

## Lowell city council discusses recreational marijuana, other topics at Monday meeting



Lowell mayor Michael DeVore (left) and city manager Michael Burns (right) discussing recreational marijuana on Monday evening. The council will take public comments and then make a decision about the subject at a special meeting at 4 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at city hall on Monday, Nov. 19. About 17 people attended the one hour and 30 minute meeting.

The council spent approximately half an hour discussing what to do about recreational marijuana. They had previously planned to “opt out” and not allow marijuana-related businesses, but the election results demonstrated that the majority of city residents were in favor of it.

“I would like to know what people who voted ‘yes’ were voting for,” said Lowell mayor Michael DeVore. “Were you voting for using

it in your basement and not having to worry about the cops kicking down your door, or were you voting ‘yes’ for them selling it next to Speedway or whatever it is they decide? [...] I don’t think a lot of people read the proposal. I think a lot of people saw ‘recreational marijuana’ and then they clicked ‘yes.’ But there was a lot of stuff in that proposal and I’m guaranteeing... I can guarantee you not everybody who voted ‘yes’ read that proposal word for word, point for point. [...] I think that there’s a lot of delusions about how much money it’s actually going to generate, because the people who voted strictly to legalize

it simply so that they could use it are not going to buy from somebody different than they already buy from. And odds are pretty good that person is not going to pay the 10 percent excise tax and the six percent sales tax and report it accurately to the IRS.”

Three citizens offered their opinions on the subject at the meeting; two were in favor of it and one was against it.

“It may not be your preference, but you were elected to represent the citizens of Lowell and the citizens of Lowell said ‘yes’ to recreational marijuana. That’s what they want,” said Lowell resident Christine Baird, who went on to

suggest that the council form a committee to research the issue and find the best solutions for Lowellians before blindly opting out.

“As the cities and the communities opt out, in my eyes they are doing nothing but helping the black market industry,” said Sidney Twp resident David Overholt.

“The last thing I would like to see in Lowell is for marijuana to be sold,” said Lowell resident Joyce Folkersma. “It turns me off. I really don’t want Lowell to be known for selling marijuana. It’s not anything that I want for my kids or anybody that I love. I know that a lot of people voted for it, but a lot of people voted

against it too.”

The council decided to hold a special meeting at 4 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 28. At that meeting they will listen to public comments about recreational marijuana and then either vote to opt out or take no action, thus opting in.

“I would encourage the community to reach out to council members,” said city councilor Greg Canfield. “We’ve got a week, two weeks. We’re all pretty accessible and we’re looking for input from the community on what you’re looking for.”

“I hope a lot of people come out on the 28th,” DeVore said. “A lot of people, because we need to hear what you people want [the council] to do.”

The council accepted the resignation of Jeff Phillips at the meeting and set a Nov. 30 deadline for anybody who would like to fill his position to contact city hall. So far there have been two applicants for Phillips’ seat. They currently plan to select and appoint the new person at their Monday, Dec. 3 meeting.

“The requirement to serve on the Lowell city council is

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Restaurant opening



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Township meeting



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50¢



## 27th Christmas Through Lowell enjoys big turnout

by Emma Palova

It was a three-day long shopping extravaganza from the southern and northern outskirts of Lowell to its busy downtown artery along M-21.

Visitors from far and near flocked to venues in the greater Lowell area during the 27th Annual Christmas Through Lowell tour last weekend.

More than 300 vendors including local businesses and organizations participated in the premier holiday shopping event.

On Friday afternoon, the first day of the event, hundreds of shoppers walked the Main Street decked out for the holidays. The first snowflakes covered the sidewalks and the Riverwalk creating holiday atmosphere with decorated storefronts, lampposts and the community Christmas tree.

“We’ve been busy since we opened in the morning,” said

Continued on page 8



# New fast food restaurant to open in Lowell in 2019

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell could be getting a new Checkers restaurant sometime next year.

“Generally, we want to be close to big traffic generators and where all the other restaurants are,” said Checkers and Rally’s

Kim estimated the new restaurant would create about 20 local jobs.

“A typical store has about 20 to 25 people on their roster, a mixture of full time and part time, usually about half and



director of franchise development Bruce Kim. “We want to be close to the McDonald’s, the Arby’s, Taco Bell, places like that. In Lowell - and it’s a very nice, cute little town - there’s a cluster of fast food all along M-21. There’s a lot of traffic that goes through there. That would be ideal, but I’m not sure where we would put it.”

half,” Kim said. “On each shift you’ll normally have about seven or eight people. It’s all up to the franchisee. If need be, the franchisee could choose to be open 24 hours, but generally our hours are until 1 am on weekdays and 2 am on weekends.”

Right now, the plan is to open sometime next summer.

“We’re about 60 days



into the process; it usually takes nine months to a year to open,” Kim said. “We’d rather do it the right way than rush.”

The company is currently putting the finishing touches on a

franchise agreement. Once that is completed, they will start looking for a good spot.

“We have a franchisee that we’re just about to finalize,” Kim said. “Once we finalize their franchise

agreement, we will start looking with a local real estate team. We either have to find a building that we can convert or a piece of land that we can develop into a new structure.”

Checkers uses a method they call “Modular 4.0” to make their buildings. They are fabricated in Florida and then trucked to the destination in four pieces, each weighing about 30,000 pounds.

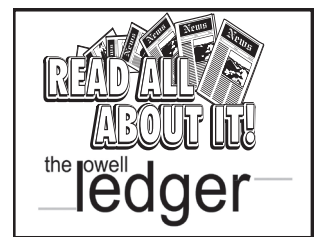
“You plop it down and where there was no building, in two or three days you can have a brand new, shiny building,” Kim said. “It’s very clean, it uses less land, the cost is about a third and it’s kind of cool as well! It saves time and money, and you don’t have to worry about the weather. Construction is very weather-dependent, especially in the Midwest.”

Kim said that the food at Checkers is “bolder” than at most other fast food chains.

“Our flavor profile is a little bit stronger,” Kim said. “Our focus is on flavor.”

There are currently 881 Checkers and Rally’s restaurants; 73 of them are in Michigan, seven in West Michigan. The closest Checkers to Lowell is 12 miles away at 2860 E. Paris Ave. in Kentwood.

“We’re excited to be coming to Lowell,” Kim said. “Thank you for your patience. We look forward to servicing Lowell in the near future.”



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# Vergennes Township Board approves special use permit to construct wireless communications tower

by Emma Palova

The Vergennes Township Board approved a special-use permit for Kent County Dispatch Authority to construct a wireless communications tower at 1000 Cumberland Ave and Bennett Street on Monday.

The amendment will rezone the proposed site from R1 residential zoning to RA residential agricultural.

The tower will enhance communications inside buildings for 911 calls. Similar towers have been approved in Bowne and Gaines township in the county-wide project to update the dispatch system. It will also enhance the safety communications of first responders, according to Matt Groesser, manager of the Emergency Communications Center of the Kent County Sheriff's Office.

The funding will come from the 0.70 cent increase to the 911 surcharge approved by voters in the fall of 2016.

The tower is expected to go live in 2019 with the new 800 MHZ radio project. The main purpose of the project is to improve public safety communications between first responders and citizens.

The county-wide radio project will enhance coverage by developing tower locations strategically placed throughout Kent County.

The tower site in Vergennes Township is owned by Kent County Road Commission. The self-supporting tower will be 300 feet high with a tower antenna extending to 304 feet. Each tower has a shelter surrounded by a fence.

"The existing coverage will improve with the investment into the radio project," said Groesser. "It will benefit with additional coverage."

There has been a problem with coverage inside buildings, according to Groesser.

The entire project will have a total of 14 sites: 12 tower site locations and two dispatch centers. The project provides for new portable radios, new mobile radios, essential backroom communications equipment to be installed at tower site locations, tower construction, antennas and equipment.

In other business:

The Vergennes Township Board will hold a special

meeting on Dec. 3 at 9 a.m. to discuss Michigan regulation and taxation of marijuana in view of the state passed proposal one.

Once the State of Michigan certifies the vote by Nov. 26, the local units of government have 10 days to decide whether to ban, limit or regulate marijuana.

Since proposal one did not pass in Vergennes Township, supervisor Tim Wittenbach suggested the township opts out of regulation of marijuana, much like in case of medical marijuana.

Treasurer Janine Mork said the new voter-approved 0.25 levy for early childhood education will be included in the winter tax bill.

The board moved not to remove the 90-day moratorium on solar energy in the township.

"I am not a fan of it," said Mork. "We're going to have people all over the township with huge solar panels, just like with the pole barns. I foresee a problem."

Clerk Heather Hoffman informed the board about the township website proposals received from three companies ranging in price from \$999 to \$11,000.



Vergennes Township clerk Heather Hoffman and treasurer Janine Mork take oath of office of elected officials for a two-year term on Monday.

"We don't need all the bells and whistles," said board member Rick Gillett. "We just need the township info. We're not marketing the township."

The board tentatively set the budget workshops for Jan. 30 and Feb. 6th at 9 a.m.

At that time, the township appropriation to the Greater Lowell Fireboard Authority will be discussed, as well as the funding for full-time fire department staffing.

## October police statistics

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Lowell Police Department made 25 arrests during the month of October, up from 24 arrests in September. The arrests included eight drug law violations, five for drunk driving, one for driving with a suspended license, two for outstanding warrants and nine that are described in the police department's statistics as "other arrests." That adds up to a



grand total of 282 people arrested by Lowell Police during the first ten months of the year.

LPD also responded to plenty of misdemeanors during October. There were seven larceny

calls, one dog/animal complaint, two for malicious destruction, three disorderly conduct calls and three assaults. Lowell police issued 46 citations and notified one resident about an ordinance violation. Out of 155 traffic stops in October, they let 127 drivers go with a warning.

Lowell police were called to assist other law

enforcement agencies 10 times and called other agencies for assistance five times last month. They were also called for assistance by citizens 42 times.

Lowell police were also dispatched to 17 accidents during October, including two with injuries.

## CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15, "PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT," OF APPENDIX A, "ZONING," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 18-06 amending in its entirety Chapter 15, "Planned Unit Development District," of Appendix A, "Zoning," of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on November 19, 2018. Ordinance No. 18-06 restates provisions related to the process, standards, requirements and procedures for establishing planned unit development zoning districts.

A copy of Ordinance No. 18-06 is available for inspection at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street in the City during regular business hours of the City.

Ordinance No. 18-06 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk

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## Council, continued

[to be of] eligible voting age, [to be a] city resident for one year and not be in default to the city," Burns said. "Back taxes, water bills, things of that nature. Those are the requirements to serve on the council."

The council voted to postpone a S. Broadway paving and concrete project until spring because it will be cheaper then and so that King Milling can finish a major project.

"[Grand Rapids engineering firm] Prein and Newhof is proposing to postpone the paving and concrete work on S. Broadway until spring 2019 to allow work to progress on King Milling's development site," Burns said. "Postponing the right-of-way work will ensure the new paving and concrete is not damaged in the course of development activities at the former Michigan Wire site and it will also ensure the final road and curb work will align well with proposed drive approaches.

Furthermore, as a result of the recent lockout by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association involving Operating Engineers Local 324, subcontractors are proposing steep price increases to complete work prior to the end of the regular construction season. The lockout resulted in a backlog of work and contractors have raised prices on asphalt by 60 percent and concrete by 15 percent due to the high demand. Postponing the S. Broadway paving project and concrete work should result in a more normal pricing structure in the spring. Proceeding with the work this season will result in a \$17,000 increase to the budget."

Lowell city council's next regular meeting will be at city hall on Monday, Dec. 3 at 7 pm.



Three citizens - Christine Baird (top), David Overholt (middle) and Joyce Folkersma (bottom) - shared their opinions about recreational marijuana with the council.

## NEWSPAPERS Outperform Direct Mail in Michigan

Newspapers are the preferred source of coupons over direct mail.

82% of consumers use coupons received through newspaper inserts<sup>1</sup>

33% of Michigan adults prefer receiving coupons from direct mail.<sup>2</sup>

Michiganians depend on newspapers for advertising inserts<sup>2</sup>

Michigan consumers prefer to receive advertising inserts in printed newspapers - higher than those who prefer to receive them through direct mail<sup>2</sup>

Michigan adults make more purchases as the result of newspaper ads than direct mail.<sup>2</sup>

**79%** Eight in 10 newspaper readers took action as a result of reading a newspaper ad in the past 30 days<sup>4</sup>

**17.2%** of adults made a purchase in the past 90 days as the result of a direct mail flyer<sup>5</sup>

Direct mail lacks the effective reach of newspaper advertising.

**86%** of adults look at newspaper inserts to get the best deals<sup>3</sup>

**72%** of Michigan adults never bought anything as the result of a direct mail piece<sup>2</sup>

**50%** of Michigan adults did not buy anything as the result of a direct mail piece in the past year<sup>2</sup>

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Sources: <sup>1</sup>2K17 Valassis Coupon Intelligence Report; <sup>2</sup>2017 Release 2 Nielsen Scarborough Report. Copyright 2018 Scarborough Research. All rights reserved; <sup>3</sup>Triad/Coda Ventures Insert Study; <sup>4</sup>NAA; <sup>5</sup>Pulse of America 2018

# viewpoint



capitol matters

State Representative  
Thomas Alberts



## Continuing to improve the fiscal health of the state's retirement systems

This month I introduced legislation that will continue to make improvements to the way the state funds its retirement systems. This new plan is aimed at making sure Michigan State Police retirees get their promised benefits while containing long-term costs to taxpayers.

House Bills 6475-6481 are the product of months of work with the Michigan State Police as well as the Trooper and Command Officer associations that represent employees. The proposed improvements incorporate positive changes

recently made to the school employee and other state retirement systems. Specifically, the bills will change the Michigan State Police Retirement System's method of paying off debt to a level dollar method. Currently, the State Police Retirement System uses a payroll growth assumption to calculate future debt payments. This model backloads debt payments and lets future budgets suffer the consequences. In addition, using a payroll growth assumption leaves serious uncertainty regarding the actual costs of debt payments in the future. If payroll does not grow at the assumed rate, the debt payment can grow significantly. This is a flawed and unpredictable methodology used to project debt payment schedules.

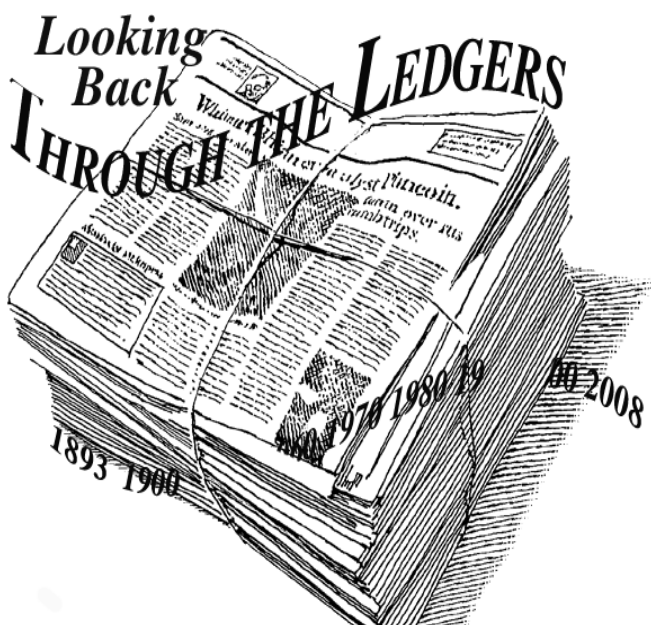
My plan is to gradually lower the payroll growth assumption to zero, switching to a level dollar debt payment method. Debt will be paid off more along the lines of a fixed-rate car or home loan – a predictable system that lowers the risk of taxpayers getting stuck with unexpected, ballooning payments in later years. Earlier this year the Michigan Public School Employee Retirement system made the switch to level dollar amortization when the governor signed my legislation, HB 5355, into law. The new legislation also includes a plan to pay off State Police Retirement debt by

2038. The transition to level dollar methodology laid out in the plan will have no short-term cost increases for the state.

In 2012 the Michigan State Police and employee associations made significant positive changes to their retirement system. This legislation will make necessary updates to statute to ensure that the current bargaining agreement, including the 2012 changes, is reflected in law. These updates will help preserve retirement benefits for troopers, sergeants, commanders and other employees going forward.

Representatives of the Michigan State Police and the troopers association have expressed support for the plan, pending changes that will be made to the legislation in the House Financial Liability Reform Committee.

All of our dedicated Michigan State Police employees work hard to protect us every day. I am honored to help protect the benefits they've earned for their retirement. These changes will benefit everyone from troopers to taxpayers, and I am excited to continue working with the Michigan State Police and the troopers association to improve this plan and shepherd it into state law.



## 125 years ago Lowell Ledger November 25, 1893

John Christie last week Wednesday had the misfortune to lose about one-half of his right thumb by the machinery of the Farlin factory which he has leased and was operating.

Ideas have changed wonderfully of late concerning that terrible disease, consumption. It is now rated a contagious disease. Those of our readers who have not read Dr. Amick's article on consumption in last week's Ledger should not fail to do so. There is reason to believe that the day has already arrived, when consumptives need no longer face certain death. Speed the day.

## 100 years The Lowell Ledger November 21, 1918

"Dr. McDonnell passed away at 6 o'clock this morning." Such was the message that carried sorrow into every Lowell home Wednesday morning, a regret that will be shared in hundreds of homes for many miles about the village in which he had been a familiar figure and a faithful public servitor for more than fifty years.

As far as The Ledger has been able to learn there are about thirty cases of influenza in the village, all mild and progressing favorably and houses are

placarded with influenza signs. The Village Board of Health has issued a warning and instructions and schools, churches, lodges, and theater have been closed and public meetings forbidden until further notice. See official notice and instructions elsewhere in this paper. As influenza is by no means confined to cities and villages, it would be wise for rural districts to follow town example in this matter. Let us make a united effort to stamp out the epidemic.

## 75 years The Lowell Ledger November 25, 1943

Nearly two hundred people attended the F.F.A. initiation program in the high school gymnasium last Friday evening. Forty-four people were given degrees at that time. This group included thirty-six Green Hands, six Chapter Farmers, and two Honorary Chapter Farmers.

A total of 2,880 pounds of tin cans have been shipped out of Lowell for the salvage drive so far this month, Mrs. Don Dickerson, chairman of the local committee, reports. This was made possible by the cooperation of the whole community and because of the contribution of the Newell Manufacturing Co. and the Lowell Manufacturing Co., who donated large amounts of scrap to this cause. Both of these companies also have additional amounts of scrap on hand to be donated to the next collection.

## 50 years The Lowell Ledger November 21, 1968

A possible record turnout...the aftermath of a massive voter registration for the November 5 general election...is expected next Monday when Lowell Area School District residents trek to the polls for the second time in three months. School officials expect almost 50 percent of the district's more than 3,500 qualified electors to cast ballots in the special millage election that seeks seven additional mills for operating expenses.

An air of mystery still surrounds last week's shooting spree near Ada which left two men dead in what turned into a murder-suicide following the death Friday evening of Glen Pettis.

Paper dresses, yes, but disposable handcuffs? Police departments are testing the new shackling devices, which are made of nylon straps and a locked by a steel spring. They have to be cut off a suspect's wrist.

## 25 years The Lowell Ledger November 24, 1993

Yes, Lowell's downtown does have a parking problem. That was the prevailing opinion of the Lowell City Council at Thursday's special public hearing, concerning the site plan approval of the Redhot Diner scheduled for the southwest corner of West Main and Broadway. It also decided that something needed to be done about the problem but not at the expense of a new business coming into town.

In times of financial uncertainty, the City of Lowell's 1992-93 audit will show the governmental entity to be in good financial position. This past fiscal year's accounts and records indicate that the City's revenues exceeded its expenditures by \$38,000.

Jon Amundsen, a 6'8" graduate of Lowell High School, is now a sophomore on the Aquinas College basketball team. Amundsen brings his inside scoring ability and rebounding talent to the Saints' front court after spending his freshman season at Adrian College.

## 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.

# HEALTH

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



## Your Social Security, giving thanks and spending quality time

In November, millions of families gather together to give thanks, share a meal, and spend time together. Sometimes it's hard to find the time to get together, so you want to make every second with the ones you love count. Social Security understands that your time is valuable whether you're working, running your business, or taking time off to be with family and friends.

We put a lot of time and effort into making *my Social Security* a resource you can depend on — an online tool that saves time and allows you to spend more of it on what you like to do. Even if you're currently receiving benefits, or aren't quite ready to file, Social Security has services to bring you and your family holiday cheer.

With a *my Social Security* account, those receiving benefits can change their address and direct deposit information, get proof of their benefits, and request replacement

documents like a Medicare card. If you aren't currently getting benefits, you can still check your earnings record, get estimates of your future benefits, and view your *Social Security Statement*. In many states, you can even request a replacement Social Security card online. See everything you can do with a *my Social Security* account and open one today and at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Remember, you don't need a *my Social Security* account to:

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- Apply for extra

help with your Medicare prescription drug plan costs at [www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/extrahelp).

Whether you're waiting for the turkey to roast or just waiting for company to arrive, our online services are open 24 hours a day, allowing you to access them on your schedule. There's no need to stand in line or wait on the phone at [www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices).

So this holiday, don't just pass the gravy, pass on this wealth of information to the ones you love.

*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).*

### - pneumococcal vaccine

Pneumococcal vaccination is important and can prevent severe illness and death from pneumococcal disease. Pneumococcal disease refers to any infection caused by a type of bacteria called strep pneumonia. These bacteria commonly affect the sinuses, ears, and other parts of the airway.

Children and adults older than 55 years have a higher chance of getting pneumococcal disease. Therefore, vaccination efforts are focused on these two groups of people. Two types of pneumococcal vaccines are currently recommended in the U.S.

One is called Pneumovax and the other is called Prevnar.

All children younger than five years should get Prevnar.

All adults 55 and older should get both Prevnar and Pneumovax, but not at the same time.

Some adults at high risk (diabetes, lung disease, HIV infection, or certain cancers) should also be vaccinated.

Your health care provider can help determine if you are a candidate for these immunizations.

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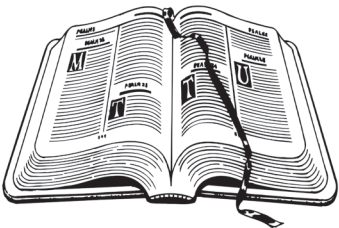
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|--|--|
| <b>NOVEMBER 21</b><br>Michael Hewitt, Tammy Gildner.   | <b>NOVEMBER 25</b><br>Pat Vezino, Melissa Peterson, Amy Swift, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt, Lorri Myers.   |
| <b>NOVEMBER 22</b><br>Lu Green, Carla Briggs, Andrea Richmond, Karrie DeYoung, Joshua Gerard, Dylan Olin, Arlene Sytsma. | <b>NOVEMBER 26</b><br>John Erickson.   |
| <b>NOVEMBER 23</b><br>Trisha Propst, Sherri Vezino, Gregory Duiven, Mike Harding, McKinsie Rice, Dave Thompson.          | <b>NOVEMBER 27</b><br>Bonnie Vezino, Kim Harding, Marty Chambers, Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Spies, Heather Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Josh Spencer, Aiden Malone. |
| <b>NOVEMBER 24</b><br>Sabra Nicole Kinsley, Ryan Moore, Jenny Decker, Heather French.                                    |  |

# area churches



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)  
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21  
[www.goodshepherdlowell.org](http://www.goodshepherdlowell.org)

Worship Service ..... Sunday - 10:30 AM  
Sunday School..... 9:15 AM

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

**CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
897-7060  
Rev. Dr. Paul Mpindi PHD  
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

Morning Worship..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday School..... 11:20 AM  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM  
Nursery available at both services  
Barrier-Free

**St. Mary Catholic Church**  
402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820  
Website: [www.stmarylowell.com](http://www.stmarylowell.com)

Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am  
Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm

Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
865 Lincoln Lake SE • 616.897.5906

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

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING**  
[www.lowellucc.org](http://www.lowellucc.org)

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL**  
CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)  
897-7168 • [www.fbclowell.org](http://www.fbclowell.org)  
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor  
Pastor Andrew Bolcom • 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](http://www.lowellumc.com) • Barrier Free Entrance

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

**Find Out What The Buzz Is All About with a subscription to the lowell ledger**

Call to start your subscription 897-9261

# Holiday Artists Market at LowellArts through Dec. 23

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

The LowellArts Holiday Artists Market is in full swing downtown at 223 W. Main. More than 50 local artists are selling handmade gifts like pottery, paintings, photography, jewelry, textiles, felting, glass work, handbags, woodwork, sculpture, metalwork, wreaths, ornaments, candles, soaps, mittens, scarves and plenty more.

Darla-Jo LeBaron from Greenville was one of the artists selling their wares at the Holiday Artists Market on Friday, Nov. 16.

“Today has been phenomenal right from the very beginning,” LeBaron said. “We opened at 9 and around 9:30 everything really started to kick into gear. The people coming in may or may not be here to shop, sometimes they’re just here getting their ‘Christmas Through Lowell’ box checked to show that they visited this location, but most of those people seem to stop and look around. Ornaments and small gifts

seem to be hot.”

LeBaron creates nifty “desk art,” the perfect gift for somebody who is bored by staring at a stapler all day. The pieces include tiny paintings on wood or canvas and shiny little bowls for paper clips or spare change.

“We have art on our walls, but not very often do we have it on our desks,” LeBaron said. “If you work eight plus hours a day, you spend a lot of time at that desk. There’s nothing to cheer you up, nothing pretty to look at. So I came up with the idea of desk art. I have different sizes, some are not that wide and would require an easel so I packaged them to have an easel.”

The LowellArts Holiday Artists Market runs through Sunday, Dec. 23. Until then, the gallery will be open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am until 6 pm and Sunday from 12 pm until 5 pm. For more information call 616-897-8545, email [info@lowellartsmi.org](mailto:info@lowellartsmi.org) or visit [lowellartsmi.org/holiday-artists-market-2018](http://lowellartsmi.org/holiday-artists-market-2018).



Greenville artist Darla-Jo LeBaron and her “desk art” at the LowellArts Holiday Artists Market on Friday, Nov. 16.



## Celebrate Giving Tuesday by supporting LowellArts

by Tim McAllister  
lead reporter

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, is traditionally considered the beginning of the holiday shopping season. On Black Friday last year, approximately 174 million shoppers spent \$58.3 billion. That is followed by Small Business Saturday, a concept created by American Express in 2010. Cyber Monday happens the Monday after Thanksgiving when everybody goes back to work, fires up their computers and starts trolling the Internet for even more bargains.

On Cyber Monday last year, Americans spent approximately \$6.59 billion online.

Known as “a global movement to do good,” Giving Tuesday was started in 2012 by the 92nd Street Y and the United Nations Foundation in New York City. The idea behind Giving Tuesday is that after all the crass commercialism of Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, those privileged enough to spend lots of money on shopping might also consider making a

charitable donation.

Locally, LowellArts might be a good place to consider placing your Giving Tuesday gifts.

“Very often when people do gifts to charities, it happens right after Thanksgiving,” said LowellArts executive director Lorain Smalligan. “Giving Tuesday is a way for somebody in the community who values what we do to include us in their year-end charitable gifts.”

Individual memberships and business sponsorships

keep the lights on in the building, but that’s about it. Filling that building with art, music, theater, classes and other events requires about a quarter of a million dollars every year.

“When we ask for donations from businesses and individuals through our membership and sponsorship programs, it helps to cover our overhead,” Smalligan said. “That is the staffing, the utilities, the insurance, everything basic that doesn’t go toward programming. [Giving

Tuesday donations would] help our operating costs here as a non-profit. We have an operating budget of over \$250,000 a year. A lot of the programs that we provide are not revenue-generating. You don’t have to pay to come in and see the gallery programs that we have here. Our house concerts are pretty break-even. All the money we bring in from them goes toward paying the musicians. Our classes are not really a revenue-producer for us. A lot of the money goes directly to paying the instructor

and making the classes available to people. That is really important to us.”

To donate to LowellArts on Giving Tuesday, head to [lowellartsmi.org](http://lowellartsmi.org) or type this link into your Internet browser: [secure.qgiv.com/for/dvhk79](http://secure.qgiv.com/for/dvhk79).



### LEDGER OFFICE HOURS

**Monday - Thursday:**  
8 am - 5 pm  
**Friday:** 8 am - Noon  
**Closed Sat. & Sun.**



# Christmas Through Lowell, continued



The Lavender Yard from Alto.

Patricia Dlouhy, owner of Sweet Seasons Bakery & Café located at 307 E. Main Street. The coffee shop was filled with coffee-loving patrons. Wrapped in their coats

and shawls, the shoppers huddled inside, away from the November chill.

The participating venues offered gifts and wares as unique as the vendors themselves: Lavender



Cold Season Tea, glass fusion Michigan-shaped clocks, bullet jewelry by the Gunpowder Girl, ghost town paintings, tatted jewelry, anti-bullying books and Lego jewelry by Jennifer Schaffer.

Deer Run Christmas on Cascade Road featured a wide selection of gifts, soaps, candles and treats. The Frozen Creek Farms of Belmont, a mainstay of many local events, offered their tasty collections of



knitwear by Shali Kuhns from Lowell, Tealightfuls by Sandy and many more.

At the Lowell Senior Neighbors Center on Hudson St., vendors offered candles, handmade totes and

was the Larkin's Other Place inside the historic theater building on Main Street. The vendors here were stationed on all three tiers leading to the stage. Right next to the entrance was the Evans family with



## Christmas Distribution Sign-Up

November 5- December 12

At FROM Food Pantry (during regular Food Pantry hours below)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 2:00-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00-12:00 p.m.

Must bring Photo I.D. & proof of residence (piece of mail)



### Food Distribution

Food Basket includes fresh and non-perishable items for a Christmas meal.

Open to any household in the Lowell Area School District.

### Gift Distribution



Gift Distribution allows parents to come shop for NEW items for their children including toys, books, health and beauty supplies, stocking stuffers, outerwear, and more.

Open to anyone in the Lowell Area School District with children (infant up to High School seniors).

Flat River Outreach Ministries  
11535 Fulton St. E., Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-8260 www.fromlowell.org

fruit salsas, jams, just add water soups, herbal dips and seasoning such as the Louisiana Bayou Cajun Seasoning & Dip Mix.

Signs and boards of different sizes and verbiage were omnipresent throughout the Christmas event. The bigger the sign, the better it sold, according to Isaac Mallory of Jellybird Craft Co., who had the biggest display of signs. The 40"by17" large signs were on special for \$25. It takes approximately 45 minutes to make one sign, according to Mallory.

"The family and the love story signs are my best sellers," he said. "We've been really busy."

Other unique gifts at Deer Run included sticky splat balls, colorful "Unicorn Poop" popcorn by Hubbert's Kettle Corn,



sachets of lavender from the Lavender Yard in Alto. The selection included Lavender Cold Season Tea and Lavender & Oatmeal Face Mask.

The Holidays at the Fairgrounds had a variety of crafters such as "Jewelry by Jean" Jean Gertz of Ionia specializing in photo jewelry, "Out of the Barn" with Katie DeVries and many more.

New this year on the tour

leatherware and desserts, a fundraiser for a Costa Rica trip, "Crocheting Nana," tatted jewelry, paintings, leather earrings and many more.

At the Lowell Area Historical Museum (LAHM), diverse and unique vendors featured the "Fancy Candle Company" by Janna and Coby Onan of Lowell, among others.

"We've had waves of people come through all the way from the east side of the state," said Coby. "These are people who support local businesses, who put their blood, sweat and tears into it."

Also, on display and for sale were handmade goods from Haiti as part of the Centre Lumiere project presented by Luann Kaeb and Melanie Tomic.

In the window showcase at LowellArts, performer







Roger MacNaughton played the piano to the delight of the shoppers at the Holiday Artists Market with everything from paintings to clothes.

On the northernmost side of Lowell, the Red Barn Market on Alden Nash offered a unique selection of arts and gifts. Arlene Newell's painting on a wooden slab of a "ghost town" drew attention to its hidden ghosts in the painting as well as her unique depiction of the Chicago skyline made of belts and buckles.

Sandy Van Dyke of Ada with her pink and brown

logo presented samples of all-time fudge favorites: chocolate and chocolate peanut butter, as well as mint chocolate.

Saranac author Dawn Marie Thompson was at the Red Barn Market with her books: Barnyard Bully, Double Trouble and Eddie the Eagle.

Christie Holliday sold holiday door decorations such as light aluminum horse shoes with bells.

The local eateries were jammed packed throughout the Christmas event.

Most of the vendors named can be found on etsy.com



Bullet jewelry by Jennifer Schaffer of Rockford at Flat River Cottage.



Christmas Through Lowell on Main Street on Saturday night.



Luann Kaeb with Melanie Tomic at the Lowell Area Historical Museum with handmade crafts from Haiti.



Roger MacNaughton played the piano in the window of LowellArts on Main Street during the annual Christmas Through Lowell tour on Saturday night. The Main Street was busy with shoppers.



Coby Onan with Fancy Candle Co. at the Lowell Area Historical Museum.



Larkins Other Place vendors new to Christmas Through Lowell this year included: Crocheting Nana, Crafting Cutie Creations, Kathy Evans and Garret and Blake Evans.



Museum parlor with crafts made in Haiti.



Vendors at the Red Barn Market included Sandy's Fudge, art by Arlene Newell, Christie Holiday's Aluminum horse shoes and local author Dawn Marie Thompson from Saranac.



## Red Arrow

- SWIM &amp; DIVE

## SPORTS

## Tier II swim season ends with three champions

by Brett Bremer  
J-ad news service

The Vikings went from third place to one-third of first place with an outstanding performance Saturday.

The Caledonia/Lowell/South Christian (CLS) varsity girls' swimming and diving team captured a share of its third OK Rainbow Conference Tier II Championship in three seasons by winning the conference meet at the Community Education and Recreation Center pool in Hastings.

Caledonia/Lowell/South Christian and Wayland each earned a share of the overall conference championship with the Delton Kellogg/Thornapple Kellogg/Hastings team that went into the conference meet with the lead thanks to an undefeated season of conference duals.

The CLS Vikings won the conference championship meet with 416.5 points. The DK/TK/Hastings girls were just eight and a half points short of earning the outright conference championship, finishing behind Wayland 371-362.5.

Wayland bested CLS in their conference this season, with the Wildcats both second at the conference meet and second in the conference duals.

It is the fourth conference championship for the DK/TK/Hastings girls.

CLS won with its depth, only taking first in three events. The team of Kayla Huyser, Maggie Sova, Lex Wilcox and Emma Norman won the 200-yard medley relay in 1 minute 54.73 seconds and the team of Wilcox, Sova, Kaylin Schering and Norman won the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:42.87. The only individual title for the Vikings came from Wilcox's winning time of 1:01.41 in the 100-yard butterfly.

Schering, a sophomore, was second in the 200-yard freestyle in 2:02.09. Norman was the runner-up in the 100-yard freestyle in 55.31 seconds. Sova placed second in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:14.51.

CLS had three girls in the finals in the 200 freestyle, the 200-yard individual medley, and two girls in the finals of most of the other individual events. Huyser led the way in the IM, placing third in 2:26.18. Anna Luurstema was fourth in 2:26.92 and Wilcox seventh in 2:32.36. Hannah Fritz was sixth in the 200 freestyle in 2:10.80 and Riley Keegstra eighth in 2:12.41.

It was a strong showing for the DK/TK/

Hastings girls in the diving competition, with Belle Youngs winning with 368.70 points and Hannah Johnson second at 344.90. Teammate

400-yard freestyle relay in 3:48.26, finishing about three and a half seconds ahead of the runner-up team from CLS.

The DK/TK/Hastings team of Marcukaitis, Bashore, Beauchamp and Haywood placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay

in 5:28.00. Muskegon Mona Shores' Evyn Johnson was the meet's top sprinter, taking the 50-yard freestyle in 24.93 and the 100-



Photo courtesy of South Christian Sports

Abby Schell was fourth with 329.95 points, behind CLS's Alex Salinas (341.15).

DK/TK/Hastings capped off the meet with the team of Abby Marcukaitis, Grace Beauchamp, Daisy Nowinsky and Kate Haywood winning the

Marcukaitis also won the 200-yard individual medley in 2 minutes 15.49 seconds and the 100-yard backstroke in 1:01.26.

Haywood was the runner-up in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.45 seconds.

in 1:43.86, a second behind the top team from CLS.

"Almost every one of the other girls on the team set new personal bests for their performances, and it was a great dual meet season for the team," DK/TK/Hastings head coach Carl Schoessel said.

Ottawa Hills' Miranda Lee won the individual distance races, taking the 200 freestyle in 2:00.05 and the 500-yard freestyle

yard freestyle in 55.30. Wayland's Lilly Bollinger was the champ in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:10.00.

Marcukaitis had one more great race Tuesday, meeting the Division I state qualifying time in the 100-yard backstroke second chance meet at the Holland Aquatic Center. She needed to meet the time of 1:00.79 to qualify, and finished her race in 1:00.66.

## LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
STATE OF MICHIGAN  
The Probate Court for  
the County of Kent

In the matter of  
MARGARITA DEPINA  
Guardianship File No.  
18-204,313-GA

TO ALL INTERESTED  
PERSONS including  
her children that  
may be in the United  
State or Cuba, whose  
address(es) is/  
are unknown and  
whose interest in  
the matter may be  
barred or affected by  
the following: TAKE  
NOTICE: A hearing will  
be held on December  
11, 2018, at 3:30 P.M.  
at Kent Co. Probate

Court, 180 Ottawa NW,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
before Judge David M.  
Murkowski (P35026) for  
the following purpose:  
Appointment of a  
Guardian.

Dated: November 19,  
2018

Adult Protective  
Services, DHHS,  
Petitioner  
121 Franklin St. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
(616) 260-5649

VAN ESSEN AND  
ASSOCIATES PLLC  
Attys. for Petitioner  
by Amanda Van Essen  
Wirth (P75001)  
3425 Kelly St.  
Hudsonville, MI 49426  
Phone (616) 633-0196

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 18-204349-DE

Estate of PATRICIA  
ANN TJALSMA. Date of  
birth: 10/06/1936.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS: The  
decendent, Patricia  
Ann Tjalsma, died  
10/24/2018.

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

forever barred unless  
presented to Michael  
Tjalsma, personal  
representative, or to  
both the probate court  
at 180 Ottawa Avenue  
NW, Suite 2500, Grand  
Rapids and the personal  
representative within 4  
months after the date  
of publication of this  
notice.

November 13, 2018

John D. Mitus (P31244)  
410 Bridge Street, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-774-4001

Michael Tjalsma  
627 Beaumont Ave.,  
N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI  
49504



Deborah Wilks, Agent  
11827 Fulton St E  
Lowell, MI 49331  
Bus: 616-897-9237  
dwlwks@deborahwilks.com

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Red Arrow

- HOCKEY

# SPORTS

## Lowell/Cal skaters spend most of opener on special teams

by Brett Bremer  
J-ad News Service

Varsity hockey practice has only been rolling for about two weeks. The Lowell/Caledonia/Thornapple Kellogg (LCTK) hockey team is still adjusting to new head coach Phil Wendecker and his staff, and vice versa.

They're still settling in to what they want to do 5-on-5, let alone 6-on-3, but whatever Xs and Os Wendecker and assistant Dan Swink put together during their time-out with 2 minutes and 23 seconds to go in their season opener at Kentwood Ice Arena worked out well.

Senior defenseman Dallas Hainley fired in a shot from the center of the offensive zone to score LCTK's first goal of the season in what was otherwise a tough 3-1 loss to the visiting Forest Hills Central Rangers in an OK Conference Tier I matchup.

"That went the way we wanted it to," Wendecker said of the late power play opportunity. "In 25 years of hockey I think I can count on one hand the number of times I've played a 6-on-3."

LCTK notched its first goal of the season with a two-man advantage and goalie Davis Ziesmer pulled for an extra attacker. LCTK still had 1:18 of power play time left, and eventually got a few more seconds of 6-on-3 time before the clock ran out.

There is some work to do on the offensive end for the LCTK team, which lost quite a bit of goal-scoring prowess to graduation last spring after back-to-back appearances in the Division 1 State Quarterfinals.

"Our goal scoring is

going to have to be a group effort," Wendecker said. "We have talent, but we don't have the kind of talent that can make things happen on their own. That has been a big focus for us, playing as a five-man unit, which was kind of tough tonight when we were constantly on the power play or on the penalty kill."

The LCTK boys were whistled for nine minor penalties, while the Rangers were called for ten.

The Rangers got a pair of power play goals from junior defenseman Ryan Jeffreys,

nearly half its shots in the final 12 minutes of action.

Jeffreys' first goal slipped under Ziesmer late in a power play with nine minutes to go in the first period. Ziesmer, a senior, stepped up from there to make 30 saves on 33 shots.

"Our initial defensive zone coverage was strong, but when they sustained pressure on us is when we fell apart," Wendecker said. "We need to work on the rotation when we get stuck in our zone."

"I think there was one (goal Ziesmer) would like to have back, but the biggest challenge for a goalie is when one of those happens you have to be able to forget about it before the next puck drops and tonight he did that," Wendecker added. "That was a big thing for him to have that happen and then come back to make some of the saves he did. He was really impressive tonight."

Sophomore forward Austin Douma earned the assist on teammate Hainley's goal.

This is Wendecker's first head coaching job. He spent three seasons coaching as an assistant with the Davenport University Division 2 Men's Hockey team. That followed a stand-out career playing for the Davenport D1 team. As a senior, Wendecker was named the MVP of the Great Lakes Collegiate Hockey League, and also won the conference's Sportsmanship Award. He had a minor league career shortened by a concussion, and when

the coaching opportunity opened at his alma mater he turned his focus to that.

"We have had a few bumps like any team has, but for the most part the boys are buying into what we're preaching - building a family culture in the locker room and taking care of each other and playing as a

group," Wendecker said. "It is not perfect yet, but in two weeks we have made steps every day. When you see progress on a daily basis it is exciting."

The LCTK team returns to action Friday and Saturday at the Birmingham United Thanksgiving Tournament.



The Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey team celebrates its first goal of the season, a power-play goal by senior Dallas Hainley.



Lowell/Caledonia senior goalie Davis Ziesmer steers the puck away from his net during the third period of his team's 3-1 loss to Forest Hills Central Friday. Ziesmer made 30 saves on the night.

one in the first period and one late in the second period. Johnny Mielock put the Rangers up 2-0 with an even strength goal four minutes into the second period, with help from an assist by Jacob Campbell.

The Rangers outshot the LCTK boys 33-20 on the night, with LCTK notching



New Lowell/Caledonia head coach Phil Wendecker checks the clock during the third period of his team's season opener against Forest Hills Central at Kentwood Ice Arena Friday.

### LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING STATE OF MICHIGAN The Probate Court for the County of Kent

In the matter of MARY ELIZABETH RITTERSDORF Guardianship File No. 16-199,533-GA Conservatorship File No. 18-204,140-CA

Grand Rapids, MI 49503 before Judge David M. Murkowski (P35026) for the following purpose: Modification of a Guardian for a legally incapacitated individual and Appointment of a Conservator.

Dated: November 19, 2018

Adult Protective Services, DHHS, Petitioner 121 Franklin St. NE Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616) 401-5242

VAN ESSEN AND ASSOCIATES PLLC Attys. for Petitioner by Amanda Van Essen Wirth (P75001) 3425 Kelly St. Hudsonville, MI 49426 Phone (616) 633-0196

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including John Rittersdorf AND other children, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on December 19, 2018, at 10:30 a.m. at Kent Co. Probate Court, 180 Ottawa NW,

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City is seeking letters of interest for a Council vacancy that has occurred mid-term. Interested City residents who are registered to vote and have been a resident for at least one year should submit a letter of interest to the City Clerk, Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 29, 2018.



Susan Ullery  
City Clerk

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1400 Foreman Rd., Lowell, MI 49331

# obituaries

## BIBBLER

Edward Dale Bibbler, age 76 of Saranac, passed away Wednesday, November 14, 2018. He was preceded in death by his parents, Otis and Bernice; siblings, Richard, Cecelia, Mary, Bill, Alice, Robert, Steven, Margaret; son, David; and nephew Douglas Clark. He is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Rebecca; sons Dale (Kris) Bibbler of Lowell, Wesley (Vanessa) Bibbler of Greenville; brothers Bernie (Toni) Bibbler, Roger Bibbler; sisters Betty Malik, Charlene Standard, Barbara (Earl) Thompson; grandchildren Ashleigh, Jacqueline, David, Joey, Kyle, Kayla; sisters-in-law Bonnie Bibbler, Jane Bibbler; many nieces and nephews; and his beloved dog, Sara. Ed had the "gift of gab." He loved to hunt and fish, but most precious to him were his grandkids. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, November 25, from 2-4:00 PM at American Legion Post 175, 69 N. Bridge St., Saranac, MI 48881. Memorial contributions may be directed to the family to assist with funeral expenses.



## DAVIS

John H. Davis, age 49 of Grattan Township, passed away peacefully Tuesday, November 13, 2018, after a long battle with colon cancer. He was preceded in death by his mother, Sally Davis; and sister, Heidi Southwell. John is survived by his wife of 22 years, Denise; sons Thomas and Benjamin; father Rev. Howard (Mary) Davis; brothers Mark Davis, Paul (Carolann) Davis; sister Sonna (James) Pohlson; in-laws Patrick and Maureen Quigley; sister-in-law Angela Thompson; brothers-in-law Steven (Tracey) Quigley, Mel Southwell; and several nieces and nephews. John proudly served 18 years as an officer with the Grandville Police Department. He was a loving husband and wonderful father, who lived life to the fullest. A friend to everyone, John lit up any room he was in, making people laugh and feel good. He truly made life fun. Funeral was held Tuesday, November



20, at Ada Bible Church, Knapp Campus. Rev. Tom Skilling officiated. Interment Mason Cemetery, Grattan Township. Memorial contributions may be made to the College Education Fund for Thomas and Benjamin Davis.



## GAMBLE

William L. Gamble, age 76 of Lowell, passed away Friday, November 16, 2018. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Rosemary; children Denys Kimble of Swartz Creek, Donna (Scott) Price of Brighton, William (Christina) Gamble of Dowagiac, Melissa (Tim) Brewer of Livonia; four brothers; one sister; grandchildren Marc Kimble, Rob Kimble, Christian (Sara) Price, Victoria Price, Katy (John) Lott, Lauren Brewer; and beloved great-grandchildren, Brody Lott and Xavier Price. He was preceded in death by his parents and two grandchildren. William was born in West Allis, Wisconsin in 1942. After serving in the US Navy from 1959-1963, he married Rosemary (Weis) in Spencer, Wisconsin in 1964. For William, family was everything. He and Rosemary have been active members of both St. Joseph Catholic Church in Gaines, MI, and St. Mary Catholic Church in Lowell. Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 21, with a visitation one hour prior to the mass at St. Mary Catholic Church, 402 Amity St., Lowell. Rev. Aaron Ferris presiding. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery, Vergennes Township. Memorial contributions may be made to the Trinitarians of Mary, 62 N. Marble Road, Lowell, MI 49331.



## LIETZKE

Harold Theodore Lietzke passed away on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at the age of 92 in Lowell. He was born on August 17, 1926 in DeWitt. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Elizabeth (Betty) Louise (Kristofferson) Lietzke; son, Theodore A Lietzke and daughter-in-law, Ellen M (Shaver) Lietzke of Lowell; daughter, Trudy A (Lietzke) Miller and son-in-law, Ronald K Miller of Zena OK; his sister, Rachel (Lietzke) Garrod of Lawrence; grandchildren, Anna and Howard Hargrave, Christine and Joshua Fisher, Nathan Lietzke and Logan Rayburn, Jeromy Miller; and great-grandchildren, Madeleine and Zachary Hargrave, Elliott and Meredith Fisher. He was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore and Gertrude Lietzke; two brothers, Alvin and LaVern Lietzke; and brother-in-law, Robert Garrod. Harold farmed and built-operated an alfalfa dehydration mill in the DeWitt area for more than 50 years. He and Elizabeth then moved to Lowell where he worked as a mechanic for an engineering firm until he suffered a stroke in 1995. The stroke limited his speech and mobility but he still continued to enjoy family, friends and "touring the countryside". A celebration of Harold's life will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2018 from 1:00 to 7:00 pm at the home of Ted and Ellen Lietzke. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be sent to Fountain View – Walsh Courtyard /Landscape Improvement campaign in Harold's name. Online: [www.fountainviewoflowell.com](http://www.fountainviewoflowell.com) then go to About then Donate. Mail donations referencing Walsh Courtyard/Landscape Improvement / Harold Lietzke to: Lowell Fountain View Assisted Living, 11537 Fulton St E, Lowell MI 49331.



## STORRS

Logan Storrs was freed of all his pain after passing at home Saturday. He was preceded in death by his father, Monnie Sterling Johnson. Logan leaves behind a beautiful 9-month-old daughter who he cherished; his mother's, Lisa Storrs and Anita Miller (Lowell); grandma, Judy Gorman (Harry) of Melbourne, FL; step-mother, Cindy Braden, FL; brothers, Brent (Kristin) Storrs and Chris Johnson, FL; sisters, Michelle Brown, FL and Elisa Overman, PA; nieces and nephews. Numerous Michigan and Florida cousins, Spongebob to his Patrick. Aunts, Anna (Russ) Collins, Amy, Doris and MaryEllen; uncles, Bob (Patti) Miller, Jim (Cheryl), John, Richard, and Mickey Colgin. Logan touched the life of many and had friends wherever he went. He had the gift to make everyone laugh. No matter his circumstances, you could always count on him to be loyal friend. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, a gofundme page has been set up to help the family with cost of burial and the rest in an account for his daughter.



...  
**We are the dead. Our only true life is in the future. We shall take part in it as handfuls of dust and splinters of bone. But how far away that future may be, there is no knowing.**  
 — George Orwell, 1984

# PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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## FREE WILL

# astrology

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**Aries****(March 21-April 19)**

In his autobiography *On the Move*, neurologist Oliver Sacks praised his friend Jerry's curiosity and knowledge. "Jerry has one of the most spacious, thoughtful minds I have ever encountered, with a vast base of knowledge of every sort," wrote Sacks, "but it is a base under continual questioning and scrutiny." So willing was Jerry to question and re-evaluate his own assumptions that Sacks said he had "seen his friend suddenly stop in mid-sentence and say, 'I no longer believe what I was about to say.'" That's the gold standard to which I hope you will aspire in the coming weeks, Aries. As bright and articulate as you'll be, you will have an even higher calling to expand your mind through continual questioning.

**Taurus****(April 20-May 20)**

In recent years, a few pioneers have gotten microchips implanted under their skin. These technological marvels enable them to open doors and turn on lights with merely a wave of their hands, or receive up-to-the-minute readings on what's transpiring inside their bodies. Now an additional frontier has arisen: people using do-it-yourself kits to experiment on their own DNA. For

example, some have tweaked their genes so their bodies create more muscle than is natural. I would love for you to change yourself around in the coming weeks, Taurus, but not in these particular ways. I'd rather see you do subtle psychological and spiritual work. The astrological omens suggest it's a favorable time for focused self-transformation.

**Gemini****(May 21-June 20)**

Are you smart enough to take advantage of the fact that your best relationships would benefit from bursts of innovative energy in the coming weeks? Are you brave enough to banish the ghost that still haunts your romantic life? Do you have the moxie to explore frontiers with collaborators who play fair and know how to have fun? Will you summon the curiosity and initiative to learn new strategies about how to enhance your approach to intimacy? I'll answer those questions in your behalf: yes, yes, yes, and yes.

**Cancer****(June 21-July 22)**

Would you agree with me that there are both boring, tiresome problems and fun, interesting problems? If so, read on. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're at a fork in your path where you could either

get further involved with a boring, tiresome problem or else a fun, interesting one. (I think you'll have to engage with one or the other.) Of course, I'm rooting for you to proactively wrangle with the fun, interesting one. Here's timely inspiration from Cancerian author John W. Gardner: "We are continually faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as insoluble problems."

**Leo****(July 23-August 22)**

The Jharia Coalfield in eastern India is a 110-square-mile reserve of underground coal. In some places, it's on fire, and has been burning for over a hundred years. This isn't a good thing. It's wasteful and causes pollution. But now I'll ask you to put aside that scenario, and imagine a more benevolent kind of steadily burning fire: a splendor in your soul that never stops radiating warmth and light; that draws from an inexhaustible source of fuel; that is a constant source of strength and courage and power. I'm happy to tell you that the coming months will be a favorable time to establish and nurture this eternal flame.

**Virgo****(August 23-September 22)**

Marilyn Monroe, Georgia O'Keeffe, and President Franklin Roosevelt were direct descendants of the pilgrims who sailed from England to the New World on the famous

Mayflower ship in 1620. I, on the other hand, am a direct descendant of a nineteenth-century Slovakian coal miner who toiled in the underground darkness. What about you, Virgo? Now would be a rich and provocative time to reconnect with your roots; to remember where your people originated; to explore the heritage that served as the matrix from which you sprouted.

**Libra****(September 23-October 22)**

According to researchers who study animal behavior at two Italian universities, chickens can do arithmetic. The birds don't even need to be trained; the skill seems to be innate. (Read details here.) I'm wondering whether chickens born under the sign of Libra might even be able to do algebra in the coming weeks. According to my assessment of the astrological omens, the mental acuity of many Libran creatures will be at a peak. How will you use your enhanced intelligence?

**Scorpio****(October 23-November 21)**

In March 2005, far more people than usual won big money in a regional Powerball lottery in the U.S. The average for each draw is four winners, but on this special occasion, 110 players were awarded at least \$100,000 and as much as \$500,000. The reason for the anomaly seemed to have been an oracle that appeared in a number of widely distributed fortune cookies. It provided five of the six winning numbers. Inspired by this crazy stroke of good fortune, and in accordance with

the favorable financial omens now coming to bear on you, I hereby offer you six numbers to use as your lucky charms. Will they help you win a game of chance? I can't be sure. At the very least, they will titillate and massage the part of your psyche that is magnetic to wealth. Here they are: 37. 16. 58. 62. 82. 91.

**Sagittarius****(November 22-December 21)**

"You have two ways to live your life," writes spiritual teacher Joseph Vitale, "from memory or inspiration." In other words, you can take your cues about how to live your life from what happened in the past, or else you can make your decisions based on what you're excited to do and become in the future. According to my analysis, the next ten months will be an excellent time for you to fully embrace the latter approach. And it all starts now.

**Capricorn****(December 22-January 19)**

You've always got more help available than you imagine, and that's especially true these days. Both people you know and people you don't know may come to your assistance and offer extra support -- especially if you meet two conditions: 1. you sincerely believe you deserve their assistance and support; 2. you clearly ask for their assistance and support. Now here's more good news about the help that's available. Whether or not you believe in spiritual beings, they, too, are primed to offer blessings and resources. If you don't believe in their existence, I invite you to pretend you

do and see what happens. If you do believe in them, formulate clear requests for what you'd like them to offer you.

**Aquarius****(January 20-February 18)**

In one of his poems, Arthur Rimbaud extolled the exquisite evenings when the mist soaked his face as he strolled, and he sipped that heavenly dew till he was drunk. Was he speaking literally or metaphorically? Probably both, if I know Rimbaud. Anyway, Aquarius, I'd love for you to engage in similar exploits. What are some natural adventures that might intoxicate you? What simple pleasures may alter your consciousness, nudging you free of its habits? Meditate with sweet abandon on how to free yourself through the power of play and the imagination.

**Pisces****(February 19-March 20)**

It's illegal to hunt animals in Kenya. But members of the Dorobo tribe circumvent the law to provide food for their families. As three or more Dorobo men wander out on the savanna, they wait for hungry lions to kill a wildebeest or other creature. Then they stride toward the feasting beasts in a calm show of force until the predators run away in confusion. The brave scavengers swoop in and swiftly remove a portion of the wildebeest, then coolly walk away, leaving plenty for the lions when they return to their meal. I bring this scene to your attention, Pisces, because I suspect that in the coming weeks you will have similar levels of courage and poise as you go after what you want.

## NEWS OF THE

# weird

**Bright Idea**

Another birthday staring you down? Perhaps you can follow the lead of a man in the Netherlands who has launched a legal battle in the town of Arnhem to change his age from 69 to 49. "(Y)ou can change your name and change your gender," Emile Ratelband noted. "Why can't I decide my own age?" The Dutch positivity trainer told BBC News that he feels discriminated against both in the career realm and on Tinder. "When I am on Tinder and it says I'm 69, I don't get an answer," Ratelband said. "When I'm 49, with the face I have, I will be in a luxurious position." He also describes himself as a "young god." The arbiters of his case aren't so sure, though: One judge wanted to know what would become of the 20 years that would be erased by such a change. "Who were your parents looking after then? Who was that little boy?" he wondered.

**New World Order**

Coming soon from the state-run news agency Xinhua in China: the first artificial intelligence anchorman. "Artificial Intelligence Anchor" debuted at the World Internet Conference in Wuzhen, China, on Nov. 7. The virtual host, based on images of human news broadcasters, can have real-time news typed into its system even while it's on air. A synthesized voice reads

the script. Xinhua told Time that its new anchor can work "24 hours a day ... reducing news production costs and improving efficiency." But does it have a personal catchphrase, such as "Good night, and good news"?

**Weird Science**

Duuuude! Scientists at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey have created a mushroom that can produce electricity using light, Discover magazine reports. Using common button mushrooms, cyanobacteria (very adept at photosynthesis) and graphene nanoribbons (to make electrodes to transport the electricity), researchers were able to produce harvestable electricity by shining a light on their "bionic mushroom." While the amount of electricity created was small, the team noted the experiment demonstrated an "environment-friendly and green source of photosynthetic bioelectricity."

**Crikey!**

A Jackson County sheriff's deputy in Kansas City, Missouri, serving an eviction notice on Nov. 7, was startled to discover Katfish, a 7-foot-long, 200-pound alligator that tenant Sean Casey kept as a pet (along with three pythons, a rabbit and several cats). Casey

told KSHB-TV that he's had Katfish for four years. "He's a big cuddly gator," Casey said. "He wags his tail when I come home." The gator could lounge in the home's bathtub, and "get up and get out and cruise through the house," said Dana Savorelli with Monkey Island Rescue, who officers called to help wrangle the alligator. "He had a ramp." Unfortunately, alligators are prohibited in Kansas City, so Katfish was relocated to Monkey Island in nearby Greenwood, Missouri. And although Casey said Katfish was "not a vicious animal like some people make them out to be," he was ticketed for possessing an exotic animal within city limits.

**Crime Report**

In North College Hill, Ohio, on Nov. 6, Noel Hines' criminal love for Thin Mints finally caught up with her when she was arrested for stealing "a large order of Girl Scout cookies" last March, Fox News reported. North College Hill police said Hines took delivery of the cookies, valued at more than \$1,600 and intended for a local Girl Scout troop, and never returned or paid for them. When Hines showed up at the town's Mayors Court on an unrelated matter, police arrested her, then posted on Facebook, "That's the way the cookie crumbles."

**STATEPOINT  
CROSSWORD**

**THEME:  
HOLIDAY SONGS**

**ACROSS**

1. Rare bills
5. Clairvoyant's gift
8. Snoopy
12. Time distortion
13. Show worry
14. Wyoming's official sport
15. \*John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is \_\_\_\_\_)"
16. And elsewhere
17. Opposite of bonjour
18. \*\*"Have \_\_\_\_\_ a Merry Little Christmas"
20. MTV's "\_\_\_\_\_d"
21. Incessantly
22. A cool \_\_\_\_\_, as in money
23. \*\*"Should auld acquaintance be \_\_\_\_\_"
26. \*\*"Run \_\_\_\_\_ Run" sung by Chuck Berry
30. \*Co-writer of #15 Across
31. Used tabulator key
34. Your majesty
35. 1965 Watts events
37. \*\*"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree," sung by Brenda \_\_\_\_\_
38. Mozart and Einstein, e.g.
39. Golly!
40. Dry ravine, in Asia
42. Not don'ts
43. Diplomatic alliance
45. Like empty hotel room
47. "Fat chance!"
48. Shenzi of "The Lion King"
50. Eastern European
52. \*Vince \_\_\_\_\_ Trio of "Linus and Lucy" fame
55. Between violin and cello
56. Rainbows and such
57. Rumpelstiltskin's weaver
59. Coral reef island

**CROSSWORD**

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62						63				64		

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60. Facebook's "psst"
61. \_\_\_\_\_ Mann of "The Simpsons"
62. Decades
63. Lt.'s inferior, in the Navy
64. \*\*"Last Christmas" duo

**DOWN**

1. \* \_\_\_\_\_ Turtle Doves
2. Not straight
3. Post-meal sandwich
4. Spring action, past tense
5. Like yesterday's meal
6. Coffee burn, e.g.
7. Bread or cabbage
8. Having small nodules
9. Scandinavian war god
10. Radio button
11. \*\*"All I want for Christmas is \_\_\_\_\_"
13. Bygone Spanish money
14. R in R.E.M.
19. Alex Haley saga
22. \_\_\_\_\_ pie in a sand box
23. Blacksmith's hearth
24. Gibson garnish
25. Fowl perch
26. Film roll
27. Ronstadt, e.g.
28. Infectious protein particle
29. Bank job
32. \*Like Elvis' Christmas?
33. 10 decibels
36. \*Deck'em
38. Ivory Coast neighbor
40. Utmost degree
41. Not sympathetic
44. Maryland Academy
46. Young and inexperienced
48. Second-largest Great Lake
49. Talks and talks and talks
50. It houses web content
51. "On Golden Pond" bird
52. Open-mouthed astonishment
53. Shakespearean "does"
54. Tiny bit
55. Port vessel
58. Mrs. Goldberg, e.g.

*Puzzle solutions on page 12*

**SUDOKO**

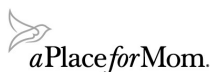
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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



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# WRWW students to broadcast Division 1 and 2 finals live from Ford Field

Three WRWW radio students from Lowell High School will be traveling with their advisor, Al Eckman, to Ford Field this coming weekend to broadcast 'live' the Division 2 and Division 1 state finals football games. Toby Robinson will be doing the play-by-play with Peter Kooi being the 'color' commentator. Wyatt Ebmeyer will be 'spotting' for the two of them during both games. In addition to broadcasting the two games, all three students will get to see some of the 'behind the scenes' happenings related to successful sports broadcasting.

The students received this opportunity through the Student Broadcast Foundation, which promotes student involvement in broadcasting and sports

information. Its Executive Director, co-founder and student mentor, Thomas Lengyel, heads that foundation, which partners with the Michigan High School Athletic Association to give participants the experience of a lifetime. All three Lowell students had the opportunity to 'call' freshmen and junior varsity football games this past fall. Robinson also assisted as color analyst for the season-ending Lowell varsity football game.

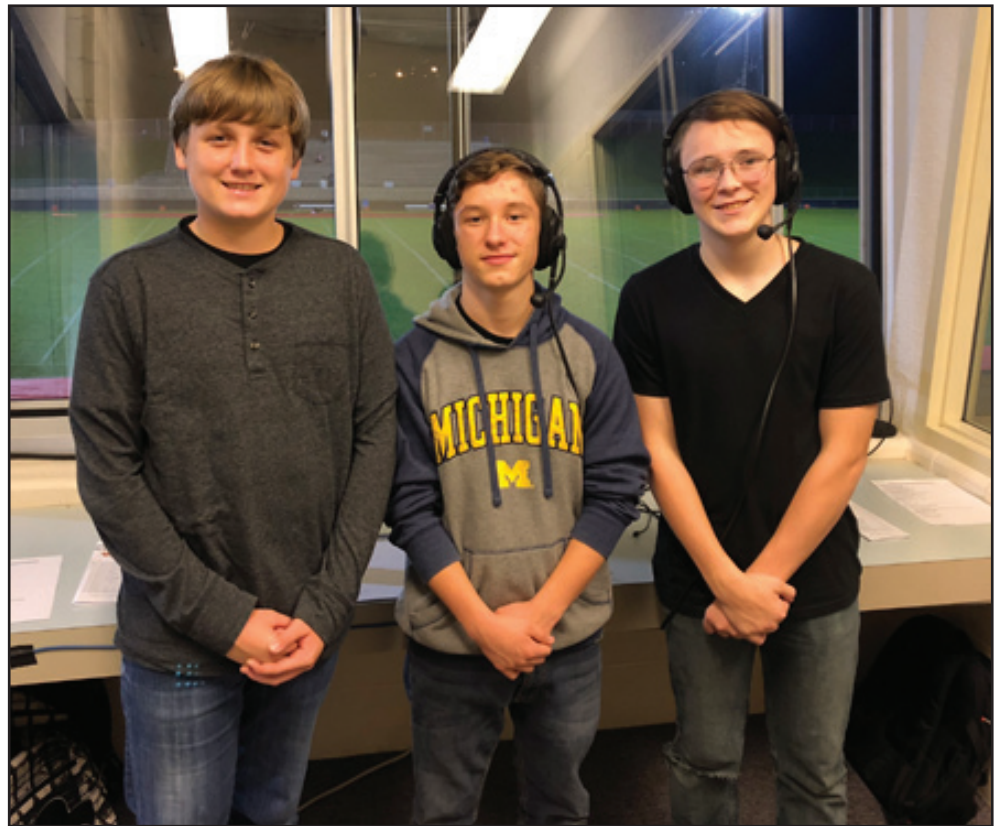
The Division 2 game is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Friday, November 23 and pits the Muskegon Mona Shores Sailors (12-1) against the Warren DeLaSalle Pilots (11-2). The Division 1 game is scheduled for 1:00 pm, Saturday, November 24 and pits the Clarkston Wolves

(11-2) against the Clinton Twp. Chippewa Valley Big Reds (13-0).

Both games can be heard locally on WRWW's 92.3 FM radio station and worldwide on its streaming internet station located at [lowellradio.org](http://lowellradio.org).



**Way To Go Red Arrows!**



Pictured, left to right, Lowell High School students: Wyatt Ebmeyer, 9th grade; Toby Robinson, 10th grade; and Peter Kooi, 10th grade.

# Happy Thanksgiving

**We are thankful to be a part of these fine communities.**

**The People Paper**  
Saturday, Nov 24, 2018

**ad-visor & chronicle**  
LIFESTYLE AND LOCAL NEWS

**The Sun and News**  
Wednesday, Nov 21, 2018

**the lowell ledger**  
Wednesday, Nov 21, 2018

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SERVING LAKE ODESSA, WOODLAND, SUNFIELD, MULLIKEN, CLARKSVILLE, FREEPORT

**MAPLE VALLEY news**  
A local paper of today

**THE HASTINGS BANNER**  
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