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11th annual Pink Arrow Pride event very successful despite 36-0 loss to Rockford

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by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Lowell's football team was defeated 36-0 in the Pink Arrow game against Rockford on Thursday, Aug. 30, but football is the least important part of the annual charity event. All proceeds raised at the game and surrounding events go to benefit families dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

"I think it's going beautifully tonight," said Pink Arrow Pride organizer

Teresa Beachum. "The Lowell crowd is here en masse, they just keep supporting this program so beautifully, we're so thankful. T-shirt sales have been good. We are so glad to welcome Rockford here, who brought a nice crowd also. We're so thankful that the honorees had their moment of care and honoring that they so deserve, and in memory of those that couldn't be here. That is the

cruel truth of it all. We think every year, how many did we lose? It's a huge number."

"We've always been on the other side of it volunteering, but now I'm a cancer survivor," said honoree Karen Jelsma. "I had uterine cancer last fall and I missed my first ever Pink Arrow game. We've been so blessed with the whole community rallying behind us, plus our small group from church, our family. It takes a lot of people

to pray for cancer. This is such an emotional night. The volunteers work so hard to pull this off. It's amazing what they do. Our little grandson Caiden Schultz was born ten days after I had my surgery. The cancer did not get to my lymph nodes, which I am very thankful for. I go for routine checkups for the next several years. I'm feeling pretty good; I just pray for extra strength month after month. Tonight I'm

here to support everybody battling it currently or are here representing a family member who lost their battle. Cancer effects everybody in the community. My mom had cancer ten years ago. We're huge supporters of Pink Arrow Pride.'

"I'm going to be out in front here with my grandson Gavin Coxon to honor my husband Darrell Coxon who passed away a couple Pink Arrow continued, page 8

Girl Scouts and Glessboards build and donate farmstand to Help Yourself Garden

that. Amanda said



page 4







Fallasburg Arts Festival

www.thelowellledger.com

vol. 47 issue 49

Trash collecting hobby

Ihs sports

page 10-11



page 7



lead reporter

The Help Yourself Garden at the corner of Main and Grove recently received a brand new farmstand local Girl Scouts from and furniture makers Glessboards.

"A month ago or so, one of our garden supporters sent me a Facebook post about a 'blessings box,'" said Laura Huth-Rhoades, owner of the home where the garden grows. "It's a box where people can put nonperishable items, things like toothbrushes, feminine care products, health and beauty products and things like that. She said, 'I thought you might like to see this given what you're doing.' So I put it on the Help Yourself

Garden's Facebook page and people said they would totally participate. As a part of that, Amanda Rogers said something about a Girl Scouts project. They had a project they needed to do, so they offered to build the blessing box. I said that was great, but a more pressing need right now is a farmstand. We've had crazy good participation from the community of people donating overages. their We had these little plastic bins out here accommodate to



they would do the farmstand first and the blessing do box later. Amanda contacted Nick and Amy Gless from Glessboards. Nick and Amy coordinated the plan and the design, then they opened their shop up and the girls came in and were taught how to put this together." Using plans created by the furniture builders, the scouts built the farmstand by hand. "Most of the materials were

either donated or salvaged. so it's made of probably 90 percent recycled materials," Huth-Rhoades said. "It was put together by Girl Scouts and coordinated by an award winning local furniture making company, so it's a win-win-win all around."

The garden has been so popular that Huth-Rhoades plans to expand it next spring to include most of her front yard.

"We're just so blessed to have this here to accommodate the public's outpouring of produce and support for the rest of the members of the community who want access to fresh vegetables," Huth-Rhoades said.







Allison Mahalic, Lowell

"I really don't pay attention to that. I don't have investments, so I don't really follow the stock market."



Donna Laux, Lowell

"I look at it. I used to look at it a lot when I had a lot invested, but I don't have as much anymore."



Eric Kruse, Belding

"I look at it daily, I have investments."

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Joel Fritsma, Lowell

"| actually pay attention to it a lot because I have a lot of mutual funds. The better they do, the more my bank account goes up, which helps pay for college."



Phyllis Philips, Lowell

"None. It's irrelevant in my life. I take care of other household financial matters, my husband takes care of that. He belongs to a stock club, so that's his area. My area is daily finances."



Tammi Dent, Alto

"I don't pay much attention to that. My husband is the financial planner in the family. In our family's division of responsibilities, that's what he does."





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Roanoke Ranch provides free faith-based horse therapy to groups of at-risk children and teenagers

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Roanoke Ranch, 11221 Grand River Dr. SE, is a nonprofit, faith-based organization that uses horses as therapeutic tools in their work with at-risk youths.

Board president Mike Vanderploeg found out about the ranch when he was looking into horse therapy for his son Alex, an adoptee from Russia who suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome.

"For children with autism and sensory issues, there have been reports that horses can do wonderful things," Vanderploeg said. "We had been looking around for different ranches and came across Roanoke Ranch. Alex has balance issues, he can't feel himself in space. It really taught my son the basics of life and gave him what he needed. My son found that he actually loves scooping up poop, he loves gathering eggs, he loves stacking wood. Once he realized what the ranch really does, how it helps at-risk kids, he decided that riding wasn't as important to him as helping out. I saw a real transformation in him. His focus changed from himself to others, so I saw some cool things happen with him. Alex and my wife volunteer together twice a week now, it's great bonding time for them."

Vanderploeg wasn't as involved at first as he is now. It wasn't until his son convinced him to visit and he witnessed horse therapy in person that he began to devote a great deal of time to volunteering there.

"I grew up around horses and rode them a little bit, but I wasn't what you'd call a horse person," Vanderploeg said. "I wasn't like a 4-H member or anything like that. My son wanted to show me one of the horses

at the ranch, so one blustery day I went down there. Horses don't usually come when you call them, but the biggest horse on the ranch, Dewey, did. He came all the way over just to give my son love, and I lost it. I said to myself, 'I need to figure out some way to get involved in this.' Long story short. I eventually became president of the board. It's

Most kids who visit Roanoke Ranch attend one of their free eight week summer camp sessions.

"A lot of people don't know who or what Roanoke Ranch is," Vanderploeg "Roanoke said. Ranch is a nonprofit that works with organizations such United Methodist as Community House and Pine Rest. We work with at-risk

kids. In addition to working

with the horses, they also

volunteer by doing chores

around the ranch. Cleaning

stalls, weeding, cleaning

out the chicken coops, stacking wood, little things like that. We work with kids basically between the ages of six to 18. One of our programs is a faith-based summer camp for kids ages six through 12. For eight weeks they come out once a week for four hours from 10 am until 2 pm. What we try to do is we try to give kids hope. We try to build their

> confidence up with horses, but we also try to give them hope. A lot of these kids have not had a great start to life for various reasons including abuse, neglect or a broken home. They come to the ranch to escape from that. Horses are amazing animals. We uses horses to down break the walls. They can sense your emotions, they can sense if you're feeling sad, scared or whatever. Many of our horses have similar stories to these kids. They were beaten, abused, neglected, that type of thing, and we've taken them in. A lot of these kids have never seen a horse, never seen a goat, never seen where an egg comes from, never

seen ponies, a lot of things that we may take for granted. Sometimes when they see ponies for the first

time, we get the comment, 'Wow, those dogs are really big!' We have a garden, kids who had never seen a vegetable grow before are now actively involved in weeding and taking care of that. It's amazing to watch when a horse and a child connects. To watch them is pure joy, it puts things into perspective. They get more confident every time they get on a horse. During the eighth week of camp they take the horses on a trail ride, they're in control of the horse. Many of the kids didn't even want to get on a horse the first day, so they've overcome that particular fear. To be able to control and move that large animal, it does a lot for their self esteem and confidence."

Sessions at the camp are free, but limited to groups and organizations rather than individuals.

"We don't charge organizations anything to come out," Vanderploeg said. "We rely strictly on donations. That's been tougher and tougher these days, with grants being pulled, not being able to get grants. We need more money because we have a lot more things that we would love to do. Our goal is to eventually raise enough money where we could build an indoor arena and bunkhouse and where we could do this program

year 'round instead of just in the summer. That could cost half a million dollars."

Once a year, the ranch puts on a fundraiser called "Black Tie & Blue Jeans." This year's event is on Thursday, Sept. 13 at 5:30 pm

"We want to be sure to give them a Roanoke Ranch experience, so they can choose to do a carriage ride around the property, or there is also a wagon ride, so they can experience that," Vanderploeg said. "Then they can interact with the horses and all of the other animals on the farm, they can come inside the cabins and see the work of the kids. Then there is a meal and an informational program, finally we have a silent auction then a live auction. Even though it's a summer program, the bills continue 12 months of the year. This fundraiser hopefully gets us through to the springtime. Expenses always continue. All of our horses are grassfed, grass bails are getting expensive."

For more information about Roanoke Ranch, visit roanokeranch.com or call 616-987-0703.









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Covers Kent, Barry and Ionia Counties

page 4 .

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50th annual Fallasburg Arts Festival Sept. 16-17

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

The 50th annual Fallasburg Arts Festival will take over Fallasburg Park on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 16 and 17 from 10 am until 5 pm. There will be 100 arts and crafts booths with artists from all over Michigan, the United States and Europe, as well as food, children's activities, demonstrations, a raffle and live music. Artwork on display and for sale will include jewelry, sculptures, ceramics, glass, fiber, mixed media art, woodworking, paintings, drawings, photography, floral arrangements, basketry, print-making, and more.

"The event features 100 fine art and fine crafts booths with artisans chosen

by a jury each year," said LowellArts project director Janet Teunis. "Talented artists from around the state and the country apply every year to be part of this well-respected event. Artisans are selected based upon the uniqueness of their work and its artistic merit. Artisans apply by category and a broad range of types of work are accepted into the festival each year." Artisans will give demonstrations of skills such as blacksmithing, fly tying, leather craftwork, origami, quilting, furniture, jewelry, carving,

weaving, spinning and more. The demonstrations pavilion was sponsored by All Weather Seal.

"The pavilion with all the demonstrators makes us very unique from a lot of art festivals," said Lorain Smalligan, executive director of LowellArts. "There are a lot of art festivals out there and I think that sets us apart a little bit. To have the traditional arts and crafts available for people to do some hands-on with them, to see them creating their work."

"Talented artisans from the community are on site in the pavilion throughout the festival demonstrating their skills," Teunis said. "Artisans are available to answer questions about their craft, some allow visitors to try their hand at learning the skills."

There will be live music all day both days, sponsored by Fifth Third Bank. On Saturday the Bruce Matthews Band, Paddy's Cure, Fauxgrass, Hawks and Owls, Josh Rose and the Founding Fathers will perform. On Sunday you'll be able to enjoy Lighting



Matches, Steam Powered Bluegrass, the Cheater Bs and the Adams Family.

"All of the live music, somebody in the group has a tie to Lowell," Smalligan said. "They either are somebody that grew up in Lowell, went to Lowell High School or currently live in Lowell."

The children's area, sponsored by Meijer, will

include pumpkin decorating, a playground and other fun activities.

Food booths are going to be run by a lengthy list of organizations including the Lowell Women's Club, Lowell First United Methodist Church, First Congregational Church of Lowell, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, the Lowell Historical Museum. Fallasburg Historical Society, Lowell Rotary Club, Alto Lions Club, the Lowell Area Fire Department and the Lowell Music Boosters.

"All of the food vendors are either from Lowell or from Alto," Smalligan said. "I always see it as a kind of a fundraiser for the entire community. It's fundraisers for all of the food booths."

During the festival over 90 unique artworks will be raffled off to benefit LowellArts. To purchase raffle tickets, visit the information booth at the festival.

"The festival is always well attended," Teunis said. "There are people who have attended for many years and people who attended as children now are bringing their kids. It is a family fall tradition for a lot of people in the area. And, since the caliber of the

artists is always excellent, word has gotten around that this is a must-see festival for art enthusiasts. We see more and more out-oftown visitors. The festival continues in rain or shine."

For more information call LowellArts at 897-8545, email them at info@ lowellartsmi.org or visit https://www.lowellartsmi. org/fallasburg-arts-festival.

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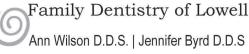
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viewpoint

to the editor

Dear Editor:

Your issue from August 22, front page summary of the Lowell city council meeting hit a chord with me. What you published sheds a light on the state of our government from the federal level, the state level and finally the local level. Our elected officials and many of the appointed ones have lost sight of the purpose of our government and the vision of our founding fathers.

I believe the vision our founders was independence of the individual without interference from the government. They broke from the grasps of Great Britain over oppressions and taxes.

During my eight years serving on city council I maintained the philosophy that government's responsibility was to provide infrastructure (water, sewer, streets) and protection (law enforcement, fire protection and military). These are the basic "need to have" aspects of our lifestyle. Somewhere through time, our leaders, during good times and excess revenue (or by creating a need and taxing to get it) government started providing the "nice to have" things in our society.

Your report stated the discussed council implementing an income tax to cover the city budget and street repairs. The city manager stated the option would be to strip the other services, "robbing Peter to pay Paul." The projected need for street repair is \$10 million. I understand some of the issue is the state stripping much of the revenue sharing dollars that used to flow to our local

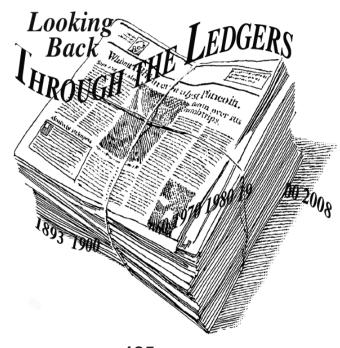
communities. One of the other issues is the bond issue to pay for the city hall and police station. This nearly \$300,000+ bond payment (although reduced from \$400,000+ annually prior to refinancing efforts a few years ago which extended the payments several more years with overall savings of over half a million dollars) could have made a pretty good dent in the local street budget needs. When doing any kind of financing, the term of the loan should not exceed the life span of the product. Wear and tear is presently taking its toll on city hall and maintenance/ repair budget will only increase in the next few years.

The next item you covered was the LARA (Lowell Area Recreation Authority) requesting and the council voting to provide \$25,000 in the fiscal 2021 budget. If this is a general fund expenditure, it is in *direct conflict* with intergovernmental the agreement that was passed for the formation of LARA. I was part of the council that formed LARA and was an original member on the LARA board. There are many hard-working people that have served on the original exploratory committee and then the LARA board as it was formed in agreement with Lowell and Vergennes Townships. When LARA

was formed it was agreed that no tax dollars would be allocated to the building or maintenance of the trail network other than the annual \$2,000 funding from each governmental unit. Recently, the city council has committed that "IF" LARA is unable to maintain the trail to State of Michigan standards the city will be responsible for the funding. I support the vision of the trails, but they are a "nice to have" item and not a "need to have" item. Our focus as a city should be to take care of our NEEDS before our WANTS.

> James Pfaller Lowell

Letters to the editor, continued, page 6



125 years ago **Lowell Journal** September 6, 1893

Johnie, son of J.I. Weckes, had a pitchfork run into his foot, while thresing, Friday.

The Star Lodge had a regular session last Saturday night, a good attendance and several visitors. The rule of this lodge is that every lady is known by her own christian name even though she has a husband. A good idea.

the Central building. The West Ward enrollment is 33, of whom 10 are in the Kindergarten. The South ward has 16, 5 of whom are beginners.

The men of Lowell and Vergennes of ages from 18 to 45 years inclusive, will hold their registrations at the same time and place, Thursday, Sept. 12 from 7 am to 9 pm in the vacant store of the King block, D.G. Look, secretary of Kent District No. 2 draft board will be chief registrar and will appoint three assistants.

While descending McCaul's hill on the Ada road Sunday afternoon, Patrick Driscoll's car turned turtle pinning him under the steering wheel. He received a few minor injuries.

While the Minard Brothers were threshing at the home of Charles Deardorf last Thursday morning, the state was discovered to be on fire. In just a twinkling the flames were overspreading the stack and barn. The machine separator, farm tools, harnesses and a few bags of wheat were saved. It is thought that over 750 bushels of grain besides a large quantity of hay were burned. Luckily no live stock was burned.

75 years The Lowell Ledger September 9, 1943

The Lowell Ration Board announces that brown ration stamps in War Ration Book Three will be used by consumers to purchase rationed meats, fats, oils collided east of Messner Station, Ore., the army air base at Walla Walla reported Sunday. Cpl. Curley died Sunday in Pendleton, Ore., hospital. Three of the soldiers died outright, while two, including Curley, were fatally injured.

50 years The Lowell Ledger September 5, 1968

Because of the urgent need for ambulance service in eastern Kent County and in the Village of Lowell, contract discussion between Walter Gumser, River Road, Lowell, Member of the Safety Committee of the Kent County Board of Supervisors and three representatives of Action Ambulances of Grand Rapids have been taking place in recent days.

The 1968-69 school year opened for a record number of Lowell area students today with a dark cloud of voter dissension hanging over the district. Petitions bearing the names of 174 district voters... almost twice the number required...were turned in seeking a recount for last week's special millage election. The recount is scheduled tomorrow morning.

> Looking Back, continued, page 12

A surprise party was given Phil Dixon last Friday evening, it being his 18th birthday, and it was a surprise indeed, for Phil had retired before the company got there, cards and dancing were enjoyed by all that were there until nearly morning. Phil received several nice presents from his mother and sister.

It is well that the Editor postponed his correspondents picnic until Sept. 30. By that time all will not be so busy and will all try to come and enjoy ourselves.

Kent county's share of the state tax, which will be levied this fall and paid next winter, is \$85,451.98.

100 years The Lowell Ledger September 5, 1918

The Lowell Schools began the 1918-19 year's work Monday with a total enrollment of 434. Of these 87 are in the Senior High, 111 in the Junior High and 162 in the grades, and 15 in the Kindergarten department of

and rationed dairy products beginning Sept. 12. War Ration Book Three, a replacement book containing ration currency to be used as the stamps in current ration books run out, was distributed earlier in the summer.

Eli Lett, the village garbage collector, was given a boost in wages by the Common Council, Monday night, and he will not receive \$25 weekly. Lett says that he hasn't been realizing much of anything from garbage collections, as most families have quit wasting food. That's a good idea, but hard on the pigs.

Everything will be in readiness for the opening of school at 1:00 o'clock, C.W.T. on next Monday, Sept. 13. The Board of Education has been fortunate in retaining a competent staff of teachers. The Board has also made extensive improvement in the building. The grade building has been painted throughout and much decorating has been done in the high school building. The Board will, during the year, install a new heating boiler which will mean improved heating condition.

Corporal Albert P. Curley, son of Mrs. Catherine Curley of near Bowne Center, was one of five soldiers fatally injured when an army truck and automobile

We love to hear from you!

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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.

Letters to the editor, continued

Editors note: due to a transcription error when retyping, this letter is being published again with a correction made.

Dear Editor:

I am saddened by diatribes of fear and hatemongering, masquerading as letters to the editor, such as those recently published in the Ledger. I know it is probably useless to reply to the authors of them, but I spent many years in two professions which required a good deal of "tilting at windmills;" I guess I just can't help myself.

The writers seem to enjoy looking backward, preferring to cite dead people (e.g. Marx, Khrushchev, Krauthammer). Perhaps, then, they would enjoy reading The Wealth of Nations, by Adam Smith, in which the brilliant creator of the notion of capitalism warned, all those years ago, of the dangers of excesses by unbridled caused greed, and the necessity of government providing measures to distribute wealth fairly, so that prosperity would be shared by all. No communist, he! Nor were Theodore Roosevelt, FDR, and LBJ, great presidents who led our country from crisis and chaos to new frontiers of economics and civil rights because they believed in the possibility of

using government to make

the lives of ALL Americans better.

Yes, I am speaking of PROGRESS, and I guess that means I like to think of myself as a progressive person. I've gotten old now, and I know how uncertain life is for all of us. But, I believe there is one certainty with which we all must live; this Creation of which we are a part relentlessly ongoing. is And, our frequent human desires to call "timeout" and declare that nothing should change, only the old ways are right, or only people just like ourselves in belief or language or skin color are worthy of concern, is the worst kind of faithless blasphemy.

Finally, I would like to leave the writers with a challenge. Consider leaving behind the very human, but cowardly, ways of fear and hate, and being courageous, moving forward in hope and love, to truly push the limits of human possibility. There are many of us who have been, and are still trying, this wonderful, difficult, exasperating and unbelievably rewarding way of life, and we are always open to new fellowtravelers.

> Rev. Dr. J. Richard Sherlock Lowell

<u>outdoors</u>

living with wildlife

Wildlife around the world are feeling the pressure of human activity. Habitat destruction continues as people demand more space to accommodate expanding human populations.

Shopping malls, housing developments, and freeway interchanges consume thousands of square miles of land which was once the home of wildlife for hundreds of years. Poaching is a problem for elephants and rhinos in Africa as they are killed

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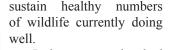
area

for tusks and horns to be sold for profit. Agriculture to feed millions requires vast amounts of the earth's surface for grazing and crop production.

Dave Stegehuis

Most activity is necessary for human survival, so the challenge is to realize that we must share the earth with other life while meeting our own needs. Although many species are extinct and gone forever, it is possible to bring back viable populations of endangered species and to

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I have recently had occasion to fly over parts of the continent in commercial aircraft, low flying bush planes, and private aircraft. There is still a lot of wild country largely unaffected by human development. I don't feel so crowded anymore.

By thoughtful planning and discipline we can slow the destruction of habitat and avoid practices that harm wildlife. This can be accomplished by public policy and individual efforts. Government agencies are aware of problems and are working solutions. Private on and conservation clubs organizations are actively engaged in helping wildlife. Individually we can support their efforts by joining the cause through active participation or monetary

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contributions. Also, be aware of government policies on all levels and voice your concerns or at least vote.

Wildlife has made some adjustments to coexist with people. Hawks monitor freeway right of ways for rodents. Bears and wolves have figured out that a rifle shot means there will be a free lunch. Deer have developed a taste for suburban shrubbery, and geese have found a home in waterfront yards. We have had to make a few compromises ourselves to live with wildlife.

With the amount of space left for wildlife habitat and with thoughtful planning we have the opportunity to maintain our outdoor heritage and a good quality of life for ourselves and our wildlife neighbors. We must just have the will to do so.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL 897-7060 Bey Dr. Paul Moindi PHD

Rev. Dr. Paul Mpindi PHD 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship......10:00 AM Sunday School......11:20 AM



With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie



- croup

Croup is a common infection in children that causes swelling in the trachea (windpipe) and larynx (voice box). It is caused by a virus, so it can spread through coughing and sneezing. It can also spread by dirty hands, sharing toys and sharing drinking glasses or eating utensils.

Croup is most common in children six months to three years of age. Symptoms of croup include: a mild fever, running nose, hoarseness, wheezing and a "barking" cough. In more severe cases, you may also hear a harsh, loud, high-pitched noise when your child takes a breath. Other symptoms of severe croup include fast or difficult breathing, flaring nostrils, unusual restlessness, retractions (your child's chest and stomach muscles suck in", or a blue tint to the lips and fingernails. Symptoms may be worse at night.

Children with mild cases of croup can be treated at home. Your child may feel better when they are sitting up or being held upright. Crying can make the symptoms worse, so try to keep your child quiet and comfortable. They should get lots of rest and plenty to drink. Cough medicines usually don't help. You can give your child acetaminophen or ibuprofen for fever or chest discomfort. Your doctor may prescribe a steroid medicine to make the symptoms go away faster.

Croup usually lasts two to five days. Some children have a mild cough that lasts a few days longer. Most children get better without any problems. You should call your doctor if you notice any of these symptoms: drooling or trouble swallowing, blueish lips or fingernails, restlessness or confusion or increased trouble breathing.



SEPTEMBER 5

Barb Vezino, Kohlton Scott Clouser, Nicole Bellah.

SEPTEMBER 6

Brian Haan, Mitch Mercer.

SEPTEMBER 7

M a c K e n z i e VanDerWarf, Gloria Morris, Karah Baker.

SEPTEMBER 8

Terresa Kenney, Papa Wilson, Brendan Lobbezoo.

SEPTEMBER 9

Sarah Schalow, Amy Cook, Allison Maholic, Linda Morrison, Charles Gee, Todd Lenneman.

SEPTEMBER 10 Brecken Hendrick, Chris Gerard.

SEPTEMBER 11

Sean Ellis, Justin VanDyke, Susan Barry.





Evening Worship......6:00 PM Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free

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 3-4:30 pm

Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm Religious education for children to adults

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... 9:15 AM

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WORSHIP 9 AM - Traditional • 11 AM - Contemporary Kid's Crew 11:15 AM Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY 16TH ETHAN RIDDLE!





- 📲 leer

Local man turns trash collecting into fun hobby

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

Local resident Aaron Goodwin's Facebook posts about the trash he picks up from area roadsides have gained quite a following on social media. The posts, what Goodwin calls "litterary tales" turn the banal and disgusting into the humorous and interesting.

"I like to use humor and wit instead of bash people over the head with a message," Goodwin said. "I do it to inspire others and bring some awareness to it. If you can change a dirty diaper, you can pick up a piece of litter."

It all started last month when Goodwin, an avid bicyclist, was inspired by a podcast while riding his bike.

"Roadside trash always bugged me, but I've done more complaining than anything else," Goodwin said. "On July 10 I started picking up some litter on Grand River Dr. and Riverside Rd. with my 12 year old daughter Avery. The day before I had been riding my bicycle along Riverside Dr. between Lowell and Saranac. I was listening to a podcast called "The Dad Edge" that was talking about 'taking action' and so forth. I don't know why, but for some reason that day it switched me from being a complainer to actually doing something. It always used to bug me, but this time I was going to do something about it. The next day we went to Ace Hardware and bought

litter grabber stick, whatever they're called, and went to town for about an hour or so picking up litter on Riverside Dr. The next couple days that week, I went by the Fairgrounds and the road was just littered with stuff. I thought that with the fair coming up we should hit this, so we did that stretch. I went out on Riverside Dr. for 17 days and actually just finished cleaning that stretch on Aug. 27. I head out for a couple hours when I've got the availability and I usually do about a half mile stretch at a time. With two [road] shoulders, that's a full mile. Sometimes during the summer I'd wake up at six in the morning and get out there picking up litter before the kids woke up. There are beautiful mornings out there in the countryside. There are a lot of mornings where it was really foggy, I enjoyed watching the sun burn off the fog. Some people like to sit around and watch TV or flip through Facebook for an hour or so each morning. This, I felt, was a good change of pace. It was kind of a win-win, I did something for Mother Earth and I got my steps in." Because of the massive

amount of them he finds littering the roadways, Goodwin suggested putting a \$.10 deposit on all singleuse beverage containers.

"It's amazing the amount of litter that's out on the roads," Goodwin said. "When I'm walking through the ravines and ditches, has been there for years and years. You pick it up and it just deteriorates after being broken down by the elements for so long. The amount of liquor bottles, cigarette butts and cigarette wrappers is astounding. With the amount of singleuse plastic bottles I find, I would love to see a \$.10 deposit on water bottles, Gatorate bottles, stuff like that. I just returned about \$20 of pop cans and beer cans to Meijer that I picked up in the last week, but the volume of plastic bottles outweigh that ten-fold. It's amazing. I assume if there was a \$.10 deposit on them, there would be far less of those thrown out. The only useful things I've found were some pocketknives and some tire irons. I found about 10 or 15 VHS tapes and a bunch of music cassette tapes in a farmer's field, that was kind of funny to see. I saw an entire basketball hoop, backboard and pole in one of the ditches. We dragged it home and put it in the recycling and the trash."

His collecting habits created an unfortunate problem, more garbage than space in his garbage cans. A couple emails to his waste service provider and he received the garbage cans of his dreams.

"We use Red Creek Waste services, we had a waste cart and a recycling cart," Goodwin said. "After the first week I was filling it up so I sent an email to their president explaining what

there is stuff that you know I was doing, sent them a has been there for years couple pictures, and asked and years. You pick it up and it just deteriorates after being broken down by the elements for so long. The

filled it up that week and also filled up the recycling. Then I asked them if they could also donate a recycling bin. Now every time I take the trash out I've got two trash bins and two recycling bins full that they pick up."

...



Aaron Goodwin August 13 at 7:32 PM 08/13/2018 7:32pm · 🔇

Litter Tales of the eclectic music of a farmer and country winos...

On the way home this morning from dropping my son off at band camp, I noticed a Lowell Township worker cutting the grass along the shoulder on the country roads and churning up litter from its blades that was hidden below the depths of the grass. As you drove by it was sticking out like a sore thumb for all to see...damned if you do, damned if you don't.

Todays litter booty "showcases" an eclectic mix of cassette tapes found in the farmers field, sutton bay shooters left by the country wino, one lost basketball, some metal (I am saving for the Lowell Boyscouts Scrap Metal Drive), a road project improvement ballot, and lots of plastic bottles and plastic bags.

With Shannon Hackett Goodwin



08

4 Comments

Aaron Goodwin disposes of trash carelessly tossed onto local roads and occasionally documents his experiences on Facebook.

Lowell Farmers Market nears end

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

There are only a couple chances remaining this year to visit the Lowell Farmers Market; the last day it will be in operation is Thursday, Sept. 13.

"It's going pretty well,"

banana bread, cheese bread, white bread, cinnamon bread, and then we've got our cookies. My husband Mike Brinningstaull made it. He is a bakery chef who went to school for culinary arts. I love it here, the people are the market or to reserve yourself a 2019 vendor spot, visit discoverlowell. org or contact market master Cinnamin Piggott at 616-916-9193.

"It's a nice market," said baker Mike Brinningstaull. "Now it's more convenient, I like where it's at now. They used to have it hid behind city hall and nobody knew where it was. It's a lot better this year."



said baker Kim Howarth. "We have baked goods like cupcakes, cookies, breads and sweet breads. I make it all myself. This is our second year. It's about the same as last year. We'll do it next year. We also do the Saranac Farmers Market every Saturday. They just started that this year. We don't make a lot of money, it's just something to do that's fun. I enjoy baking. We have lots of grandkids, so the grandkids get to have extra treats."

"It's not bad at all," said marketstand operator Lori Brinningstaull. "We're offering all kinds of baked goods. We've got French bread, cheesy pepperoni, buns, cinnamon zucchini great. They bring their dogs, they bring their kids, everybody, they're great. We've been here five years now. It gets better every time."

All summer long from noon until 5 pm every Thursday the market hosts vendors selling fruit, vegetables, clothes, fudge, meat, honey and baked goods in Veterans Memorial Park on Main St. This year they added live music and ice cream. For more information about





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<u>"</u>ledger

Pink Arrow, continued

We're huge supporters of Pink Arrow Pride."

"I'm going to be out in front here with my grandson Gavin Coxon to honor my it's a really good thing.

puts in to remembering those with cancer," Hoyt said. "Whenever a whole community comes together,



husband Darrell Coxon who passed away a couple months ago," said honoree Joyce Coxon. "I love this event. I've been to it different times to see the ballgame Nowadays cancer effects everybody, every family. My sister has been fighting it for two years. She's still battling away. When people remember her in prayer or does a lot of good things. The pink milk was the bigger issue. McCallum Renee is a milk producer here in Lowell. She

produces the milk and we process it at Prairie Farms Dairy down in Battle Creek. We happened to be together last April, we were talking about this event and said it would be fun to have Pink Arrow milk. So we talked to Perry Beachum and the people

here, who said it sounded like a good idea, so that's what we're doing."

Restaurant Row was hopping, food vendors included the Ice Cream Cabus, Larkin's, Biggby Coffee, Cannonsburg Grist Mill, Heidi's Farmstand, Keiser's, Flat River Grill, Main Street BBQ,



Row was a great addition. We're all neighbors and it's a lot of fun." Volunteers

Diana and

game," Timmer said. "Where I went to college at George Washington University in Washington, DC, there was



It's an honor and I'm very grateful for it. It will help a lot with school. I don't know what I'm going into yet, I'm just starting my second year. What I like most depends on the day. I went in thinking emergency room, but now I like dermatology, OB/GYN, pediatrics... You name it, I've probably liked it at some time. Anything where I can help somebody else, I like that."

no football, so that's cool.

Kyle Graham from Michigan Blood presented Wendy Wigger and Daryl Vogel from Gilda's Club with a check for \$1,250, the funds generated at the Pink Arrow Community Day blood drive.

"It's just our token of appreciation," Graham said. "Their last blood drive alone saved 275 lives. This is the least we can do after they collected 95 pints at one blood drive. That doesn't happen every day. We really need a lot of blood right now and that was huge."

"This will help us so much because all of our services are free," Wigger said. "With the Pink Arrow game and everything that this community does to embrace the mission of cancer and



and a couple years ago I walked with Riley Coxon, that was for my father who had passed and his wife's father. That was a while ago. They lived a good life. This event is very important to us. Look at how many people are survivors. We're grateful to have the technology to try and find cures and better treatments for cancer and other diseases."



with cards and letters, it's a real encouragement. I've got a cousin in Toledo, OH, she got twice after a 20 year lapse. She's got to take treatments at U of M, and

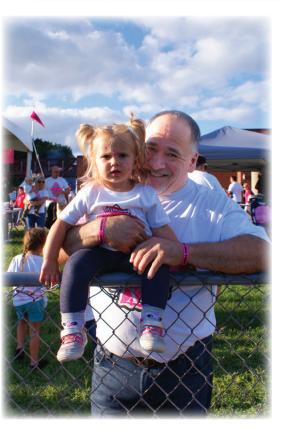
she's an Ohio State fan." "I think this event is great," said Joe Risdon from Alto. "Everybody has experienced cancer in some way, shape or form, either personally or with a family member or

loved one. You just can't get away from it. I think this bonding experience

Big Boiler Brewing, and Riverbend Bar & Grill.

"It's going really well, it's always a pleasure to do Pink Arrow events," said Deb Apol from Larkin's. "We've been here since the very first

one. We do walking tacos, which are a big favorite with the kids, we sell out every year. We do Larkin's original barbecue burger's from Mike Larkin's grandmother's recipe. We sell out of those too. Everybody is really wonderful. I think Restaurant



George Alvarado sold over \$400 worth of 50/50 raffle tickets





Hoyt from John Middleberry, IN attended the game because he has family in Rockford and was impressed by the Pink Arrow event.

"I think it's great, the work that everybody in Lowell

provides a lot of help to a lot of people. When you lose someone like that, it's an everyday issue forever. The hole is never filled."

Risdon was passing out free strawberryflavored "Pink Arrow milk" and cakes to passerby on behalf of Prairie Farms Dairy.

"This is a combination of Prairie Farms Dairy and the milk farmers in the community here," Risdon said. "We just thought it would be fun to have Pink Arrow milk at this event. This is the eleventh year and we're very delighted to be a part of it. It's obviously extremely successful and

"We're doing awesome, I've already gone through 250 tickets," Diana said.

"We've sold about \$400 worth of tickets," George said. "I'm from East Lansing, so this is not something I'm used to, but I was here last year. Seeing the community do this for a great cause, it's amazing. My mom, dad, nephew and mother in law all died of cancer. This is all about the community. It helps the families."

Jordan Timmer received a scholarship during a special ceremony at the event.

"It's fun to be back in front of the high school crowd to see a football



grief that we serve, we feel so blessed to be able to be here in the community and to be in all of the schools in the community. A gift like check presentation was a last-minute addition to the program on game night. "Our company TCC Verizon has a program



this from Michigan Blood really helps to keep that happening. This gift is going to help to pay for some of our operating expenses to deliver those free services and keep it available to all."

"I think this event awesome," Vogel said. "We have a wonderful relationship with Michigan Blood and we hope to keep it that way."

Brian Camacho has only been manager of the Lowell Verizon store for two months, but he used his newly-acquired position to get a \$5,000 donation to Pink Arrow Pride from his parent company. The

ARRO

called 'TCC Gives' which allows us to reach out to our communities and apply for grants with nonprofit organizations," Camacho said. "Prior managers didn't take advantage of this. I thought it would be a good time to take advantage of it. I'm the new manager at the Lowell store, I've been there two months. I reached out to my customers and my employees and asked them what organization speaks volumes here in the community. Pink Arrow Pride was the number one answer across the board. It's a huge, huge event. So I applied for the grant. I







worked with Teresa Beachum and had her apply for the grant as well online.

Like everybody else, Camacho has had cancer touch his life.

"My grandparents died of cancer," Camacho said. "My boss Ryan Trombley who overlooks all Michigan stores fought cancer several years ago and won. Without Ryan I wouldn't be here, and this is the best job I've ever had in my life, I've made the best friends I've ever had in my life and I have the best clientele in the world. This was a great opportunity to

give back and for everyone in the community to know who we are. Hopefully we can do more next year."

Pink Arrow continued, page 16















Arrows fall to Rams in annual Pink Arrow game

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

Celebrating a community victory despite a 36-0 loss the Red Arrow varsity football team proudly wore their pink jerseys last Thursday for the eleventh annual Pink Arrow Pride event which raises funds that serve locally in the fight against cancer.

The evening of football action kicked off following a pre-game ceremony which included a march down the Lowell High School hill and around the track inside Red Arrow Memorial Stadium.

Following the ceremony the Arrows got off to a good start on the field in game action earning a three and out over the opposing Rockford Rams on their first drive of the game. Still scoreless in the dwindling minutes of the first quarter, the Arrows also achieved the first down of the game garnered shortly after an unfortunate interception thrown by sophomore quarterback Brett Spanbauer. Punting six times combined in the time frame the first ended tied at zero.



Junior Cade Solomonson evades a Ram defender.

The battle continued back and forth through much of the second quarter before Rockford lit up the scoreboard with the first score of the game putting up seven after a successful extra point attempt. Adding a field goal by the close of the half, the Rams were up 10-0 as the two teams headed into the locker rooms.

Trailing 23-0 by the end of the third and finally 36-0 at the close of the game, Lowell continued to watch the Rams run away with the game. Fans savored some shining moments on the field that included a pair of sacks, an interception and good yardage from junior Andy Anschutz, nice carries from junior Cade Solomonson and visible further development of the teams rookie varsity quarterback.

Holding an unusual 0-2 record overall, the team will face their first league challenge this week when they head to take on the Greenville Yellow Jackets this Friday. Greenville's stadium is located at 111 N. Hillcrest Street. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 pm.



Junior Andy Anschutz adds some yardage during the Arrows battle with Rockford last week.



Sophomore quarterback Brett Spanbauer looks for an open receiver during the first half of play.

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Competing in scrimmage action as part of the annual Pink Arrow Pride event the Lowell varsity volleyball team battled Rockford in an un-tallied competition that focused on the message of the day; a community fighting against cancer.

Thirteen temporarily Pink Arrows took to the court prescrimmage to honor loved ones affected by cancer during the fundraising event.

Pictured above is senior Carly Hoekstra on the outdoor court in action against Rockford last Thursday.

*\$500 minimum deposit required to open account. Penalty for early withdrawals. Class Act Club CD bump is not eligible for advertised promotional rates. Advertised Annual Percentage Yields (APY) are as of August 1, 2018 and are subject to change. ^{the}ledger



Boys earn their first OK White win

by Kathryn Atwood contributing reporter

Calling his team "inspired" by the cause, Lowell head soccer coach Dan Lipon, led the boys varsity soccer team to a 4-2 victory over the Northview Wildcats during the eleventh annual Pink Arrow Pride event last Thursday.

After equally matched play split the first half of action with a 2-2 tie between the Arrows and Wildcats, the Arrows surged in the second half increasing their organization and playing with more confidence and broad use of men on the field. The result was a 2-0 second half for Lowell that earned them the 4-2 OK White win, their first of the season.

The solid performance on the field was led by junior Evan Groeneweg, who scored a hat trick in the game. The team's fourth goal was netted by freshman Nate Ryan. The pair of kickers have been consistent offensive leaders so far this season with Groeneweg tallying six goals on the season and Ryan four.

Assisting in the win

were: senior Connor Cater, junior Braiden Hamilton, senior Brenan Conlan and Groeneweg. Senior goalkeeper Nate VanDeWeert had a strong performance in the box keeping the Wildcats at bay with eight saves.

Holding an overall record of 2-2-2 and 1-0 in the OK White after their conference debut, the team will continue their league trek this week against Ottawa Hills at home on Tuesday and at Greenville High School on Thursday.



Freshman Nate Ryan en route to his fourth goal of the season last Thursday at home.

Sports Summaries

BOYS TENNIS

Lowell boys varsity tennis team topped their third consecutive nonconference opponent in Unity Christian High School last week. The Monday match up was won 7-1 with all winners claiming their spot in straight sets. Their previous two wins over Lakewood and Coopersville were perfect 8-0 finishes also won in straight sets. This seasons roster includes four seniors: Phillip Thompson, Eric Mooney, Gavin Hoffman and Nate Bush. The team is rounded out by four juniors, two sophomores and two freshman players and coached by Chris Phillips who also coaches the girls team in the spring. This week the team will head to Caledonia on Tuesday before hosting their first OK White match of the year on Wednesday versus the Cedar Springs Red Hawks beginning at 4:15 pm.

46 and 47 respectively. Sophomore Addison Bruwer rounded out Lowell scoring with a 54. The team will compete twice this week hosting the second OK White jamboree of the season on Wednesday at Arrowhead Golf Course and then traveling to Broadmoor Golf Course on Thursday to take on Caledonia.

GIRLS SWIMMING

Two close victories were the tally for the Lowell/Caledonia/South Christian girls varsity swim and dive team last week when they competed at the East Kentwood Quad on Thursday. The co-op team topped hosting East Kentwood 94-92 and Grand Rapids Catholic Central by a margin of 94-81. The team claimed first in the 400 freestyle relay and second place finishes in the 200 medley relay, 200 freestyle, 200 freestyle relay and the 100 breaststroke. The ladies also garnered the top three places in the 100 yard freestyle in their winning finish. The team head to the Hudsonville Double Dual on September 11.



* Denotes a home game at Red Arrow Stadium 9/7 at 7 pm at Greenville 9/14 at 7 pm at Zeeland West

GIRLS VARSITY GOLF

* Denotes a game at Arrowhead Golf Course 9/6 at 3:30 pm Caledonia at Broadmoor Golf Course 9/10 at 3:30 pm OK White Jamboree #3 at Bowen Lake Golf Course 9/12 at 3:30 pm OK White Jamboree #4 at Egypt Valley Golf Course

GIRLS GOLF

The Lowell girls varsity golf team competed last Wednesday at Thousand Oaks Golf Course for the first OK White jamboree of the season exiting the competition with a third place finish. Earning a combined card tally of 192, the team's midfield performance was led by junior Mary Jo Buechler who shot a 45. Her finish was followed closely by senior teammates Kenzi Uhen and Tristan Fogerty-Thomas who came in at NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF KENT

FILE NO. 18-203901-DE

Estate of DONALD R. OLEJNICZAK. Date of birth: Nov. 11, 1933.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Donald R. Olejniczak, died Oct. 15, 2016.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

forever barred unless

presented to Marc A.

personal

or

Olejniczak,

representative.

August 27, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE

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 John D. Mitus (P31244)

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 R.
 Grand Rapids, MI 49504

 Oct.
 616-774-4001

Marc A. Olejniczak 444 College S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49345



BOYS VARSITY TENNIS * Denotes a home game at LHS

9/15 at 8:30 am Sailor Invite

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

* Denotes a meet at LHS
9/8 at 9 am Bredeweg Invite - West Ottawa
9/15 8 am Sparta Invitational
8/19 boys at 4:30 pm • girls at 5:15 pm
OK White Jamboree #2 at Cedar Springs

^{the}leedger

obituaries

POWELL

Brenda Sue Powell (Southerland), age 75 of Virginia Beach, left this world August 20, 2018. She was "Born a Coal Miner's Daughter" in Kentucky on March 17, 1943. She is preceded in death by her parents, William

and Alberta (Dunigan) Southerland; husband, George (Jake) Powell; son, Tower, Jr.; Lon William brothers, Southerland, Larry Garry Southerland, Southerland, and brother-in-law, Gary Brenda Stoner. is survived by her children, Leonard Venneman, (Carol) Jr., Jeffrey Venneman,



Gretchen (John) Barnett; daughter-in-law, Becky Tower; grandchildren, Lon, Jake, Tiffany (Paul), Cassidy, Joseph (Kelley), Sierra, Bryce, Harley, Mason, and Grace; great-grandchildren, Amelia, Darius, Kylah, and Kainyn; sisters, Rita Stoner, Betty (Mike) Crutchman; and many other special friends and family. In her younger years, Brenda enjoyed singing at the Lowell Riverview and she was proud of her appearances on Rem Walls Green Valley Jamboree show. In lieu of flowers or donations, we request you bless someone with an act of kindness in our mother's name. If you would like to share your act of kindness on social media, please include #BlessingsforBrendaPowell. A celebration of our mother's life will be held from 2-5 pm on September 30 at the King Memorial Building, 225 S Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

Looking back, continued

Lowell police, plagued with a rash of minor accidents and route complaint calls over the long Labor Day weekend, offered Grand Rapids police an assist on Tuesday. Sgt. James Huston, after questioning two hitch-hikers picked up west of town, discovered in a routine file check that one of the men, Sam Davi, was wanted in Grand Rapids on an old larceny warrant.

The State Highway Commission has started distributing second-quarter motor vehicle highway fund collections to Michigan counties and incorporated cities and villages. Net highway fund receipts during April, May and June totaled \$67,060.769. Kent County's share is \$97,630 while the City of Lowell will receive \$8,080.

25 years The Lowell Ledger **September 8, 1993**

Bob Rice expected a call over the summer conveying the message, "You've got a job as Lowell High School band director, you need not worry anymore." Rice never gave a whole lot of thought this summer to the idea that the Headlee Waiver wouldn't pass and he'd be without a job on Aug. 31. He was one of 50 Lowell employees to lose his job.

The Lowell Board of Education Building and Site Committee will recommend to the Board of Education that the Runciman Gymnasium be razed this fall. Lowell Superintendent Fritz Esch said the anticipated cost for razing the building is approximately \$80 - \$85,000.

Celebrating a 25th anniversary is a special occasion for any event. To commemorate that special occasion Dolores Dey, office manager at the Lowell Area Arts Center, created a quilt with accents of silver to remind citizens of the Fallasburg Festival's silver anniversary.

Ionia head football coach Jim Graham grabbed a play out of a 1981 playbook and then could do nothing but smile when his "Dawgs" executed it to perfection in Ionia's 20-12 season opening win against Lowell Friday night.

Each August, the Lowell High School counseling office is beset with student requests for scheduling changes. With the advent of the school day being reduced to five hours, and with many of the advanced and enrichment classes cut, requests for student scheduling changes have been at a premium in 1993-94. A normal year brings about 150 requests. This school year, being anything but normal, brought the counseling office roughly 300 requests.

We know what matters – it's you

We named our blog Social Security Matters for a few reasons. Yes, we matter to millions of people. And the matters we write about-from policy changes to new programsfrom online my Social Security features to popular baby names-are topics that affect you in one way or another.

Our blogs provide a lot of information about our programs and services as well as our easy to use tools that can help you plan for retirement or do business with us from the comfort of your home. So, we'd like to share our most informative blog posts from this past year. As you peruse these posts, consider sharing them with friends and family.

Medicare or Medicaid? We know this can be a little confusing,

differences for you in easy to understand terms at blog. ssa.gov/is-it-medicare-ormedicaid.

• Estimating your benefits is easy with our online calculators. It only takes a few minutes to see what your years of work will add up to at blog. ssa.gov/estimate-yourbenefits-today-for-a-securetomorrow.

• The Social Security Board of Trustees released its annual report on the current and projected financial status of the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance (OASDI) Trust Funds. Read more at blog.ssa.gov/socialsecurity-2018-trusteesreport.

In one infographic, we show you how easy it is to create a secure my Social

so we broke down the Security account at blog. ssa.gov/how-to-create-amy-social-security-account.

> • We released our list of most popular baby names for 2017! Read them at blog.ssa.gov/justarrived-introducing-socialsecuritys-top-10-babynames-of-2017.

• Want to know how to increase your benefits beyond retirement age? We break it down here: blog.ssa.gov/how-you-cangrow-your-social-securitybenefits-beyond-retirementage.

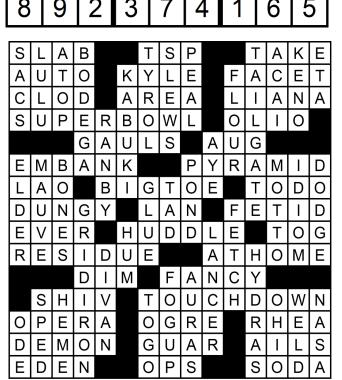
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Information is power. Being informed is what matters most when you're making decisions that will affect you and your loved ones for a lifetime. You can always visit our main page and find what matters most to you at www.socialsecurity. gov.

Vonda VanTil is the Public Affairs Specialist for West Michigan. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 3045 Knapp NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 or via email at vonda. vantil@ssa.gov.







Deborah Wilks, Agent 11827 Fulton St E Lowell, MI 49331 Bus: 616-897-9237 dwilks@deborahwilks.com Your home and car aren't just things. They're what you work hard for, and where you build your memories. Call me to give them the protection they deserve.

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HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org.FREE All Vets Coffee Hour at the center the 3rd Thursday of each month. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.TEN EOW

help wanted

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MAINTENANCE PERSON -part-time. Mowing, updat-

misc.

GOTTA GET IT DONE WORKSHOP - is starting up again. Confirm dates Oct. 27, Nov. 10 & 24, Jan 12. Come join us and bring your projects; knitting, crochet, Swedish weaving, quilting and hand embroidery. Knowledgeable people on hand. \$5 per day and a dish to pass. Contact Bobbie Miller, 897-7037.

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

services

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services

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AND **Community Calendar** September **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.

BUILDING A BETTER COM-MUNITY: UNDERSTANDING THE OPIOID CRISIS - Sun., Sept. 9, 3-4:30 pm. An open dialogue surrounding the Opioid Crisis and how we can work to overcome the epidemic. Featured presentation with Dr. Cara Poland, Q&A session, expert panel (FAN, Lowell Police, network 180). Lowell Methodi Inited

FREE MOVIE NIGHT AT IMPACT CHURCH - Thurs., Sept. 13, 6-9 pm at 1070 Hudson, Lowell. Watch the movie Home Run & enjoy free popcorn & beverage. No child care available. Brought to you by Celebrate Recovery.

BLUEGRASS MUSIC EVENT -Sept. 14-15 at the fairgrounds. Free daily admission. Campsite jamming, open mic & stage. Good music all weekend. Overnight camping is \$27 per night.

50th ANNUAL FALLASBURG 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 Fallasburg Park Dr NE, Lowell. www.lowellartsmi.org

TWEENY BOPPER BOOK TO MOVIE CLUB - Sept. 19, 4-6 pm, showing the movie Holes and book discussion to follow. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

TWEENY BOPPER BOOK TO

workshop is open to all ages. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.

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.

WOMENFOR SOBRIETY - meets every Monday, 7-8 p.m. at Bowne Center United Methodist Church, fellowship hall, 12051 84th St., corner of Alden Nash. Call Sue at 868-6219 or www.womenforsobriety.org

BOWNE TOWNSHIP HISTORI-CALSOCIETY-meets the second Monday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Historical Museum at 84th/ Alden Nash.

NEEDLERS - Meet the second & fourth Wednesday of the month from, 5 to 8 pm at Englehardt Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE - third Monday at 7:30 p.m. for business meeting.

ALTO AMERICAN LEGION

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

CUB SCOUT PACK 3188 meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

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.

KNITTING GROUP - Tuesdays 10 a.m. - noon. Meets at the Village Hall. Beginning to advanced knitters welcome. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

LOWELL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Open Radio Room Thursdays, 7 pm at Flat River Outreach Ministries, 11535 ng rg

& Battle Creek Shopper News. Call 897-9555 or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info. LEDGER OFFICE HOURS: MON THURS. 8-5 FRI. 8-12 Wanted FREON R12 WANTED: CERTIFIED BUYER will PAY CA\$H for R12 cylinders or cases of cans.	ing facility & painting. Call 616-293-5653 for more information. CHRISTMAS LIGHT IN- STALLER - Looking for light installers. Will install lights from the ground. Must be able to lift 50# frequently. Hours are 10-6 Sat. & Sun. Fri. also if avail- able. Must have transpor- tation to GR. Email interest to: christmascreationsgr@ yahoo.com or 942-6635.	E. Main, Lowell. SENIOR FOOD COMMODI- TIES-Sept. 12-14 at FROMdur- ing regular Food Pantry hours. PAPER QUILLING - Sept. 12, 2-5 pm, hosted by the Clarks- ville Area Library. Class size is limited for this adult craft. Call Clarksville Area Library, 616- 693-1001 to register. DON'T LET THE PIGEON ATTEND THIS PROGRAM! - Sept. 13 at 10 am. Celebrate the works of author Mo Willems. Featuring crafts, books & activi- ties. Englehardt Branch Library, 200 N. Monroe St., Lowell, 784- 2007, www.kdl.org	MOVIE CLUB - Sept. 20, 3:15 - 5:15 pm, showing the movie Holes and book discussion to follow. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146. STEM ACTIVITY - Sept. 25, 3:30 - 4:30 pm for ages 8 & up. Sponsoreds by Ionia County Great Start. Class size is limited to 20 - call to register. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146. STEM ACTIVITY - Sept. 26, 4-5 pm for ages 8 & up. Sponsoreds by Ionia County Great Start. Class size is limited to 20 - call to register. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.	AUXILIARY - meets the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Alto American Legion Post. V.F.W. POST #8303 - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E. BOY SCOUT TROOP 102 - ev- ery 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	Sid Thursday. www.w8/rc.org 145.27 MHz. FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES TREASURE'S THRIFT SHOP HOURS - Tues - Fri. 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 - 2 p.m. at 11535 Fulton St. E. Thrift Shop, 897-8260; Resource Center, 897-8260. TECH HELP - Wednesdays by appointment from 9 a.m 1 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, library downloadable books, etc. Saranac Public Li- brary, 61 Bridge St., Saranac. 616-642-9146.
(312) 291-9169; www. refrigerantfinders.com (MICH)	lost	PAPER QUILLING - Sept. 13, 4-7 pm, hosted by the Saranac Public Library. Class size is	YOUR NOVEL WORKSHOP - Sept. 27, 3:30 - 4:30 pm. Author Beth Rodgers presenting. This	Room. Program & refreshments. Guests welcome. TECH HELP - Thursdays by	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
I WANT TO BUY - Refrigerator, stove,	LOST CAT - Adult male, black, short hair, declawed,	limited for this adult craft. Call to register. Saranac Public Library, 61 Bridge St., Saranac.	workshop is open to all ages. Clarksville Area Library, 165 N. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.	appointment from 1-3 p.m. Help with internet searching, computer basics, Facebook, ereaders, li-	ultrasounds & pregnancy test- ing available. www.afclowell.org
washer, dryer & furniture in good shape. Have cash. 989-584-6818.	very tame. Lost near Mont- calm Ave SE, Lowell. RE- WARD - \$100. Call 897- 7960.	616-642-9146. FOODMOBILE - Sat., Sept. 15 at 10 am at the fairgrounds.	GETTING STARTED WRITING YOUR NOVEL WORKSHOP - Sept. 27, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Author Beth Rodgers presenting. This	brary downloadable books, etc. Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.	

^{the}leedger

FREE WILL astrology

Aries (March 21-April 19)

and



and even appreciate your sadness. To get you in the mood, here's a list of sadnesses from novelist Jonathan Safran Foer: sadness of the sadness could-have-been; of being misunderstood; sadness of having too many options; sadness of being smart; sadness of awkward conversations; sadness of feeling the need to create beautiful things; sadness of going unnoticed; sadness of domesticated birds; sadness of arousal being an unordinary physical state; sadness of wanting sadness.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Do you

any

inside



you? Have you ever felt a mad yearning to communicate using howls and yips instead of words? When you're alone, do you sometimes dispense with your utensils and scoop the food off your plate with your fingers? Have you dreamed of running through a damp meadow under the full moon for the sheer ecstasy of it? Do you on occasion experience such strong urges that you feel like you could weave your body and soul together with

the color green or the sound of a rain-soaked river or the moon rising over the hills? I ask these questions, Taurus, because now is an excellent time to draw on the instinctual wisdom of your feral gualities.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)



because of pride, incapacity, or arrogance, but simply because they lead you nowhere." I endorse his advice for your use, Gemini. In my astrological opinion, you'll be wise to practice the rough but fine art of saying NO. It's time for you to make crisp decisions about where you belong and where you don't; about where your future fulfillment is likely to thrive and where it won't; about which relationships deserve your sage intimacy and which tend to push you in the direction of mediocrity.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

To casual observers you may seem to be an

amorphous hodgepodge, or a simmering mess of semi-interesting confusion, or an amiable dabbler headed in too many directions at once. But in my opinion, casual observers would be wrong in that assessment. What's closer to the symbolic truth about you is an image described by poet

Carolyn Forché: grapes that are ripening in the fog. Here's another image that resonates with your current state: sea turtle eggs gestating beneath the sand on a misty ocean beach. One further metaphor for you: the bright yellow flowers of the evening primrose plant, which only bloom at night.

Leo (July 23-August 22) I want to make sure that the

in

devolve

doesn't

into



So rut. а 1'11 ask you questions to unexpected spur your imagination in unpredictable directions. Ready? 1. How would you describe the untapped riches in the shadowy part of your personality? 2. Is there a rare object you'd like to own because it would foster your feeling that the world has magic and miracles? 3. Imagine the perfect party you'd love to attend and how it might change your life for the better. 4. What bird most reminds you of yourself? 5. What's your most evocative and inspiring daydream? 6. In your past, were there ever experiences that made you cry for joy in ways that felt almost estatic? How might you attract or induce a catharsis like that sometime soon?

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

By volume, the Amazon is the largest river in the world. But where does it originate? Scientists have squabbled about that issue for over



the

Peru. But is it the Apurímac River? The Marañón? The Mantaro? There are good arguments in favor of each. Let's use this question as a poetic subtext as we wonder and meditate about the origin of your life force, Virgo. As is the case for the Amazon, your source has long been mysterious. But I suspect that's going to change during the next 14 months. And the clarification process begins soon.

Libra

(September 23-October 22) When Warsan Shire was a child, she immigrated to the

> UK with her Somalian parents. Now she's a renowned

poet who writes vividly about refugees, immigrants, and other marginalized people. To provide support and inspiration for the part of you that feels like an exile or fugitive or displaced person, and in accordance with current astrological omens, I offer you two quotes by Shire. 1. "I belong deeply to myself." 2. "Document the moments you feel most in love with yourself-what you're wearing, who you're around, what you're doing. Recreate and repeat."

Scorpio

(October 23-November 21) "Once in a while came a moment when everything seemed



in Alice Munro's short story "Jakarta." Now I'm using that message as the key theme your horoscope. Why?

Because you're at the peak of your ability to be reached, to be touched, to be communicated with. You're willing to be keenly receptive. You're strong enough to be deeply influenced. Is it because you're so firmly anchored in your understanding and acceptance of who you are?

Sagittarius

(November 22-December 21) In 1928, novelist Virginia Woolf wrote a letter to her friend



way of reading," she confided, "since one book is only a single unaccompanied note, and to get the full sound, one needs ten others at the same time." My usual inclination is to counsel you Sagittarians to focus on one or two important matters rather than on a multitude of semi-important matters. But in accordance with current astrological omens, I'm departing from tradition to suggest you adopt Woolf's approach to books as your approach to everything. Your life in the coming weeks should be less like an acoustic ballad and more like a symphony for 35 instruments.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

but there are

Not many goats can climb trees,

daredevils in Morocco that do. They go in quest of the delicious olivelike berries that grow on argan trees. The branches on which they perch may be 30 feet off the ground. I'm naming them as your power creature for the coming weeks. I think you're ready to ascend higher in search of goodies. You have the soulful agility necessary to transcend your previous level of accomplishment.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

From 49-45 BC, civil war wracked the Roman Republic.



Julius Caesar led forces representing the common people againstarmies

fighting for the aristocracy's interests. In 45 BC, Caesar brought a contingent of soldiers to Roman territory in North Africa, intent on launching a campaign against the enemy. As the general disembarked from his ship, he accidentally slipped and fell. Thinking fast, he exclaimed, "Africa, I have tight told of you!" and clasped the ground, thus implying he had lowered himself on purpose in a ritual gesture of conquest. In this way, he converted an apparent bad omen into a positive one. And indeed, he won the ensuing battle, which was the turning point that led to ultimate victory and the war's end. That's good role modeling for you right now.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Below

are sweet words I've borrowed from poets I love. I invite you to use them to communicate with anyone who is primed to become more lyrically intimate with you. The time is right for you to reach out! 1. "You look like a sea of gems." -Qahar Aasi 2. "I love you with what in me is unfinished." -Robert Bly 3. "Yours is the light by which my spirit's born." -E. E. Cummings 4. "Tell me the most exquisite truths you know." -Barry Hannah 5. "It's very rare to know you, very strange and wonderful." -F. Scott Fitzgerald 6. "When you smile like that you are as beautiful as all my secrets." - Anne Carson 7. Everything you say is "like a secret voice speaking straight out of my own bones." -Sylvia Plath



Florida. Says It All

On Aug. 20, the Miami Herald endorsed Republican Bettina Rodriguez Aguilera, who was running to replace Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen to represent a district that includes parts of Miami and Miami Beach. (She lost her primary bid on Aug. 28.) Rodriguez Aguilera has been a city official and a business executive, the Herald noted, but conceded, "We realize that Rodriguez Aguilera is an unusual candidate." Before she was a candidate, Rodriguez Aguilera appeared on Spanish-language television programs to talk about her experience of being abducted by aliens when she was 7 years old. Three beings, two women and a man who reminded her of Jesus Christ, spoke to her "telepathically" and took her aboard their spaceship. Inside, she saw "round seats that were there, and some quartz rocks that controlled the ship," and she said she has communicated with them several times since then. However, editorial page editor Nancy Ancrum didn't think Rodriguez Aguilera's beliefs or past experiences compromised her as an effective public servant. "Here's why we chose her: She's not crazy," Ancrum told The Washington Post. "I don't think we went off the rails here."

a new television when the smoking device exploded in his pants pocket. "The gentleman, he is running ... and he is screaming and yelling," store manager Antelmolare Guzman told NBC4. "Apparently, all of his right leg was completely burnt all the way down. Part of his private parts were also kind of affected." While Abdihdy ran to the restroom to see to his burns, Guzman put out the still-flaming e-cig on the store's floor. Abdihdy, who did not go to the hospital, said he still can't walk on his leg.



Owwww!

Mohamad Zayid Abdihdy, 24, declared that he's "going back to hookah" after a fiery incident on Aug. 25 involving his e-cigarette. The cellphone store worker was in an HDTV Outlet store in Anaheim, California, buying

Extreme Measures

A man named Tang from Sichuan Province, China, promised his girlfriend, Yang, that he would buy an expensive luxury car for her. The only problem was that he didn't have the money. So he cooked up a scheme, inviting Yang and her brothers to the Chengdu car dealership on Aug. 16, where he had allegedly put down a 10,000 yuan payment. Tang asked the group to wait there while he went to get the cash, but instead, according to Shanghaiist, he went to a supermarket and bought a fruit knife. Outside, he found a secluded spot and cut up his own arms, then called Yang and said he had been robbed at knifepoint of the 750,000 yuan he had supposedly withdrawn for the car. While her brothers took Tang to the hospital, Yang waited for police, who eventually excised the story from Tang. He was sentenced to 10 days in jail and a 500 yuan fine.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

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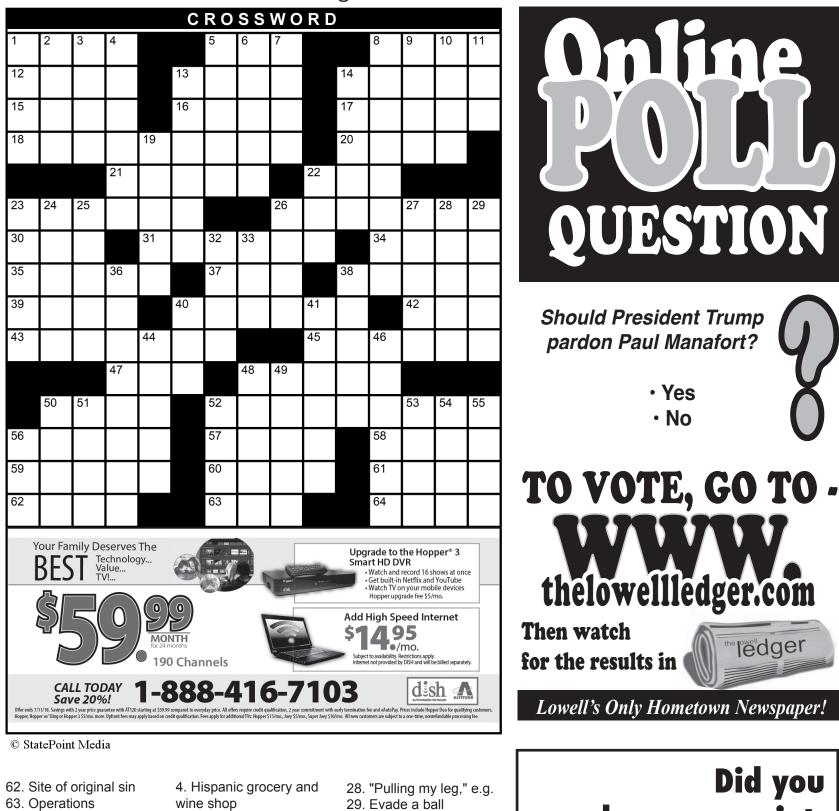
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wine shop 5. Innsbruck's province 6. Lots and lots 7. Sound of thunder 8. *What fans do before the game 9. bowl, Brazilian dish 10. Bingo-like game 11. 7th letter of Greek alphabet 13. Japanese theater 14. Miller's product 19. Went past 22. Sailor's "ves" 23. Village V.I.P. 24. Shade of violet

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2005-2017

40. Refrigerator sound 41. Jousting match participant 44. Parlor piece 46. Monster with nine heads, pl. 48. Get overcast 49. Saintly glows 50. Hightailed it 51. Blood component 52. Pizza for home, e.g. 53. *Home to Bengals 54. Join by heating 55. U.S. space agency 56. Schiller's poem

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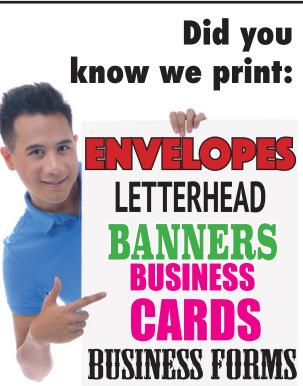
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33. Little bit

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38. "Bring back!" to Fido



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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.

movie 27. *"Go Pack Go" to Green Bay Packers? Puzzle solutions on page 12 • UPS Shipping Services We Offer... FEDEX Pickup Copy Service (black & color) FAX Service & much more MON. - THUR. 8 - 5. • FRI. 8 - 12 CLOSED SAT. & SUN. 897-9555 ivers lide

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