

Treasures for Troops



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50¢

Election Day '20 in Lowell: it's finally over!!!



Compared to some locations, it was relatively quiet in Lowell on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3.

There were a few folks waving flags and signs in front of the old theater at the corner of Main and Hudson (left) in the morning, but no lines were visible outside of the polls at city hall, where voters appeared to be happily streaming in and out.

The results will not be available in time to include them in this edition, but look for a full report in next week's Lowell Ledger on Nov. 11.

Pandemic changing school schedules again

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Because of persistent cases of COVID-19, Lowell High School and Lowell Middle School returned to "hybrid learning" this week. Therefore, depending on what day of the week it is, some students will be on campus and others will have to do their learning remotely.

"Both Lowell Middle School and Lowell High School will move back to a hybrid learning environment starting Monday, Nov. 2 [and] following our Red/White schedule," interim superintendent Nate Fowler wrote in a letter to parents last week. "Hybrid learning will be in place for 6-12 students only through Nov. 24. It is our desire to return to full, in person learning for secondary students on Monday, Nov. 30, but we will continue to monitor and evaluate data in order to make the most informed decision possible. Students in grades K-5 will continue with full in person learning. [...] The Red group will attend school in person on Mondays and Wednesdays and the White group will attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All students will engage in remote learning on Friday. We will maintain the half days on Nov. 19 and 20. This allows staff and students the opportunity to practice how remote learning best functions in the event that becomes a mandatory reality and provide an extra day per week for social distancing."

According to statistics compiled by Kent County, as of Friday, Oct. 30 there have been 21 cases of COVID-19 in the Lowell Area Schools district, 12 cases among students and nine among staff. Lowell High School has eight student cases and one staff case, Lowell Middle School has two student cases and four staff cases, Murray Lake Elementary has one staff case, Alto Elementary has two student cases, Cherry Creek Elementary has one staff case and there are two cases among the transportation staff.

[Source: Kent ISD

COVID-19 School Dashboard, <https://tableau.kentisd.org/t/COVID/views/KentISD-COVID-19SchoolDashboardLIVE/KentISDCOVID-19SchoolDashboard>]

"The decision to go back to hybrid is to avoid having to quarantine a higher number of students or staff based on being exposed to persons that have tested positive," Fowler wrote. "It also provides an additional layer of mitigation as we see more cases. The hybrid model gives us the ability to better practice social distancing. Fewer people in the building means that

our students are more likely to continue with in person learning. We do not prefer hybrid learning to full in person learning but a hybrid schedule is preferable to full time remote learning."

Lowell Middle School was closed for two weeks in October because positive tests among staff members led to quarantining of other students and staff at the school.

"The number of cases impacting our schools, the positivity rate percentage have increased in recent weeks," Fowler wrote. "Projections indicate that

this unfortunate trend will continue into the late fall and winter months. [...] We believe that having all students coming to school each day with teachers is our best and most ideal learning experience. Another possible option that may take place is full remote learning. The middle school has already been forced to move to remote learning for two weeks, and the high school is experiencing a remote learning day on October 30."

For the most recent updates, visit lowellschools.com or follow Lowell Area Schools on social media.

Lowell Schools Secondary Hybrid Schedule – November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Grades 6-12	3 Grades 6-12	4 Grades 6-12	5 Grades 6-12	6 Remote 6-12	7
8	9 Grades 6-12	10 Grades 6-12	11 Grades 6-12	12 Grades 6-12	13 Remote 6-12	14
15	16 Grades 6-12	17 Grades 6-12	18 TBD – exam schedule to be determined	19 ½ Day Grades 6-12	20 ½ Day Grades 6-12	21
22	23 Grades 6-12	24 Grades 6-12	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Key

Red: Red 6-12 Students Attend Face to Face

Yellow – Remote Learning Day for 6-12

Green – To be determined after exam schedule is finalized

White: White 6-12 Students Attend Face to Face

Gray – Weekends or no school

Showboat, infrastructure, HVAC, etc. discussed at Nov. 2 city council meeting

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 2.

The council began the meeting with a discussion of a replacement for Greg Canfield, who resigned abruptly during the previous meeting. They decided to set a deadline of Nov. 16 to apply for the position. The council will interview the candidates to decide who gets the seat at a special meeting at city hall at 6 pm on Monday, Nov. 23.

Next, the council discussed the new Lowell Showboat. Discussion of the Showboat got heated during the last city council meeting on Oct. 19, when neither the city nor the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce would agree to accept responsibility for the facility once it's active. The Chamber's board of directors sent a letter to the city on Oct. 27 with some "suggestions."

"Chamber staff would assist with informational phone calls and scheduling during normal business hours," the letter read. "Chamber staff will provide you with community scheduling, Chamber staff will assist in marketing the Showboat... [and] Chamber staff and board of directors will assist with creating and setting up an LLC/non-profit to conduct the business of the Lowell Showboat. [...] When the LLC/non-profit is set

up and running, we believe that this entity would hire a manager and any additional staff required to operate the venue adequately, including scheduling, marketing and day to day operations."

Meanwhile, fundraising to pay for the boat continues. Lowell Showboat Fundraising Committee member Mark Mundt attended the meeting and revealed that so far they have raised \$353,900 of the \$780,000 goal and are working hard to come up with the outstanding amount.

"In order for this to be successful, we need the support of pretty much the entire community, honestly," Mundt said. "This is a lot of money we're trying to raise, and we're a very small town."

A consortium of representatives from the city and Lowell Township will schedule seven meetings to hash out a new agreement for water services between the two entities. A potential industrial and retail development near the Lowell freeway exit will not occur unless sufficient water service can be provided. Currently, the township leases these services from the city, but now they want to either build their own plant or renegotiate their agreement with the city.

The meetings will occur

at 7 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, starting on Tuesday, Nov. 10. The last will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021. A location has not yet been determined. The city's representatives at the meetings will be Lowell mayor Michael DeVore, Lowell city manager Michael Burns and land developer Todd Schaal, a city resident.

The council approved spending \$6,567 to have Progressive Heating, Cooling & Refrigeration, 1375 E. Main, replace the HVAC unit in the Public Works building at 217 S. Hudson. Including installation, the new unit is \$4,896 and the "low leak economizer" required to operate it costs an additional \$1,671.

"It came to my attention over the summer when we had Progressive Heating and Cooling in several times to get the thing up and running again," said DPW director Dan Czarnecki. "They informed us that the heat



YouTube screenshot of Lowell city council in discussion at their regular meeting on Monday, Nov. 2.

exchange has got a great big crack in it."

The council voted to spend \$39,100 to have Williams & Works do survey work for the Monroe St. improvement project (\$21,900) and the Washington St. project (\$17,200).

"Monroe St. is a 2022 project, so we need to get that design work done and off to MDOT by the end of spring 2021," Czarnecki said.

"The prices are different because Monroe is a little longer," said Williams & Works engineer Dave Austin. "We also have water main in that stretch that's longer, and it's a little more complicated."

Lowell city council's next regular meeting is scheduled to take place at city hall at 7 pm on Monday, Nov. 23. There is still a pandemic going on, so this date, time

and location could change. They also have a "Coffee with the Council" meet and greet event scheduled at the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce building on the Riverwalk from 8 until 10 am on Saturday, Nov. 7.

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

Former CDC director says "nowhere near" end of pandemic

A former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevent said Monday we're "nowhere near" the end of the COVID-19 pandemic and that the "risk of explosive spread isn't going to end when we get a vaccine."

Dr. Thomas Frieden, the CDC director under former President Barack Obama, made his remarks during a virtual COVID-19 roundtable event hosted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Monday.

"It's really important

to be clear, this is not going away anytime soon," he said, who also was New York City's commissioner of health and mental hygiene from 2002 to 2009.

Frieden said that COVID-19 is a long-term threat to public health and is the most disruptive infectious disease threat the world has faced in a century.

Later during the roundtable that featured health experts and officials, John DeLeda, chief medical officer for Henry Ford Hospital and Henry Ford Medical Group, said it's about managing

expectations when it comes to the pandemic.

"I can remember [...] back in February and March, thinking, OK, if we just get through these next couple of months, we'll get to the other side and life will be back to normal," he said. "Over the course of [...] that time period, recognizing that we were not talking about weeks and months, we're talking about months and years, here, before there's such a thing as life back to normal, and even when we get there, I [...] doubt it will look much like it did pre-March of 2020."

Before the most recent surge of cases – Michigan is now at higher levels than the previous peak in April – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer had said she thought it might be a "matter of months" until Michigan emerges from being out of a COVID-19 emergency.

Asked if the governor still believes that in light of Frieden's comments, Whitmer's spokesperson Tiffany Brown said, "the governor has always prefaced that statement making it clear that data and science will inform any decisions."

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Reconstruction of Monroe and Washington streets by 2024

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Like many municipalities in Michigan, preparations are underway in Lowell to “fix the damn roads.” Specifically, there are major infrastructure improvement projects in the works that will totally replace Monroe and Washington streets over the next four years.

According to an Oct. 15 memorandum by Lowell public works director Dan Czarnecki, Monroe is in for a “total reconstruction” of its entire length, from Front to Fremont - about 3,700 feet of road.

“Gravel base material will be installed in the disturbed areas and a new asphalt surface will be placed,” Czarnecki wrote. “Curb and gutter will be replaced as needed in areas disturbed and where driveway approaches are no longer needed. The high-backed curb along the west side of the street between High St. and King St. will be replaced. [...] Drive approaches will only be replaced if they

are disturbed due to the construction work. Sidewalk ramps at intersections will be brought up to the most current ADA specification.”

Additionally, 3,000 feet of new eight inch watermain will be installed from Kent to just south of Main and from Avery to Fremont. The current watermain is four inches in diameter. Czarnecki noted that much of the infrastructure in this area was likely installed at various points between the 1930s and the 1970s.

Sanitary sewer will be replaced from King to Sherman - about 1,700 feet - and from Front to just south of Main - another 450 feet. The existing 250 feet of sewer pipe that runs under Main St. will be relined instead of replaced.

The approximate cost of this work will be \$1,880,000, and it is scheduled for completion in spring 2023.

According to Czarnecki’s memo, the city also plans to replace two inch “galvanized

water service behind the 201-229 block of E. Main St., increasing this to 8-inch diameter pipe and installation of a new 8-inch watermain on Kent St. from Monroe to Washington,” plus replacement watermains and other sewer lines in the area. The addition of these projects increases the estimated total to \$2,375,000. The city has MDOT funding of \$375,000 to apply to this project, and they are also investigating “Rural Utility Services” loans that are available from the USDA.

“The USDA funding is available for construction and engineering activities associated with utility improvements such as watermain and sanitary sewer replacements,” Czarnecki wrote. “The loans come at a low interest rate with payments that can be spread across 40 years and there is no penalty if the loan is paid back early.”

Washington St. is also in for a total reconstruction,

from Front to Fremont. A new watermain will be installed from Front to Main and from Main to Grant. Sanitary sewer will be replaced from Avery to Grant and the entire

Washington St. storm sewer will be replaced or repaired.

This project will cost approximately \$1,553,000. Design work is scheduled through 2022, with

construction set to begin sometime in 2023 and be totally completed by spring 2024. It’s a local street, so no MDOT funding can be used for this project.

Sanitary Sewer Construction

The sanitary sewer on Monroe St. appears to be very old. The REGIS-GIS indicates the sanitary sewer was installed in 1934. I cannot find any information to support or dispute this date of installation. However, the video recordings of certain sections appear that the pipe material is very old. The pipe is vitrified clay pipe. It is possible the sewer was constructed as a combined system as was typical in those days. In 1972-1973 there was a project to install storm sewer along Monroe St. Also part of this project was changes made to the sanitary sewer system at the south end of Monroe St. There is no indication that any other sanitary sewer piping was changed during the 1972-1973 project.

Technical information about sanitary sewer construction excerpted from an inter-city memorandum by Lowell public works director Dan Czarnecki.

Watermain Construction

The majority of the watermain on Monroe St. is 4-inch diameter cast-iron pipe. The existing watermain was installed during different years. According to the REGIS-GIS the oldest section was installed in 1940, between Avery St. and North St. The portion of watermain south of Main St was installed in 1946 (Kent to Main). The remaining watermain on Monroe St. was installed in 1950 (Grant to Fremont) or 1972-1973 (North to Grant). The watermain from the south side of Main St. to the Avery St. intersection is 6-inch pipe. The section beneath Main St. was installed in 1996, while the section from Main St. to Avery St. and south of Main St. to the new City parking lot was installed in 2016.

Technical information about water main construction excerpted from an inter-city memorandum by Lowell public works director Dan Czarnecki.

Free crisis counseling available to Michiganders

Mental health experts at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services are launching a statewide media campaign this week urging residents to seek relief from COVID-19 related emotional distress by talking to a trained crisis counselor and learning about other help available.

The “Be Kind to Your Mind” campaign promotes the use of Michigan’s free, confidential Stay Well counseling line, and aims to combat stigma associated with seeking help for feelings of depression, anxiety, anger or loss – all common during a disaster like COVID-19.

The Stay Well counseling line debuted on May 13, and is staffed with crisis counselors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Callers can access the line by dialing Michigan’s COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 and pressing “8” at the prompt. The service is part of a federally funded grant program implemented by the MDHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration in partnership with the Michigan State Police.

“Many of us are having a hard time right now,” said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. “There should be zero shame and zero stigma, just honesty that can help each of us find our own inner strength. ‘Be Kind to Your Mind’ says you can talk about the strain from COVID-19 with trained counselors who are

available for free if you call 888-535-6136 and press 8, or visit Michigan.gov/StayWell.”

According to a recent online survey of 99,000 households conducted by the US Census Bureau, more than one-third of American adults report symptoms of depressive and/or anxiety disorder, triple the rate reported in 2019. Another survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control in June found more than one in 10 US adults had considered suicide in the past 30 days. That rate was more than double what was reported in 2019.

“Stay Well counselors help people understand their feelings and reactions during a disaster like the COVID-19 pandemic,” said psychiatrist Dr. Debra

Pinals, MDHHS’ medical director for behavioral health. “While they are not licensed mental health professionals, they have undergone training provided by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on how to help people mentally rebound from disasters.

Pinals said the Stay Well counselors are taught to listen, not judge, and help callers develop coping strategies, review their options and connect with agencies that may help them. All of this can reduce callers’ stress and improve their ability to endure the realities they face, she said.

According to a report prepared by the Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration grant team, callers to the Stay

Well line are experiencing a range of emotions. They are anxious about contracting the coronavirus, having a loved one contract the virus and keeping their children and/or parents safe. They are discouraged about continued unemployment, worried about going back to work in an unsafe environment, and lonely due to lack of social interaction. Many callers expressed gratitude for being able to talk to someone who was objective and non-judgmental.

Language translation is available for non-English-speaking residents who call the counseling line.

“This service is one of the many steps MDHHS has taken to support the public’s behavioral health during these stressful and

uncertain times,” said Allen Jansen, MDHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration senior deputy director. “COVID-19 has impacted most everyone’s mental health in one way or another,

and we are here to help.” To access other mental health resources for coping with the COVID-19 pandemic, visit Michigan.gov/StayWell.



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Live the Life You Want The pet effect and mental health

Melissa Spino MA LLPC CDMS
Life Transitions Therapy LLC

This is a topic that has been written about so many times, the “pet effect”. Pets are said to help those with stress, anxiety, PTSD, and depression. But is this really true? Like many, I wanted to believe it but then I thought back to my own experiences. My father’s doctor had suggested he get fish to help lower his blood pressure because they have a calming effect. So, he got a tropical fish tank and we picked out some fish. Fast forward a few weeks and he began knocking on the tank when two of the fish became aggressive with each other. When this didn’t get the desired effect and only resulted in water spilling over the tank his agitation with these two fish increased, and I suspect so did his stress and blood pressure. The muttering about these fish increased and then one day I walked in and he had his hand in the tank in an attempt to catch the aggressive fish. So, clearly the fish didn’t produce the desired stress reduction and blood pressure lowering results. After thinking about this and other past experiences, I decided to delve deeper for this article and look at actual validated studies about this topic specifically in relation to depression and anxiety.

The Research

I found 33 peer review articles on pets and depression that showed surprising results. Twenty-one out of 33 studies showed that those with pet companions were in fact not less depressed. Five studies show that those

with companion pets were likely to be more depressed than non-pet owners and another five show the opposite. I won’t go into all the details about age and gender differences because there are always exceptions and it would make this a very long article. But these studies indicate that the “pet effect” is not as helpful as the claims.

For some, interactions



Melissa Spino
MA, LLPC, NCC, CDMS

with pets can reduce stress and improve mood but let’s look at the data on companion animals reducing stress and anxiety. When looking at reliable studies they don’t provide proof that living with a companion animal provides health or mental health benefits. The Whitehall II study shows there were little or no differences between the physical and mental health of pet owners and non-pet owners. In fact, the Depression & Anxiety Inventory results showed that those having companion animals were slightly worse than those without companion animals.

A 2017 RAND Corporation study shows that health benefits attributed to pet companions are actually due to socioeconomic differences. They also found that cognitive and mental health advantages in children with pets is due to other factors such as ethnicity and family wealth.

What Does This Mean?

We all react differently and what works for one may not work for another. There are a lot of good reasons to have a pet companion. However, if you get one believing it will make you less lonely, reduce stress, anxiety, or depression look at the research facts. Beyond the study facts there are other considerations, such as, can you take care of a pet if you become ill or if they become ill? Not just physically but also financially? In these situations, the most likely result is an increase in stress, anxiety, and possibly depression. I honestly believe the “pet effect” is hype most likely generated by those that will benefit the most from it. The bottom line is having a companion animal is a long-term commitment, so if you feel having one is a good fit for you (lifestyle, financially, physically, emotionally etc.) then go for it. If you are looking to get a pet companion to help with your emotional health, look at the facts because you may be disappointed.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS PUBLIC NOTICE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education is seeking applications from those persons interested in filling a vacant seat on the Board of Education. The person appointed to this position will serve through certification of the annual Board election in November, 2022.

Applicants must live in the Lowell Area School District.

Interested persons are requested to submit a letter of interest and a resume that describes the applicant’s background and qualifications. Letters should be addressed to:

Lowell Area Schools
Board of Education
300 High Street
Lowell, MI 49331

All applications must be received at the address above by 3:00 p.m., November 13, 2020.

Patrick Nugent, Secretary
Secretary, Board of Education

viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Ledger November 8, 1895

Harry E. French was arrested at Grand Rapids on the charge of using the mails for fraudulent purposes. It is alleged he sent to stamp collectors all over the country for stamps to be forwarded on approval, and either did not return them at all, or returned them short in count.

The village of Lowell has now the opportunity of its existence to acquire a municipal lighting and power plant. Experience has demonstrated that municipal lighting plants can be economically and profitably operated. As for power, when Lowell places herself in position to offer manufacturers a cheap and adequate power with which to operate extensive machinery, just that moment will her chances for growth and prosperity be multiplied many fold.

Another railroad strike is breeding. Prosperity is coming too fast to suit flaunters of the red rag; and something must be done to block the wheels; hence, the laborer places his nose firmly upon the grindstone and grimly turns the crank.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 11, 1920

The second chapter of the marital difficulties of Rev. Vincent Webb, formerly a Baptist clergyman at Alto, and now a pastor at Lowell and Lyons, comes to light in the form of a cross bill filed by the preacher's wife, in which she sets forth that in making the charges of "paying too much attention to other women," she "accused him of nothing but the truth."

In spite of a concerted attempt to bring the Federal Prohibition law into contempt, it has already proven itself far superior to a licensed liquor traffic, and the open saloon. Those who have hoped and worked for a return of the old conditions are doomed to disappointment. Present wrongs will be righted, and wrong-doers will be punished.

The recommendation of Michigan teachers that church and private schools be subject to state supervision and a declaration from Catholics that they will promote such a movement are hopeful signs that we will have no more school amendment campaigns. With all schools, public and private, under state supervision and teaching in English up to the eighth grade, all reasonable people should be content. We believe the language provision should be required; that the lessons of the great war require it.

75 years The Lowell Ledger November 8, 1945

Everett, Harold, and Wilbur Wittenbach have been negotiating this week for the purchase of the Percy J. Read and Sons Imp. Business. The new firm, which will be known as Wittenbach Sales and Service, expect to be open for business this week Friday or Saturday at the latest.

Gerald M. Henry, who has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Henry, following his discharge from the U. S. Navy several weeks ago, has announced his resumption of the practice of law, with offices at 660 Michigan Trust Building, Grand Rapids, starting this week.

Some of the younger set around town would like to form a dramatic club and stage two or three plays during the winter season – somewhat along the civic players idea. Looks like a good idea, dramatics develop talent and home talent productions invariably draw big audiences.

50 years The Lowell Ledger November 12, 1970

Carl Hagen, 49, superintendent of Lowell Area Schools for the past 1½ years and former principal of Lowell High School for nine years, drowned Saturday in a boating accident at Wabasis Lake in northeastern Kent County.

"Every weekend there seems to be a new family." That, to Ellen Boyer, is what life is like in Eastgate in the Woods, a new housing development rising in the hills along Cumberland Ave. west of Lowell. Mrs. Boyer and her husband, Glen, both of whom are 25, picked the type of house they wanted—a ranch model—last January. The basement was dug then, and by May the Boyers moved in with their two children, Lisa Ann, 5, and Steven, 19 months, and their dog, Stubby, a purebred English bulldog.

Donald Kelly, Lowell High School principal and former athletic director, was named Monday as acting superintendent of the 2,600-student Lowell Area School System.

25 years The Lowell Ledger November 8, 1995

The Lowell Board of Education transferred the designated land at the corner of Monroe and Avery Streets for \$1.01 to the city of Lowell for the express purpose of building a new public library.

Philip Moerdyke was being treated for an inflammation of the sinuses in February when a tumorous growth was detected in his left sinus. The tumor, a soft tissue cancer called Rhabdomyosarcoma, is normally found in a person's leg, arm or stomach. The sinus is an uncommon spot for it to appear.

It was intended to be a formalized arrangement between company and operator. It wound up a disunion which brought about the removal of Channel-22 from Lowell Cable Television. The proposed formalized arrangement between Lowell Cable and Channel 22 operator Linda Taber was not signed by the operator.

to the editor

Dear Editor:

October 30, 2020,
3:52 am

It is kind of an odd time to be typing out a letter to the editor, but I have been brooding about something I read in the paper last week, 10/21.

Across the page from my beloved 'fun page' which helps to gently maintain my mental acuity I saw two display ads posted by the City of Lowell's Planning Commission. Now these outreaches by government are quite regular in nature and are required to 'inform' the general public of what your government is doing. I, like many others, pay scarcely any attention to these ads. However, these ads jumped off the page to me. They were public notices that the Planning Commission was again considering granting two additional marijuana retail outlets.

Let me be up front, I thought the typesetter had misspelled 'marihuana'. I had to smile, however in researching the subject, I learned that the common use of 'marijuana' for the technical 'cannibis' is a fairly new form of reference. I won't belabor

the reader with the history, but to suffice to say, that my issue is "Just what are you, the Planning Commission, thinking?" It is my understanding that the City has already approved three retail establishments. The first has been opened for some time, and the second is scheduled to join in any day. All of the approved locations are on the extended 'Main Street' of Lowell, Fulton/M/21. The two additionally proposed locations are also on the same street, West Main. Now I ask you, the three approved locations are not even yet operating and the Planning Commission is set to consider two more. I note also that the City of Lowell is the only entity to have a retail 'pot shop' in Kent county. What is it that other communities know that has them refraining from such commerce?

Hmmmm, I wonder what image of the City of Lowell has in mind to communicate to the rest of the state. Are five 'pot shops' necessary to supply the needs of the community? Do the existing folks who have invested in other businesses

Letters, continued, page 16

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

ABC's of Lowell History

The ABC's of Lowell History was introduced this year as a way to share some of the many fascinating stories from Lowell's past. It was initiated in part by the pandemic shutdown which led the Museum to seek alternative ways to share local history with the community. The series will continue with a second round of the alphabet.

E is for Englehardt

Harold Englehardt (1900-1997) was humble and kind and was always known to live a low-key life, except for his hats and his big Cadillac. He had a wonderful laugh and was once nicknamed "Jinglehardt." Harold J. Englehardt, was a self-made millionaire, whose philanthropic planning has left a legacy that has given and will continue to give back to the Lowell community that he loved so much.

Harold was born on December 13, 1900 in Frankenmuth, Michigan. He attended Ferris State College and came to Lowell in 1922. He took a job as a cashier with Lowell State Bank and worked there until the bank went on a "banking holiday" in 1929 due to the stock market crash.

In December 1928, with money he had saved, Englehardt purchased Lowell Granite Company stock and operated it as President. In 1934, he organized a large group of investors to open the "State Savings Bank" at 218 E. Main which was a combination of stockholders from the previous Lowell State Bank and City State



Harold Englehardt at his desk during the Lowell State Savings Bank open house, February 16, 1961.

Bank which had closed due to the depression.

The bank came at an opportune time to help residents of Lowell recover from the depression. Harold's concern for the well being of the community extended to helping stimulate business and agriculture, and providing funds for several local capital improvement programs. During the great depression Harold was known to send homeless individuals to Lou Racine's restaurant for a hot meal, paying their bill weekly without them ever knowing who did this kind deed.

In 1932, Harold married Mildred Taylor, a local girl. They took a honeymoon trip to Washington D.C. and points along the Hudson River before returning to their new home at 518 N. Jefferson. They spent their entire married life in this unpretentious home furnished with quality furnishings like the walnut bedstead and cane-work

rocking chair which are now owned by the Lowell Area Historical Museum. Harold and Mildred had no children. Harold continued to operate his business, the Lowell Granite Company, for many years while lending his expertise to the bank as a board member. In 1960, he accepted the position of bank president and turned the management of the Granite Company over to Judd Wilterink who had been a long-time employee and eventually purchased the company.

Mr. and Mrs. Englehardt's special interest in education was demonstrated by their establishment of several scholarships for students going to college. His most visible and generous donation of \$380,000 in 1997 went toward the new library, which was named in their honor, now known as Harold and Mildred Englehardt Library.

In 1997, after his death at the age of 96, it was announced that he had left a gift to the Lowell area of \$12.7 million dollars. The Lowell Area Community Fund is one that has continued giving to the needs of the Lowell area. The funds have gone on to help many local institutions, including the City of Lowell, Lowell Area Schools, Lowell Township, Vergennes Township, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Lowell Area Arts Council, Lowell Area Historical Museum, Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association (Veen Observatory) and many, many others.

Harold Englehardt showed that one person can make a difference. Lowell has been fortunate to have a gracious and generous person like Harold J. Englehardt among us.

- retinal detachment

A retinal detachment is a situation that occurs when the retina at the back of the eye pulls away from its attachment. This is a serious emergency. The longer the detachment occurs, the greater the risk of permanent visual loss. There is no pain when the detachment occurs.

Symptoms include the sudden appearance of many floaters in your vision, flashes of light, blurred vision, a shadow over your visual field, or reduced peripheral vision.

Risk factors include aging – those over 50 are most at risk, extreme near sightedness, history of a severe eye injury, family history of retinal tear, and

presence of an underlying eye disease.

Diagnosis is made after a retinal examination and detailed imaging.

Surgery is used to treat the detachment. This needs to occur as soon as possible. There are several types of surgery used depending on how severe the tear is. One procedure involves injecting air or gas into the eye. Another technique involves indenting the surface of the eye. A third option involves draining the fluid of the eye and replacing it with air, gas, or silicone oil.

It takes several months for vision to recover. Sometimes, additional surgery needs to be done.



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area churches



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Joseph Fremer, Pastor **897-8307**
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 Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor
 Pastor Andrew Bolkcom • Pastor of Discipleship
 Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries

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

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
 897-7060
 Pastor Ryan Landt
 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

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

St. Mary Catholic Church
 402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820
 Website: www.stmarylowell.com

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

Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 8 am to 7 pm
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www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

WORSHIP
 Traditional Service: 9 am
 Contemporary Service: 10:30 am
 Sr. Pastor - Brad Brillhart

happy birthday



NOVEMBER 4
 Ken VanDerWarf,
 Carol Hunt, Meghan
 Plutschouw, Laura Gildner,
 Joanna Barr.

NOVEMBER 8
 David Korte, Andrew
 Potter, Joshua Chamberlain,
 Anna Seddon, Nicholas
 Seddon.

NOVEMBER 5
 Holly Stouffer, Mart
 DeYoung.

NOVEMBER 9
 Roxanne Goff, Danielle
 Bundy, Katie Mendez,
 Carol Sue McGregor, Angie
 Briggs, Tom Mohr, Daryll
 Gildner.

NOVEMBER 6
 Cathy Kehoe, Becky
 Chamberlain, Kimberly
 Doyle, Matthew Yeiter.

NOVEMBER 10
 Ann Bellah, Sarah
 Mogor, Alex Peel, Tyler
 Dewey, Jay Brown.

NOVEMBER 7
 Keegan Geldersma,
 Charlene Butler, Kelsey
 Ligan, Carl Blough,
 Rachel Plotner.



Shirkey, Chatfield offer to kickstart COVID-19 discussions

Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) and House Speaker Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) are looking at getting the ball rolling on COVID-19 state policy discussions with the governor, legislative minority leaders, physicians and hospital officials.

The leaders penned a letter Tuesday calling for a "collaborative effort" to "discuss emerging data" that "will benefit all Michiganders."

"It is well past time we all stop arguing from afar and in the press and start working together in person for the people who are counting on us," Shirkey and Chatfield wrote. "Time is of the essence and we welcome a commitment from our partners, or their designee to meet at their earliest convenience."

Asked about the letter at a press conference Wednesday and whether she'd attend, Gov.

Gretchen Whitmer said, "We have had so many opportunities to brief the legislature" and that she would "of course take every opportunity to do that."

Whitmer added, "this letter might lead you to conclude those opportunities have not been made available to them when they have throughout COVID-19."

The Shirkey-Chatfield letter came nearly four weeks after the state Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the 1945 "Riot Act" Whitmer was using as legal ground for her rolling emergency executive orders that restricted gatherings and other COVID-19-related restrictions.

It also came a week after a group of health, university and business leaders came together to tell elected leaders to have "complete unity of purpose" and that government leaders should "foster that unity" in the



Rep. Lee Chatfield



Sen. Mike Shirkey



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer

fight against COVID-19.

That letter included the names of hospital leaders and university presidents, as well as leaders from DTE, General Motors, UAW, AFL-CIO and several other corporations and business organizations.

Case numbers are now at their highest levels since the pandemic started in March, with new daily infections at more than 2,000. However, daily death tolls are in the 30s to 20s, far below the numbers from April.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said

he is in, once the meeting is scheduled.

"We're glad to see Republican leadership finally recognize that there's a deadly pandemic going on out there," Ananich said. "We've been working with the governor for eight months on this and they're welcome to join us."

House Minority Leader Christine Greig (D-Farmington Hills) said she's always ready to have a serious conversation about combatting the pandemic.

"Speaker Chatfield is still not taking it seriously,"

Greig said. He was at the [Trump] rally with no mask and surrounded by others without masks."

The Michigan Health and Hospital Association spokesperson John Karasinski said they are

seeing a "concerning trend of increasing hospitalizations" and they welcome the opportunity to meet with leaders in a collaborative format to discuss situation.

Back-to-back days of record COVID-19 cases in Michigan

The state reported a daily record number of 3,881 COVID-19 cases on Monday, which covers cases that have come in since Saturday.

Monday's record breaks the one set on Saturday when the state reported 3,338 more cases for the first time. The two days mark the first times Michigan has seen more than 3,000 cases reported on any given day.

October is now the month that has seen the most COVID-19 cases reported during the entire

pandemic, with 37,220 cases, surpassing the previous high of 33,764 cases back in April, as determined by the numbers reported on a daily basis, which are based on when the cases are received and not by the date of the onset of illness.

Monday, there were 29 additional COVID-19 deaths reported statewide, after 35 were reported Saturday. The statewide cumulative totals now stand at 161,907 cases and 7,211 deaths.

Poll shows that 91% believe masks, etc., help in COVID-19 fight

Poll results released by the Michigan Health & Hospital Association found that 91 percent of Michigan voters agree that Michiganders taking responsibility to wear masks, wash their hands and

socially distance would help hospitals fight the virus.

The survey of 600 Michigan voters was conducted Oct. 15-19 by EPIC-MRA with a margin of error of four percent.

The City of Lowell City Council is accepting letters of interest from residents interested in serving in the vacant City Council position. To be eligible you must be the following:

- A City of Lowell Resident for one year.
- A City of Lowell Resident registered voter on the last day for filing nominating petitions for the 2019 City Council election. (April 23, 2019)
- Not in default to the City.

The City Council will take letters of interest until Monday November 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Letters of interest can be delivered in person to City Clerk Sue Ullery, or mailed to her at 301 E. Main, Lowell MI, 49331 or by email at sullery@ci.lowell.mi.us.

The Council will plan on interviewing interested candidates on Monday November 23, 2020 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers. If selected, the position will be contested in the November 21, 2020 election.



New weekly high of 30 new school outbreaks reported

The number of outbreaks tied to K-12 and university settings shot up to 127 overall, from the 93 total last week, including a weekly high of 30 new outbreaks.

The 30 new outbreaks reported this week are the most newly recorded outbreaks since the state started providing weekly stats on specific school outbreaks.

All but one new outbreak reported this week are tied to a K-12 building of some sort. The 10 cases

associated with Breitung Township Schools in Dickinson County saw the most cases for one setting among the newly reported outbreaks.

Cases associated with Michigan State University – now labeled as "MSU off-campus" in the data – still make up the largest outbreak, with 1,664 cases. The University of Michigan is next with 1,092 cases, followed by Western Michigan University with 783.



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or send resume to jsmith@kingflour.com

Home for the Holidays brings canceled “Christmas Through Lowell” event back to its roots

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

This year, the hugely popular Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce event “Christmas Through Lowell” was among the many traditions that were canceled because of the

COVID-19 pandemic. To make up for the loss, over a dozen local homeowners have banded together to create a smaller alternative event called “Home for the Holidays.”

“With the COVID stuff going on, the Chamber said that nobody could use the words ‘Christmas Through Lowell’ because it was canceled,” said event organizer Karin Jelsma. “We didn’t want to give up the show, it’s been

going for 20-some years! So it is now the ‘Home for the Holidays’ craft show.”

“Home for the Holidays” was the brainchild of Jelsma and Jody Haybarker, both among the original “Christmas Through Lowell” participants.

“A couple months ago, Jody and I contacted a bunch of the homeowners that were in it before,” Jelsma said. “We’re up to 17 homes that are going to participate, and there are still some coming in. It was all in homes back in the day, it didn’t include any of the downtown, so it’s awesome that we can keep it going. We’re so thrilled to be able to bring it back.”

Jelsma’s home at 13235 Burroughs is one of the most



Karin Jelsma (right) in her home during last year’s “Christmas Through Lowell” event, posing with Emily Schultz.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following request from the Kent County Youth Agricultural Association (KCYAA)

REQUEST: A request for a Special Land Use Permit to establish a county fairground on a 141.94-acre parcel in the AG-1, Prime Agricultural Zoning District. The request includes the operation of an annual county fair for a period not to exceed 15 consecutive days per year plus other activities throughout the year for outdoor recreational uses, concerts, sporting events, grandstand events, horse shows, rodeo’s, 4-H and FFA events, craft shows, a year round campground and other similar activities.

The proposed fairgrounds would consist of buildings for animal shelters and fair exhibits, a lighted outdoor horse arena and horse shelter buildings, lighted track and bleachers, a grass midway area, large parking area, an on-site lagoon system for sanitary sewer treatment, a camping area to be used during fair week plus 60 year round campground sites. The existing clubhouse and parking lot will remain for fair administrative offices and for banquets and weddings.

GENERAL LOCATION: The property is located at 13955 Cascade Road on land formerly occupied by the Deer Run Golf Course.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI. 49331

Any person is welcome to attend the meeting and offer comments regarding this request. Information on the proposed request is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township Offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, SE, Lowell, MI. 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday or by calling 897-7600.

Materials pertaining to this request may also be viewed on the Township web site at www.lowelltp.org five days before the meeting.

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission



A photo from last year’s “Christmas Through Lowell.”
“We’re going to put ‘please wear a mask,’ and we will do our best to social distance too,” Jelsma said. “So please wear your mask and social distance, the new norm. With crowd control and all, we do have the room to do that.”

elaborate and popular stops every year.

“Each home has a name that they fall under, ours is ‘Homespun Holidays,’” Jelsma said. “We specialize in antique sleds, folk art, handcrafted, unique gifts, primitives, furniture and

one-of-a-kind finds. We have eight full rooms – there is actually more square footage than some of the old buildings downtown! Jody’s is called ‘Eclectic Finds.’”

The homes will be open to customers on Friday, Nov. 20 from 9 am until 9 pm and Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 am

until 7 pm. Jelsma said her own home will also be open on Sunday, Nov. 22 from 11 am until 5 pm.

“I’m open on Sunday, but the others chose not to keep that third day,” Jelsma said.

There will be far fewer vendors this year, but still plenty of different, unique products to look out for, including woodworking products, yard art, bird houses, doll furniture, human furniture, antiques, Christmas ornaments, Christmas decor, metalwork creations, silk scarves, rugs, blankets, quilted items and knit items, all created by local artisans.

Jelsma said to look her up on Facebook in order to access the complete list of the vendors and their addresses.

“We’re going to put ‘please wear a mask,’ and we will do our best to social distance too,” Jelsma said. “So please wear your mask and social distance, the new norm. With crowd control and all, we do have the room to do that.”



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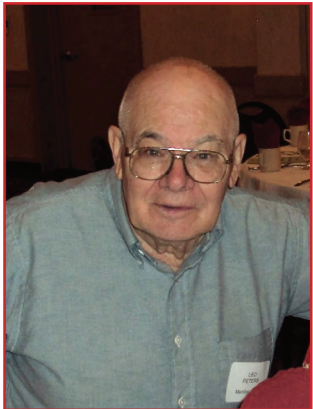
Call Today!
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VETERANS DAY



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Leo Peters
Army
1945 – 1985



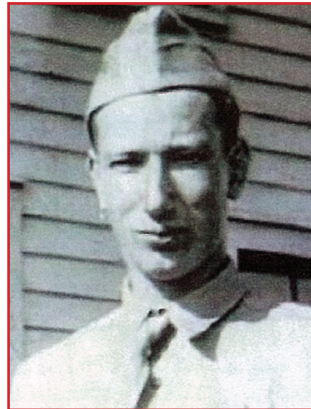
Lyle Covert
Army
June 1945 – July 1946



Staff Sgt. Lyle Royston
U.S. Army
1948-1952



Mark Stinchcomb
USMC
1976-1982



Phil Covert
Army 1943-1944
Killed in action



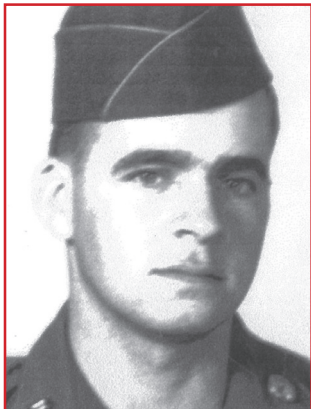
Phil VanDuinen
U.S. Army
1969-1970



Ray Covert
National Guard Infantry
1909-1915



Richard Bibbler
82nd Airborne
1951-1954



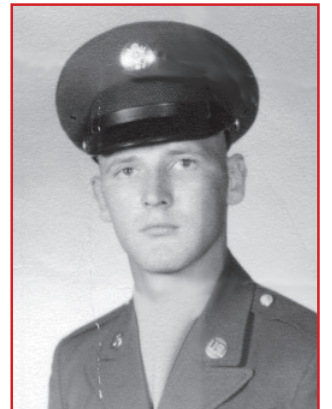
Richard C. Bieri
Army
Nov. 1950 – Sept. 1952



Richard Stull Jr.
US Navy
1967 - 1970



Robert Alan Schreur
Coastguard
2011 - 2017



Robert Bibbler
101st Airborne
1966-1969



Michael Cnossen
US Army
2002 to 2008



Karen Waid
US Army
1975-1987



Ron Janowski
US Army
1976-1998



Donald Viewig
Navy
1966-1968



Thomas Fox
Air Force
1986 - 1990



Rachel Fox
Air Force
2016 - Present

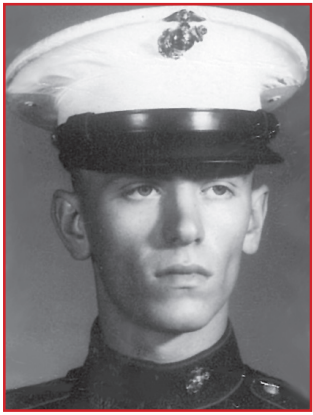
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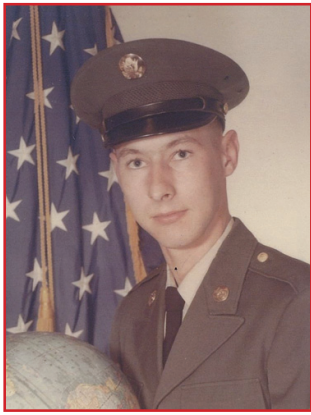
Veterans Day **Saluting Our Area Veterans**
 November 11



Sgt. Allan Mull
USMC
1969-1973



Arnold DeLoof
Air Force
1952-1956



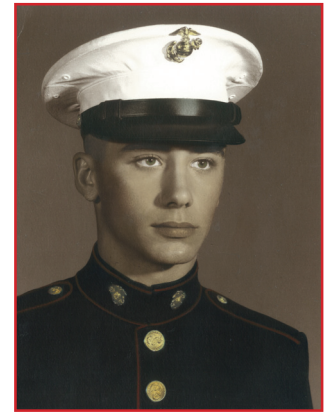
Bernard Bibler
101st Airborne
1969-1972



Berwyn L. Kloosterman
Navy
Dec. 1950 – Oct. 1954



**Bill Hunter, Don Souser,
Ed Meyers, Sonny Gumser,
Burt Hawk**
Navy 1943-1946



Bob Wilczewski
USMC
1968-1970



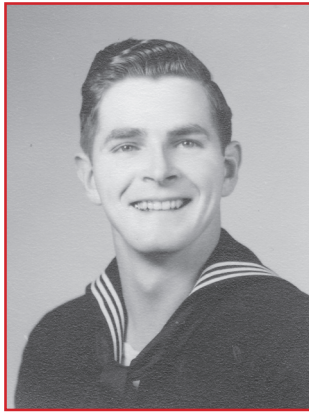
Brian Baldwin
U.S. Army Airborne
1981 - 1984



Casey Brown
U.S. Army
1994-97



Cecilia Bibler Best
U.S. Navy
1953-1955



Darle Ray Rickert
Navy
Jan. 1951 – Nov. 1954



CDR Dave Thompson
Navy
1955-1957



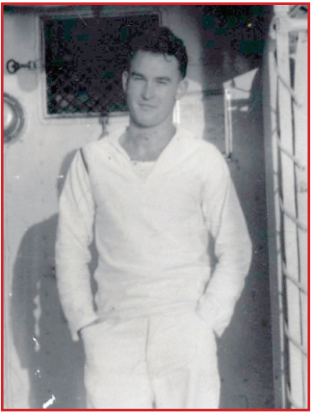
Dave Fehlig
USMC
1964-1970



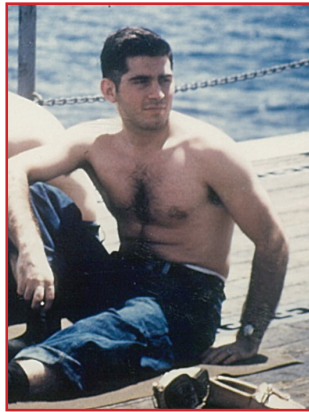
David Lee Neubecker
Army
1977-1980



David S. Harding
Army
1956-1957



Gerald (Joe) James Ellis
U.S. Navy
Wounded, Dec. 7, 1941
Died, Dec. 10, 1941



Gordon Newell
U.S. Navy
1950-1954
29 months Korea



Chief Herb Rice
Navy 1952-1977
24 years of service



Herman Weststrate
Army
1966-1969



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Louie Dudeck
Marines
1963 - 1967



Jerry Vredevelt
Navy
1949-1953



Joe Rinard
U.S. Army
1973-1975



Joel Uzarski,
Commander U.S. Navy
2000-Present

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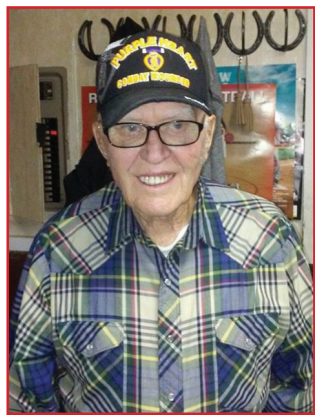
Arctic Inc.
Heating & Cooling
website: www.HeatingCoolingOnline.com
email: info@HeatingCoolingOnline.com

Thank You, Veterans

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www.bownetwp.org

Veterans Day Saluting Our Area Veterans

November 11



John K. Erickson
Army Korea 1947-1953
33 months POW



John Homan
Army
1969-1971



John R. Timpson
Navy
1951-1955



John Wilcox
Marines
1992 - 1996



Joseph Daniel Schreur
Coastguard
2011 - present



Brad Janowiak
Army
1980-1983



Steve Larkin
U.S. Marine Corps
1966 - 1967



Maurice L. Hannah
U.S. Army
1943 - 1945



Dirk G. Ritzema
MI Army National Guard
1980 - 1993



Lloyd G. Ritzema
U.S. Air Force
1951 - 1954



Donald Viewig
U.S. Navy
1965-1971



James M. Francis Sr.
U.S.A.F.
1955 - 1962



Robert Ellis
Army Airforce
1942-1945



Robert Moyer
Army
1969-1970



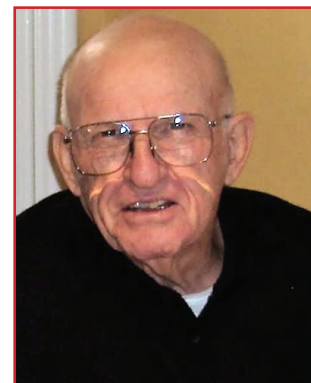
Roger L. Kropf
Army National Guard
1960-1966



Lawrence Mikulski
Navy
1964-1968



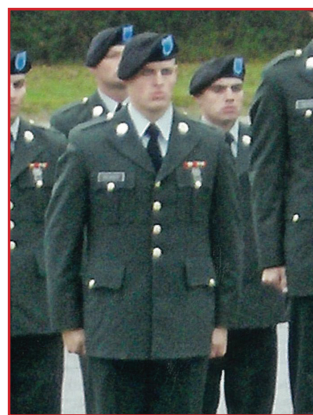
SFC Ron Thomure
Army
1956-1995



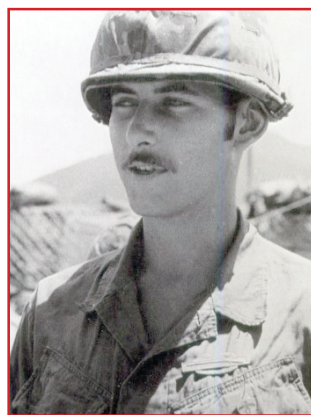
Russel Harig
Air Force
20 years



Sgt Scott C. Cooper
United States Air Force
2007 - present



Scott DeLoof
Army
2009-Present



Stephen L. Bibbler
101st Airborn
1972-1974



V Don Souser
Submarine Service
1943-1946
Max Souser
USN 1909-1944

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November 11

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Veterans Day

November 11

Saluting Our Area Veterans

Saluting Our Area Veterans

Veterans Day

November 11



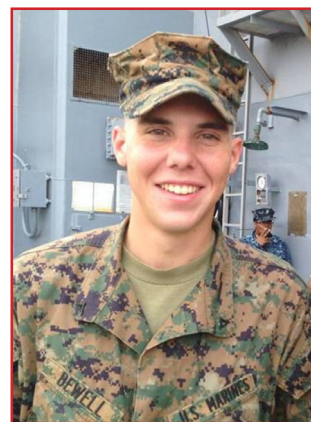
Mark Homolka
Air Force
1982 -2004



David Carroll
Army
1984 - 1988



David L. Neubecker
U.S. Army
1977 - 1980



Christopher Bewell
US Marines
Served 2010-2015



Captain David Thaler
USAF
1966 - 1973



John Schneider
U.S. Army - Korea
1950 - 1952



LCPL Devin L. Cupp
US Marine Corp
2018 - present



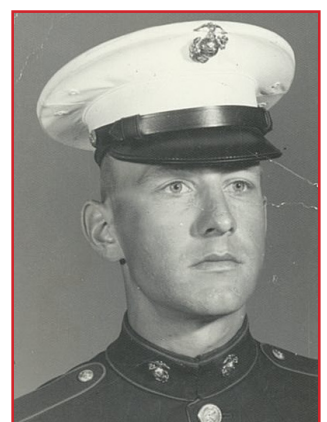
Robert Nagy
U.S. Army - Korea
1949 - 1952



Cameron Hoffman
U.S. Army - Korea/Vietnam
1956 - 1976



Chuck Benjamin
Army Artillery
1955 - 1957



Buell Brinks
U.S. Marine Corps
1969 - 1971



Doug Stroosnyder
U.S. Marines
1949 - 1953



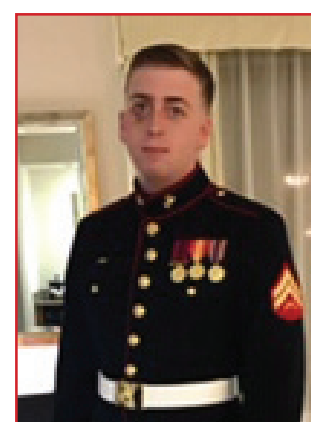
Ken Ayers
U.S. Air Force
1943 - 1945



Mike Larkin
U.S. Marine Corps
1969 - 1970



Bill Schaefer
U.S. Marine Corp
1950 - 1953



Evan C. Hedlund
USMC
2013 - 2017



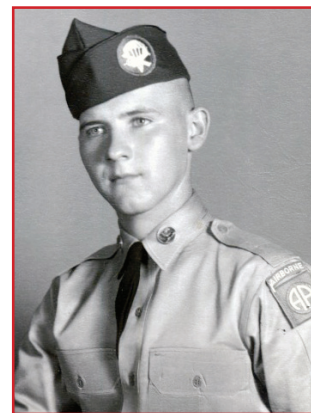
Bill Dommer
U.S. Air Force
1962 - 1966



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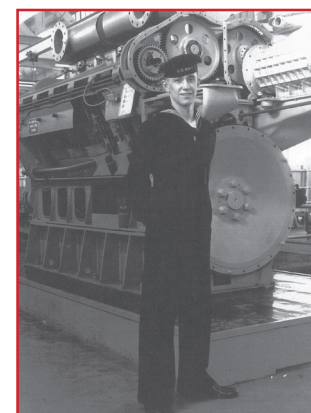
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William Bibbler
82nd Airborne
1960-1962



Jacob Clayton Callier
Army
1971-1974



W. James 'Jim' Sowle
U.S. Navy 1953-1955
Fireman on a harbor tug



Pete Mulder
WWI

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Saluting Our Area Veterans

November 11



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U.S. Navy
1945



Dennis Stauffer, Chris VanDyke
U.S. Army
1967 - 1969



Kyle M. Neubecker Marines 2006-2011
Jon Lyons Army 2002 -
Keith A. Neubecker Marines 2009-2012

A day to honor Veterans

The month of November is a special time for the nation's veterans.

While Memorial Day honors fallen soldiers and service people, Veteran's Day, which takes place each November, is an opportunity to commemorate the efforts of all who have been in the armed forces, with a special emphasis on living veterans. While people are encouraged to thank veterans throughout the year, Veteran's Day is a particularly poignant time to show your appreciation for the men and women of the military.

Veteran's Day takes place on November 11 and marks an important moment in history. On November 11, 1918, World War I, known at the time as "The Great War," unofficially ended when an armistice, or temporary cessation of

hostilities, took place between Germany and the Allied nations on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. World War I ended on paper when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919. In November 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Armistice Day became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. However, after subsequent wars, including World War II and the Korean War, veterans' service organizations lobbied for Armistice Day to be revised so it would be more inclusive of all veterans. On June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation to strike the

word "Armistice" from the holiday's name in favor of "Veterans." Since then, November 11 has been known as "Veterans Day" and has honored veterans of all wars.

Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday in October for roughly seven years under the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which sought to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees by celebrating certain national holidays on Mondays. But since November 11 bore such significance, many states disapproved and continued to observe the holiday on November 11. In 1975, President Gerald Ford signed legislation to return the observation of Veterans Day to November 11 beginning in 1978. Should the day fall on a Saturday or Sunday, the federal government observes the holiday

on the previous Friday or following Monday, respectively, according to History.com.

The United States isn't the only country to celebrate its veterans. Canada, Great Britain, Australia, and France also commemorate the veterans of World War I and II on or near November 11 as Remembrance Day or Remembrance Sunday.



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Red Arrow

- VOLLEYBALL

SPORTS

Volleyball wins conference tournament

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

With districts this week, the Lowell varsity volleyball team got a huge jolt of momentum heading into the postseason by winning the OK White Conference Tournament last week.

Division 2 No. 2 Grand Rapids Christian had already clinched the conference outright by advancing to the conference tournament finals and an undefeated regular season conference

record. Lowell had two losses in conference play, so even with a win over the Eagles they would not be able to overcome that gap. While the Red Arrows were not able to earn a

share of the conference title, their win over Grand Rapids Christian was an important step to returning to the MHSAA Volleyball State Championship match, where they finished their season last year.

The OK White Conference Tournament is new this year after over a decade, due to COVID-19 restrictions cutting the season short. It had been a part of deciding volleyball conference champions in the OK Conference from the mid 1980's to the late 2000's.

To get to the finals, Lowell had to get through a team that had already beaten

them this season, Division 1 No. 4 Byron Center, which they were able to do in the semifinals.

In the finals on Tuesday at Grand Rapids Christian, Lowell came away with a 3-1 win (27-25, 25-21, 21-25, 25-16). Seniors Jenna Reitsma (33 kills, 20 digs, two blocks, two aces), Emma Hall (22 digs), and Sophie Powell (four kills, two aces, 40 assists, one block) led the way for the Red Arrows. Emily Struckmeyer had four kills during the win. Alyssa Spanbauer and Piper Risdon each tallied a block. Sydney

Zandstra added nine kills and nine digs.

The Red Arrows defeated Ottawa Hills on Monday in the district quarterfinal, and will compete against Forest Hills Northern this Wednesday. A win against the Huskies would advance Lowell to Saturday's district final hosted by East Grand Rapids. Lowell is 28-4 on the season.



Lowell celebrates a point against Lake Orion in October.



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Lowell harriers compete at regionals

Two lady harriers lined up Saturday at the MHSAA Regional meet in Buckley and when all was said and done we had a personal record and a ticket to the Division 1 State Meet to be held Friday at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn. Annika Sandman finished in 17th place with a time of 19:16. Her place was the seventh and final individual qualifying spot when the top three teams were removed as three teams and seven individuals made it to the state meet. Sandman was in the 7-10 range throughout the race and sealed it in the last 600 meters.

Katrina Sandman also had some unfinished business as she was hoping to get under twenty minutes for the 5k race. Going out hard she finished in 35th place with a personal record of 20:15.

The Lowell boys varsity cross-country team concluded their season with a fourth place finish (104 points) at the Division 1 Regionals in Buckley. Rockford won the meet with 56 points, followed by Traverse City Central, 84

points, and Traverse City West, 90 points. Five of the seven runners came away with earning their personal record on their last race. Scoring for the Red Arrows were Cole Weston, 16th with a time of 16:41; Keegan Cater, 18th with a time of 16:43, which is a personal

record; Jackson Fowler, 21st in 16:46, a personal record; John Lothian, 28th in 17:02, a personal record, and Ben Bromley, 39th in 17:14. Finishing for the varsity lineup were Levi Mills, 44th in 17:19 a personal record, and Blake Bennett, 50th in 17:35 a personal record.



Annika Sandman qualified for the Division 1 state meet. (Photo courtesy of Lowell Track & XC Facebook page.)

Red Arrow

- FOOTBALL

SPORTS

Red Arrows take down the Byron Center Bulldogs

by Justin Scott
contributing reporter

What's the recipe for an October playoff upset? There's a lot of ways to get there, but Lowell's zero fumbles, zero interceptions, and being perfect six for six on fourth down conversions certainly helped. The Lowell varsity football team needed flawless execution if they were going to keep their season alive and they got it on Friday night in a road win over three seed Byron Center. Lowell scored with 20 seconds to go on an 82-yard drive that included three fourth down conversions to win their round one playoff game.

the Bulldogs 317-248 on the ground.

Lowell made it 21-7 on an eight yard touchdown run by Dean. Byron Center would score the game's next three touchdowns on runs by Sawyer Wychers, including the last two of the first half to make it 21-21 at halftime.

Trailing 28-21, Lowell scored the game-tying touchdown with 9:40 to go, a Dean touchdown run. With the game tied 28-28, both defenses stood strong including two punts forced by the Lowell defense. Lowell would get the ball back with under 5:00 to play, at their own 18. Starting an

by Xander Reisbig as time expired. With that, Lowell had done it, and they were moving on. The win marked a revenge game of sorts for Lowell. Not just for the loss earlier in the season to Byron Center, but after three consecutive weeks of being hurt by turnovers, did not turn the ball over a single time.

The Lowell defense was led by Brett Spanbauer with 11 total tackles. Josh Rau and Sam Lixie each recorded six tackles, while Carter Blough added three. Justin Wade was a perfect five for five on extra points.

For Byron Center, it was a tough playoff draw



Doak Dean scores the game-winning touchdown.



Lowell celebrates the game-ending defensive stand.

Like their first game against Byron Center, it was a competitive back-and-forth first half. It ended with the score deadlocked 21-21. Lowell struck first on a Doak Dean two-yard touchdown run, one of his four rushing touchdowns on the night. Byron Center responded with a 34-yard touchdown run by Trevor Walter. It took the Red Arrows less than two minutes to strike back, on a 28-yard touchdown pass from Dean to Brett Spanbauer. It was one of just two completed passes for Lowell on the night, with Dillon Hieshetter catching the other.

The two teams combined for just 14 passing attempts in the game between two run heavy teams. LHS outran

82-yard drive that would become the game-winning drive. The Red Arrows converted three fourth down conversions on the drive and two Byron Center penalties for roughing the passer and defensive pass interference helped get Lowell down inside the red zone. There Dean found a path to the right and scored with just 20 seconds to play.

Byron Center had 16 seconds following the kickoff to try to get into the end zone, with a sack and a short completion to bring the clock down to four seconds. Still in Lowell territory, and on the last play of the game, Carson Crace was able to get a hit on the Bulldog quarterback, forcing a fumble recovered

as the third seed. Their loss in week six to East Grand Rapids saw them drop from being a potential one seed and hosting 1-3 Wyoming, to the three seed slot and a challenging matchup with Lowell.

This year's playoffs are not the usual MHSAA playoffs, meaning that every team got in if they could compete. Some teams, like 4-2 Zeeland East, had to opt-out of the playoffs due to coronavirus concerns. Other teams came into the playoffs winless, usually having to face top seeds. A weird year

does mean there were some weird results, however. On the other side of the division two bracket, 0-6 Oak Park upset top-seeded Grosse Pointe South.

Another weird result, six seed Lowell will be hosting this week. That's right, the Red Arrows move on and will host this week's playoff game. The district seeded 1-8, will see Lowell face seven seed Caledonia in the first district semifinal on Friday at Bob Perry Field. Caledonia upset two seed Jenison on Friday night. Caledonia and Lowell were originally supposed

to play on September 4, a game that was ultimately canceled due to COVID-19 rescheduling. Caledonia has beaten Jackson County (Parma) Western and Holland West Ottawa this year, along with Jenison. Their losses were to Rockford, Jenison (regular season), Hudsonville, and Grandville. The winner of the Lowell-Caledonia game will face the winner of Forest Hills Central and defending state champion Muskegon Mona Shores in the district final.



In a Halloween theme, the Lowell student section cheers on the Arrows.

obituaries

SCHAAF

Suzanne M. Schaaf, age 70 of Lowell, passed away Friday, October 30, 2020. Sue was preceded in death by her parents, Clement and Alice Malecki; parents-in-law, Bernard and Eleonore Schaaf. She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Bob; daughter, Robin Koronka of LaPorte, IN; granddaughter, Grace; brothers, Timothy, Robert and Mark Malecki; sisters, Mary (Mark) Richardson, Lorraine (Richard) Riddering; sisters-in-law, Sharon (Larry) Meyer and Barbara Read; many nieces and nephews. Sue loved her family very much. She loved to go trailer camping and travelling with Bob and their dog, Tucker. Sue enjoyed sewing and crafts and making surgical caps for her daughter and her friends. Visitation was Tuesday, November 3 at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Funeral Home, 3980 Cascade Rd. SE. Masks and social distancing will be required. A celebration of Suzanne's life and graveside services will be held at a later date in the spring. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 129 Jefferson Ave. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



Veterans and active duty military members can count on Social Security

Every year on Veterans Day, we honor the people who risk their lives to protect our country. Our disability program is an important part of our obligation to wounded warriors and their families.

Social Security is an important resource for military members who return home with injuries. If you know a wounded veteran, please let them know about our Wounded Warriors webpage. You can find it at www.ssa.gov/woundedwarriors.

The Wounded Warriors webpage answers many commonly asked questions, and shares other useful information about disability benefits, including how veterans can receive expedited processing of their Social Security disability claims. Benefits available through Social Security are different from those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application.

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the military every day by giving them the respect they deserve. Let these heroes know they can count on us when they need us most.



military who continue to receive pay while in a hospital or on medical leave should consider applying for disability benefits if they're unable to work due to a disabling condition. Active duty status and receipt of military pay

disability benefits while engaging in substantial work for pay or profit, receipt of military payments should never stop someone from applying for disability benefits.

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They earned these benefits. Our webpages are easy to share on social media and by email with your friends and family. Please consider passing this information along to someone who may need it.

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PUBLIC SALE to satisfy a lien pursuant to MCL 554.658.
A public sale of Philip Lugtigheid's personal property of including but not limited to a camper trailer, serial number 322640152S0TB9WI, including its contents, and a golf cart, serial number 1258179, has been rescheduled and will now be conducted November 6, 2020 at

9:00 AM at Tyler Creek Campground at 13495 92nd Street SE Alto, MI 49302. This sale is conducted pursuant to the Campgrounds Act. All items will be sold free and clear of liens. All items will be sold on as "as is, where is" basis. No warranties of any kind express or implied, regarding condition or fitness for purpose. Terms are cash.

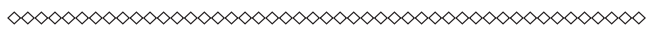
LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Trust Estate
Estate of James M. VanderLinde
Date of Birth: April 07, 1962

forever barred unless presented to Gladys VanderLinde, Personal Representative at 8450 Elkwood St. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315 or Attorney Thomas E. Lane at 688 Cascade West Pkwy SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, James M VanderLinde, died March 10, 2019. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

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Name the Michigan made beverage created in Detroit that was the first soda pop made in the United States.

Vernors Ginger Ale was created in Detroit shortly after the Civil War. It's still manufactured today and considered by many to be a cure-all for upset stomach. Ginger has been shown to help with nausea, so Michiganders may be on to something.

I would like to thank the Gerst Family and Roth Gerst Funeral Home for the incredible job they did helping our family after the unexpected passing of our father and husband. The grace and dignity with which you helped us through a difficult time were over the top, and we so appreciate that.

The family of Bob Canfield

Letters, continued

feel comfortable with the possibly five marihuana stores sharing their main street? Is this the image that Lowell wants to display to the buyers the numerous new residential developments that are enhancing the community? I haven't even touched on the challenges for law enforcement that are to surely follow. How many sworn full-time officers make up the local police department? The neighboring townships are also affected, as they are covered by an already taxed sheriff department. Please understand, I'm not taking issue with 'pot' use, my concern

is the image that the community is creating for itself with the possibility of five retail marihuana establishments. I do believe that future more conventional retail and other businesses will think twice when considering Lowell as a location for expansion. Is Lowell to be thought of as home to Litehouse Products, Fallasburg Park and the Showboat or as the "pot center" of West Michigan?

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Roger Royer
Lowell

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card of thanks

I would like to thank my family and friends for making my 90th birthday so memorable. All of your cards, calls, gifts and visits were very much appreciated and enjoyed.

Donna Bieri

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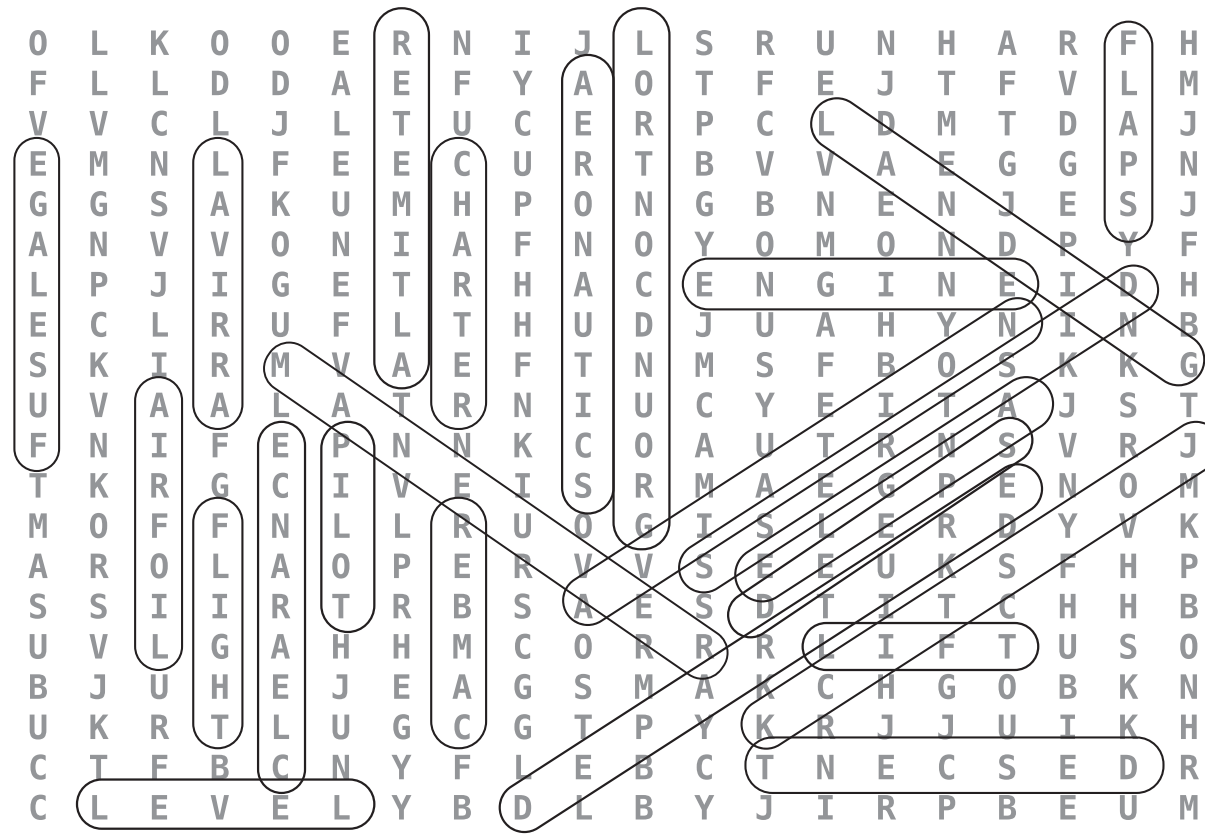
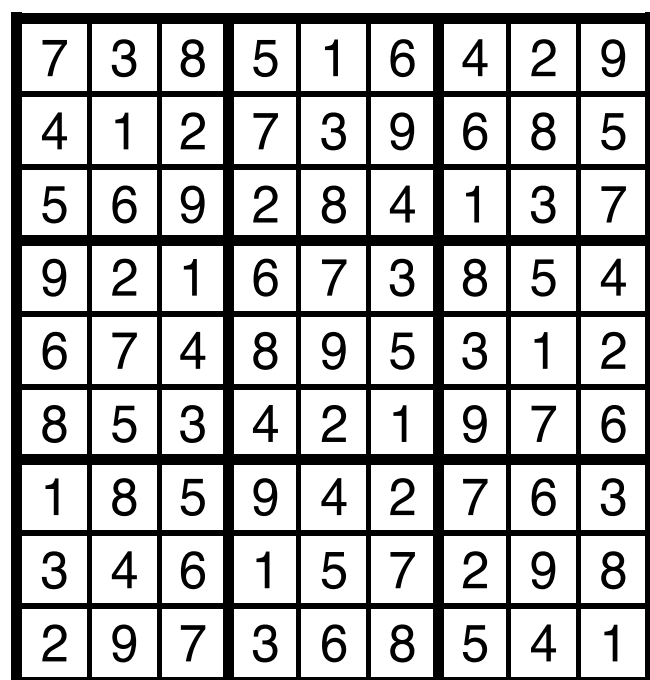
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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



LHS boys soccer

A LOOK BACK IN TIME

Red Arrows place third in conference

1989

Soccer coach John Turkal enthusiastically stated, "I'm very encouraged by the progress of our young players and am looking forward to great things from them next year." The Arrows conquered more toes than any other Lowell soccer team. They placed third overall in the conference with a 4-4 record. The team won the honor of being the best defensive team in the league. Senior captains Jeff Gurney and Eric Fulkerson set a fine leadership example

for the team. Coach Turkal comments, "This year's team had a lot of enthusiasm and skill." Turkal feels that Brad Briggs will have the talent to lead the team next year. Sherene Ward was honored by being the first girl to win her varsity letter in soccer. Eric Fulkerson and Tom Cichon won All-Conference honorable mention. Cichon also won M.V.P., Most Improved and



the Top Gun Award - given to the best offensive player.

First year player Ryan Peel ganned the Most Improved award.

Second place finish in the OK White for the Red Arrows

1996



The varsity soccer team had a great year winning most of their games. The team consisted of a good mix of veterans and players new to varsity action. With this mix, the Arrows became a nearly unstoppable force. Starting off undefeated for the first 13 games, they had their first taste of defeat against Mason. After losing only two games in the regular season, they lost in the playoffs at districts. It was an impressive finish for the team.

Lowell soccer shares OK White title

Red Arrows win rematch with Unity Christian in conference tournament final, shut out Forest Hills Northern to advance to district semis

2004

The Lowell boys varsity soccer team defeated Unity Chirstian last Thursday in the OK White tournament championship, claiming a share of the conference title for the first time ever. "It's probably the best game I've ever been in," said Lowell's Shane Stokes, who scored both goals for the Arrows. Winning the conference tournament put Lowell

in a tie with Unity for the overall conference championship. The Crusaders won 4-1 when the teams matched up during the regular conference season. "I think you're looking at two teams that were evenly matched," said Unity Christian coach Randy Heethuis. "I think the outcome of the two games show that and I think that's why you're



seeing these teams sharing the OK White Championship. I love coaching the

guys and they seem to listen pretty well," Stokes said. "I think that's why we got the

win tonight. We came out together as a team"

FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

AVIATION WORD SEARCH

ARRIVAL

DISTRESS

LANDING

AERONAUTICS

AVIATION

ENGINE

LEVEL

AIRFOIL

CAMBER

FLAPS

LIFT

ALTIMETER

CHARTER

FLIGHT

MANEUVER

ANGLE

CLEARANCE

FUSELAGE

PILOT

DEPARTURE

GROUND CONTROL

DESCENT

JOYSTICK

Guess Who?

I am an actress born in California on November 6, 1946. I was a high school cheerleader before getting my acting break as a teenager. I also played a flying nun. I've starred in many top films, including one with Tom Hanks.

Answer: Sally Field

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to aviation.

N P S A L E

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Planes

			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						

CLUES ACROSS

- Upright post on a boat
- Sentimental person
- Native American tribe
- Wear away
- Where you're going
- Doctor
- Popular Chinese dialect
- One point E. of due S.
- Northern sea duck
- Note
- Wives (law)
- Trigonometric function
- A way to communicate (abbr.)
- Swiss river
- No (Scottish)
- Commercials
- Large instrument
- Chantilly, de Menthe
- Small, saclike cavities
- High and thin in tone
- Treat extremely well
- Famed track star Usain
- Secure web connection (abbr.)
- Rob of energy
- Paving material
- Cool!
- Tip of Aleutian Islands

- Indicates silence
- Water in the solid state
- Security interests
- Popular hoopster Jeremy
- Shed tears
- Low frequency
- Harmful bacterium
- Common language: lingua __
- Standards of perfection
- They consist of two parts
- A detailed description of design

CLUES DOWN

- More (Spanish)
- A subdivision of a play
- Japanese title
- More jittery
- Fabric
- Luke's mentor __-Wan
- Cleaving tool
- Ancient city of Egypt
- 36 inches
- Farewell
- Second to last
- Improved by critical editing
- Defensive weapon (abbr.)
- Fancy attire
- __ Farrow, actress
- Completely opposed
- Supervises flying
- Pouch
- True firs
- Mistake
- Computing platform (abbr.)
- Snakelike fish
- Greatly horrify
- Despicable person
- Tell on
- Ballplayer's tool
- Central Brazilian town
- Court game
- Land
- "The Partridge Family" actress Susan
- Retract a statement
- Data executive
- Capital of Yemen
- Portable computer screen material
- Electronic data processing
- "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
- Resinous substance
- Rural delivery

Treasures for Troops collecting items until Nov. 6

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell High School's radio station WRWW-FM 92.3, along with WION-AM 1430 "Radio Ionia," Blue Star Mothers #188, Young Chevrolet Buick GMC of Ionia and the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, have teamed up for "Treasures for Troops," when many hard-to-find-while-deployed items are donated, collected and shipped to overseas military personnel.



Donations will be collected until Friday, Nov. 6, and WION will do a live remote broadcast originating from the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce headquarters on the Riverwalk from 11 am until 6 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The goal of the drive is to collect "comfort items" for deployed soldiers and have them delivered in time for the holidays. Comfort items bring a piece of home

to soldiers wherever they are deployed. The items in question are ubiquitous here in the US, but are either prohibitively expensive or very difficult for overseas soldiers to obtain. Examples include non-perishable food such as condiments, beef jerky, crackers, Pop Tarts, ramen noodle soup, raisins and instant oatmeal; personal hygiene products like toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, razors, Chapstick and tampons; utility items like zip ties, rubber bands, laundry detergent, duct tape and batteries; linen items like socks, pillow cases, bandanas and boxer shorts; and leisure items like travel games, Nerf toys, playing cards, pens and pencils, notebooks, comic books and small activity books.

Items can be dropped off during business hours at the following locations around Lowell:

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza

Bernard's Ace Hardware, 1601 W. Main

Creative Party Bug, 102 W. Main

Fans in the Stands, 207 E. Main

Flat River Gallery and

Framing, 219 W. Main

North Star Antiques, 211 W. Main

Red Barn Consignments and Antiques, 217 W. Main Station Salon, 214 E. Main

Tap House Bo, 219 E. Main

YCD Electronics, 218 E. Main

The Blue Star Mothers organization usually mails over 200 of these packages to our soldiers, and their cost for this is \$18.45 per box. Financial donations to cover all those stamps can be sent

to Blue Star Mothers MI # 188, PO Box 366, Lakeview, MI 48850.

"Our soldiers overseas [...] really appreciate getting some of these items that we see all over but they don't see overseas," WRWW station manager Al Eckman

said during the 2019 event. "They're very common items, easy to pick up. Even food, it just has to be securely wrapped."

For more information about Treasures for Troops, visit the WRWW website, lowellradio.org.



The following is a recommended list of highly desirable items for deployed Military Personnel. Whenever possible, please remove items from boxes and put in a ziploc bag. A "Personal message or Thank You for your Service Note" with your submission, is always encouraged.

NON-PERISHABLE FOODS

- > Condiments (Mustard, Ketchup, Hot Sauce, Fast Food Condiment Packets, etc)
- > Beef Jerky
- > Snack Crackers (Peanut Butter & Cheese)
- > Foil Pouch Foods (Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, etc)
- > Tuna Snack Kits
- > Pop Tarts
- > Ramen Noodle Soup
- > Raisins
- > Powdered Drink Mix
- > Candy/Gum
- > Canned Chili/Beef Stew
- > Canned Fruit
- > Chunky Soup
- > Dried Fruit
- > Five Hr Energy Shots
- > Crackers
- > Peanut Butter
- > Honey Sticks
- > Jelly/Jam
- > Mac & Cheese
- > Instant Oatmeal

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- > Toilet Paper
- > Baby Wipe Refills
- > Toothbrush
- > Toothpaste
- > Dental Floss
- > Saline Nasal Spray
- > Eye Drops
- > Mouth Wash
- > Hand Sanitizer
- > Hand Lotion
- > Sun Screen SPR 30+
- > Shaving Cream/Gel
- > Razors
- > Mach 3 Razor Refils
- > Q-Tips
- > Mouth Wash
- > Facial Tissues
- > Band Aids
- > Neosporin
- > A&D Ointment
- > Carmex, Chapstick
- > Cough Drops
- > Tampons**
- > Sanitary Napkins **

** US Government does not provide these!

LINEN & CLOTHING

- > Socks (cotton or wool, tan, white, or black)
- > Soft small throw blankets
- > Wash Cloths
- > Mens Boxers
- > Pillow Cases (new or clean, gently used)
- > Hand & Foot Warmers
- > Gel Boot Insoles
- > Bandanas (digital camouflage, dark/light)

ENTERTAINMENT

- > Travel Games
- > Nerf Toys (sm footballs, etc)
- > Playing Cards
- > Pencils
- > Pens (no click types)
- > Small Notebooks
- > Comic Books
- > Small Activity Books

UTILITY ITEMS

- > Zip Ties
- > Zip Style Plastic Bags (quart & gallon size)
- > Rubberbands
- > Flashlights -small key type
- > Laundry Sheets (Purex Complete 3-n-1)
- > Laundry Detergent (individual packets or pods)
- > Dryer Sheets
- > Razors
- > Can Openers
- > Duct Tape (camo style)
- > Batteries (Duracell Only, AA & AAA)

Donations to cover postage for care packages (\$18.45per box) can be can be sent to: Blue Star Mothers MI-188 PO Box 366, Lakeview, MI 48850



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