# the lowell ger

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## Gertrude Schlernitzauer, sharpshooting champion



pages 8 - 9

### **Drive in** comedy show



page 2

#### **Lowell Museum** summerfest



page 7



## Schools superintendent Greg Pratt to retire

According to a letter sent to district parents on Monday, July 14, Lowell Area Schools superintendent plans to retire in August.

"Mr. Pratt has served our district and our community with integrity and distinction since his appointment nearly 15 years ago," the letter read. "Under his leadership our district has grown, academic athletic programs and have flourished and we have developed leaders who served our district well before moving on to lead other districts in West Michigan. He has been an

outstanding leader and we wish him all the best in his future endeavors."

According to the letter, the school board will begin working on the hiring process for a new superintendent this fall.

Nate Fowler, currently the district's curriculum director, will be interim superintendent while the board searches for Pratt's replacement. Fowler has been employed by Lowell schools for 22 years as a teacher, a coach and as an administrator.



**Gregory Pratt (file photo)** 

## First pieces of new Showboat are delivered

The first two massive pieces of the new Lowell Showboat arrived from Onaway, MI via two wide-load semi trucks on Wednesday, July 8.

"It's awesome, and it's great for the city," said Lowell city councilor Jim Salzwedel. "It's good to see part of it finally show up, but we've still got a long way to go to finish. The committee has done a great job of getting us to where we're at today."

The pieces were originally supposed to show up around 1 pm, but there were some minor 'road delays' that caused them to arrive just before 4 pm. A small crowd of Lowellians showed up to welcome the two huge, grey chunks of metal, which were removed from the trucks with a crane and placed into the work area next to Unity School.

"I thought everything went well," said Lowell public works director Dan Czarnecki. "I do not know of any hiccups that took place yesterday. Sometimes trucking delays of large items like the boat can't be avoided. They are told the route to take when they obtain their 'oversized' permits."

More pieces were delivered the following day, July 9, and there will be at least one more shipment of pieces as the work progresses. Construction is scheduled to take approximately eight weeks.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the finished product," Salzwedel said. "I think the community will be very proud of this when it's all said and done."





## Inaugural drive in comedy show draws large crowd but mixed reviews

by Brendan A. Sanders contributing reporter

For the first time ever, Lowell hosted a drive-in comedy show. However, some left with mixed feelings about the comedy.

The show took place at the Lowell Fairgrounds

released a public statement about the performance on social media.

"Friends, I was raised that it is inevitable in life that things go wrong from time to time, and the important thing is how one was not representative of the wonderful sponsors supporting our community and myself. I would like to thank those that attended the show, but again make an extreme apology for those that experienced a

done that. A few days before the show I read a Facebook post saying it was a PG13 show. I immediately contacted the person who booked me and let them know I was strictly adult. Asked

Lowell Showboat, more than 40 vehicles turned up for the event that began as the sun began to set at 8 pm. A T-shirt giveaway kicked off the event with a T-shirt cannon launching shirts toward vehicles.

jokes of the night, talking about the water treatment plant next to the venue and the Mackinaw Bridge, among many other topics.

Donovan talked about the outdoor show and the differences of a normal



The crowd enjoyed the show from in, on and near their vehicles.

next to the water treatment plant. The town welcomed two comedians for a night of fun: comedian Derek Bartlett and headlining act Jerry Donovan.

Bartlett was criticized for his act, and a few vehicles left during his performance.

It was originally advertised as a PG-13 show, but Bartlett made numerous jokes at the expense of LGBTQ+ individuals and African Americans, and about the police having a "quick trigger."

The day after the performance, one the event's organizers, Party Bug, Creative

handles it when it does," the post read. "Saturday, I found myself in one of these situations. Many of you know that I was helping pull together and promote [the] comedy in the park show at the Fairgrounds. Some of those that attended found one of the comedians to be offensive, as did I. This was supposed to be rated PG-13 and he was out of line. I was not responsible for hiring these comics, but because I was involved, I feel I bear responsibility for his behavior and am very sorry for his obscene statements and actions taken in many topics. Please know that material



**Derek Bartlett** 

part of the show that was inappropriate. I will make sure this doesn't happen again and it is my best interest to look out for our community."

"I was reading them, and the guidelines for PG-13 are actually really loose," Chambers said in a phone interview on Monday. "And it can be hard for a bar comic to work clean. You can't please everybody. When we do the Larkin's shows, it's the same thing. You always get a couple people who leave. It is what it is. I'll take full responsibility for anybody who was upset with the comics. Don't blame the businesses or sponsors, they had nothing to do with it."

Bartlett told his side of the story in a comment on the Creative Party Bug Facebook page.

"When I was asked to do the show I was never told PG-13," Bartlett wrote. "If that was the case I would have declined. Been there if there were going to be kids there. I was told no kids, do your act. Was told being on radio so had to be a bit cleaner. I said I'll try but no guarantees. So good to go. When I got there told another person about my act they said just watch the language due to radio. [Five] minutes before going on I was asked if I would be clean. I explained I will watch my language but my material was not and people knew that. I was told language was fine, just subject matter would be an issue."

The event was hosted by a collaboration between numerous local businesses, spearheaded by Mike Chambers, longtime host of the Larkin's Other Place Comedy show, his brother Marty Chambers, co-owner of Red Barn Consignments and Antiques, and Ashley Dunn, owner of Creative Party Bug.

With proceeds for the event going to the new



Chambers impressed by the overall size of the crowd for the evening when he was interviewed on the night of the event.

"It was our game plan to see the crowd and continue these as long as they keep coming," Chambers said. "It was a very strong turnout for the first time. We have ideas for possibly doing a drive-in movie or something like that in the future. We would like to get more vendors involved; we learned a few things tonight."

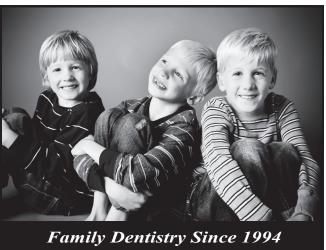
The event concluded the headline crowd as he made the best

crowd to a crowd such as this.

"I've done outdoor shows before, never next to a wastewater treatment plant," Donovan said. "Derek was right at home, so I was happy about that. The outdoor shows are more challenging because you don't have that immediate reaction, so we just kind of have to sense it. The horns were amazing; it was absolutely awesome. There's been times where we've been heckled, but never honked at. They start honking and you wonder if they like that or hate that!"

Donovan was happy to perform in times such as this, as he felt the community needed a night to laugh.

"Well, it's times like this when laughter is the most important," Donovan said. "Sometimes we've got to step back and not take everything so seriously and just get out and laugh, relate with one another, and just realize that we are in a great place. It doesn't performance by Jerry matter what anybody says, Donovan. He brought we're in the greatest place quite a few honks from the in the world. Laughter just helps keep the thing going."



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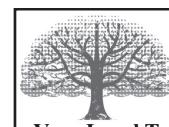
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# When Gov. Whitmer called for PPE, suppliers could not get DTMB on the line

Early in the COVID crisis, as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer was "on TV virtually begging for help" finding personal protective equipment, two suppliers said Wednesday they had large inventories on hand but could get no response from her office or the state's procurement office.

William Mathis, owner of Med Source 1, told the Joint Select Committee on the COVID-19 Pandemic he reached out to Rep. Jack O'Malley (R-Lake Ann) for help, but O'Malley couldn't get a response either.

"I would watch on TV a report that the state cannot find this equipment," Mathis said. "We are in desperate need of PPE gear. I would then contact Jack O'Malley, usually in 24 to 48 hours to say, 'Jack, I have four million masks sitting in Chicago right now for inspection.' 'Jack I have 100 million boxes of rubber gloves that can inspected in New York and can be in Michigan's hands in 24 hours.'"

Ken Williamson of Platinum Global Sourcing told a similar story, saying he made his first call to the state March 22. He placed orders for PPE from overseas early on but could get no response from the state. He ended up selling the gear to small businesses that also needed the PPE.

Brom Stibitz, acting director for the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, said they quickly realized procurement was going to be overwhelmed with resource requests so they formed a Procurement Triage Team and gave them targets for what gear was expected to be needed.

Once the state hit a target, Stibitz said, the team might not have returned every call from suppliers but moved on to other targets.

The team tracked down 5,000 leads and made 628 purchases, spending \$247 million. The purchases included 5.1 million face/eye shields, 50 million gloves, 7.25 million gowns, 29.7 million respirator masks, 10.5 million surgical masks and 458 ventilators.

Stibitz, who was in the witness chair for four hours and 10 minutes Wednesday, said the state hit its targets for procurement and hospitals never ran out of PPE.

He said the scale of the COVID pandemic has been "just vastly different" than in other emergencies.

"Just to give you a sense, when the Midland dam broke, there were 40 resource requests from our emergency management coordinators," Stibitz said. "As of about a week ago, during COVID, there have been 12,000 resource requests."

After the hearing, committee chair Rep. Matt Hall (R-Emmett Twp.) issued a statement that said he found it "interesting" that as the PPE providers said they were trying to supply the state, "the Whitmer administration has shifted to saying they hit all of their targets with procuring and distributing this equipment."

"We have seen images of hospital workers wearing trash bags as improvised PPE," Hall said. "Other frontline workers have experienced shortages. This shows that their targets were wrong."

Hall said the information in committee Wednesday "brings into question the administration's ability to handle a second surge of COVID-19."

Mathis said Wednesday he never did get a response from the procurement office.

"Around the April-May timeframe, I just quit offering products to the state of Michigan because I got nowhere, and other states were actually making purchases," Mathis said. "We had a purchase order for one million masks for the state of North Carolina. [...] We sold a lot of gloves in Miami, sold a lot of masks in Miami and New York. For some reason we couldn't crack Michigan."

Williamson said he left several messages on the state's procurement hotline but never got a return call. He reached out to Sen. Peter Lucido (R-Shelby Twp.) and Sen. Curt VanderWall (R-Ludington) who also did not get responses.

"At that point we were starting to get a bit frustrated because we saw her on TV morning, afternoon, night begging for help," Williamson said.

PPE supplies and who should be providing them led to a war of words between Whitmer and President Donald Trump early on in the pandemic.

State lawmakers have since proposed that the state should have its own stockpile of PPE in the future in case there is another wave of COVID or some other pandemic.

DTMB faced other



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

challenges since the beginning of the pandemic. One was "astronomical" growth in daily users accessing MiLogin, the single gateway to state sites.

Before COVID, the system had daily new users of 5,210. During the pandemic, the number grew to 54,500 daily new users.

Public sessions per hour previously were about 2,000.

At the peak, there were 73,000 public sessions per hour, Stibitz said.

Stibitz said the performance of the state's help desk for state employees, as those workers transitioned to working from home, was successful. With help desk use expected to increase as a result, the help desk actually improved its response time by 10 percent.

# 'Unprecedented' \$3M fine against biz blamed for 2019 holiday booze shortage

The state announced an "unprecedented" \$3 million fine levied against one of its spirits distributors tied to a liquor supply shortage during the 2019 holiday season.

Attorney General
Dana Nessel's office
said Republic National
Distributing Co.
acknowledged all 88
alleged violations of the
state's liquor control code

against the distributor back in late 2019.

The Michigan Liquor Control Commission took action following reports of liquor shipping delays and shortages tied to RNDC, which is one of three of the state's distilled spirits distributors.

RNDC had tied the delays to its move to a new facility, and in a statement Wednesday

it said its investment in "numerous improvements to operations at its state-of-the-art liquor warehousing and distribution" ended up not being up to "MLCC nor RNDC standards."

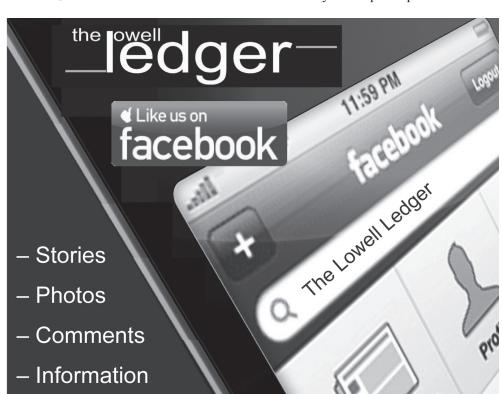
The press release noted that any downturn in retail spirit sales due to unstocked shelves also impacts the state's bottom line as the sole wholesaler of spirits products in the state, and last year distilled spirit sales in Michigan topped nearly \$1.5 billion.

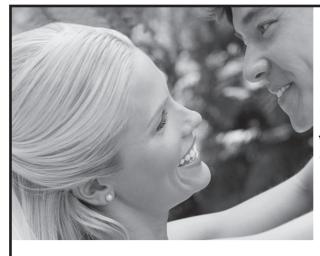
The AG's office said RNDC's violations included failure to deliver liquor orders, failure to maintain an adequate physical plant and failure to provide records requested by the MLCC.

Besides the \$3 million fine – which Nessel's office said "is believed to be unprecedented in liquor regulatory history" – the MLCC will approve an auditor to conduct an independent review of RNDC's distributing business. The company also needs to go on probation for a year and submit monthly compliance reports to the MLCC during probation.

"We are glad to have this matter behind us," said Joe Gigliotti, the RNDC regional president of control states, in a statement. "We have apologized for the short-term difficulties that startup problems caused our customers and the state."

MLCC Chair Pat Gagliardi and MLCC member Ed Clemente also were mentioned in the AG's office release.





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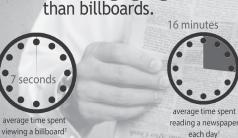






## NEWSPAPERS Outperform Billboards in Michigan the lowell dger

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than billboards. **79%** Eight in ten newspaper readers took action as a result of reading a newspaper ad in the past 30 days  $^5$ 

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2.3% of adults made a purchase in the last 90 days as the result of a billboard ad<sup>4</sup>

Sources: ¹eMarketer;²Lamar Advertising; ³Triad/Coda Ventures - The Newspaper Generation Study; ⁴Pulse of America 2018; ⁵NAA

## U of M to join other universities opposing restrictions on international students

Michigan will join other universities suing Immigration and Customs Enforcement over a policy that says international students face deportation if they don't take in-person classes in the fall.

Michael Barr, dean of the university's Gerald R. Ford School for Public addressed the Policy, university's international students on Wednesday,

excellent education they deserve, while ensuring educational that our offerings comply with immigration policy," he wrote. "As President [Mark] Schlissel stated, our current understanding is that the University of Michigan's planned hybrid approach to educational offerings is consistent with the guidance, permitting international students in the US to take in-person

restrictions" on students.

The university expected to file an amicus brief in existing cases, joining Harvard and MIT, but when those briefs will be submitted is not immediately known.

The Student **Exchange Visitor Program** announced modifications to temporary exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online classes due to the pandemic on Monday.





Dr. Mark Schlissel 🔮 @DrMarkSchlissel - Jul 7

I wish to assure international @UMichStudents that based on initial review, recent restrictions by @DHSgov do not conflict with plans for fall. @UMich continues to oppose arbitrary restrictions on our students who contribute so greatly to our university. myumi.ch/R5mk5

saying in a statement the Ford School community supports efforts to "reverse or substantially change the short-sighted, egregious announced [Monday, July 6] by the US Department of Homeland Security."

"I understand the stress this new uncertainty is causing," Barr wrote. "The Ford School is committed to working with our international students to provide the

remote courses, and permitting students outside the US to study with University leadership to further understand and respond to the guidance."

Schlissel denounced the government's policy Tuesday, tweeting assurances that government's restrictions "do not conflict with [U of M's] plans for fall" and the university will continue arbitrary "oppose

Among those rules were that students "may not take a full online course load remotely. We will work and remain in the United States.

> According university, there are more than 7,000 non-resident alien students at the university in fall 2019.



## CORRECTION

An article in last week's Ledger stated that Mike Chambers was a co-owner of Red Barn Consignments & Antiques. This was an error, his brother Marty Chambers is actually the coowner.

# viewDoint

## to the editor

Dear Editor,

We've owned our business in Lowell for over twenty years, are members of the Chamber and greatly appreciate the local support we've received after having come back from a two and a half month shut down due to COVID. I am positive we're not the only merchant that feels this way.

I was extremely saddened and disappointed to have learned last week

that a fellow merchant had compiled an alphabetical list of ALL Lowell merchants and posted to their personal Facebook page, making it public for others to see and share.

While this spreadsheet contained harmless information such as business name, address, owners and contact information, it also listed categories such as political affiliation, causes

COVID 19 supported, response, BLM response and supporting evidence. Under the supporting evidence column were instructions, "Please use objective language and use top or most recent three incidents/personal testimonies." To have these instructions included within the column heading made it clear that this spreadsheet was intended for use by more people than just its creator.

It's obvious, to me anyway, this list could be used to target and harass certain businesses, and unfortunately it has. Fellow

merchants, I know that we come in all different persuasions and until now have enjoyed our individual uniqueness. That is why having learned of this list is so distressing. This country is so divided right now and our little community is not immune. I also know that the majority of our merchants are so much better than this!

I am certainly not the only business with longevity in this community, and won't stand silent when a business could be destroyed by a few small-minded individuals with an agenda.

Nancy Stroosnyder Lowell Township

## sharing the vision



LAS Superintendent Greg Pratt

#### **Renew Education**

The Board of Education and administration committed to maintaining our facilities in good condition for thousands of students and community members that use our facilities on a daily basis. This is why, on November 5, 2013, our voters approved a 1 mill Building & Site Fund proposal, commonly known as a Sinking Fund. Since then, we have been able to replace roofs, upgrade equipment to save energy costs and maintain our parking lots and driveways with asphalt replacement. Without the approval in 2013, the district would have had to shift millions of general fund dollars from precious programs and extra-curricular activities address necessary infrastructure repairs. On behalf of the students, staff and community members that have used our facilities over the last seven years, we thank you for your support.

With that 2013 Building & Site Fund proposal coming to an end, we will be asking our community, on **August 4, 2020**, to replace the Building & Site Fund.

This proposal, if approved by the voters, will replace and extend the authority last approved by the electors in 2013. This proposal allows the use of proceeds of the millage for all purposes permitted by law as well as newly authorized security improvements and acquisition or upgrading technology. responsibility as stewards of the community's assets and trust is to ensure that our citizens are aware of this proposal and if approved by the voters are clearly informed of the needs that will be addressed over the coming years. Here are some facts that the voters should know:

## WHAT WILL THE MONEY BE USED FOR?

Building & Site Fund dollars are highly restricted. Generally, Building & Site Fund expenditures are for building/facility renovations, additions, or property purchase/improvements. Examples of how Building & Site Fund dollars can be

Sharing the Vision, continued, page 12

# 

## 125 years ago Lowell Ledger July 19, 1895

Mark this now and profit thereby: a certain Portland man now knows more about gasoline than he did a little while ago. He started to fill a can which had been standing in the sun for some time with gasoline, but of course the stuff exploded when it struck the hot tin, and a badly burned hand and face resulted.

One of the pleasant features of the recent McDannell-Brown wedding, was the bringing together of so many of the schoolmates of the bride—not the classmates in college, or later years—but schoolmates of childhood, whose youthful lessons were learned together in the old white schoolhouse which still does duty as a temple of learning for the youth of Lowell.

The fire alarm was sounded about three p.m., Monday, and our fire company responded quickly in full force, every man being present. Teams were at hand and the hose cart and hook and ladder truck with the boys aboard made a quick trip to the addition where the grass in the yards of H. Shepard and Chet Leary was on fire threatening the houses. Residents of the neighborhood had made a hot fight and saved serious damage; but the boys are entitled to credit for a good turn out.

## 100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 22, 1920

Some one with a Ford truck rammed into the hydrant at the corner of Main and Washington Street one night last week, smashed the hydrant and let loose a tremendous stream of water that soon emptied the city reservoir. The stream reached the electric light wires and formed a circuit and a blaze of lightning played from the rising and falling stream, which must have made the hair of the wreckless driver stand on end; but he was lucky enough to live and get away unknown, leaving the village taxpayers to pay the bills.

The Edwin Fallas Canning company's new boarding house is nearing completion and promises to be a big asset in the company's thriving business, especially in meeting the help shortage proposition, should such

Several persons narrowly escaped death or injury when Elmer Howk's city delivery truck went into the ditch on the Grand Rapids road beyond Ada Sunday afternoon. In the car were Mrs. Elmer Howk, who was driving, her sister, Mrs. John Bannon, with her baby, Mrs. Howk's two young children, and Mrs. Merle Jacobson.

## 75 years The Lowell Ledger July 19, 1945

Edward Bert Thompson, 59, night watchman for the Lowell Municipal Plant, unexpectedly passed away early Wednesday a. m. at his home at 216 E. Main St., of a heart attack. He is survived by his widow, Helen, ten children, six girls and four boys, all at home except one son, Edward, with the Navy in the south Pacific, and a married daughter, Mrs. Harold Post of Belding.

Sgt. William Read, son of Mrs. Percy J. Read of Lowell, was among the group of the 134th Ordinance Maintenance Battalion recently awarded the Star to the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque by direction of the President.

Drilling for additional water supply for Lowell is scheduled to start in a few days under the direction of Mr. Oberlin, of Pontiac. Albert Roth, engineer, of Detroit, has selected the most likely spot where the water flow has proven 5 times greater than our maximum demand. The measured flow of water from nearby streams was the decided factor in judging how much water may be available from the new well.

## 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.

Johnathan G. Meier, D.O. Wayne A. Christenson, D.O. Kaili M. Walker, PA-C Tracy L. Lixie, D.O.

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#### - psoriasis

Psoriasis is a common skin disease that affects more than seven million people in the United States. Patients usually have red, scaly, small to large raised areas of skin, called plaques. These plaques commonly affect the scalp, trunk, elbows, knees and genital area but can affect any part of the body, including the nails. About a quarter of patients develop pain, stiffness and swelling in their joints, called psoriatic arthritis. Patients with severe psoriasis may have an increased risk of obesity, diabetes, high cholesterol and cardiovascular disease.

Psoriasis is usually a relatively straightforward diagnosis because of the very typical appearance of the red, scaly plaques. Occasionally, a small biopsy of skin may be needed to help diagnose the condition. Psoriasis is a disease that can improve and worsen over time, but it usually does not go

away completely. Treating psoriasis can improve the skin and may improve quality of life.

Dermatologists, doctors who treat skin conditions, have several types of treatment for psoriasis. Some of these options include topical including treatments, corticosteroid creams or vitamin D preparations; phototherapy (treatment with light) in specially equipped ultraviolet machines; and systemic medication, including oral or injected medications that act on the whole body.

Individuals with psoriasis should take care not to injure their skin or nails. Sunburn should be avoided because it can make psoriasis worse and increases the risk of skin cancer. Doctors need to treatments individualize for patients because the disease may affect people in different ways.

## First load of wheat arrives



The first load of 2020 wheat was delivered to King Milling Company on July 7. It was good quality soft red wheat, which was grown by Pat Feldpausch from Fowler and delivered by Bennet Prichard of Simon Brothers Inc. (pictured left). It was unloaded by Dave Kryger from King Milling Company (pictured right).

Red wheat this year will be unloaded at Scale C, which is King Milling's wheat receiving pit south of Ottawa St. The Scale C wheat receiving area was upgraded this year

with a new grain dryer and transfer equipment capable of moving 20,000 bushels of wheat per hour. King Milling has upgraded much of their wheat handling equipment over the last few years, starting with a major upgrade in 2017. The 2017 project included 800,000 bushels of additional

storage space, as well as a new grain dryer and transfer equipment at Scale B. These upgrades were made to increase overall efficiency, and drastically reduce wait times for farmers and drivers delivering their wheat to King Milling Company.



Anyone can hide. Facing up to things, working through them, that's what makes you strong.

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~ Sarah Dessen

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#### **JULY 15**

Mari Stone, Joyce VanDyke, Keenan Hacker.

## **JULY 16**

James Stanley Smith, Caleb Rinard.

#### **JULY 17**

Vicki VanDerWarf, Ken Willmarth, Tom Karp.

#### **JULY 21**

Amber Brown, Jerry Taylor.

JULY 20

III,

Pawloski, Beth

Thaler

Cara Thaler, David

Maureen

Berry,

Dara Anchors. Stephanie Wade, Carolyn Mercer, Jeff Gurney, Kelly Tulecki, Alexander Stiles.

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WORSHIP

11 AM on the Riverwalk

Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

#### **JULY 18**

Dianne Scanlon, Bette Phillips Haybarker, Emily Borton.

#### **JULY 19**

Bob Elzinga, Danielle Rittersdorf, Marcia Baird, Mark Dupont.



## FROM donating backpacks and school supplies

Flat River Outreach Ministries is once again donating hundreds of free backpacks full of school supplies to local school children whose families are experiencing financial difficulties.

**Families** who qualify must register at fromlowell.org/backpacks by July 31 in order to receive a backpack. The program fills quickly, so register soon.

"FROM's backpack distribution program provides backpacks and school-specific supplies to families with school aged children living in the Lowell Area Schools district," said Patricia Murray, FROM's program director during last year's event. "Families must register ahead of time."

The options for school supplies and backpacks will vary depending on the age, grade and size of the student.

The backpacks and supplies will be distributed

at FROM, 11535 Fulton, over two days, Aug. 8 from 9 am to 12 pm and on Aug. 13 from 4 pm to 6 pm. Additional days may be added based on social distancing requirements.

To help fill all those backpacks, FROM is holding a school supplies drive through Aug. 7. Items they're in need of include pencils, markers, highlighters, glue sticks scissors. Visit the FROM website at



for details about that,

or to take a look at their

fromlowell.org/backpacks Amazon wish list.

> For more information about Flat River Outreach

Ministries, call 616-897-8260 or visit fromlowell.

FLAT RIVER

**OUTREACH** 

**MINISTRIES** 

## Museum has alternate plans for summerfest



by Brendan A. Sanders

the Lowell Historical Museum's Summerfest this year, with the event becoming a fully virtual event.

Over the years, the museum has had an annual summer party with food, drinks and even live entertainment. Summerfest opened up the museum to attendees to explore, along

Big changes are coming with providing a night of Area great entertainment. This year, things are changing due to the effects of COVID-19.

> The museum's annual fundraiser traditionally takes place in the museum garden and galleries. This year the museum is observing social distancing and has decided to hold its fundraiser in a new way, by

Premier Powerwashing Services Decks-Driveways-Siding-RV's-and More!! Tad Rodgers [Owner/Operator] 616-207-9423 **Free Estimates!** 

going to an online gift card

Although the event is not taking place in person, the museum is still asking for the community's support during these trying times. By buying a ticket, the buyer will receive a \$10 gift card in the mail to one of the local food or beverage businesses in the area that would have participated in the original Summerfest.

Gift cards include \$10 toward BC Pizza, Big Boiler Brewery, Gravel Bottom Brewery, Heidi's Larkins Farmstand, Restaurant, Miss Catering, New Union Brewery, Red Barn, Painted Turtle and Sneakers. An event ticket costs \$40 per ticket. The hope for this fundraiser is to support both the Lowell museum and the local businesses thoughout the community.

Attendees can order their tickets online at lowellmuseum.com and clicking on the "Summerfest" page. The museum is currently open to the public every Thursday from 1 pm to 4 pm with a cost of \$3 per adult and \$1.50 per child.

## **Chamber of Commerce** golf scramble is still on

by Brendan A. Sanders contributing reporter

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce released its plans for the annual golf scramble that will be held on Aug. 14.

The biggest change is where the proceeds for the event will go.

With very few community events taking place this year due to the pandemic - the Lowell Expo, the Sizzlin' Summer Concerts and the Riverwalk Festival were all cancelled - the Chamber of Commerce is working with fewer funds.

The annual golf scramble has been the main mechanism to seek funding for the Ivan K. Blough Scholarship. This is a scholarship that awards students who are attending a vocational or trade school and have given a minimum of 15 hours of volunteer service within the greater Lowell community or have had an internship with a Lowell Area Chamber member business of their chosen career.

Currently, the scholarship fund is stable, so this year's money will go toward the Chamber's general fund to help maintain staff and programming as they continue to navigate through these uncertain times.

The event cost is \$75 per person, which includes 18 holes of golf and a cart. The event will start at 9 am, with registration beginning at 8

Sponsorships are still available for the event, with event hole sponsorship being set at \$125 and teebox sponsorship being set at \$100. Current sponsors for the event include AIC Insurance Services, Arctic Heating and Cooling, Sneaker's,

PFCU, Miss P's Catering, **Progressive Heating Cooling** and Refrigeration, Midwest Properties of Michigan, Creative Party Bug and Suez. The birdie sponsor is Edward Jones while lunch is sponsored by Addorio, River Valley Credit Union and Suez.

You can register for the event at discoverlowell. org. Click on "register for events," scrolling to August 14 will show this event and all of its details.

## **BOWNE** TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

On Thursday, July 16, 2020 the Zoning Board of Appeals for Bowne Township will hear public comments related to the following request. The public hearing will be held at 7:00 P.M. at the Historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto concerning the following:

#### 12851 64th STREET DIMENSIONAL **NONUSE VARIANCE**

Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Oesch, of 12877 84th Street, have submitted an application for Dimensional Nonuse Variance per Section 19.05 of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance. The applicants wish to subdivide 10 acres of a 133.51-acre farm located in the Agricultural (AG) zoning district. They are seeking a zoning variance for relief under Section 5.05, which permits lots of a maximum 5-acres to be subdivided in an agricultural district. The parcel number for the referenced address is 41-24-27-100-009.

The application and plans are available for review and written comments will be received until 4:00 P.M. Thursday, July 16, 2020 at Bowne Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto, Michigan 49301. All interested parties will be heard at the meeting.

> Bradley S. Kotrba Planning & Zoning Administrator (616) 988-3526

## **BOWNE TOWNSHIP**

JULY BOARD OF REVIEW TO BE HELD IN THE HISTORIC TOWNSHIP HALL -8240 ALDEN NASH SE, ALTO, MICHIGAN

> **TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2020** 4 P.M. TO 8 P.M.

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 616 868 6846

Appeals may be by letter addressed to the Bowne Township Supervisor & received by him prior to July 9, 2020 or by appearing in person at a pre-scheduled time.

> Dennis McKelvey-Assessor Randy Wilcox - Supervisor

## Looking back at Lowell's sharpshooting champion Gertrude Schlernitzauer

Gertrude P. Schlernitzauer National Woman Pistol Champion



National Rifle and Pistol Championships, Camp Perry, OH, 1969 [provided by Dan Schlernitzauer]

by Tim McAllister lead reporter

The imminent closure of Springrove Variety reminded some older area residents about the store's former co-owner Gertrude Schlernitzauer, the "little blonde housewife" from Lowell who was

international shooting competition-the 38th World Shooting Championships, held in Cairo, Egypt. There, she brought home the third place bronze medal in rapid fire pistol shooting and

the phone from Lexington, KY, where he now lives. "Well, she fired one miss out of the whole match and ended up with the bronze medal. Just one shot missed. Without that one



Schlernitzauer was a contestant on the daytime version of the CBS game show "To Tell the Truth" in early 1963. Unfortunately, no footage of her appearance has surfaced since the original broadcast. [YouTube image]

a world famous sharpshooting champion in the 1960s.

Schlernitzauer was the winner of three national shooting championships, but her most significant accomplishment occurred in 1962 when she was the first woman to represent the United States at an

placed fifth in the centerfire pistol competition.

"I was very young when this happened, but the story I remember hearing was that she was doing really well, was in silver medal contention and, if she did well enough, was in the running to get the gold," said Dan Schlernitzauer, on miss she would probably have won the silver."

Schlernitzauer went on to place first in the Women's National Pistol Championship competitions in 1965, 1968 and 1969.

"That was during the early years when they were first allowing women to participate in shooting sports," Dan Schlernitzauer said. "Women were not allowed to compete in the shooting events at the Olympics at that time. Back in those days, it was considered a men's sport and was not something women were allowed to compete in. Mom was just a little blonde housewife she was under five feet tall! - and a store clerk, but she could shoot."

Gertrude Pauline Siltala was born in Negaunee, MI (near Marquette) on Nov. 30, 1920. Her parents were immigrants from Finland, so she spoke fluent Finnish. Dan Schlernitzauer said his parents met while students at Ferris State. Gertrude originally became interested in shooting during World War II when her husband Richard was enlisted and she was forced to move in with her in-laws in Ionia. Richard was also into competitive shooting and did quite well, but hardly anybody could outshoot Gertrude.

"My father was quite literally a world class shooting coach," Dan Schlernitzauer said. "He and my grandfather actually taught my mom how to shoot. She never fired a gun

## Sets national pistol record

The National Rifle Association announces that Mrs. Gertrude P. Schlernitzauer of 514 N. Monroe St., Lowell, established a national record with the pistol on January 11 and 12, 1964, in the difficult 20 shots, Time Fire, 50 feet, course with a score of 198 out of a possible 200.

Competing in an NRA sanctioned tournament at Detroit, Mrs. Schlernitzauer broke the previous record of 197 and, in recognition of the outstanding marksmanship necessary to establish a national record, has been awarded a certificate of accomplishment by the NRA.

News item from the April 2, 1964 Lowell Ledger detailing one of Schlernitzauer's many accomplishments with her pistol. [Kent District Library]

in her life until she met my dad right before World War II. When my father went off to war, his father got Gertrude into shooting .22 rifles at an indoor shooting

range in Ionia."

Gertrude and Richard owned and ran the "Frank's Five and Ten" variety store from 1950 until they sold the business and retired to



Two winners from Michigan-Police Pistol Champion Elwyn Burnett and Woman Pistol Champion Trude Schlernitzaueradd to their already impressive array or shooting honors.

National Rifle and Pistol Championships, Camp Perry, OH, 1968 [provided by Dan Schlernitzauer]

# Looking back at Lowell's sharpshooting champion Gertrude Schlernitzauer





A commemorative pistol won by Schlernitzauer in 1969 and her bronze medal from the 1962 Cairo competition are on display at the NRA museum in Virginia. [courtesy National Firearms Museum]

a cabin in the woods near Grayling, MI in 1975. Tacked to the wall in the Springrove back office is a yellowed newspaper clipping with a photo of the Schlernitzauers, the only visible reminder of their tenure.

"The whole family used to work in the store," said Dan Schlernitzauer, who has two older sisters. "I haven't actually been in there since my parents sold it."

Schlernitzauer enjoyed some national recognition in early 1963, when she appeared on the popular CBS game show "To Tell the Truth." The premise of the show was for a panel of celebrities to try and figure out which one of three contestants was really who they claimed to be and which two were imposters. The host of the program was Bud Collyer, the announcer was Johnny Olson, and some of the celebrity panelists during 1963 included Orson Bean, Shelley Berman, Dr. Joyce Brothers, Carol Channing, Peter Cook, Ruby Dee, Hugh Downs, Dan Duryea, Douglas Fairbanks, Joan Fontaine, Ben Gazzara, Merv Griffin, Florence Henderson, Lena Horne, Dorothy Lamour, Darren McGavin, Henry Morgan, Tom Poston, Artie Shaw, Ann Sheridan, Eli Wallach and Shelley Winters.

It is unknown exactly what date Schlernitzauer's episode was taped or broadcast, and no video of her appearance has surfaced. A brief item on the front page of the Feb. 21, 1963 Lowell Ledger contains all of the information available about her only national TV guest spot.

"Mrs. Trude Schlernitzauer. "I would Schlernitzauer, wife of love to see it again. I have councilman Richard F. never been able to locate a

Schlernitzauer, left by plane Monday for New York City where she will make an appearance on the popular TV show 'To Tell the Truth,'" the article read. "Trude will try to stump a panel of experts along with two other contestants on guessing which one of the women is the real sharpshooter. The show will be taped later this week and Trude will let the Lowell residents know

copy."

After her 1969 victory at the competition in Camp Perry, OH, she was presented with a commemorative semi-automatic pistol, which is currently on display in the National Rifle Association's museum in Fairfax, VA. [http://www.nramuseum.org/guns/the-galleries/innovation,-oddities-and-competition/case-25-camp-perry/high-

standard-military-model-106-pistol.aspx]

Dan Schlernitzauer said that the last time his mother shot competitively was in 1982.

"In 1969, that was the last year she shot in the championships," Dan Schlernitzauer said. "Later, in the late 70s and early 80s, I got her to come back to shooting with me. She went with me for a couple years. She shot and I did

too. That was nice for me when I was a teenager and in my early 20s. She was always better than I was. A former champion coming back after ten years... people remembered who she was."

Gertrude Schlernitzauer passed away on Nov. 25, 2007, Richard on March 30, 1991. Richard has a marker at Bailey Cemetery in Vergennes Township, but Dan Schlernitzauer said that both of his parents were cremated and their ashes scattered on the Au Sable River in Grayling, MI. The couple had three children, plus many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

"I'm probably one of the few guys who can say, 'Yeah, I'm a pretty good shot, but I could never out-shoot my mom," Dan Schlernitzauer said. "People just automatically liked her. She was a very nice person."



Schlernitzauer (far right) at the 1967 championships in Camp Perry, OH.

when the show is scheduled to be run. This program can be viewed by local residents each morning and Monday evening at 7:30 pm. A display of the many medals, cups and citations won by Trude are on display in the window of the Speerstra Agency on West Main Street."

[Explore over 140 years of the Lowell Ledger's archives here: https://www.kdl.org/research/lowell-ledger]

"I stayed home from school that day so I could watch it," said Dan Schlernitzauer. "I would love to see it again. I have

## CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST OF THE IMAGECAST TABULATING EQUIPMENT FOR THE AUGUST 4, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public accuracy test of the Imagecast Tabulating Equipment for the August 4, 2020 Primary Election will be conducted on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Lowell City Hall, Council Chambers, Second Floor, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan

Susan Ullery City Clerk

## CITY OF LOWELL

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Please take notice that the Lowell City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 3, 2019 at 7:00 pm., in the City Hall at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. The subject of the hearing will be:

Request for an amendment to the Planned Unit Development at 219 High Street called "Riverview Flats."

Unity School Investors, LLC, has submitted an application to amend the Riverview Flats Planned Unit Development (PUD) at 219 High Street. Proposed amendments to the PUD include a reoriented driveway, modified project boundary, additional parking, and related changes to the site layout.

Copies of the proposed PUD, supporting documentation and materials, and the City's Zoning Ordinance are available for public viewing during regular business hours at Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, Michigan. Written Comments will be received until the night of the hearing.

If you are planning to attend this hearing and are handicapped requiring any special assistance, please notify the City Clerk by calling at (616) 897-8457 as soon as possible.



Respectfully, Susan Ullery City Clerk

## Live the Life You Want What is PTSD?

Melissa Spino MA LLPC CDMS Life Transitions Therapy LLC

Most of my work is with Veterans, through my free to low-cost Veterans program, or with adults dealing with childhood trauma. Outside of my profession, I regularly hear individuals say that they have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). So, what is PTSD? PTSD has been known by many past names such as "shell shock," "combat fatigue," or "battle fatigue." It's a mental health issue some people develop after experiencing witnessing a life-threatening event such as combat, a natural disaster, a serious car accident or assault.

#### **Diagnosing PTSD**

In the latest Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5), the manual used by mental health professionals for diagnosing, PTSD was reclassified as a Trauma and Stressor Related Disorder. Below are the basic summarized criteria from the DSM-5 for diagnosis. However, testing should also be conducted to support any diagnosis.

Criterion A (one required): The person was exposed to: death, threatened death, actual or threatened serious injury or actual or threatened sexual violence, in the following way(s):

- Direct exposure
- Witnessing trauma
- Learning that a relative or close friend was exposed to a trauma
- Indirect exposure to aversive details of the trauma, usually in the course of professional duties (i.e., first responders, medics). This does not include nonwork exposure through electronic media, television, movies, pictures etc.

Criterion B (one required): The traumatic event is persistently reexperienced through:

upsetting memories

- **Nightmares**
- Flashbacks
- Emotional distress after exposure to traumatic reminders
- Physical reactivity after exposure to traumatic reminders

Criterion C (one required): After the trauma, avoidance of trauma-related stimuli such as:

- Trauma-related thoughts or feelings
- Trauma-related reminders

Criterion D (two required): After the trauma, negative thoughts or feelings that began or worsened in the following

- Inability to recall key features of the trauma
- Overly negative thoughts and assumptions about oneself or the world
- Exaggerated blame of self or others for causing the trauma
- Negative affect • U n w a n t e d (feelings, emotions, mood)

- Decreased interest in activities
  - Feeling isolated
- Difficulty experiencing positive affect

Criterion E (two required): After the trauma, trauma-related having arousal and reactivity that began or worsened in the following way(s):

- Irritability aggression
- Risky destructive behavior
  - Hypervigilance
- Heightened startle reaction
- Difficulty concentrating
- Difficulty sleeping Criterion

(required): Symptoms last for more than 1 month.

Criterion (required): **Symptoms** create distress or functional impairment (i.e., social, occupational).

Criterion H (required): Symptoms are not due to medication,

substance use, or other illness. There are additional specifiers that are not listed in this article but as you can see this diagnosis requires meeting numerous criteria.

#### Common is How **PTSD**

According to the US Department of Veteran Affairs, the following statistics are based on the U.S. population. These statistics are for the general adult population not military personnel.

- About seven to eight out of every 100 people (seven to eight percent) will have PTSD at some point in their lives.
- About eight million adults have PTSD during a given year.
- About 10 of every 100 women (or 10 percent) and four of every 100 men (four percent) develop PTSD sometime in their lives.

The number of Veterans with PTSD varies by service

- **Operations Iraqi** Freedom (OIF) **Enduring Freedom (OEF):** About 11-20 out of every 100 Veterans (11-20 percent) have PTSD in a given year.
- Gulf War (Desert Storm): About 12 out of every 100 Gulf War Veterans (12 percent) have PTSD in a given year.
- Vietnam War: It's estimated that about 30 out of every 100 (30 percent) veterans have had PTSD in their lifetime.

This article is not intended to provide any type of treatment or diagnosis. If you experience a mental health crisis call 911. If you're having difficulties and things in your life seem out of control it may be time to get professional help.

## Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold **EdwardJones** 

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#### **Protect Yourself Against Financial Scammers**

It's unfortunate, but true: During this period of economic uncertainty, one of the busiest "industries" has been financial scamming. But it goes on even during normal times, too, so you'll

want to know what to look for, and how to defend yourself.

For starters, just how widespread is financial fraud? Consider this: In 2019,

more than 3.2 million fraud cases were reported to the Federal Trade Commission, with identity theft being the most common type of fraud, accounting for about onefifth of the overall cases. And fraudulent new accounts (mortgages, student loans, car loans and credit cards) amounted to about \$3.4 billion in 2018, according to a study by Javelin Strategy & Research.

To help yourself from being victimized, consider the following suggestions. They are certainly not an exhaustive list, but they should prove useful.

Watch out for unsecure

websites. Make sure a website is secure before entering any payment or personal information. Look for sites that start with HTTPS, rather than those with just HTTP, which are not secure and can be hacked. But even a site with HTTPS can still be used by scammers, so, if you don't recognize the name of the company or group that's requesting your information, do some research to make sure it's legitimate.

Review your credit reports. As mentioned above, the fraudulent opening of new accounts is a big source of financial scams. To be sure nobody has opened new accounts under your name, try to review your credit reports at least once a year. You can get them for free at AnnualCreditReport.com.

Follow up on fraud. If you've already been victimized by having new accounts opened in your name, contact one of the three major credit reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax or TransUnion) and place a 90-day fraud alert on your credit file. You might also want to file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission, print it out and file it with your local law enforcement agency.

And it's also a good idea to contact the fraud department of the financial companies where the thief has opened a fraudulent account in your name.

Be alert for suspicious links. "Phishers" have gotten quite good at sending out messages that look like they're from reputable businesses. But if you examine these messages carefully, you can usually determine if there's something off about them. For example, no legitimate business will tell you, via this type of message, that you have to "correct your account" by providing additional information. And if you do hit the link provided, and it takes you to a third-party site, you can be pretty sure it's bogus.

Resist "act now" offers. If you get an offer, via phone or online, urging you to "act immediately" investment an opportunity, discontinue the communication. No reputable financial advisor will ever try to force you to take such swift action, and if an investment is legitimate, it will be available tomorrow, next week and next year.

Use your shredder. You probably have the option to "go paperless" with all your banks and financial services providers, but, if you still do receive paper documents, be sure to shred them when they're no longer needed.

You save and invest for years to help achieve your long-term goals. Don't let any of your efforts be undone by financial fraudsters.

## **LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS** The Jack J. and Barbara J. Golzynski Trust

Re: Jack J. Golzynski, decedent, Date of Birth January 24, 1925 Barbara J. Golzynski, decedent, Date of Birth July 17, 1925

**NOTICE** TO **CREDITORS:** The decedents, Jack Golzynski and Barbara J. Golzynski resided at 1729 Hillmount, N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504. Jack J. Golzynski died on June 13, 2020, and Barbara J. Golzynski died on September 20, 2011.

Creditors of the decedents are notified that all claims against the deceased or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Lori A. Morrissey, Successor Trustee, of 520 Rivercrest St., N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49544, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 9, 2020

John D. Mitus, Attorney (P-31244) 410 Bridge Street, N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49504 616-774-4001

Α. Lori Morrissey, **Successor Trustee** 520 Rivercrest St., N.W. Grand Rapids, MI 49544





# Major drop in vaccinations in Michigan raise public health concerns

Bridge Magazine

Even as COVID-19 cases in Michigan rise past 66,000, health experts warn of a troubling decline in vaccinations among all age groups.

That poses not only a broad public health threat on top of the coronavirus, but could complicate plans to open schools in the fall, school officials say.

In May, Michigan vaccinations were down 44.5 percent overall compared to the previous two years, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Among children

issues on top of COVID and flu season."

Vaccinations children typically receive between their fourth birthday and the day they enter kindergarten include combination vaccines that combat diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, and measles, mumps and rubella, Czerwinski said.

Students without up-todate vaccinations can enroll in Michigan schools only after a parent or guardian completes a vaccination education program at a county health department and sign a waiver.

There is a chance some

(COVID-19) is over, Moore said.

Moore said he informs such parents there's risk to that as well. "All these vaccines are imperfect, but they work really well when you get a big uptake of people who have been vaccinated. When you lose that, you start losing the protection."

He noted that measles is particularly contagious, as one carrier is likely to infect 12 to 18 others.

"It is much more contagious than even the flu or COVID," he said.

Amy Zagman, executive director of the

Michigan Council Maternal and Child Health, she is said hopeful that, pandemic restrictions are loosened, more families will take children to their pediatricians for vaccinations.

"We know everyone's been scared to go out, but we really need to get back on top

of things," Zagman said.
"There are definitely people trying to catch up on things they couldn't do."

The vaccination delay is a national problem, not just in Michigan, Zagman said.

"Some states are talking about mobile vaccination units to reach families" worried about visiting doctor offices, Zagman said. "Here, we're hoping the system the way it is built can recover between now and when school starts.

"The last thing anyone needs is another infectious disease going around."

Sharon Swindell, president of the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, cautioned that this fall's flu season could add one more infection risk for schools and the wider public.

"I think people underestimate how many people die from influenza each year, including children," she said.

In 2018, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1,869 Michigan residents died from flu or pneumonia and 1,798 died in 2017.

"This fall, with schools hoping to reopen fully or partially, you can imagine how flu symptoms would complicate validating a child for COVID exposure and how it will wreak havoc for kids remaining in school," Swindell said.

"I think it is of the utmost importance to protect (with vaccines) against the things we can protect against," she said.

There is no vaccine for COVID-19 and most experts predict none are likely to be developed and approved for public use before 2021.

While Swindell said the "vast majority" of parents understand the value of vaccines, she added: "There is a small number of parents that probably will not choose to vaccinate no matter what information they have. They are very firm on this topic and that remains their right."

In 2019, as a U.S. measles outbreak topped 1,200 cases, Michigan had 46 measles cases ranging from 8 months to age 63. That appeared to be driven in part by an anti-vaccination movement whose members

question the safety and value of vaccines. Many opt out of getting shots for themselves or their children.

In 2014, Michigan had the sixth-highest rate of unvaccinated kindergartners in the nation. An outbreak of whooping cough — also highly contagious - at a Traverse City charter school late that year spawned more than 150 suspected cases. It was tied to parents wary of vaccinations, as 17 percent of Grand Traverse Academy kindergartners had parents who signed waivers exempting their children from immunizations.

State law at that time required parents to immunize school-age kids against communicable diseases such as measles, whooping cough, mumps and tetanus — unless they received a waiver that allowed them to opt out for medical, religious or "philosophical" reasons.

To reduce the number of waivers, MDHHS in 2015 mandated that parents who want to opt out for

non-medical reasons must sit down with a local health worker for an educational session on vaccinepreventable diseases before obtaining a waiver.

That led to a rise in vaccinations, until the COVID-19 outbreak.

MDHHS and the West Bloomfield-based Franny Strong Foundation, which co-fund the state's I Vaccinate campaign, plan an advertising push for late summer reminding parents of the importance of childhood vaccinations.

"Both groups are focused on getting the word out to parents that it's extremely important to get kids caught up (so) they're protected going into day care settings and schools this fall," said Andrea Poole, with the I Vaccinate campaign. "August is a big month, because a lot of people will schedule their back-to-school appointments at that time."



from infants through age 8, vaccinations fell 22.3 percent; and the drop was 15 percent among infants and toddlers up to 24 months.

For adolescents ages 9 through 18, vaccinations were down 65.5 percent for the same period and 67 percent among adults age 19 and up.

"It's very concerning," Jared Burkhart, executive director of the Michigan chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, said.

"This has some very deep impact and the potential to see the outbreak of other diseases such as mumps and measles. It's really hard to tell what could pop up, especially when you have a population that is receiving less doses than in the past."

School health officials are aware of a "significant increase" in the percentage of children missing up-to-date childhood vaccinations, said Terri Czerwinski, president of the Michigan School Nurses Association. "It's definitely a concern that is being talked about."

Czerwinski said she hopes parents catch up with vaccinations before school begins in September, "so we're not dealing with other students without complete vaccinations could be held out of school in September.

Czerwinski said she is unaware of current plans to drop the requirement that a parent has to visit the county health office to receive a vaccine waiver.

"I'm told there is not an impetus to change that," she said.

Vaccinations plunged in March and April, as many doctors offices and health clinics paused inperson patient visits during Michigan's shelter-athome order during the coronavirus outbreak.

While MDHHS reported vaccinations began to rise after mid-April, physicians say some parents are still fearful to enter a doctor's office with their child because of the coronavirus.

Ann Arbor pediatrician Scott Moore said he was glad to see an uptick in patients in the last month or so, as "people felt more comfortable coming in."

But he said his office continues to field calls from parents wary about coming in for a shot for their children.

"I'm still having conversations with parents who are saying I'm not coming in until



## GET A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE ON OUR COMMUNITY

From community developments to a look at new businesses in town, interesting people in our community, dining, sports, entertainment and much more, it can all be found in the Lowell Ledger!

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## obituaries

#### **GREEN**

Lucille Mae Green, age 86 of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, July 7, 2020. She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Robert Joe Green. She is survived by her children, Don (Lynn) Green, Jo (Scott)

Meyers, Bill (Sue) Green, Doug (Wendy) Green; sisters-in-law, Judy Grutter, Sally Rosemary Grutter. Grutter, Kay Grutter; grandchildren, Robin (Dave) Morehouse, Brian (Erica) Green, **Becky** (James) Jaskowiak, Kim Hannah Green. (Garrett) Race, Jenny Green, Mike Meyers, Tim Meyers, Anna (Brad) VanderJagt, Amy (Chris) Campbell, Heather (Samuel)



Simmonds, Nicole Raimer, Noah Green, Nicholas Green; and 23 great-grandchildren. Lu's entire working career was in banking. She met Bob while visiting his sister, a sick co-worker from Central Bank. After moving to Lowell, she started working for State Savings Bank where she worked for 37 years, retiring without a college education, as Vice President. Bob-n-Lu retired young, they loved traveling and spending time with their grandchildren. A private family funeral service was held at 11am on Friday, July 10th at First Baptist Church of Lowell, 2275 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Pink Arrow Pride, PO Box 246, Lowell, MI 49331; The B Foundation, PO Box 327, Belding, MI 48809; or the Kent County Veterans Honor Guard, 5653 Leisure S. Drive, Kentwood, Michigan 49548.



#### **HAIGHT**

Harry B. Haight Sr., age 94 of Lowell, passed away Friday, July 3, 2020. He was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Donna; son, Todd B. Haight; and parents, Oren and Flossie (Allen) Haight. Harry is survived by his children, Gloria (Rex) Greenawalt,



Kathy (Arlin) Patterson, Delores Thwaites, Harry (Mary) B. Haight, Jr., Bonnie Esparza, Connie (Jon) Sawmiller, Joy (Larry) Peterle, Terry Steffens; (Tara) grandchildren; 64 greatgrandchildren; 15 greatgreat-grandchildren; many nieces nephews; and a special friend, his dog, Patsy. Harry proudly served in the U.S. Navy in WWII, later working for U.S.

Plywood as a truck driver. He loved working with his hands: on vehicles, in the yard, hunting, and word searches. He also really loved guns and collected many over the years. "Dad" always wanted to be with his children, having get togethers, picnics, and always making sacrifices so he had more time with his family. He had a caring type of love, always providing for his children and his wife, more than you could ever imagine. A private family celebration will be held at a later date.



#### **LEDGER OFFICE HOURS**

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#### **VIDEAN**

Donald Russell Videan Sr., age 80, of Lowell, Michigan gently passed away on April 2, 2020 into the arms of his Savior. Donald was born on July 19, 1939 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to Russell and Florence Videan. Don graduated from Lowell High School in 1957 and



worked for forty-four and a half years at Holland American Wafer Company where he retired. loved fishing, He gardening, hunting, and watching grandchildren's sporting events. He was their biggest fan, and was everyone's grandpa. Don was preceded in death by both parents and his daughter, Debra Lynne Austin. He is

survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Margaret; their children, Valarie (Rick) Bruse, Judy (Roger) Ramirez, Donald Jr. (Christine) Videan, Jennifer (Joel) Manion; son in law Robert Austin; sixteen grandchildren; and thirty-two great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank the staff at Faith Hospice for their care and compassion towards Don. A memorial service will be held at South Boston Bible Church, 6958 Kyser Rd, Lowell, MI 49331 on Saturday, July 25, 2020 at 11 a.m. with visitation one-hour prior. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Faith Hospice, 2100 Raybrook SE, Suite 300, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 or Gideons International (donation envelopes will be available at the church).



#### **WARNER**

Chester James (Jim) Warner, age 85, of Lowell, passed away peacefully Thursday July 2, 2020. Jim was born on October 3, 1934 to RC and Catherine (Tucker) Warner in Charlotte. On July 3, 1954 Jim married the love of his life Frances Marie (Grummet) Warner. Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing and tinkering around fixing things. He loved life and lived it to the fullest,

loved his family and his greatest joy was his grandchildren and greatgrandchildren. Jim is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Frances Lowell; his children, Randy (Bonnie) Warner of Hawaii, Edison (Sharon) Warner of Lowell, Elsie Warner of Lowell and Rick (Christine) Warner of Grand Rapids; his brother,



Daniel (Darlene) Warner; sister-in-laws, Sharon (Larry) Jenks, Marilou Carzoli, Ellen Warner, Dorthy Smith; 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Many "extended" family members that he openly accepted in to his house and heart. He was preceded in death by his parents. his son, Chester James Warner Jr.; daughter-in-law, Cheryl (Hall) Warner; siblings, Thomas Warner, John (Jack) Warner, William (Bill) Warner, Carolyn Benedict and Gary Warner; brother-in-laws, Fred Grummet, Bob Grummet, Ray Grummet; and sister-in-law, Zelma Pearson. Celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date. Arrangements in care of Lake Funeral Home in Saranac. Online condolences can be made at www. lakefuneralhomes.com. In lieu of flowers please make donations to Faith Hospice.

# **Applying for Medicare online**

You can apply for Medicare online even if you are not ready to start your retirement benefits. Applying online can take less than 10 minutes. There are no forms to sign and we usually require no documentation. We'll process your application and contact you if we need more information.

Visit www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare to apply for Medicare and find other important information. If you're eligible for Medicare at age 65, your initial enrollment period begins three months before your 65th birthday and ends three months after that birthday.

Some Medicare beneficiaries may qualify for Extra Help with their Medicare prescription drug plan costs. To qualify for Extra Help, a person must be receiving Medicare, have limited resources and income, and reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Read www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10508.pdf for more information on Extra Help.

Medicare also offers many online services where you can find out:

- What does Medicare cover? www. medicare.gov/whatmedicare-covers
- Where do I find forms for filing a Medicare appeal? www.medicare. gov/claims-appeals/howdo-i-file-an-appeal

- Where do I let someone speak with Medicare on my behalf? www.medicare.gov/claimsappeals/file-an-appeal/cansomeone-file-an-appealfor-me.
- What do Medicare health and prescription drug plans in my area cost, and what services do they offer? www.medicare.gov/plancompare
- Which doctors, health care providers, and suppliers participate in Medicare? www.medicare. gov/forms-help-resources/find-compare-doctors-hospitals-other-providers
- Where can I find out more about a Medicare prescription drug plan (Part D) and enroll? www.medicare.gov/drug-coverage-part-d/how-to-get-prescription-drug-coverage
- Where can I find a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy in my area? www. medicare.gov/medigapsupplemental-insuranceplans

Share these helpful resources with someone you care about today.

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

## Sharing the Vision, continued

used include building renovations; wiring for WIFI; Reconfiguring entry vestibules and creating more secure visitor access control; resurfacing or repairing roofs, asbestos abatement, and internal/ external signage. this time, the district is interested in maintaining our aging facilities and has no interest in purchasing property. The district will be purchasing devices to expand our inventory of computers, making sure each student has access to technology.

## WHAT ARE THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE MONEY?

Building & Site Fund dollars **CANNOT** be used for: salaries or benefits; buses or other vehicles; equipment such as routine maintenance items; or furnishings such as tables, desks, and chairs.

Lowell Area Schools believes in investing in children's future. our We will continue to address the most pressing infrastructure needs in order to provide safe healthy learning environments to ensure the best educational possible. experience Remember to cast your important vote on August 4, 2020! Voting will take place at your city or township precincts, absentee ballots are available at your city or township clerk's office

#### office hours:

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

# classifieds

## for sale

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

NEWSPAPERENDROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUY-ERS GUIDE - Many uses, table cover, art projects, packaging, etc. Usually \$3-\$5 each. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

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

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@lowellbuyersquide. com or stop by 105 N. Broadway for more info.

### misc.

JIM WHORLEY - is no longer working at the Buck Stop Barber Shop in Saranac. I am at Paul's Barber Shop, 13 Main St., Saranac. 616-642-9127.

## for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN AC-CORDANCE WITH THE **FEDERALFAIR 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 STOR-AGE - Indoor/outdoor. New Units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of I96. 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. TENEOW

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.

### wanted

I WANT TO BUY - a refrigerator, stove, washer & dryer. Have cash. Call 616-585-1709. TFN

# Support the Local Businesses Who Help Support Out Countilities \*\*The Countilities of the Countilities of

### services

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

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

FAX SERVICE - We send or receive a fax for you! Great Rate - \$1 for the first page & 50¢ for each additional page. Buyers Guide, 105 N. Broadway, 897-9555.

CARPENTER WANTS JOBS, 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

WHEN IN AN ACCIDENT-YOU CAN CHOOSE WHO TOWS YOUR VEHICLE - Request J&K Roadwide

 Request J&K Roadwide Service, 616-690-0983.
 Towing, tire change, jump starts, fuel delivery.

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@lowell buyersguide.com

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.bleam eaves.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.

## services

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

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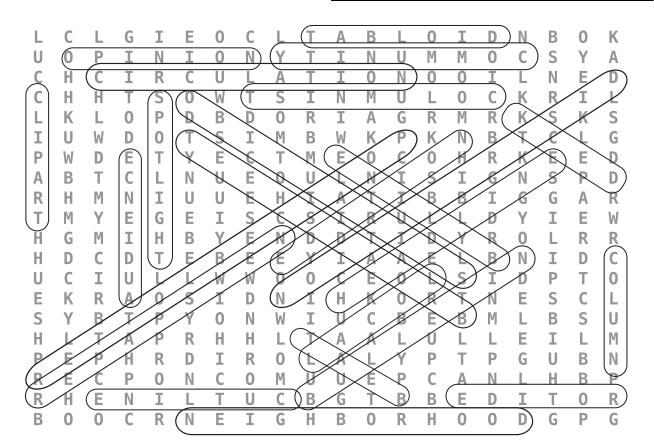
ledger@lowellbuyers guide.com

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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





## **ABCs of Lowell History**

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

#### P is for Parks

The Lowell area has an abundance of parks. We have county, township and city parks. One park many may not know about is the Frank J. McMahon park. This park is located at 830 Shepard Drive SE, and is on the hill overlooking the city, next to the water reservoir. The park was formerly known as "Reservoir Hill" park.

In 1933 this area was created to be a park space. Frank J. McMahon was the Superintendent of Lowell Light and Power at the time and thought it would be a great place for people to enjoy the scenery overlooking the city of Lowell. The city planned to provide picnic tables so people could come out to

eat supper and enjoy the summer sunsets. When asked what the name should be, McMahon suggested 'Reservoir Hill'. The Lowell Ledger admiringly quipped, "Caesar wasn't the only man to give parks to the people."

26 years later, upon McMahon's retirement after 50 years as Superintendent of Lowell Light and Power, on February 2, 1959, the Lowell City Council made a resolution stating that:

"WHEREAS, Frank J.
McMahon has well served
the people of Lowell in the
capacity of Superintendent
of Lowell Light and Power
for a half century, and

WHEREAS, Carl Runciman and Dan Treleven have suggested to the Village Council that Mr. McMahon be honored for his long and honorable service by the naming of a park in his honor,

NOW, THEREFORE,



BE IT RESOLVED by the Village council for the Village of Lowell that that area near the Lowell Water Reservoir now unofficially called "Reservoir Park" be designated hereafter as "Frank J. McMahon Park."

Passed.

Today the park simply offers two benches and a grassy area where the peace

of nature can be enjoyed. The trees have grown blocking the view of the city, and offering a retreat from the business of life.

Visit our website www.lowellmuseum.org to explore items in the collection related to Parks.

## Looking back, continued

## 50 years The Lowell Ledger July 23, 1970

Area school administrators found themselves looking in new places for money in the wake of a State Supreme Court ruling that, in effect, nixed fees charged by public schools for books and school supplies. Two Ann Arbor parents challenged their local school's policy of charging for textbooks and supplies levying fees for activities.

Lowell High School's Red Arrows have a new basketball coach. He's Gerald A. Meredith, 34, who is returning to coaching after two years as a school administrator in the Laingsburg Public School system. His appointment was announced by school Superintendent Carl Hagen. He replaces Jack Kemper, who resigned earlier this summer.

Registered voters who won't be able to make it to the polls for the August 2 primary election will still be able to vote—if they apply for an absent voter's ballot. They are available to residents who will be out of town, or who are too ill to travel to the voting place. "We also try to encourage persons over 70 to vote by absent

voter's ballot," Ada Township Clerk Kenneth Anderson said. "It would be very inconvenient for them to travel."

## 25 years The Lowell Ledger July 19, 1995

Residents in Eastgate Village who want to water their grass on a daily basis will not get an argument from Lowell Charter Township Supervisor John Timpson. The township recently received its bill for using the city's water system and Timpson believes the cost can be lower.

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In an effort to better enforce its ordinances, the Vergennes Township Board is thinking about changing the status of several of their ordinances. The change would reduce violations misdemeanors to civil infractions. The reduction makes the offenses a lesser crime, but also makes it easier to enforce. The board is considering changes to its zoning, building, plumbing, and electrical ordinances as well as other smaller ordinances.

Bert Bleke has been in his new job as Lowell Superintendent for three weeks. His first superintendent position has yet to throw him a changeup. "No surprises, but I'm an old man," Bleke said, followed by a laugh. "I came to Lowell with seven years experience in a central office."

## **FUN PAGE**

## **SUDOKO** 5 2 8 3 9 8 4 3 5 8 4 9 2 3 4 6 9

Level: Advanced

#### 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!

## **LOCAL NEWS WORD SEARCH**

G Α U P Ι Ι N Y T Ι M M C S 0 N 0 N U 0 Y Α C Н C Ι R C U L T Ι 0 0 Ι E D 0 L N C T S T S Ι C Ι H H 0 W N M U L 0 K R L S 0 P D B D 0 R Ι G R R K S K L K Α M Ι S Ι C U W D 0 T М B W K K N B T L G P E C T E E W D E Т Y Ε 0 C 0 Н R K D Ε S P A В T C L N U 0 U L N Ι S Ι G N D Ι Ε Ι G R U H Ι Α T B B G A Н М N U T М Y E G Ε Ι S C S Ι R U L L D Y Ι E W Ε G Ι Н В Y D D Τ Ι D Y R 0 L R Н М Ν R Н D C D T E B Ε Ε Y Ι Α A Ε L B N Ι D C C S C Ι U E 0 Ι P T 0 U L L W W 0 0 L D S E K R A 0 S Ι D Ι Н K 0 R T E C N N L S Y 0 C E B S U Y B T P N W Ι U B B М L H Т P H T U E Ι М L Α R H L A Α L L L P Ε P Н R Ι R 0 L Α L Y Т G U В Ν Ε C P Ν C U U E C Н В R 0 0 A Ν L E Ι T U C G T B E Ι Т 0 R Н N L B B D R E Ι G D G G B 0 0 C Н B 0 0 0

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

**Puzzle solutions** on page 13

WORD SEARCH **AUDIENCE** BEAT BROADSHEET

**BULLETIN** 

**BYLINE** 

**LOCAL NEWS** 

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## Guess Who?

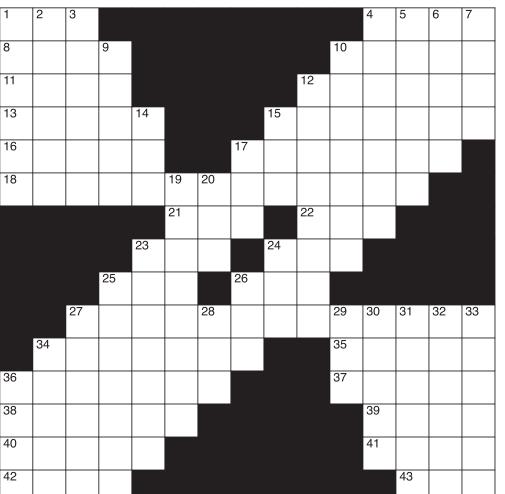
I am an athlete born in Ireland on July 14, 1988. I was raised with my sisters in Dublin and made my UFC debut in 2013. I earned a knockout in my first fight. I've also set the record for the fastest championship victory.

Answer: Conor McGregor

#### SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to newspapers.

TSRO

KAOIS : AƏMSUY



## **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Sound unit
- 4. Trim by cutting
- 8. Small buffalo
- 10. Ancient manuscript
- 11. Look angry or sullen
- 12. Glum
- 13. Northern Zambia peoples
- 15. Central 16. Collector of birds' eggs
- 17. Misbehavior
- 18. Top of the line
- 21. Political action committee
- 22. Have already done
- 23. Al Bundy's wife
- 24. Entertainment channel
- 25. Holiday (informal)
- 26. The common gibbon
- 27. Legendary actress
- 34. Seasoned sausages
- 35. Bluish greens 36. Ridiculed
- 37. Three-dimensional arrangement
- 38. Emerged
- 39. Type of protein

- 40. Denmark natives
- 41. Leak slowly through
- 42. Expression of sorrow or
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Artistic dancing
- 2. Plenty
- 3. Act leisurely
- 4. Serve as a warning
- 5. Admired lovingly
- 6. Leftover oil from distillation process
- 7. Company officer
- 9. Egyptian unit of capacity
- 10. One transmits information
- 12. Middle layer of an embryo
- 14. Form of "to be"
- 15. Cairo Regional Airport
- 17. Partner to cheese
- 19. Sample
- 20. A shirt may have none 23. Public gatherings
- 24. Disallow

- 25. Overnight suitcases
- 26. French river
- 27. Where boats dock
- 28. Top of a pot
- 29. Type of drug
- 30. City along the Rhine
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. They go in martinis
- 33. A way to break away
- 34. Intermediate ecological
- 36. Baby term for father



Michigan averages how many inches of rain per year?

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