

City council meeting



page 2

“School’s out!” - Students wave goodbye to LHS from the comfort of their cars



by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

The oddest school year in recent memory continued for Lowell as the high school hosted its first-ever drive-by graduation celebration.

This has been a year of firsts for Lowell High School’s class of 2020, and last Thursday, June 11, was no different. Students and families were encouraged to join in a parade through

the Lowell High School property, waving goodbye to their favorite teachers as they rolled through the winding road around LHS and past the football stadium.

Many vehicles were decorated with streamers, balloons and other signs celebrating the extraordinary class of 2020. At one point, a boat carrying five students

rolled through the parade, blaring “School’s Out” by Alice Cooper and other summer vacation-themed songs. Many other vehicles sported a student sitting in the bed of a truck or standing through the sunroof.

Around 300 signs created by the school congratulated each graduating student. They lined the roadway

for all the students to see. Students were then allowed to pick up the sign once the festivities ended.

Teachers also lined the roadways, some bearing signs, all saying goodbye to the students whose lives they helped shape over the past four years.

Celebratory music was played through

speakers in the freshman center, provided by “The Showboat” WRWW-FM 92.3, for all the passersby to hear as they traveled down the lane. At the end of the parade, students were given the choice to pick up their diploma.

After the school-
LHS caravan, continued, page 8

Married couple both dentists



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YMCA plans for new facility by end of year

by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

More information has been released about the renovations that are being set in motion to transform the old Impact Church location into a brand new YMCA for the Lowell community. The future Lowell Area YMCA has solidified its capital campaign leadership and received a \$146,000 award from the Lowell Community Foundation to renovate the former church site.

The \$500,000 capital campaign will be led by two individuals, Ray Duimstra, corporate development and strategic acquisition director for Crystal Flash, and Jason Holdridge, lead pastor at Impact Church. Duimstra and Holdridge will serve as co-chairs to lead the fundraising efforts for the new YMCA. Director of Operations for the Greater Grand Rapids area, Staci Chambers, expressed her excitement for the new location.

“The new Lowell Area YMCA location represents an exciting new chapter and opportunity to serve the individuals and families in the Lowell community,” Chambers said. “Working in collaboration and partnership

with many others, the Lowell YMCA has long been central to building a strong health and wellness community that cares for others. As the former site of the Impact Church, the building has a history of gathering community in celebration of each stage of life.”

In addition to the capital campaign co-chairs, the new Lowell Area YMCA capital campaign committee consists of Pinky and Mac McPherson, Sheila and Don Dubbink, M.J. and Paul Berklich, Curt Mulder and Dave VanKeulen.

The proposed Lowell Area YMCA will be a 17,860 square foot facility that will have group exercise studios, a health and wellness center, a KidZone and Activity Center, community rooms, locker rooms and other amenities. With triple the square footage, the expanded space and increased offerings are just a few features that will set the new location apart. Chambers highlighted the many positives of this expanded location.

“Thanks to the dedicated membership at our current storefront location, we’ve been able to serve our

members for many years, but this new location will allow for greater cardio and strength space, doubling of the group fitness studios, locker rooms, a chapel, a large KidZone and activity center with an infants-only area and community gathering space throughout.” Chambers said.

There will be many programs coming to this YMCA location in the near future, with plans to offer classes, such as Les Mills’ body combat classes, strength and recovery opportunities like Livestrong, personal training and youth enrichment activities.

The COVID-19 crisis has challenged nearly every institution, and the YMCA has been no different. With workout facilities being suspended during the outbreak, questions remained if this project would still go forward.

“COVID-19 has presented challenges and learning opportunities for all of us,” Chambers said. “For our Y, it’s reminded us that there is incredible value in how we come together to initiate community dialogue,

create safe spaces and provide a welcoming environment for belonging. Our opportunity to serve - whether in food distribution, childcare or fitness - makes a critical difference.

Because of this, we see that the project can be the bright light we all need for 2020, and a reminder that our call to help our neighbors facing financial barriers to childcare or wellness may be greater now than ever. Our plan for the building’s design, our appreciation for our capital campaign committee’s outreach work and our goal to raise support to complete the project by the end of the year remains on track.”

The community should look forward to many amazing opportunities that this project will create. Being able to come together as a community is a reason why the YMCA continues to support the growth of Lowell.

“With programming roots that began in 1959,



the Y’s presence in the Lowell community has been dedicated to creating spaces where transformations can occur and relationships can be fostered.” Chambers said. “As a YMCA, we search for avenues to strengthen each individual and family to help them thrive. The Y has been proud and honored to partner with a community that places significant value on belonging and togetherness, just as we do.”

The new Lowell Area YMCA is tentatively scheduled to open by the end of 2020. Renderings of the new facility will be shared in the coming weeks. Campaign updates will be added to the website at grymca.org/Lowell.

Middle School chess club



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LOWELL STRONG

Flat River Gallery & Framing
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&

Advanced Eyecare Professionals
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50¢



Bukala main topic of discussion at council meeting

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting over the Internet via the "Zoom" app on Monday, June 15. The meeting was two hours and 16 minutes long, and the dismissal of former Lowell police chief Steve Bukala dominated the discourse.

Over 100 different people were logged in on Zoom. The discussion about Bukala lasted over an hour and began about four minutes into the meeting. First, city clerk Sue Ullery and Lowell mayor Michael DeVore each read multiple letters and emails from area residents. All together, just over 30 area residents expressed their opinions through various methods, and not just about Bukala. Of those participating, 14 were in favor of his resignation, 11 were against it and five talked about policing in general.

Calling into Zoom under the screen name "Brian Bode," Bukala's attorney Katherine Henry read a letter she sent to the city with a list of conditions the city must satisfy to avoid a "huge legal battle" with Bukala.

"Bukala is willing to forgo what is rightfully owed to him if the city agrees to keep him on the payroll through Nov. 21, 2020 at 40 hours per week; this will include (and not be in addition to) his accrued vacation and personal time; such pay will continue to include the deductions for his most current personal contribution to retirement, along with the city's matching contribution; among other things, chief Bukala is willing to forgo the \$400 monthly payment in lieu of insurance from June through November; the city will issue an official statement that 'the city of Lowell stands with chief Bukala in his support of the US and Michigan

Constitutions. Expressing support for the rights guaranteed to individuals under those constitutions is not a personal feeling, nor is it up for political debate. It is the very thing each public official is sworn to do under Article XI Section 1 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963. While the chief was originally forced to resign, that issue has been resolved and both the chief and the city agree to a mutually beneficial separation, wherein the chief entrusts the city to continue supporting and enforcing the US and Michigan Constitutions; this agreement will completely resolve all claims either party has against the other, including, but not limited to, chief Bukala's claims against the city for violation of due process, violations of federal and state law and violations of the US and Michigan Constitutions."

Bukala and Henry were gathered with approximately 25 supporters, three of whom spoke. Amy Lett said that city councilor Cliff Yankovich and mayor DeVore should also resign because they have also made opinionated social media posts in the past, that Bukala should get his full pension when he turns 55 and that she plans to circulate petitions calling for the dismissals of both city manager Michael Burns and mayor DeVore.

"I plan to personally make chief Bukala my poster child for [law enforcement officers'] rights and fair treatment," Lett said. "We have a war on cops going on, once again, in this country."

Bukala/Henry viewing attendee Bradley Wade, owner of Wade Printing, said he was speaking "as a business owner and a citizen." Wade said that he and his son patrolled Main St. in Lowell a month ago with firearms, an American flag and a sign that read "open up Lowell businesses

and have the conversation."

"The city council asked the chief to make a post on social media to let the community be aware of what's going on in Lowell. The chief did so," Wade said. "Shortly thereafter, that request was submitted and he posted that. You guys nitpicked, or somebody nitpicked, and picked apart, word for word and sentence for sentence, what was said, verbatim. He did what you guys asked and then you guys turn around - council or whoever - and forced him to resign. Number one, I am a huge advocate and supporter of 2-A. What happened here in town, number one, it was a huge disappointment on the community's reaction to it. The community reacted terrible and all of the negative feedback was what was the highlight. I do not believe that he did anything wrong, he did not do anything unlawful and he supported the Second Amendment of our Constitution that's given to us as Americans, as free Americans, and he got stomped on."

Lowell resident Rich Conrad said that he has not read any news reports about Bukala's resignation, he has only looked at social media posts and online discussions.

"Unfortunately, I've only seen he said/she said, whatever's happening, through social media," Conrad said. "And maybe I missed it, but I have not seen an official 'this is what happened' from Mr. Burns or the rest of the city council. Maybe that is because of a legal issue, but I've only seen said issues on social media, and that is a bit of a mess. I feel like there's a lot of misinformation."

Conrad also said he is concerned Lowell is turning into "Pot City USA next to Beer City USA."

"My wife and I live in Lowell. We assumed it was a nice, conservative community," Conrad said. "We like this. We're scared of what this is turning into. We're going to have three, four pot distilleries right around my house now. Do I really want my kids raised

around here?"

Michele Zuidema, a resident of Ada, had to make her remarks twice because of some audio issues.

"While I'm concerned about Steve Bukala and what was done to him, I am more concerned about the city of Lowell and the property owners there," Zuidema said. "You have at least two city council members who disregard the constitutional rights of its citizens. I think that is an issue that needs to be addressed before the next police chief is hired. I certainly don't want our city being represented by council members who don't uphold the Constitution that they were sworn to uphold."

Vergennes Township resident Bill Bledsoe said that social media was to blame, and that the people of Lowell "are being ransacked by a handful of people who are making a lot of comments."

"Taking the Second Amendment - now, that's what happened - to help someone's First Amendment views is wrong," Bledsoe said. "Those boys had a right to do what they did and walk the street. [...] We need to be tolerant of others' views when they're not harming ours. Instead, we were intolerant. There were people on Facebook, me included, that got involved in things and started talking without listening [and] judging without fact."

Lowell resident Jim Myaard said he thinks Bukala should be reinstated immediately with full pay and benefits.

"The people that are involved in this coup to get rid of him... I personally am totally in disappointed in this," Myaard said. "He needs his job back and he needs it back now. So do the right thing, okay? Because I'll be watching." Richard Eric Johnson, a Lowell resident, said he's known Bukala for 10-12 years, thinks he is a "wonderful human being" and "supports him with all of his heart and soul."

"Our forefathers came over from another country to

stand up for their rights and now it seems like we don't even have rights no more" Johnson said. "Every time we do something, we're wrong. We can't do this, we can't do that. What happened to the rights? What happened to the First Amendment? Second Amendment? What happened to the amendments? What happened to the Constitution, for that matter? It seems like every time somebody wants to walk all over it when they don't get their way like little children that take their ball and go home."

Deborah MacDonald of Lowell said she supported the resignation because Bukala argued with residents on Facebook and dismissed their concerns, which she found unprofessional.

"I have no problem with the Second Amendment rights, but to disregard the feelings and concerns of the other citizens of the town seemed inappropriate to me," MacDonald said.

Patty Mogor of Lowell said she supported the city giving Bukala "an ultimatum to resign or be fired."

"Second Amendment rights are not in question," Mogor said. "Social media, as a platform for the chief of police, supporting a group of gun-toting hooligans with Confederate flags flying in a time of great protest is the issue."

"This is not a Second Amendment issue," said Lowell resident Lillian Peterson. "The city issued several pages of documents explaining their decision to ask the chief to resign. He has clearly abused his power in the past, and his resignation was long overdue. There is no reason that our chief of police should be misusing police resources to stalk somebody, and the support of vigilante justice by young men who have publicly expressed interest in harming protesters is not

the same as upholding the Second Amendment."

In other business, the council voted to accept a \$76,000 bid for the Lowell Light & Power "line shack" building at 115 Riverside Dr. It was purchased by the same developers as the Riverview Flats condominiums in the old Unity School, and Jerry Zansdstra and Todd Schaal plan to invest \$1.5 million turning it into four residential units with enclosed parking. City councilor Cliff Yankovich was the lone "no" vote on this item.

City manager Burns said the city has made \$20,000 in "marijuana fees" and a marijuana growing facility could be opening in town soon. City councilor Marty Chambers said the recreational marijuana store Meds Cafe donated a boat and a motor to the Lowell Area Fire Authority.

The council voted to raise water rates by six percent and sewer rates by two percent. Burns said the average residential customer will see a \$2.67 monthly increase on their bill.

The council voted to spend \$135,181 to have Suez repair "digester #3 lid" at the wastewater treatment plant.

Finally, Burns said the pieces of the new Lowell Showboat are scheduled to arrive in town on July 7 and installation will take about eight weeks.

Lowell city council's next regular meeting is scheduled to take place at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, July 16. Because of the pandemic, this date, time and location could change.

To watch city council, board and commission meetings from the past few years, look for the "City of Lowell" or the "Lowell Light and Power" channels on YouTube or visit archive.org.

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Lowell Strong: Flat River Gallery & Framing

What effects did the shutdown have on your business?

Flat River Gallery & Framing is an artist cooperative with 25 members. The shutdown naturally caused an abrupt end to our in-store sales and the interaction that we so appreciate with our customers. We had to rely on our website and our Facebook and Instagram sites even more to promote our work, keep in touch with our customers and, hopefully, cultivate a broader following. It's been

a challenging time, to say the least, for all businesses.

What did you end up missing the most while closed to the public?

We really missed the interaction with our customers. All of us enjoy talking with them about our artwork and our fellow artists. We appreciate the personal feedback our customers provide. Customers may not realize what an absolute thrill it is for an artist to know someone cared to inquire about their work and possibly buy it. It's very satisfying to know your

work has found a new home!

At FRGF we have several events throughout the year for the public, such as our bi-monthly guest artist exhibits and receptions and other community events like our annual Champagne & Chocolate Anniversary reception, our Summer Fling, and Christmas Through Lowell. We love our parties and look forward to the day we can safely host them again.

What surprised you about/during the quarantine?

A few of us recently

discussed this very topic. We were pleasantly surprised by how people, worldwide, embraced their creativity during quarantine. People had the time to explore their interests in painting, woodworking, baking, cooking, painting, knitting, sewing, learning a new instrument, etc. We, as artists, know the joy and healing power of working with our hands and our hearts. There is so much satisfaction in the creative process, experimenting with new materials and trying new techniques. It's heartwarming to see people, young and old explore the arts.

Other than your business, what other effects has the pandemic had on you/your family/your friends?

We discovered the art of zooming! Our members meet through zoom to conduct our monthly meetings and to catch up on each other's lives. For all of us, it has been

difficult to not actually be with our families and friends and each other. As artists we're used to working alone in our studios but appreciate real social time with others - the real thing!

What sanitizing, social distancing, etc. are you doing, and what should customers expect to see/do when they enter?

We are excited to be open again. For everyone's protection we are strongly encouraging masks to be worn before entering our gallery. We offer hand-sanitizer at each entry along with disposable masks. We advocate the six-foot distancing rules and have installed acrylic counter shields on our checkout counter. We continually sanitize; wiping down surfaces, doorknobs, and counters. Our goal is to keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible.

Are you planning any sales, events, etc. in the coming weeks?

Although our receptions, classes and workshops are put on hold at this time, we will be participating in the Garden Sale event, Sunday, June 14 from 12-4 pm, sponsored by North Star Antiques. It's going to be held in our back parking lot and our gallery doors will be open that Sunday for customers.

Do you have any other message for the citizens of the Lowell area?

We're grateful to be open again to serve you. Our hearts go out to those citizens and businesses of Lowell, and beyond, who have experienced extreme hardships and loss because of this terrible pandemic. Our prayers are with you. Stop in our gallery to refresh your soul by looking at our artwork and talking with our artists. We look forward to seeing you!

Lowell Area Historical Museum 2020 summer camp switches to at-home activities



by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is looking to bring summer camp participants a unique experience that hasn't been seen before at this museum.

With the COVID-19 crisis forcing many to rethink their summer plans, the Lowell Area Historical Museum has made a large transformation of its planned summer camps this year by moving all of its content online and into your home. With safety being the major focus, campers will be able to learn about this community's history on their own terms. Executive director Lisa Plank detailed what the plan was for the

summer camps.

"We'll be offering an online summer camp for kids, we'll be releasing online videos and sending participants some hands-on activities for them to complete on their own time," Plank said. "We'll be delivering supplies to our campers' homes safely."

The museum will be providing campers with supplies, delivered straight to their home. The instructional videos will also be provided in the packages, they can be watched at one's own convenience. Videos provided by the museum will give instructions on the crafts and a brief history on the items.

The theme for this year's camp will be exploring the fur trade era in Lowell, an era that saw Odawa natives like Chief Combmoosa and white "voyageurs" build up the young town along the Flat and Grand Rivers into one of the top trading posts in the area. Fur trading would become the backbone of Lowell's growth.

Campers will receive three activities to complete. These projects will be building their own trading post model, creating their own model canoe and creating Metis dot artwork. Metis dot artwork was created by the Metis people and uses dots to create floral paintings.

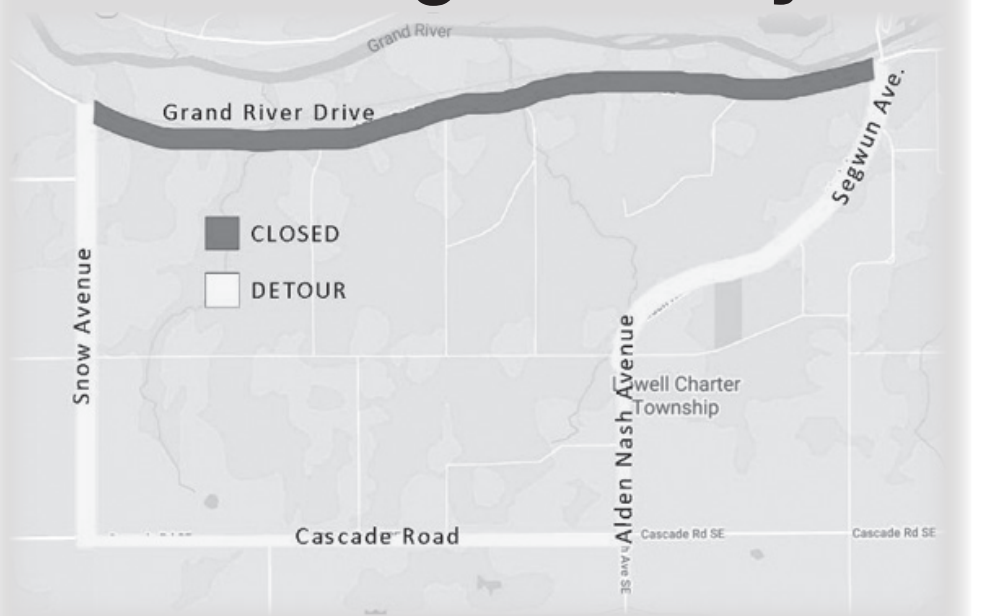
Campers will also receive a scavenger hunt to use in the new Lowell Township Park to further explore Lowell's fur trade post.

The camp is for youths ages 8 to 14 and will cost \$10 per camper. One form can be used to sign up all children participating from a single household. More information can be found online at lowellmuseum.org.



Story on page 2: Former Lowell police chief Steve Bukala (center) and his attorney Katherine Henry gathered with about 25 supporters to watch the June 15 city council meeting and to express their opinions. ["Zoom" screenshot]

Grand River Drive resurfacing thru July 3



The Kent County Road Commission announced a resurfacing project on Grand River Dr. from Snow Ave. to Segwun Ave. that will require a traffic detour between June 16 and July 3.

Through traffic will be detoured using Segwun

Ave., Alden Nash Ave., Cascade Rd. and Snow Ave.

The contractor for the work is Rieth-Riley Construction and the projected cost is \$1.26 million. Of that, \$947,000 is coming from federal aid and \$313,000 from the Kent County Road Commission.

This resurfacing project will consist of milling the existing asphalt surface and replacing the milled location with new asphalt. Work will be completed under a road closure for through traffic.



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college news

Benjamin Owen King Fox, of Ada, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Goshen College this spring with a bachelor's degree in Molecular biology/Biochemistry.

Members of the Goshen College Class of 2020 were honored during the college's 122nd commencement ceremony, held virtually, on April 26. The Class of 2020 consisted of 244 graduates who were awarded the following degrees: 134 Bachelor of Arts, 38 Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 4 Bachelor of Science, 16 Master of Science in Nursing as family nurse practitioners, 10 Master of Arts in Environmental Education and 16 Master of Business Administration.

The University of Alabama awarded some 6,326 degrees this spring. Among the graduates were: Maria Blough, who received a Bachelor of Arts in communication & information sciences;

Isaiah Peter, who received a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering; Anthony Pollock, who received a Bachelor of Science in commerce & business administration; Austin Rife, who received a Master of business administration; and Christine Ringel, who received a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering, of Lowell.

The recent change to remote learning during this unprecedented time affected the University's plans for traditional commencement activities. However, commencement is a milestone, and the University wants graduates to have the opportunity to walk across the stage in celebration of their success. Although any plans are contingent on how the summer outlook progresses, all spring graduates are invited to participate in the summer commencement events scheduled for Friday, July 31, and Saturday, Aug. 1.

"We will also be recognizing the achievements of our spring 2020 graduating class through online and social media outlets to highlight our shared pride in them," said UA President Stuart Bell. "I look forward to congratulating each student on stage very soon."

Students from Trine University's main campus and Fort Wayne Center for Health Sciences were named to the President's List for the Spring 2020 term. To earn President's List honors, these students must complete a minimum of 15 hours and have a grade point average of 3.750-4.000.

The following area students were named to the President's List: Brennan Battle, majoring in design engineering technology, and Joslynn Battle, majoring in exercise science, both of Lowell.

The following students graduated from Spring Arbor University: Arthur Carver, Bachelor of Arts in general studies, and Laurna Schultz, Master of Science in nursing, both of Ada.

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viewpoint

to the editor

Dear Editor,
In response to State Rep. Albert's article, in the Ledger on June 3;

Question: What did you and your GOP colleagues do to help stop the spread of COVID-19 except to bring a frivolous lawsuit to oppose our Governor's successful attempts to flatten the curve and protect the citizens of Michigan? Look at states that have opened early, new cases and deaths are rising.

Since our Federal Government dumped the control of Covid-19 back onto the states, our Governor has done what she feels is needed to protect or citizens. I stand with 'that woman from Michigan.' And as loyal Spartan fans, I surely won't be attending any football games with 73,000 of my closest friends in the fall.

I used to respect the Republican Party.

Marcia Kapolka
Alto

To the Editor of the Lowell Ledger

A quote which has guided me a goodly portion of my life says, "To stand silent in the face of injustice is to join the side of the oppressor." Archbishop Desmond Tutu used a form of this often and eloquently. And, of course, the haunting words of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Who taught, "It is not the hateful words of our enemies we fear; rather, it is the silence of our friends." I admit to a certain amount of optimism when I see the passionate protests around our country decrying white racism and the social institutions which embedded and nurtured it in our society. My optimism comes from seeing the large numbers of white people in those protests. It breaks my heart to realize that this response required the videoed murder of yet another black man by a white police officer, in the most inhuman and cruel manner possible, to bring fourth truly righteous indignation from whites. Yet, it seems to be real. Having lived through the Civil Rights marches of the 60s, my optimism is tempered by the obvious shortcomings of those

efforts, though. It will take inestimable commitment and effort, over many years, to dismantle and banish forever the white supremacy and white privilege which have been melded into every aspect of our society and our institutions. White Silence has been one of the most powerful and most effective ways we have made white racism so real for blacks and so advantageous for whites. It is time for white people to speak up, TO OWN UP, to the deep dimensions of white racism in our society, for it is we who own it and perpetuate it! Oh, it will be uncomfortable - painful, really, - to do so, but to choose silence and complicity will be to reject what is, perhaps, our last, best chance to redeem our moral souls. I will certainly give as much as I can, during the years I have left in my life, to active, effective anti-racism work.

J. Richard Sherlock
Vergennes Township

Dear Editor,

I was able to attend the Lowell City Council meeting last night via a Zoom meeting gathering hosted by Katherine Henry. I'm hoping to dissuade the irrational fears and obvious ignorance to the oath of office that were displayed by Patricia Mogor and Lillian Peterson in comments made to WOOD TV 8.

Mogor referred to the men in question as "gun-toting" hooligans. Merriam-Webster defines a hooligan as "a usually young man who engages in rowdy or violent behavior especially as part of a group or gang." These four men approached Lowell City Police and asked for permission to walk within the city. They did not need permission to do this as it was their right as protected by our Constitution. Being the responsible adults that they are, they contacted Chief Bukula. Does this describe rowdy, violent gang members? They would not have their licenses to carry if this were the case.

Peterson stated, "The support of vigilante justice by young men who publicly expressed interest in harming

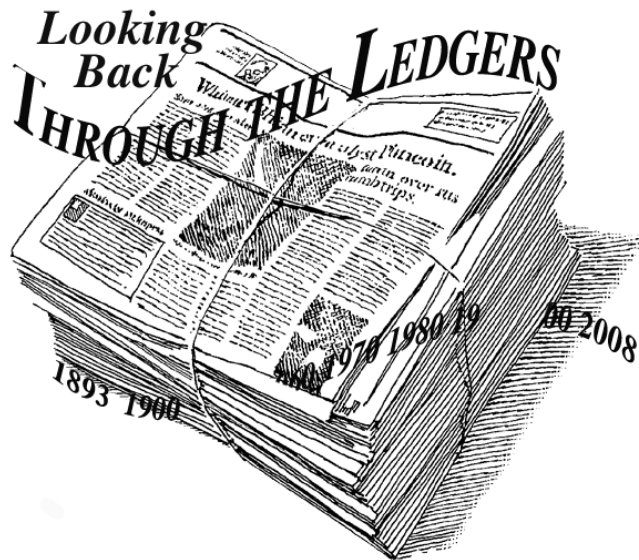
protestors..." Nowhere, except in her own mind, did these men express an interest in harming anyone! To state something like this with no backing other than them open carrying is plain ignorant and stereotyping.

Finally, and the really big lesson here, is the oath of office. Every leader, from the President right on down to city council, swears to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Chief Bukula simply reaffirmed that oath on social media. He was in NO way supporting

"gun-toting hooligans seeking vigilante justice"! City Manager Burns made a mockery of that oath by apologizing for it.

While I don't live within the city, I do own a business here. What city council does or doesn't do can very much affect my business. I hope they do the right thing and carry Chief Bukula on payroll through his retirement. I certainly don't blame him for not wanting to return to a council that does not support our police department.

Nancy Stroosnyder
Lowell Township



125 years ago The Lowell Journal June 26, 1895

The cruiser Atlanta is under orders to leave New York harbor to-day to enforce the neutrality laws in Cuban waters. She will first stop at Port Au Prince, Haiti, and when she leaves there her movements are apt to be somewhat perplexing to filibustering expeditions menacing the south coast of Cuba. After cruising as long as her coal lasts the Atlanta will go into Santiago at Cuba and lie there until her bunkers are replenished, being held in readiness to go out and give chase to any expedition that may be reported.

Mary E. Hughson went from the circuit courtroom Wednesday night a free woman. For more than two weeks a jury has been trying her on the charge of murdering her second husband, Nathan Douglas, in July 1892. His body lay in the ground until April last, when certain rumors came to the ears of the officers. The defense was that the arsenic which was found in the body came there by the diffusion of embalming fluid. Experts were called on the question, and through Prof. Vaughan testified squarely that the man came to his death from arsenical poisoning that jury said he did not. The defense was that Douglas died a natural death, and the jury so found.

During the game Tuesday afternoon, Dr. McDannell's horse was frightened by a foul ball dropping through a tree in front of it and ran away tipping the buggy over and throwing the occupants, Mrs. McDanell, Mrs. A. B. Johnson and Winnie Johnson out, injuring them all quite severely and breaking two ribs for Mrs. McDannell. The horse was caught on the track, having slowed up just as soon as the temporary fright was over. That it is a dangerous practice to drive down to the ball game and sit in the buggy, is shown by this accident, as the Dr's horse is undoubtedly the kindest and most gentle driver in this place.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 24, 1920

"Pull down the bars which are shutting out thousands of immigrants from the United States, and cease to worry over the menacing situation caused by the farm labor shortage." This is the solution to the present acute labor situation on Michigan farms as advanced by Charles M. Gardner, high priest of Demeter, and editor of the National Grange Monthly, who addressed nearly 500 Kent county grangers at Vergennes yesterday.

Sebewa township in Ionia county has voted "No" on the centralized school system, 265 to 67. An analysis of the sentiment in the township by the Portland Review, shows that while early in the campaign the centralized system was favored, that when they figured for themselves that such a building as was required would cost between \$75,000 and \$100,000, the taxpayers decided to wait for the return of normal costs of material and labor.

Idabelle LaRose age 14 years and Agnes Keenan, age 16 years, of Saginaw and Bay City, respectively, who ran away from the House of the Good Shepard last Friday, have been returned to the home from Lowell. The girls were picked up by an automobilist on the road near Ada. After reaching Lowell they refused to leave the auto unless given money with which to buy railroad transportation to Saginaw. They were detained and the Grand Rapids police notified.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger June 21, 1945

As a reward for fostering better relations between the state welfare department and local relief officials, Carlton Runciman of Lowell was re-elected this week to the chairmanship of the state welfare commission. Runciman's influence among boards of supervisors and county welfare boards has resulted in new impetus toward integration of local welfare functions.

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

M METRO HEALTH

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH

Johnathan G. Meier, D.O. Laura E. Kass, PA-C
 Wayne A. Christenson, D.O. Kaili M. Walker, PA-C
 Tracy L. Lixie, D.O. Alexandria Clum, PA-C
 Catherine S. Smith, NP-C

testicular cancer screening

Testicular cancer affects males of all ages, but is most prevalent in young men. It is one of the most common malignant tumors found in males age 15 to 34. Some risk factors for testicular cancer include:

- being Caucasian,
- having a brother or father with testicular cancer,
- having an undescended testicle (one that did not come down into the scrotum) even if it was surgically corrected
- having small or irregularly shaped testicles
- having Klinefelter's syndrome (a

genetic condition)

Some signs of testicular cancer include:

- a hard, painless lump in the testicle (most common)
- a dull ache in the scrotum (less common)
- a scrotum that feels heavy or swollen.

Testicular cancer has good cure rates if found early and treated. All men should perform monthly testicular self-exams. If a lump, swelling, tenderness or any other change in the testicle is discovered, see your health care provider right away.

business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Selena DeGrote received Sales Person of the Month in May.

This award recognizes DeGrote for her outstanding success and achievements.



Support the Local Businesses Who Help Support Our Community!

ABCs of Lowell History

The Lowell Area Historical Museum introduces a new weekly feature to explore local history. The ABC's of Lowell's History this week is:

L is for Logging

Logging in Michigan has been common since the native people first cut down trees for their agricultural purposes, but the logging era really flourished between 1870 and 1890. Lumberjack camps were set up near rivers throughout the state. They cut down the trees, dragged them to the river bank and marked them. When the thaw of spring came rivers were used to run logs downstream to sawmills. It is said that Michigan pine not only largely rebuilt Chicago after the great fire in 1871, but it also supplied the nation as it expanded westward across the treeless plains.

Log marks were how the various companies knew which logs belonged to them. They marked the end of the logs with brand marks, just like the cattle branding process. This also created an opportunity for pirating. Thieves would slice off one end of the log where the company's log mark was, and remark the log with their company's mark. When the logs were sorted at the destination, these logs were stolen. In the years since, the slices that had been cut off have been found in rivers, even here in the Flat River. Deadheads are a term used for the logs that sank along the way. Today the remainders of



The old King, Quick & King Saw Mill on Flat River at Lowell. Taken by Milo Hiler about 1880.

these in the Flat River give boaters trouble as they navigate shallow areas.

The annual log drive down the Flat River and into the Grand River was watched carefully by the newspapers that reported the progress. The Lowell Journal for example noted on April 30, 1879 that "On the 15th day of April, logs from the main drive were running the entire length of Flat River, from Six Lakes to Lowell, a distance by river of over 100 miles". Other reports noted the end of the drive or the total feet of logs. In May of 1884 the report was that "the rear of the Flat River Log Drive is expected to drive into Grand River at this place this week. This season's float is about 110,000,000 feet!"

Saw mills were located at various locations along the river and logs bound

for that sawmill would then be fished out of the river. Locally the Flat River boasted sawmills at Fallasburg and Lowell. The first sawmill on the Flat was built at Fallasburg in 1839. Fallasburg also had a loggers hotel. The building still stands and the old floor that is now covered is punched with holes from the cleats on the loggers' boots.

The first sawmill in Lowell was built by Seth Cogswell in 1856 on the creek south of the Grand River on land formerly belonging to Daniel Marsac. In the mid 1860's, a water-powered mill was built by Reuben Quick and Cornelius Powlison on the east bank of the Flat River north of Main St. In 1871, they replaced it with a steam-powered mill. They then sold their interests to King, Quick, & King. Logs were floated down the Flat,

entered the log run, were piled and later put on an elevator to enter the mill where they were sawn into lumber. The lumber exited by a second story tramway which returned it to the island in the middle of the Flat River to be stacked and dried. A shingle mill, located on the island, was added in 1879. They also purchased Mr. Dodge's lumberyard (established in 1864) for the operation of their retail trade and offices in 1872.

This mill employed 100 men between this mill and one other. It processed 50,000-60,000 board feet of lumber per day and 5 to 6 million board feet of pine per year. King, Quick, & King was a huge complex which included the east bank of the Flat as well as two islands in the middle of

Lowell history, continued, page 12

area churches

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 Evening Worship.....6:00 PM
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Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
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St. Mary Catholic Church

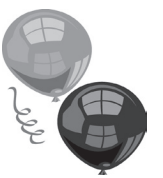
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Website: www.stmarylowell.com

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 Confession: Saturdays 3-4:30 pm

Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm
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happy birthday



JUNE 17

David Ryder, Cody Kastanek, Tricia McGovern, Cyndi Dalga, Doug Green, Logan Wilcox.

JUNE 18

Jessica Vezino, Lindsay Anderson, Whitney Patnode, Elizabeth Mol.

JUNE 19

Matt Stone, Randy Ossewaarde, Kurt Hieshetter, Marcia Baird, Glen Waid.

JUNE 20

Fritz Ball, Gladys

Metternick, Aleacia Kunard Owen, Monte Knapp, Samantha Barr.

JUNE 21

Dennis McClure, Bill Burt, Heather Brown, Jimmy Brown, Sean Briggs.

JUNE 22

Michael Korte, Byron Pat Brenk, Jim Francis I, Ken Stager III.

JUNE 23

Jane Rogers, Brinna Manszewski, Katy Fetterhoff, Quinton Wingerter.



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Kid's Crew 11:15 AM

Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

MI's drop in COVID-19 cases heralded

“Very few” states dropped COVID-19 infection rates as low for as long as Michigan did after reaching its peak in early April, according to a report recently issued by Imperial College of Great Britain.

The report found that before public health measures were put in place, the average Michigander was spreading the virus to three other people. As measures were implemented, the infection rate decreased to 2.5, 1.25 and then .8.

Throughout April, positive cases infected an average of less than one other person, allowing the curve of infected

COVID-19 patients to fall. Without the public health measures implemented in Michigan, the peak cases and deaths would have been two to three times higher, the college reported.

“The data shows that our aggressive actions against this virus are working, and that implementing them has saved lives,” said Chief Medical Executive Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. “We will continue to closely monitor the data and work with experts to ensure we lower the chance of a second wave and further protect Michigan families.”

Patrick Anderson of the Anderson Economic Group

threw cold water on the numbers, however, saying Imperial College was the same outfit “that terrified Washington in March with assertions that the US would suffer 2.2 million deaths and have 200 million people infected.”

Anderson said the college is using computer models with a history of “exaggeration” and that looking at “real data” shows the numbers have gone down.

“Bizarrely, both the Trump administration and the Whitmer administration have now attempted to cite this impresario of exaggeration to claim their

policies were successful,” Anderson wrote.

Michigan reported 218 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 over the last 24 hours and 26 deaths, continuing the notably lower numbers from June as compared to April or May.

In June, Michigan has averaged 237 new COVID-19 cases and 24 deaths per day. In May, Michigan averaged 516 new COVID-19 cases and 56 deaths per day. In April, it was 1,125 cases and 118 deaths per day.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said she hopes to move the rest of the state to Stage 5 of her economic reentry plan



- which will basically open up everything at reduced capacity limits without the exceptions of large events with large numbers of people - by July 4.

State must have stockpile of PPE, supplies under bill

Legislation to create a state stockpile of emergency supplies and personal protective equipment would make sure that, in event of a future pandemic, “We are not going to have a debate about who was supposed to bring what to the party,” said Rep. Jeff Yaroch (R-Richmond).

He has sponsored HB 5767, calling for the creation of the state stockpile. It would be up to the state’s emergency management division and the Department of Health and Human Services to determine what supplies and how much should be in it.

“During this pandemic, there seemed to be a little

debate between the feds and the state about who was responsible for what regarding PPE supplies,” Yaroch told the House Health Policy Committee Tuesday. “Not to get into the old debate, my goal is to put this thing to bed. This bill said that we will have a stockpile, required by law, and there will be transparency required as part of it.”

Transparency would include a list of the supplies on a state website. That’s important, he contended, because the old Civil Defense stockpiles often lost track of expiration dates.

“It is nobody’s fault but our

own if it is not there the day we need it, because we are going to have more of this,” Yaroch said. “COVID-19 is not going away. Understand in the future, this is not like the Spanish Flu in the sense that to get from Europe to America at that time you had to get on a boat. Today you can be in Europe in the morning and be at home in Detroit at night. So we are going to see more of this, and we should be prepared for it.”

Yaroch contended that the state government should look at what stockpiles the federal government will have for the future, then decide for itself

if it needs other equipment.

“It is for the state to look at what the feds are carrying and then decide what we think we should have in relation to what they are stocking and the response times that they have to get it to us,” Yaroch said.

Jeff White, chief paramedic at Richmond Lenox EMS, said at the outset of the pandemic, his agency’s stockpile of PPE was one box of 50 surgical masks. He could hold the entire stockpile in one hand. White said he went to the dollar store to buy ponchos for paramedics to use as gowns.

“In the early days of this pandemic, I have never before been so frightened for my staff, frightened for myself, frightened for what I might bring home to my family and frightened for those we were responding to daily,” White said. “Respectfully, early on, this was the equivalent of running into fire without turnout gear or running towards gunfire without a bulletproof vest.”

White said he’d always been told that should the agency need it, it could turn to the county or the state for additional resources. But they quickly learned those stockpiles were really

purchase orders sitting on desks. With everyone trying to cash in, vendors didn’t have enough supplies.

“We learned that the equipment was not coming,” White told the committee. “And so we made that call that we had always been promised we could make and that we had been promised that those supplies would be there through the proper channels. When somebody opened the door to the storage barn [...] the barn was empty. And what was found on the floor was papers that said there is a promise for this equipment if you ever need it, but it is not here today.”

Warrant for e-communications bill clears Senate

A ban on warrantless search and seizure of a person’s electronic data and communications would be written into the state Constitution under a measure the Senate passed unanimously Thursday.

If adopted soon by a two-thirds vote in the House, SJR G will go before voters on the 2020 ballot to be added to the state’s Constitution.

Sen. Jim Runestad (R-White Lake) said if “privacy still matters” to Americans, Article I, Section 11 of the Michigan Constitution needs to protect electronic data and communications like it was personal property. Such protection, Runestad said, is long overdue.

“There’s no doubt a technological revolution has dramatically altered the way we live our lives,” Runestad said on the Senate floor. “But while our standard of living and communication ability continue to progress, one often overlooked side effect is our right to

privacy. The failure of our laws to address this new reality is not only a threat to our liberties today, it is a threat to the future liberties of generations to come. [...] Placing those words in our Michigan state Constitution ensures the government must have a warrant before it can rifle through the intimate details of our personal lives.”

If the House approves the resolution by a two-thirds vote, it will be placed on the next statewide general election ballot.

This is the third time Runestad has tried to pass a similar resolution. He first introduced it in the House in 2015 and again in 2017. Both amendments passed

with 107 votes, but neither made it through the Senate.

In June 2014, the US Supreme Court ruled law enforcement must obtain a warrant to search cellphones seized during arrest, but the ruling didn’t address data privacy on other devices.

In August 2014, Missouri became the first state to approve constitutional protections for electronic privacy when 75 percent of the voters passed an amendment protecting the information from warrantless search and seizure.

Eighty-one percent of New Hampshire voters approved a similar amendment in 2018 that

added wording to the state’s Constitution that, “An individual’s right to live free from governmental intrusion in private or personal information is natural, essential and inherent.”

Runestad said Minnesota, West Virginia and Wyoming are working toward a similar goal.

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LHS caravan, continued



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sanctioned drive-by, students were encouraged to meet at the fairgrounds to participate in a parent-led caravan parade through the streets of Lowell. It was led by Walnut Grove Excavating. Unfortunately, minutes after the last cars drove through the school grounds and the caravan began through the town, the skies opened up in a downpour. This didn't stop many residents from showing their support for the class.

For the class of 2020, this event was another step towards closure for a senior year cut short by circumstances that seemed unimaginable just four months ago. With events still being put on to show the community's support for these youth, there can still be a sense of pride for these students. The official graduation ceremony is still scheduled for Thursday, July 23, one last formality for these students to celebrate.

LHS caravan, continued



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Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones

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Can you invest for retirement and education?

Typically, this time of year is filled with graduation ceremonies and celebrations. But with the coronavirus pandemic, not much has been typical lately. Eventually, though, things will return to normal and schools will reopen for in-person learning. And if you have young children, you may want to save for their higher

education, whether that be college or trade school. At the same time, though, you're moving ever closer to retirement. Can you save for your kids' education and a comfortable retirement for yourself at the same time?

It is indeed possible, although you may need to prioritize somewhat. Specifically, you may not want to put off saving

for retirement in favor of education. But by viewing these goals together and investing as early as possible in each of them, you can take advantage of one of your biggest assets – time.

Of course, you'll still have to budget your resources. You want to invest as much as you can, but not so much that your monthly cash flow is crimped. Consequently, you may have to consider retiring later, contributing less to your child's education, or a combination of the two. But in terms of logistics, you can make saving and investing easier.

First, consider your retirement accounts. If you have a traditional 401(k) or similar plan, your

contributions come out of your paycheck before you even see the money – so it's about as painless a way of building your retirement fund as possible. Put in as much as your budget allows and consider increasing your contributions when you receive a raise at work. You can also direct your bank to move money each month from your savings or checking account into your IRA.

Now, let's move to your other key goal: education. Several education funding vehicles are available, but one of the most popular is the 529 plan. Your earnings grow tax-deferred and withdrawals are free from federal tax, provided the money is used for qualified

higher education expenses. (529 plan withdrawals not used for qualified expenses may be subject to federal and state income tax and a 10% IRS penalty on the earnings.) Furthermore, your 529 plan contributions may earn a state tax deduction or credit if you participate in your own state's plan.

You can set up recurring contributions from a bank account to a 529 plan. And you don't have to fund your 529 plan on your own. Instead of gifts for birthdays, holidays, graduations and other occasions, why not ask friends and relatives to contribute to the 529 plan you've set up for your child? They're all eligible to participate – and their contributions may earn

them tax benefits if they live in your state and you've invested in your own state's plans.

A financial advisor can help you plan for more than one goal, understand the benefits and tradeoffs of your decisions, and make the process of saving for those goals easier. So, get the help you need to stay on track – or rather, two tracks – toward the important objectives of education and retirement.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Live the Life You Want Why personal boundaries are important

by Melissa Spino MA LLPC CDMS
Life Transitions Therapy LLC

Personal boundaries are the limits and rules we set for ourselves within relationships. According to Wikipedia "Personal boundaries are guidelines, rules or limits that a person creates to identify reasonable, safe and permissible ways for other people to behave towards them and how they will respond when someone passes those limits." Some believe you can't love

without having personal boundaries. Having healthy boundaries comes from a sense of self-worth that is not based on how others feel about you.

Personal boundary types

There are many types and categories of personal boundaries. Most of us use a mix of different boundary types and they are dependent on the situation. For instance, boundaries at

work may be different from those used with friends and family. Culture also plays an important role. Some cultures see the expression of public emotions as inappropriate while others do not.

Healthy Boundaries - you don't compromise your values for others. You share personal information in a healthy way, avoiding over or under sharing. You are able to say no to others but also accept it when others say no. You

can communicate personal wants and needs.

Rigid Boundaries - you avoid intimacy and close relationships. You keep others at a distance and avoid possible rejection. You are very unlikely to ask for help. You are protective of personal information. You seem detached, even within intimate relationships.

Porous Boundaries - you overshare personal information. You get overinvolved with others lives and problems. You are dependent on the opinions of others. You fear rejection if you don't agree or comply with others. You accept abuse or disrespect. You have difficulty saying "no".

There are several categories where boundaries apply:

Material boundaries - what you are willing to give or lend such as money, car, clothes, books.

Physical boundaries - your personal space, privacy, and body.

Mental boundaries - Knowing you have the right to your own thoughts, beliefs, values, and opinions, as do others. Listening with an open mind to another's opinion without becoming rigid.

Emotional boundaries - separating your emotions and the responsibility for them from someone else's. If you find yourself starting

sentences with "You make me feel" then you are not accepting responsibility for your emotions. Someone that is codependent may believe that setting boundaries jeopardizes the relationship instead of deepening it.

Sexual boundaries - your comfort level with sexual touch and activity.

Spiritual boundaries - your beliefs in connection with God or a higher power.

Over sharing - TMI

At times, we have all overshared but here are some red flags.

- Personal attacks and rants on social media.

- Sharing daily drama with those not directly involved. In short, gossiping.

- Dominating conversations, allowing others to barely participate.

- Sharing too many personal details with those you just met or on social media.

- Expecting emotional therapy from friends and family whenever you need it.

Now and then, we've all likely done some harmless oversharing or had rants based on our beliefs/values. But if this happens regularly, you could be making others feel uncomfortable by ignoring

their boundaries. It is also a sign of low self-worth and insecurities.

Setting personal boundaries

For some, setting boundaries is easier said than done. It's often a learned skill obtained from modeling the behavior of others during childhood. If there wasn't a role model exhibiting healthy boundaries, you may be at a loss for how to set good boundaries causing problems at school, work, and your personal life. You may say you set a boundary, but it didn't work. Personal boundaries are more effective when you're assertive, calm, firm, and respectful when relaying them to others. Learn to say "no" and mean it.

Healthy boundaries bring us closer. They are necessary to keep a relationship from becoming unsafe or unhealthy. They clearly relay to the other person that you are to be treated with respect and your needs/wants, thoughts, opinions, feelings, and beliefs are as important as anyone else's.

This article is not intended to provide any type of treatment or diagnosis. If you experience a mental health crisis be sure to call 911.

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To solve the human equation, we need to add love, subtract hate, multiply good, and divide between truth and error.

- Janet Coleman

Red Arrow

- CHESS CLUB

SPORTS

Epic finish to Lowell Middle chess tournament

Clashing armies, surprise attacks, determined defenses, and toppled leaders. These are not news headlines but the exciting conclusion to this year's LMS Chess Club season as the club finished its delayed championship tournament on Thursday, June 11. The tournament began in early March but halted with three matches left when schools closed and the state went under the COVID stay-at-home order.

With the stay-at-home finally lifted in early June, play resumed. Time and place were set and club members eagerly met at the Riverwalk granite chess table and benches the club had donated to the city in 2017. The gathering practiced social distancing, masks were worn, hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray abounded.

Champions crowned were Jake Kooi, first place; Joe Kooi, second place; and Jacob Kissinger, third place.

Strategy was not confined to the board. Jake, a club member for three years, successfully achieved his plan to take third place as a sixth grader, second place as a seventh grader, and first place in this, his final year, as an eighth grader. The last match was especially intense as Jake had to play and defeat his younger brother, Joe, to take the championship.

Chess has been more than just a game to these students. Under the expert tutelage of Bob Vannoller since 2007 they have learned well. Past members of the club have written in scholarship essays of the valuable lessons gained including planning, coordination, and strategy.

Although there is no chess club at high school level, these students will certainly carry the lessons of their time in the LMS Chess Club long after middle school.




Pictured left to right: Jake Kooi, first place; Joe Kooi, second place and Jacob Kissinger, third place.

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Dr. Flohr



We are Advanced Eyecare Professionals (AEP), located on West Main Street behind Rite-Aid in the shopping plaza with B.C. Pizza. We offer ophthalmology, optometry and a full service optical shop. We are now back OPEN, LOVE Lowell, and want to stay for many years to come!

The closures affected all types of businesses including businesses in health care like dentists, physical therapy, our eye care industry, and many more. The eye care industry waited and excitedly planned for the all too perfect year of 2020. The year began with fun puns and special events planned around the year of "perfect vision".

Ours was, "2020 the year for your eyes!" And it truly is, however, none of us saw a year that the Snellen eye chart says should be perfect, would actually blindside us with a halt to daily normalcy worldwide. The ripple effects hitting every aspect of life including the care of patients in our beloved eye care industry.

We too closed our doors on all three of our locations to protect patients and staff. We saw emergent patients either at local ERs or a single doctor would open an office by themselves to assist the person in need. We fulfilled contact lens re-ordering and glasses fulfillment the best we could through email and mail delivery to try and

support our patients during the closure. Like everyone is feeling, it has been very hard to say the least.

Our office is not a chain. We are a family-owned and operated local business with our starting office in Hastings opening in 1984. Our Lowell and Ionia locations opened in 2002. As we open back up, like every local business, we hope that you support LOCAL in every way you can! We realize that you can buy glasses, sunglasses and contacts online, or from big box stores. However, we also hope you realize that big box stores and online quick buys don't always stand by their products like we do. If you compare

apples to apples from the online offerings or big box stores you'll see that the value of the products you get from AEP are far superior and last longer. The big box stores and online giants also don't support local school sporting events, clubs/organizations, or have community outreach like we do. Our community eyecare week event that we have done annually for the past 8 years has helped hundreds locally get a free eye exam and glasses that could not otherwise afford it. We also recently announced a 2020 graduate outreach of a free

eye exam for the class of 2020 to help grads celebrate and see their bright futures.

We greatly care, and hope you do as well, about the local community and local businesses. Our offices started opening back up with partial staff and limited hours in each of the locations. Currently Lowell is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 am - 5 pm and can be reached via phone at 616-897-7000. Ionia is open Monday through Thursday 8 am - 5 pm, and Hastings is open Monday through Thursday

8 am - 5 pm. As with all businesses we have many new safety protocols in place to keep you and our staff as safe as possible during your visit. Including installed protective breath shields on equipment; increased office cleanings above and beyond our already high level of cleaning regiments between each patient, and many more protocols. Please visit www.AEPeyecare.com to view our "EYES on Safety" protocols. We hope to SEE you all soon, so we can continue with our mission of "Saving & Improving Vision Close to Home!"



obituaries

CINCO

Julie Lynnea (Fallstrom) Cinco came into this world on May 13, 1959 to Allen and Billie (Ward) Fallstrom. Julie's journey in this life ended unexpectedly but peacefully at her childhood home on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Julie was raised in Lowell and always marched to the beat of her own drum. She enjoyed letting her artistic abilities flow whether it be making her own clothes, painting beautiful custom murals or just doodling in a notebook. Julie was a stubborn woman but no doubt she was kind, loving, funny and as feisty as

they come. Julie also loved to be in the garden, loved to travel and loved music. Julie would tell you that her biggest accomplishment was being a mother, she loved her children fiercely and thought she could never love anyone as much as she loved her children. And then she became Mimi. Julie's grandchildren were absolutely the loves of her life and she always had a sucker or candy for them. Julie always encouraged the grandkids to get into mischief with her, teaching them to be a spitfire just like her. Julie is survived by her parents, her children, Melaina Cinco (Rich Fahrne) of Shelbyville, Skyler Cinco (Sarah Greene) of Big Rapids, Brittney Cinco (Chris Yorks) of Sturgis, and Dallas Cinco (Steffanee Cinco) Alliance, OH. Julie had five grandchildren, Kinser, Lane, Richie, Jaeyla and Jemison. Julie is also survived by her siblings, Jeff Fallstrom (Nettie), Joseph Fallstrom and Jeni Buck all of Lowell, several aunts and uncles as well as countless nieces and nephews. A celebration of life will take place on Saturday, July 25, 2020 at 4 pm at her childhood home located at 3213 Timpson Ave, Lowell, MI 49331. Please join us for an old-fashioned outdoor "Hootenanny" and bonfire as we share memories of Julie.

KELLEY

Darroll Gene Kelley, age 73 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, June 13, 2020. He was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Ferne (Maltby) Kelley; and brothers, Peter and Charles Kelley. Darroll is survived by his sons, Simon (Kara) and Matthew (Michelle Fountain) Kelley; brother, Steve (Janet) Kelley; grandsons, Ethan,

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 20-207369-DE

Estate of EDWARD G.
BOOT. Date of birth:
12/16/1961.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS: The
decendent, Edward G.
Boot, died on 4/4/2020.

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

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

June 12, 2020

James J. Goulooze
(P44497)
PO Box 542
Hastings, MI 49058
269-945-2255

Helen Boot
11106 76th St.
Alto, MI 49302
616-329-1724



Elliott, Emmett, Liam, and Cole (Geniaya) Kelley; and many nieces and nephews. Darroll proudly served in the US Army during the Vietnam war. Many knew him as a self-employed electrician, later working as an electrician at Amway. Darroll loved going to casinos to gamble and playing the lottery. He also loved playing cards and

pool. Visitation will be held Monday, June 22, 2020 from 2p.m. to 4p.m. and 6p.m. to 8p.m. Funeral services will be held at 11a.m. Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N Hudson, Lowell. Rev. Aaron Ferris of St. Mary's Catholic Church officiating. (We will be following Covid restrictions per the executive order at the time of the service.) Military Honors will follow and be held at Oakwood Cemetery under the Auspices of the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard. A Celebration of Life will follow the graveside service at the farm. A special thanks to SKLD Ionia for their wonderful care to our Dad and our family. Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.



STUART

Thomas James Stuart, 63, of Hopewell, VA passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. He was raised in Lowell, Michigan. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Lester and Esta Stuart, Andy Kole, Roy and Stella Kauffman. He is survived by his parents, Don and Leabelle Stuart; sisters, Brenda Stuart, Wendy Stuart, Gwen Poling (Alan), Bethany Smith (Steve), Denise Smith (Greg), and brother, Ken Stuart (Amy); and numerous nieces and nephews. Tom graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, English in 1982 as well as a Master's degree in landscape architecture in 1989. He was a faithful member of West Hopewell Presbyterian Church. He was a devoted follower of Jesus. Tom enjoyed studying the Bible, reading, and gardening. He was a beloved son, brother, and friend and will be dearly missed. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at West Hopewell Presbyterian Church. The family will receive friends one hour prior at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be donated to West Hopewell Presbyterian Church. Condolences may be registered at www.jtmorriss.com.



PUBLIC NOTICE BOWNE TOWNSHIP

A public accuracy test of the voting equipment to be used in the August 4, 2020 Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Historic Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash Avenue SE, Alto, MI 49302.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

Lowell history, continued

the river.

Hazards abounded along the way as logging was a dangerous life. Log-filled rivers and the constant log jams created unpredictable and dangerous situations. One newspaper report stated, "A flat river log driver came near making bubbles three times and out the other day. He got in below the shute and needed help very soon after. His comrades were near and fished him out."

The loggers were known for their bottle tipping. One newspaper description from The

Lowell Journal from May 15, 1878 states, "The logs are floating swiftly by and the log runners are not all pilgrim strangers to the little brown jug." The last log run down the Flat River happened in 1892. The logging men were part of a short period of history but left their mark. Their stories remain; we see their boot marks in the Logger's Hotel floor and their deadheads in the river. The greatest reminders though of the logging days are the many structures standing today, not only in Lowell, but in Chicago and the western states.

MI senate condemns violence by extremists

On Wednesday, June 3 the Senate passed SR 122, sponsored by Sen. Lana Theis (R-Brighton) and Sen. Sylvia Santana (D-Detroit), "to condemn and denounce the violent activities of extremist organizations and to memorialize the Congress of the United States to redouble its efforts to combat the spread of all forms of domestic terrorism."

The resolution contends it is a fundamental responsibility of the government to protect peaceful speech and peaceful protest.

However, "extremist organizations, including Antifa, white supremacist groups such as Boogaloo and others, represent opposition to the democratic ideals of peaceful assembly and free speech for all. These organizations, because they believe that free speech is equivalent to violence, have used threats of violence and online harassment in the pursuit of suppressing opposing political ideologies," the resolution stated.

The resolution was adopted on a voice vote.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 20-207384-DE

Estate of RICHARD J.
JOHNSON, deceased.
Date of birth:
12/17/1931.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS: The
decendent, Richard
J. Johnson, died
03/22/2020.

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

forever barred unless
presented to Cynthia
M. Kirkwood, personal
representative, or
to both the probate
court at 1115 Allison
NW, Grand Rapids,
and the personal
representative within 4
months after the date
of publication of this
notice.

June 10, 2020

John T. Conroy
(P43709)
410 Bridge Street NW
Grand Rapids, MI
49504
616-454-4119

Cynthia M. Kirkwood
1115 Allison NW
Grand Rapids, MI
49534
616-914-5698

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

classifieds

for sale

ALL STEEL TABLE - 72" L x 30" W x 40" H, 1 1/2" square tube frame. Wood shelf, 10" from floor, \$225. Call Jean at 616-897-7633.

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

YARD SIGNS - 18"x24" 1 sided \$10, 2-sided \$15 + tax. Includes stakes. For honoring seniors and pandemic messages only. Call Lowell Litho, M-Th 8-3 or email: litho@lowellbuyersguide.com

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

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

FREEAD! - 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 & must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555.

FREEAD! - 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 & must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555.

help wanted

HIRING - for grounds maintenance and general building maintenance, part-time, pay based on experience. Call 616-293-5653.

for rent

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

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials 558-2900.

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3116 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private, great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. All Vets Coffee Hour the 3rd Thursday of each month at Keiser's. Bring a friend. Call John at 299-0486 or 897-8303.

WHISTLE STOP MINI STORAGE - 12661 Vergennes, N. of Lowell. 5x10; 10x10; 10x20; 10x30; 12x40. Fenced lighted, key code entry. Call for more information, 897-8872.

misc.

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-353-4896

DIRECTV - Switch and Save! \$39.99/month. Select All-Included Package. 155 Channels. 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand. FREE Genie HD DVR Upgrade. Premium movie channels, FREE for 3 mos! Call 1-855-293-4417

services

TRACTOR MAN - aggregate driveway up-keep, lawn prep, bucket/fork work, food plots, gardens, brush/field mowing. 616-272-8097, kaamcosps@gmail.com

MOWING, CLEANUPS - mulching, driveway grading, food plots, pressure washing, decks & more. Call SSP Lawn Care & Snowplowing, 616-897-6400.

TERRY RISNER ROOFING - Re-roofs & new construction. Free estimates. Licensed & insured. Call 616-291-9250.

CARPENTER WANTS JOBS, JOBS, JOBS - New homes, remodeling, additions, flooring, siding, decks, kitchens, baths, plans drawn. Licensed since 1967. References. Mel Cooke, 676-9239. No Sunday calls please.

STICKNEY ROOFING - A local, licensed & insured company. Tearoffs & new construction. Free estimates. Call 616-293-9772.

services

PROFESSIONAL TREE CLIMBER NEEDS WORK - Call Dan, 616-970-3832.

FREEAD! - 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 classified ads, and must be paid for when ad is placed. Call 897-9555 or email to: classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

WHEN IN AN ACCIDENT - YOU CAN CHOOSE WHO TOWS YOUR VEHICLE - Request J&K Roadwide Service, 616-690-0983. Towing, tire change, jump starts, fuel delivery.

STUMP GRINDING - Call Dan for free estimate, 616-970-3832.

NOREEN K. MYERS, ATTORNEY AT LAW - Compassionate, experienced, effective legal representation. Specialties include: wills & trusts, work related injuries, employment discrimination. 307 E. Main, Lowell, 897-5460.

services

TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE - 5400 Ivan Rd., Saranac, 616-642-9180. 30 years experience, state certified, licensed & insured. Hours Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm. Dave Traver head mechanic.

SEAMLESS GUTTER - Bleam Eavestroughing. Free estimates, 50 colors, leaf guards. Since 1959. Choose the experience! (616) 765-3333 or 1-877-945-RAIN. www.bleameaves.com

WORK WANTED - Double D's Tree & Handyman Service. 40' & 70' bucket truck, tree trimming & removal, gutter cleaning, window washing, power washing, buildings, barns, homes, decks, etc. Insured. Call Dave Delinsky, 616-212-3008. Free estimates.

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. Ph. 897-9555 with any questions.

memorials

KROPF, MARK TAYLOR In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Mark whom God called home so suddenly 50 years ago today, June 18, 1970 at the age of four.

As we wonder who you'd be today, It seems like only yesterday you were taken from our lives,

What gets us through tomorrow is knowing we'll see you again some day.

Forever in our hearts, Your family

sales

JOIN THE ALTO DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY - and Alto Meadows as multi-family garage sales take place 9 to 5 on Fri., June 19 and Sat., June 20.

wanted

I WANT TO BUY - a refrigerator, stove, washer & dryer. Have cash. Call 517-204-0600.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of puzzle solutions with words like SOUSA, ONLAY, RCAF, BENEFITED, OHM, SEAM, SAKES, DELINEATE, SARIS, PSNEB, SATED, AMAS, LARI, MRNA.

Grid of numbers for a crossword puzzle.

Large grid of letters with words circled, including HUMPHREYS, ORWELL, CHICKEN, YOUNG, FARMER, LONDON, AUNT, TOWN, GARDEN, YOUNG, RIVER, HILL, FARM, HOUSE, GARDEN, YOUNG, RIVER, HILL, FARM, HOUSE.



Senate passes bill to train police in de-escalation

Police officers would be required to take additional training in de-escalation techniques, implicit bias and crisis intervention for those with mental health issues under legislation the Senate quickly passed on Thursday, June 4.

The Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety voted 7-0 Thursday morning to report SB 945, sponsored by Sen. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor). Fewer than two hours later, the full Senate voted 38-0 to adopt the bill and send it to the House for consideration.

The bill calls for police training, as of January 2022, in the use of “verbal and physical tactics to minimize the need for the use of force, with an emphasis on communication, negotiation, de-escalation techniques.” The training would teach the “use of the lowest level of force that is a possible and safe response to an identified threat.”

Sen. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) offered an amendment in committee to require 12 hours of continuing education yearly for police in 2022 and 24 hours as of 2023. A Chang amendment on the floor makes the training “subject to appropriation.”

Passage came after Chang and Irwin both spoke in

support of the bill from the angle of implicit bias and racism in American culture. Irwin said in his speech on the Senate floor that all parents worry about their children, their health, whether they will thrive and find love and success in life.

“Now I want you to imagine what the parent of a black or brown child in America faces,” Irwin said. “On top of all of that, they face fear and anxiety that their children will be a victim of the police that we hire to protect and serve. We must change this.”

Concern was raised in committee by at least one police agency that communities won’t have the funding to cover the cost of the increased training. Robert Stevenson of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police told the Judiciary Committee that the curriculum for police training should be set by Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. Nowhere else is curriculum determined by legislation - not curriculum for teachers, not curriculum for doctors - he said. He also argued that training for police is underfunded by Michigan, explaining that the state government pays \$142 per police officer a year, but pays \$640 per person for

dispatcher training and \$240 for corrections officer training.

Irwin responded in committee that he appreciated the funding concern Stevenson had pointed out.

“When I introduced this bill it really was not a response, a direct response to the George Floyd situation,” Irwin said. “As my colleagues know, you can’t pull a bill off the shelf and get it introduced in a week in the wake of a tragedy. This bill was actually circulated on the Senate floor the week before Mr. Floyd was killed. This is something that was written in response to countless other incidents of police brutality all over the country.”

Sen. Tom Barrett (R-Charlotte) said he was concerned about the continuing education requirement and how that would be paid for.

“I have some police departments in my community that I represent that have maybe one full-time police officer and one or two part-time police officers in the community,” Barrett said. “What is going to be their methodology for providing 24 hours of community education in law enforcement?”

Barrett voted no on the amendment to add continuing education, which was adopted 6-1. Barrett then voted yes to report SB 945 to the Senate floor.

Following the passage of the bill, several Senators made statements for the record regarding racism in America. Sen. Jeremy Moss (D-Southfield) noted that he represents a majority black district.

“As a white person, I’m given the benefit of the doubt,” Moss said. “George Floyd was not given the benefit of the doubt. Ahmaud Arbery was not given the benefit of the doubt. They were approached and someone assigned worth to them and they were murdered, all within a matter of moments. That is an injustice. Racism has killed and is killing black people. And systemic racism is attacking every district in this state. Racism is attacking the future of the black child who won’t have the same educational opportunities, just because of the ZIP code she lives in. Racism is attacking the future of the black teen, who could get into the same teenage mischief as his white friend but suffer harsher, longer, life-altering penalties.”

Sen. Mallory McMorrow (D-Royal Oak) said she has heard prejudiced comments in city commission meetings in her district, like the resident who wanted to

ban DJs from local bars “because that music attracts ‘those people,’ he said, ‘and we don’t want the problems of Detroit coming here.’ I was shocked and appalled and I legitimately did not know what to say. So I said nothing.”

In phone calls to her office, McMorrow has heard other bigoted comments.

“I was shocked, appalled and I did not know what to say,” McMorrow said. “So, again, I said nothing. [...] Over the past few weeks, black residents of my district have challenged me to be louder, to speak up. One mother told me how important it is because she fears for her son and for his future. She said, ‘We need you.’ She challenged me to be louder. Our colleagues challenged me to be better and to all of them, I’m sorry. In my uncertainty of what to say, too often I’ve said nothing, which has done nothing to stop the embedded racism and systemic failures that sustained an 80 percent white district two miles north of an 80 percent black city. I’m sorry, and I will no longer be silent.”

Sen. Adam Hollier (D-Detroit) told his fellow Senators of the moment when “I realized very clearly that the police were not there to protect me.”

In high school, Hollier was driving a friend home when he got stuck in a ditch on a dirt road. He at first thought it was great when police showed because he expected they would help. And he said he wasn’t surprised when police asked for his ID, if he had a record, if he had warrants, if he had drugs.

“Then he called for backup to include the canine unit,” Hollier said. “And then he asked me again if I had drugs, if I had warrants, why I was there. I said I was dropping him off, I’m stuck, waiting for a tow truck. Tow truck arrives and I imagined he was going to leave. He didn’t. He waited until we were on the hitch and him and the other squad car proceeded to follow us until we were back in the city of Detroit.”

Sen. Marshall Bullock II (D-Detroit) told of a traffic stop he had with his three elementary school-aged children, all under the age of 8, in the car.

“Me and my kind, we are just a threat. We are always the enemy just because of our ebony hue,” Bullock said. When the red and blue lights come on, he said “you firmly have to ask your babies to play the robot game.”

Bullock made sure to roll down all windows, put his ID and insurance on the dashboard and place both hands out the vehicle with palms down to prove that he

was not a threat.

“And you pray before the two white officers with hands on guns approach your vehicle from both sides and engage,” Bullock said. “Just imagine that emotion that I go through. Needless to say, the encounter is rude, unsubstantiated and does not result in any infractions, due to my engagement, my own personal behavior of humility where I have to tolerate and endure that humiliation and disrespect. My only infraction is being guilty of driving while black in a nice vehicle, because one of the only questions that they asked was how much did the vehicle cost. This is when my children learned their father was the threat, the enemy to some police in America, and they were guilty by association.”

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Peter Lucido (R-Shelby Twp.) lent his support to the bill, issuing a statement after the vote.

“Continued instances of police brutality in America prove that more should be done to train and prepare law enforcement agencies on how to peaceably de-escalate situations and improve community relations, especially in communities of color,” Lucido said.

Attorney General Dana Nessel lauded the passage of the bill.

“This will not undo years of overly aggressive police actions, but it does serve as an acknowledgement of the problems with how we police and the steps we must take to drive change in the days, months and years to come. We cannot allow the system to continue to fail communities of color,” Nessel said.

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard also issued a statement in support of the bill.

“This is smart policy which all agencies should be employing to prevent a tragic death like that of George Floyd,” Bouchard said. “I am proud that the Sheriff’s office has been a leader in providing this training to our men and women for years.”

He said his agency already provides training that covers diversity, appropriate response, use of force, de-escalation techniques, respect, sensitivity, response to vulnerable populations and crisis intervention.

“While I believe training and better hiring is paramount to keeping our communities safe, I will also not tolerate any deputy who brings mistrust and tarnish to the badge,” Bouchard said.

Today: Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Wednesday, June 17 is the 169th day of 2020. There are still 197 days remaining until the end of this year.

Historical Events

1579: Sir Francis Drake claims “Nova Albion” (modern California) for England.

1631: Mumtaz Mahal dies during childbirth. Her husband, emperor Shah Jahan I, will spend the next 17 years building the Taj Mahal in tribute to her.

1673: French explorers Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet reach the Mississippi River and become the first Europeans to make a detailed account of its course.

1767: Samuel Wallis, an English sea captain, sights Tahiti and is considered the first European to reach the island.

1863: Civil War Battle of Aldie in Loudoun County, VA, part of the Gettysburg Campaign.

1876: 1,500 Sioux and Cheyenne warriors, led by Crazy Horse, beat back General George Crook’s forces at Rosebud Creek in the Montana Territory.

1877: The Nez Perce defeat the US Cavalry at White Bird Canyon in the Idaho Territory.

1885: The Statue of Liberty arrives in New York Harbor.

1898: Establishment of the US Navy Hospital Corps.

1930: President Herbert Hoover signs the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act into law.

1932: The “Bonus Army” of around 1,000 World War I veterans amasses at the US Capitol.

1940: At least 3,000 are killed when the RMS Lancastria is attacked and sunk by the Luftwaffe near Saint-Nazaire, France.

1944: Iceland declares independence from Denmark and becomes a republic.

1960: The Nez Perce tribe is awarded \$4 million for 7 million acres of land that had been undervalued at \$.04/acre in a 1863 treaty.

1963: In Abington School District v. Schempp, the Supreme Court rules 8-1 against requiring Bible verses and Christian prayers in public schools.

New/used cars in high demand at Betten Baker GMC

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Production of new automobiles was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, creating a demand for vehicles that far outpaces the supply.

“We just had our best month ever, business is wonderful,” said Betten Baker GMS general manager Charlie Jeffrey. “Our biggest problem now is we’re running out of cars. But it’s a big problem, because if we don’t have anything to sell we can’t make any money. We won’t be able to get much more inventory until maybe July. We have 20 stores, so we’re shuffling cars between stores. I normally have 20 to 25 of our best-selling trucks on the grounds, right now I literally have two to last the entire month.”

Jeffrey said that dealerships all over the country are dealing with the same lack of inventory.

“GM was on strike for six weeks last fall, then you combine that with being off production for basically two months this year, we’ve lost four months of production of cars,” Jeffrey said. “That never gets made up, it’s just gone, it’s time you can’t get back. If you think about how many cars GM can make in four months, that’s a lot of cars.”

Jeffrey also said that used car auctions have been closed due to the pandemic, so used cars are also in high demand. Those auctions are where many dealerships obtain the majority of their used vehicle stock. He also said that their service department has a long waiting list for appointments.

“Our whole flow of things has kind of gotten bottlenecked, but we’re doing the best we can,” Jeffrey said. “Customers are being understanding.”

Jeffrey said they have placed bottles of hand sanitizer throughout the showroom and moved the furniture around to create a more socially-distant environment. Customers are now welcome to come by the showroom anytime without making an appointment.

FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

FOOD GARDEN WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

FOOD GARDEN WORD SEARCH

AMEND
 BASIL
 BEANS
 BROCCOLI
 CARROTS

CORN
 CUCUMBERS
 EGGPLANTS
 FRESH
 HEALTHY
 LETTUCE
 PARSLEY
 PEAS

PEPPERS
 PICK
 POTATOES
 RADISHES
 SOIL
 SPINACH
 SQUASHES
 STRAWBERRIES

THYME
 TOMATOES
 ZUCCHINI

Guess Who?

I am a singer/songwriter born in Brooklyn on June 17, 1943. I attended Julliard. Some of my first work was writing jingles for businesses like State Farm Insurance. I am well-known for my own hits, and I also played piano during Bette Midler shows.

Answer: Barry Manilow

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to gardens.

T E W R A

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Water

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20			21						22					
23					24	25						26	27	
		28			29				30					
31	32				33		34	35	36			37		
38				39	40							41		
42				43					44	45				
46		47	48				49		50					
51				52	53	54			55			56	57	
		58							59					
60	61						62	63				64		
65						66						67		
68						69						70		

CLUES ACROSS

- Japanese classical theater
- Chess pieces
- Pieces of writing
- Doctors' group
- Capital of Guam
- Type of turtle
- Swiss river
- MLB Hall of Famer
- Places to sit
- Fancy rides
- One of Washington's Tri-Cities
- Without class
- Male child
- Keeps you cool
- Biblical place
- Italian city
- District in central Turkey
- Job for a grad student
- Central nervous system
- Arrange in steps
- Witch
- Promotional material
- Having certain appendages
- Approaches
- One who did it (slang)
- Of I
- Blood relation
- Works out

CLUES DOWN

- Civil Rights group
- Metropolis
- Badgers
- Regular business given to a store
- Gets older
- A bundle of banknotes
- Midway between north and northwest
- Takes to the sea
- Prestigious film prize: ___ d'or
- Baltimore ballplayer
- Removed
- Term of respect
- Genus containing pigs
- Illumined

- One who symbolizes something
- Member of a Turkic people
- The academic world
- "Key to the Highway" bluesman
- Hang-ups
- Long, leafless flower stalk
- Categorize
- Loads
- Indicates position
- Unreasonable
- Dorm worker
- Dweller
- Welsh female name meaning "snow"
- Offering again
- National capital
- Firm, dry and brittle
- 007's creator
- Allied H.Q.
- Mackerels
- Month of the Hindu year
- Not odd
- Belonging to a thing
- "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- Religion
- Equal, prefix

Spouses combine dental practices in Lowell



Angie and Marty Vredenburg

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Dr. Angie Vredenburg, DDS has been practicing dentistry in Hastings for over two decades. Now she is packing up her tools and, starting on Monday, June 22, she will join her husband Dr. Martin Vredenburg's dental practice MDV Dental in Lowell on Monday, June 22.

Vredenburg grew up in Ortonville, MI, a small town about 20 miles SE of Flint, but spent a lot of time in Lowell as a kid because her uncle lived here.

"I babysat for my family dentist growing up," Vredenburg said. "Their office was attached to their home, and I spent a lot of time in that dental office.

It definitely sparked my curiosity about the field. Lowell is a nice town, I always liked visiting my cousins there. About once a year or so we'd go to the

"Doing dentistry, you build close relationships with people over time, getting their trust," Vredenburg said. "You start learning about their families



Baptist church and do other different things there in Lowell. Originally, when I was younger, I actually wanted to be a pediatrician when I grew up. I was interested in lots of different things, but I ended up becoming interested in speech pathology. I got my bachelor's degree in speech therapy [in 1992 from Michigan State University], but then ended up applying to dental school."

After MSU she attended University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry, where she met her future husband Marty, a native of Lowell. Marty's father, Clark Vredenburg, operated a dental office in Lowell since the 60s, and Marty took it over when Clark passed away.

"Clark was a great dentist and a really good mentor," Vredenburg said. "I got to spend about a year getting to know him. He was a good father and a good father-in-law."

She belongs to the American Dental Association, Michigan Dental Association and the West Michigan District Dental Society and has worked in the Hastings office of Dr. James Peurach since 1996.

and their lives. I feel very close to a lot of my patients, and the co-workers I've had there as well. They become part of your family. I'm hoping some of them will find me in Lowell. It's not that far of a drive!"

Angie and Marty have three sons, they volunteer in their sons' schools and at their church. Vredenburg said she also enjoys golfing, football, gardening, reading, running, yoga and cooking. During the lockdown, Vredenburg said they did "a lot of landscaping and painting, stuff that had been on the list for a few years."

She enjoyed the downtime but can't wait to get back to work and said she's excited about getting started in Lowell.

"I'm looking forward to getting to know a lot of the people in Lowell," Vredenburg said. "I've gotten to know some from coming in and out of town through the years and through Marty. And I'm also really looking forward to getting involved in the community more."

MDV Dental is located at 1150 N. Hudson. Call 616-897-8429 or visit mdvdental.com for more information.



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