

Local restaurants hit hard by pandemic

by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

The COVID-19 pandemic has been one of the most influential catastrophes to hit the world in many years, with the impact so far-reaching nobody has been

unaffected.

One of the most impacted industries due to the pandemic has been restaurants. With dine-in eating being effectively banned, restrictions being

lifted only to be put into place once again, many local restaurants have been scrambling to adjust to the ever-changing conditions.

No matter who you talk to, it has been a unique

challenge to take on. Big Boiler Brewing manager Sarah Schofield detailed the many challenges that they have faced over the course of the pandemic.

“Restaurant people always try to support other restaurant people, but right now restaurant people are just broke, so this time around you can’t,” Schofield said. “That is the biggest difference between shutdown 1.0 and shutdown 2.0, this time around it is not as profitable. The weather, for one, makes it so few people want to walk around. People who have permits already for outdoor dining are in a better position. That sweet spot between shutdowns, we were actually surpassing last year’s numbers.”

The first shutdown that lasted the summer months was noticeably better for

business than the current shutdown, with the warm summer months playing a large role in the slightly better business.

“When we were shut down the first time, it was like okay, what are we going to do, let’s execute something quick,” Schofield said. “So we did a takeout window, which was a nice alternative, especially in the summer months when people weren’t exactly sure what to expect with COVID. Everybody felt safe at the window, it was low contact for us. Our sales definitely fell because you could only do what you can. Luckily, since we’re already a brewery, we could sell our beer to go, so we tried to capitalize as much as we could.”

Staff changes have been

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Downtown Development Authority makes investments in Lowell community since '92

by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

There are many parts of Lowell’s government that fly under the radar, generating funds that the community uses to maintain the city around us. The Downtown Development Authority has been one of those committees for over 25 years.

The DDA was created in 1992 and is responsible for managing the “Downtown Development Authority District.” The area starts on Jefferson on the east side then goes all the way to the city limits on Alden Nash. The district encompasses all the commercial areas on Bowes Road, up to Hudson Street, and the commercial properties on Foreman.

“The main goal of the DDA is to increase the tax plate mainly through a number of community improvements in your downtown,” said Lowell city manager Michael Burns. “When they established the district, they had a baseline taxable value of the district. You add up all the properties and determine what the taxable value is. All the taxable value on that amount continues to go to the proper tax jurisdiction. Everyone gets their millage rate on that tax increment. Any increase on that tax value since 1992 is captured

by the DDA to carry out their mission.”

This year, the DDA is projected to capture \$600,000 in funds that can be used to improve infrastructure and help fund other community projects, in addition to the community funds.

The DDA’s funds go to a variety of different projects. A major payment by the DDA is the bond that was issued in 2003 to pay for the Lowell City Hall construction that cost \$3.4 million. The repayment of the bond was split between the DDA and the general fund for several years, before the DDA took on the full payment over the last three years. This was done to free up the general fund for more projects. An example of this was the allocation of general funds to Lowell’s road funds that pays for many road resurfacing projects across the community.

“The DDA generated about \$600,000 in tax revenue this year,” Burns said. “Had that not existed, the city would see \$300,000 a year that would just go directly to the general fund. While that would certainly help, the drawback is that the DDA is paying for the

bond for the city hall, so that \$300,000 would be going to paying the bond. It is a wash to the general fund. Overall, they do play a significant role in the downtown.”

The DDA also paves roads as one of their projects, this year Riverside, saw an improvement due to the DDA’s payments. Two years ago, Elizabeth saw a similar resurfacing project. The DDA does much of the major marketing for the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, dedicating around \$60,000 to promote events such as the summer concert series and Christmas activities.

“Obviously, the downtown is the focus, but the entire district has taxes going to the DDA and they’re not necessarily seeing any public improvements,” Burns said. “So, while some people want to just focus on the downtown, we did pay a good portion of our funds toward repaving Amity Street next summer. There are two or three blocks that are in the DDA district, so we are using funds, in the amount of \$144,000, to assist with that. We’re also considering, down the line, repaving Valley Vista.”

There are nine members of the board that run the

DDA, it is required that each member of the board has a vested interest in the community, such as Dr. James Reagan, who has been on the board since its inception and is the chair of the board, along with James Doyle, who has also been on the DDA board since 1992.

“The way that the Michigan statute requires is that the majority of the people on the board have to have some sort of vested interest in the district,” Burns said. “They either have to own property or work for a company in the district. The mayor also sits on the board.”

Among the others on the board are Dr. James Reagan, Brian Doyle, Eric Wakeman, Rick Seese, Mike Sprenger, Julie Devoe, Rita Reister, Mike DeVore and Burns himself.

The DDA is considered a separate legal body corporate which allows them to enter their own contracts, hire their own director. The only thing the city council has control of when it comes to the DDA is control of their budget and who is on the



board. But the DDA cannot just function on its own without accountability. What the DDA does is capture all the city taxes, all the county taxes, the library district tax and the community college taxes. Any increment from that amount goes to the DDA. They do not capture school taxes.

“Communities with stronger downtowns tend to thrive better,” Burns said. “If you have a community with a strong downtown, odds are you are going to have a pretty strong community. If you can also have more people live downtown, that is better for your community as well. That means people want to live close to downtown and is overall, in my opinion, good for the community. The DDA allows us to do things that honestly we’d be unable to do.”

50¢



Chamber of Commerce reveals new board members

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Two new Chamber of Commerce board members were chosen last week. Paul Mundt of Common Cents Rare Coins and Ashley Dunn of Creative Party Bug will each serve three year terms.

“Board members are elected by the Chamber membership,” said executive director Liz Baker. “We run an election every year. This year we had two openings and five Chamber business members threw their hat in.”

The new board members will replace Cutter Phillips of River Valley Credit Union and Teresa Hoffman from Midwest Properties of Michigan, whose terms have ended.

The Chamber board also appointed a new president, Patrick Doyle of King Milling. They will pick their vice president and treasurer during the first meeting of 2021.

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors:

- Evert Bek, Arctic Inc. Heating & Cooling
- Christine Koehler, Birchwood Gardens
- April McClure, Fans in the Stands
- Nancy DeBoer, Station Salon
- Ian Deming, Edward Jones
- Betsy Davidson, Addorio Technologies
- Paul Mundt, Common Cents Rare Coins
- Ashley Dunn, Creative Party Bug
- Board secretary: Liz Baker, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
- Ex-officio Member: Mike Burns, City Manager, City of Lowell
- Ex-officio member: Dustin Cichocki, Lowell Area Schools
- Ex-officio member: Cindy Brenk, Lowell Area Schools
- Ex-officio member: Leah Groves, City of Lowell council

Restaurants, continued

very apparent during the pandemic. Schofield had to lay off half of Big Boiler’s front-of-house staff, and a few back-of-house staff also.

“One thing I don’t think people realize is that servers make \$3.69 an hour,” Schofield said. “When people come to places for takeout, they are still here making \$3.69 an hour. I know they are not servicing you as much, but this is their job, and their industry has been shut down. It’s not their fault they can’t serve you in the way people are hoping to be served in a restaurant, but that’s their job.”

Dine-in restaurants are having their own issues, with long-standing restaurants such as Larkin’s and Keiser’s going to very limited hours or shutting down for extended periods.

Keiser’s is now open Friday from 3 pm until 7 pm, along with Saturday and Sunday for breakfast from

8 am to 1 pm. Larkin’s will be shut down from Sunday, Dec. 20 to Tuesday, Jan. 5.

One business that has actually been decent during the pandemic, and opened a location in Lowell this fall, was the new M-21 Nutrition restaurant. Opening between the first and second shutdown, M-21 Nutrition has been able to take advantage of the new need for healthy options and has provided positive business. Being a restaurant that opened in the middle of the pandemic, they did not need to adjust many of their policies when the second shutdown hit. The main difference was that people couldn’t stay as long as they had originally liked.

“Business for us has actually gone up during the pandemic, just because we still allowed people to come in for five-ten minutes,” said Jordan Maynard of M-21 Nutrition. “The

pandemic actually helped us a lot, because people now wanted to get healthy, they didn’t want to go to the grocery store. As far as opening in the pandemic, it started out really well, all of our numbers have been profitable.”

Still, there have been moments of worry.

“The last week has been the toughest week,” said Maynard. “Even during the first few weeks of the new

shutdown, business stayed steady. But with the holidays, we have seen a bit of a drop. But we’ve gotten a lot of gift card sales and whatnot.”

Both Big Boiler and M-21 Nutrition have run specials to help stay profitable. M-21 Nutrition has done half off cards and booster cards for every new customer and many other giveaways to help business. Big Boiler has done multiple specials involving their beers.

Another major special has been created by Canfield Plumbing. They have been doing a gift card special for local restaurants, in which they will be matching gift card totals up to \$50 per family. This will go through New Year’s Eve or until \$25,000 has been matched. To participate, people can purchase a gift card from a local restaurant and email the receipt to office@canfieldph.com.

Chamber seeks nominations for 2021 Person of the Year

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is still accepting nominations for the 2021 honoree of their annual “Person of the Year” award.

According to Chamber executive director Liz Baker, these are the criteria for nominees:

“The Person of the Year award can be anyone in our community.

Over time, the candidate has freely donated considerable time to the community, school district, church or humanity. This is over and above the demands of their regular profession.

The community is a better place to live because of the efforts of the candidate.

The candidate positively promotes the community in both word and action.

The candidate possesses new and innovative ideas that benefit the community.

The candidate cannot be a Chamber Board/Foundation Board member at the time of nomination.”

The Chamber is requesting that a nomination form accompany each nomination. The information on that form helps the selection committee make a determination. The nomination form is available on the Chamber’s website, discoverlowell.org, or a copy can be obtained by sending a message to info@lowellchamber.org or calling 616-897-9161.

Because of the pandemic, the popular annual awards

banquet may or may not happen.

“Due to COVID-19, [the date and location of the] the annual dinner and awards have not been established,” Baker said. “We anticipate holding off until spring.”

The 2020 Person of the Year award went to Mark and Theresa Mundt, who were honored for their decades of community involvement with the Lowell Showboat, Flat River Outreach Ministries, the Lowell Rotary, Christmas Through Lowell, Cold Weather Warriors and Pink Arrow Pride.

Past award recipients include Chris Van Antwerp, King Doyle, Dr. Orville McKay, Ivan Blough, George and Dode Dey,

Dr. Robert Reagan, Al Eckman, Ray Quada, Priscillia Lussmyer, Jim Maatman, Bob Pfaller, Jim Reagan, Marsha Wilcox, John Timpson, Dr. Donald Gerard, Dr. Roger LaWarre, Bert Bleke, Judy Straub, Luanne Kaeb, Jim Doyle, Jim White, Kraig and Jody Haybarker, Ray and Barbara Zandstra, Marj Harding, Betty Yeiter, John Stencil, Dave and Jan Thompson, Joy Smith, Perry and Teresa Beachum, Noel Dean, Greg Canfield, Rick Seese, Mike Sprenger, Greg Pratt, Betsy Davidson and Carol Briggs.

Nominations for 2021 Person of the Year will be accepted through Monday, Jan. 4.

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 Lowell Retail Management, LLC.

REQUEST: A request for a Special Land Use Permit to establish a restaurant with a drive through window on a 1.56-acre parcel in the General Commercial Zoning District.

GENERAL LOCATION: The property is located at 11901 Fulton Street which is the vacant parcel located in front of Meijer’s between Fifth Third Bank and Paul’s Transmission Service.

The hearing will be held as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021
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.lowelltpw.org five days before the meeting.

Tim Clements, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township
Planning Commission

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LowellArts art classes return to schedule next month

by Brendan A. Sanders
contributing reporter

Next month, LowellArts is planning on reintroducing its art classes to the community.

After delaying their classes until January due to the COVID-19 protocols, preparations are being put into place for the studio to host in-person classes for some of its art programs. There are a number of different classes that one can take throughout the month of January.

Saturday, Jan. 9 will be the opening weekend, with two classes being held that day. Both will be led by Samantha Coon, a felting artist who has multiple years of teaching experience since entering the industry in 2009.

“I have been teaching needle and wet felting classes at LowellArts since 2019, so a relatively short time; but previously I have taught various age groups on and off for about five years.” Coon said. “These include homeschool groups, summer family camps, one-on-one instruction, fiber shows and community classes. I was introduced to needle felting in 2009 and shortly after, in 2010, I finally discovered wet felting.”

The first class will take place from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm and is called “Felted Succulents (Wet Felting).” This class works with prefelts, which are fibers that have been layer cut, and are only partially felted with specific color combinations. They can be cut and designed into an intended project. In this case, students will be using fine handmade prefelts, needles, and thread to create succulents of varying shapes, sizes, and colors.

“Felt making has many benefits,” Coon said. “Needle and wet felting require few supplies to get started, is fairly economical, relaxing, and one can create a host of items after understanding and practicing the process without following a specific pattern. Patterns and shrinkage rates are needed for more advanced projects

such as garment making. Needle felting, in particular, is easily portable and projects can be stashed away and then pulled out to work on when time permits. Many practical items can be made by using the wet felting process, such as mittens, hats, slippers, and baskets. No matter which felting process is used, or a combination, the outcome is always worth the time spent and is a very rewarding process.”

The next course on Jan. 9 will also focus on felts, with the class being called “Needle Felted Whale.” Various kinds of whales will be examples for options to create, such as a humpback, narwhal, sperm, and beluga. Wool breeds, needle types and safety precautions sculpting bases with core wool, and ‘painting’ the design with colorful MC-1 wool will be gone over in this class. This class will take place from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. This class will also cost \$35 including materials. According to Coon, there are many things students can look forward to in the class.

“Students can look forward to the many, many creative possibilities when working with wool roving and batting to make felt, starting with a simple class,” Coon said. “Whether it’s through the wet felting process of using water, soap, and agitation, or the needle felting process of using barbed needles to create 2D or 3D felted items, each project will guide students so that they will be equipped with the skills to further their interest in this art form as well as information about sourcing supplies of their own.”

There will be two courses that will focus on creating scarves, which is very helpful during the winter months.

“Ice Dyeing Scarves” is a course showing how one can dye things using ice as part of the dyeing process to make colorful silk scarves. It will be taking place Saturday, Jan.



16. All supplies including one scarf are included in the class fee. Additional scarves are available for \$10 each payable to the instructor at the class. It will take place from 10:30 am until noon. The overall class cost is \$40 including materials. The next course, on Saturday, Jan. 23, will take place from 2 pm until 4 pm. This class, called “Eco-Printing Scarves,” will use leaves and other natural materials to create one-of-a-kind silk scarves. All supplies including one scarf are included in the class fee. Additional scarves are available for \$7 each payable to the instructor at the class.

The instructor for these courses is Julia Voake. She is a painter and teacher for all ages. She works with fabric, sewing, embroidery, quilting, natural materials, metals, wood, found objects, paint and anything else that looks intriguing.

“Tint Your Vision: Hand Coloring Photographs” teaches students to alter black and white photos using colored pencils, chalk and pastels to tint and color. Black and white films and papers will allow students an immense amount of control

over the image. Students are also encouraged to bring in photos with a matte non-shiny surface, taken with their camera, iPad, or smartphone. It will take place on Saturday, Jan. 16 from 1 pm until 4 pm. The course will cost \$55 including materials. The instructor for this course is Dianne Carroll Burdick. She is an award-winning photographer whose work includes photojournalism, fine art photography and teaching classes and workshops in the West Michigan area.

Saturday, Jan. 23 will see felting return with a course on needle felted owls. Starting at 10:30 and ending at 1 pm, students will learn how to create felt owls. Ear tufts, no ear tufts, large or small eyes, feather patterns and different face designs in varying colors. Wool breeds, needle types and safety precautions sculpting bases with core wool and ‘painting’ the design with colorful MC-1 wool will be gone over in this class. Examples will be provided. Coon is also teaching this course. It will cost \$35

including materials.

With so many courses available, the LowellArts program is being extra cautious when it comes to safety protocols. COVID-19 safety modifications to the classes will include spaced seating to meet social distancing guidelines, no more than 10 persons will be allowed in the classroom at any one time, surfaces will be disinfected before each class and all students and instructors are required to wear a mask at all times.

“Due to the pandemic, there have been changes made to create a safe environment,” Coon said. “Class sizes have been reduced to accommodate social distancing; each student has plenty of room to spread out wool and other felting supplies [and] masks are required for now during the class duration. But aside from those changes, classes mostly remain the same for felt making.”

All classes require students to preregister. Walk-in registrations cannot be accommodated. Payment for the class must be received to

reserve a spot. Each class has a predetermined minimum and maximum enrollment. LowellArts reserves the right to cancel a class if the minimum enrollment has not been met. In the event of cancellation, students will receive a full refund.

For more information, go to lowellartsmi.org, and search under “classes” for information on each class.



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Pure Michigan small business relief initiative grants now available

Michigan's small businesses that have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 virus will be able to apply for grants of up to \$15,000 through the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative beginning at 9 am on Tuesday, Dec. 15, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced.

The program will utilize \$10 million in federal US Housing and Urban Development CARES Act funding to provide economic assistance to small businesses across Michigan.

Grants will be awarded in the amount of up to \$15,000 per eligible business on a "first-in" basis. Information on how to apply – including application questions and instructions and a video tutorial on the application process – as well as eligibility criteria and program guidelines are available at www.michiganbusiness.org/relief.

Approved by the Michigan Strategic Fund on Nov. 30, the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative allocates \$10 million of federal CARES Act funding to provide support to Michigan's small businesses that have experienced a loss of income as a result of both the COVID-19 crisis and the recent DHHS epidemic orders, which were recently extended to December 20.

The program is intended to meet the urgent need of Michigan businesses including restaurants and bars, lodging providers, live event venues and movie theaters, conference and meeting facilities, indoor recreation facilities, and gyms and fitness centers. The grants under the program will support those businesses facing drastic reductions in cash flow and

the continued support of their workforce and may be used for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, or utility expenses.

MEDC has selected the Michigan Municipal League Foundation as the single, statewide grant administrator for the Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative. MML Foundation will review submitted applications from all 10 prosperity regions across the state once the application window opens on December 15.

Funds will be awarded on a first-in basis and the application window for small businesses will close once the targeted allocations within each of the state's prosperity regions are reasonably expected to be met. The table at the bottom of this page provides funding allocations per prosperity region.

To qualify for grant support, businesses must meet a number of criteria, including but not limited to:

- Being a business in one of the targeted industries;
- Identifying a need for payroll, rent, or mortgage payments, and/or utility expenses necessary to continue or restart business operations;
- Having at least two employees (including the owner) but fewer than 50;
- Be a for-profit business, per HUD guidance;
- Meet the HUD National Objective for Job Retention by retaining jobs that would otherwise be lost without assistance through employment verification;
- Additional eligibility requirements can be found on Michiganbusiness.org/relief.

In addition, applicants will be required to self-certify that they are following all state and local orders related to

COVID-19, including, but not limited to, those issued by DHHS and county health departments. For the full list of requirements, visit michigan.gov/coronavirus.

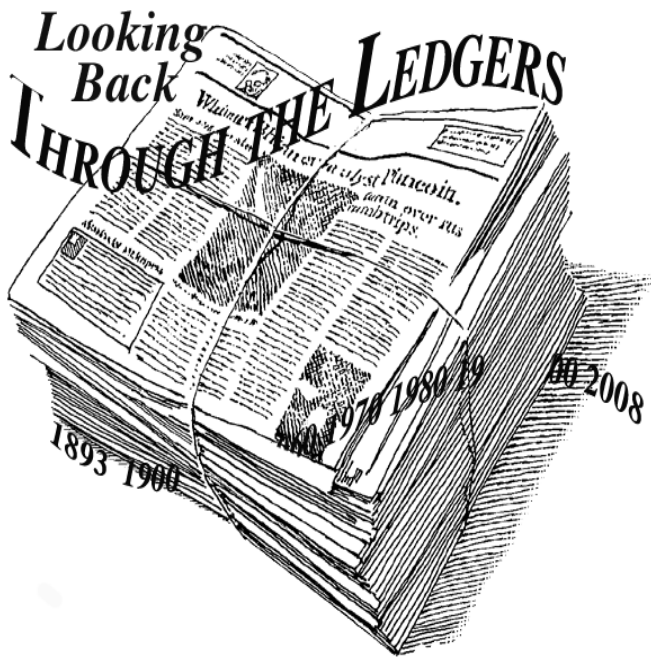
These federal CARES Act dollars were distributed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Michigan Community Development Block Grant program. A complete list of Pure Michigan Small Business Relief Initiative grant recipients will be posted to michiganbusiness.org/relief.

In further support of Michigan's small businesses and their employees, MEDC launched a new "Support Local" campaign in November, reminding Michiganders of the importance of supporting local businesses during the upcoming holidays and throughout the winter season. As efforts continue to combat the ongoing spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the campaign is intended to inspire Michiganders to shop, eat, and travel safely in their own neighborhoods and downtowns during the holiday season and beyond.

In total, the MEDC has now launched 20 COVID-19 relief and recovery programs that have supported more than 18,500 businesses in the state and helped to retain nearly 147,000 jobs across all 83 counties. To learn more about MEDC's COVID-19 response programs and the impact they are having on economic recovery efforts, visit michiganbusiness.org/covid19response. Other resources for economic reopening efforts as well as businesses across Michigan struggling with economic losses as a result of the COVID-19 virus can be found online at michiganbusiness.org/covid19.

Region	Counties Served	Funding Allocated (Dollars)
Region 1	Keweenaw, Houghton, Ontonagon, Gogebic, Baraga, Iron, Marquette, Dickinson, Menominee, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, Luce, Mackinac, Chippewa	\$500,000
Region 2	Emmet, Grand Traverse, Charlevoix, Antrim, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Wexford, Manistee, Benzie, Leelanau	\$500,000
Region 3	Alcona, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Alpena, Iosco, Otsego, Crawford, Roscommon, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda	\$400,000
Region 4	Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa	\$1,300,000
Region 5	Clare, Isabella, Gratiot, Gladwin, Midland, Saginaw, Bay, Arenac	\$600,000
Region 6	Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair	\$850,000
Region 7	Clinton, Eaton, Ingham	\$600,000
Region 8	Berrien, Cass, Van Buren, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, Calhoun, Branch	\$800,000
Region 9	Livingston, Washtenaw, Jackson, Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe	\$900,000
Region 10	Oakland, Macomb, Wayne	\$3,550,000
TOTAL		\$10,000,000

viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Ledger December 27, 1895

A.L. Peck is home from Europe on his annual vacation looking well and hearty and gives his friends the true American grip. We judge that his heart remains true to Uncle Sam and that John Bull will get no sympathy from Peck in his Venezuela scrape.

St. Patrick's Catholic church in Grattan township, near Grand Rapids, is badly split because Fr. Crumley didn't run the church to suit all of his parishioners, and refused to communion to the children of some of the kickers.

Dick White, aged 15, while coasting near Rockford was struck by a single sled descending the hill. He was thrown 10 feet into the air, falling upon his head and crushing his skull. He died soon afterward.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger December 30, 1920

The Holloway dry goods store is owned by a widow, Mrs. Etta Holloway. The stock, worth about \$4,000, went up in smoke. Only a few articles of kitchen furniture from the apartment in the rear of the store, where she lived with a son, was saved. Her account books could not be located after the fire. She recently purchased the building, had made \$500 in payments and spent \$500 for repairs. She did not know whether she would start the business again.

Little Celia Wolocki, aged two, met instant death at the hands of her six-year-old brother, Walter, Tuesday at their home near Cascade while playing with a single barreled shotgun. The little girl's head was literally blown from the shoulders when she placed her face near the muzzle of the gun while the little boy pulled the trigger. Mrs. Martin Wolocki, mother of the children, was at Cascade at the time purchasing groceries.

Sentiment for an extension of the war burden over a greater period of years than formerly contemplated, is gaining ground in Washington. It is right and fair that this should be so, to give future generations a chance to pay something for the blessings of peace that will be theirs, instead of making miserable the remaining years of the present generation with exorbitant taxation. Lansing may well profit by Washington wisdom, when come those demands from state institutions for oodles of millions from Michigan's already over burdened taxpayers.

75 years The Lowell Ledger December 27, 1945

Pvt. Ernest Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Collins is stationed at Camp Russell B. Huckstep, just outside of Cairo Egypt. His wife, Vivian, resides in Battle Creek.

Village employees were out with a power tractor Monday morning breaking up the packed snow from along Main St. curbs and carting it away by truck. Everyone is hoping that the good work will continue.

After the war-time shortage bubble gum is back in the market again. Kids are glad and teachers are mad. Myron Henry says the kids seem to be able to smell the stuff as soon as a fresh supply comes in.

50 years The Lowell Ledger December 31, 1970

THIS ISSUE IS MISSING

25 years The Lowell Ledger December 27, 1995

Who said you can never go back to where you started? After a year-and-half absence, Vergennes Township resident Carol Nauta will once again be serving her local government. Nauta was recently appointed to the Vergennes Township Planning Commission, replacing Gil Wise.

Mark Weber, Lowell Middle School assistant principal, asked the building's teachers if the MEAP tests what they think students should be learning. The answer that came back was an overwhelming "yes." Weber along with staff and curriculum director Jim White then began formulating strategies that would give students skills which are essential to performing well on the MEAP.

Vic DeWaard told Eric Soules, a former third-grade student of his, that he bought his wife a new Buick before he died because he wanted her to drive around in style when he was gone. Soules and other former students of DeWaard are not driving Buicks yet, but they are carrying around that style which DeWaard passed on to them.

outdoors

winter outdoors

Dave Stegehuis

It is possible to realize positive outcomes even during the most trying times. For lack of safe alternatives, a lot of people rediscovered the benefits of fresh air and exercise for mind and body. We noticed many more walkers and bikers than usual on local trails. Hunting license sales spiked this fall after several years of steady decline. With all of the restrictions on indoor activities, our state offers a variety of things to do outdoors during the winter season,

Hiking and cross-country skiing in the winter woods provides a whole new perspective on familiar landscapes. Extended visibility reveals more detailed features of the terrain and woodlands. Animals and birds are easier to observe. Tracks in the snow tell a story about what went on before you got there. All this and no bugs.

Rabbit hunters can explore swamps and woods for cotton tail rabbits or snowshoe hares. A howling beagle on a fresh track adds to the excitement. Predator hunters can exercise their skills to help maintain a balance between wildlife and habitat.

Ice covered lakes allow easy access to a variety of

fish species. Gearing up for ice fishing can be relatively simple. A plastic bucket, short rod, ice chisel, and a dozen wax worms will get one in the game. Like any recreational activity, retailers will provide you the opportunity to spend a small fortune if so inclined. The most important consideration when ice fishing is safety. Learn how to determine if ice thickness and quality is safe for people or machines.

Over six thousand miles of dedicated snowmobile trails weave across both peninsulas. These trails connect popular tourist venues as well as remote places which would be difficult to access in the summer. Everything looks different in the winter.

If one has not experienced any of these winter pastimes, now may be a good time to explore the possibility of finding new interests. I would guess that this fall's first-time hunters will be back next year.

If you get acquainted with Michigan's outdoors in the winter, you may not need to rent that condo down south. Besides, living through a northern winter makes springtime more enjoyable.

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.
Wayne A. Christenson, D.O.
Tracy L. Lixie, D.O.

Laura E. Kass, PA-C
Kaili M. Walker, PA-C
Alexandria Clum, PA-C
Catherine S. Smith, NP-C

- dry skin

Dry, itchy skin is a common condition this time of year. As the weather gets colder, the air gets drier and your skin becomes dry and itchy. Humidifying your home can help to keep your skin moist. You can either get a stand-alone portable humidifier or have one added on to your furnace.

Excessive hand washing and bathing can also cause your skin to become dry. Limiting the number of times you wash your hands can help. Using a waterless hand sanitizer is just as effective at killing germs, but won't dry your skin as much. Limiting the time you spend in the shower or tub can also help. People with dry skin should consider bathing every other day in the winter. Taking quick, luke-warm showers will also help to minimize the drying effects of hot water.

Mild, hypo-allergenic soaps are less drying than scented and colored soaps.

Moisturizers are an important part of treating dry skin. They should be used two to four times daily. A moisturizer should also be hypo-allergenic. They work best when they are applied to the skin right after bathing or hand washing. If a hypo-allergenic cream or lotion moisturizer does not seem to be helping, other over-the-counter treatments can be tried. A one percent hydrocortisone cream is available over-the-counter and could be used for up to one week. Another option is a 12 percent lactic acid based lotion which may help some severe forms of dry skin. If none of these treatments seem to help, see your health care provider for an evaluation.



There's **SNOW PLACE** like home for the holidays!

THANKS FOR SHOPPING YOUR HOMETOWN!

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.

This week we take a break for a Christmas message.

Christmas in Lowell is a time of celebration. Throughout Lowell's history it has been celebrated in a grand style, as only small towns can truly do, much like a family celebration. During the Christmas of 1940 Lowell residents were challenged with the fact that many new residents had come to Lowell during the past year, and everyone did their best to make them feel at home and welcome. Small town citizens are known for generally being more closely associated with each other in their everyday lives, sharing life's happy and difficult times. In Lowell, stores and businesses decorated and filled the newspaper with Christmas blessings and greetings, local churches and groups advertised their upcoming programs, and even the showboat showed off Lowell's holiday spirit in distinct style. Main Street lamp posts are decorated with Christmas icons like wreaths, trees and Santas. In the past, strings of lights were strung over the street.

As Lowell celebrates Christmas in 2020, the year



A Christmas tree in the Hill house in Lowell.

of Covid-19, it is easy to see similarities during the Christmas celebrations of 1918. Spanish Flu was raging on and off, and though the peace treaty had been signed, the Lowell boys were still overseas. Newspapers were filled with word on both. "Grip (influenza) Cost Great" and "Letter to Lowell Home Folks" were the headlines proclaimed the week before Christmas. Influenza surged right before Christmas as the State Board of Health on December 14 established a rigid quarantine in all cases of influenza. Thankfully for Lowell, there were only five

houses under quarantine. Healthy people were encouraged to "keep four feet distance when talking to anyone, don't get the other man's breath, stay home, don't shop in nearby towns and don't encourage outside visitors to come to Lowell." The hope was that soon Lowell would be rid of influenza.

December 25, 1918, the much hoped for announcement came. Village President Winegar announced that not a single case of the flu was left in Lowell. The announcement was said to have put the finishing touch on a perfect Christmas Day. While people were encouraged to be on their guard when outside of town, schools opened, church bells rang, and social activities

resumed. It was indeed a very Merry Christmas!

Throughout the years Christmas traditions started in town. In 1920 Lowell had a community Christmas tree. It was arranged under the auspices of the Lowell Literary and Clover Leaf Clubs. It was on the Main Street Bridge and was decorated 'profusely' with electric lights. During evenings before Christmas there was a lot of community fun with Santa Claus, candy sacks and singing led by members of the two clubs, the American Legion and Boys Scouts. Families with porch lights were requested to keep them turned on all evening on Christmas night.

In 1971, though there had been Christmas parades in the past, the parade

ABC's, continued, page 12

area churches

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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

103 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

Access Services at
www.goodshepherdlowell.org
Left hand side, click on Sermons, etc.

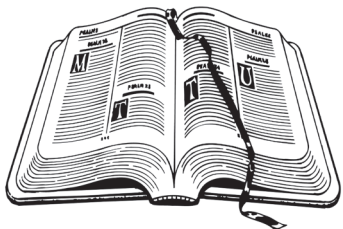
Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS



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865 Lincoln Lake SE • lowellucc.org
Pastor Alyssa Anten
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM
Open Table (No-cost meal) - Thursdays 5 - 7 PM

Open & Affirming • LGBTQ+ Inclusive
616-897-5906

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

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897-7168 • www.fbclowell.org

Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor

Pastor Andrew Bolcom • Pastor of Discipleship

Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries

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

LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

discover. grow. share

621 E. Main Street

897-5938

www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

WORSHIP

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

happy birthday



DECEMBER 24

Jeffrey Pfaller.

DECEMBER 27

Mark Nyp, Jay Clark,
Foster Skoog.

DECEMBER 25

Scott Shindorf, Chris Woolfenden, Chris Treglia, Jeni Clouser, Peggy Hayes, Star Daverman.

DECEMBER 28

Lisa Stormzand, C.J. Sokolowski, Matt Francisco, Randy L. Smith.

DECEMBER 26

Margaret Gasper, Shay Hacker, Stephanie Peel, Butch Landman, Kaitlyn Callihan.

DECEMBER 29

Amanda Martin, Donna Baker, Lauren Malone.

Crime bills on the way to Gov. Whitmer for signature

The Senate on Thursday, Dec. 17 sent the governor Sen. Jeff Irwin's bill that eliminates the 18 years of age requirement for having adjudications set aside from a criminal record, and Pete Lucido's (R-Shelby Twp.) bill making court records for juvenile offenders accessible solely to law enforcement.

Irwin's SB 0681 would also delete the \$25 fee for submitting a set-aside application copy to the Michigan State Police and allow "for all traffic offenses to be set aside," according to an Irwin press release.

"This bill would also create a process for

automatic set-asides so that all adjudications would be eligible for set-aside if the offender stays out of trouble," Irwin's press release reads. "This extends to all juvenile offenses except those requiring a life sentence or those in which the juvenile is waived to the adult court."

The Irwin bill and Lucido's SB 0682 were supported by the Student Advocacy Center of Michigan with testimony dated for Dec. 1, explaining that "according to a study done by the Juvenile Law Center, Michigan ranks in the bottom six states for

confidentiality protections of youth records.

"While most states have some guarantee of non-public records for youth, Michigan does not. Youth records are available upon request from the adjudicating court, and in some cases, a youth's court date, time and hearing location are accessible online," reads the statement from executive director Peri Stone-Palmquist.

Stone-Palmquist explained the use of juvenile records in the hiring process carries both the short-term influence of reducing opportunities for youth employment and

the long-term impact of lowering employment rates within adulthood.

Stone-Palmquist added that because numerous universities utilize the Common Application, which takes a peek at the criminal records amongst potential students, individuals possessing a record might not consider applying or submit a false claim that they do not have a record, "under the impression their youth record is sealed."

"These practices also reinforce racial biases, by negatively impacting youth of color with records at

disproportionately higher rates than white youth," Stone-Palmquist said. "A juvenile record can also bar a youth from certain licenses required for professional employment or joining the military."

By July 29, the bills were supported by Safe and Just Michigan, Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan, the Michigan Catholic Conference and the Michigan Cannabis Industry Association.

"Michigan has prioritized rehabilitating people who have broken the law to get them back out into the world

as productive members of society," Lucido said in a press release. "We should also focus on setting aside the nonviolent crimes that juveniles commit. Everyone makes mistakes, especially when we're young, and youth who break the law shouldn't have their futures ruined because of it."

Irwin provided that after making good progress on reforming the expungement system for adult Michiganders, then "we ought to extend similar opportunities to people who committed their crimes as juveniles."

Solar energy bills moving through legislative process

SB 1105 from Sen. Curt VanderWall (R-Ludington) and SB 1106 from Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lum) are on their way to the governor's office. They give large-scale solar energy fields the option to pay an annual \$3,500-per-megawatt tax to local governments and school districts as opposed to paying a regular property tax rate.

In September, Dan

Papineau of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce said that "one major obstacle to large-scale solar development in Michigan" is the "personal property tax regime that is out of step with that in other Great Lakes states and other states that have seen significant solar development."

Papineau described the traditional ad valorem taxation of solar equipment

as "simply too burdensome to allow many solar projects to be developed," explaining that the new approach designated in the bills could add up to more than \$800 million in enlarged tax revenues throughout 30 years of productive facilities.

Additionally, Papineau said the current system allows for protracted disputes on equipment valuation to arise and possibly stir years

of litigation and that "as the value of equipment declines over time, local units of government will see their revenue stream decline, requiring them to find new sources of revenue or reduce services."

The bills earned opposition from the Middle Cities Education Association, Michigan Association of School Boards, the

Michigan Municipal League, the Michigan Townships Association and the Michigan Association of Counties.

In September, the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council did not provide opposition and indicated that the cost of utility-scale solar projects has decreased by 89 percent, attracting the likes of municipalities, corporations,

universities and consumers to the energy source.

"Given the large number of solar installations expected in Michigan in the coming years, it is important to have broad, holistic conversations including viewpoints from all stakeholders about how utility-scale solar is taxed," Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council president Laura Sherman said in a statement.

Launch of West Michigan COVID-19 vaccine website

A consortium of West Michigan health departments, hospitals, healthcare providers, universities and others have launched VaccinateWestMI.com, a website where area residents can find the latest information about the COVID-19 vaccine. The site includes information about vaccine availability, local distribution plans, safety and efficacy, and will be updated regularly as new information becomes available.

The website will be regularly updated as information becomes available, and visitors to the

site can sign up for email updates on the vaccine.

The Pfizer vaccine was the first to be approved by the US Food and Drug Administration for emergency use in the US on Dec. 11, but initial supplies are extremely limited. Shipping to a select group of health departments and hospitals nationwide began on Sunday, Dec. 13. The first shipments arrived at area hospitals on Tuesday, Dec. 14, with vaccines starting among frontline health care workers that week.

Workers and residents of long-term care facilities are

also slated to be among the first to receive the vaccine, with other high-risk groups scheduled to follow. As supplies of the vaccine increase, those at lower risk will qualify. Experts project all individuals 16 years and older will qualify to get vaccinated by mid to late 2021.

Members of the consortium include: Kent County Health Department, Allegan County Health Department, Barry-Eaton District Health Department, Berrien County Health Department, District Health Department #10, Ionia County Health Department, Mid-Michigan District Health Department, Muskegon County - Public Health, Ottawa County Department of Public Health, Mercy Health Saint Mary's, Metro Health - University of Michigan Health, Spectrum Health, Holland Hospital, Spectrum Health Lakeland, North Ottawa Community Hospital, Michigan Health & Hospital Association, Answer Health, Cherry Health, CVS Pharmacy, Kent County Emergency Medical Services, SpartanNash, We Are For Children, Calvin University, Grand Valley State University and Michigan State University College of Human Medicine.

Today: Wednesday, December 23

Wednesday, Dec. 23 is the 358th day of 2020. There are only eight more days until the end of the year.



Dec. 23, 1913: The Federal Reserve Act is signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson (pictured), creating the Federal Reserve System.

Historical Events

1688: King James II of England flees to Paris after being deposed in favor of his nephew, William of Orange, and his daughter, Mary.
 1783: George Washington resigns as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army at the State House in Annapolis, MD.
 1815: First publication of the novel "Emma" by Jane Austen.
 1941: After 15 days of fighting, the Japanese Army occupies Wake Island.
 1947: The transistor is first demonstrated at Bell

Laboratories.

1948: Seven Japanese military and political leaders convicted of war crimes by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East are executed by Allied occupation authorities at Sugamo Prison in Tokyo.
 1954: First successful kidney transplant is performed by J. Hartwell Harrison and Joseph Murray.
 1970: The North Tower of the World Trade Center in Manhattan is topped out at 1,368 feet, making it the tallest building in the world at that time.

1972: The 16 survivors of the Andes flight disaster are rescued after 73 days of surviving by cannibalism.

Birthdays

1573: Giovanni Battista Crespi, painter, sculptor, architect
 1745: John Jay, first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
 1777: Alexander I of Russia
 1805: Joseph Smith, founder of the Latter Day Saints movement
 1923: James Stockdale, admiral, pilot, Medal of Honor recipient
 1929: Chet Baker, trumpet player
 1935: Esther Phillips, R&B singer
 1940: Jorma Kaukonen, singer/songwriter, guitarist, Jefferson Airplane
 1941: Tim Hardin, singer/songwriter
 1943: Harry Shearer, actor, comedian
 1944: Wesley Clark, general
 1946: Susan Lucci, actor
 1949: Adrian Belew, singer/songwriter, guitarist, King Crimson
 1949: Reinhold Weege, writer, producer
 1952: William Kristol, journalist
 1958: Joan Severance, actor
 1958: Victoria Williams, singer/songwriter

Rep. Hall tests negative for COVID-19

House Oversight Committee Matt Hall (R-Emmett Twp.), a state legislator who spent time face to face with Rudy Giuliani, President Donald Trump's personal attorney, said he has tested negative for COVID-19.

Hall got tested after learning Giuliani had tested positive for the coronavirus

a few days after his testimony on alleged voting irregularities. Hall and House Speaker Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) met with Giuliani prior to the committee meeting, Hall then presided over the House Oversight Committee for more than four hours while Giuliani sat at the testimony table.

Lowell city council discusses social districts, Showboat at meeting

by Tim McAllister
lead reporter

Lowell city council had their latest regular meeting at 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 21.

The meeting lasted one hour and nine minutes and took place over the Zoom app.

The council spent about half the meeting discussing the creation of “social districts” around the bars and restaurants downtown. More than 20 other cities in Michigan including Grand Rapids, Rockford, Kalamazoo and Allendale have already established them.

“It’s a special liquor license that allows a municipality to designate a certain area of a district as an area where businesses can extend their liquor license out and allow people to gather in public places and drink alcohol or have meals and things of that nature,” said Lowell city manager Michael Burns. “The city of Rockford just opened theirs up and I understand it was a big success.”

Lowell city attorney Jessica Wood helped draft the legislation allowing social districts and was on hand to explain it to the council.

“There are two boundaries you need to establish,” Wood said. “You need to establish a social district boundary and then what are called commons areas, which are the areas within the social district where you want to permit alcohol to be consumed. The idea is just to give people more space to drink, essentially. It allows



Screenshot of Lowell city council’s Zoom meeting on Monday, Dec. 21.

businesses to sell liquor on their premises, and then the consumer takes it and walks out into the commons area to consume it, into the shared space.”

“So, basically, I could grab a beer at New Union and walk down to the Riverwalk with it and get something to eat from someplace,” said city councilor Cliff Yankovich. “Is that how it works?”

“That’s correct,” Wood said. “You can’t take a beverage from once licensee and take it into another licensee’s business premises. So you’d have to finish that

drink before you went into another licensee.”

The council discussed liability issues. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were 10,511 alcohol-related traffic fatalities in 2018.

“The licensee is only responsible for serving the customer while they’re on their premises,” Wood said. “They can’t serve to minors and they can’t serve to persons who are drunk. But once that person leaves and goes into the commons areas, they are no longer the responsibility of the business that served them.”

Lowell city clerk Susan Ullery visited the social district in Rockford and described fun things like people gathering around a bonfire in the middle of their Main Street but also little masking or social distancing.

“I certainly felt like there was a little bit of an issue with that [social distancing],” Ullery said. “There were lots of people crowded all around there, but then they had taken some benches and moved the benches so they were closer to the fire pit and people couldn’t be quite so close to one another.”

“My only concern is

does it become branded as a superspreader,” said city councilor Marty Chambers, who suggested creating multiple social districts throughout the downtown area.

“If you had a superspreader situation, you would have a public health emergency and you could shut it down,” Wood said.

The council finally directed Burns to have an ordinance created in time to be voted on at the next city council meeting.

The council heard an update about the progress of the Lowell Showboat construction project. The first meeting of the Lowell Showboat non-profit meeting will take place at 3 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 6.

“We got our payment from the [Lowell Area Community Fund,] so that has credited into our account,” Burns said. “We also received another \$83,000, approximately, last week through the donations from the Chamber. The good news is right now we will be able to pay the full contract with [construction contractor] Wolverine, and we’re about \$24,000 ahead if you include all the consultants as well, so that can be starting to be put towards the bathroom.”

“I think we’re about \$190,000 short of the \$800,000 goal,” said Lowell city councilor Jim Salzwedel. “The brick campaign is going really well. It’s probably close to \$100,000 raised in just brick sales so far, and we had a couple citizens donate \$50,000 and \$25,000 last week too, so it’s continuing to go. I believe we’re going to get there in maybe another month or two.”

Councilor Chambers reported that the planning commission has approved a plan by Grand Rapids Gravel to mine an area off of Boves Road.

“It’s a 10 year process [but] it could be done sooner,” Chambers said. “Their intents are when they’re done they’re going to create a 27 acre lake and they’re going to put 22 condos up on it.”

Lowell city council’s next regular meeting is scheduled to take place via Zoom at 7 pm on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021.

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

Folks Like You Put the Merry in Our Christmas!

As we dash toward a new year, we can't think of a better place to celebrate the holiday season than right here. Thank you for being such great neighbors, customers and friends. We wish you all the best!

the lowell ledger

Buyer's Guide and News

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MDHHS is asking Michiganders to “Mask Up, Mask Right”

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is launching an initiative to not only get Michiganders to mask up, but to mask right.

“The science is now settled: Masks protect others from COVID – and they protect the wearer,” said Robert Gordon, MDHHS director. “It’s important to wear the right mask and wear it the right way. We want all Michiganders to Mask Up, Mask Right as we continue to battle the virus in our state.”

Masking right includes wearing one of three options of masks that provide stronger protection: three-layered washable cloth face coverings, medical-grade disposable masks or approved KN95 masks. It also includes wearing the approved mask correctly and having it secured over the nose and face and tightly fitting without gaps.

CDC has recommended the use of masks to protect the community by reducing emission of the virus and to protect the wearer by reducing inhalation. CDC cites a number of studies showing that masks have been effective. For example, one study showed that use

Need help getting a mask?

Residents can pick up a free mask from partner sites across the state, including most local DHHS offices and Community Action Agencies. Find a distribution site at Michigan.gov/MaskUpMichigan or call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136.



of masks onboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt was associated with a 70 percent reduced risk of COVID; another showed that, in a contact tracing investigation, those who reported wearing masks had a 70 percent lower risk of infection than those who did not. Published research by Beaumont

Hospital in Southeast Michigan also showed that mask wearing was associated with lower levels of infection by COVID and, among those infected, lower levels of symptoms.

Bandanas, gaiters and face shields without masks do not provide adequate protection for the wearer or others and are not recommended.

“The delivery of the first COVID-19 vaccines in Michigan means there will be an end to this pandemic,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. “However, it will take several months before we are able to have enough vaccine to widely distribute it to all Michiganders. Until then,

and even for individuals who receive the vaccine, we should all be doing our part to slow the spread of this virus by wearing masks correctly, avoiding large gatherings, and washing hands.”

Residents in need of masks can pick one up from partner sites across the state, which includes most MDHHS local offices and Community

Action Agencies. Find a distribution site at Michigan.gov/MaskUpMichigan or call the COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

Food assistance extended thru December

Approximately 350,000 Michigan families will continue to have access to additional food assistance benefits during December as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced on Thursday, Dec 17.

Michigan previously approved the additional food assistance beginning in March, and now that is being extended for the month of December with approval from the US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service.

“No Michigander should have to worry about how they’ll put food on the table for themselves and their families, especially during a pandemic,” Gov. Whitmer said. “That’s why my administration is working hard to provide some support to families who need it most. I will continue working with MDHHS to help every Michigander get through this crisis.”

Eligible clients will see additional food assistance benefits on their Bridge Card by Dec. 30, with payments beginning for

some households on Dec. 21. Additional benefits will be loaded onto Bridge Cards as a separate payment from the assistance that is provided earlier in the month.

More than 1.2 million people in Michigan receive federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits through the state’s Food Assistance Program

Households eligible for Food Assistance Program benefits will receive additional benefits in December to bring all current SNAP cases to the maximum monthly allowance for that group size.

This change only applies to customers not currently receiving the maximum benefit amount. The 350,000 households that receive increased benefits represent more than 50 percent of the more than 680,000 Michigan households that received food assistance in September. The remaining households already receive the maximum benefit.

“During the holiday season in particular we want to help families who struggle to put food on

the table as a result of the pandemic,” said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. “This additional food assistance is critically important to make sure Michigan residents have nutritious food to eat.”

The federal government is providing additional funding to states for food assistance under House Resolution 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act.

Eligible families do not need to re-apply to receive the additional benefits. People who receive food assistance can check their benefits balance on their Michigan Bridge Card by going online to www.michigan.gov/MIBridges or calling a consumer service representative toll-free at 888-678-8914. They can ask questions about the additional benefits by calling or emailing their caseworker.

Customer service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Spanish and Arabic service is available. If you are deaf, deafblind, or hard of hearing or speech-impaired, call the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1.

From the Staff and Residents

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Boys Basketball

A LOOK BACK IN TIME

Lowell goes undefeated and is crowned district champs

1965

The 1964-65 varsity basketball team completed one of the finest seasons in the history of the school, remaining unbeaten for the entire season to take undisputed first place in the league, and the second district championship in a row. Also the tallest team ever, Lowell's "giants" outran, out jumped, and outscored all others with a total of 1387 points for the season. They certainly deserved the final AP and UPI poll ratings of fourth and sixth in the state!



Class B District Champs!

1984



The boys varsity basketball team had a winning 1983-84 season. They took a strong second place finish in the Tri-River conference and then went on to capture the district title. Coach Ken Akers guided the team further; in the state tournament this year, the first since 1963. The fans witnessed many heart stopping action-packed games as the Red Arrows finished with a terrific season.

The team captains, Jason Barber, who was named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team and Steve Ralys provided strong leadership and playing ability, while Craig Potter's, Dave Karger's and exchange student Luko Ivanovic's shooting skills were top notch. After such a successful season many are looking forward to next year.

Arrows bring home district championship

2016

For the first time since 1984, the Red Arrows claimed the district's top prize after topping opponent Forest Hills Central 52-44 blasting into the lead in a furious fourth quarter. The win also marks the team's 18th victory of the year, the most logged since the Red Arrow's 1977-78 season, making the season a historic one. Historic records were set by Ryan Stevens. Stevens had the records of most assists in a season (137) and most assists in a career (429).

According to captain Ryan Stevens the victory

held a bigger meaning, especially for him and his fellow seniors. "Every senior class wants to leave a legacy and this is one accomplishment that we can leave behind. A district title hasn't been won around here for awhile and it's something these seniors won't forget. It's a very special season for this program."



Red Arrow SPORTS

Athletic honors hallway to be updated at LHS

A project a long time in the processing will begin in the upcoming weeks at Lowell High School.

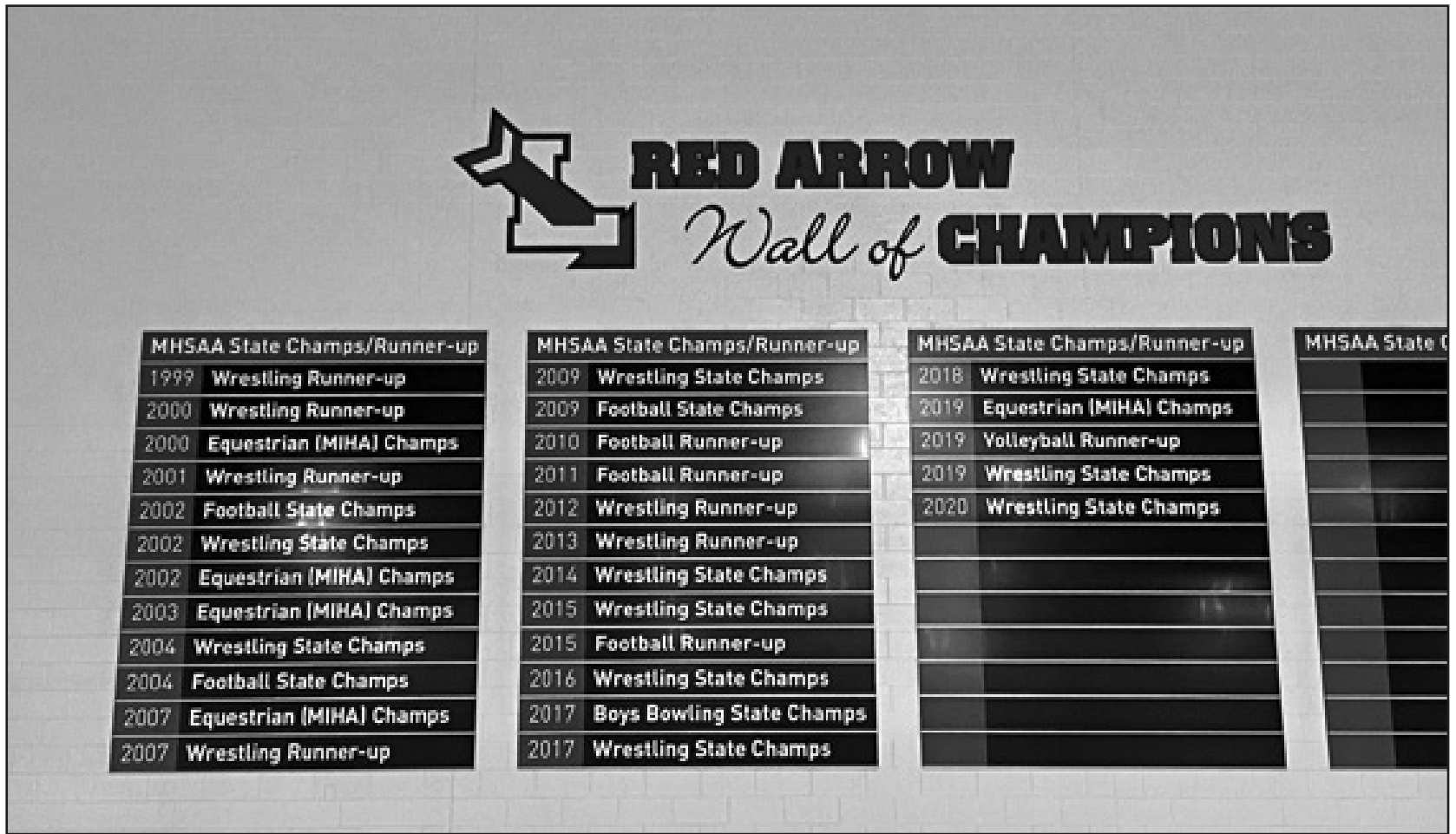
The athletic department is updating the Hall of Honor adding a digital display and online access.

The majority of the plaques highlighting Red Arrow student-athletes will be moved to the display.

“I am definitely going to miss all the plaques, but it just came down to a matter of sustainability and cost. We ran out of wall space so there was no room to continue the plaques for the yearly student-athlete honors. In 2019-20 alone, 50 plaques would have needed to be added. It is a great problem to have as our student-athletes continue to be so successful, but we had to find something that is more sustainable and cost effective,” Athletic Director Dee Crowley said.

A 65-inch interactive touchscreen monitor will be installed in the hallway for spectators to explore to find teams and athletes. “One of the best features of the interactive display is that it is web-based. You can be anywhere in the world with Internet access and see the same information that will be in the school hallway,” Crowley mentioned.

“We are currently taking pictures of each of the plaques in the hallway so that the picture may be added to the display.



Yearbooks will also be included on the interactive display going back to as many years of Yearbooks that we are able to find. In the future, we hope to add trophy pictures to the site as there are LOTS of trophies in storage that don't have room in the display cases,” Crowley added. “This is an extremely important and large project that will take some time, but we are excited to be able to share our Red Arrows' success in a new format accessible to many more fans.”

The plaques are firmly attached to the wall so there is some uncertainty if they can be removed without damage, but the staff will do their best to remove them carefully. The school plans to communicate with parents/alumni to pick up plaques so they may have them at home for historical purposes. Any plaque pickup would be after the new year.

Crowley advised that the Athlete of the Year plaques will continue to be

added to the hallway as the update plan allows for 50+ years of the two plaques per year on the wall space.

This is the second project that the athletic department has addressed in the past year with keeping sustainability in mind. The Wall of Champions was added to the main gym that lists all the MHSAA State Championships and Runners-up to replace the banners on the north wall.

“We experienced the

same sustainability issue with the banners in the main gym. We had 8-9 banners that needed to be hung without the space to hang them. The Wall of Champions allows

many more years of accomplishments to be shared,” Crowley said.

“We are very fortunate to have such a rich tradition of success and achievement at Lowell High School. I am very excited about the work Mrs. Crowley is doing to ensure a sustainable

method to recognize and promote that outstanding tradition. Updating our Hall of Honor and integrating a digital approach will allow people who can't make it into the building to see the recognition that our students and programs have earned over the years and will earn in the years to come,”

Steve Gough, Principal of Lowell High School said.

Live the Life You Want What are you thankful for in 2020?

This has been an interesting year. In fact, one for the record books. While for many it has been stressful in terms of job security, finances, health, family etc., there are also so many things for which to be grateful. I chose early on to focus on gratitude and not let stress, worry, or anxiety rule my feelings.

Gratitude-thankfulness is so powerful it can actually change our emotions. When I find myself in an odd mood or feeling down, I focus on those things for which I can be thankful. So, to get you started thinking about what you have to be thankful

for in 2020 here are some suggestions.

- Not being critiqued for my grammar. So, that would be humor.
- Each day that we have another chance at life.
- Finding our purpose.
- Helping others.
- People who provide much needed support.
- Hugs.
- Family, friends, and loved ones.
- Plants and trees that remind us of the miracle and beauty of nature.
- The privilege of helping someone through change and transformation.

- Teachers, coaches, and mentors.
- Forgiveness, given and received.
- Love, of all kinds.
- Quiet time
- Fun times.
- The sound of genuine laughter, especially a child's laughter.
- The ability to learn new things.
- Music.
- Creativity.
- Anything that gives a feeling of awe.
- For the freedoms we have here in the United States.
- All those that have and continue to work to keep us safe such as



Melissa Spino
MA LLPC CDMS

our veterans, military, fire department, police, and medical staff.

There's always more that could be said but my hope is for you to always

keep adding to your thankful list. I am also thankful if this article helped you shift your focus, even for a short amount of time, away from your worries, stress,

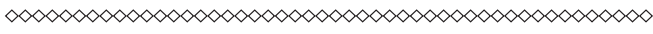
sadness, or anxiety. My wish is for everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season with those important to you.



obituaries

VENNEMAN

Vernon John Venneman age 86 of Saranac formerly of Lowell passed away December 14, 2020 in Grand Rapids. He was born January 4, 1934 in Lowell, Michigan the son of Carl and Margaret (Pike) Venneman, Vernon married Marilyn Joyce Wilson March 22, 1958. She preceded him in death June 17, 2018. He served in the Army during the Korean War. Vernon worked at King Milling for 25 years and then for Forest Hills Public Schools until retiring. He was a member of Saranac American Legion and Lowell Nazarene Church. He loved fishing, hunting, gardening, planting and being outdoors. He was an avid Lions Football fan. Vernon is survived by his children, David Venneman of Ionia and Karen (Ken) Seiler of Saranac; grandchildren, David Brian Venneman of Ionia, Norah (Jason) Almquist of Messick, Dennis Venneman of Cadillac, Michael Venneman of Ionia, Kristyn (Robert) Sleight of Ionia, Katelyn (Donavan) Seiler-Thompson of Indiana and Kendall Seiler of Lansing; eight great-grandchildren and sisters, Joann Childs of Lowell and Ellen Warner of Ionia. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife and sisters, Edith and Gloria. Private services will be held. Arrangements in care of Lake Funeral Home in Saranac. A celebration of Life will be livestreamed on Lake Funeral Homes Facebook page at 10 am, Wednesday, January 5, 2021. Memorial contributions may be made to Lowell Church of the Nazarene. Online condolences may be made at www.lakefuneralhomes.com



college news

Madison Lee Melle, of Saranac, was recently named to the University of Mississippi's fall 2020 Honor Roll lists.

Melle was named to the Dean's Honor Roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.50-3.74.

In order to be eligible for honor roll designation, a student must have completed at least 12 graded hours for the semester and may not be on academic probation during the semester.

Alise Forward qualified for the fall 2020 Dean's List at Belmont University. Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Approximately 55

percent of Belmont's students this semester qualified for the fall 2020 Dean's List. Belmont Provost Dr. Thomas Burns said, "Achieving the recognition of Dean's List during the fall 2020 semester is an extraordinary achievement. While we are always impressed with students' who are able to achieve this high level of recognition in their academic endeavors, those students that reached this mark in fall 2020 demonstrated incredible diligence and commitment to their academic work during very unusual and stressful circumstances. We are so pleased to be able to recognize their efforts and our hope is that these students will continue investing in their studies to equip them for a lifetime of learning and service."

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our webpages that can make your life easier:

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2. Need answers to your Social Security-related questions? Visit our Frequently Asked Questions page at www.ssa.gov/faq.
3. You can complete and submit your online application for retirement benefits in as little as 15

minutes at www.ssa.gov/benefits/retirement.

4. Access our publications library with

online booklets and pamphlets, including audio versions, on key subjects at www.ssa.gov/pubs.

5. Check out our blog for Social Security news and updates at <https://blog.ssa.gov>.

Please share these pages with your friends and family.

Vonda Van Til 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 vantil@ssa.gov.

business matters

Greenridge Realty announced that Dave VanKeulen received Realtor of the Month for November.

This award recognizes VanKeulen for his outstanding success and achievements.



ABC's, continued

tradition really started and continued. The Christmas parade is always very well attended. In 2020 it adapted to a socially distanced drive through parade. So many people came out to the drive thru parade, that traffic was tangled up for hours.

Lowell has always helped their neighbors. From schoolchildren, churches and civil groups – all kinds of events are held to raise money and food to help others at Christmas.

Even the police officers get in on the fun by handing out children's toys at 'traffic stops.'

This peek at Christmas past has been brief, but as we look to Christmas present, we are grateful to call Lowell home. From everyone here at the Lowell Area Historical Museum, we are honored to be the keepers of this rich history, and we wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The greatest art is to shape the quality of the day.

~ Henry David Thoreau



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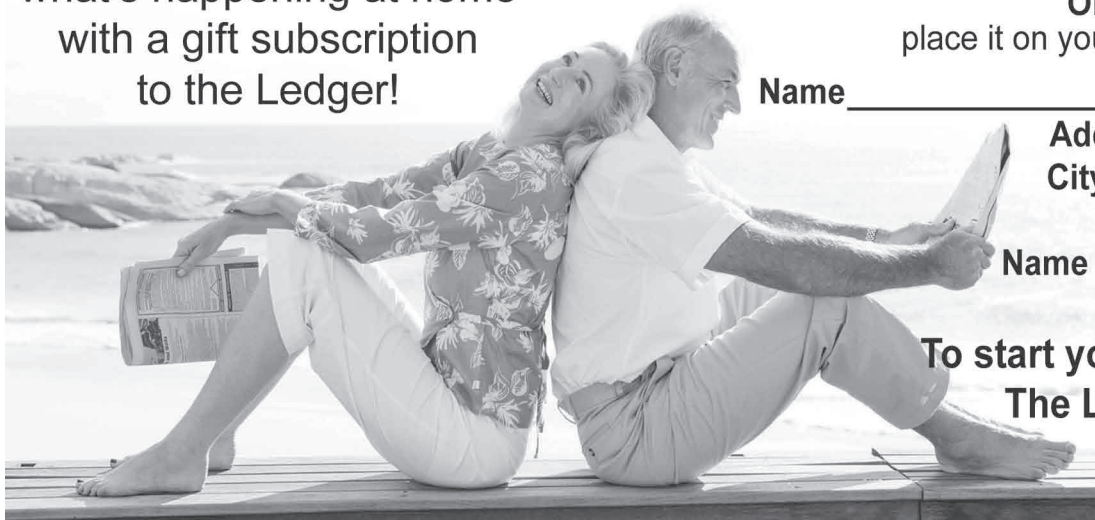
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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of puzzle solutions with letters filled in.

Grid of puzzle solutions with numbers filled in.

Large grid of puzzle solutions with words circled and highlighted.

1st trimester Lowell High School Honor Roll

Lowell High School has announced the Honor Roll for the 1st trimester – 2020-21 school year. 1st trimester term GPA must be a 3.000 or higher to qualify based on final grades

9th Grade

Logan Acheson
Samuel Albert
Sutton Alexander
Jack Bacon
Braxcynn Baker
Gavin Barber
Grace Barnett
Madalynne
Barrera-Wilder
Brianna Berg
Zachary Boehr
Jared Boone
Graham Boonstra
Emma Boston
Haylee Bowker
Evan Brabant
Isabella Brabant
Evan Bray
Teige Bredin
Alice Bredwell
Emma Bruwer
Landon Burgess
Reese Carpenter
Antonio Casarez
Kelsey Catrell
Nichole Chrisman
Bryce Churchill
Alexis Clark
Ainsley Cooper
Ella Curtis
Cloey DeGlopper
Caden Dennie
Jacob DeVries
Jace Dixon
Wyatt Duimstra
Hiyori Eldred
Avery Elmhirst
Brooklyn Elsie
Lynsi Fetterhoff
Dezra Fitch
Keagan Fitch
Logan Foss
Jayden Franks
Mason Fuentes
Isabella Garcia
Benjamin Gaskin
Antony Gieske
Weston Godbold
Jailizza
Gomez-Tellez
Tacho Gonzales
Hayden Gough
Jacob Graham
Ethan Gray
Anne Greenfield
Kieryn Gruizenga
Maris Guppy
Jacob Hasapis
Eli Hawk
Samantha Hayes
Nina Helder
Reese Hilton
Jacob Hofman
Timothy Hollern
Brayden Holst
Lincoln Homolka
Kiara Hulbert
Braylon Iakiri
Elle Jenks
Rosalia Jimenez
Hannah Johnson
Charlotte Jones
Oliver Jones
Hope Kaminski
Gwynneth Kelly
Maya Kemp
Kenneth Kinyon
Joseph Korcek
Brayden Krueger
Isabella Kuntz
Tori Labron
Brena Lacey

Noah LaMore
Jacquelyn Landman
Owen LaRose
Nichole Larsen
Aubree Lee
Jackson Liley
Liam Lincolnhol
Nicholas Lothian
Nolan Lowrie
Owen MacNaughton
Ava MacPherson
Lauren Malone
Alexis Martin
Kyra Martino
Alaina Masi
Breanna Mason
Abigail McDonald
Megan McDonald
Ari McFarland
Trevor Mead
Cole Meyer
Carmen Mika
Lance Miller
Daniel Mitchell
Nathan Mohr
Madilynne
Morgensen
Maia Moser
Kayleigh Nanninga
McKenna Nietupski
Ellery Ostrander
Austin Parcheta
Todd Parcheta
Mya Pender
Josiah Peters
Elly Phillips
Claire Pohl
Leianna Posati
Ashley Powell
Victor Preiss
Jacob Rapelje
Joseph Rapelje
Kelsey Rasch
Skylar Redumski
Jackson Reisbig
Alexander Repp
Andrew Rogers
Christopher Rogers
Katie Rogers
Jackson Schaedig
Kylei Schmid
Jake Schmidt
Grace Simkins
Andrew Smith
Jacob Spaulding
Kelsey Staley
Lucas Stevens
Brady Swift
Mitchell Swint
Ella Todd
Joseph Tuuri
Tristan Tyler
Faith VanDuinen
Spencer VanVeelen
Matilyn Vogel
Melanie Wade
Molly Wade
Evan Wasciuk
Zachary Watrous
Naomi Wattenhofer
Drew Weber
Lydia Wells
Nicholas Williams
Leah Wills
Alexander Winter
Jadyn Young
Xavier Young

10th Grade

Emily Ake
Jordan Alcala
Ryan Baker
Gracie Bassett

Hannah Bechill
Haylie Beers
Olivia Berg
Ian Berrington
Alexander Binns
Jace Blakely
Evan Blazo
Vivianne Bledsoe
Brenden Brandt
Benjamin Bromley
Alonzo Bruinekool
Abbey Brummel
Carol Burbrink
Joelynn Burkholder
Colton Byrne
Katie Camphouse
Zachary Chambers
Alaina Clark
Eleanora Clark
Taylor Clark
Samantha Conrad
Constanca Copeto
Carson Crace
Keara Crawford
Jacob Davidson
Patrick de Voest
Josalyne Deible
Aidan Dennings
Kelton DeVito
Maeve Dougherty
Dawson Douma
Gage Dutkiewicz
Brooke Ellsworth
Drew Ferrill
Isabelle Field
Aidan Fitzpatrick
Ezekiel Flentje
Sophia Flickinger
Lucinda Foreman
Kyleigh Foss
Aidan Foster
David Foster
Hannah Fountaine
Noah Franz
Alfredo
Garcia-Tinoco
Lillian Geelhoed
Ian George
Ryan Giggins
Isaac Graham
Braden Granholm
Rebecca Gray
Kaden Gruizenga
Tate Hare
Landon Hart
Summer Havey
Anthony Havlik
Mason Hesche
Abigail Hewitt
Kendra Hoffert
Lily Hornik
Grace Hough
Alexis Howell
Dawson Huhn
Delaney Huizinga
Nolan Jannenga
Rylee Jannenga
Chloe Jones
Lavonda Jousma
Krista Jungblut
Ashlyn Karp
Josiah Kissinger
Jonah Kniss
William Kolp
Jason Korzen
Ethan Krieger
Makayla Kyes
Alexis Lamoreaux
Autumn Lamoreaux
Grace Larson
Rhyann LeBarre
Riley Lester
Connor Lixie
Elly Looman
Murphy Malcolm
Ava Mallindine
Samuel Martin
Kaidance Martino
Gavin Mazarka
Emma McCormick

Augustus McDonald
Ivy McDonald
Luke McMillan
Janessa Mead
Jack Meier
Katelyn Meyers
Zoey Mierendorf
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Avery Miller
Conner Miller
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McKenzie Munson
Bristol Nash
Gunnar Nelson
Aubriegh Oswald
Michael Patrick
Ayden Pellerito
Karina Peplinski
Elisha Peters
Jonah Phillips
Ramsey Ponchaud
Emma Proctor
Ilana Rhodes
Easton Rich
Aidan Richardson
Dustin Richardson
Grace Richmond
Jack Rickert
Jazmin Rios Soriano
Addisen Rodriguez
Preston Rojas
Hope Rummelt
Zahna Rutz
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Nolan Simmons
Steven Skinner
Cameron Sluss
Connor Smith
David Smith
Kaitlyn Smith
Andrew Snell
Makayla Socall
Alyssa Spanbauer
Stephanie Spinella
Olivia Staley
Charles Steinebach
Hunter Stepanovich
Trevor Stewart
Maxwell Stoner
Brady Strouse
Celso Tapia
Peyton Teachworth
Jacob Thomas
Wyatt Thompson
Kadence Tiede
Brooke Tindall
Kevin Topolinski
Kiera Troost
Laney VanAssen
Noah VanLaan
Alexandria VanTil
Grace VanTimmeren
Andrew Veldman
Vivian VerHulst
Lauren Visscher
Henry Vredevelt
Mason Wade
Emmaline Wasciuk
Courtney Witten
Brenden Wittenbach
Alyssa Woern
Luke Wolters
Jacob Zerilli

11th Grade

Mitchell Anderson
Alyssa Atkins
Amber Backing
Kira
Bailey-Waldron
Norah Baker
Bryce Balabuch
Emma Barnhart
Paige Barnhart
January Basinger
Blake Bennett
Samantha Bennett
Kendra Berg
Alexis Berrington
Carter Blough
Sedona Bonter
Madison Borrelli
Elyse Bosscher
Travis Boyd
Robert Brabant
Mariah Bracey
Eric Bryce
Hayden Burt
Beckett Butler
Kaylee Byrne
Cailey Calhoun
Owen Carpenter
Tatum
Chambers-
Lawrence
Elise Charron
Jasmine Clark
Nathan Cleaver
William Compton
Liberty Cook
Samuel Cooper
Carra Couturier
Madison Coviak
Jazlynn Cowling
Kalel Creasy
Emma Cross
Thomas Danaher
Emma Dawson
Ella DeRuitter
Hanna DeVries
Aiden Dial
Anna Doyle
Kiya Dysard
Jared Elliott
Mackenzie Elve
Joshua Fabis
Justus Farrell
Lani Fetterhoff
Connor Fitzpatrick
Aden Folk
Blake Forester
Greta Forward
Jackson Fowler
Sawyer Fowler
Carson Gaines
Winton Garrelts
Malia Garrison
Quinn Gasper
Brooklyn Gavitt
Emily German
Jerald Gieske
Rosemary Goodwin
Shea Goodwin
Carter Goostrey
Danton Goulet
Joseph Graham
Leah Halstead
Lanndon Hamilton
Jamara Harper
Caleb Hasapis
Dethan Hawk
Zachary Hayes
Robert Hays
Alexis Hofmann
Taylor Holdridge
Dallas Hornik
Macyen Huver
Brynn Jackson
Brett Johnson
Jaymie Johnson
David Kaczanowski
Samuel Kaminski
Delaney Kelley
Kayla Kermeen
Evan Klein
Brooke Knottnerus

Ty Knottnerus
Amber Koepsell
Lillian Kooistra
Brianna Laux
David Lay
Madison Liley
James Link
Hayden Lowrie
Logan MacLachlan
Jackson
MacNaughton
John McCarthy
Kaylee McLarty
Aidan McWayne
Mason Meadows
Benjamin Mika
Abigail Moore
William Neeley
Branch Nietling
Morgan North
Kaden Northup
Kyra Northup
Lundy Olesko
Cole Opperman
Tyler Peterson
Ethan Post
Noah Proctor
Eliot Raimer
Aubrey Rasch
Joshua Rau
Caleb Ray
Tyler Robinson
Carlee Rogers
Kadience Rogers
Makia Rogers
Dominick Ronchetti
Alexis Royer
Dana Sanders
Jadan Sanders
Cierra Sayer
Emma Schmidt
Isabella Schmidt
Evyn Schneider
Emma Schulte
Evan Schulte
Andrew Serne
Emily Shay
Kaitlyn Slezak
Lucas Sloma
Gage Snarski
Preston Sobeck
Jeselyn Spaulding
Kyler Spike
Blaise Starkweather
Savannah Steffen
Lara Steffens
Haleigh Strouse
Emily Struckmeyer
Lauren Swain
Adam Swanson
Joseph Swanson
Brody Swift
Avery Szymanski
Jenna Taber
Leonardo Tavarone
Mia Tavarone
Kaitlynn Thompson
Olivia Torline
Justin Troost
Jennie Underwood
Samuel VandenHout
Cole Vandervest
Haley VanGorp
Taryn VanNoy
Madelynn Visscher
Jordyn Vriesman
Alexander Weber
Kennedi Weed
Sterling Weeks
Jonah Wegscheidler
Amelia Wells
Cole Weston
Marissa Wever
Hunter Wieland
Shelby Wilcox
Julia Wilterink
Aaron Young
Michelle Zou

12th Grade

Raven
Jake Adamczak
Madison Alcala
Ruth Anderson
Delaney Beimers
Ethan Bierlein
Kayla Boersen
Jacob Bonney
Benjermen Brandt
William Brandt
Casper Broene
Madison Brown
Kailyn Bruce
Dayle Brushaber
Addison Bruwer
Zachary Callihan
Michael Camphouse
Miya Cance
Jacob Chrisman
Nathaniel Clark
Kylie Collins
Cameron Comeaux
Caroline Cooper
Kristina
Dalessandro
Parker Davis
William de Voest
Doak Dean
Emalie DeBoer
Alex DeBold
Dillon DeGood
Gavin DeKam
Mason DeRaad
Nicholas DeRuitter
Nathaniel Dewitt
Kaylee Diamond
Samuel Dougherty
Austin Douma
Sean Edwards
Macy Escobar
Dorothy Estes
Olivia Ettinger
Melissa Field
Miranda Flier
William Forney
Paige Frazer
Aurora Fredricks
Ashlyn Fryers
Andrew Fuss
Joelle Garcia
Aleiha Gates
Kayla Gauw
Erin Gibbons
Josiah Gissendanner
Reese Gonzales
Bridget Gray
Hallie Greenop
McKenna Grody
Amber Grover
Averi Haas
Andrew Hackstedt
Amber Hadley
Lauren Haff
Hailey Halfmann
Emma Hall
Ethan Hall
Elayna Harrrall
Travis Harvey
Austin Hendrick
Jake Hessler
Dillon Hieshetter
Sierra Hieshetter
Hailee Hinerman
Kathryn Hock
Emma Hollern
Madison Hook
Sophie Hruska
Alexander Hudson
Tressa Huizinga
Sydney Hults
Kailyn Inderbitzin
Nora Jannenga
Madison Johnson
Theresa Judd
Kira Jungblut
Alexis Kapcia
Caeden Kaufman
Mikayla Keller
Elliott Kelley
Gavin Kelly
Marcus Kenkel
Peter Kooi
Joseph Kopecek
Anthony Koster
Kari Kroll
Kelci Kurti
Abbie Ladner
Ethan LaMore
Ryan Landgren
Mason LeBarre
Jacob Lee
Aubri Lemke
Rachel Leppert

Kacey Leverage
Rachel Lezan
Ella Limbers
William Link
Samuel Lixie
Samantha Lombardo
John Lothian
Grant Lupton
Phillip MacDermaid
Aiden Malone
Kendra Martino
Kobie Mast
Matthew Mayhew
Marlie McDonald
Kathryn McDowell
Zeke McMeeken
Blake Mead
Joshua Meier
Brooke Meijer
Oscar Melby
Kyle Merriman
Molly Meyers
Mackenzie Miller
Nikola Miller
Carissa Mitchell
Derek Mohr
Maloryn Mrozinski
Sydney Munson
Brady Musser
Grace Nielsen
Ethan Nieuwkoop
Keagan Nugent
Noah Oswald
Amanda Oudbier
Emma Parsons
Cameron Pawloski
Ethan Pawloski
Emma Pearson
Alana Peters
Asher Peters
Brayton Phillips
Paige Phillips
Sophia Powell
Mallory Price
Skylie Raab
Alexander Reisbig
Jason Reitsma
Jenna Reitsma
Brooke Rempalski
Evan Richter
Steven Rickert
Logan Rose
Olivia Rose
Izabel Rutz
Logan Ryan
Bradley Salgat
Amiya Schaefer
Hannah Schmidt
Jarod Schoenwandt
Ian Schwartz
Emma Seddon
Autumn Serylo
Carter Sherman
Ethan Shindorf
Luke Skinner
Christian Smith
Anna Snell
Brett Spanbauer
Sydney Spanbauer
Tyler Spinella
Faith Stepek
Terrick Stewart
Abigail Stickney
Zeth Streje
Riley Taylor
Troy Taylor
Kyle Teachworth
Mason Thomas
Benjamin Thompson
Samantha Todd
Kendal Topp
Julia Tuuri
Bradley VandenHout
Hannah VanDeWeert
Ryan Virsik
Justin Wade
Nevan Webb
Madelyn Wester
Jillian Weston
Taylor White
Zachary White
Peter Williams
Olivia Winn
Bailey Wolters
Logan Wood
William Wurtz
Chlorisa Young
Jona Young
Teryn Zandstra



Catch Up On Lowell High School Sports



FUN PAGE

SUDOKO

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

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!

SWEET TREATS WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

SWEET TREATS WORD SEARCH

BAIN MARIE
 BAKED
 BATCH
 BEAT

BIND
 BOIL
 CARAMELIZATION
 CHILL
 CLARIFY
 COAT
 COCOA

COMBINE
 CONFECTION
 CORN SYRUP
 CRUMBLE
 DISSOLVE
 DRAGEES
 ICING

LOLLIPOP
 PASTE
 SIFT
 SUGAR
 THERMOMETER
 TRUFFLE

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Illinois on December 23, 1964. I worked as a security guard outside a hotel to raise money for my music. I am best known as the lead singer of a popular '90s alternative rock band.

Answer: Eddie Vedder

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to candy.

C R L O I I E C

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

Answer: Licorice

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		

CLUES ACROSS

- Crow species
- Partner to flow
- Male offspring
- Sedate
- Orange beverage
- Pair of small hand drums
- 12th month of Jewish civil year
- Former Pirates star Jason
- Computer company
- Made angry
- Beverage container
- Charlize Theron film "___ Flux"
- Localities
- Consume
- Don't know when yet
- Bed style
- Make a low, continuous sound
- Wrath
- Pollinates flowers
- Association
- Prejudice
- Unhealthy
- Hasidic religious leader
- Distinctive philosophy

- Short-term memory
- In a good way
- Emperors of Ethiopia
- Imaginary line
- Of barium
- One's sense of self-esteem
- Man who behaves dishonorably
- Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

- Rear of (nautical)
- He minds the net
- Ring-shaped objects
- When you hope to get there
- Young children
- Beloved hobby
- Pigpen
- Wish harm upon
- Quick-eyed (Scottish)
- Scrooge's phrase "___ Humbug"
- One more
- A ballplayer who only hits
- Once vital TV part
- Sixth month of Jewish

- civil year
- Advantage
- Type of tree
- Luke's mentor ___-Wan
- Life stories
- Vase
- Tiny
- Package (abbr.)
- A photog's tool
- Wood
- One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- Pueblo people of New Mexico
- Wild goats
- A way to comply
- Horatio ___, British admiral
- Actress Leslie
- Sir ___ Newton
- Pouch
- Have already done

LOWELL SHOWBOAT VI



“BUY A BRICK” CAMPAIGN

FROM VISION TO REALITY... LOWELL SHOWBOAT VI

*Continuing a Community Icon....*The Lowell Showboat has been an historical icon of the Greater Lowell Community since 1931, serving as a catalyst in bringing the residents of our town and surrounding area together. After five showboat structures, we are about to launch Lowell Showboat VI into the waters of the Flat River.

Much nostalgia and happy memories surround the former boats. Many people reminisce about attending shows with popular headliners, singing in the chorus or being one of the end men. Some also remember running the several outboard motors that allowed the boat to travel down the Flat River, around Cattail Bend to the showboat dock each summer. Still others remember using the boat as a unique high school graduation backdrop or sitting at Sizzlin' Summer Concerts, with the boat behind our weekly performers as well as Santa Visits on the Lowell Showboat.

Where We Stand....

We have accumulated \$3.155 million from State and various grants, miscellaneous fundraisers, local businesses and individual community members. We are still in need of additional funding to complete the interior of the boat and adjacent restroom facilities (located in the DPW Building). We began our private Naming Opportunity Campaign a couple of months ago. We are encouraged to announce we have received \$355,000 towards our \$780,000 goal to complete the entire project as designed.



What Will My Gift Accomplish?

By introducing our Brick Campaign, our hopes are that you will be moved to help us complete this icon and spectacular rental venue within our community. By selecting a brick level, your support will bring the Lowell Showboat VI to reality. We offer a heartfelt thank you for your interest in Lowell Showboat VI and its continuation as a beautiful icon and venue within our community.

Brick Opportunities

BRICK ORDER FORM *(Please make a selection below)*

Checks to Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation" P.O. Box 224, Lowell, MI 49331

Level	Donor Recognition Area	Donor Commitment
Admiral	8"x8" brick with up to 4 lines of text containing 16 characters in each line. Your name on the donor recognition plaque 2 tickets to the Inaugural Gala Celebration!	\$1000
Captain	8"x8" brick with up to 4 lines of text containing 16 characters in each line. Your name on the donor recognition plaque	\$500
Ensign	4"x8" brick with up to 3 lines of text containing 16 characters in each line. Your name on the donor recognition plaque	\$250
Swabby	4"x8" brick with up to 3 lines of text containing 16 characters in each line.	\$125

Admiral Level - for \$1000 Choose Here ___
Captain Level - for \$500 Choose Here ___

8" by 8" brick with up to 4 lines of text containing 16 characters (and spaces) in each line

Ensign Level - for \$250 Choose Here ___
Swabby Level - for \$125 Choose Here ___

4" by 8" brick with up to 3 lines of text containing 16 characters (and spaces) in each line

Signature of Person Placing Order: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____

Contact Info: Cell _____ Email: _____

Payment Type:

Cash: \$ _____ Check/Money Order: \$ _____

Amount Paid: \$ _____

