

Family history in the attic leads to friendship

By Cliff Yankovich
contributing writer

When Kyle Kooyers and Caitlin Hopkins purchased a house in Lowell at 1019 East Main Street in 2020, they were not aware of an historical bonus that came with the house. For his part, Tom Doyle was unaware that a nice glimpse into his family history had been waiting 75 years to be discovered in the home Kyle and Caitlin moved into.

Tom's grandfather, Thomas Merenis (Renis) Doyle, lived in the home for fifteen years from, 1930 to 1945. His father, Earl, and his uncle Tom, spent time there growing up there. One more key element in creating this story was Don Lehman, who has lived next door to the house on Main Street. Don was the thread

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Pictured, left to right: Doyle family visits: Emily Doyle Elms, Paul Matson, Kathy Doyle Matson, Mary Doyle, Madison Doyle, Susan J. Doyle, Susan B. Doyle, Tom Doyle.

Kent County Youth Fair Preview
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The Restless Viking



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Fallasburg Village Celebration is a hit

By Cliff Yankovich
Contributing writer

From the beautifully rendered acapella version of our national anthem, sung by Lowell resident Deborah Weiser at noon, to when the last note from the Easy Idle String Band faded eight hours later, the first ever Fallasburg Village Celebration was a hit. There was plenty to do and see in the historic village on Saturday, July 30.

The event was planned and carried out by the Fallasburg Historical Society's Board of Directors, a small army of volunteers, and an impressive number of generous sponsors. Everything was done with the Society's motto, to "Preserve and promote the unique history of Fallasburg Village by bringing its past to life for present and future generations" in mind.

The Vice President of FHS, Bruce Doll, brought his decades of fund raising and event planning to the table and the Board took full advantage of it.

"I want to thank Bruce Doll for being the superlative event producer," commented FHS president, Craig Fonger. "Look at the list of our sponsors

- his connection to them revealed the dedication so many people have for the greater Lowell community and the hope for the future

reports, the hottest thing going (in every sense of the word) was the working forge demonstration put on by Frank Leasure of



Some of the vintage tractors that were on display. Photo by Kate Nelson.

of the Fallasburg Historical Society."

The event needed to last all day because there was so much to experience. The scope of it took full advantage of the entire village, from one end to the other. According to

Tuckertown Forge, with help from Kurt Lardie, who has a day job as a regional director of the Kent District Library.

For visitors seeking respite from the heat, such

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Lowell City Council deliberates Line Shack proposals in a special meeting

By Emma Palova
contributing reporter

In their second attempt to sell the Line Shack, the city council met in a special meeting on July 25 to interview five companies bidding on the small property on the west side of the river in downtown Lowell.

They were: Copperrock Construction, Todd Schaal, Greg Canfield, Bartkus Engineering LLC, and The Edge Company Michigan LLC. The interview process lasted three hours.

Copperrock Construction presented a proposal for a condo or apartment project, up to six stories high with commercial use on the lower floor, for a total of \$4.5 million. The developers said they would like to maximize the narrow space with up to 14 to 17 units. The commercial tenant would be on the south side of the building. They will seek a height variance, with possible downscaling of the project to three or four stories. They estimated 12 months for the project

duration.

Each candidate had to go through a process of several questions, providing a scoring system for the council members. The city sought to alleviate concerns that the developer would sell the lot or not develop it, within a reasonable timeline. The city's vision for the Line Shack restoration is to be a catalyst project to revitalize the west side of the Flat River.

The developers assured everyone that they were well-positioned for the project to go vertical, citing similar projects in active downtown Kalamazoo. A complete financing plan for the Copperrock Construction project remained unclear, mainly, the use of potential TIFF, Brownfields Development or Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC) funds with the city's participation.

"We would be adding a lot of great units to a

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KCYF 2022 to feature entertainment for all ages

By Emma Palova
contributing reporter

This year's Kent County Youth Fair will provide wholesome entertainment for everyone; from a new carnival with new rides for all ages, to live music every day with a community talent show on Monday, Heroe's Day, Aug. 8 at 7 pm. The talent show is open to anyone, with registration from noon to 2 pm on Monday. The carnival rides will open on Wednesday at 1 pm due to trucking shortage, Thursday at 2 pm, Friday at 1 pm, and Saturday at 12 pm.

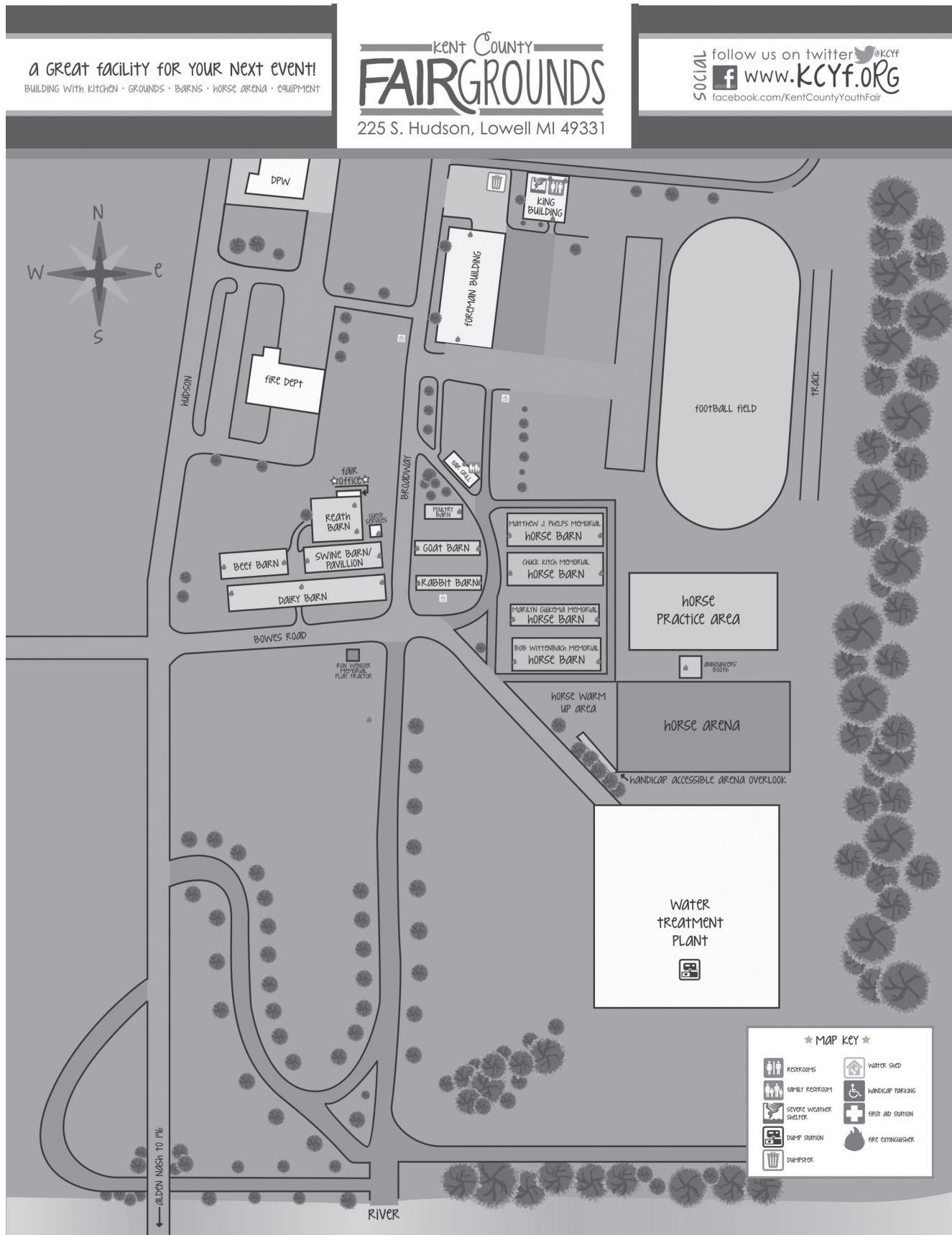
The fair will take place at the old fairgrounds, located at 225 S. Hudson St. in downtown Lowell, with free admission but a \$10 parking fee from Aug. 8 to Aug. 13. Mason Rail Time Adventures has teamed up with Wade Shows to provide the carnival midway rides. Wristbands will be \$25 on Wednesday and Thursday, and \$30 on Friday and Saturday.

"We have lots of new stuff this year," said board president, Bill Zasko.

There will be livestock/equestrian exhibitions every day. Wednesday is Reading of Rides Day for kids under 12, who can fill out a form showing that they have read five books, and they will receive free rides from 1 to 4 pm that day.

Among the classics is the antique tractor pull on Monday at 7 pm. Tuesday is Ag Adventure Day dedicated to horse pulls: mini-horse pull at 3 pm and draft-horse pull at 7 pm. The small animal and still exhibit auction will take place on Wednesday at 6 pm.

Thursday is the big day for the large animal auction, starting at 9 am, with the following order of sale: goat, sheep, hogs, beef and dairy beef.



Fair site map.

Traditionally, Friday is Access-Ability Day, with a luncheon from 11 am to 1 pm and Access-Ability Day rides, starting at noon, followed by a live performance at 1:30 pm.

"It will be fun for the whole family all week long," Zasko said.

The ice cream social will take place on Saturday, Kids Day, at 2 pm followed by a tea party with KCYF Royal Court at 3 pm.

"We look forward to celebrating the 610 registered youth exhibitors and showcasing their 4,334 projects for the community to enjoy," Zasko said. "We

anticipate being back to our pre-covid general attendance numbers, projecting 50,000 visitors will attend. This year, as with every year, I am hopeful for a fun and safe Kent County Youth Fair for all our visitors and exhibitors."

Following is the live music line-up:

- Greyson Barton, Aug. 8 at 5 pm.
- Community Talent

Show, Aug. 8 at 7 pm, registration 12 to 2 pm.

- Swift Brothers (Band), Aug. 9 at 6 pm.
- Boot Strap Boys (Band), Aug. 10 at 7 pm.
- Soul Syndicate (Band), Aug. 11 at 7 pm.
- Lindsey Garcia Performing, Aug. 12 at 5 pm.
- Full Cord Bluegrass, (Band) Aug. 12 at 7 pm.

- Family Line Dance, Aug. 12 at 7 pm.
- The Conquerors Performance, Aug. 13 at 2 pm.
- A corn hole tournament will take place on Saturday, Aug. 13 at 1 pm, with registration at noon.

Michigan has lifted a statewide ban on poultry and waterfowl exhibitions, after 30 days passed with no new cases of highly pathogenic Avian Influenza in domestic birds, as of June 13. There will be poultry-live bird exhibits at the fair.

You can register to be an auction buyer at <https://www.kcyf.org/auctions>



QR code.

You can go to KCYF website at www.kcyf.org for a full week's schedule of events. There is a QR Code for an Online Schedule as well.



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Joyology aims to weed out the stigma of marijuana

By Emma Palova
contributing reporter

At Joyology, it's not about getting high but helping people in pain.

"We're erasing the stigma of marijuana," said Kasey Monnin, acting general manager for Lowell and district manager for Western Michigan.

follow it," Monnin said. "Everybody does all the jobs. It's all about team building. We have a lot of locals who are passionate about the industry and understand the medical benefits so they can guide our customers. Most of our customers are looking for relief."

trained, due to constantly changing laws governing the industry; the training courses are on Tuesdays.

Even though cannabis dispensaries are restricted in what they can participate in, Joyology reaches out to the Coalition of Sexual Assault in Grand Rapids and wherever they can help

in other plants such as pine, lavender, and orange peel.

Joyology has a terpene guide to different aromas and effects. For example, pinene terpene has many potential benefits. It can act as an anti-inflammatory, promotes pain relief and relaxation, aids in memory and respiratory function, and may reduce the spread of bacteria and viruses. Besides, another great benefit is the excellent taste that adds to different cultivars. The aroma is pine and rosemary, but there are other ones such as humulene with basil and ginger aroma, and anti-inflammatory and appetite suppressant effects.

Each customer can build their own terpene profile, based on the terpene guide. For new customers, micro-dosing is recommended, starting at 2.5 micrograms in edibles.

"I want to give every customer as much education as possible," Monnin said, "so they get what they're wanting. We also want to make sure that we give you options." Among different options are infused products such as Moon Rock Caviar. "They come up with new products every day," she said.

According to Monnin, compliance with changing regulations of the Cannabis Regulatory Association (CRA) in Michigan is getting easier. "We're only three years into the legalization of this industry," she said.

What sets Joyology apart from other

dispensaries, is that it is not limited to its own product. "We don't have our own growth facility," Monnin said. "The industry is very supportive of each other."

Events such as Budtender Ball and Weed on the Beach are held on a regular basis. The first consumption lounge, "Kalkushka", has opened in Kalkaska, MI. "You have to be a member," she said.

three years," she said.

Every product has to be accounted for, and IDs are checked.

"My hopes are to attract companies to do publicity here and community outreach to create a cohesive environment," she said. "I hope employees enjoy their jobs and treat customers right. I feel blessed."

The corporation offers medical benefits with a



Kasey Monnin with employees Holly Capozzoli, Mak Gaffney, and Crystal Hanson.

The cannabis dispensary, located at 2399 W. Main St., had a soft opening on June 20th, and it has been two years in the works. Lowell is the third location, after Quincy and Reading, now known as Weeding. "We had two years to activate our license," she said. "Everybody has been nice in Lowell."

Currently, the dispensary employs 12, with a total of up to 30 employees planned, when the store goes to deliveries as well. Most employees are full-time, with a minimum requirement of 25 hours for part-time employees.

"We set the trend, not

For patients who have medical cards, the dispensary will pay the excise tax of 10 percent. "We will give them the same price as in a medical facility and the same quality," she said.

Many products, such as dew drops and gummies, are for medical purposes to relieve anxiety, depression, and seizures.

"We are offering an alternative to traditional medications," Monnin said. "Nothing could give me relief from seizures, now I feel I can contribute to life. I want to make sure I leave memories behind."

Budtenders are well-

in communities.

First-time consumers are educated about their purchases. "We're not order-takers," she said. "We go over the product with them. What are you wanting to experience?"

There are three basic delivery methods of the effects of cannabis: inhalation, oral and topical. Using the flower delivers immediate effects, edibles take 45 minutes. If the dose of THC is too high, CBD can bring it down, according to Monnin. The level of terpenes, that give the flower its scent and aroma, is high in the cannabis plant. However, terpenes are also



Joyology's general manager, Kasey Monnin.

Monnin expects that consumption lounges will take off fast once everything is nailed down, however, dispensaries will slow down. With a total of 14 projected dispensaries in Lowell, there will be a slowdown to balance out the industry. "The industry has been booming for the last

focus on mental health assistance. "We don't want people to struggle on their own," she said. "I don't want anyone to feel like it's a stigma."

Other openings are planned in Allegan and Battle Creek.

For more info go to: <https://joyology.com/location/lowell/>



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Continued from page 1, City Council

great downtown,” one of the developers said.

The project would complement the condo project on the other side of the river. The company completed the veterinary clinic on the west end of town, and will have a project on the east end of town, and this one would be in the middle.

One of the major concerns for the council remaining was parking space. The condo units require 1.5 parking spaces.

Second candidate developer, Todd Schaal,

proposed the Riverview Flats project with a parklet at the north tip of the lot and four units with parking spaces underneath, for an estimated project cost of \$1.6 to \$1.8 million. “It’s a real estate deal, not a business,” Schaal said. “It’s attractive to us. The park piece speaks nicely to the project. People are already fishing there; the market is tested.”

All developers have to sign a development agreement with the city, agreeing to complete transparency and not have any legal issues.

The third candidate for the Line Shack acquisition was Greg Canfield. “The Line Shack is a very interesting property,” he said. “This would be a great opportunity to expand the Main Street Inn.”

Due to Lowell’s growth, Canfield said the Inn is occupied five nights out of seven. He would take three out of the existing four garage doors and create a three-story building with 20 hotel rooms.

“This is just an extension of what has been a catalyst 12 years ago,”

he said referring to the Inn. “Main Street Inn has been a part of the growth.”

He estimated the cost, depending on the number of rooms and stories, from \$750,000 to \$1.5-\$2.0 million. Canfield has a long history of restoring downtown buildings to their old glory, such as his first

monies involved. “I’ve only asked for token amounts,” he said. “If I haven’t developed it in three years, I’d give it back to you.”

He pointed out the Ada Headlee project where Ada is attempting to recreate what they had. “This is what people like about this city,” he said referring to all the

was \$50,000 to \$60,000. The retail establishments would incorporate several woodworkers, who already have sustainable businesses.

“We want to make this section look nice so it’s a destination,” the developer said. “It’s a nice extension of Main Street. We would do it as quickly as possible.”



The Line Shack up for sale in favor of Copperrock Construction.

business directory

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project Canfield Plumbing, Main Street BBQ, a parking lot by Lowell Granite, Main Street Inn, and Springrove Variety, which houses Ripple. Among the challenges, again, would be parking. Some parking would be provided if the garage doors were taken out. According to Canfield, there would be no governmental

restored historical buildings. “The parking problem is a good problem to have.”

Bartkus Engineering LLC proposed two retail establishments for high-end furniture and wood shops. “It would be a nice addition to the city,” the developer said. “It would be a draw to bring people downtown.”

The total cost estimate

Final developer, The Edge Company Michigan LLC, proposed a multiple-use story building with a coffee shop and apartment or condo building. “We see a need for more housing in the city of Lowell,” the developer said.

The project would feature a gathering place on the lower level. The approximate cost of The Edge project would be \$2 million. The project would need tweaking for Lowell but would add extended hours and days when other establishments are closed.

The council members scored each proposal with the top two being Copperrock Construction and Greg Canfield. The motion was to direct city manager, Mike Burns, to craft a resolution to award the bid on a three to two vote, in favor of Copperrock Construction. The final vote on the resolution will require four votes within 20 days.



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AUGUST SCHEDULE

- Kyle Brown, Farmer Brown's Beekeeping Basics, Aug. 5
- Chris Stark, Carnival Lights, Aug. 12
- Special episode Wild Blueberry Festival, Paradise, Aug. 16
- Barbara Britton, Lioness, Aug. 26
- Lowell author Gladys Fletcher, TBA

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125 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 5, 1897

Orlin D. Williams, better known as “Reddy,” with his family, were taken to the depot by Deputy Sheriff Morse Monday, and started for the probate court, where Williams and his wife will have an opportunity to explain their method of caring for little children. Serious charges are made of neglect and cruelty. Neighbors living 40 or 50 roads away are said to have heard blows and childish voices pleading for mercy. Besides this, failure to provide clothing, fuel and food is charged.

A warning is hereby given to: all that the stealing of boards from the fair ground must cease or trouble will follow. I.B. Malcom.

A blue racer, measuring four feet in length, wandered into Rickert’s restaurant last Sunday and began a tour of the place. Mrs. Rickert and Pearl Sayles were in charge, and it is needless to say, the ladies were not pleased with their customer. Miss Sayles did not even ask him what flavor he wanted in his ice cream soda but called loudly for help to put the intruder out. Relief came in masculine form of Mr. Rickert, and when Mr. Snake was put where he won’t get any more “wink” sodas, the ladies came down from their perches.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 10, 1922

The Lowell Independents will play their first game in the Island Park tournament at Grand Rapids, August 13, Lowell vs Cedar Spring at 2 pm. The Lowell team has been strengthened and will try to win.

The large plate glass in front of the Alden jewelry store in the King block was smashed by boys Saturday evening, one sitting on the ledge and the other playing horse with him. Rather rough on the owner, F.T. King, who had just been to a large expense, rebuilding the floors and foundations in the block.

Owing to non-arrival of our regular newspaper bundles on account of the coal strike and railroad strike, we are using an emergency edition this week. Expect to resume the regular stories and state and general news service next week. - Editor, Ledger.

Mrs. Ethel Baxter’s little son Paul, who is living at the John Laux home, got run over last Friday with the car. Alfred started the car and did not know the child was there. He was taken to Greenville and an X-fay was taken of the arm, and it was found to be in bad shape.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 7, 1947

The fast Moose softballs won three games last week, defeating Woodland VFW, 9 to 0, with Potter giving the Woodland boys three hits to win his sixteenth game against two losses.

On Sunday, Aug. 10, the Fairchild Oilers will play the Kenosha, Wis. Red Sox, here at Recreation Park, in what will be one of the outstanding games of the season.

Guernsey breeders from six West Michigan counties held the first show sponsored by the Grand Rapids Guernsey Breeders’ Association at the Lowell 4-H Club fair grounds last Friday.

Donnie VanDerWarf, five-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth VanDerWarf of Ada, fell from the hay mow while playing last Friday and broke his back. He will be in a cast for some time.

The new fire truck quickly arrived to extinguish a grass fire Tuesday near the Wingeier Corner. It is now possible to fill the fire truck in a hurry from the former Alto Creamery instead of the creek or lake.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life August 10, 1972

Zzano’s Pizza, at 218 East Main, is now open daily, Monday through Saturday. They will start making their delicious pizzas and hot submarine sandwiches each day at 11 am.

The Lowell Area School Board and the Lowell YMCA Board met to plan for the second year of Community Education classes for the community; the purpose of the meeting. High school credit classes and leisure time classes were offered during the winter semester of last school year with over 60 adults registered for classes.

Three Caledonia youngsters were killed in a car-train accident Friday around noon near Alto. All three were pronounced dead at the scene. They were passengers in a car enroute to the Kent County 4-H Fair in Lowell.

The Michigan State B Division championship was won by the Kentree Reds Sunday afternoon on the slightly dampened field of the Detroit Polo Club. They downed their opponents 4 to 3.

The end of an era has passed for many area residents with the retirement of Mrs. H.D. (Evelyn) Smith, librarian of the Alto library since 1940.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger August 6, 1997

Lowell City Council approves 10-year lease with “School of Missionary Aviation Technology” (SMAT) at Lowell City Airport’s fixed base operator.

The Riverwalk Festival, that started as a dream and has become firmly planted on the newly built Riverwalk Plaza, will be held Saturday, Aug. 30. Chamber officials are pleased to bring 25 artists and craftsmen to the Riverwalk Festival this year.

Mike Winick, of

Rockford, plans to construct a four building, 280 unit self-storage center in Lowell. Winick discussed his plans with the Planning Commission at their regular meeting of July 28. Winick’s property is a 3.35-acre parcel located behind the Admiral Gas Station on the south side of West Main.

This week the Lowell Lodge No. 90 Free & Accepted Masons presented the Friends of the Library with full payment of its pledge of \$5,000 towards the operational funds for the new Englehardt Library.

The Kent County Youth Fair, held each year at the Lowell Fairgrounds, began Saturday, Aug. 2 and runs through Saturday, Aug. 9. The days are filled with dog and horse shows, livestock judging, classes in everything from dairy showmanship to swine judging, carnival rides and entertainment.

to the editor

Dear Editor,
A Wonderful Presentation. I am a docent at our local Lowell Area Museum. I attended this past Saturdays “The River of Time” performance that included many of the children of our town. I had an opportunity to hear them planning this performance. They were so excited to make this presentation to the community. Many studied so hard on their lines and several made their own costumes. The announcer started off by saying, “This is a true story of Lowell”, which it was. Much of the same material and information is given to the public on their visits to the museum. Equal presentation was given to the Native Americans that settled our town and to our early pioneers, settlers, and shop keepers. Our town should be very proud of this production. This gave the children something important to do on their summer days while also learning about our local history. I am very proud of the performance and all the adults and museum staff that brought our history to life. This was the eighth production of the play. The last one was presented in 2017 and well-attended. Relatives of Madame

Continued, page 7

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. We have a 700-word limit.

Letters can be sent to emailed to
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At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Alto Branch, 6071 Linfield Ave SE. For additional information call 616-784-2007.

Scrabble for Seniors,

Fri., Aug. 12 from 1-3 pm. Sit down and enjoy a word game, unplugged, with other fans. For 18+ and skill levels welcome!

Family Storytime

Mondays 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Read and sing together as a family. Enjoy stories, music, movement and rhymes that develop early literacy skills. For ages 0-5 with parent or guardian.

Early Childhood Playgroup

Fri., Aug. 12, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Join Kent ISD Early Childhood Playgroup for crafts, rhymes, songs and more! For ages 0-5 with a parent or guardian.

All Aboard! Book Discussion

Thurs., Aug. 18, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Join a fun, informal discussion of great books. This month, we'll discuss The Pull of the Stars by Emma Donoghue. For adults 18+

Tiny Gardens Succulent Bar

Thurs., Sept. 8, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Learn expert step-by-step instruction on creating and caring for your own tiny succulent garden. Limited space available; please plan to arrive 15 minutes early. For adults 18+

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ABCs of Lowell history

The Lowell Area Historical Museum is introducing a new weekly series. Each week we will explore the history one of the buildings in the downtown Historic District.

Address: 101 E. Main
Date Built: 1884
Builder: B. G. Wilson
1st business: United States Post Office

The post office was located on the bridge at the center of town. The addresses were numbered from here; to the right was East Main and to the left was West Main.

A fire in 1884 destroyed the original wooden post office on this site, as well as 14 buildings to the west, one to the east, and four across the road. This brick building was built by B. G. Wilson that same year. Sixteen-year-old Ernest Graham worked as one of the bricklayers on the project. Ernest



Rural mail carriers drove horses and buggies. In the winter, the wheels would be taken off and sleigh runners put on. Carriers identified in this 1909 photo are: Lew Morse, Bill Kerekes, Bill Flynn, Ford, Fred Barnes, Post Master Guy Perry, J.K. Moore. The words "Post Office" were cast into the ornamental cornice placed on top of the building.

was son of Robert Graham, builder of the Museum building and a future architect. The foundation of this two and a half story Italianate building is secured on pilings driven into the Flat River.

The building served as Lowell's Post Office from 1884 to 1939, when a new Post Office was built on N. Broadway. From 1884-1908, the second floor housed the photographic studios of George L. Wilson, William Judd, and Milan Wilson.

In 1916, the post office temporarily moved to the Music Hall, on the

east side of town for 30 days, so that alterations and improvements in the building and the installation of up-to-date equipment could be accomplished.

In the early 1940s after the Post Office had moved,

repair shop in the 1970s. It later became the Serenity Club. Decorative iron work was added to the front of the building in July, 1970 to emphasize the New Orleans' theme associated with the Showboat. This building was



Elmer Pletcher is pictured in his Rural Mail Carrier uniform, which he wore in Lowell between 1915-1925.



it became a Gamble Store. In 1946, Bruce McMahon and Ed Reynolds bought the building and operated a men's clothing store. From 1952 to 1970, it was Avery's Jewelry. Hans Fischer ran a piano and nickelodeon

the last remaining example of that theme, which was once popular in Lowell. In 2022, the building is being renovated to begin its new life as a restaurant.

area churches



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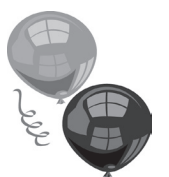
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897-7168 • www.fbc Lowell.org
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor
Pastor Andrew Bolkcom • Pastor of Discipleship
Christi Swain • Director of Children's Ministries
SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM (Nursery provided)
LIFE GROUPS11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
897-7060
Pastor Ryan Landt
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Website: calvarylowell.org
Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
Weekly Prayer Meeting - Mondays7 PM
Barrier-Free

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



AUGUST 3
Rebecca Heinicke, Kelsey Brenk, Hillary Smith, Becky Lamberson.

AUGUST 7
Barbara Wright, Jaimi Smith, Steve Newell, Don Grummet.

AUGUST 4
Irene Willmarth, Scott VanDyke, Cody Bieri, Nick Tykocki, Thomas H. Mahalic, Joann Childs, Kayleigh VanKeulen.

AUGUST 8
Jennifer Kimble, Chris Goggins, John Rasch, Allen Hoekstra, Sharell Wolf, Debra Lenneman.

AUGUST 5
Robin Abel, Stephen Martin Jr, Grady Nowak.

AUGUST 9
Pamela Esparza, Steven Burrows.

AUGUST 6
Jessie King, Kim Foster, Steven Vickers.



outdoors

homework

Dave Stegehuis

Camping has become very popular with vacationers seeking to explore outdoor experiences in Michigan. Travel along any major highway and one will observe all kinds of recreational vehicles traveling north and south across the state. Owners of these R.V.s had to make a choice of what to purchase from a great number of makes and models.

Casual observation on the road and at campgrounds reveals the travel trailer as the most popular unit out there today. As trailers became lighter and towing capacities for smaller vehicles higher, travel trailers gained a large share of the R.V. market. Tents were used exclusively at one time because that was about the only option for living off the grid. Next

came the pop-up fold out tent camper. Reasonable cost and towability of a pop-up provides a practical solution to get off the ground with built in heating and cooking appliances. Larger more powerful trucks and placing the tongue weight over the axle allowed for towing bigger 5th wheel trailers with lots of amenities. Slide-in pickup campers have been around for a long time, although never very popular. Pick-up campers have little room inside but do allow a truck to pull essential cargo such as boats and horses as well as providing the basic amenities of a trailer or motor home. Motor coaches come in all sizes and configurations. They have also been around a long time and for some folks provide a home away from home.

This large selection of R.V.s presents prospective campers with the task of making a decision on what would be the best unit to meet their needs and expectations. There is no simple answer. One should consider making a list of camping priorities such as cost to buy and maintain, frequency of use, tow vehicle, number in party, storage requirements, and anticipated camping activities and conditions.

All camping options have advantages and disadvantages depending on intended use. That is why manufacturers find it profitable to offer a variety of styles and configurations. Do plenty of homework before making a final decision. Making a good choice could provide years of enjoyable outdoor experiences.

Continued from page 5, To The Editor

Laframbois attended and we have a picture of the cast with them in our museum.

A big thank you to the staff and entire cast and volunteers who made this play a success. Looking forward to another presentation that will be in a few years.

Thank you,
Janet Twesten, museum docent
Lowell

Dear Editor,
In response to 'In My View' in the July 27 edition of the Lowell Ledger.

So let me get this straight. Our infrastructure is in a mess because "someone else is not paying their fair share"? Give me a break. Haven't heard that one before.

Scott Kooistra
Lowell

To the Editor,
I am skeptical. The exiled Dalai Lama believes it is a good thing. I understand it promotes inquisitiveness, honesty and accountability. Dialogue is necessary for a democracy. Factual debate is healthy and avoids derisiveness. Understanding is possible. I applaud your efforts to maintain a forum.

I've observed that the three council meetings about eviction from the city's N. Washington house were never reported on: every other meeting has been. I doubt complicity and expect integrity. We weren't invited

to the eviction decision on 1/03; perhaps neither were reporters. It is unethical.

Skepticism arises without answers. I refuse to believe the city is taking serious action (eviction) without a plan! There is a plan and they are negligent in their duty to be forthright. Our experience goes back to 2005-07, when public involvement interfered with Light and Power's expansion and the council's expectations of development, sewer line and road. Hundreds objected and citizen's will prevailed: Light and Power moves, leases are extended, North County Trail established a park, ensued named Scout in their honor. There should be pride in that community's legacy. Something worked well. A manager's and council's plans are slowed immensely by citizen inurement. I accuse the manager and council of stone-walling.

The questions should never stop. Some have asked by many but the answers have been cloudy and evasive. What are the boundaries of Scout Park? Are they secure for the future? Are there acres to sell to a developer? If so, how many units are possible? A city lot in this district is 9750 square feet or will it be allowed to go up? Is the septic solution or sewer line? That is the worst scenario for Vergennes' residents on this road. Annexation and development would be

inevitable. Taxes and traffic are sobering! Neighbors, please get involved.

To slow things more, which is good, the issue of pollution on this property needs to be resolved. In 2006, I submitted an informal report citing 16 sites of known and probable contamination. The worst I witnessed: a 55 gal. barrel of transformer oil (PCB's?) rust out and away. The E. Kelly water well here was oil lubricated for decades. Equipment hydraulic leaks; leaky transformers, and chemicals associated with pole storage all need to be addressed. The MI DEQ's visual inspection with report WDS ID#482148, concluded no action necessary then. That action has to come with possibility of sale. Mr. Burns recently mentioned this may be scheduled for testing. Why now? My concern is that water flows just feet below the surface to nearby springs and river.

This wealth doesn't belong in some developer's bank. These varied habitats, next to a country-scenic river (PA 231 1979), connected to state land with a North County Trail, allows us all to become scouts of the natural world. All of this belongs in our "saving's bank" gaining interest. With help, it can improve. It can't be replaced.

Gary Dietzel
Lowell

Change your address and phone number online with my Social Security

If you receive Social Security benefits, the easiest way to change your address and phone number is by creating a personal *my Social Security* account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Once you create your account, you can update your contact information from your preferred location. This feature is available for people who receive retirement, survivors, or disability benefits, along with Medicare enrollees. If you receive Supplemental Security Income, you can check the address that we have on record with your account.

Visit our *my Social Security* webpage to get started. To create an account, you must:

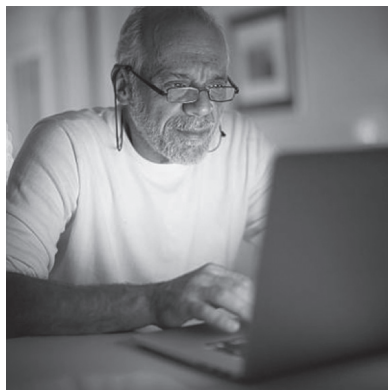
- be at least 18 years old.
- Provide a valid email address.
- Have a Social Security number (SSN).
- Provide a U.S. mailing address (includes military addresses, APO/FPO/DPO, AE, AP, or AA).

Once you have a valid email address, you are ready to create your personal *my Social Security* account. When you visit *my Social Security*, select the "Create an Account" button. You will have the option to create your new *my Social Security* account with one of our two credential partners: Login.gov or ID.me.

- Login.gov is the public's one account for simple, secure, and private

access to participating U.S. government agencies.

- ID.me is a single sign-on provider that meets



the U.S. government's online identity proofing and authentication requirements.

Please note, if you already have a Login.gov or ID.me account, you can select the appropriate button to sign in with either one and access your personal *my Social Security* account. If you previously verified your identity with Login.gov or ID.me, you don't need to do so again. If you

don't have a Login.gov or ID.me account, please select the "Create an Account" link to start the one-time registration process.

If you create a new Login.gov credential, we will still complete the identity verification part, so you will need to provide some personal information to us. You will also receive an activation code from us to complete the process.

Remember, you can do much of your business with us online at www.ssa.gov/onlineservices.

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 vonda.vantil@ssa.gov



The Lowell Rotary Club

is accepting grant applications from local non-profit organizations seeking financial assistance with projects. Grant eligibility requirements and the grant application can be found at our website www.lowellrotary.org if you have any questions email us at info@lowellrotary.org. Applications must be received by Aug. 10




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MAKING PATIENTS FEEL LIKE FAMILY

Continued from page 1, Attic Find

that connected Kyle, Caitlin, and Tom Doyle.

Caitlin related that she and Kyle were really intending to buy a house in Grand Rapids (we can forgive them for that, right?). They both love history, and when they discovered this unique old home while killing time looking at homes online, they decided they wanted to look at it in person. They bought it in June of 2020. A short time later, they were up in the attic sifting around in the ancient insulation up there and discovered what turned out to be a treasure trove of items relating to Thomas' branch of the Doyle family.

"It took a while for us to understand whose



Kyle & Caitlin: Kyle Kooyers and Caitlin Hopkins

Two elements contributed to the confusion in trying to establish who should have all the documents, notes, pictures

19th century and early 20th century, which caused a little bit of confusion since Caitlin and Kyle knew the Doyle family lived in the home starting in 1930. Don, who worked at King Milling for decades, helped tie-up loose ends when he connected them with Tom's cousin, Brian Doyle, the president of King Milling, who was able to direct the couple to the right branch of the family.

In addition to being very pleased and grateful for having the items from the past turned over to them, Tom Doyle and his

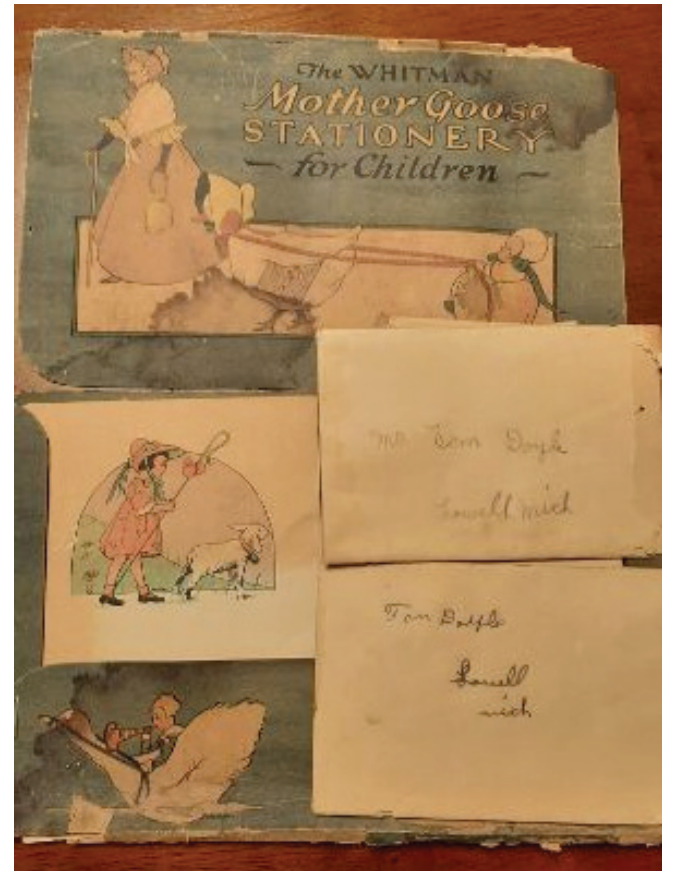
meeting in person for a while, but on July 1st, they all got together and took a tour through the home.

"We saw the bedroom where Tom's dad grew up," Susan commented. "He carved his initials in a couple of places around the house and it was neat to see that."

"I know very little about my uncle Tom," Doyle said. "Now I can read his letters from high school. The treasures found in the attic are really special, but the best part is the new friends made and conversations we have had about family, friends and living in this great town."

Even though they are in their thirties, Kyle and Caitlin have a great appreciation for history, antiques, and the importance of connecting material items to their rightful owners.

"I know the feeling when you can get your hands on something that was once owned by your great-great whoever," Caitlin stated. "It felt so right to bring these



Some notes for Tom Doyle's grandfather, Thomas.

has spurred them on to learn more about, not only family history, but Lowell history as well. Tom Doyle reported that he is now connected

history. Caitlin and Kyle spent many evenings, during the summer of 2020, reading editions of the Ledger from 1890 to the 1920s.

They reported that the Doyle name showed up very often and helped them understand the significant role the family played and continues to play in the Lowell area.

All the parties involved mentioned their appreciation for the newspaper archives, the Kent District Library - where you can access the newspaper archives at www.archives.kdl.org, and the Lowell Historical Museum. We would

like to thank Don Lehman for not only connecting the parties involved, but also for bringing this fun story to our attention.

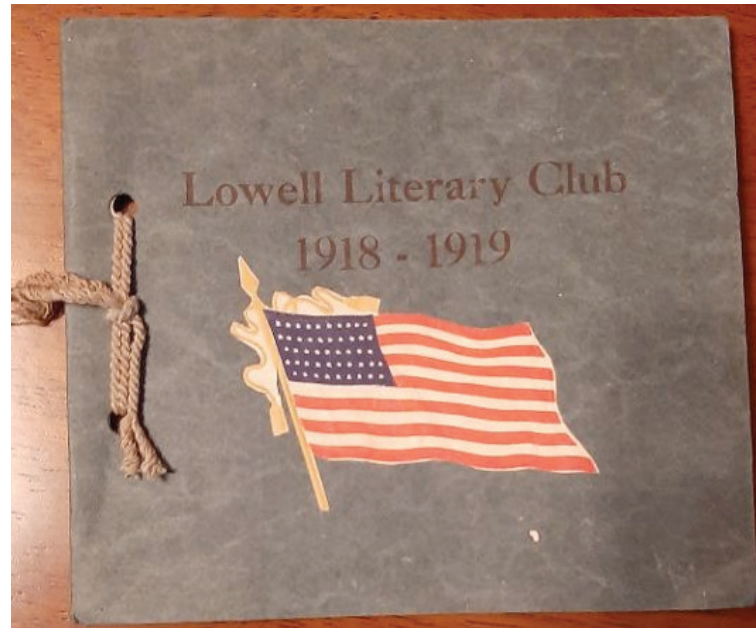


The Doyle attic archives included over 100 pages of homework assignments.

items these were," Caitlin recalled. "At that point, we were doing a lot of online searching to uncover

and other things that were found in the attic. The name "Doyle" appeared on some items. However, the Doyle

wife Susan were both very excited about connecting with Kyle, Caitlin, and Don Lehman over the internet

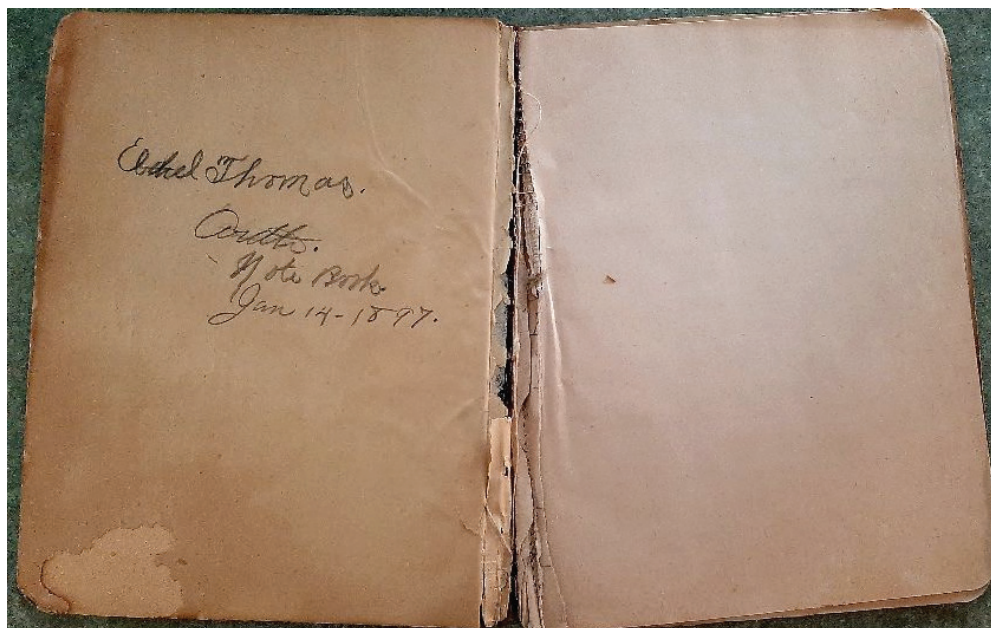


A scrapbook of collected poetry dated 1879.

artifacts and clues from the past to the present family, to keep that connection alive."

The icing on the cake of this story goes beyond the fun part of some family

with a distant cousin in Arkansas, Kathryn Jackson, who is 93 years old. Tom thinks that the group photo found in the attic might have been taken in Arkansas.



This journal, kept by Tom Doyle's grandmother, had all the pages removed.

the history of the home, with the help of our very knowledgeable neighbor, Don Lehman."

name is fairly common in the area, and secondly, the dates on some of the found items were from the late

and phone calls, and then actually meeting them in person. The pandemic got in the way of everyone



Tom Doyle thinks this group photo might be of distant relatives in Arkansas.

artifacts being restored to present-day members of the family. We heard from both sides how the experience

He also related that he has been taking advantage of the Lowell Ledger archives to search for more family

Show Local Businesses Some Love!

Continued from page 1, Fallasburg Village Celebration

could be found within the walls of the well-shaded schoolhouse. Lowell's resident lepidopterist, Liam,

of saving Monarchs. He was able to pass out 150 packets of milkweed seeds in the three hours he was there.



Sound Dog Sugaree, Wenger, checks the wiring under the stage. Photo by Jill Wenger.

with the help of his parents Will and Betsy Lopez-Wagner, had his Amigos for Monarchs information booth set up there.

Members of the 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Company F, took full advantage of the abundance of shade trees around the school to set up their recreation of a civil war encampment.



Bruce Mathews

historic village items on display or to sit behind an old schoolhouse desk," reported Betsy Lopez-Wagner. Whatever their motivation for coming into the school, they heard from Liam about the importance

The schoolhouse closed in 1962, so Bruce and Craig thought it would be fun to limit the tractors and cars on display, at the other end of the village, to pre-1962 vintage.

There were plenty of



Four sack racers blast off the starting line. Photo by Kate Nelson.



Some of the vehicles on display were non-motorized. Photo by Kate Nelson

outlets for kid energy with three-legged races, water balloon toss, hoop rolling, and sack races throughout the day. Did we mention the Scavenger Hunt? When it was time to refuel the family, Miss P's Catering

in sales. The Boy Scouts manned the parking lots and raised an additional \$800 for the FHS.

There was musical accompaniment provided by five local musical groups: Eli Roe, Bruce Matthews,



Visitors learning about Fallasburg Village at the diorama. Photo by Kate Nelson.

was onsite with wallet-friendly lunches for only five dollars. Julie, Rita, and the volunteers helping them,

Rin Tarsy Duo, and the Easy Idle Band. The music was able to be heard pretty much all over the village,



Miss P's was busy all day.

were busy all day. Fonger reported them as the top fundraiser with over \$2,300

thanks to the sound system and speaker placement expertly done by John and Jill Wenger of Clear Sky Technology, with special help from A-1 Sound Dog Sugaree.

The FHS Board could not have been more pleased with the results of their first effort.

"We wanted to let folks know about the beautiful Fallasburg Village. I feel that we accomplished that and much more. The museums were crowded, the music was great, the car and tractor show had some beautiful pieces of history," Doll noted. "Something magic happened though; people saw people that they had not seen in a long time, people made new friends, kids of all ages played and learned about the history

of Fallasburg and had fun doing it."

Both Doll and Fonger could not say enough about all the people and businesses

is a Lifetime Achievement award given to FHS past-president Ken Tamke. This award will be titled the Ken Tamke Lifetime



Eli Rose, Rob Leonard, Lindsay and Eric Bredin.

who got involved in this brand new event. They were full of appreciation for everyone who answered their calls and stepped up to volunteer time, money, or in-kind contributions.

Fonger summed it up, "The names are far too many, to mention here, that made this event a success. Again, thank you to all who made this event a reality. Your efforts are leading us to carry out our mission."

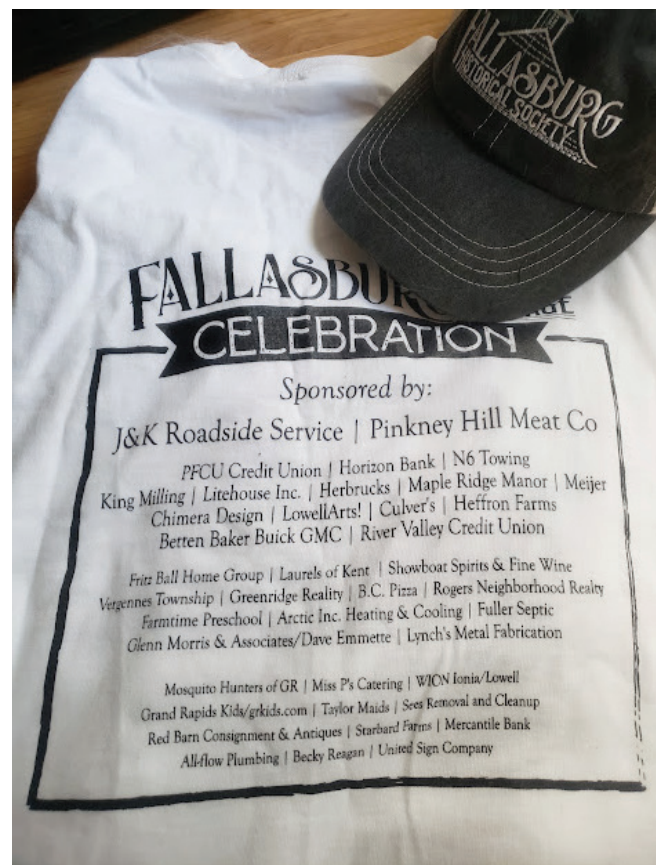
The day brought the introduction of two new annual awards that will be presented by the FHS. First

Achievement Award going forward. Also introduced was the Schoolhouse Volunteer Excellence Award - this year's recipient was Doug Wilbur. For nearly 50 years, Wilbur has worked quietly and tirelessly behind the scenes to help keep Fallasburg Village looking good. Wilbur lives in the village with his wife Laurie, who was lending a hand with hot dog sales.

Doll wanted to make sure everyone reading this was invited to the Celebration next year on July 29, 2023. Mark your calendars.



Liam Lopez-Wagner inside the school house. Photo by Betsy Lopez-Wagner.



Spiffy Souvenirs purchased at the event.



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Emotions can be contagious

Did you know that you can pick up/mimic the emotions of others? It's called emotional contagion (EC). Emotional contagion is when you observe the emotions of another person and take on these emotions as your own. An example of this is in team sports when the coach gets the players all "fired up" for a game. EC can be positive or negative, depending on the direction your emotions are being influenced.

The Effect of EC

There are various

degrees of EC. If you are generally around positive individuals, you will be more likely to feel more energized, less stressed, and overall happier. Of course, the opposite can also be true, as noted below from some research studies.

Research conducted on this topic concludes that:

Depression in a romantic partner/spouse can result in the other partner also feeling depressive symptoms.

Being raised by anxious/fearful parent(s)

can result in anxiety and fear in the child.

Children raised by a parent(s) with depression have a higher rate of being diagnosed with depression.

A controversial, well-known, large, real-world social network study, collected over a 20-year period, suggests that longer-lasting moods, such as depression or happiness, can be transferred through social media networks [Fowler JH, Christakis NA (2008) *BMJ* 337:a2338]. Their study shows when reducing the amount of positive emotional content in the News Feed, people produced fewer positive posts and more negative posts, and when negative content was reduced, the opposite pattern occurred. This suggests, emotions

expressed by others on social media can, and do, influence your emotions.

EC isn't just limited to family and friends. Businesses use it for marketing purposes. EC happens in communities, at school, at work, and as noted above, in team sports and social media, etc. For instance, have you ever had a great manager that left, only to be replaced by one that was not so positive? In a short amount of time, the new leader changes the atmosphere from a productive, content, positive one to a non-productive, negative, and toxic one. Just as harmful is that if negative EC continues, there can be long-term effects on your overall wellbeing because emotional health can, and does, affect your physical

health.

So, the simple solution is to just keep positive people around you, right? This isn't always possible and even positive people at times feel negative emotions. Also, due to our brains negativity bias, experts believe it's easier to "catch" negative emotions vs positive ones. I've shared in other articles that we have a negativity bias which links negative emotions to possible safety issues. Picking up on and evaluating negative emotions is tied to survival, so the brain is more attuned to negative emotions, such as fear, pain, anger etc. While safety is not as much of a concern as in the past, this negativity bias is still a useful brain function.

Awareness

Connecting with others

is part of our natural instinct, and being able to read other people's emotions is a key skill when communicating, to help decide on appropriate reactions/responses, and at times, to provide needed empathy. So, what can you do about EC? To start, be aware of the instinct to copy the emotions of others. You can learn to evaluate others emotional states without taking on the emotions yourself. It just takes awareness and practice. Also, work to limit toxic people's influence in your life by having healthy boundaries in place so your overall well-being is not jeopardized. This article is not meant to treat or diagnose. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

Guest Column

Runaway (fiction)

By Harlen Coben

by Alison Yarger
Staff Writer

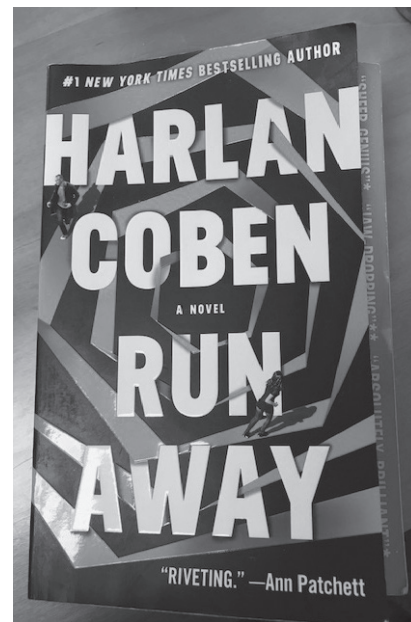
Having been a fan of Harlen Coben's intrigue and murder mysteries for years, I realized I'd not read *Runaway*, published in 2019, so thought since I'd picked the book up for 50 cents, I'd give it a go.

I certainly was not disappointed in the majority of the book, but I'm still stymied by those authors who believe it necessary to bring any politics into a story, especially when it has no merit. As another reader pointed out from chapter two, "The profile avatars of his 'supporters' had either eagles or American flags on them." "Terrific," Simon said.

"The psychos are on my side." This tells me the author's protagonist believes anyone displaying an American flag must be psycho? Is it truly necessary to disseminate intolerance and ignorance? What point does this serve to insult those people who aren't "psycho", when the same thing could have been achieved while leaving out that passage? This proclivity doesn't make for a better book.

Sounding much like, as a friend said, a "Liam Neeson" movie, the book covers the overachieving beautiful daughter, Paige, dropping out of college and running away with her drug dealing boyfriend;

the parents, Simon and Ingrid, desperate to save her, confronting the boyfriend's supplier; mom, a pediatric physician getting shot and slipping into a coma; dad continuing to search for Paige, ad infinitum.



Thrown into this mixture were two very odd and seemingly

strange concepts: DNA genetic testing like 23andME, as well as a far-fetched religious cult run by TRUTH, its own version of Jim Jones, sans the Kool-Aid. Wrapped up in this offbeat group were two hired killers.

With Paige studying genetics at college, one could understand the correlation, but the necessity for weaving a cult into this went over the top.

So with the negativity of the book out of the way, I do have to say that Coben never fails to entertain me in his fascinating mysteries. There are so many twists and turns in the book, some rather predictable, that the story keeps your

interest. There aren't many characters in the book however, that the reader can relate to, let alone, like very well, unless it's Paige's younger siblings.

Coben is a very talented storyteller, and I do have to remind myself that his many books have kept me absorbed over the years. There are always well-written lines like, "Once one lie is let into the room, even for the best of reasons, a whole bunch more will ride in on its back. Then those lies will gang up and slaughter the truth." And, "They say time slows down at times of great danger, most like Neo being able to see and dodge bullet in *The Matrix*. That was just an illusion of course. Time is constant. But Simon remembered reading that this particular time illusion was caused by

how we story memory. The richer and denser the memory of an event, for example, during moments when you are terrified, the longer you perceive that event lasted." Coben's insight into the human mind and spirit are astonishing, which makes his writing well thought through, allowing the reader to contemplate certain issues.

Throughout the story, the same complicated question arises: What do you have to sacrifice in order to save your family? And, at what cost?

Fans of Coben will enjoy this book, save, perhaps, the overdone cult issue. What amazed me in reading this was not just the variation throughout the story, but the in your face surprise ending. I'd give this 4 stars out of 5. Although not Coben's finest book, it was unquestionably engaging.

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4H: Not Just about Showing Animals Any More

by Bill Lee
Contributing reporter

Scott Tetzlaff did not belong to 4H when he was a youngster, but when his son started asking about it, he thought it would be a good time to get involved. The former Boys Scout volunteer and outdoor adventure leader started the Kent County 4H Club about four years ago and has since been its leader. Serving about ten children, ages 5-19, in the Greater Lowell area, The Kent County 4H Club does a lot more than have children care for and show animals. "It's more than just farm animals," said Scott Tetzlaff. "We do have kids in our group that

4H club that is just doing farm animals, even though we also do animals. We have rabbits and goats and poultry."

According to 4H's website, the program began over 100 years ago to help young people and their families develop skills to help with their personal growth and to help with their communities. The four Hs stand for head, heart, hands and health. "In 4-H programs, kids and teens complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and civic engagement, in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged

children's interests. "If there is anything you're interested in, there is a place for that, whether it is Ham radio or model building or even gaming," said Tetzlaff. "If they want to do something, we'll figure out a way to do it. Also, we do a lot of different activities.

To be clear, though, the youth do still work with animals. Fair season begins in August so the children are doing everything to get ready for the shows. They take care of the animals – rabbits, goats, poultry and even dogs -- learn about them and work with them

involving costumes and obstacle courses.

All parts of the Kent County 4H Club are positive and that is what Tetzlaff

judge or performing in front of a group of people and the knowledge that you learn from various activities."

If a young person or an adult volunteer wishes to get



have animals. That's in a lot of people's minds, that you have to have an animal to join, but you don't. There are tons of other activities to do. Our club is also an adventure club, so we go on adventures. We may go camping or go to a zoo or wildlife area. We also do survival activities. We're a little different from a normal

to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4-H in every county and parish in the country through in-school and after-school programs, school and community clubs and 4-H camps."

Scott Tetzlaff takes pride in the fact that the Kent County program is tailored around the



We do canning and all kinds of projects, and we have some writers, musicians, and actors. They all do projects in that field, as well to broaden their horizons."

to do some showmanship, eventually doing it at a fair in front of judges. The animals have to prepare for specific routines for its breed. Also, there are fun competitions



is a fun way for the children to learn new skills, work together, and have fun at the same time. It's a positive experience," said Tetzlaff. "The groups are very positive to each other. It is a great place to learn to speak to others; talking with a

involved or has questions, they can contact the Kent County 4H Extension Office at their website <https://www.canr.msu.edu/kent/4-h/>. The office can help fit your interest into a group that is out there.



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obituaries

BEACH

Pastor Richard A. Beach, age 92 from Lowell, went to be with his Lord on July 31, 2022. He was preceded in death by his son, Richard C. Beach; grandson, Michael R.; daughter-in-law, Sue Beach; brother, Kenneth Beach; and sister-in-law, Gerri Beach. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Eileen; children, Sharon (Jake) Hoover, Marsha Beach, David (Cynthia) Beach; grandchildren, Jennifer (Chad) Tolson, Brianne (Matt) Schuiteman, Ryan (Maryann) Graham, Andy (Lyndsey) Graham, Katharine (John) Smith-Buckler; great grandchildren, Cooper, Easton, Brody, Brock, Cade, Owen, Evan, Whitney, Taylor, Leah, Hadley; brother, Lowell Beach; sister, Marilyn (Karl) Huffman; sister-in-law, Jeannine Beach; and many nieces and nephews. Richard graduated from Grand Rapids Theological Seminary, and Wealthy Street Bible Institute. Visitation will be 6-8PM, Thursday, August 4, 2022, Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson St., Lowell, MI 49331. Funeral service will be at 11AM, Friday, August 5, 2022, at First Baptist Church of Lowell, 2275 West Main St., Lowell, MI 49331, with visitation one hour prior. Pastor Jon Pickens officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church of Lowell.



gerst
FUNERAL CARE
Roth-Gerst

The Marin Family Opening Outfitters Store this August

by Bill Lee
contributing writer

Luke and Rachel Marin have been thinking about opening a business for a while and even had come up with a name when their second son Finnian was born. When Luke's mother

and Consignment store. The outfitting store will offer new and consigned outdoor equipment for hunters, fishers, hikers, campers, kayakers and more. Luke and Rachel Marin, owners of the new store, are excited

for hunters and fishers, right here in town, that they regularly need," said Marin. "We will also carry live bait, as there seems to be a need for that, and also want to provide equipment/food for hikers. There are a lot of

led us here," said Rachel Marin. "Luke is leaving a career in plumbing, which is scary. Now we have kids and it's kind of crazy for him to be a guide. It's a way for us do our passion while also raising our family and



The Marin family in front of their new store. (From Left to Right) Luke, Fisher, Finnian, Rachel and Elowyn Marin

passed last year (and his father over twenty years ago), it became a time of reflection for the Marin family. "While grieving her, we realized you never really have as much time as you think you have to make your dreams come true," said Rachel Marin. "If we want this, we have to go for it and do it now... so we need to jump or we're going to be saying this forever."

Opening at 98 East Main Street, sometime this August, will be the new Fish and Finn Outfitters

to be following their passion for the outdoors, and Luke has extensive experience as an outdoor guide. Trained in Wyoming, Luke was a hunting guide in Texas for many years.

The Marins are hoping to tap into the strong amount of local outdoor enthusiasts in the Lowell area. Instead of driving 45 minutes to a Cabela's, they hope the local outdoors men and women will come by their store to find everything they will need at a good price. "We want to carry things

hikers who come through because of the North Country Trail, but there are also a lot of hikers that live in Lowell and we'd be a good place to fill or refill their packs."

Luke and Rachel know there is some risk to leaving their steady jobs to start this new venture, but they are excited to bring their passion and experience to the outdoor enthusiasts in the Lowell area and are looking forward to many years of serving the community. "Our past has

being involved parents. It's a balance."

Mostly, the store will sell new and consigned goods for all the outdoor sports, but eventually, they plan on carrying consigned youth athletic gear for sports like soccer, baseball, lacrosse, football, and other sports. They plan to open their doors sometime in mid-August but are presently accepting used outdoor equipment for consignment. Please go to their Facebook page for more details about how you can connect with them.

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Michigan motorists encouraged to buckle up as seat belt use remains just under 93 percent

Michigan's seat belt use rate has increased slightly, from 92.6 percent in 2021 to 92.9 percent in 2022, according to results from a grant-funded direct observation study conducted by Michigan State University.

"Seat belts are the foundation of every effective traffic safety strategy," said Alicia Sledge, interim director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP). "We continually remind drivers and passengers of all ages to

buckle up, every trip, every time."

The survey results come just a few weeks after the Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center confirmed that there were 1,131 traffic fatalities in Michigan during 2021, the highest total since 2005.

To help address the situation, the OHSP is funding a statewide campaign through July 31 to enforce seat belt, speed limit and impaired-driving laws. The OHSP also has produced two new

commercials, titled "Perfect World" and "Something Stops You." Both ads focus on the importance of seat belts.

Michigan's highest belt use rate was 97.9 percent in 2009. Every one percent increase in seat belt use means an estimated 10 fewer traffic deaths and 100 fewer serious injuries.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the nationwide seat belt use rate was 90.4 percent in 2021. The NHTSA requires states to

conduct annual seat belt observation surveys to determine belt usage.

Michigan's 2022 direct observation survey also included driver use of electronic devices, encompassing both talking with a handheld or hands-free device and/or typing. The rate of drivers using an electronic device was 6.1 percent, down slightly from the 6.4 percent rate in 2021.

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misc.

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sales

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wanted

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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Grid of puzzle solutions with words highlighted in black.

Grid of numbers for a crossword puzzle.

Large grid of puzzle solutions with words highlighted in grey.



The Restless Viking

The World Less Traveled
With Chuck & Martha Hayden
www.restless-viking.com

~ The Vatican

by Martha Hayden

Giovanni, our guide, met us outside the gate of Vatican City's wall in February 2020. (Our visit to Rome preceded the world shut-down, due to Covid-19.) Giovanni's enthusiasm for the intricate art showcased in the Holy City was inspiring. From the moment we entered the hallway lined with

carve the clothing into flowing cascades. His talent was recognized during his lifetime, which was unusual. He had been the only artist to have a biography written while he was still living.

In 1972, a man broke off part of Mary's face and arm. It was carefully



as he passed away on April 6, 1520, at 37-years-old.

Sistine Chapel's History:

The Sistine Chapel was built in 1470, commissioned by Pope Sixtus IV, which gave the chapel its name.



Installation of Raphael's tapestries at the Sistine Chapel. Photo courtesy of the Vatican Museums.

artifacts, I was astounded too. I thought about how the church had funded most of the artwork during the Renaissance period. I was drawn in by the uniquely detailed renderings from five-hundred years ago. The displays were fantastic.

As a twelve-year-old in Holland, Michigan, I had seen the replica of The Pieta. Since then, I have been eager to learn facts about the artist, Michelangelo. Giovanni told us of Michelangelo's talents and strong-willed attitude. I was captivated. Giovanni rattled information, as I stood in a daze. I felt like we'd transcended time, as we stepped back 500 years where lives were lived and art was created to honor the past.

Michelangelo

It took Michelangelo two years to carve the Pieta from a single block of marble, which he'd chosen at the quarry. In an ego-driven mood, he signed the statue "Michael Angelus", in reference to Archangel Michael. This angel is a leader, who acts as a 'captain' to other angels and will defeat Satan in the end of days. With embarrassment, Michelangelo vowed to never sign another piece of artwork. He kept his word.

Unlike the previously stiff-structured sculptures, Michelangelo was able to

repaired. Now the sculpture stands behind bulletproof glass, with a corded off viewing area, in St. Peter's Basilica.

The Sistine Chapel

Giovanni found a bench in the pinecone courtyard in the center of the Vatican. Here he explained the history of the Sistine Chapel to prepare us for our silent tour without photographs.

Raphael Tapestries:

Giovanni's eyes were wide and he held a smirk of excitement. "As we enter the Sistine Chapel, we will be in for an amazing experience! The remaining twelve Raphael Tapestries are on display. It is the first time since the Renaissance!" These pieces were reunited and displayed for only this one week to celebrate the artist's 500th birthday.

"We have waited for the celebration of 500 years of Raphael's death to give the opportunity to share the beauty that is represented by the tapestries together in this beautiful, universal place that is the Sistine Chapel," the director of the Vatican Museums, Barbara Jatta, told Artnet News On View. Sixteen tapestries had been commissioned by Pope Leo X in 1514. Raphael completed these for St. Stephen's Feast Day, December 26, 1519. Unfortunately, Raphael never saw these on display,

Cardinals have gathered here since 1492, hosting papal conclaves. These prayer meetings have been held to vote for a new Pope. A special chimney is used to show the public the results of each vote that takes place during the days-long conclave. Black smoke signals that a two-thirds majority hasn't yet been reached. When white smoke appears, it shows that our world has a new Pope.

From 1508-1512, Michelangelo (33-37 years old) painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. He had been working on Pope Julius II's tomb when asked to paint. He was reluctant, as he viewed himself as more of a sculptor.

Here he depicts a God who is connected to the human race. Up until this time, God had been represented as being aloof and unconcerned with humans in artwork, until Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. Some theorize that the shape behind God is that of a human brain showing God giving humans intelligence.

Michelangelo actually painted standing up, contrary to the 1965 film, "The Agony and the Ecstasy." He had designed a set of scaffolding for himself and his crew to paint the frescoes.

Along the top of

the Sistine Chapel are rectangular paintings which display the profits of Jesus. The triangular frescoes above these show the genealogy of Jesus.

For over five centuries, the frescoes have held up well. In 1797, there was a nearby explosion of gun powder and a piece of the 'Noah's escape' fresco crashed to the floor.

The Last Judgement Painting

At 62 years old, Michelangelo was invited back to Rome to paint "The Last Judgement" on the back wall of the Sistine Chapel. This shows the second coming of Christ and His judgement on the people. There are 300 figures in this final work of Michelangelo. It caused quite a stir among the group of Cardinals.

After eleven months of work, the Cardinals put a stop to Michelangelo's painting, reporting that "This looks like a typical pagan orgy!" Biagio da Cesena, the Pope's master of ceremonies, was upset as well. Cesena spoke ill of Michelangelo and insisted that this work was disrespectful.

In the center the painting shows the second coming of a beardless Jesus, who is casting his final judgement on the people. Mary is at his right side. She is looking at all those who are being saved and raised

from their graves by angels. Flanking Christ are John the Baptist and Peter, who are holding the keys to Heaven. Below Jesus (on the right) is Saint Bartholomew, who had been martyred when he was killed by the flaying of his skin. He is holding his skin, which carries Michelangelo's self portrait.

Charon is seen bringing the damned to Minos at the gates of Hell. In a mocking way, Mino's face closely resembles Cesena's (the master of ceremonies who had complained vehemently about Michelangelo) complete with donkey ears.

In 1560, Pope Pius IV had ordered that fig leaves were to be placed over the figures' genitals. When restorations commenced from 1980-1999, the fig leaves were carefully removed, as well as layers of dirt and grime from centuries of exposure.

As we wove our way around the room, the mumbling of the crowd steadily became louder. Suddenly, a suited man standing near the entrance bellowed, "Calmatevi!" (Italian). Shoulders stiffened in the crowd and people turned their heads toward the guard. "Tranquilla!" (Spanish): "Calmer!" (French): "Quiet!". Individuals side-eyed others in their groups, sharing their worry for being scolded. I had been illegally

clicking a few photos and became nervous about being apprehended. I casually glanced toward the exit and there stood Giovanni. I nodded my head toward the door to show Chuck it was time to leave. He answered with a smile and nod. We silently followed Giovanni.

More Tapestries

With a hop in his step, Giovanni brought us down a hallway. "Here are some tapestries that you'll be allowed to photograph." Giovanni broke the silence. These were intricate weavings which captured expressions just as if they had been painted. I marveled.

The Cartography Hallway: Miracles of God and Scientific Knowledge:

Giovanni always explained the significance of an area before we entered so we could fully appreciate the history of the artwork. Pope Gregory was originally a Dominican Priest who wanted to demonstrate the miracles of God alongside the knowledge of science. He commissioned this cartography hallway with glorious maps and stunning relief artwork on the ceiling.

The Scala Sancta - "The Holy Stairs"

Around each corner and down every hallway the reverence was evident as

continued, page 16



"The Scala Sancta", the Holy Staircase, was the very place where Jesus had climbed to face judgement by Pontius Pilate. Respectfully, people ascend these stairs on their knees.

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

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!

KINDERGARTEN WORD SEARCH

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

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

Puzzle solutions on page 13

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------|
| ART | FLASHCARDS | RECESS |
| CHILDREN | FRIENDS | SCHOOLING |
| CIRCLE TIME | INTRODUCTION | SIGHT |
| CLASSMATES | KINDERGARTEN | STUDENT |
| CUBBY | MANIPULATE | SUPPLIES |
| CURRICULUM | NERVOUS | TABLES |
| DESKS | PLAY | TEACHER |
| FIRST | READING | VOCABULARY |

Guess Who?

I am an athlete born in California on August 3, 1977. My love for football began at age 4 when I saw the NFC Championship game. I am the all-time leader in Super Bowl appearances and I've set numerous NFL records.

Answer: Tom Brady

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to kindergarten.

U T Y H O

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Youth

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

CLUES ACROSS

- Female parent
- NY city
- Israeli diplomat Abba
- Surrounded by
- Car part
- Simple aquatic plant
- Tough skin of fruit
- Finnish lake
- Composition
- Very willing
- One and only
- Cluster cups
- Famed Hollywood director
- Score perfectly
- Important lawyers
- Undivided
- Part of the foot
- Spun by spiders
- Married woman
- Reagan's Secretary of State
- Instruments
- The A-Team drove one
- Short-tailed marten
- Oil organization
- Predecessor to the EU
- "Hotel California" rockers
- Color at the end of the spectrum
- Actress Ryan
- Digital audiotape

- Expression of creative skill
- Dog-__: marked for later
- Israeli city __ Aviv
- Fencing sword
- Turkish title
- Wise individuals
- Cold wind
- Popular type of shoe
- The territory occupied by a nation
- Tattle
- Chop up
- Actress Zellweger
- Romanian city

CLUES DOWN

- Female of a horse
- Bowfin
- Chinese dynasty
- Small venomous snake
- Global news agency
- Common fractions
- American state
- Tired
- Boxing's GOAT
- Made less severe
- A group of countries in special alliance
- God of fire (Hindu)
- Northeast Indian ethnic group
- Anchor ropes
- They __
- Apprehend
- Autonomic nervous system
- A theatrical performer
- 2-door car
- Partner to flowed
- Pair of small hand drums
- Former Houston footballer
- Discharge
- Former women's branch of the military
- Partner to cheese
- Witch
- Live in a dull way
- Satisfies
- Snakelike fish
- Consume
- Type of student
- Erase
- Instruct
- Girl's given name
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Every one of two or more things
- Indian city
- Greek letters
- Weapon
- Geological times
- Cycle in physics
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Witness

Continued from page 14, Restless Viking

we toured silently through sanctified areas.

As Jesus climbed the 28 stairs, his blood fell in three places, which are marked with medieval crosses. The original marble steps have been covered with wood to allow many visitors to

use for prayer.

Striking Artwork

The vast amount of intricate artwork kept my attention. "Wow! Look at this!" Every hallway and nook displayed unique installations. "Oh my!" I'd say. I continued to capture

huge space had many grottos along the sides, containing tombs and niches for praying. One niche included the Pieta by Michelangelo, which was mentioned at the beginning of the article.

Below this sanctuary holds the secret archives

military was tried for heresy and blasphemy during the Crusades. The documents are stored safely here. It is reported that the Fatima Apparition secrets are held here as well.

St. Peter's Square

We pushed the heavy doors open to reveal a damp courtyard, St. Peter's Square. I recalled watching television as a child and witnessing the Pope performed mass to a crowded square full of devote individuals. It was an honor to stand here surrounded by statues of saints.

Along the top of the walls are one hundred-forty saints of the Roman Catholic church. These were constructed by Bernini between 1656 -1667, as the courtyard was constructed under the watchful eye of Pope Alexander XII.

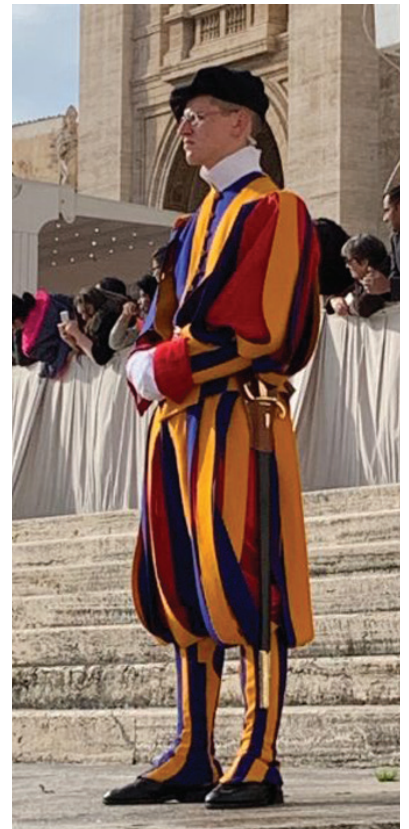
The Swiss Guard

The Swiss Guards were started in 1506 by Pope Julius II. The troop's purpose is to patrol the Vatican. Currently, there

are one hundred-thirty Swiss Guards. Qualifications to join the Swiss Guard include being a devout Catholic who completes his first training courses in Switzerland. One must be between the ages of 19-30, 5 feet 8 inches tall, with a high school diploma.

Once arriving in Rome, the elect must successfully accomplish five weeks of additional courses to receive the rank of "Halberdiers." This name comes from the Halberds, which are weapons carried since the 14th century.

The candidate's family is invited for the ceremony and then has a private audience with the Pope. After one more year of coursework and learning Italian, the candidate is then ready to go on "Honor Duty" and wear



Swiss Guard at the Vatican. Photo courtesy of Father Libby.

the Gala uniform. "Honor Duty" is when the guard is holding the halberd in his hand. He should not be approached. If the guard is holding his hands together, facing the crowd, it is safe to engage him and ask him questions.

The Vatican Hotel

Thank you for joining me on our visit to the Vatican. Giovanni's knowledge and enthusiasm gave us insights into the artifacts and ancient times that we would have missed touring on our own. The fact that Giovanni himself had to stop and take pictures is proof that there's so much to absorb when taking an excursion in a place with an incredibly long history.

Resources:

Father Libby Holy Rosary Church, Cedar, Michigan

<https://news.artnet.com/exhibitions/the-sistine-chapel-raphael-tapestries-1783185>

<https://www.cnn.com/style/article/vatican-holy-stairs-jesus-intl/index.html>



The altar is said to contain St. Peter's remains, which are buried underneath. Also, the secret archives are stored under the altar as well.

devoutly retrace Christ's path to judgement.

At the top of the stairs is a prayer room called, "The Holy of Holy." It has been kept for the reigning Pope to

numerous pieces with photographs.

St. Peter's Basilica

Entering St. Peter's Basilica was unlike any place I'd ever been. The

with sensitive documents. Some include the "Chinon Parchment," which are the minutes from the trials against the Knights Templar. The Roman Catholic



The Last Judgement is the final painting by Michelangelo.



The Book Of Genesis portrayed by Michelangelo on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

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