

Skye Lemmen completes hike



page 9

Mike Larkin to leave the restaurant business Jan. 29 after 26 years

by Bill Lee
contributing reporter

Amidst the beer signs for \$2 Labatts Blue, the liquor bottles, a pool table, and a Notre Dame banner prominently displayed on the wall, there is a small sign hung above the bar in Larkins Restaurant. Between the sports photos and other unique paraphernalia displayed on the walls, the sign could easily be missed. The letters are printed in red and black on a white matte background, and it simply reads: “Bar Rules. Rule #1: The bartender is always right. Rule #2: If the bartender is wrong, see Rule #1.”

The sign seems to symbolize the hometown bar atmosphere of Larkins and its owner, Mike Larkin. Like the television show Cheers, a lot of people know each other at Larkins.

“Everybody uses that phrase, ‘where everybody knows your name,’” said Mike Larkin. “That sums up a small-town local bar/restaurant. You go there because you know people.”

Things will be a bit different a Larkins come the beginning of February. After 44 years in the Larkin family,



Mike Larkin in front of the bar at Larkins Restaurant.

the restaurant is being sold to BGR Investments, the same company that owns Big Boiler Brewing.

“I’m too old to keep doing

this,” said Larkin with a laugh. “We’ve been here a long time. I’m 72 and my grandkids are not quite old enough to run it. Can’t be in

the bar/restaurant business too long. It gets to you, you know?”

Ironically, Larkin was not even involved in the business

when his three brothers opened Larkins in 1978.

Mike Larkin, continued, page 3

Restless Viking



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Four more renewable scholarships available

Rotary



LHS sports pages 10-11

Because of generous donations made during 2021, the Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation (RCLCF) is excited to announce four more renewable scholarships. Applicants must live in the boundaries of the Lowell Area School District or attend LHS. Students who are home schooled or in a school of choice program are encouraged to apply.

There are a total

of eleven renewable scholarships available:

Renewable Four Years - \$1,000 a Year:

- Hahn / Rotary Club of Lowell Scholarship
- King and Marie Doyle Family Scholarships (Five scholarships)
- Dorothy and Clinton Christoff Family Scholarship – Attending Cornerstone University
- Eva and Lee

Lampkin Scholarship
Renewable Three Years - \$500 a Year:

- Jim and Bobbie White Family Scholarship – (Education Degree Focus) Renewable Two Years - \$500 a Year:
 - Donald and Ellura McPherson Scholarship – Attending GRCC (Two scholarships)
- Scholarships are centered on the Rotary motto, Service Above Self.

Along with an application, students are asked to submit an essay describing their volunteer activities; who was served and how the experiences have impacted their life. They should include all school and non-school service related activities like student government, sports, choir, clubs, church, work, etc.

The RCLCF has awarded over 100

scholarships totaling \$293,200 to Lowell area students since being established in 1997. Applications are available at LHS guidance office, Lowell and Alto Public Libraries and on the Lowell Rotary Club website (LowellRotary.org) in the Home Page Download Files section. Applications must be submitted to the LHS Guidance Office or post-marked by March 18, 2022.

50¢



State Representative Thomas Albert announces candidacy for State Senate

Appropriations chairman highlights record of fighting government overreach

State Representative Thomas Albert (R-Lowell) announced that he will be running for the new 18th State Senate District, which covers all of Barry County and portions of Kent, Ionia, Allegan, Kalamazoo, and Calhoun counties.

“It has been a great honor serving my community as State Representative over the past three terms,” Albert said. “I am proud of the results I have been able to deliver reigning in reckless spending while pushing back against government overreach. I would be honored to continue fighting for individual liberty and limited government in the state senate.”

Albert currently serves as the House Appropriations Chairman. He previously served as Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Corrections and Chairman of the

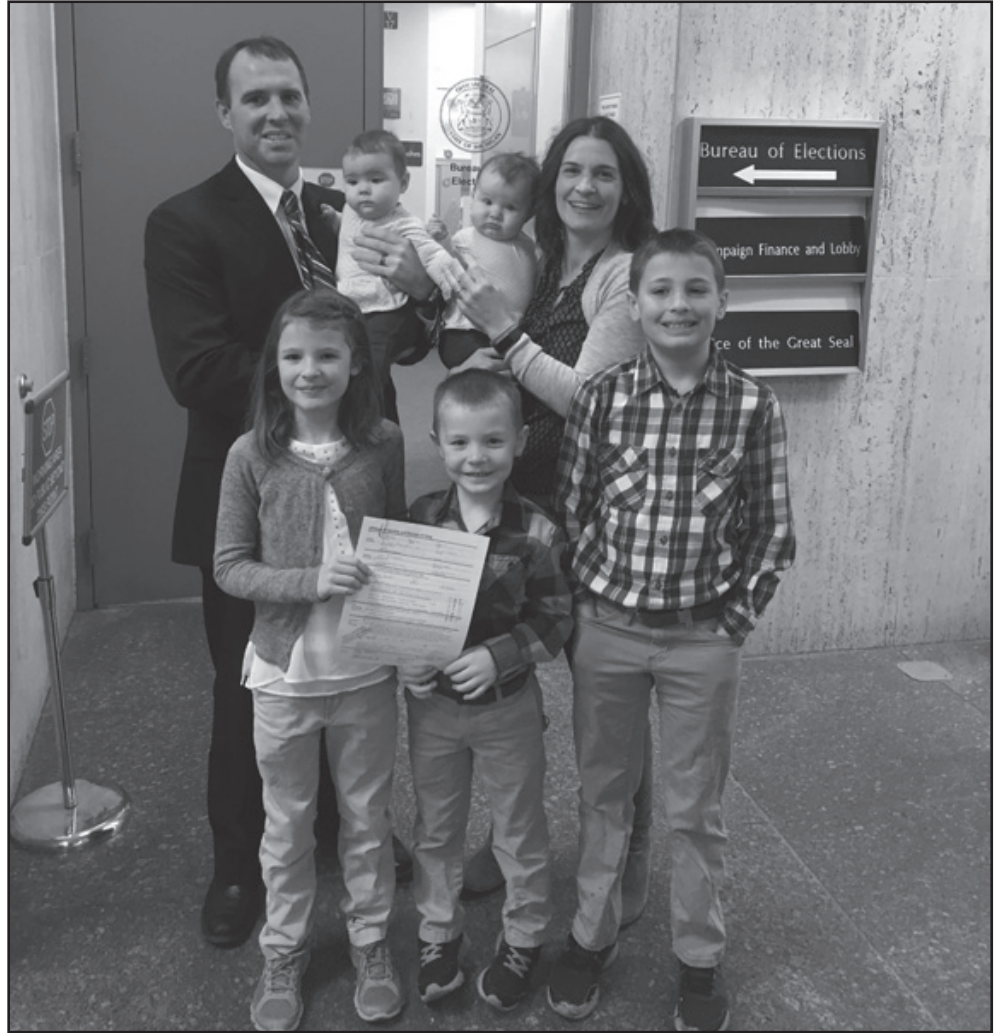
Financial Liability Reform Committee.

Albert began his role leading the Appropriations Committee by standing up strongly against Governor Whitmer’s unilateral restrictions on families and small businesses put in place by hundreds of executive orders. “I am proud to see that having some backbone and using the power of the purse was what it took to bring some normalcy back to Michigan families,” Albert said. “In early January, I took the position that billions in taxpayer dollars would not simply be handed over to Whitmer’s heavy-handed way of governing. That line was held for months and by summer our families finally started to see tangible relief from the many burdens placed on their freedom and livelihood.”

While serving in Lansing, Albert has also been an

advocate for the sanctity of life, Second Amendment rights, auto insurance relief, reforms to broken school funding, and the fostering of a strong Michigan economy. “We live in an era of executive overreach and out-of-control bureaucrats. Strong legislators are needed now more than ever to maintain separation of powers and stand up for our communities. I am very proud of the results produced while I have served in the House and would be honored to continue to support this region’s local communities, our families, our small businesses, and our Constitution in the Michigan Senate.”

Thomas and his wife Erica live East Kent County with their five children. More information about Rep. Albert can be found at www.voteAlbert.com.



Four Michigan universities receive \$18.5 million in federal funding to expand sequencing for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases

Four Michigan universities will receive \$18.5 million in federal funds over the next two years to collect and analyze genomic data to address emerging infectious disease threats and enhance the state’s ability to respond to those threats, announced the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Michigan Tech

University, Michigan State University, University of Michigan and Wayne State University will use the funding to increase sequencing capacity in the state starting with SARS-CoV-2 and then other infectious disease threats with the potential for broad community spread. Funding for the Michigan Sequencing Academic Partnership for Public Health Innovation

and Response (MI-SAPPHIRE) is through a CDC Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grant MDHHS received. MI-SAPPHIRE activities will include sequence generation and analysis, such as sample collection and sequencing; data processing, storage and sharing; and data interpretation and analytics.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance and need

for genomic sequencing, surveillance and epidemiology capacity both globally and right here in Michigan,” said Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director. “The MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories has rapidly expanded its efforts to identify COVID-19 variants since the start of the pandemic to support public health actions. MI-SAPPHIRE will allow our state to expand sequencing

and analysis capacity and the number of pathogens that undergo routine sequencing, and ensure we are sampling diverse geographic areas across the state.”

MDHHS has been a leader in national sequencing and genomic epidemiology as the national center for tuberculosis sequencing, PulseNet foodborne pathogen regional center, and SARS-CoV-2. The state generates over 25,000 genomes per year for bacterial and viral organisms. Partnerships with the four universities will allow for the scalability of capacity and response for SARS-CoV-2 and other pathogens.

The MDHHS BOL has sequenced 23,000

COVID-19 samples since March 2020. The University of Michigan lab has also conducted sequencing throughout the pandemic to provide information about COVID-19 variants circulating in the state.

Data generated or activities funded must support public health action, surveillance activities, infrastructure development or pandemic response efforts. Data or projects generated solely for research purposes and not directly actionable by state epidemiologists are not allowable with federal grant funds.

For more information on genetic sequencing, visit What is Genomic Surveillance? | CDC.

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*Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018



Mike Larkin, continued

“I had a real job then,” said Larkin.

Originally from Grand Rapids, the Larkin brothers wanted to open a place away from the city and found the Lowell Café on the spot Larkins now sits.

“One brother bought out the other two in 1988 and in ‘95 he conned me into buying the place,” Larkin said.

In the beginning Larkins was known for its specialty burritos.

“No one was doing burritos back then,” commented Larkin.

Over time the restaurant evolved with their food menu, and although they still served Mexican, they also began to make other signature items like steak and seafood.

“Got to keep up with the trends,” said Larkin.

There are many parts of the business that he enjoyed over the years but nothing more than meeting his customers and talking to

people.

“You’ve got to like the atmosphere of the place,” said Larkin. “You enjoy working with people. I guess that’s why you’re in the restaurant business, the bar business. You enjoy talking to people. 90 percent of them are good. No matter what business you’re in, you’re going to walk into 10 percent you don’t want to deal with but you do.”

Of course, the business has brought a lot of challenges too. Finding good help has always been a problem over the years. Also, as an owner of a restaurant, his hours are not exactly 9-5. Typically, he spends his mornings on his computer checking orders, and he is the backup for anyone who calls in sick so he could end up working until 8:30-9:00. The biggest challenge, especially in the last two years with Covid, has been dealing with price changes. They were changing so much that at one point that he had to print

the words “market prices” next to some items so that he didn’t have to reprint menus all the time.

“Everything is going up so fast,” said Larkin. “It’s hard to keep up with it, and you try to cover your expenses and that gouges the customers, but they don’t understand how much prices have gone up. Most everything that I buy has gone up 45 percent cost wise.”

Through it all, it seems Mike Larkin’s sense of humor and enjoyment of meeting people has helped him weather the last 25 years.

“It’s one of the only businesses where spend a lot of money to try to get people in, but you can’t take all their money,” Larkin said. “You’ve got to throw them out when they get to a limit because they’ve had too much (to drink).”

Also, he’s been asked many times already about what is in his future.

“I don’t know yet,” said



Larkin. “People ask me what are you going to do? Nothing. I’m not going to answer that question again. We’ll play it by ear. I think I’ll go get warm for a while and come back.”

A lot of his customers do worry about where they’ll go that will have the same atmosphere after Mike is gone. According to Larkin, the new owners don’t plan

on changing too much in the immediate future, but with new ownership, there are always changes.

“[A lot of the new restaurants and bars] look more corporate to me because the owner may not be present,” said Larkin. “They are fine establishments, and they do a good job. It’s just not that hometown feeling I guess.”

As he begins to figure out what is next for him, Larkin acknowledges the great support his restaurant has received from its loyal customers for the last 44 years.

“We wouldn’t have lasted that long without them,” Larkin said.

Larkin’s last day will be Saturday, Jan. 29.

Community Support Month announcement

Lowell United Methodist Church has recognized the anxious and stressful times that we are living in right now. Oftentimes the worst behavior in our community

is what we focus on. The angry outbursts in public and the hurtful comments made on social media platforms. We have decided to respond to those feelings

with LOVE.

Lowell UMC is declaring it to be “Community Support Month”. Each week of this month we will highlight a particular field

of service. We will draw attention to those working in that field right here in our own community. We will distribute gifts of LOVE to those people in our community and encourage others to join in as well. We hope to flood the streets and social media with encouragement, support and LOVE for the entire month.

The schedule of the month will be:

Week 1 (starting Feb 6, 2022): Healthcare Workers - this will include medical professionals that live in our community as well as those that work in our community.

Week 2 (starting Feb 13, 2022): First Responders - this will include police, fire, and emergency service

workers.

Week 3 (starting February 20, 2022): Education - this will include those working in our schools including our administrators and board of education members.

Week 4 (starting February 27, 2022): Service Workers - this will include all of those working in restaurants, delivering our groceries, checking us out at stores, changing our oil, picking up our trash and more.

Gift bags for these workers each week will include a sweet treat, a few practical gifts, and a laminated prayer. These gifts are funded by the generous contributions from the people of Lowell United Methodist Church.

Each Sunday in February, people will be given the opportunity to take one of the gift bags to distribute out in the community.

As mentioned, we would like to encourage anyone interested in the community to join our efforts to spread LOVE. Individuals are invited to share stories or pictures of their own love sharing ideas for each week by posting to social media and using the “#” (hash tag) LiftUpLowell. (#LiftUpLowell)

For more information, you can reach out to Lowell United Methodist Church by calling 616-897-5936 or emailing Office@LowellUMC.com The graphic posted below is authorized to be used for promotional purposes.



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House Oversight pushes out unemployment advocate package and new UIA Investigation office

While reviewing how \$8.5 billion was supposedly lost in fraudulent payments from the state's jobless aid agency, the House Oversight Committee pushed out legislation to create an unemployment investigation office and tighten administrative oversight.

HB 5552 by Rep. Jack O'Malley (R-Lake Ann), which was part of a six-bill package, would give rise to the Office of the Unemployment Insurance Advocate, where an appointed advocate would jumpstart investigations into the agency's actions and practices based on individual initiative or a received complaint.

House Oversight Committee Chair Steven Johnson (R-Wayland Twp.) said the package deals more with claimants that were experiencing issues getting unemployment benefits or were being denied despite their legitimacy.

"The Deloitte report dealing with criminals and dealing with fraudulent activity, that's kind of a separate issue. [...] Hopefully this will help in that regard, but I think that's going to take a separate look at legislation," Johnson explained to the media, referring to the forensic audit of the Unemployment Insurance Agency that was called for by Gov. Whitmer in July 2021.

At Thursday's Joint House and Senate Oversight hearing with new UIA Director Julia Dale she backed that there likely could be "considerable overlap" between the \$8.5 billion in fraudulent cases and \$3.9 billion in overpayments to claimants that were later deemed as ineligible.

"I think the average taxpayers would say, 'wait a minute, you just lost \$8.5 billion and you want to say how great you are?'" Johnson said,

addressing Dale's optimism toward fraud-management improving since October 2020, after the majority of the UIA-plus-COVID-19 fraud frenzy occurred.

Additionally, federal funds accounted for 97 percent of the \$8.5 billion lost to fraudulent payments and state dollars made up three percent of this mislaid money.

Johnson explained as if the state-selected Deloitte investigation that reported the losses wasn't bad enough, "the combination of bragging about the money you didn't lose" and the UIA "making excuses left and right" has worsened the situation.

Although no one from the Senate Oversight Committee extended commentary on the advocate office package, Chair Ed McBroom (R-Waucedah Twp.) did tell Dale he was concerned how UIA employees were connecting with fraudulent

efforts.

Dale said no other jurisdiction has been as open and upfront about troubling reports, while lawmakers, majorly Republican, continue to call out the agency for lacking transparency and counting on a new director to recount experiences she wasn't there for.

Alongside O'Malley's HB 5552 (passed 9-0), Johnson's HB 5549 (passed 9-0), HB 5550 (passed 9-0) by Rep. Pat Outman (R-Six Lakes), HB 5551 (passed 9-0) from Rep. Michele Hoitenga (R-Manton), HB 5553 (passed 6-2, one no-vote) by Rep. Sarah Lightner (R-Springport) and HB 5554 (passed 6-1, with two no-votes) from Rep. Andrew Fink (R-Hillsdale) work collectively together to provide guidelines to a new advocate office and the UIA:

- The UIA must upload the money sitting in the Unemployment Compensation Fund each day and notify the state budget officer and the legislative appropriations committees if the amount drops under \$2.5 billion, and then again if it falls below \$500 million.

- The agency must provide a monthly report to

the advocate, including how many appeals were made by claimants and employers to an administrative law judge in the preceding month. This would also apply to those made by the UIA to the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Commission, which is responsible for reviewing factual findings and legal conclusions related to unemployment in the state.

- Instead of three years, the UIA would have one year to determine if benefits need to be recovered from someone who was later deemed ineligible. However, the agency would need to inform the claimant of their right to an in-person or telephone hearing with present counsel before pursuing action.

- The UIA would have 10 business days after obtaining a claim to examine it and make a determination, as well as up to 20 business days during an exigent period where there are more incoming claims than usual.

- The UIA would be prohibited from penalizing an employee who files a complaint or relays information to the Legislature or the Legislative Council for oversight. In their reports, the UIA and

the advocate would also be barred from disclosing the personal identifying information of those whose complaints instigated an investigation.

The UIA opposed HB 5551, HB 5553 and HB 5554, which ensures the agency cannot go after and collect money for more than a year, but not in cases of identity fraud; sets up the determination deadline to avoid delays in collecting benefits and provides a transparency mandate for the UIA when handing off information to the administrative law judge.

The advocate would be selected by the Legislative Council, a panel of lawmakers selected by the Senate Majority Leader and the House Speaker, and must provide an annual report to the Legislature.

The House Fiscal Agency expressed that the state already appropriates hefty budgets for ombudsman offices, with the Fiscal Year 2022 allocation being \$1.022 million for the eight-staff member office of the Legislative Corrections Ombudsman and \$319,900 for the one staff member for the Michigan Veterans Facility Ombudsman.

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Pandemic-related emergency food benefits to be issued

All Michigan families who are eligible for food assistance benefits are receiving an additional monthly payment in January in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced this week.

Approximately 1.28 million Michiganders in close to 700,000 households will receive additional food assistance benefits.

"As we face the omicron variant of COVID-19, we must continue delivering support to Michigan families for their basic needs," said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "My administration will keep working with our federal partners to do whatever we can to make sure Michigan families can put food on the table."

Eligible clients will see additional food assistance benefits on their Bridge Card from Jan. 15-24. These benefits will be loaded onto Bridge Cards as a separate payment from the assistance that is provided earlier in the month.

Some Michiganders began receiving additional food assistance in April 2020 after the beginning of the pandemic that started the month before. In May 2021, all eligible households began getting extra monthly benefits. Federal approval is necessary every month.

All households eligible for SNAP receive an increase of at least \$95 monthly, even if they are already receiving the maximum payment or are close to that amount. Households that received over \$95 to bring them to the maximum payment for their group size will continue to receive that larger amount.

Below are the maximum allowable benefits for SNAP customers based on their respective household size:

- One person: \$250
- Two persons: \$459
- Three persons: \$658
- Four persons: \$835
- Five persons: \$992
- Six persons: \$1,190
- Seven persons: \$1,316
- Eight persons: \$1,504

The federal government is providing additional funding to states for food assistance

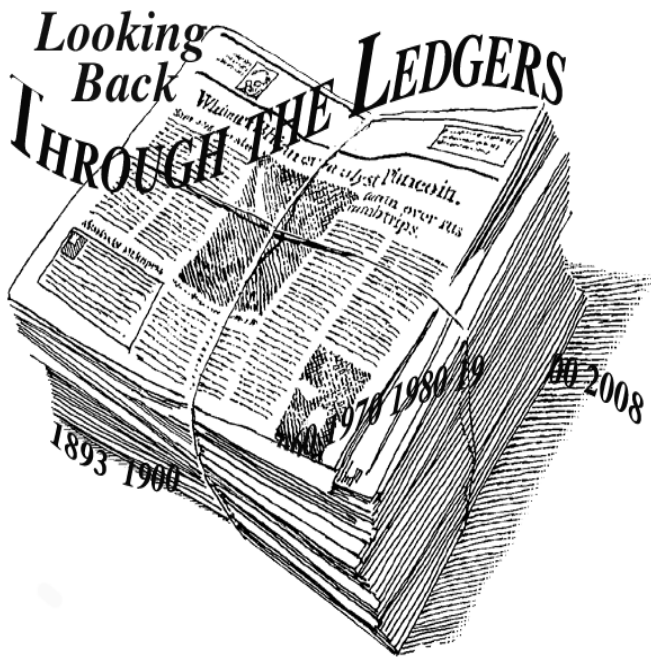
under House Resolution 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

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, seven 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.

Information around the COVID-19 outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

viewpoint



125 years ago Lowell Ledger January 22, 1897

Edward Adair, whose wife had left him some time ago, called at her home at Alba and after drawing her into conversation pulled a knife and stabbed her three times in the back. It is thought the woman will die.

The scheme announced several months ago on the part of a local real estate speculator to secure the West Michigan Fair Association property has borne fruit. He has secured control of a majority of the stock at ten cents on the dollar. The annual meeting will be held tomorrow and it is expected that he will attend and demand his back interest, none of which has been paid. The society cannot meet his demands, and he will then probably foreclose. This will settle all chances of the state fair being held here, unless it makes arrangements with him.

Policeman Viergiver, who shot Saloon-keeper Tradewell, at Grand Rapids, New Years day, when he assaulted him during a raid on his saloon, has been arrested and will be tried for the shooting.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger January 26, 1922

Max P. Cobb has presented a bill for \$1,165 to the Kent County Road commission for alleged damages suffered when workmen employed by the commission tore down all signs in the roadway last autumn under orders from the state highway department. Cobb appeared before the road commission Tuesday to find out why his bill had not received attention.

Someone in Lowell must be striving for the meanest man pennant. A two gallon can of oil left on the porch of Mrs. I. W. Halsted was stolen. Mrs. Halstead is an aged woman with a blind daughter, both feeble and in need of all they have, but the former says that is the taker will return the can he can keep the oil. Let him return the full can some dark night, or be ashamed ever again to look an honest person in the face.

Three stills, a cooler and several barrels of mash were taken in three raids here today and Frank Schaeffer, Newton McCracken and Peter Winkler were arrested, charged with violation of liquor laws. Several gallons of moonshine and a keg of wine also were seized by officers. Two of the stills were taken from the home of McCracken and the other from that of Winkler. They will be tried during the present term of circuit court.

75 years The Lowell Ledger January 23, 1947

Good water! After ten years of salt-tainted water, Lowell will be given fresh, sweet water, from new wells west of town this week, when final approval is given by the State Health Department.

A new type of underground telephone cable to help serve rural subscribers in Michigan Bell Telephone Company territory is now being installed in some sections of the state. Theodore H. Dawson, head of the company's rural program, said the cable, which is buried deep in the earth by a special plow, would materially aid efforts to provide telephones by the end of this year to the 11,000 families on the waiting list in rural areas.

Glendon Swarthout, formerly of Lowell, has written his first play, "O'Daniel," which is scheduled to open February 9, at the Princess Theatre in New York City.

50 years The Lowell Ledger January 27, 1972

Winds gusting to 60 MPH caused blizzard conditions reducing visibility Monday night in an arctic-type storm that swept through the area. An early afternoon freezing rain storm quickly saw the schools close their doors and many workers departed homeward before conditions got too bad.

Lowell businessman Leonard Jackson has been elected to the Board of Directors of the State Savings Bank of Lowell. In making the announcement, the bank's president H. J. Englehardt, revealed that Jackson will fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of R. M. Shivel, who has been a director for thirty-five years.

Rep. Gerald R. Ford today announced that his district office will be moved to larger quarters in the building where it is presently located, 425 Cherry Street SE, Grand Rapids. The office will be moved from the second floor to the first floor, where it will be more readily accessible to the public.

25 years The Lowell Ledger January 22, 1997

Reading the word carcinoma on her lab report has changed the way Lowell School Board president Marsha Wilcox chooses to spend her time. "It was scary," Wilcox said. "When your life looks as if it could be shortened, that has a way of helping you line up your priorities." Approximately two months after surgery, Wilcox feels well and her prognosis is good. With that has come Wilcox's announcement that she will officially step down as a member of the school board.

After much discussion and a hearty attempt at saving the building, the demolition of Lee's Landing has been scheduled to start in early February. "Assuming there are no complications, the demolition will begin Feb. 3," Dave Pasquale confirmed.

The creation of a school web site features information on Lowell schools, links to other web sites and promises exciting growth in its future. The framework of the new web site was authored by Lowell High School senior Brad Richardson and district technology coordinator Mark MacDonald.

outdoors

embrace the season

Dave Stegehuis

Winter outdoors in Michigan can be intimidating when viewing the white blanketed landscape from the comfort of a warm house or cabin. For the less prepared and under equipped, the feeling is justified. Cold temperatures and wind can be uncomfortable and even dangerous. For the informed and prepared, however, Michigan offers plenty of opportunities to stay active and enjoy the season.

Finding these opportunities may take a little research. Because we are dealing with nature, conditions change over time. For example, snow depth and texture affect the quality of the experience for skiers and snowmobile riders. Ice thickness and density are important to fishermen and skaters. Air temperature and wind chill must be considered before heading out. A winter camping trip or just walking the dog will go better by being aware of current weather conditions and checking out forecasts for future outings.

Suitable clothing worn in layers can be adjusted for current conditions. Wind is a big factor in determining how much protection from the elements is needed. It is good policy to over dress. You can always take it off, but you can't put it on if you don't have it.

Safety is another issue often overlooked when venturing outdoors. Proper footwear and even slip-on cleats can help to avoid slips and falls. Even when driving on short trips it is wise to be prepared to deal with the elements in case of an emergency. Exposed skin is particularly vulnerable to frost bite or may be painful enough to spoil the enjoyment of an activity. Common sense goes a long way for staying safe.

Accept the reality that there will be cold temperatures, ice, and snow for a while. Finding ways to take advantage of the situation will make for a more enjoyable season and a shorter winter. Life is about perception and attitude.



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.

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- what is pulmonary rehabilitation?

Pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) is a program of education and exercise to improve function and increase awareness about your lungs and lung disease. Many patients living with severe asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) benefit from PR. Pulmonary rehab can help teach patients to be active with less shortness of breath. The skills and knowledge learned in a PR program can help stable patients feel better, improve lung function, reduce symptom severity and manage their chronic lung disease more effectively.

Pulmonary rehab consists of aerobic exercise, breathing exercises, strength training and education. Exercising your lungs and your muscles helps you

be more active so you can do the things you enjoy, improving overall quality of life. PR is taught by licensed professionals trained to help patients improve respiratory function, fatigue, emotional health, and dyspnea (difficult or labored breathing). PR also helps provide a sense of control for patients. Pulmonary rehabilitation may decrease the need for emergency room visits and hospital admissions and studies have even shown that PR can lower mortality rates after hospitalization for respiratory illness.

If you, or a loved one, suffers with a chronic lung disease there is hope for rebuilding strength and enjoying a fuller and more active life through pulmonary rehabilitation. Talk to your primary care provider if you think PR might be right for you.

ABCs of Lowell history

The ABC's of Lowell History was introduced last 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 fourth round of the alphabet.

N is for Negonce

Negonce was born in 1835 and lived along the Flat River banks in the area we call Lowell. She represents not just a girl, but a whole village of Odawa people. The Odawa were here first and called themselves Anishinaabe or First People. They did business with the fur traders, welcomed American settlers, and lived side by side with them until 1857. They were forced to leave their homes here for a reservation as agreed to in the Treaty of Detroit in 1855. Certain Odawa were chosen to choose the land for their reservation. They chose Crystal and Elbridge townships in Oceana County and Eden and Custer Townships in Mason County.

Born in a wigwam on the east side of the Flat River, Negonce and her cousin Che-an-go were some of the first friends of John Samuel Hooker. They were grandchildren of Cobmoosa.

Negonce was known within both the Odawa and American settler communities for her needlework and beadwork. She embroidered with silk ribbon and hedgehog quills on clothing, baskets and brooches.



Negonce Block

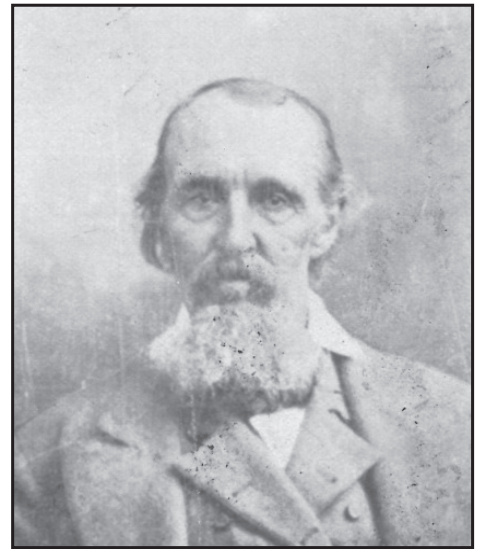
As a child John Hooker, lived in Saranac and was a neighbor and friend to the Odawa, learning their language, customs, and lifecycles. In 1846, at the age of sixteen, he moved to 'Flat River' with his parents, Cyprian S. and Delaney Hooker, and helped build the first frame house, first dam and first gristmill in what later was named 'Lowell'. John soon owned Marsac's trading post at the junction of the Flat and Grand Rivers. This was the last fur trading post in Lowell. He transitioned the post to a store on Main Street after the Odawa left in 1857, but he still sold Negonce's handmade wares and employed her along with others to prepare hides. In the Odawa villages it was the women who prepared the hides. Negonce did not leave Lowell for the reservation with her people at that time.

Prior to 1857, along with his trading post, John Hooker was also considered

an itinerant trader, braving the bitter cold of winter to travel to the winter hunting/trapping ground of each Odawa family unit. They had scattered out along the Flat River and lakes to the north. Hooker kept a directory of the Odawa, and the government came to rely on him for a census of the Odawa when treaty payment time came each year. The allotment of treaty money for lands north of Grand River, ceded to the government by the Odawa was based upon his report.

In 1905, when the new four-storefront building was built on the north side of Main Street, between Lafayette and Monroe,

Hooker saw the opportunity to honor his childhood friend and employee. He suggested that it be named "Negonce." Today the name and memory is written in stone



John Hooker

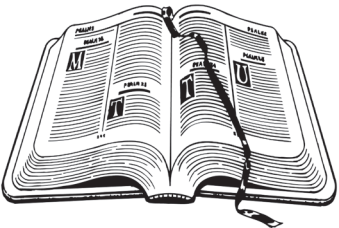
and brick at the top of that building to be remembered always. When we remember Negonce we remember her people, Lowell's first people.

Marilyn Cahoon
to celebrate
90th
Birthday
January
23rd

The family would like to honor her with a card shower in celebration of the occasion.

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area churches



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Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays7 PM
Barrier-Free

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happy birthday

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Tim Stencel, Susan Cook, Tim Schuitema, Trevor Mooney, Mark Ries, Scott Crandall.

JANUARY 20
Shelby Baird, Josh Rinard.

JANUARY 21
James Vezino, Mark MacNaughton, Krysta Jankowski, Brooklyn Rinard.

JANUARY 22
Cheryl DeYoung, Bob Pfaller, Dale Latva, Jenni Magner, Frances Walling, Glenn Vanbuskirk, Shane

JANUARY 19
Gildner, Reece VanderWarf, Frances DeVries, Elijah Barr.

JANUARY 23
Amanda Wingeier, Zach Stauffer.

JANUARY 24
David Szymczak, Haleigh Timmers, Mackenzie Stiles.

JANUARY 25
Molly Doyle, Dean Olin.

MDHHS updates COVID-19 guidance for K-12 schools

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has updated its K-12 school quarantine and isolation guidance to reflect recent updates made by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that modifies or shortens the quarantine and isolation periods to as short as five days in some circumstances.

Changes include language on isolation guidance that allow students, teachers and staff to return to school sooner after infection, under certain circumstances. Quarantine guidance is also updated, allowing students, as well as staff and teachers, to return to school sooner after a school-based exposure.

The state is committed to ensuring Michigan students and educators are as safe as possible in the classroom. When layered prevention strategies such as vaccination, masking, distancing, testing, isolation and quarantine are applied consistently, school-associated transmission of COVID-19 is significantly reduced. MDHHS continues to recommend universal masking in K-12 settings.

This guidance will help K-12 schools maintain in-person learning by outlining mitigation strategies when students, teachers and staff are exposed to a COVID-19 case in a school setting.

“We always advocate for preventative measures that keep our children safe,” said Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, MDHHS chief medical executive. “Children of school age – ages five and up – are now eligible to get vaccinated, and children ages 12 and up are eligible to get boosted. In addition to masking and testing, we feel confident that schools can remain as safe as possible for our children.”

Quarantine and isolation are determined by the local health department and are used as important tools to prevent the spread of disease.

You isolate when you are already infected with COVID-19 and have tested positive, even if you do not have symptoms. Isolation is used to separate people who are infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected.

You quarantine when you might have been exposed to COVID-19. This is because

you might become infected with COVID-19 and could spread COVID-19 to others.

Students, teachers and staff who test positive for COVID-19 and/or display COVID-19 symptoms should isolate regardless of vaccination status:

If positive with no symptoms, monitor for symptoms from day of exposure through day 10 of isolation; and

Isolate at home for five days (day “0” is day symptoms begin or day test was taken for students, teachers & staff who do not have symptoms); and

If symptoms have improved or you continue to have no symptoms, return to school, while wearing a well-fitted mask, for days 6-10; or

Stay home for 10 days if unwilling/unable to wear a mask.

If you have a fever, stay home until you are fever free for a period of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Close contacts of a COVID-19 case do not need to quarantine at home if they:

Had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days;

and/or are up to date on all recommended COVID-19 vaccines for which they are eligible

These contacts should still monitor their symptoms and “Mask to Stay” for 10 days from the date of last exposure.

Close contacts of a COVID-19 case who do not meet the criteria above need to quarantine or may test to stay and/or mask to stay. Exposed individuals may:

Home quarantine for days 1-5, if feasible test on day five, AND “Mask to Stay” for days 6-10; or

“Test to Stay” for days 1-6 AND “Mask to Stay” for days 1-10; or

Home quarantine for days 1-10 if unable/unwilling to mask

Students, teachers & staff should monitor for symptoms throughout quarantine period (days 1 through 10). Day “0” is day of last close contact with any COVID-19 positive student, teacher or staff. If symptoms develop, get tested.

During days 0-10 following exposure:

Watch for symptoms, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or other COVID-19

symptoms.

If symptoms develop, get tested immediately and isolate until receiving test results. If test is positive, then follow isolation recommendations.

If symptoms do not develop, get tested at least five days after last exposed.

If possible, stay away from others in the home, especially people who are at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.

For the full 10 days after last exposure, avoid people who are

immunocompromised or at high risk for severe disease, and nursing homes and other high-risk settings

Test to Stay: test every other day for six days following the exposure and consistent and correct use of a well-fitted mask.

Mask to Stay: is the consistent and correct use of a well-fitted mask when around others and in school and public settings.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.

To find a vaccine, visit VaccineFinder.org.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

69 LINCOLN LAKE AVE NE
LOWELL MI 49331

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REFERENDUM

ON BECOMING A CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Official certification has been received from the Michigan Secretary of State that the township of Vergennes has a population of 2000 or more according to the most recent United States census and is therefore eligible to be incorporated as a charter township under the provisions of section 3a of the Charter Township Act, 1947 PA 359 (MCL42.3a). The township board has the right to exercise one of three options concerning status as a charter township, as follows:

1. Adopt by majority vote a resolution opposed to incorporation as a charter township;
2. Adopt by majority vote a resolution of intent to approve incorporation as a charter township;
3. Adopt by majority vote a resolution to place before the electorate at the next regular or special township election the question of incorporation as a charter township.

In the event option 2 is adopted by the township board, the citizens of the township have the right to file a “Right to Referendum Petition.” This petition must be filed within the 60 days which must lapse between passage of a resolution of the intent to incorporate and final passage of the resolution to incorporate as a charter township.

The petition shall follow, in general form, the nominating petition form as prescribed in the Michigan Election Law, and in the heading will indicate “Disagreement of Intent to Incorporate as a Charter Township.” The petition must be signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters of the township based on the vote cast for all candidates for supervisor at the last election at which a supervisor was elected.

If the petition is successful, the question of incorporation will be placed on the ballot at the next general or special township election.

Shantell Ford
Vergennes Township Clerk

MDHHS explains why audit shows 30% nursing home COVID death underreport

An as yet not released Auditor General report is expected to say the Department of Health and Human Services undercounted the number of COVID-related deaths in nursing homes by nearly 30 percent, according to a letter released Wednesday.

MDHHS officials are saying the department’s definition of nursing homes differs from that of the state auditors. They claim nearly half of the underreported deaths are from facilities that are not subject to state or federal reporting requirements, such as assisted living facilities.

The other half are coming from unreliable or unvalidated data, they said.

If they were to report the facilities the Auditor General used, Michigan would be considered an outlier, according to MDHHS director Elizabeth Hertel.

MDHHS is also getting ahead of some expected negative publicity by saying Michigan has a lower rate of nursing home deaths than the national average. Also, the number of MDHHS deaths in

nursing homes accurately depicts the number who died at the facilities they oversee.

The Auditor General report was done at the request of House Oversight Committee chair Steven Johnson (R-Wayland Twp.), who wanted an independent analysis of MDHHS’ numbers. His concern was that the state wasn’t being upfront with the number of COVID nursing home deaths for political reasons.

Early in the pandemic, the MDHHS allowed COVID-positive patients to return to nursing homes to relieve pressure on hospitals. Unknown at the time was how quickly the coronavirus could spread indoors and how susceptible elderly people are to dying from the disease caused by the virus.

“The whole point of this was to get a true accounting of who died in the nursing homes,” Johnson said. “This was a non-partisan account and it’s pretty staggering.”

“The Department is trying to use legalese and semantics to get around the



MDHHS director Elizabeth Hertel on the left and House Oversight Committee chair Steven Johnson (R-Wayland Twp.) on the right.

numbers coming from what an average Michigander would consider a nursing home death.”

Johnson couldn’t speak to specifics about the audit

other than to say it was a thoughtful process.

“We knew they wouldn’t rush it and it would be accurate,” he said.

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National trail group honors local volunteer who's helping clear the way

by James Gemmell
contributing writer

The national organization that built the United States' longest foot trail has honored a local man for his role in helping to get the trail extended in Barry and Calhoun counties.

Jim Bronson is a retired farm manager of the Michigan State University Kellogg Biological Station in Hickory Corners. He helped get a section of the North Country Trail built on that property and elsewhere, and for that he recently received the North Country Trail Association's 2020 Trail Protector Award. The only other Trail Protector Award bestowed by the national organization was given to a New York State resident.

The award goes to volunteers who work with landowners and land managers to allow the trail to go across their property. That effort can entail trying to get easements or purchasing property for the trail and protecting it into perpetuity.

"I've been doing that for a few years now, working a lot in southern Barry County and a little bit in Calhoun [County] with land managers who might be willing to work with," Bronson said.

Bronson was employed at the Kellogg Biological Station for 32 years, from 1981 to 2013, the last 21 years as manager at the Kellogg farm. KBS, now at nearly 3,875 acres, is Michigan State University's largest off-campus complex and, along with the farm also includes a bird sanctuary, academic and research facilities, experimental

forest and more.

In his retirement, he's become more active with the Chief Noontday Chapter of the North Country Trail Association, one of a dozen chapters in Michigan. The Chief Noontday chapter takes care of a 119-mile-long stretch of trail in Barry, Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties.

In the Yankee Springs area, the trail meanders through state land. However, elsewhere, many segments of the trail still follow paved or gravel roads.

"Which is where I come in to try find people who will allow us onto their property," Bronson said.

Local effort to bring the national trail through this part of the state began in the early 1990s. Around 1996, when Bronson was still farm manager at KBS, Dave Cornell, a founding CNC chapter member, approached MSU management to see if the university would allow the trail to be built across the KBS property.

"It had to run along the edge of a lot of the farm fields in order to get across the biological station, so that is why I got involved," Bronson said. "And I was in support of that. I thought it was a great idea. I wasn't involved in the chapter at that point."

As farm manager, however, Bronson was responsible for overseeing much of the land base at KBS.

Officially, he became a member of the Chief Noontday chapter about 20 years ago.

"We build, maintain and

promote the trail. We have over 300 members now," he said of the chapter. "We're all volunteers. We're always looking for more members and more volunteers. It's a big job to take care of something that long."

The local chapter doesn't have a headquarters, per se, but it typically holds its monthly meetings at Delton District Library, 330 N. Grove St. It also has one annual meeting in Kalamazoo County and another in Calhoun County.

The North Country Trail was designated as a National Scenic Trail by Congress. It is administered by the National Park Service and now covers nearly 4,800 miles. It stretches through eight states: Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. It connects the Appalachian Trail and the Long Trail with the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Andrea Ketchmark is executive director of the nonprofit North Country Trail Association, which is nationally headquartered at 229 E. Main St. in Lowell. The National Park Service's local office is across the street at 219 E. Main.

Ketchmark said the trail association's annual conference usually rotates among its eight member states. But because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 conference and award presentation was held virtually with members via an internet connection.

"Even though Jim won this award in 2020, we wanted to make sure we give him a special shout-



Jim Bronson holds a North Country National Scenic Trail water bottle. (Photo by Mary Rebert)

out," Ketchmark said. "Jim is one of our most fantastic volunteers. He works a lot with private landowners. As you can imagine, to piece together a [nearly] 5,000-mile trail, we work a lot with public land agencies like the DNR and the [U.S.] Forest Service, and with universities like Michigan State to get the trail on their property. But also, with individual private-land owners. So, Jim has been the point person for a lot of different private landowners that we have agreements with to host the trail on their land."

By comparison, the better-known Appalachian

Trail stretches 2,200 miles from Georgie to Maine.

Bronson has chaired the NCT local chapter's trail protection committee for several years. An original priority for him was to develop the trail route through southern Barry County.

"We really don't have any off-road, real pathway trail from the Circle Pines [Center] property on Mullen Road in Delton all the way to the Kellogg Biological Station property," he said. "So, we're road walk in most of southern Barry County."

KBS covers the Kalamazoo County/Barry County line in the Ross Township and Hickory Corners area. In Barry County, the trail runs through sections of the Yankee Springs Recreation Area, Barry State Game Area, as well as private lands.

Bronson said the local trail protection committee worked with a National Park Service consultant to develop a corridor where they wanted the trail to go in southern Barry County. It ultimately was approved. More recently, he has been meeting with landowners along that corridor.

"I think I got the award for that work, even though – frankly – I haven't been as successful as I'd like to be in terms of actually getting off-road trail built," he said. "I've had a little bit of success, but it's a difficult thing to try and convince people to let the trail onto

their property."

Ketchmark said that not only is the North Country Trail the nation's longest, "but we have more miles of the trail through Michigan than any of our other states. We've got about 1,200 miles of the route."

Because the NCT is a long-distance pathway, the trail association maps an entire route. But it also includes some off-road trail and roads.

"For the really dedicated hikers who want to hike the whole trail or sections, they're walking on the road to get to the next section of trail," Ketchmark said. "But we make sure our maps delineate what is off-road and actually foot path, hiker trail and road walk. Because we don't want to send families out onto the road."

Ketchmark described Bronson as a "really nice guy."

"With his background, he's great at understanding different environments for the trail to pass through," she said. "And natural-resource management, to make sure we're doing our due diligence with caring for the surroundings of the trail, not just the trail itself."

Bronson's ability to connect with people and build relationships is vital in getting approval from landowners to allow the trail onto their properties, Ketchmark said. "His passion for the trail really shines through, and he gets others excited about the trail, as well."



North Country Trail signs can be seen from Vermont to North Dakota. (Photo from NCTA staff)

Skye Lemmen completes MD benefit hike on Pacific Crest Trail



Skye Lemmen upon completing her hike of the 2,650 mile Pacific Crest Trail.

Skye Lemmen, LHS class of 2012, has completed her hike of the 2,650 mile Pacific Crest Trail. The hike was a benefit for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

"I was able to complete the trail almost in its entirety," Lemmen said. "There were some missed sections due to wildfires, legal trail closures and heavy smoke from the wildfires, but overall I am very pleased with how much I was able to hike given the circumstances. I also surpassed my Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraising goal with a grand total of \$6,029 in donations."

The Pacific Crest Trail stretches from the Mexican border in California up to the Canadian border in Washington. Lemmen hiked between 15 and 35 miles a day, while carrying all of her food, water and other gear in a backpack.

"My longest through-hike experiences have been no more than one week ventures at a time in the Midwest and eastern parts of the US," Lemmen said in a previous interview. "The Appalachian Trail treks I did before in Virginia and again in Massachusetts are probably the best training I've had to get me ready for a true through-hike."

Lemmen chose the Muscular Dystrophy

Association to honor her father and other relatives fighting the disease.

"Muscular Dystrophy has impacted a rather shocking number of my relatives," Lemmen said in a previous interview. "My father and four of his siblings have been diagnosed with different types of MD. One of his siblings was my late Uncle Kenny, who passed away from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy at the early age of 16. My dad is diagnosed with Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy, which is a different strain of the disease entirely and has many different effects than DMD. Muscular Dystrophy has no known cure as of now, but research efforts have come a long way in determining what causes different types of neuromuscular diseases and will one day hopefully discover either a cure, or a way to at least slow down or stop the continuing muscle degeneration. According to the MDA, 'Even where no cure is available yet, MDA research has resulted in better treatments that result in increased survival and better quality of life.' Supporting the MDA not only provides necessary funds and resources for clinical trials and research laboratories, it also provides services that help people affected by


neuromuscular diseases including MDA Care Centers and even MDA Summer Camps for kids with muscular dystrophy and related diseases. The MDA positively impacts the lives of so many people fighting this battle, and I have faith that if we continue to support their endeavors, we can change the lives of so many more people in the future too. I can only truly speak to my family's direct experiences with Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy, so please know there are many other types of MD and many other experiences that other families have gone through that could differ widely from my own. Much like a through-hike, the challenges faced with FSHD are typically drawn out over a long period of time and slowly wear away at you. What starts as difficulty standing straight

while walking eventually turns into the inability to walk years later. My dad was officially diagnosed with FSHD when I was in the fifth grade. He was around 48 years old, but he first started showing symptoms around the age of 38. I remember my brother and I used to always partake in so many outdoor activities with him when we were younger; biking, basketball, softball, tossing the football and so much more. He undoubtedly set me on my path for the love of sports and the outdoors. But after his diagnosis, things began to change. He couldn't stay out and play catch with us as long as he used to when he was healthy. And eventually, he couldn't do those activities at all with us any more. He fights harder than anyone I know to rise above this disease both physically and

mentally. It's truly tough on everyone involved. He always says, 'No matter how difficult you have it in life, someone always has it worse than you. You should be grateful for what God has given you.' I find his optimism and gratefulness for what he does have in life to be an inspiration and motivation for me. When I'm exhausted on the trail, I'll absolutely be thinking of my dad and my loved ones with MD, and I'll push forward knowing that I am grateful for my ability to do so when others cannot."

For more information about the Muscular Dystrophy Association, visit mda.org. For more information about the Pacific Crest Trail, visit pcta.org. For more information about Lemmen and her adventures, visit twomoredays.blog

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Red Arrow

- WRESTLING

SPORTS

Wrestlers challenged at Detroit Catholic Central Duals

Sound the alarms. Lowell wrestling went 0-3 at Detroit Catholic Central. No, just kidding, no alarms are needed. Yes, the Red Arrow wrestling team isn't used to losing, let alone three duals in one day. This was no normal tournament though, and in fact Lowell performed rather admirably against such stiff competition.

The Detroit Catholic Central Duals offer some of the most intense high school wrestling matchups in the country, and Lowell performed well against those powerhouses in the losses to No. 7 in the nation Detroit Catholic Central (L 22-32), No. 19 in the nation

out of Illinois Mt. Carmel (L 34-36), and to No. 17 nationally St. Eds out of Ohio (L 28-41).

Other teams participating that Lowell did not wrestle were Davison and Dundee. Mt. Carmel, the top ranked team in Illinois, came out with all the spoils knocking off all four Michigan teams. Lowell matched DCC in margin of loss, both losing by just two points.

In the matchup with DCC, Lowell won the first match with James Link winning a 4-3 decision. Then DCC went on a run of six straight matches, three of which were narrow decisions

that could have swung either way. Those swing match wins were crucial for the Shamrocks who held on for the 32-22 win, buoyed by the 28-3 start. The Red Arrows did well at the lower weights, with Ramsy Mutschler, Easton Lyons, Jackson Blum, and Landon Musgrave all winning their matches. Other winners included Carter Blough in overtime.

Against St. Eds, Lowell was the one jumping off to a lead, with Jared Boone, Nate Cleaver, and Case Huisman winning to jump out to a 13-3 lead. Jackson Blum stopped a 21-0 St. Eds run with a pin to make

it a 24-19 deficit. Ramsy Mutschler and James Link also recorded wins, but St. Eds had too many pins and downed Lowell 41-28.

In the Mt. Carmel match, Nate Cleaver, Tacho Gonzales, Carter Blough, Jackson Blum, Owen Segorski, and James Link recorded wins in the back and forth dual that ended up as a two-point loss.

Just before the new year, the Red Arrows had a much easier time in the Spartan Classic hosted by Livonia Stevenson. While the tournament was much easier than the DCC Duals, it was still loaded with Michigan talent including

Lowell, Gaylord, Brighton, and New Boston Huron. Lowell cruised through Fowlerville 78-0, a perfect all-six showing against Waterford Mott 84-0, and yet another all-six showing against Howell 84-0. Things toughened up after pool play with Lowell scoring a strong win against Division 1 No. 8 Brighton 39-20, then Troy 72-6.

Wrestling fans may have been keen to see a potential state final preview of Lowell versus Gaylord, which was supposed to be the tournament final, but the Blue Devils weren't interested. Instead, Gaylord left with their perfect regular

season record intact and a disappointed crowd with no final to watch. A strange twist between the top two ranked teams in Division 2.

Both programs are mirror opposites when it comes to scheduling. Lowell schedules strong out of conference, going into the state tournament with multiple losses and wins in the teens. Gaylord tends to stick to competing regionally, loading up their record and entering the postseason with wins in the 30s and an unbeaten record. So if both teams do make it to the team state event, nobody will know for sure what will happen.



At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

KDL pauses in-person programs due to COVID-19

Due to increased COVID-19 rates, Kent District Library is pausing all in-person, indoor programs at all KDL locations. This step is taken to address the risk of having large groups in enclosed rooms during

a time when COVID-19 rates are increasing. We're hopeful that programs can resume soon and we will continue to evaluate as new data emerges. The library remains open with all other services and resources available.

Following are some specific details:

- Visit kdl.org/events for virtual, outdoor and off-site programs.
- On-demand, online programs are available at kdl.org/livestream.
- Teen Film Festival will shift to a virtual event, as it was last year.
- Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs will all take place virtually when instructors are available for online sessions.
- Sled Dogs visits will continue as outdoor programs.
- Bookmobile visits will continue.
- Some book talks and book clubs may be available as online sessions.

Not ready to retire? You can still apply for Medicare online

Did you know that you can apply for Medicare online even if you are not ready to retire? And it takes less than 10 minutes! There are no forms to sign and usually no required documentation. We'll process your application and contact you if we need more information. To apply for Medicare and find other important information, visit www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare.

If you want to start receiving Medicare at age 65, you must apply for

Medicare no earlier than three months before your 65th birthday and no later than three months after that birthday. We refer to this window of opportunity to apply for Medicare as your

You may also want to read these publications:

- *Apply Online for Medicare — Even if You Are Not Ready to Retire* at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10530.pdf.



initial enrollment period.

Some Medicare beneficiaries may qualify for *Extra Help* to pay for the monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and co-payments related to the Medicare Prescription Drug program. You must be receiving Medicare, have limited resources and income, and reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia to qualify for the *Extra Help*. For more information on *Extra Help*, visit www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/prescriptionhelp.

- *When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits* at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10147.pdf.


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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 vondavantil@ssa.gov.

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Red Arrow

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SPORTS

We've got some big home games coming up, we'd love to see everyone come out and support them.

~ Coach Kent

Baker breaks LHS point record in rout over Northview

by Justin Scott
sports reporter

When Lowell went into halftime up 47-22 the game wasn't in doubt. Still, despite the scoreline, there was electricity in the air. Sophomore Braxcynn Baker had 25 of the Red Arrows 47 points and with that total, people were eyeing the record wall at LHS. The number they were looking for was the highest individual point total in a game, which belonged to Kendra Gallert. Gallert scored 36 in a late 2002 win over Greenville on 11 three pointers. She would later go on to play basketball at Eastern Michigan University.

Gallert, who passed Sue Sitzel who scored 35 in a game in 1979, had her record which stood for nearly 20 years broken on Friday night. When the subs came out for LHS late in the third with the game well in hand, it seemed that fans weren't the only ones who were eyeing that record. Teammates were on their feet as Baker inched closer and closer, until finally breaking it. Baker scored 39 points in a rout for LHS, and with it became Lowell's all-time leading scorer for points in a single girls game.

"We made the decision at halftime to let her go after it. She's been dealing with an ankle injury so we were

hoping she'd get it early in the third quarter and then we could rest her in the fourth, but once the running clock started it kind of affected that time table and she got it late in the game. Once time started running out we ran a few sets for her and she made shots. The kid can flat out score," head coach Heath Kent said.

At 34 points, Baker was fouled and hit a pair of free throws to tie the record. It was evident, in between free throws, she knew exactly how important they were. It wasn't easy, with the score as lopsided as it was, Lowell up over 40 points, there was a running clock. So while Northview shot free throws on the other end following Baker's record-tying 36th point, the clock ticked down all too quickly.

Northview, fighting for pride and unknowing to the situation were not going to give up a simple layup. They defended as tough as they had all game, forcing Baker to pull up for three with 2:21 to play and hit it. The bench and a congregation of young middle and elementary schoolers who had lined up around the northeast corner of the court celebrated along with most of the Lowell parents and student section. If people didn't know history was made, they did shortly after as whispers were about between knowing

and unknowing spectators.

"We all knew about it. I don't think anyone wanted to jinx it by talking about it. I was happy with the reaction from the team once she broke it, even though it's an incredible individual accomplishment there's a lot of people who helped contribute and to see them all celebrate together is awesome." Kent added.

Lowell improved to 47-28 all-time against the Wildcats. The win pushed Lowell to 5-2 on the season, including last week's loss to Byron Center. Despite the loss, coach saw positives come out of the game.

"I thought McKenzie Munson played really well for us. She came off the bench and made some things happen on both ends of the floor. She's like many of our kids, someone who can play multiple positions and make impact plays on both ends," Kent said of the game.

In a battle of two of the top teams in the conference Lowell narrowly came out the losers with a 52-47 score.

"One of our goals is to win a league championship, and we had the defending champs within our grasp at the end. A couple plays here and there that we could've done better on and maybe it's a different story. We'll get another shot at them in a few weeks. Until then we've just got to focus on the next



Braxcynn Baker brings the ball up court against Northview. She had an LHS record 39 points in the win.

team on our schedule," Kent added.

The Red Arrows face Forest Hills Northern and East Grand Rapids this week in conference action.

"We're just trying to

win the next game on our schedule each night out, this team is so much fun to coach, and even more fun to watch. We're not even at 100 percent yet. We've got some big home games

coming up, we'd love to see everyone come out and support them," Coach Kent concluded.

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obituaries

THOMPSON

9/3/41 – 1/4/22

Gail Jean Thompson, aged 80, passed from this life after suffering a stroke on Christmas Eve. She was preceded in death by her parents, Marge and Marty Cook. Surviving are her husband of 57 years William (Bill) Thompson; son, Wade Thompson; grandson, Jon Snyder; sister, Christine (Tom) Serne; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Lynne and Paul Kleeman; niece, Leslie Serne; nephews, Brad Morgan and Greg Shamblin; grandniece, Robin; and grandnephews, Nick, Austin, and Nate. Gail graduated from Ottawa Hills High School in 1959 and had two major interests, music and horses. She spent much of her time in those two endeavors as she became an accomplished pianist,



oboist, and handbell ringer which she continued for nearly four decades as a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church Handbell Choir. Her love of horses continued throughout her adult life as she enjoyed riding hunter/jumpers and competing in the Grand Rapids area English horse shows as a member of the English Western Horsemen's Association (EWA) for which she spent many years as Executive Secretary. Taking care of and doting on her horses, dogs, and cats was a lifelong enjoyment for her in addition to making sure all the area birds and other wildlife were properly fed. She also enjoyed attending WMU football games with Bill, family, and friends as well as her weekly dinners at Watermark Country Club. In addition, she also enjoyed riding her Harley-Davidson Heritage Softail Classic and taking family motorcycle trips. Gail continued her education starting at Grand Rapids Junior College then spending a year at the University of Michigan followed by a year at the University of Madrid in Spain. Upon returning to Grand Rapids she transferred to Western Michigan University where she met Bill when both were playing in the WMU University Orchestra as well as the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony. Gail was a Spanish major in the School of Education and taught Spanish for two years after college. She then was devoted to being a homemaker and stay at home mom. After Wade finished school she worked part time for several years at the family business Malecki Music, Inc. Bill, Wade, Jon and family look forward to greeting their many friends at a Celebration of Life gathering being planned for later this spring at Watermark Country Club. With Gail's lifelong love of animals memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of West Michigan, 3077 Wilson Dr. NW, Grand Rapids MI 49534.



Live the Life You Want

With Melissa Spino, MA, LPC, CDMS
Life Transitions Therapy, LLC

What makes internet trolls tick?

I'm not a fan of labels, but sometimes it is the easiest way to describe the behavior of a person. Most of us have come across what some call "Internet Trolls." What is an internet troll? According to Wikipedia "In internet slang, a troll is a person who posts inflammatory, insincere, digressive, extraneous, or off-topic messages in an online community, with the intent of provoking readers into displaying emotional responses, or manipulating others' perception." Basically, they are people that try to harass and get a reaction from others on the internet through their posts. Mental health researchers will study just about anything and yes, they have studied Internet Trolls. Keep reading, as the results are interesting.

Internet Troll Traits

Researchers are finding some common characteristics and behaviors associated with these individuals. Many tend to have what are called "Dark Triad" traits. The dark triad includes Machiavellianism, narcissism and psychopathy. Before you start thinking psychopathic traits means they could be serial killers

know that psychopathic traits can be used positively or negatively. Past studies have shown that some very successful people have psychopathic traits, but they channel these traits to produce positive outcomes. Some feel those that exhibit internet troll behaviors may also be suffering in silence and feeling isolated and lonely. As I've said in the past, often the angriest individuals are the ones in the most pain.

There is another correlation found with trolling called "Dark Tetrad" personality traits. This is a bit different from the Dark Triad because it not only includes narcissism, Machiavellianism and psychopathy, but also sadism. Sadism is when people get pleasure and gratification, from the pain, suffering or the humiliation of others. When researchers looked at the four Dark Tetrad traits, they found that the two most strongly associated with internet trolling (and also cyberbullying) are psychopathy and sadism. Men not only tend to score significantly higher on all Dark Tetrad traits than women but were also found

to be more likely than women to troll the internet.

Recent research by BYU published in the Journal of Social Media and Society indicates some interesting results.

Individuals exhibiting trolling behavior are not concerned with the consequences of their comments. Their focus is on enjoyment of their online experience. The researchers, BYU professor Dr. Scott Church and BYU graduate Daniel Montez, found that individuals who get pleasure from others failures or shortcomings consider internet trolling acceptable behavior. What I found interesting after reading this study is that male participants were more likely to see trolling behavior as functional or acceptable while women tended to find it dysfunctional.

Experts also have different views about trolling. Some experts feel internet trolls may not be capable of understanding that their communication is destructive or harmful. It is just their default way of communicating. Others feel the behavior may stem from isolation and rejection (the causes vary) which cause loneliness and unmet needs, which in turn results in aggression towards others in unhealthy ways. Other experts as noted above feel the Dark Triad or Dark Tetrad traits are at the heart of the behavior.

How to Spot an Internet Troll

Researchers at Stanford and Cornell Universities feel they can spot trolls at about an 80 percent accuracy level by just looking at the language used. Here is how they claim you can spot a troll:

They tend to troll just a few threads

They don't tend to use capital letters or punctuation

They swear more often

Their comments are often unreadable. For example, they may have a lot of spelling errors/typos or their comments just don't make sense

They go on and on about the same topic and will not let the subject drop

They are aggressive

They use more negative words

When they get a reply from someone, they keep posting over and over

They tend to sound a bit different from others on the site

The bottom line is that if you engage a person that is trolling it most likely will only frustrate you and raise your blood pressure. You are giving the person trolling exactly what they want. Ignoring the person trolling or blocking them when possible is probably the best practice.

This article is not intended to provide advice, diagnose or treat in any way. It is for informational purposes only. I hope everyone stays healthy and has a wonderful 2022!

Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold

Edward Jones

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Watch out for tax scammers

Sadly, identity theft happens throughout the year – but some identity thieves are particularly active during tax-filing season. How can you protect yourself?

One of the most important moves you can make is to be suspicious of requests by people or entities claiming to be from the Internal Revenue Service. You may receive phone calls, texts and emails, but these types of communication are often just "phishing" scams with one goal in mind: to capture your personal information. These phishers can be quite clever, sending emails that appear to contain the IRS logo or making calls that may even seem to be coming from the IRS. Don't open any links or

attachments to the emails and don't answer the calls – and don't be alarmed if the caller leaves a vaguely threatening voicemail, either asking for personal information, such as your Social Security number, or informing you of some debts you supposedly owe to the IRS that must be taken care of "immediately."

In reality, the IRS will not initiate contact with you by phone, email, text message or social media to request personal or financial information, or to inquire about issues pertaining to your tax returns. Instead, the agency will first send you a letter. And if you're unsure of the legitimacy of such a letter, contact the IRS directly at 800-829-1040.

Of course, not all

scam artists are fake IRS representatives – some will pass themselves off as tax preparers. Fortunately, most tax preparers are honest, but it's not too hard to find the dishonest ones who might ask you to sign a blank return, promise you a big refund before looking at your records or try to charge

a fee based on the percentage of your return. Legitimate tax preparers will make no grand promises and will explain their fees upfront. Before hiring someone to do your taxes, find out their qualifications. The IRS provides some valuable tips for choosing a reputable tax preparer, but you can also ask your friends and relatives for referrals.

Another tax scam to watch out for is the fraudulent tax return – that is, someone filing a return in your name. To do so, a scammer would need your name, birthdate and Social Security number. If you're already providing two of these pieces of information – your name and birthdate on social media, and you also include your birthplace

– you could be making it easier for scam artists to somehow get the third. It's a good idea to check your privacy settings and limit what you're sharing publicly. You might also want to use a nickname and omit your last name, birthday and birthplace.

Here's one more defensive measure: File your taxes as soon as you can. Identity thieves often strike early in the tax season, so they can file their bogus returns before their victims.

To learn more about tax scams, visit the IRS website (irs.gov) and search for the "Taxpayer Guide to Identity Theft." This document describes some signs of identity theft and provides tips for what to do if you are victimized.

It's unfortunate that identity theft exists, but by taking the proper precautions, you can help insulate yourself from this threat, even when tax season is over.

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

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~ The Drifter Speakeasy

by Martha Hayden

Did you know that speakeasies were most often marked with a green door? I was curious to locate a historical speakeasy. I researched the Chicago Tribune and found a list of secret watering holes. The Green Door Tavern harbored one such establishment... hidden downstairs.

We ate dinner in the Tavern and asked our waitress about going below for a drink after our meal. She winked and explained, "Just knock on the shelf and Liz will open the door." We inquired about a password, but there wasn't one. We joked that she should tell every customer a different code word just to amuse Liz.

plaster-speared brick space.

We were escorted to our bench seat under a Pegasus sign riddled with bullet holes.

This secretive basement bar is an authentic speakeasy from the prohibition era. On October 28, 1919, Congress passed the Volstead Act, the popular name for the National Prohibition Act, over President Woodrow Wilson's veto. The act established the legal definition of intoxicating liquors as well as penalties for producing them. Prohibition was a nationwide constitutional ban until December 5,



The drink menu is written on tarot cards.

We descended the stairway at the back of the restaurant to find a knickknack shelf. We knocked and the door opened.

The bar was well stocked in the musty,

1933. Ironically the "noble experiment" — had been introduced as a way to reduce crime and corruption, solve social problems, reduce the tax burden created by prisons and poorhouses, and improve health and hygiene



in America. The constitution was designed to provide FREEDOMS for Americans, not take away rights.

Americans moved "underground" to produce and distribute spirits. As a result crime and violence increased. Tens of thousands of people died because of prohibition-related violence and drinking unregulated booze. The big experiment came to an end in 1933 when the Twenty-first Amendment was ratified by 36 of the 48 states. ... Prohibition was repealed because it was an unenforceable policy.

Tarot cards were placed before us and a one page menu of "small plates" were available to counteract the alcohol consumption. Each tarot card described a unique mixed drink with an equally 'one of a kind' name. I gravitated toward the "Snozzberry," a Willy Wonka specialty. YUM! I can't remember if I had three or four ... Chuck aimed to sample the collection.

The two couples at the closely set table chimed in, "Bols in a Vice' sounds interesting." The man next to me raised his eyebrows. How about, "Dingo Stole My Baby?" one of the women asked. "Risk and Reward' is the one for me." Chuck stated. The pairs had traveled from Minnesota for the weekend. Diane and Sue had been friends since high school and planned an annual fall get away. The two had a charm of understanding between them. Sharing memories over a lifetime brings a dimension of richness to

our lives. I admired their kinship.

Their respective men were good sports enjoying the history of the establishment. Suddenly, Bill states, "We need code names if we get caught escaping a raid!" We were all drawn into this caper.

announced with a drink sloshing in her hand.

Liz Pearce, the bartender, shared that the building used to be an Italian market which discretely covered the speakeasy in the basement. Gesturing to the tarot cards Liz explained, "I get bored really easily,

be concerned about being impaired behind the wheel.

The curtain swooped open again. A shirtless young man with dark curly hair appeared on stage. He juggled and swiftly rolled colored balls across his chest in a completely unique fashion. After his show



678 N Orleans St. Chicago, IL 60654

"I'd be Wrench." Bill nods. I have worked in plumbing for years. "I want my name to be Pockets because you never know what I've got up my sleeve." Jim, the other cohort grinned. "I'd be Poppins." I offered. "As an early elementary teacher I could magically manipulate children to make learning fun." "Umbrella, because I am Poppin's sidekick," Chuck said. Diane and Sue had a more difficult time creating alias' for themselves but finally decided on Thelma and Louise.

As we bantered and planned our escape routes, a movie was playing on the curtain. It was the charming "Steamboat Willie" aka Mickey Mouse. Suddenly, the curtain was drawn back and there was a blues singer. He played two original songs focused on politics. It was rare to hear a blues performer apply this style to current topics.

A gaggle of ladies was seated next to us. The bridesmaids cheered, whooped and laughed loudly celebrating their friend, the bride, Sarah. We shared that a fisherman witnessed our proposal and said, "I hope you know what you're doing." Doubts at these life stages are typical, but this young lady wasn't to be swayed, "It was LOVE at first sight." She

so I wanted to be able to change up my menu often. It was important for me to have a menu that was easily changeable, so we could swap out drinks and keep things fresh." Each night, the staff selects seven to 11 drinks from the 45-card stack.

Another staff member approached carrying a Budda cookie jar. For ten dollars one can pull out

we were able to chat with him. Josh had been born in France. He spoke with an accent. At sixteen years old, he'd joined the circus where he perfected his craft. He worked sporadically around Chicago at various venues with his bike as his transportation.

This journey allowed me a taste back in time. I plan to re-read, "The Great Gatsby" and I am



The secret door to The Drifter Speakeasy.

a fortune. Some fortunes have a cocktail listed which you'd get 'for free.' Chuck couldn't resist and handed a bill to the waitress. Sure enough he 'won' a 'free' drink. When it arrived many of us tried a sip. It was strong and tasted like floor cleaner to me. I don't have a desire for hard liquor, so I am not a good judge. Chuck polished it off. We were traveling by taxi, so we didn't have to

looking forward to peering behind the curtain of more prohibition establishments in the future. The 2200 block of South Wabash was known as the LeVeve District. Keep looking for more green doors!

Here's an article listing North River speakeasies in Chicago. <https://freetoursbyfoot.com/guide-to-chicago-speakeasies/>



There are 37 available seats. Courtesy of The Drifter

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

FINE DINING WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

FINE DINING WORD SEARCH

AIOLI
 AL DENTE
 ANTIPASTO
 APERITIF

APPETIZER
 ARTISAN
 BECHAMEL
 CHARCUTERIE
 CONFIT
 DECONSTRUCTED
 DIGESTIF

DINING
 ENTREE
 EXPERIENCE
 FUSION
 PAIRING
 PRIX FIXE
 RESTAURANT

SERVICE
 SIDES
 SOMMELIER
 TAPAS
 UMAMI
 WINE

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in England on January 20, 1971. I was inspired by the band Depeche Mode, and found myself in a successful 90's pop group. I have been a judge on "The X Factor UK" and serve as a songwriter for many artists.

Answer: Gary Barlow

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to restaurants.

R S D K I N

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

Answer: Drinks

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

CLUES ACROSS

- Breathe noisily
- ___ Nui, Easter Island
- Reddish browns
- Simple shoes
- Produce alcohol illegally
- Home to famed golf tournament
- Tax collector
- Famous people
- Urban area
- Units of syllable weight
- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Dismounted
- Actor Damon
- Vietnamese offensive
- Retail term
- Netted
- Partner to carrots
- Witnesses
- Caulked
- Satisfy
- R&B performer ___ Lo
- Monetary units of Macao
- Give advice, explain
- Possesses

CLUES DOWN

- Illinois city
- One of the original disciples chosen by Christ
- Young form of a louse
- Type of powder
- Finger millet
- Share a common boundary
- Assumed as a fact
- Provide clear evidence of
- Invests in little enterprises
- A way to be

- Monies given in support
- Fashion accessory
- Steal
- Becomes less intense
- Geological times
- Hooray!
- Monetary unit
- Male reproductive organs
- Earnings
- Close by
- Small integers
- Fixed in place
- Used to treat Parkinson's disease
- Large, imposing building
- A rooflike shelter
- Stiff, hairlike structure
- Print errors
- To show disapproval
- Body of traditions
- Without
- ___ Clapton, musician
- Dangerous illegal drug
- Infrequent
- Sound unit

Today: Wednesday, January 19

Wednesday, Jan. 19 is the 19th day of the year. There are still 346 days remaining in 2022.

Historical Events

379: Emperor Gratian elevates Flavius Theodosius at Sirmium to Augustus, and gives him authority over all the eastern provinces of the Roman Empire.

1607: San Agustin Church in Manila is officially completed; it is the oldest church still standing in the Philippines.

1764: John Wilkes is expelled from the British House of Commons for seditious libel for his poem "An Essay on Woman," a parody of Alexander Pope's "An Essay on Man."

1764: Bolle Willum Luxdorph records in his diary that a mail bomb, possibly the world's first,

severely injures a Danish Colonel.

1829: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's "Faust: The First Part of the Tragedy" receives its premiere performance.

1853: Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Il Trovatore" receives its premiere performance in Rome.

1861: Georgia joins South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Alabama in declaring secession from the United States.

1862: The Confederacy suffers its first significant defeat at the Battle of Mill Springs.

1883: The first electric lighting system employing overhead wires, built by

Thomas Edison, begins service in Roselle, NJ.

1915: Georges Claude patents the neon discharge tube for use in advertising.

1915: German zeppelins bomb the UK towns of Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn, killing at least 20 people, the first major aerial bombardment of a civilian target.

1920: The US Senate votes against joining the League of Nations.

1920: The American Civil Liberties Union is founded.

1937: Howard Hughes sets a new air record by flying from Los Angeles to New York City in seven hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds.

1942: The Japanese

conquest of Burma begins.

1945: Soviet forces liberate the Łódź Ghetto in Poland. There were more than 200,000 inhabitants in 1940, fewer than 900 survived the Nazi occupation.

1946: Gen. Douglas MacArthur establishes the International Military Tribunal for the Far East to try Japanese war criminals.

1953: Almost 72 percent of all television sets in the United States tune into "I Love Lucy" to watch Lucy give birth.

1981: US and Iranian officials sign an agreement to release 52 American hostages after 14 months of captivity.

1983: Nazi war criminal



Country singer Dolly Parton was born in Pittman Center, TN on January 19, 1946.

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Klaus Barbie is arrested in Bolivia.

1983: Announcement of the "Apple Lisa," the first commercial personal computer with a graphical user interface and computer mouse.

1986: The first PC computer virus is released into the wild. A boot sector virus dubbed (c)Brain, it was created by the Farooq Alvi brothers in Pakistan to deter unauthorized copying of software they had written.

1991: Iraq fires a Scud missile into Israel, causing 15 injuries.

1993: Czech Republic and Slovakia join the United Nations.

2007: Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink is assassinated in front of his newspaper's Istanbul office by 17-year-old Turkish ultra-nationalist Ogün Samast.

2007: A four-man team, using only skis and kites, completes the 1,093-mile trek to reach the Antarctic pole of inaccessibility for the first time since 1965, and for the first time without mechanical assistance.

2012: The Hong Kong-based file-sharing website Megaupload is shut down by the FBI.

Birthdays

1807: Robert E. Lee, general

1809: Edgar Allan Poe, author, poet

1839: Paul Cézanne, painter

1923: Jean Stapleton, actor

1930: Tippi Hedren, model, actor

1939: Phil Everly, singer/songwriter, Everly Brothers

1943: Janis Joplin, singer/songwriter

1944: Shelley Fabares, actor, singer

1954: Katey Sagal, actor

1958: Thomas Kinkadee, painter

1971: Shawn Wayans, actor

1974: Frank Caliendo, actor

1982: Pete Buttigieg, politician