 8 IN DOWNTOWN LOWELL

perseverance

A community fighting cancer

Dale and Lynda Spitler

written by Amanda Schrauben

If you were to see Dale and Lynda Spitler walking down the street or out shopping, you wouldn't think much about them. They look like an average retired couple. Dale was born and raised in Kalamazoo. He has a booth at North Star Antiques, offering some of his personal antique inventory and items he has handcrafted. One of his specialties is working with barn doors. He also enjoys working with wood to create frames, shelves which include coat hooks and more.

However, like most, they are living an underlying story passersby do not realize is taking place. Lynda was diagnosed with breast cancer in March of 2017. Within months of the diagnosis, Dale was told he had bladder cancer. This could be considered the "for worse" portion of their wedding vows said 45 years ago. Yet they've endured diagnosis and treatment together with a unique understanding of the other's experience.

The Spitlers, residents of Lowell, live in a home they designed and watched be built 20 years ago. The log house is nestled away on a quiet street. They had a chance encounter while Dale was in Grand Rapids attending Kendall College of Art of Design. Soon after they met they started dating. One might say it was meant to be when, together, they purchased two chairs and a couch at an antique auction during their second date. They share a love of antiques, cooking (Dale is the cook in the family) and baking (Lynda the making portion and Dale the eating



Dale and Lynda Spitler with their grandson, Grant.

chemotherapy treatments and then radiation.

The worst part of the treatment program for Lynda was dealing with needles. They make her cringe. They give her anxiety. And for someone who was only ever in the hospital for the birth of her son, needles and medical treatment were far from her comfort zone. But she knew the needles and time spent in the hospital was her avenue to life. Treatment made her tired. The loss

Her hair has grown back, but she still sees an unfamiliar face when looking into a mirror. Cancer may have left but reminders remain.

Enter Dale. First he dealt with his wife's diagnosis and treatment. He noticed blood in his urine, which he ignored at first. He figured it would go away. But it didn't. Eventually he would make an appointment with a doctor. Investigating symptoms and testing would lead to the discovery of Stage 2 bladder cancer in fall 2017.

Dale describes seeing spiderwebs on a screen as he looked at images of the cancer on his bladder. He would undergo surgery to remove the superficial cancer, thankful it had been caught before becoming Stage 3, where treatment includes removal of the bladder. Bladder cancer is on the rise.

It's the fifth most common cancer in men. Superficial bladder cancer is when it is found only in the lining as opposed to invasive, which has moved to the muscle layer.

He is still receiving treatment. Every three months he undergoes a procedure once a week for three weeks. This treatment involves injecting drugs, with a germ which is related to the one which causes tuberculosis, into his bladder. This drug is used to keep any cancer from returning. This four times a year treatment will continue for another two and half years. The

process doesn't have side effects like chemotherapy, but there's still a physical and emotional toll.

As the Spitlers each dealt with a cancer diagnosis, they also had to think about their 12-year-old grandson who lives with them. He has been with them since he was a baby and has ODD and ADHD. They've cared for him over the years, however it was Grant who would also stand by them through their diagnosis and treatment.

Both Lynda and Dale will continue to be checked to make sure their cancer does not return. They are currently trying to get life back in order now that Lynda has regained her strength, although she proceeds with caution as not to overdo. They hope to get back into growing vegetables and keeping flower gardens. They're eager to continue exploring their love of antiques. They're ready to live.

But this new life for them comes with a different perspective. They both have seen others battling cancer come in for treatment. They have seen what the disease can do to a person. They've experienced it themselves. In telling their story, they hope others will be proactive when it comes to healthcare. Lynda doesn't want other women to put off having a yearly mammogram, wondering if

Thank you Ethel Steers and Pink Arrow Pride for their support in our time of need.

~ Dale & Lynda Spitler

aspect) and traveling in a camper. They never anticipated sharing a cancer diagnosis six months apart.

Lynda first dealt with skin cancer on her back and face. Then at 67, she had her first-ever mammogram. It was performed on a mammogram bus in a Meijer parking lot. She looked at it as checking off a box. She never looked at having a yearly mammogram as an item on her to do list. After completing the procedure, Lynda received a phone call two days later. She needed further testing. Eventually a biopsy, followed by a lumpectomy, was performed and lymph nodes taken. She was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer. She would start

of energy made her yearn for sleep most days. It took effort to eat and do laundry. She even spent three days in the hospital as a result of a rare flu while undergoing chemotherapy.

For Lynda, treatment is over. Chemotherapy ended in January of this year. Radiation was complete in March. Her cancer was removed with no signs of returning. But side effects linger. Foods she used to love does not taste good. She feels tingling in her arms and legs at times and experiences a loss of balance. These are symptoms which may or may not clear up as time goes on. Lynda refers to her "chemo brain" as she tries to recall information which doesn't come as quickly as it used to.

perseverance

A community fighting cancer

Carey Brown

Warrior
Victim
Survivor

These are words I've used to describe some amazing women, like two of my aunts, a friend and coworkers. I own words like wife, mother, sister, friend. Those are my titles! They fit me and I cherish those words. My life is organized, driven and passionate. Suddenly, I am breathless as I am told my title is changing. I don't want a new title but that is not for me to decide. My vocabulary, my knowledge of the "C word" and my journey are all about to change. Life as I know it is about to change.....and my new word is terrified.

I am Carey Brown, wife, mother, professional, and breast cancer survivor. My husband Pat and I have been an active part of the Lowell community for our 24 years of marriage. We raised our three wonderful kids here. Kaeleb and Paige graduated from Lowell High School. Our son Noah will start his senior year this fall. The Lowell community is our home. This has never been more apparent than during this past year. When we entered an extremely difficult chapter in our lives, the people of Lowell rallied around us.



We felt honored and supported with thoughts, prayers and well wishes. The love and strength of this small-town community surrounded us in so many ways.

supported with thoughts, The love and strength of this small-town community surrounded us in so many ways.

~ Carey Brown

We felt honored and supported with thoughts, prayers and well wishes. The love and strength of this small-town community surrounded us in so many ways.

Lowell's Red Arrow shooting team, which Noah is a part of, hosted a fundraising event. My sister-in-law had 300 bracelets made to distribute in support of my battle. I draw great strength from the enormous support network I have here in our hometown. My family has participated in many Pink Arrow events over the years, but I never imagined that one day I would be part of the cause. I have a newfound appreciation for the way this community pulls together to embrace survivors and the families of those who lost their battle. I am honored to participate in the Pink Arrow game this year. I look forward to standing on the field and representing the

proactive and followed a disciplined exam regimen. Just four days before my annual physical, I found a lump. The instant concern and panic in that moment cannot be put into words.

My doctor ordered a mammogram right away, but I had to wait ten nerve-racking days to get it done. I was angry it took so long; my impatience didn't fit well with the doctor's over-booked schedules. I knew something was wrong after that initial mammogram. I was quickly scheduled for follow-up tests (an MRI, an ultrasound, 3D mammogram, and several biopsies). No one had told me what was happening, but when you are scheduled for an immediate whirlwind of testing, you know they found something. I didn't need it spelled out. I knew my title had changed.

When doctors tell you tests show cancer, it is surreal. You can't process

what is being said. Your mind goes into self-defense mode and refuses to understand or accept it. When I was able to regain composure, I knew I had to tell our kids. How does a mother tell her children that she has cancer? Mom is pretty sick, but I don't want you to worry. Those words don't even make sense!

As a mother, it's my job to take care of our family and take away their worries. Now I am the cause of their worry and desperately need their support. I wasn't prepared for this! I am the strong one. However, our kids showed me that they also are very strong. They continue to amaze me. They took my diagnosis in stride and were ready to go to battle with me. What a blessing!

Our next step was to share this news with our extended family and closest friends. This is when I realized that I had an amazing support system. The care of family, friends and co-workers got me through the next few days and weeks. Fighting cancer is hard, but when the struggle became overwhelming, there was a text, a card, an email or a gift on my doorstep that kept me going. Sometimes I would see a stranger wearing a 'Carey' support bracelet. When my spirit was low and I wanted to give up, a loved one was always there to lift me up.

Once reality set in, so did my true nature. I am a doer,

a problem-solver, a fighter. I told myself: Women conquer this all the time. I've got this, let's get started! We scheduled an appointment with the Multi-Specialty Team (MST) at the Lemmen-Holton Pavillion. This one-day evaluation with a team of doctors from several specialties results in an all-inclusive personalized treatment plan. By the end of the day, I was told I had a very aggressive, but very treatable, form of breast cancer. I had accepted my diagnosis by then and was ready to start battling my new enemy. I knew I had to fight, for my husband, for my kids, but most of all

Carey's story, continued, page 10



Lowell Program

In This Together...
Learn. Share. Laugh.

perseverance

A community fighting cancer

Spitler's story, continued

she had continued to wait whether her cancer discovery could have been worse. Even through self-exams Lynda did not feel any lumps which women are told to look for; the mass removed from Lynda's breast was something undetected during self-exams.

The Spitlers would like to thank Ethel Steers and Pink Arrow Pride for their support in their time of need. They also mentioned the staff at Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion [for] being friendly, courteous and helpful. Pastor Brian Harrison of their church, Alaska Baptist Church, also spent

time with Lynda when she was in the hospital and sat with her when Dale had his surgery. Faith and friends helped the Spitlers through their cancer journey.

Lynda would also like special recognition to go out to her long-time friend Sharon Zuyddyk who sat

with her in the hospital giving Dale a break. Sharon also brought chicken bouillon soup and windmill cookies - two things Lynda enjoyed and could tolerate eating. Lynda and Dale are looking forward to traveling around Michigan and camping in their Airstream with Grant this summer.

Carey's story, continued

for me. How I stepped forward from here, how I managed my feelings and fears, and how I embraced this new role were completely up to me now.

While I appreciated my amazing supporters and my devoted husband, I lacked a group of people that could truly understand what I was enduring. No amount of explaining (not that I wanted to) could help family and friends relate to this diagnosis or the toll it was taking on me. While I was in surgery having my port installed, Pat looked into Gilda's Club. (Seriously, every woman should have a husband this supportive in their corner.) As chance would have it, the breast cancer group was meeting that night. I wasn't sure I was ready to socialize around breast cancer. The surgery to install my port made everything very real. I was feeling extremely emotional and hated this foreign object implanted in my body. Despite my reservations, I decided to attend the Gilda's group meeting that night.

I changed my mind a dozen times while driving there. I wasn't sure I wanted to do this. I was in pain from my port surgery. I was going to have to talk about cancer... Will they all be dying? Will most of them be survivors from 20 years ago? I'm not sure I am ready for all of this reality. Everything was happening so fast,

from diagnosis to treatment. I was on a runaway rollercoaster. My new title included words like cancer patient and fighter, but somewhere deep inside, I was also still my old self. I needed to learn all I could about this new foe trying to steal my precious life I've worked so hard to create.

I was pleasantly surprised when I walked into a room full of gracious women who wanted to know my story. From that day on, every time I go to a Gilda's Club meeting, I am met with questions about how my appointments have gone since the last time they saw me. These women remember what treatment I'm on and what appointments I have been to, and they truly want to hear how I am doing. I cannot describe the comfort I felt surrounded by women who have walked in my shoes, who shared their stories so openly and offered suggestions, kinship and love when I needed them most.

The beautiful women in the breast cancer support group at Gilda's Club of Lowell have battled breast cancer and are surviving. They range from recently diagnosed to 20 years fighting and winning. Some have faced cancer once, while others have battled several times. These women were a crystal ball into my future through this fight and beyond. They have been through

mastectomies, lumpectomies, hormone replacements, ports, chemo, and radiation. These ladies have a wealth of knowledge and are always willing to enlighten me on side effects, emotions and issues that doctors don't talk about or forget to mention. They are caring, kind and relatable. Most of all, they give me hope. We celebrate each other's successes, cry with each other when it gets difficult and answer the questions we are all nervous to ask.

battle. You learn to appreciate times when you can relax and enjoy life because you don't have a treatment. You treasure the days you feel well enough for a little fun, like enjoying some sunshine and fresh air with your family. I don't feel 100 percent, but I hope to soon. My life will never be the same as it was before cancer. I will never be the same person I was before cancer. I have managed to work, keep busy and avoid dwelling on my illness. There are times this still

I cannot describe the comfort I felt surrounded by women who have walked in my shoes, who shared their stories so openly and offered suggestions, kinship and love when I needed them most.

~ Carey Brown

They have welcomed Pat into the group too. While family members are always welcome, Pat is often the only man in the room. They make him feel comfortable and encourage him to participate. This has helped my husband immensely.

I am currently cancer-free and will finish out my treatment plan the remainder of this year. I have settled into my new 'normal.' I still have endless doctor appointments and ongoing treatments, but I have gotten some of my life back. It's hard to convey how much of your time and freedom are taken up in the cancer

seems like a terrible dream. Maybe that is denial sneaking in or maybe that's just how I am coping. Either way, I am changed. I like to believe I have changed for the better. I am wiser, more appreciative and loving. I have learned the value of precious people, time and health. I have learned the power and significance of a kind word or deed. I am altered! I will be forever indebted to the loving, generous and inspiring people who carried me through this battle. My Gilda's friends are at the top of that list. My new title is eternally grateful!

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Big Band Nouveau returns to Riverwalk

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

After another sweltering week of summer sun, the night cooled off just in time for the Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert last Thursday evening. The heat was on stage pumping out of the 16 instruments of local jazz ensemble Big Band Nouveau.

The Showboat stage veterans returned to the stage to follow up their well-attended 2016 appearance. Based out of Grand Rapids, this talented group of musicians feature a core residency of artists: Michael Doyle, Mark Wells, Fred Knapp and musical brothers, Joe Lesinski and Paul Lesinski.

A vast pool of other jazz artists unite to create the commanding 16 piece performance band. Big Band Nouveau brings to life the fabulous big band era with a modern Latin twist infusion. Their ensemble features a combination of horn, string and percussion instruments. Their live two-hour set featured original compositions and covers of legendary jazz standards from the likes of Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock and John Coltrane.

This week, The Soul Syndicate will take the stage to kick off the Riverwalk Festival. Inspired by the soul and R&B of the late 60s and early 70s the group has smoky male and

female vocals and smooth rhythms. Their song list includes tracks born and raised in Michigan's own music capital of Motown, including covers of popular works from Stevie Wonder, The Temptations and Marvin Gaye as well as other legendary genre performers like Otis Redding, Aretha Franklin and Wilson Pickett.

Showtime is scheduled for this Thursday at 7 pm. As always, food, refreshments and adult beverages are available onsite along with both bleacher and lawn seating. No admission is charged to this free, family-friendly event.



Jazz was the order of the evening when Big Band Nouveau took the stage last Thursday. (Photo by Bruce Doll)

Cyclists tour countrysides at 24th annual covered bridge event

by Kathryn Atwood
contributing reporter

The 24th annual Covered Bridge Bike Tour pedaled its way through the countrysides of Lowell, Ada and Alto last weekend.

On-site registration for the event began Sunday morning at 7 am inside the historic one-room schoolhouse. The tour began in the pioneer settlement of Fallasburg Village at 13944 Covered Bridge Rd in Lowell, nestled inside Fallasburg County Park. Before starting their journeys over the Fallasburg Covered Bridge cyclists were able to select from a variety of marked routes ranging in distance from 12 to 100 miles.

The most traveled route, running 24 miles relatively flat land, featured a reststop at a second historic covered bridge in Ada. Other routes offered equally scenic refreshment stations.

Cycling enthusiasts were able to travel at

their own pace along the meandering routes and even wander, if they wished. Returning to the starting location following their tour, participants were welcomed back to the village for the popular after race meal home-cooked by volunteers. Lunch was hosted outdoors in a picnic setting at the Misner House.

Presented by The Fallasburg Historical Society, the nearly quarter century-old event utilizes registration fees to benefit the efforts to preserve

and provide educational opportunities in the historic village which was erected by the John Wesley Fallas family in the 1830s. A once-more sprawling community, the village now features the remnants of the aforementioned sites as well as the Tower Farm, village cemetery, former saloon and several residential dwellings amidst 42 acres along the Flat River. Since 1999, the site has been designated a "Historical District" with the National Register of Historic Places.



Cyclists set off across the historic Fallasburg Covered Bridge north of Lowell.

Left: Participants embark on their chosen routes at the 24th annual fundraising event.



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1706755 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, Bloomington, IL

obituaries

CHRISMAN

Hazel Laverne "Marty" Chrisman, age 79 of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, July 3, 2018.



She was preceded in death by her husband Cecil Chrisman; daughter Patricia "Tricia" Ann Stine; sister Pernie Williams; brother Buddy Martin; and nephew Toby Martin. She is survived by her children, David (Connie) Chrisman, Susan Lynn Heinicke (Matt Pollie); Daniel (Michelle) Chrisman; brothers Ronald (Faye) Armstrong, James "Butch" (Nita) Martin, Mitch (Patricia "Lynn") Martin; sister Dee (William) Kreider; grandchildren Jessica (Henry), Ashley (Griffin), Joshua (Chelsea), Rachel (Mike), Rebecca (Evan), Renae (Anthony), Jacob, Nichole; and great-grandchildren Jackson, Quinn, Elise, Parker and Brynn. Hazel was a proud veteran of the Womens Army Corps; she served 1957-1958. Funeral was held Saturday, July 7, at Roth-Gerst Chapel. Interment Oakwood Cemetery, Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to VFW Post #8303, 3116 Alden Nash Ave. SE, Lowell, MI 49331; or the Paralyzed Veterans of America, <https://secure.pva.org>.



JOHNSON

Lena Johnson aged 81 of Ada passed away July 2, 2018. She was born October 23, 1936 in Monroe, Tennessee the daughter of Porter and Florence (Reagan) Crawford. Lena married William Johnson Sr. in 1953. Her home and her family were very important to her. She is survived by her loving husband, William Johnson Sr. of Ada. Children, Malinda (Bruce) Kass of Lowell, William Johnson Jr. of Saranac; grandchildren, Stacy (Steve) Huisenga of Cutlerville, Lynette (Mike) Dodge of Kentwood; great-grandchildren, Lily Huisenga, Evan Dodge and Miles Dodge; brothers, Ralph Reagan of Saranac, Ronald (JoAnn) Reagan of Saranac; and sister, Linda Pierce of Texas. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Randy Reagan and sister, Mildred Crawford. Cremation has taken place and there will be no services as this time. Those wishing may make memorial contributions to American Cancer Society. Arrangements in care of Lake Funeral Home in Saranac. Online condolences may be made to www.lakefuneralhomes.com

MARTIN

Alfred Edward Martin, age 94 of Lowell, passed away Monday, July 09, 2018. He was preceded in death by his wife Jessie (1981); three sisters; and one brother. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; children Albert (Elaine) Martin, Frank (Norene) Martin, Steve (Robin) Martin; stepchildren Kimberlin (Patrick) Dibble, Deveny Dibble, Pennie Shoebridge; 10 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and also great-great-grandchildren. Alfred was an incredibly kind and quiet man, who was much loved. He enjoyed working in his garage. A WWII veteran, Alfred served in the Army. Visitation will be 6-8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Funeral will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday, July 12, at South Boston Bible Church, 6958 Kyser Rd., Lowell. The family will also greet friends and relatives one hour prior to the service at the church. Rev. Ronald Tuinstra officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to South Boston Bible Church.



WOSINSKI

Donald Allen Wosinski, age 60 of Parnell, passed away after a courageous battle with esophageal cancer Wednesday, July 04, 2018. He is preceded in death by his parents, Earl P. Sr. and Florence M. Wosinski; brothers, Joseph W. Wosinski, Kenneth G. Wosinski; father-in-law, AJ and Leona Miner; brothers-in-law David Myers, Jim Miner; and nephew Steve Myers. He is survived by his wife, Janet Wosinski; brothers Earl P. (Delores) Wosinski Jr., Phil (Kathy) Wosinski; sisters Margaret (Bob) Robach, Janet (Forrest) Breimayer; brother-in-law John (Evelyn) Miner; sisters-in-law Joan (Lowell) Henline, Carol Miner; Henley; and several nieces and nephews. Don retired from GM in 2009, after 30 years with the company. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, July 10, at St. Patrick Parish Parnell. Rev. Thomas Cavera presided. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick Parish, or Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331.



**Attitude is a choice.
Happiness is a choice.
Optimism is a choice.
Kindness is a choice.
Giving is a choice.
Respect is a choice.
Whatever choice you
make makes you.
Choose wisely.**

— Roy T. Bennett,
The Light in the Heart

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 18-203644-DE

Estate of CONNIE JO
SCOTT, deceased. Date
of birth: June 16, 1952.

TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Connie Jo
Scott, died June 27,
2017.

Creditors of the
decedent are notified
that all claims against

the estate will be
forever barred unless
presented to Kristina
Maldonado, personal
representative, or to
both the probate court
at 180 Ottawa Avenue
NW, Grand Rapids, MI
49503 and the personal
representative within 4
months after the date
of publication of this
notice.

Mary L. Benedict
(P45285)
4519 Cascade Road SE
Ste. 4
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-942-0020

Kristina Maldonado
1296 Sibly St
Lowell, MI 49331
616-206-6065

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

2	1	6	4	5	7	3	8	9
3	4	9	2	8	6	1	7	5
7	5	8	9	3	1	4	2	6
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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE FOR TESTING OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the August 7, 2018 primary election will be conducted Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, MI 49331.

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

Monica Burt, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township

office hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - noon
closed Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

MOBILE HOME IN KEY VISTA- #121. 2008 3bed/2 bath furnished. New appliances including washer/dryer. New everything. Asking \$26,900. Call 989-533-9960.

AQUATIC PLANTS - Lotus, Water Lilies, KOI & GOLDFISH plus all pond supplies. APOL'S WATER GARDENS, 9340 Kalama-zoo, Caledonia, 698-1030. Wed.- Fri. 9 am-5:30 pm, Sat., 9 am-2 pm.^{TFN}

DOG KENNEL - w/gate, 6x6x12, galvanized, Lowell area, \$100. Call 897-4323.

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND VALUE - Requires less wood & provides more heat. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today! 616-554-8669. SOS Property Maintenance LLC, 6950 Hammond Ave, Caledonia. We are your local sales, service & parts dealer!^{TFN}

KITTENS - 8 to 10 weeks old. 1 female, black and white and 1 male, black with white paws. They were spayed and neutered on June 25. They have been inside since May 25. Asking \$20 rehoming charge. 517-526-0279.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET - (new), \$248/set. Thick & plush. Hammond Wholesale, 320 W. Main St., Carson City, 989-584-1600. See us on Facebook.^{TFN}

TRUCK FOR SALE - 2010 Chevy Silverado Z71, very good condition, no rust, near new tires, fiberglass top, 58,000 miles. \$17,400 obo. Call 616-401-0378.

USED TIRES - Call with size, 616-292-7649/616-295-8820. Rob's Auto - thanks.^{TFN}

REACH OVER 100,000 AREA HOMES - with our Marketplace! One call & one payment, only \$40! Includes 20 words & 1 black & white photo. Only items for sale please. Perfect place to advertise a vehicle or camper for sale! The ad runs in the Lowell Buyer's Guide & News, Hastings Reminder, Marshall Advisor/Chronicle & Battle Creek Shopper News. Call 897-9555, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info.

PIONEER POLE BUILDINGS- Free Estimates-Licensed and insured-2x6 Trusses-45 Year Warranty Galvalume Steel-19 Colors-Since 1976-#1 in Michigan-Call Today 1-800-292-0679. (MICH)

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FRI. 8-12
 Closed Sat. & Sun.
 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.
 Phone 897-9261
 Fax 897-4809

for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW - Equal Housing Opportunity. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of housing or residential lots; in the advertising the sale or rental of housing, in the financing of housing. Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination: 1-800-669-9777 (toll free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. Call for specials 558-2900.^{TFN}

misc.

EASTSIDE ARTISAN MARKET - Every 2nd & 4th Tues., 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm at Balls Softee Cream, Lowell.

LOWELL AREA FARMERS' MARKET - every Thursday noon to 5 pm downtown Lowell in the Veteran's Memorial Parking lot across from the Riverwalk Plaza. Cinnamon Piggott, Market Master, 616-916-9193/www.discoverlowell.org

wanted

I WANT TO BUY - Refrigerator, stove, washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.^{TFN}

FREON R12 WANTED: CERTIFIED BUYER will PAY CASH for R12 cylinders or cases of cans. (312) 291-9169; www.refrigerantfinders.com (MICH)

GUITAR WANTED! Local musician will pay up to \$12,500 for pre-1975 Gibson, Fender, Martin and Gretsch guitars. Fender amplifiers also. Call toll free! 1-800-995-1217. (MICH)

help wanted

NEED EXTRA CASH? - We are taking applications for a walking route carrier to deliver the Buyers Guide on Saturdays. Must be dependable! Work less than 1 day a week! Get paid weekly, pickup papers at Buyers Guide office. Must be at least 16 for this position. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

sales

HUGE YARD SALE - Sat., July 14. Moving. Baby items, furniture, misc. 9 am - ? 518 High Street, Lowell.

ESTATE MOVING SALE - Lots of oak furniture: tables, desk, hutch, bookcase, kitchen table & chairs; upright freezer, dressers, lamps, linen, household items, tons of lawn care stuff: lawnmower, snow blower, edgers, trimmer, thatcher, lawn roller, ladder, misc.; miscellaneous tools, X-mas items, electric wheelchair, too much to list!! Thurs., Fri., & Sat., July 12, 13 & 14. 6939 Alden Nash Rd (M-50), 7 miles south of Lowell. 616-540-8686.

STORAGE SALE - Whistle Stop Storage, 12661 Vergennes, Lowell. July 23, 2018 at 9 am. CASH ONLY & ID. Chair, glider, lamps, rugs, coffee table, clothing, plastic shelving, candles, office chair, vacuum, kitchen ware, nice household, coat tree, seasonal decor, linens, cabinet, shovel, decor pillows, lots of books, world maps, pictures, dolls, lawn mower, suitcases, bed, dresser w/mirror, vases, statues, band, table & mitre saw, snowboard w/boots, table & chairs, large paper shredder, weed whacker, smoker, gas cans, shop vac, lots of misc. Sue Hamstra, Jerrad Gender, Trent Frey, Jeff Hugger, Cynthia Neuendorf.

help wanted

GENERAL LABORER - Job includes lifting & stacking lumber. Candidates must submit to & pass a pre-employment drug test. Starting wage \$12.00 hour, benefits, 401K & vacation. Apply in person at 396 Main St, Sunfield, MI 48890.

HELP WANTED - Grass cutting needed on an on-call basis. Call 676-9734.

GENERAL LABORERS/TRUCK DRIVERS - Immediate opening, good pay, flexible schedule. Call Lacey today for more information, 616-691-7368.

SPORTS ADDIX - in Lowell is hiring General Labor positions for full time, part time, 1st and 2nd shifts. All positions are Monday-Friday. Schedule and duties may change due to business demands. Call 616-987-3364 and ask for Bart Dempsey.

TRUCK DRIVER- Candidates must have a CDL with a "T" endorsement, 3 years' experience, a good driving record and subject to DOT regulations. Duties include loading logs, hauling logs & lumber with double bottom trailers. Applicant must be able to operate a front end loader, work off road, alone & manage their time. Hourly wage based on experience & includes a benefits, 401K & vacation. Apply in person to: Quality Hardwoods, Inc., 396 Main St., Sunfield. No phone calls please.

services

FENCING - wood, chain link, vinyl. Free estimates. Revised Home Improvement. See our Facebook page for pictures & references. 269-953-5065.

HANDY REPAIR SERVICE - All kinds of service work: locks rekeyed, deadbolts installed, screen & window repair. Call Bob Ford, 299-3198.^{TFN}

RETIRED ELECTRICIAN - Reasonable, any size job. Discount for retirees & vets. Call 616-401-6547.

BUSINESS CARDS - Before you order your cards from somewhere else - check our rates! Call Lowell Litho, 897-9261.

services

WORK WANTED - Double D's Bucket Van & Handyman Service. 40' bucket, tree trimming & removal, gutters, window washing, power washing, buildings, barns, homes, decks, etc. Insured. Call Dave Delinsky, 616-212-3008. Free estimates.

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dumpster rental, 10-20 yards. Mention this ad for \$10 to \$20 off. Call or text Doug for estimates at 616-295-6640.^{TFN}

COPIES COPIES COPIES - Color & black & white copiers! Excellent quality! Stop by our office, Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

services

FREE AD! - Place & pay for a classified ad in the Buyers Guide & Lowell Ledger for 3 weeks & receive the 4th week FREE! You must mention the special in order to receive this offer. Valid only with new classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555, fax 897-4809 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, Lowell. Ph. 897-9261.

POWER WASHING - Dirt, mildew washed away. Call Jim today, 915-1745.

EVERYDAY MILITARY DISCOUNT - 10% off any service when showing your military ID. 24-Hour towing, tire change, lock out, jump starts, fuel delivery. J&K Roadside Service, 616-690-0983.

Community Calendar AND ONGOING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE - Coming Events are for non-profit organizations. If you are charging admission for an event - it is considered an advertisement. Coming events are on a space available basis & **ARE NOT GUARANTEED**. If you would like to make sure your event is placed in the paper, please call our office & place it as a classified ad. We will not accept ANY Garage or sales (including fundraisers) as a coming event. All Coming Events or changes to coming events should be submitted by fax: 897-4809, email: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com, by mail: PO Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or in person: 105 N. Broadway.

MATTHEW BALL "THE BOOGIE WOOGIE KID" - July 19 at 10 am. Everyone is invited. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

ANNUAL PARK PARTY - at Scheid Park on July 26 at 10 am. Hosted by the Saranac Public Library.

CND NATIONAL CEMETERY & MARSH HIKE - July 15, North Country Trail in Fort Custer National Recreation Area. Two free, guided hikes, one 3 miles & one 6 miles, led by Chief Noonday Chapter of the North Country Trail Assoc. See website for further info: www.northcountrytrail.org/cnd/index.htm

MATTHEW BALL "THE BOOGIE WOOGIE KID" PERFORMS - July 19, at 1 pm. Everyone is invited. Sponsored by the Friends of the Clarksville Area Library. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

FREE VISION TESTING - July 19 at 1 pm. Pre-register by calling the library. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

ANNUAL PARK PARTY - July 26 at 1 pm. in the library lawn. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

ALOHOMORA! UNLOCK YOUR HARRY POTTER DRAWING SKILLS - July 18, 1 pm. Corrine Roberts, local il-

lustration artist, is back with a family friendly, Harry Potter drawing session. Parents or guardians are strongly encouraged to attend and assist their children. For school-age children. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

ROCKIN' WITH PETE THE CAT - July 16, 10:30 am. We'll read *Pete the Cat* stories, enjoy making some Pete-inspired crafts & sing & dance to silly songs. Alto Library, 6071 Linfield Ave SE, Alto, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

POP 'N' PAINT: THE REMIX - July 24, 1 pm. We will paint & etch rockin' art onto recycled CDs. Two discs provided. You may bring up to 2 additional discs. Pre-registration required. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

GEARS OF NERF - July 31, 1 pm. Let loose the Gears of Nerf. You and your team are given 30 minutes to build a free standing structure that will protect your medic. Nerf blasters are provided, please do not bring your own. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

INTRODUCTION TO METAL EMBOSsing - Pre-registration required. July 16, 6 pm. In this class, participants will be introduced to the art of metal embossing. Each participant will work to design, emboss & patina a piece of aluminum that can serve as a decorative piece or a piece of functional jewelry. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784-2007, www.kdl.org

50th ANNUAL FALLSBURG ARTS FESTIVAL - featuring over 100 unique, fine art & fine crafts booths, food booths & a children's craft area. Timeless craft demonstrations, live music. Sat. & Sun., Sept. 15 & 16, 10 am - 5 pm. Free admission, 1124 Fallsburg Park Dr NE, Lowell. www.lowellartsmi.org

LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB - will be holding their meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Englehardt Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell at 6:30 pm.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY - meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in

the Historical Museum at 84th/ Alden Nash.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - every Monday, 7-8:30 p.m. during school year in Scout Cabin at the end of N. Washington St. Ages 11 and up or completing 5th grade. Call Scoutmaster Clay VanderWarf, 616-485-3429 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

VERGENNES CLUB MEETS - at 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month March thru Nov. Meeting at Schneider Manor Community Room. Program & refreshments. Guests welcome.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY TOPS MI #372 - every Tuesday, weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m. in the activity room at Schneider Manor, Lowell.

QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMANS CLUB - meets second and third Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at 8731 West Riverside Dr. Go to www.qua-ke-zik.org for information. New members welcome.

LOWELL LIONS CLUB - meets third Tuesday at noon at Lowell City Hall.

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Open Radio Room Thursdays, 7 pm at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 Fulton St. E. General meeting 3rd Thursday. www.w8lrc.org 145.27 MHz.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES TREASURE'S THRIFT SHOP HOURS - Tues - Fri. 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 - 4 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Resource Center, 897-8260.

ALPHA FAMILY CENTER OF LOWELL - 517 E. Main. Hours: Mon. & Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Diapers, formula, clothing & free ultrasounds & pregnancy testing available. www.afclowell.org

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Sat., 9:30-1:30 p.m.; Tues. & Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs., 1-6 p.m.; Fri. 9:30-6 p.m. Info., call 784-2007.

FREE WILL

astrology

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Aries (March 21-April 19)

You can't sing with someone else's mouth, Taurus. You can't sit down and settle into a commanding new power spot with someone else's butt. Capiche? I also want to tell you that it's best if you don't try to dream with someone else's heart, nor should you imagine you can fine-tune your relationship with yourself by pushing someone else to change. But here's an odd fact: You can enhance your possibility for success by harnessing or borrowing or basking in other people's luck. Especially in the coming weeks.

Y o u r key theme right now is growth. Let's dig in and analyze its nuances. 1. Not all growth is good for you. It may stretch you too far too fast -- beyond your capacity to integrate and use it. 2. Some growth that is good for you doesn't feel good to you. It might force you to transcend comforts that are making you stagnant and that can be painful. 3. Some growth that's good for you may meet resistance from people close to you; they might prefer you to remain just as you are and may even experience your growth as a problem. 4. Some growth that isn't particularly good for you may feel pretty good. For instance, you could enjoy working to improve a capacity or skill that is irrelevant to your long-term goals. 5. Some growth is good for you in some ways and not so good in other ways. You have to decide if the trade-off is worth it. 6. Some growth is utterly healthy for you, feels pleasurable and inspires other people.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You can't sing with someone else's mouth, Taurus. You can't sit down and settle into a commanding new power spot with someone else's butt. Capiche? I also want to tell you that it's best if you don't try to dream with someone else's heart, nor should you imagine you can fine-tune your relationship with yourself by pushing someone else to change. But here's an odd fact: You can enhance your possibility for success by harnessing or borrowing or basking in other people's luck. Especially in the coming weeks.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Y o u wouldn't attempt to cure a case of hiccups by repeatedly smacking your head against a wall, right? You wouldn't use an anti-tank rocket launcher to eliminate the mosquito buzzing around your room and you wouldn't set your friend's hair on fire as a punishment for arriving late to your rendezvous at the café. So don't overreact to minor tweaks of fate, my

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

I pay tribute to your dizzying courage, you wise fool. I stage-whisper "Congratulations" as you slip away from your hypnotic routine and wander out to the edge of mysterious joy. With a crazy grin of encouragement and my fist pressed against my chest, I salute your efforts to transcend your past. I praise and exalt you for demonstrating that freedom is never permanent but must be reclaimed and reinvented on a regular basis. I cheer you on as you avoid every temptation to repeat yourself, demean yourself and chain yourself.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

I ' m feeling a bit helpless as I watch you messing with that bad but good stuff that is so wrong but right for you. I am rendered equally inert as I observe you playing with the strong but weak stuff that's interesting but probably irrelevant. I fidget and sigh as I monitor the classy but trashy influence that's angling for your attention; and the supposedly fast-moving process that's creeping along so slowly; and the seemingly obvious truth that would offer you a much better lesson if only you would see it for the chewy riddle that it is. What should I do about my predicament? Is there any

way I can give you a boost? Maybe the best assistance I can offer is to describe to you what I see.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Psychologist Paul Ekman has compiled an extensive atlas of how emotions are revealed in our faces. "Smiles are probably the most underrated facial expressions," he has written, "much more complicated than most people realize. There are dozens of smiles, each differing in appearance and in the message expressed." I bring this to your attention, Virgo, because your assignment in the coming weeks -- should you choose to accept it -- is to explore and experiment with your entire repertoire of smiles. I'm confident that life will conspire to help you carry out this task. More than at any time since your birthday in 2015, this is the season for unleashing your smiles.

Libra (September 23-October 22)

L u c k y vibes are coalescing in your vicinity. Scouts and recruiters are hovering. Helpers, fairy godmothers and future playmates are growing restless waiting for you to ask them for favors. Therefore, I hereby authorize you to be imperious, regal and overflowing with self-respect. I encourage you to seize exactly what you want, not what you're "supposed" to want. Or else be considerate, appropriate, modest, and full of harmonious caution. CUT! CUT! Delete that "be considerate" sentence. The Libra part of me tricked me into saying it. And this is one time when people of the Libra persuasion are allowed to be free from the compulsion to balance and moderate. You have a mandate to be the show, not watch the show.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Emily Dickinson wrote 1,775 poems -- an average of one every week for 34 years. I'd love to see you launch an enduring, deep-rooted project that will require similar amounts of stamina, persistence and dedication. Are you ready to expand your vision of what's possible for you to accomplish? The current astrological omens suggest that the next two months will be an excellent time to commit yourself to a Great Work that you will give your best to for the rest of your long life!

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

W h a t ' s the biggest lie in my life? There are several candidates. Here's one: I pretend I'm nonchalant about one of my greatest failures; I act as if I'm not distressed by the fact that the music I've created has never received the listenership it should have. How about you, Sagittarius? What's the biggest lie in your life? What's most false or dishonest or evasive about you? Whatever it is, the immediate future will be a favorable time to transform your relationship with it. You now have extraordinary power to tell yourself liberating truths. Three weeks from now, you could be a more authentic version of yourself than you've ever been.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

N o w and then you go through phases when you don't know what you need until you stumble upon it. At times like those, you're wise not to harbor fixed ideas about what you need or where to hunt for what you need. Metaphorically speaking, a

holy grail might show up in a thrift store. An eccentric stranger may provide you with an accidental epiphany at a bus stop or a convenience store. Who knows? A crucial clue may even jump out at you from a spam email or a reality TV show. I suspect that the next two weeks might be one of those odd grace periods for you.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

"Reverse psychology" is when you convince people to do what you wish they would do by shrewdly suggesting that they do the opposite of what you wish they would do. "Reverse censorship" is when you write or speak the very words or ideas that you have been forbidden to express. "Reverse cynicism" is acting like it's chic to express glee, positivity and enthusiasm. "Reverse egotism" is bragging about what you don't have and can't do. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to carry out all these reversals, as well as any other constructive or amusing reversals you can dream up.

Pisces (February 19-March 18)

P o e t Emily Dickinson once revealed to a friend that there was only one commandment she ever obeyed: "Consider the lilies." Japanese novelist Natsume Sōseki told his English-speaking students that the proper Japanese translation for "I love you" is Tsuki ga tottemo aoi naa, which literally means "The moon is so blue tonight." In accordance with current astrological omens, Pisces, I'm advising you to be inspired by Dickinson and Sōseki. More than any other time in 2018, your duty in the coming weeks is to be lyrical, sensual, aesthetic, imaginative, and festively non-literal.

NEWS OF THE

weird

Bright Idea

"ARE YOU BLIND IT 25 MPH" is Ron Ward's in-your-face (and grammatically lacking) attempt to slow down drivers along his street in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Ward has been making signs for years, neighbor Patrick Schmidt told FOX 17 in June. Ward claims, "By the time (drivers) hit this here driveway, they're doing at least 50-55 miles an hour." He just wants people to follow the Richmond Street speed limit. "Slow down, the whole neighborhood's got kids," he said. The city of Grand Rapids, however, has no specific plans for speed monitoring on the street.

Oh, Fudge

KCCI TV in Des Moines, Iowa, reported on June 27 the loss of a tractor-trailer load of chocolate when the truck caught fire near Dexter, Iowa. The trailer, full of chocolate from Hershey, Pennsylvania, was westbound when it experienced brake problems that caused it to ignite. The driver pulled off and was able to detach the trailer from the cab before it caught fire. No injuries were reported, except for the chocolate, which was a total loss.

Perspective

An 82-year-old Japanese man, who has lived as a naked "hermit" on a deserted island near Taiwan since 1989, has been forced to return to Japan. Masafumi Nagasaki made his way to Sotobanari Island 29 years ago and told Reuters in 2012 that he wished to die there. "Finding a place to die is an important thing to do," Nagasaki said, "and I've decided here is the place for me." Earlier reports indicated that he at one time had a wife and two children, and he ran a hostess club in Niigata, Japan. "In civilization people treated me like an idiot and made me feel like one. On this island I don't feel like

that," he said. Nagasaki explained that at first he wore clothes on the island, but a typhoon destroyed his belongings. Alvaro Cerezo, who documents the stories of island castaways, told News.com/au that in April authorities removed Nagasaki from the island and placed him in government housing in Ishigaki, Japan, because he was ill and weak. "They took him back to civilization and that's it," Cerezo said. "They won't allow him to return."

Weird Science

Montgomery, Alabama resident Kayla Rahn, 30, had been trying for months to lose weight, but instead experienced dramatic weight gain and pain in her stomach. She became out of breath just taking a short walk. Finally, in May, Rahn's mother took her to the emergency room at Jackson Hospital, where doctors discovered a growth attached to her ovary and removed what turned out to be a 50-pound, benign cyst, reported WSFA 12 News. The cyst resembled a large watermelon in size. "This is one of the largest I have ever

seen," Dr. Gregory Jones told reporters. "We are very excited things went well for her."

Recurring Theme: Airport Nudity

Travelers aboard a Delta Air Lines flight, that had just landed at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta on June 26, were startled when a nearly naked man ran up to their plane and jumped onto a wing, then attempted to open an emergency exit. Jhyrin Jones, 19, had scaled a fence topped with razor wire to reach the runway. Just minutes before, he had jumped on some parked cars at a nearby construction site and threatened, "Kill y'all. I'm going to blow this place up. Trust nobody. You better believe me," according to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. A police report indicated Jones "appeared to be under the influence of narcotics." He was charged with criminal trespass and public indecency, among other things.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SINGERS AND SONGWRITERS

ACROSS

- 1. "_____ of time"
- 6. Federal Communications Commission
- 9. Frosh, next year
- 13. "Vamos a la _____"
- 14. *Don McLean: "A long, long time _____"
- 15. Par on a short golf hole
- 16. Whatsoever
- 17. Steadfast Soldier's material
- 18. Art class support
- 19. Classical music composition, pl.
- 21. *One of his hits is a stadium favorite
- 23. *Paul McCartney's 2013 album
- 24. Fat Man or Little Boy
- 25. Cul de _____
- 28. Prince of India
- 30. *"I Will Always Love You" creator
- 35. "Goodness gracious!"
- 37. *Chuck Berry's "_____ Over Beethoven"
- 39. Bird-made fertilizer
- 40. Beginner
- 41. Interior designer's field
- 43. Come clean, with "up"
- 44. Meat jelly dish
- 46. Ad staple
- 47. What refugees do
- 48. *Best selling artist in 2000s in U.S.
- 50. Type of tide
- 52. Pig pen
- 53. #34 Down, alt. spelling
- 55. Bird word
- 57. *King of Pop
- 61. *Bruce Springsteen
- 65. "Farewell" from Emmanuel Macron

CROSSWORD

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- 66. Bonanza find
- 68. Cone shaped dwelling
- 69. Dust-related allergy trigger, pl.
- 70. "Days of _____ Lives"
- 71. *Soul singer-songwriter Hayes
- 72. Pavlova's pas
- 73. X
- 74. Smallest units of life

DOWN

- 1. Pampering places
- 2. Chorus member
- 3. Indian flatbread
- 4. *He's "Tangled Up in Blue"
- 5. Salt merchant
- 6. *"_____ " Domino
- 7. Computer-generated imagery
- 8. Urban dwelling
- 9. A fake in bed
- 10. Guesstimate phrase
- 11. Hammer part
- 12. Retained
- 15. Lipton package
- 20. Grammy, e.g.
- 22. Mischievous little rascal
- 24. Theater tier
- 25. Caterpillar hairs
- 26. Discrimination against seniors
- 27. Plural of carpus
- 29. *Piano man
- 31. 1600s neck wear
- 32. Chinese weight units
- 33. Beginning of illness
- 34. Offensively curious
- 36. "How you _____?"
- 38. Opera house box
- 42. House pest
- 45. Population count
- 49. Cow call
- 51. Kind of license
- 54. Condescending one
- 56. Falstaffian in body
- 57. Impromptu performances
- 58. Miners' passage
- 59. Give a quote
- 60. *Neil Young: "_____ on rockin' in the free world"
- 61. Type of seabird
- 62. October stone
- 63. *"Kiss From a Rose" singer-songwriter
- 64. Abbreviated seconds
- 67. "The Murders in the _____ Morgue"

Puzzle solutions on page 12

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 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Online POLL QUESTION

On "Gilligan's Island," how did Ginger have so many different outfits when they were only on a three hour tour?



- *Ginger's outfits were painstakingly crafted by the castaways out of coconut shells, stones, leaves, vines and bamboo.*
- *The Professor invented a machine that generated outfits out of coconut shells, stones, leaves, vines and bamboo.*
- *After a series of hijinks and misunderstandings that nearly results in their rescue by a special guest star, it's revealed that the massive weight of Ginger's luggage is what caused the Minnow to sink in the first place. Ginger flirts with Gilligan and the Skipper until they agree to dive the bottom of the sea and salvage all 98 of her outfits from the wreckage, providing her with a vast wardrobe for the remainder of the series.*
- *Don't overthink "Gilligan's Island."*

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