

## Highest turnout in years for Nov. 6 election

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The midterm election on Tuesday, Nov. 6 was one of the most anticipated for years. TV news pundits promised massive voter participation and a “blue wave” for weeks and then spent hours analyzing it when it failed to materialize as dramatically as they’d predicted. Voters ended up giving important victories to both Republicans and Democrats on election night.

Nationwide, voter turnout was higher than any midterm election since 1970. According to the New York Times, 48.5 percent of eligible voters participated in the election. Kent County had 61.5 percent voter turnout.

Democrat Gretchen Whitmer will be Michigan’s next governor. She beat Republican Bill Schuette 2,205,437 votes to 1,828,865. The county overall went for Whitmer over Scheutte 140,855 to 129,549. Michigan voters passed anti-gerrymandering and pro-voting proposals, and Michigan is the first state

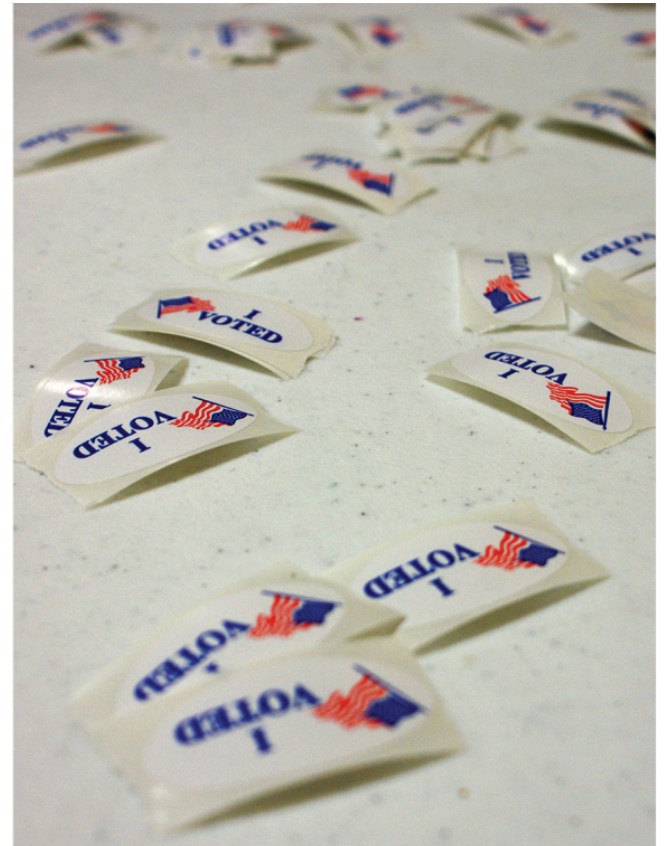
in the Midwest to legalize recreational marijuana. The majority of county residents voted “yes” on all three of the statewide proposals as well as the Kent County “ready by five” proposal that will provide \$5.7 million a year for early childhood programs.

The city of Lowell had 57.1 percent voter turnout; 1,703 of the 2,983 registered voters came out, 1,280 stayed home. The city chose Whitmer over Schuette, 815 votes to 795. The race for Secretary of State came out to a tie in Lowell, Mary Treder Lang and Jocelyn Benson each got 799 votes from city residents. In other local races, all four of the Lowell school board members running for reelection - Gary Blough, Patrick Nugent, James Turner and Danny Stephens Jr. - were re-elected. The majority of city residents voted in favor of all three proposals. Proposal one passed in Lowell 984 to 689, it was 1,012 “yes” to 625 “no” for proposal two, 1,135 “yes” to 501 “no”

votes for proposal three and 885 voted “yes” while 730 said “no” to the Kent County “ready by five” proposal.

Vergennes Twp had 71.9 percent voter turnout. In the race for governor, 1,534 Vergennes residents voted for Schuette, compared to 906 Whitmer votes. Heather Hoffman will continue as township clerk and Janine Mork will keep her position as township treasurer. Both ran unopposed. Vergennes Twp came out against recreational marijuana with 1,307 “no” votes and 1,179 voting “yes.” The township voted “yes” for the other two statewide proposals, but voted against the Kent County proposal 1,255 to 1,128.

Lowell Twp had 64 percent voter turnout. They also went for Schuette; he got 1,684 Lowell Twp votes compared to 1,166 for Whitmer. Township clerk Monica Burt will retain her position; she ran unopposed. Lowell Twp votes said “yes” to all three statewide proposals but the majority



voted against the county proposal.

In Bowne Twp, 1,192 voted for Schuette and 426 for Whitmer. The township had 70.8 percent voter turnout. The majority of

Bowne Twp residents voted “yes” on proposal three and “no” on the other three.

Complete Kent County results are available online at [electionreporting.com/kent](http://electionreporting.com/kent).

## Schools plan \$52.1 million in new projects

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education had their regular monthly meeting at 7 pm on Monday, Nov. 12. The meeting lasted one hour and one minute and was attended by seven local residents.

The board is working to get a \$52.1 million bond request in front of voters in 2019. The money will be used for a long list of projects at every building in the district. The ideas for the projects were honed during recent meetings school administrators held with the public to gather their input on what the district should be doing and a recent online survey.

“The idea is to have a ‘no millage increase’ plan,” said Lowell Area Schools superintendent Gregory Pratt. “That might have been a surprise for some. There was a strong response about the ‘no millage increase’ when we went to the community forums. There was dialogue back and forth. That was an important piece to the people that were sitting around the tables. It was very strongly heard

across the forums.”

Lowell Area Schools chief financial officer John Zielinski said the district’s

finances were audited recently and they received the highest possible opinion from the auditors.

The board voted to purchase the property at 320 Amity for \$200,000. The property is next to Bushnell

Elementary and will be used to expand that building.

School board, continued, page 2



At the American Legion's Veterans Day banquet on Sunday, Nov. 11, four LHS students - Gwendolyn Hackett, Evangeline Hoke, John Russell and Karsten Kirkendall - reported on their experiences last summer at Boys State and Girls State. Read the complete story on page 3.

### American Legion banquet



page 3

### "Mr. Lowell" C.H. Runciman



pages 8-9

### Legal marijuana: What now?



page 7

50¢



# School board, continued



Lowell Area Schools superintendent Gregory Pratt is working on a \$52.1 million bond proposal to upgrade facilities across the district.



Lowell Area Schools chief financial officer John Zielinski announced the results of a district financial audit.

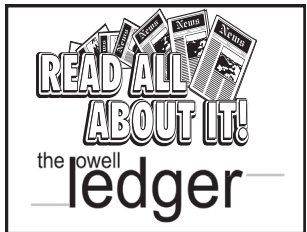
The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education's next regular meeting will be in the Runciman Building, 300 High St., at 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 10. Their next work session meeting will be in the same location at 6 pm on Monday, Jan. 28, 2019.

## C. H. Runciman Makes Call Inaugurating New System



C. H. Runciman, president of the Board of Education and prominent in civic activities, appears happy as he places the first dial telephone call over Lowell's new system. He dialed the number 5123 which connected him with the council rooms at the city hall and the call was answered by Frank L. Stephens, chief of police, who was on duty at the time.

Turn to page 8 for the story of "Mr. Lowell," C.H. Runciman, shown here making the first ever call on a rotary-dial telephone in Lowell in 1953.



## GRVH cookie drive a success

The 12th annual Lowell cookie and gift drive for the Grand Rapids Veterans Home was Saturday, November 10. Organizers were asked by the Veterans Home to limit the amount of cookies, so this year the group collected three station wagons full of special gifts.

As the public dropped off their donations, the Lowell Veterans Center was a constant rush of eager friends with cookies, games, hats, gloves, clothing, books, hand-stitched quilts, lap robes with 'Thank You for Your Service' embroidered on them, hand-knit blankets and hand-made cards from Mrs. Anderson's and Mrs. Olsen's third grade classes at Cherry Creek Elementary School.

The veterans were also surprised with a cardboard panel of preschool hand prints and cards with messages from the children.

Our longest-running annual group, Helping Hands 4-H, were one of the first to deliver their donations to the GRVH. As they were unloaded in Grand Rapids, the GRVH volunteers were impressed by the wide array of gifts.

"When they are delivered there are going to be some very happy veterans," one volunteer commented.

Once again, many will appreciate the generosity that comes from Lowell.



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# Veterans, students, others honored at banquet

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The Lowell American Legion Clark-Ellis Post #152 had their annual Veterans Day banquet on Sunday, Nov. 11. About 75 veterans, their friends and family members enjoyed a dinner catered by Honey Creek Inn in Cannonsburg, it included roast beef, turkey, dressing, green bean casserole and more.

“The American Legion has done this dinner for probably 35 years, maybe longer,” said American Legion member David Thompson. “The host is the American Legion. We invite veterans and their significant others to come in for kind of an early Thanksgiving dinner. There’s no charge, it’s something we provide every year. It’s always an excellent, fun day. The fellowship is wonderful.”

Four Lowell High School students - Gwendolyn Hackett, Evangeline Hoke, John Russell and Karsten Kirkendall – who attended Boys State and Girls State over the summer spoke about their experiences. Boys State and Girls State are the American Legion’s youth leadership programs. Students who attend the program spend a week living in the dorms at a college campus (MSU for the young women, GVSU for the young men) learning hands-on about how a legislature works. Notable past alumni of the program include Neil Armstrong, Bill Clinton, Michael Jordan, Jane Pauley and Bruce Springsteen.

“It was a life-changing experience for me,” Russell said. “It taught me how to lead others, not only in our community but the state.”



About 75 military veterans, friends and family members attended this year’s American Legion Veterans Day banquet.



American Legion Clark-Ellis Post #152 commander Vikisu Condon.

“It made me realize that for the last 250 years the United States has been able to survive through the politics and through the gridlock,” Kirkendall said.

“I learned so much and I met a lot of people,” Hoke said. “That really influenced my decision to enlist in the US Navy, which I did a couple weeks ago. I also learned a lot about our local and state governments.”

“They taught me how sacred it is to defend and respect our flag,” Hackett said. “They taught me to be a leader, but most importantly they taught me never to underestimate myself.”



“This program is so great; it teaches these young kids lots of young life experiences,” said American Legion commander Vikisu Condon.

“They’re from Lowell High School and they’re exceptional students,” Thompson said. “It’s always fun to hear what they remember most about it.”

The Lowell Ledger was honored to receive an award from the American Legion at the banquet, “for excellent coverage of veterans’ issues and for the story of the dedication of the astronaut Roger B. Chaffee statue.”

## Ledger also receives award



The Lowell Ledger editor, Tim McAllister, was awarded a special plaque at the 2018 Legion’s Veterans’ Day dinner last Sunday. The honor was for his coverage of veteran activities in the greater Lowell area and for the Astronaut Roger B. Chaffee statue dedication last May at the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum. The former Lowell American Legion Commander, Dave Thompson, who was a classmate of Chaffee’s, encouraged the Legion to support the project. Both men later flew in the US Navy.

Thompson said, “The Ledger and McAllister’s coverage of all veterans’ activities are the best anywhere in Michigan and Tim’s reporting and pictures of the Chaffee Dedication were clearly the most complete and accurate of any written, anywhere.”

After the plaque was presented by Lowell Post #152’s Commander, Vikisu Condon, McAllister received a warm and deserved ovation from those in attendance.

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## outdoors

### michigan conservation

Dave Stegehuis

Who's watching the store? There is a lot going on in the world and it would be easy to overlook the natural resources we enjoy in Michigan. The general public may have little idea about what is going on out in the woods and waters of our state.

To address this issue, the governor appoints nine citizens to the Michigan Wildlife Council. This group implements programs intended to inform the public about the impact of conservation efforts including scientific wildlife management on our natural resources and outdoor traditions. The council designs and delivers educational projects using

\$1.00 from each hunting and fishing license sale.

The point is that public awareness of conservation issues is important. For example, it is little known that wildlife management, habitat restoration and acquisition, and public access to millions of acres of natural areas plus lakes and rivers is funded through hunting and fishing license fees and federal taxes on related equipment sales. People who don't fish or hunt still use the land for other purposes such as hiking and camping. Also, there are many ways for corporate and private property owners to get involved with conservation efforts and also share their property

with the public. Individuals can get involved by joining conservation organizations or volunteer for conservation projects. This is all very general information, but specific details are easy to find today if one takes the time and effort to seek it out.

The idea here is that we can improve our quality of life both mentally and physically by relating to natural surroundings and wildlife. With all that demands our attention and concern today, nature remains a constant and can provide a sense of calm and purpose. Let's not get too distracted and ignore the condition of our natural resources. It is important to us and future generations that we remain vigilant and active in protecting our outdoor heritage.

## Attwood employees volunteer on their lunch hour



A group of volunteers from Attwood came on their lunch hours all last week to serve at Alpha Family Center of Lowell. They did this as a service project for the Women's Leadership Council recently started at Attwood. Attwood is owned by Brunswick Corporation and throughout all of their companies they have different Women's Leadership Councils. In the month of November every council tries to volunteer at a women's shelter or organization in their community. Attwood chose the Alpha Family Center of Lowell. In addition, they are collecting funds through their Baby Bottle Campaign over the month of November.

## NEWSPAPERS Outperform Magazines in Michigan

the lowell ledger

More adults in Michigan read a newspaper than local magazines.<sup>1</sup>



Newspapers are the most trusted media source.<sup>2</sup>

Adults, across all generations, identify newspapers as their most trusted source of news and information - ahead of magazines.

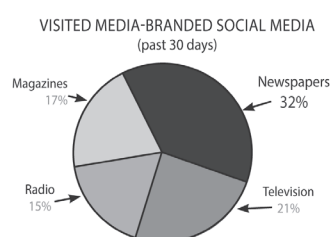
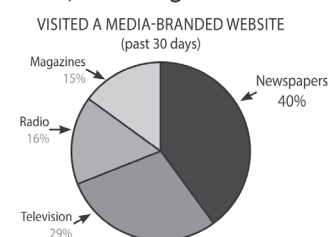
79% Eight in 10 newspaper readers took action as a result of reading a newspaper ad in the past 30 days<sup>3</sup>

Newspaper ads result in more purchases than magazine ads.

22%

of adults often purchase products and services as the result of a magazine ad.<sup>4</sup>

Digital media users rely on newspaper-branded websites and social media, over magazine-branded properties, for local market news.<sup>4</sup>



Sources: (1) Release 2 Nielsen Scarborough Report. Copyright 2018 Scarborough Research. All rights reserved, (2) Triad/Coda Ventures - The Newspaper Generation Study; (3) NAA; (4) AMG/Parade Local Knowledge Survey

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# viewpoint

## to the editor

Dear Editor,

Just before the midterm election there was a lengthy article in the Letter to the Editor, condemning the Democratic party. I would like to speak on how I see the Republican party.

I believe the Republican party push for tax cuts for the wealthy and corporate America down through the years has left America unable to pay for its deficit. The recent Republican administration tax cuts gave massive tax cuts to the wealthy, raising the deficit when the top one percent already control 38.6 percent of our nations wealth, nearly twice as much as the bottom 90 percent. They gave tax cuts to corporate America when S&P 500 companies are expecting record profits. Then they had the gall to say that they would enact deep cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid to help pay for the deficit. The United Nations reported that no less than 40 million Americans live in poverty with 18.5 million living in extreme poverty, while

5.3 million Americans live in what it calls third world conditions of absolute poverty. How can the republican party condone cuts on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid when there are so many living in poverty? How can the republican party condone cuts on Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid when military spending by the US is more than Russia, China, Saudi Arabia, India, France, United Kingdom and Japan combined?

Then there's healthcare. The United States pays way more for healthcare than any other country. Healthcare cost is the number one cause of bankruptcy. The United States is the only highly developed country that doesn't have universal healthcare. Universal healthcare is a government-run system where, in most countries, the government pays for health care provided by private companies. A campaign in the US for some form of government universal healthcare has been around for almost a century but it hasn't come about. Why? Because we are a capitalistic nation and capitalism is all about whatever the market will bear.

But I believe many use what ever the market will bear as an excuse for greed. Greed is running our nation not capitalism. Greed is running up the cost of healthcare. Greed is running this country and it is dividing the country. Income inequality has increased significantly since 1970, meaning the share of the nation income by higher income household

has increased while the bottom 90 percent has consistently lost money. Greed is producing our nation's high inequality and it's on its way to producing the next depression.

*Jim Howard  
Lowell Township*

It's time to keep voting . . . for local business

As good as it felt to have cast ballots on Tuesday and to finally have the contentious midterm election over, Lowell area voters are now part of a campaign that carries just as much or more importance for our future.

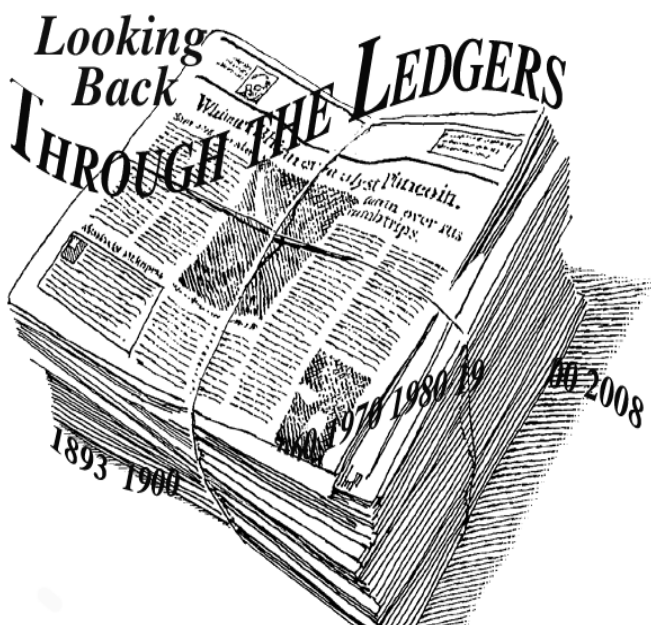
It's the holiday shopping season and, with every dollar we spend, we will be casting a vote for the wellbeing and the charm of our local, hometown communities. So important is the spending of our shopping dollars locally, that it's become a nationwide movement. In 2010, the American Express company launched Small Business Saturday which, this year, will fall on Nov. 24. A year later, the United States Senate voted unanimously to support the initiative and, by 2012, officials and businesses in all 50 states became part of it.

"Small businesses are the heartbeat of your neighborhood, the spine of your local economy, and the spirit of your town," says American Express. It's known as a worldwide credit card business and it honors purchases wherever a consumer shops – big city, small town, or online – but American Express recognizes the importance of local community and close neighborhoods. That's certainly unlike the nationwide chains and online retailers who happily take money out of local communities and somehow never see the business wisdom in giving back.

Remember, whenever you buy locally a larger portion of those dollars will be re-spent locally, raising the level of economic activity when local merchants hire more people and add to the local tax base. A socially-conscious company like American Express realizes that the dollars spent at community-based businesses create a multiplier effect meaning that, from each dollar spent at a local independent merchant, \$2 to \$3.50 recirculates in the local economy compared to a dollar spent at a chain-owned business.

Based on a small business consumer survey, when you spend \$100 at a local business, roughly \$68 stays in the local economy. If you spend the same amount at a large business, less than \$40 stays locally. When you shop online, there's no local benefit. Plus, as local businesses grow they hire

Letters continued, page 6



### 125 years ago Lowell Ledger November 18, 1893

Wednesday morning when Henry Frace proceeded to don his daily attire he found his pantaloons had disappeared. Investigation showed that his house had been entered during the night by thieves and that they had taken the above mentioned garment, carried it into the hall and abstracted all the cash that was in the pockets, a pocket knife and a magnifying glass. The cash was in the neighborhood of \$3. Mrs. Frace was worse off, as a gold watch belonging to her was missing. It is not known how the thieves affected entrance but they seemed to have been very deliberate in their motions and visited several rooms in the house.

The recent action of the Michigan state board of health in placing consumption on the list of contagious diseases and requiring safeguards to prevent its spread, is causing widespread newspaper discussion as to the propriety of similar action in other states.

### 100 years The Lowell Ledger November 14, 1918

"Germany has surrendered!" That was the word received in Lowell by telephone from Grand Rapids last Thursday after half of The Ledger edition had been

printed. The message was O.K.d by The Press which had the United Press Association for its authority. The Ledger inserted the great news by the side of its front page head and finished printing and mailing.

Gambling for turkeys, ducks and other fowl will not be allowed in Kent County this year, Sheriff C.A. Berry announced Friday. Bulletins from the state food administrator discouraging this practice and pointing out that it tended to remove a standard price determined the sheriff to take this step. Last season the sheriff prohibited the raffling of turkeys and fowl upon the basis of a violation of a state law. Both the state law and the ruling of the food administrator will be used this year to punish offenders.

Lowell's peace jubilee celebration Monday narrowly escaped being marred by a fatality, when his automobile occupied by himself, Ed Finn and two Wood boys was struck on the Hudson street crossing by the 3:51 west bound P.M. train and wrecked, all of the occupants escaping serious injury.

### 75 years The Lowell Ledger November 18, 1943

Final results of a contest in the 7th grade showed that the group had purchased \$461.25 of bonds and stamps in a six weeks' period. The room was divided into two teams, with Colleen Yeiter and Susan Krum as captains. Susan's team lost, and as a result is giving a party for the victors in the gymnasium Saturday evening. Miss Watson is class sponsor.

An appeal to housewives to take the waste fats collection campaign more seriously has been issued by L.O. Griffin, county chairman in charge of this effort for the Salvage Section of the War Production Board.

Three residents of route 1, Lowell, were all injured Sunday when Miss Mary Bieri, 20, attempted to miss a car driving on the wrong side of the road near Murray lake and her own auto went out of control and overturned.

Theft of a large number of chickens from the Byrd Beachum place was reported Monday to Marshall Fred Gramer. Mr. Beachum has a large flock and the stolen fowl had been taken, a few at a time, during the past week or so. It is to be hoped that the thieves may soon be brought to justice.

Looking back, continued, page 15

## We love to hear from you!

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

The requirements are:

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

# happy birthday



**NOVEMBER 14**  
David Durkee, Doris Rhines, Deaken Roth.

**NOVEMBER 18**  
Brent Noskey, Sandy Roe, Lindsey Sherman.

**NOVEMBER 15**  
Beth Stouffer, Emily Myers, Gina Gildner, Doug Decker, Alyssa Rash, Dave Hildenbrand, Janet Allison.

**NOVEMBER 19**  
Ken Mulder, Jamie Zoodsma, Marlene Nash, Lewis Powell, Betsy Maki.

**NOVEMBER 16**  
Cherryl Lilley.

**NOVEMBER 20**  
Brian Brown, John Butler Sr., Michelle Wernet.

**NOVEMBER 17**  
Scott MacNaughton, Cory DuBridg, Tyler Shindorf, Mary Schutts, Anastasia Barnes, Ali Wernet.



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# HEALTH

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



## - deep vein thrombosis

Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is the formation of a blood clot in a vein deep under the skin. The most common sites of DVT are the lower leg and thigh. They can also occur in the pelvis and arm.

Causes of a blood clot include slow blood flow, an injury to the lining of the vein, or having blood with an increased tendency to clot.

Cancer and some genetic blood disorders increase the risks of blood clots. Certain long-term medical conditions including heart disease and inflammatory bowel disease increase the risk of DVT. Other factors that increase DVT risk are

older age, being obese, having a DVT in the past, and having a family member who has had DVT.

The most common symptoms of DT occur at the site of the clot. These include swelling, warmth, pain or tenderness, and redness of the skin.

The most feared complication of DVT is a pulmonary embolus (PE). A PE can occur when a part of a blood clot in a DVT breaks off and travels to the lung. This causes shortness of breath, pain with deep breathing, rapid heartbeat and lightheadedness. A PE can be life threatening.

Blood thinners are used to treat DVT and are very effective. The duration of treatment depends on the severity of the DVT and the number of DVT's that occur.

## Christmas Benefit Concert

with John Darin Rowsey

**December 1 at 7 pm**  
Doors open at 6 pm  
Admission: \$5

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Guest artist - Jim Visser

Money raised from admission and a love offering will go to the ministry of Alpha Family Center of Lowell

John Darin Rowsey is a Dove Award winning song writer and lead singer for the Gospel quartet The Guardians, who have had two #1 hits on Singing News charts this year.

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Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307  
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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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  
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Pastor Jon Propper  
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM  
Lowell's Open Table - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM  
Serving meals and providing fellowship to the greater Lowell community

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www.lowellucc.org

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CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

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897-7168 • www.fbcloowell.org  
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor  
Pastor Andrew Bolkom • Pastor of Discipleship  
Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries

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

**LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
discover. grow. share  
621 E. Main Street  
897-5938  
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

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

# Letters, continued

more people and use other businesses such as accountants, insurance brokers, computer consultants, cleaning services, painters, builders and the list goes. When you do your shopping from the big box stores or online, though, you're just lining the pockets of those faceless suits that take your money but return nothing to your community.

Think about it. Did you ever see an advertisement in the program of a local community event from Amazon or any national firm? And how often do large companies donate to local causes or contribute to events and activities in our community? Never. Yet we expect our local businesses to support all kinds of activities throughout the year and then look negatively on them when they say, "I can't afford to give this year."

Experts warn that the brick-and-mortar businesses of small town retailers are slowly dying and that the future of local businesses and the health of their communities will be determined by online shopping. Lately, though, I've taken some interest and hope in recent statistics compiled by the Forbes Business Development Council that indicate both millennial and Generation Z (those born in the mid-1990s to the mid-2000s) consumers actually enjoy the experience of shopping at brick-and-mortar stores. The Forbes survey indicates many preferred trying out products before committing to the purchase, and say they enjoy the personalized service you can't get from shopping online.

Gen Z is the younger and more diverse age group of the two, yet in the U.S. alone there are 69 million people in Gen Z, meaning its population will soon outnumber millennials (those born between 1982 and 2004). Gen Zer's are worth over \$44 billion in shopping power, a figure that continues to grow. And the Gen Z population is less price-conscious and more value-oriented. It's a generation that hasn't lived without a cell phone, yet 77 percent of them indicate they would prefer to make a purchase at a store, so they can touch and feel the product before they buy.

The key for local business is to get Gen Zers into the stores rather than making the purchase online -- or at least buying from a brick-and-mortar company like Kohl's, J.C. Penny, Macy's and the like that offer an online option. This is why American Express' assistance in Small Business Saturday is so vital -- and welcomed. In the Lowell area if we care about saving our local main street economy and our local business sector then it's imperative that each of us make a concerted effort to shop locally.

The numbers are convicting. If every American spent just \$64 on something made in America, we could create over 200,000 more jobs. And if that \$64 dollars was spent locally it would guarantee local jobs and would increase the sales taxes that fund the vital services in our communities that we've come to enjoy.

Local business owners are committed to our community -- and give their time and financial support to community projects. Studies show that non-profit organizations receive 250 percent more support from local business than larger businesses. It's not just about price, selection or convenience -- it's about supporting the companies that make our community stronger.

When you think about it, there's not much you can't find locally at one of our gift or jewelry stores, hardware, sports or specialty stores. And how about giving a gift card or 'Lowell Bucks' from the local Chamber of Commerce that are redeemable at Chamber-member businesses throughout the county?

I love stories and behind every small business there's a great one worth telling.

"Whenever you see a successful business, said business author Peter Drucker, "someone once made a courageous decision."

The appreciation of those courageous decisions and the success of brick-and-mortar businesses requires our commitment to shop locally. As of today, with 47 days until the Christmas holiday, let's keep in mind that our support of our local business community is an investment in the future of our downtowns.

Don't let your local businesses become a thing of the past -- shop local!

Fred Jacobs, CEO  
J-Ad Graphics, Inc.

Support the Local Businesses  
Who Help Support  
Our Community!

# Proposal One: What happens now?

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

By passing Proposal One during last week's election, Michigan became the first state in the Midwest to legalize recreational marijuana. This leaves Michiganders with many unanswered questions about their rights.

The first question many had is exactly when the new rules take effect. According to Michigan law, this happens 10 days after the election results are certified by the Board of State Canvassers. According to the Detroit News, the latest possible date the election results can be certified is Monday, Nov. 26. Therefore, Thursday, Dec. 6 is the latest possible date the law will go into effect.

Another question is how much marijuana you will be able to buy and in what forms. The new law allows individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption. It imposes a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and requires amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers. If you're growing plants, they must not be publicly visible.

The state will create a licensing system for marijuana businesses, allow municipalities to ban or restrict them; permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10 percent tax dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads and municipalities

where marijuana businesses are located. Towns and cities have ten days from the final certification date of the election to opt out of allowing marijuana-

**"Don't drive high, don't walk around actively smoking marijuana, and you shouldn't have a problem."  
- Lowell police chief Steve Bukala**

related businesses to operate within their borders.

According to a Nov. 13 email to the Ledger from Lowell city manager Michael Burns, at their Monday, Nov. 19 meeting, the Lowell city council "will hear public comment on the consideration of commercial recreational marihuana [sic] facilities in the city of Lowell. [...] Since we don't know if the Michigan Board of Canvassers will have certified the election results by then, I don't know if the council can consider voting on the subject."

The majority of city residents, 984 to 689, voted in favor of the proposal.

At their meeting on Monday, Nov. 5, the day before the election, Lowell city council's discussion pointed to the likelihood of an opt out vote.

"I think we probably would opt out," councilor Greg Canfield said at the Nov. 5 meeting. "[When the council voted in Jan. 2018 to disallow medical marijuana businesses in Lowell] we really just

didn't feel that was going to be good for Lowell to have those kind of businesses here and influencing our young people. They can buy it in Ann Arbor or wherever. There will be other communities that opt in."

City attorney Dick Wendt said that large cities, college towns and rural townships are the most likely be the communities that will opt in.

"I know that Grand Rapids is not going to opt out, I can tell you that," Wendt said at the Nov. 5 meeting.

"I just don't think it's for us," Lowell mayor Michael DeVore said at the Nov. 5 meeting. "If people want to do it in their basement, great. I don't think it's a business for what we're trying to sell here. [...] I would like to see the opt out proposal put on the agenda for our next meeting."

Even though recreational marijuana is legal, people will probably still have pot-related run-ins with law enforcement. Some rebels will not be able to resist, they'll light up in public or drive

around with a joint in the glove box. Now, instead of being hauled off to prison as felons, their lives ruined forever, they will just get a ticket.

"The 'use of marijuana' charge is going to be changed to a civil infraction," said Lowell police chief Steve Bukala. "It can't be used in public. If a person is under 21 they can't possess it at all, so they can still be charged, but it's going to be a civil infraction. It's going to be the equivalent of a seat belt ticket, that's the best way I can describe it. I don't know if they're going to put points on your license, but I doubt it."

Local courts are no longer entertaining marijuana-related cases.

"Right now the prosecutor's office is taking a wait-and-see approach, because a lot these are going to be civil infractions," Bukala said. "They're not even arraigning people on marijuana offenses, right now the judge is sending the cases back to the prosecutor's office. Anybody that was written a 'use of marijuana' within the last 30 days, I guess the cases are being sent back. There is still some gray area with this law. We're just waiting to get

some guidelines from the state on how this is going to work and right now it's just a big mess. That's the best way I can describe it. Right now a lot of laws have to be rewritten. We're waiting on those codes too."

If you plan to drive around with marijuana products, you should invest in a lock box for the trunk of your vehicle.

"People legally can not possess it or use it in a motor vehicle," Bukala said. "There are specifics on how it's supposed to be transported. You can't operate a motor vehicle with it [unsecured] and you can't smoke in the passenger seat of a motor vehicle. It's supposed to be separate from the

passenger compartment of the motor vehicle. If you've got a trunk, you should have it in a lock box in the trunk. That's how the medical marijuana law works, I believe this is very similar."

If you have a job, check your company's employee manual for their rules. If marijuana use is against your employer's policies, even off the clock, they have the right to test you for it and fire you for a positive result. If you don't have a job, potential employers can require you to take a drug test and refuse to hire you for a positive marijuana result.

"Don't drive high, don't walk around actively smoking marijuana, and you shouldn't have a problem," Bukala said.

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SPECIAL MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday, December 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI** to consider an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance as summarized below:

Zoning amendments are proposed to the Industrial District special exception use section 201.309 (C) (6) to add the words "blending" and "fuels" a shown below in italics:

Section 201.309(C) (6) is amended to read as follows:

- The manufacture, compounding, processing, packing, *blending*, or treatment of such products as candy, cosmetics, drugs, perfumes, pharmaceuticals, toiletries, *fuels*, and food products, except the rendering or refining of fats and oils.

The Planning Commission will also review other zoning ordinance amendment drafts that they have been working on. They may attend to any other business that may come before them.

The complete ordinance amendment draft can be reviewed at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671** or on the website at [www.vergennestwp.org](http://www.vergennestwp.org). Written and oral comments will be received from any interested party until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Planning Commission Chairperson or the Planning Coordinator at the Township Offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: [zoning@vergennestwp.org](mailto:zoning@vergennestwp.org)

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

## CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN INVITATION TO BID

The City of Lowell, Michigan will receive sealed bids at the City Clerk's Office, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 for the Lowell Showboat Fabrication Project until Monday, November 26, 2018 at 2:00 PM.

Bids will be publicly open and read at that time in the Flat River Conference Room of the Lowell City Office, 301 East Main St., Lowell, Michigan. Bids should be submitted in sealed envelopes plainly marked, "Showboat Fabrication RFP - City of Lowell."

Proposal forms and specifications are on file for the inspection of bidders at the Lowell City Offices, 301 East Main Street and copies may be obtained by qualified bidders. Bidders can also go to [www.lowellmi.gov](http://www.lowellmi.gov) to receive a copy of the bid.

The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept any bid, or portion thereof, which, in its opinion, is most advantageous to the City.



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# “Mr. Lowell,” C.H. Runciman, 50 years later

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

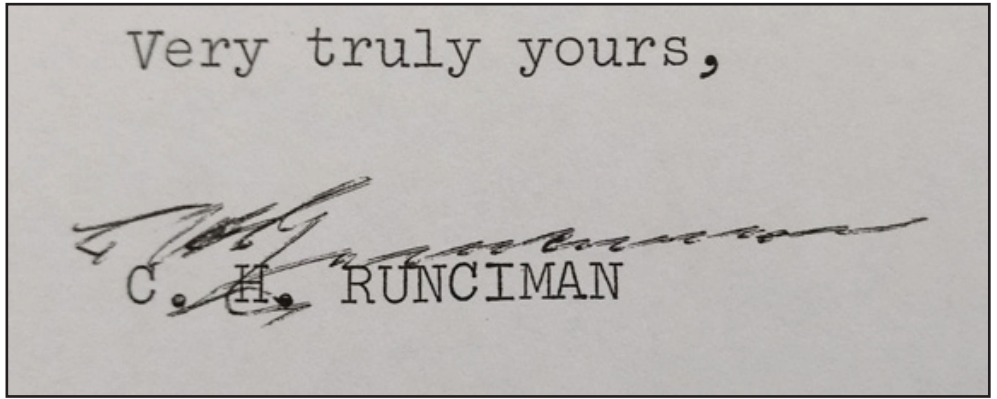
Popularly known as “Mr. Lowell” or “Runci,” C.H. Runciman spent 51 years in Lowell using innovative methods to build various businesses into tremendous

successes, meanwhile serving and entertaining the community in countless capacities.

“He was a jolly person, it was almost like being with Santa Claus,” said Joseph Mapes, Runciman’s grandson. “His laugh! He had such a high pitched belly laugh, often tears would come down his face because he’d be laughing so hard. I would call him a jolly, jolly man.”

Carlton H. Runciman was born and grew up on a farm near Chelsea, MI, on Aug. 14, 1889. He graduated from Chelsea High School in 1908 and attended the Ferris Institute until 1909 when his father died. Then he sold his horse for \$105 and by 1911 he’d earned his degree from Michigan State Normal College in Ypsilanti. A large, athletic man, he played left end and was captain of the college football team. He also pole vaulted and ran the 100-yard dash, at one point he set a Southern Michigan Conference record.

Before he made his career



C.H. Runciman in the 1950s. [courtesy Lowell Area Historical Museum]

in business, education was Runciman’s early passion. He was superintendent of schools in Millington, MI for two years, taught in Saginaw, MI for one year and was superintendent of schools in Gross Isle, MI for three and a half years. He married Gladys Needham in Saginaw in 1913, the couple eventually had two children, Jane (Mapes’ mother) and Carl Jr.

Runciman arrived in Lowell in 1917 at age 29 and, with a loan of several thousand dollars from his brother, purchased the Jakeway Elevator Co. in the middle of downtown. It was renamed the C.H. Runciman Elevator Co. and became

Runciman’s first successful operation. He eventually opened or obtained a Ford dealership, several grain companies, a coal company and many other businesses, but his greatest success came with beans. In his early days, Runciman drove around the Lowell area countryside from farm to farm in his pickup truck buying Navy, kidney, cranberry and yellow beans. His business acumen throughout the 1920s and 1930s was remarkable. He became known as an honest dealer and an entertaining character who was always willing to extend credit to those in need.

Introduced in the 1930s, Runciman’s electric bean sorting eye was the first of its kind in the world and permanently changed the bean industry. Runciman

Mapes said. “My dad took me into the office to visit. I would snoop around and go through the buildings where they sorted the beans. I remember where they had the electric eye bean sorters. It was fascinating to go look at them. That was the first one in the world, so that was quite something.”

Meanwhile, Runciman was a member of the Lowell village council, Board of Education, Board of Trade and Lowell Rotary and president of the Lowell State Bank. He served in many prominent positions outside of Lowell such as president of radio station WGRD, president of the Michigan Bean Jobbers Association, president of the National Bean Dealers Association, superintendent of the Michigan Education

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Also offering a discounted rate to run the same ad in the Lowell Ledger for only an additional **\$80**

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Ad Size is 5 1/8" wide by 5" tall

Buyer's Guide and News



Carl Runciman Jr., C.H. Runciman and Carl Mapes outside of the 115 S. Broadway office in the 50s. [courtesy Lowell Area Historical Museum]

also owned the Electric Sorting Machine Company in Grand Rapids that manufactured the machines for use by bean companies all over the country.

According to a magazine article from the 1950s, “[at the Runciman bean plant] there are scores and scores of them whirring away, each one handling more than 80 beans a second, holding each one on a pneumatic finger up to an electric eye. If it isn’t pure white, a little metal kicker knocks it into a chute that falls to a common farm pail on the floor for later use as cattle feed. [...] The machine revolutionized bean handling and emphasized Lowell’s position as a major bean center.”

“Growing up, we lived in Grand Rapids, so I loved coming into Lowell to visit,”

Association and he was a member of the Michigan Welfare Relief Commission. He was also a friend and mentor to the future 38th President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford.

“I remember my grandmother saying that my grandfather encouraged him along in politics,” Mapes said. “My grandfather wasn’t going to get into politics, but he was helpful to Jerry Ford and encouraged him along. He mentored him, you might say. Ford said in a letter to my grandmother [dated Nov. 29, 1968], ‘I had no better friend than C.H., despite the difference in our ages.’”

For 22 years and 114 performances, Runciman acted as the “interlocutor,” the master of ceremonies, for performances on the Lowell Showboat, starting with the first one in 1932.



Runciman had a tradition of entertaining the headliners at his home before the Showboat took off down the Flat River.

"As a kid I would go to the Lowell Showboat every year, it was really fun," Mapes said. "On opening night they'd always have a pre-party in my grandparents' yard on Riverside Dr. Jerry Ford, as a congressman, was there for the opening night of the Showboat every year.

its value was plummeting, so that company sold out to a second company, J.P. Burroughs."

Runciman also began having health problems toward the end of his life, exacerbated by a knee injury sustained in a car accident.

"He had trouble walking, so he was walking with a cane," Mapes said. "He hurt his arm or hand by slamming it in a car door. The infection went down to

galoshes.

According to the article in the Nov. 14, 1968 Lowell Ledger, "Lowell police report that the incident occurred at about 12:15 pm in Mr. Runciman's office at the plant, located on South Broadway. They were called to the scene after three employees reported hearing the shot that terminated the life of the man affectionately known as 'Mr. Lowell.' The employees - Harold

[\$.31] per share sales of \$20,825,000 and profits of \$446,000. At the time of his death, Mr. Runciman was a director of J.P. Burroughs and maintained his office here. He reportedly was not active in actual administration of the plant here. Several hours before his death, Mr. Runciman had attended a meeting of the board of directors of State Savings Bank, of which he served as chairman. Fellow directors indicated he was in good spirits throughout the meeting."

"I think he just felt lost," Mapes said. "Health issues were also a major concern. I think it was losing his place in Lowell where he sat for 51 years doing everything he did, mostly out of that office. It was not a very big office. It's still there, you can see it right off of Main St. It's King Milling now. Personally, I think the final blow was the closing of the sale and being told to vacate his office. He felt lost and in pain and that was it."

Upon hearing of Runciman's death, Congressman Gerald Ford issued this statement to the Ledger: "The death of Mr. Runciman came as a blow to me, as I am sure it did to the entire community. He was a close personal friend



Jim Fosburg Gets Friendly Greeting from C. H. Runciman

**Runciman's return to Lowell after nine weeks recuperating from knee surgery in Grand Rapids made the Detroit newspapers. [courtesy Lowell Area Historical Museum]**

of mine. I even presumed to call him 'Runci.' He was a fine person, a truly good human being. The people of Lowell are poorer for having lost him and so am I. Mr. Runciman lived a full and a good life. He knew what it meant to give of himself, and this must have brought him happiness, for a person is happy only in giving. His was a generous spirit or he would not have spent nearly four decades in service on the Lowell Lowell Board of Education or would not have performed so gladly as founder, captain and interlocuter of the Lowell Showboat I was privileged to attend. Whatever he was of leaving this way of life, let us remember that Mr. Runciman gave his life to Lowell during the living of it."

Runciman, continued, page 16



**Runciman's electric eye bean sorter was the first in the world. [courtesy Lowell Area Historical Museum]**

Year after year they hosted so many people who were well known at the time, people like Dinah Shore. The Showboat loaded up right across the street, there were some concrete steps leading down to the river. They're still just barely visible. That's where they'd load up all the people who were performing, including the headliners. They would go inside my grandparents' house and sit in the den and wait there to load up. It was a wonderful time."

It wasn't all so wonderful, though. Runciman was president of the Runciman company, his son Carl Runciman Jr. and his son-in-law Carl Mapes (Joe's father) were the vice presidents. Carl Jr. was an alcoholic and was therefore unable to run the company. Carl Mapes was alienated by this, quit the company and moved to Florida. He committed suicide in 1962. His daughter Gail did the same in 1965.

"Carl Jr. and my dad never got along," Mapes said. "They were both vice presidents of the company, then my dad left the company and we moved down south. My uncle Carl was an alcoholic and that's why my dad left. My grandfather didn't want to boot him out of the company, that was his son, but he knew he wasn't able to run the Runciman Company, so he sold it to an outside firm. But he was still Chairman of the Board, he'd still go into that office every day. Then that company started having problems,

his knee eventually, and it always bothered him after that. He had surgery, but every time I went to visit that last year of his life, he would be lying either in bed or on this lounge chair that I still have, and he'd just be grimacing in pain with that knee. It bothered him a lot."

The sale to J.P. Burroughs turned out to be the last straw for Runciman when he was informed that he would no longer be allowed access to the 115 S. Broadway office that had been his headquarters for the past 51 years.

"Harold Englehardt was a good friend of the family and just a fine gentleman," Mapes said. "After my grandfather died I would go visit him sometimes. He was there when the second sale was closed on Nov. 12, 1968, and he told me that my grandfather was told by the new owners that he would have to vacate his office. So, they had the closing of this second sale at the State Savings Bank [414 E. Main, now the site of Huntington Bank]. From there, he walked down to his office, sat in his chair, took out a .38 revolver and shot himself in the chest. It was apparently a rainy, snowy day. My grandfather had some galoshes that he took off and put in the closet when he went into Harold's office [at the bank]. He was telling me about this 20, 25 years later, and they were still there in the closet. He walked me over to his office closet and opened the door, and there were those same

Kelly, Doris Draper and Jacqueline Raison - told chief Avery Block they rushed to the office and found Mr. Runciman mortally wounded. They called Dr. Donald Gerard at once, then notified police. Chief Block immediately requested assistance from the Kent County Sheriff's Department. Detective Robert Tanner answered the request as did Kent County Medical Examiner Dr. Ramon Lang, who pronounced Mr. Runciman dead on the scene of self-inflicted chest wounds. Several friends disclosed that Mr. Runciman was despondent over continued poor health and sale of the C.H. Runciman Co. just hours before by J.P. Burroughs, Inc. of Saginaw, which purchased the concern in 1963 for a figure estimated in excess of \$1,000,000. The latest purchase had been negotiated by King Milling Company of Lowell, whose property abuts the Runciman plant. A milling company spokesman said that Burroughs had offered to sell the Runciman storage facilities and that the transaction had been completed late Monday. King Milling had announced plans last month to construct a new silo. Burroughs on Tuesday released nine-month figures indicating that its total operations through September 30 showed a profit of just [\$.03] per share on profits of \$48,000 from gross sales of \$21,125,000. Over the same period in 1967, the company returned

THE LOWELL LEDGER, LOWELL, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 1936

**We Have With Us Today Carlton H. RUNCIMAN OF LOWELL MICHIGAN**

ON THE GOLF COURSE HE IS GOOD FOR A 94 ANYTIME - SOMETIMES!

HIS BOYHOOD AMBITION WAS TO BE A LAWYER. BUT HE TOOK HIS FIRST JOB ON THE FARM AND FOUND THERE WAS MORE MONEY IN BEANS AND POTATOES

HIS FAVORITE SPORT.

HIS FAVORITE DISH IS ABOUT FOUR POTS OF BEANS.

LIKES TO FISH - AND CLAIMS TO HAVE CAUGHT A 5LB BASS AND A 12 LB. PIKE - AS HIS BIGGEST HAUL.

"RUNCY" IS PERPETUAL INTERLOCUTOR OF THE ANNUAL LOWELL SHOW BOAT!

"Razzing the Rapids" by Ray Barnes in Grand Rapids Sunday Herald.

# Staff Member of the Month

Ausma Pupel is the Staff Member of the Month at Murray Lake Elementary.

“Mrs. Pupel continuously shows a passion and dedication to the teaching profession and her students. Whenever you



walk by her classroom, you see students working hard, being safe, respectful, and responsible. When students struggle with these things, Mrs. Pupel is quick to target the problem and solve it. I particularly love when I walk by and see her on the ground conferring with her students. It may be academic-related, or it may be a problem-solving circle. She allows all students to have their say, tell their side, and let their needs be known. She is truly a wonderful teacher,” commented Brooke Culver.

“I have had the pleasure of teaching students in the Lowell Area Schools for over 30 years. The years have gone by quickly and I love seeing students come to my classroom as children of former students. Each day is an adventure in learning and I can’t imagine my life without my students. They complete my professional goals in life,” said Pupel.

# Brian Scott named President of Attwood Corporation

Attwood Corporation announced today that Brian Scott, who has been with the company since 2007, most recently as Senior Director of Sales, Marketing, and Product Management has been named President of Mercury Marine’s Attwood division, effective immediately. Scott succeeds Jim Fox, who recently left the company.

“Brian’s background in bringing innovative new products to the market in addition to his work running sales and marketing make him a great person to fill this role,” said Chris Drees, President of the Mercury Parts and Accessories Group. “Brian has the experience and expertise to help meet and exceed Attwood’s growth

strategy. We want to thank Jim for everything he has done at Attwood and Brunswick since he joined the organization.”

“I am humbled and

grateful to have the opportunity to lead the Attwood organization,” said Scott. “Attwood is a special company because of our great people and I

look forward to working with the team to accelerate our innovation and growth.”

During his career at Attwood, Scott has held positions of Controller, Category Director and Senior Director of Sales and Marketing. Brian holds a B.A. of Economics from the University of Michigan and an MBA from Texas Christian University.

“We are looking forward to continuing Attwood’s growth both in new product development and distribution,” said Drees. “Under Brian’s leadership, you’ll see a lot of positive momentum going in to the new year from Attwood as it remains a key part of our overall Parts and Accessories business.”



Brian Scott

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**Lend A Hand**  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Literacy Center of West Michigan is offering information meetings on Wed., Nov. 21 at 10 am and Fri., Nov. 30 at 2 pm for prospective volunteer tutors. These meetings last one hour. These meetings provide potential volunteers the opportunity to find out more about the Literacy Center and the role of a volunteer tutor. No experience necessary. We

provide our volunteers with all the training they need to be successful tutors for our adult learners.

The information sessions will be held at the Literacy Center of West Michigan, located at 1120 Monroe Ave., NW, Suite 240, Grand Rapids, MI. Please call 459-5151 (ext. 10) or email [info@literacycenterwm.org](mailto:info@literacycenterwm.org) to register.

## CITY OF LOWELL INVITATION TO BID PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF RIVERWALK PARK PROPERTY

The City of Lowell, Michigan will receive sealed bids at the City Clerk’s Office, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331 to purchase an 1842 square foot parcel owned by the City along the eastern portion of Riverwalk Park until Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 11:00 AM.

Bids will be publicly open and read at that time in the Flat River Conference Room of the Lowell City Office, 301 East Main St., Lowell, Michigan. Bids should be submitted in sealed envelopes plainly marked “Purchase of portion of Riverside Park – City of Lowell.”

Bids are being solicited from those interested in owning the property. The property is currently zoned Public Facility. The property being sold is and must be tied to additional parcels for an applicable use and must be rezoned if being used for commercial development.

Proposal forms and specifications are on file for the inspection of bidders at the Lowell City Offices, 301 East Main Street and copies may be obtained by qualified bidders. Bidders can also go to [www.lowellmi.gov](http://www.lowellmi.gov) to receive a copy of the bid.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept any bid, or portion thereof, which, in its opinion, is most advantageous to the City or to further negotiate the sale with a bidder.



## CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 25.05A, “SPECIAL DISCHARGE ALLOCATION,” TO DIVISION 1, “GENERAL PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS,” OF ARTICLE VI, “SEWER DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES,” OF CHAPTER 25, “WATER AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SERVICE,” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL**

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 18-05 adding Section 25.205A, “Special Discharge Allocation,” to Division 1, “General Pretreatment Requirements,” of Article VI, “Sewer Discharge Requirements and Enforcement Procedures,” of Chapter 26, “Water and Sewage Disposal Service,” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on November 5, 2018. Ordinance No. 18-05 prescribes the process of requesting and receiving a special sanitary sewage discharge allocation of the concentration of biochemical/chemical oxygen demand, total suspended solids and/or total phosphorus.

A copy of Ordinance No. 18-05 is available for inspection at City Hall, 301 East Main Street in the City during regular business hours of the City.

Ordinance No. 18-05 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk

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# Why Social Security retirement is important to women

Social Security plays an especially important role in providing economic security for women. In the 21st century, more women work, pay Social Security taxes, and earn credit toward monthly retirement income than at any other time in our nation's history. But, women face greater economic challenges in retirement.

Women:

- tend to live longer than men. A woman who is 65 years old today can expect to live, on average, until about 87, while a 65-year-old man can expect to live, on average, until about 84;
- often have lower

lifetime earnings than men; and

- may reach retirement with smaller pensions and other assets than men.

Social Security offers a basic level of protection to all women. When you work, you pay taxes into the Social Security system, providing for your own benefits. In addition, your spouse's earnings can give you Social Security coverage as well. Women who don't work are often covered through their spouses' work. When their spouses retire, become disabled, or die, women can receive benefits.

If you're a worker age

18 or older, you can get a *Social Security Statement* online. Your *Statement* is a valuable tool to help you plan a secure financial future, and we recommend that you look at it each year. Your *Statement* provides a record of your earnings. To create an account online and review your *Statement*, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

If your spouse dies, you can get widow's benefits if you're age 60 or older. If you have a disability, you can get widow's benefits as early as age 50. Your benefit amount will depend on your age and on the amount your deceased spouse was entitled to at the time of death. If your spouse was receiving reduced benefits, your survivor benefit will be based on that amount.

You may be eligible for widow's benefits and

Medicare before age 65 if you have a disability and are entitled to benefits. You also may be eligible for benefits if you are caring for a child who is younger than 16.

Our "People Like Me" website for women has valuable resources for people of all ages. You can access it at [www.socialsecurity.gov/people/women](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people/women).

To read more about how we can help you, read and share the publication *What Every Woman Should Know* at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10127.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10127.pdf).

*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](mailto:vonda.vantil@ssa.gov).*

# Lowell names softball coach

Melissa Trainor was recently named the new Softball Coach at Lowell High School, taking over a varsity team that was OK White and MHSAA District Champions in 2018.

Coach Trainor is originally from Wisconsin and was a three-sport athlete at Barneveld High School and Salutatorian of her graduating class. She then attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was a Big Ten student-athlete walk-on playing collegiate softball and three year Academic All-Big Ten athlete. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Business Administration and Human Resources.

During the past three years, coach Trainor served as East Grand Rapids Varsity Softball Coach rebuilding an almost non-existent school program. She has also been involved with Aquinas College Softball team as a volunteer coach since August 2016.

Coach Trainor lives in the Lowell community with her children who attend Murray Lake Elementary School. She reports choosing the Lowell community for the same small-town community vibe that she loved in her hometown in Wisconsin.

"We are excited to welcome coach Trainor to

our coaching staff at LHS. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the program, and she is looking forward to spending time with the girls in preparation for the season," said athletic director Dee Crowley.



Coach Trainor shared her excitement, "I am beyond honored to be given this coaching opportunity in Lowell. Lowell's small town feel, and close-knit community has always given me a sense of 'home' in Michigan and I can't wait to be a part of continuing the growth of our already thriving program. I am eager to give back to the community and school system that my children will call home. I was blessed to have high school and college coaches (along with parents, teachers and friends) who helped me believe in my potential daily and aside from being a mother, I love nothing more than helping other young women see just how capable and fierce they are and how successful they can be both on and off the field."

# Volunteer of the Month



Jan Schneider was named Murray Lake Elementary Volunteer of the Month.

"Jan Schneider has been volunteering at Murray Lake for years. She currently comes into our third grade classroom to help students with their writing, word work, and reading. Jan is dedicated to helping each student finish their work and making sure it is something they

are proud of. She is super flexible and willing to help out in whatever way she can. We appreciate all her help and are thankful she chooses to come to Murray Lake," commented Katherine Wills.

"My volunteer time at Murray Lake is a highlight of my week. Being able to work with the students and to assist Mrs. Wills is a retired teacher's dream come true," said Schneider.

...  
**The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope.**

— Barack Obama



**CHRISTMAS THROUGH LOWELL**

Boy Scout Troop 102 will be selling fresh Fraser Fir 24" wreaths at Red Barn Market.

They will also be selling the following (very limited quantities) of specialty items: 30" Cross; 20" Candy Cane; Grave Pillow; Swags; Heart-shaped Wreath; Kissing Ball

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West Michigan Youth Ballet proudly presents

# THE NUTCRACKER

December 1st & 2nd

1:00 and 4:30 pm

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Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Tickets at [wmyb.org](http://wmyb.org)





[wmyb.org](http://wmyb.org)



# obituaries

## BOSS

Larry Russell Boss age 75 of Lowell passed away November 9, 2018. He was born November 29, 1942 in Grand Rapids, the son of Konstant Lorence and Celia (Potter) Boss. He was a member of Lowell Moose Lodge 809, Quality Deer Management, Pheasants Forever and Teamsters Local 406. He loved hunting, fishing, playing pool and card games. Larry is survived by his first wife Pamela (Weaver) Benson and his current wife of nearly 22 years, Kae (Converse) Boss; children, Russell A. Boss of Florida, Amy (Ed) Mason of Belding, Lisa (Tim) Miller of Saranac and Gerald (Judith) Graves of Grand Rapids; grandchildren, Jared, Makayla, Ryleigh, Nick, Morgan, Jordan; and great-grandchildren, Oliver and Crew. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Lowell Moose Lodge on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 1 pm. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be provided to Quality Deer Management ([www.qdma.com/donate](http://www.qdma.com/donate)), [www.pheasantsforever.org](http://www.pheasantsforever.org) or the Lowell Moose Lodge. Arrangements cared for by Lake Funeral Home of Saranac. Online condolences may be made at [www.lakefuneralhomes.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomes.com)

## EGGEBEEN

Kim William Eggebeen, age 69 of Lowell, passed away Thursday, November 08, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence (CW) and Joan Eggebeen. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Diane; children Kyle Eggebeen, Cory Eggebeen, Kevin (Meagan) Eggebeen, Brent Eggebeen; sister Joan VanderZouwen; brother Skot Eggebeen; mother-in-law Dolores Wright; and ten grandchildren. A memorial service was held Sunday, November 11, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice.



[www.gerstfuneralhomes.com](http://www.gerstfuneralhomes.com)

## THALER

Carolyn Kay Thaler, age 73, of Grand Rapids, died Thursday, November 8, 2018 at Boulder Creek Assisted Living in Rockford. Carolyn was born on September 25, 1945 in Grand Rapids to the late Ellis C. and Ruth (Millard) Balcom. Carolyn is survived by five daughters, Tania (Ed) DuBeau of Maryland, Elisabeth (David) Wildey of Maryland, Christina (Jason) Kolenda of Belding, Cara (Matt) Kerwin of Rockford, and Lindsey (Armando) Rivas; five sons, Dave (Kaylene) Thaler of Washington, Adam (Amie) Thaler of Washington, Jay (Richelle) Thaler of Washington, Joseph (Randi) Thaler of Wyoming, and Daniel (Marissa) Thaler of Lansing; 11 grandsons, 11 granddaughters, two sisters, Margaret Kentro of California and Jane (Gary) Meerman of Conklin; two brothers, Jack Balcom and Jim Balcom, both of Allendale; and several nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be conducted on Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 1 pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 2780 Leonard Street in Grand Rapids, MI. The family will be at the church 1 hour prior to service to greet friends. Those who wish to give memorial donations instead of flowers may donate to Carolyn's favorite charity, the LDS Humanitarian fund at <https://www.ldsphilanthropies.org/humanitarian-services>. Go to: [www.throopfhravenna.com](http://www.throopfhravenna.com) or Facebook @ Throop Funeral Home of Ravenna Inc. to sign the online guestbook. The Throop Funeral Home of Ravenna is in charge of funeral arrangements.

## WHITLATCH

Betty Louise Whitlatch (Rose), aged 85, of Ada, went to be with her Lord on Friday, November 9, 2018 at home surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her parents, Emily Margaret Tebeau and Valentine Francis "Dewey" Rose; son-in-law, Kelly Lancaster; grandson, Austin Lancaster; brother, Harold Rose; sister and brother-in-law, June and Tom Delor; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Margaret and Francis Whitlatch; sister-in-law and brothers-in-law, MaryAnn and Lynn Umlor; and Robert Whitlatch. She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Lewis; children, Valerie Whitlatch, Lewis and Tammy Whitlatch, Matt and Dawn Whitlatch, Sr., Darlene Lancaster, and Andi and Terry Prins; 13



grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Rosie and John Schiedel; and special friends, Nick and Louise Saladino. She was a WAVE in the US Navy during the Korean Conflict. She was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, loved spending time with family, doing crossword puzzles and was a wonderful baker. Funeral services will be held Thursday, November 15, 11:00 am at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave. NE with visitation from 10 to 11 am prior to the service. Private inurnment in St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Austin Lancaster Memorial Scholarship Fund (donations are tax deductible). The family wishes to thank the employees of Faith Hospice, First Light Home Care and the Veterans Administration for their wonderful care and service.

## YEITER

Cora Louise Yeiter, age 87, passed away November 11, 2018. She was born to William and Lena Peckham on October 18, 1931. At 16 she married Kenneth Yeiter on October 2, 1947, together they raised nine children, Terry (Charlana), James (Shirley), Craig (Chris), Michael, William, Bruce (Michelle), David (Becky) Yeiter, Monna Wheat and Lori (Mark) Dibble. She was "Gram" to 22 grandchildren and 24 1/2 great-grandchildren. "Aunt Cork" to several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by seven brothers and four sisters, and her husband Ken. Cora was born and raised in Lowell on Bowes Road, where she returned many years later to reside at Schneider Manor. She always wanted to know what her kids were up to. Loved to do crafts, crochet afghans and baby blankets for family and friends, do puzzles and read mysteries. She will be missed by all. Services will be held at Lake Funeral Home, Saranac on Saturday, November 17 at 11 am with visitation from 10 to 11 am prior to the service.



**Family means no one gets left behind or forgotten.**

- David Ogden Stiers

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 18-203833-DE

Estate of JOSEPHINE  
C. SMITH. Date of birth:  
08/28/1926.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Josephine C. Smith, who lived at 11245 18 Mile Road, Cedar Springs, Michigan died 07/02/2018.

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

forever barred unless presented to Larry Smith, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Grand Rapids and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

November 2, 2018

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

Larry Smith  
11245 18 Mile Road  
Cedar Springs, MI 49319  
616-696-9375

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

## services

## services

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**WELLNESS COACHES NEEDED** - Seeking 3 highly motivated people interested in becoming a wellness coach to work in our Cascade Nutrition Club. Must be self-motivated, friendly & responsible, able to work in a dynamic environment. NO experience needed. Complete training provided. Text "coach" & your name to 616-498-3302.

**MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS IS LISTED** - in the 2019 Lowell City Directory! If you run a business out of your home or have a cell phone number for your business, there is a charge to put your phone number in the Lowell City Directory. The cost is only \$20. Please call Tammy at 897-9560 or email: lowellcitydirectory@gmail.com for further info. All orders must be paid by Dec. 31, 2018.

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

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

**105 N. Broadway HOURS**  
M-Th. 8-5 p.m.  
Fri. 8-noon  
Ph. 897-9261  
Fax 897-4809

**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.

**WE ARE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR SUBSTITUTE CARRIERS** - 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. Apply in person, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

**LAMINATING SERVICE AVAILABLE** - Next day service. Drop off & pieces will be available by 9 a.m. the next day. Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell.

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**TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE** - 5400 Ivan Rd., Saranac, 642-9180. Dave Traver, head mechanic, formerly of McCaul's Auto Service. 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Mon. - Fri., 8 am - 5 pm.

**email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com**

**HOUSE FOR SALE** - 1335 Laurie Gail. Cape Cod, 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths. Central air, new paint, full basement, 1620 sq. ft. \$180K. Call 616-540-8107.

**MCDONALD'S IN ADA** - may be the right fit for you. Competitive pay, flexible schedules ("Work when you want to work"), health and dental insurance. We now offer a college tuition assistance (\$10,000) to every employee! Stop on in at our new Ada McDonalds for an application or even easier...Just Text "apply 16773" to 36453 for Ada and an application will come to your phone.

**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.

**AVAILABLE DAYCARE OPENING** - experienced quality daycare, 3 openings left. Call Tamie at 616-430-8756.

**LOT CLEARING** - tree & stump removal. Insured. Call Bob 616-430-1965.

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

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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. TFN EOW

**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. The ad runs in the Lowell Buyer's Guide & News, Hastings Reminder, Marshall Advisor/Chronicle & Battle Creek Shopper News. Call 897-9555 or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info.

## wanted

**ROOM TO RENT** - Non-smoking semi-retired adult male looking to rent room ASAP with kitchen privilege, Saranac/Lowell area. Call Michael at 616-745-4071 before noon or after 7 pm.

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

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## Community Calendar

# November

## AND ONGOING EVENTS

**LOWELL SHOWBOAT GARDEN CLUB** - next week meeting on Nov. 19 at 6:30 pm. at Englehardt Library.

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

**MUSEUM** - open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday: 1-4 p.m. Families: \$10; individual \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members free. 897-7688.

**HAVE HAD** - sons/daughters serving in the military. We are meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For more info call Sally 616-761-2042.

**WOMEN FOR 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

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

**LEGOS AT THE LIBRARY** - Second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. Kids ages 5-11 are invited to join. Bring your imagination & be ready to build! (The library will provide the LEGOs) No registration required. Alvah N. Belding Library, 302 E. Main, Belding, 616-794-1450.

**LOWELL AREA PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS** - located in the FROM building, 11535 Fulton Street, most Monday evenings, 6-8 p.m. Christian Scripture based. No cost or fees, no appointment necessary, confidentiality respected.

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

**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.

**THE LOWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION** - second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Administration Building, 300 High St., Lowell.

**KENT COUNTY NARFE GROUP** - for retired & current federal employees meet the 2nd Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton, 1/2 mile west of E. Beltline. Potluck at 12:30 p.m. & meeting begins at 1:30 p.m. Call Ed Moore for time, 616-784-6716.

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

**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 WATERSHED COUNCIL** - Meets 3rd Monday of each month at the Main Street Inn in Lowell at 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit our web page at flattriverwatershed.org

**VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION FOR FROM** - 1st. Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. and 3rd Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. FROM, 11535 Fulton St. E. Call for more information 897-8260.

**V.F.W. POST #8303** - meets the first Monday at 7 p.m. at 3116 Alden Nash S.E.

**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.

**BABY PANTRY OF LOWELL** - (formerly St. Mary's Pregnancy Center) is now located inside Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM) at 11535 Fulton St. E. We are open Monday 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Thursday 2-4:30 p.m. to serve pregnant woman & families of small children in need of diapers, wipes & other baby supplies. We are non-denominational & serve families in the Lowell area. For more information, call Michele at 616-322-5957.

**SENIOR NEIGHBORS BIBLE STUDY** - All are welcome to join this bible study on Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Lowell Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson St., Lowell.

**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 VanderWurf, 616-485-3429 or Del Rockwell at 897-6814.

**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

**NEW CLASSES FOR EVERYONE** - children - adults at Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash SE, Lowell. Every Wednesday 7-8 p.m. Bible-centered classes for children through 5th grade, youth group for 6th grade thru high school & adult prayer & bible study. Everyone is invited to attend.

**LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB** - Meets the second Wed. of each month, Sept. - May, 11:45 a.m., First Congregational Church. For more information call Jan at 897-2533.

**VERGENNES CLUB MEETS** - at 1 p.m. on the first Thursday of

**ALTOLIBRARY 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 ALL VETS COFFEE HOUR** - Third Thurs. of each month. Bring a friend. Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash, Lowell. Call 868-7426 or 897-8303 for more information.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** - Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. A Christ centered program to help overcome life's hurts, habits, hangups. Impact Church, 1069 Lincoln Lake, www.impactchurch.org or www.celebratercovery.com

**ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS** - Mon.-Wed., noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. 784-2007.

**STORYTIME** - Thursdays, 10 a.m. with Ms. Sheila at Clarksville Area Library, 130 S. Main, Clarksville, 616-693-1001.

**FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAYS** - Fun at Calvary for boys & girls preschool - 8th grade. Cadets for boys 1st - 8th; GEMS for girls 3rd - 8th; Kingdom Kids for boys & girls preschool - 2nd grade. 1125 W. Main, Lowell. Ph. 897-7060.

**LOWELLARTS GALLERY HOURS** - Tues. - Fri., 10 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 10-5 p.m. 225 W. Main St., Lowell. Visit www.lowellarts.org or call 897-8545.

**MOTHERS WHO HAVE OR**

**LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL**

## FREE WILL

## astrology

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## Aries

(March 21-April 19)



Interior designer Dorothy Draper said she wished there

were a single word that meant “exciting, frightfully important, irreplaceable, deeply satisfying, basic, and thrilling, all at once.” I wonder if such a word exists in the Chamicuro language spoken by a few Peruvians or the Sarsi tongue spoken by the Tsuu T’ina tribe in Alberta, Canada. In any case, I’m pleased to report that for the next few weeks, many of you Aries people will embody and express that rich blend of qualities. I have coined a new word to capture it: *tremblissimo*.

## Taurus

(April 20-May 20)



According to my astrological intuition, you’re entering a

phase when you will derive special benefit from these five observations by poet and filmmaker Jean Cocteau. 1. “There are truths that you can only say after having won the right to say them.” 2. “True realism consists in revealing the surprising things that habit keeps covered and prevents us from seeing.” 3. “What the public criticizes in you, cultivate. It is you.” 4. “You should always talk well about yourself! The word spreads around, and in the end, no one remembers where it started.” 5. “We shelter an angel within us. We must be the guardians of that angel.”

## Gemini

(May 21-June 20)



Adolescence used to be defined as a phase that lasted from ages 13 to 19.

But scientists writing in the journal *The Lancet* say that in modern culture, the current span is from ages 10 to 24. Puberty comes earlier now, in part because of shifts in eating habits and exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals. At the same time, people hold onto their youth longer because they wait a while before diving into events associated with the initiation into adulthood, like getting married, finishing education, and having children. Even if you’re well past 24, Gemini, I suggest you revisit and reignite your juvenile stage in the coming weeks. You need to reconnect with your wild innocence. You’ll benefit from immersing yourself in memories of coming of age. Be 17 or 18 again, but this time armed with all you have learned since.

## Cancer

(June 21-July 22)



Cancerian baseball pitcher Satchel Paige had a colorful

career characterized by creative showmanship. On some occasions, he commanded his infielders to sit down and loll on the grass behind him, whereupon he struck out three batters in a row—ensuring no balls were hit to the spots vacated by his teammates. Paige’s success came in part because of his wide variety of tricky pitches, described by author Buck O’Neil as “the bat-dodger,

the two-hump blooper, the four-day creeper, the dippydo, the Little Tom, the Long Tom, the bee ball, the wobbly ball, the hurry-up ball and the nothin’ ball.” I bring this to your attention, Cancerian, because now is an excellent time for you to amp up your charisma and use all your tricky pitches.

## Leo

(July 23-August 22)



“Everyone tells a story about themselves inside their own head,”

writes fantasy author Patrick Rothfuss. “Always. All the time. We build ourselves out of that story.” So what’s your story, Leo? The imminent future will be an excellent time to get clear about the dramatic narrative you weave. Be especially alert for demoralizing elements in your tale that may not in fact be true, and that therefore you should purge. I think you’ll be able to draw on extra willpower and creative flair if you make an effort to reframe the story you tell yourself so that it’s more accurate and uplifting.

## Virgo

(August 23-September 22)



In describing a man she fell in love with, author Elizabeth Gilbert wrote that he was both “catnip and kryptonite to me.” If you’ve spent time around cats, you understand that catnip can be irresistible to them. As for kryptonite: it’s the one substance that weakens the fictional superhero Superman. Is there anything

in your life that resembles Gilbert’s paramour? A place or situation or activity or person that’s both catnip and kryptonite? I suspect you now have more ability than usual to neutralize its obsessive and debilitating effects on you. That could empower you to make a good decision about the relationship you’ll have with it in the future.

## Libra

(September 23-October 22)



“I had to learn very early not to limit myself due to others’ limited imaginations,” testifies Libran astronaut Mae Jemison. She adds, “I have learned these days never to limit anyone else due to my own limited imagination.” Are those projects on your radar, Libra? I hope so. You now have extra power to resist being shrunk or hobbled by others’ images of you. You also have extra power to help your friends and loved ones grow and thrive as you expand your images of them.

## Scorpio

(October 23-November 21)



The U.S. is the world’s top exporter of food. In second place is the Netherlands, which has 0.4 percent as much land as the U.S. How do Dutch farmers accomplish this miraculous feat? In part because of their massive greenhouses, which occupy vast areas of non-urbanized space. Another key factor is their unprecedented productivity, which dovetails with a commitment to maximum sustainability. For instance, they produce 20 tons of potatoes per acre, compared with the global average of nine. And they do it using less water and

pesticides. In my long-term outlook for you Scorpios, I see you as having a metaphorical similarity to Dutch farmers. During the next 12 months, you have the potential to make huge impacts with your focused and efficient efforts.

## Sagittarius

(November 22-December 21)



“The world is like a dropped pie most of the time,” writes a u t h o r Elizabeth Gilbert. “Don’t kill yourself trying to put it back together. Just grab a fork and eat some of it off the floor. Then carry on.” From what I can tell about the state of your life, Sagittarius, the metaphorical pie has indeed fallen onto the metaphorical floor. But it hasn’t been there so long that it has spoiled. And the floor is fairly clean, so the pie won’t make you sick if you eat it. My advice is to sit down on the floor and eat as much as you want. Then carry on.

## Capricorn

(December 22-January 19)



Novelist Anita Desai writes, “Isn’t it strange how life won’t flow, like a river, but moves in jumps, as if it were held back by locks that are opened now and then to let it jump forward in a kind of flood?” I bring this to your attention, Capricorn, because I suspect that the locks she refers to will soon open for you. Events may not exactly flow like a flood, but I’m guessing they will at least surge and billow and gush. That could turn out to be nerve-racking and strenuous, or else fun and interesting. Which way it goes will depend on your receptivity to transformation.

Aquarius  
(January 20-February 18)

“Miracles come to those who risk defeat in seeking them,” writes author Mark Helprin. “They come to those who have exhausted themselves completely in a struggle to accomplish the impossible.” Those descriptions could fit you well in the coming weeks, but with one caveat. You’ll have no need to take on the melodramatic, almost desperate mood Helprin seems to imply is essential. Just the opposite, in fact. Yes, risk defeat and be willing to exhaust yourself in the struggle to accomplish the impossible; but do so in a spirit of exuberance, motivated by the urge to play.

## Pisces

(February 19-March 20)



“Never invoke the gods unless you really want them to appear,” warned author G. K. Chesterton. “It annoys them very much.” My teachers have offered me related advice. Don’t ask the gods to intervene, they say, until you have done all you can through your own efforts. Furthermore, don’t ask the gods for help unless you are prepared to accept their help if it’s different from what you thought it should be. I bring these considerations to your attention, Pisces, because you currently meet all these requirements. So I say go right ahead and seek the gods’ input and assistance.

## NEWS OF THE

## weird

## New World Order

With the advent of driverless cars, new questions are being raised about a wide range of potential traffic situations. One example: What happens when police pull over an autonomous vehicle? According to *The Washington Post*, the company whose cars are now zipping around Phoenix is one car-length ahead of us: Alphabet’s Waymo cars (Chrysler Pacifica minivans) will use “sensors to identify police or emergency vehicles by detecting their appearance, their sirens and their emergency lights,” the company’s “Emergency Response Guide” explains. “The Waymo vehicle is designed to pull over and stop when it finds a safe place to do so.” Next, the car will unlock its doors and roll down its windows, allowing the police officer to communicate with a remote support team. The company will even send a human representative to the scene if necessary. So relax and enjoy the ride. Hal will take care of you.

## Irony

Kids at Pierre Part Primary school in Pierre Part, Louisiana, thought they knew what to expect during Red

Ribbon Week, an annual alcohol awareness program, but a school administrator threw them a curveball, reported WBRZ-TV. Rachel Turley, 49, assistant principal at the school, was on her way to work on Oct. 29 when other motorists reported that she was driving dangerously on Highway 70. Officers caught up with her at the school and took her to a police substation, where they determined her blood alcohol content was .224, nearly three times the legal limit of .08. She was charged with DWI and careless operation. “The fact that she chose to do this on the Monday of Red Ribbon Week is a slap in the face,” commented Niki Lacoste, grandparent of a Pierre Part student.

## Surprise!

A homeowner in Upper Tantallon, Nova Scotia, received an unsettling phone call from a neighbor on Oct. 16, saying there were two strangers in her house. The door had been left unlocked so a neighbor could walk the dog, CTVNews reported, and police expected to find that the home had been “cleaned out,” said Nova Scotia Royal Canadian Mounted Police spokesperson Cpl. Dal Hutchinson. Instead, the two women inside the house had cleaned UP -- they were employees of a cleaning company and had gone to the wrong address. They left without realizing their mistake. Hutchinson praised the neighbor for being so observant and noted the silver lining: The house was cleaned for free.

## Election Roundup

An Independence, Missouri, city councilman who was not on the Nov. 6 ballot managed to let his temper get away from him that morning at a church polling station. Witnesses told KSHB-TV that councilman Tom Van Camp was in the parking lot of the church when another man yelled at him, “Tom Van Camp, you SOB!” Witness Lee Williams said the man then approached Van Camp, and the next time she looked up, Van Camp and the man were “down there on the grass and they’re punching each other. I was just shocked to see my councilman in a fist fight.” A voter called police, who responded, but both men had already left the scene in separate vehicles. Van Camp is under fire in Independence for spending public money on personal travel. He is up for re-election in 2020.

## Crime Report

Two employees of a waste disposal company in Germany have been convicted of pinching more than 100 portable toilets and selling them to a company in the Netherlands. The Associated Press reported on Nov. 6 that the toilets, worth almost \$80,000, disappeared over a period of months. The Duesseldorf district court sentenced a 40-year-old man to a 10-month suspended sentence and a 28-year-old to six months. Only three of the missing toilets have been recovered.

**STATEPOINT  
CROSSWORD**

**THEME:  
THANKSGIVING**

**ACROSS**

- 1. Newton or Stern
- 6. Hot springs resort
- 9. Gene Simmons' band
- 13. Cuban dance
- 14. Anticipated outcome
- 15. Type of rug
- 16. Shiny suit
- 17. Red area between Saudi Arabia and Egypt?
- 18. Telephone company
- 19. \*Which Thursday is Thanksgiving?
- 21. \*Gathering
- 23. To boot
- 24. India location
- 25. Deli order
- 28. Walked on
- 30. Authoritative declaration
- 35. Milano moolah
- 37. Swear, not curse
- 39. Kappa Alpha \_\_\_\_
- 40. Battery fluid
- 41. Long-necked wading bird
- 43. Biz bigwig
- 44. Chirp
- 46. Gauche or Droite, in Paris
- 47. On one's guard
- 48. Take for ransom
- 50. Gingrich of politics
- 52. Female sib
- 53. Hoodlum
- 55. Comic cry
- 57. \*Early Thanksgiving celebrant
- 61. \*It's on the final Thanksgiving Parade float
- 64. Convex molding
- 65. High or low
- 67. "Roots" author
- 69. \*Post-Thanksgiving song
- 70. Yoga accessory
- 71. Accustom
- 72. "The Man Who \_\_\_\_ Too Much"

CROSSWORD														
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- 73. Possessive of it
  - 74. Opposite of digest
- DOWN**
- 1. Roth \_\_\_\_
  - 2. Turf alternative
  - 3. Shots, for short
  - 4. Roughly
  - 5. Root vegetable

- 6. "I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters, and threw up the \_\_\_\_"
- 7. \*Not cake
- 8. Wet nurses
- 9. Capital of Ukraine
- 10. Capri, e.g.
- 11. Hollow baglike structures
- 12. Vegas bandit
- 15. Gibraltar or Bering
- 20. Synagogue read
- 22. Willie Nelson's "Farm \_\_\_\_"
- 24. Like fans
- 25. \*Like Friday after Thanksgiving
- 26. Chinese fruit
- 27. "\_\_\_\_-and-true"
- 29. \*\_\_\_\_-eating
- 31. "The \_\_\_\_" talk show
- 32. Astros' homeland

- 33. Wombs
- 34. \*Parade organizer
- 36. Port in Yemen
- 38. Created a rug?
- 42. Handrail post
- 45. "Snow \_\_\_\_," band
- 49. Between Sigma and Epsilon
- 51. Tittering laugh sound
- 54. Savory taste sensation
- 56. Asian wild ass
- 57. From chicken pox
- 58. He was terrible
- 59. Elders' teachings
- 60. Neon effect
- 61. Exercise groups
- 62. Adhesive
- 63. Not his
- 66. \*The oldest balloon animal
- 68. Hitherto

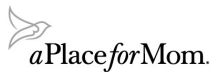
Puzzle solutions on page 12

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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.

# Looking Back, continued

## 50 years The Lowell Ledger November 14, 1968

Fifteen seniors, including two who sat out the entire season with severe injuries, were honored with football letters last week during the fall sports banquet at Lowell High School.

The death of prominent Lowell businessman and community leader C.H. Runciman, Sr. in Lowell Tuesday brought an immediate outpouring of grief from government officials as well as close friends and business associates in the community: From his Washington office, Congressman Gerald Ford of Grand Rapids issued this statement to the ledger: "The death of Mr. Runciman came as a blow to me, as I am sure it did to the entire community. He was a close personal friend of mine. I even presumed to call him 'Runci.' He was a fine person, a truly good human being. The people of Lowell are poorer for having lost him and so am I."

Voter education in regard to the upcoming Lowell District special election was the main topic of discussion at the Board of Education meeting held Monday. Several means of familiarizing the voting public were discussed.

## 25 years The Lowell Ledger November 17, 1993

Local deer populations are healthy, but the overall deer population is smaller than in previous years, according to the Department of Natural Resources biologists.

Lowell High School French students will again this year have the opportunity to visit the land that is host to the Notre Dame Cathedral and Napoleon's Arc de Triomphe. French teacher, Ingrid Baird, and a plethora of chaperones will tour France with students on a 15-day excursion.

In an effort to keep Vergennes as rural as possible, the Vergennes Township Board unanimously denied a request to re-zone 97 acres owned by Richard Cooper. Cooper asked to re-zone the property, located on the northeast corner of Foreman Rd. and Alden Nash from residential 1 to residential 2. The re-zoning would have reduced the minimum lot size requirements to build houses from one acre to half an acre.

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# C.H. Runciman, continued



Hallmark Bean Dinner was one of the Runciman Co.'s signature products. [Lowell Area Historical Museum]



Runciman with his friend Gerald R. Ford.



A Runciman Co. bean separator from before the advent of the electric eye is on display at the Lowell Area Historical Museum.



Runciman in his role as interlocutor on the Lowell Showboat. [Lowell Area Historical Museum]



Lowell Ledger, Aug. 9, 1945.

**BAKED BEANS, MICHIGAN STYLE**

1 pint Michigan Navy Beans	Soak the beans overnight. Drain; and rinse. Bring to a boil in water to cover. Drain; and combine with the onions, chopped, the cream and seasoning in a casserole. Barely cover with boiling water; and bake until tender, about three hours. Then uncover to brown.
1/2 cup sour cream	
1/2 teaspoon pepper	
2 onions	
1 1/2 teaspoon salt	
1 tablespoon molasses	

A recipe for beans published by the Runciman Co. in the 1950s. [Lowell Area Historical Museum]

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