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Lowell Senior Neighbors honor Veterans

The Lowell Senior Neighbors honored Veterans with a free lunch on Friday, November 11. Each Veteran introduced themselves and what branch they served in, and Terra Bieneman, Lowell Center Coordinator, read a Veteran's poem before dinner together. After dinner, everyone gathered for a picture on the porch.

Pictured top: Jerry Kinyon, Phil Matux, James Breen, Richard Polderdyk, Richard Thomas, Glenn Marks, and Vickisu Condon; Bottom: Dave Thompson, Walt Nickless, David Maltman, Bill Donley, Herman Weststrate, Ken Adamy.



Lowell Area Schools' Gough and Beachler receive awards

Courtesy of Lowell Area Schools Facebook page

Lowell High School principal, Steve Gough, has been awarded a Service Award for School Administrators by the Michigan Association for Media in Education for making a unique and sustained contribution toward furthering the role of the school library and its development in a school program. He not only

supports and encourages reading during the school day, but he participates daily. He has become an expert on collection development and challenged materials policies, and strives to promote access to library materials.

Michigan Association for Media in Education (MAME), has announced that the 2022 Roger Ashley Freedom to Read Award

was presented to Christine Beachler.

The MAME Roger Ashley Freedom to Read Award recognizes an individual or group who demonstrate exemplary support for our First Amendment rights: the right to read and listen, and the right to express ideas without governmental interference.



Nate Fowler, Lowell Superintendent, Christine Beachler, Lowell Library Media District Director, Steve Gough, Principal of Lowell High School. Photo courtesy of Katherine Pfeiffer.

2022 Lowell Holliday Lighting Competition

Lowell Light and Power and Lowell Rotary Club hosting the annual Lowell Holliday Lighting Competition. This is the fourth year LL&P and Rotary have teamed up to put on the contest. Lowell residents and businesses are invited and encouraged to decorate their home or business and compete for a prize package, trophy, and most importantly bragging rights.

To enter, dream up your holiday wonderland and make it come to life through decorative lighting on the outside or your residence or business, and notify Lowell Light and Power that you would like to be entered into the contest by phone at 616-897-8402, by email to customerservice@lowell-light.org, or via Facebook message.

Deadline for entry is by December 12th. Judging will take place between December 12-16. One residential and one commercial winner will be announced the week of December 19th.

"It's a really fun community event to support the Rotary Club

projects benefiting the Lowell community," said Charlie West, general manager of Lowell Light & Power. "We look forward to the competition each year."

Betten Baker is sponsoring the trophies this year. The winners will receive prize baskets filled with Christmas-themed items donated by Rotary members. Plus, the winners will receive recognition in The Lowell Ledger, as well as, on LL&P's Facebook and Instagram pages.

To assist residents with their holiday lighting endeavors, Lowell Light and Power offers Holiday lighting rebates to its customers in the amount of \$4 per strand on indoor and outdoor LED holiday string lights.

More information for the event and the Holiday Lighting Rebate can be found on Lowell Light and Power's website (www.lowell-light.org) and Facebook page (Facebook.com/lowelllightandpower), or by calling the office at 616-897-8402.

Arrowhead Golf Course gets go-ahead from Vergennes Township on expansion

By Justin Scott
Sporter reporter

No, Topgolf is not coming to Lowell. Considering the nearest Topgolf to Lowell is in Auburn Hills, well on the other side of the state, and considering what Arrowhead is envisioning, well, let's just say, there might be some excited golfers in the area in the near future, however.

Following nearly a year of discussion with Vergennes Township's Board, Arrowhead Golf Course, located at 2170 Alden Nash Ave., north of town, received unanimous approval to move ahead with their expansion idea.

"We are looking to add an indoor component to our driving range that will allow us to operate all year-round as well as open the doors to a new and dynamic experience on the driving range," Arrowhead Golf Course owner, Josh Bruwer, said of the project.

Topgolf brought the concept of year-round entertainment and golf together, something that, here in the midwest was pretty foreign, given the cold weather nearly one third of the year. As of 2021, there were seven TopGolf locations in the United States. Each location has hitting bays, where you aim at targets that light up if you hit them. This, combined with TVs, cutting edge technology, and food, have made them popular

destinations.

"There are some similarities to what we're planning, but on a much smaller scale. We love the idea of families and groups being able to participate in private booths and still be in a social atmosphere. It's a new way to enjoy the game of golf."

The end goal would be a two-story building fitted with indoor hitting areas, called bays. With three walls behind and to the golfers sides, these bays allow golfers to hit out into a driving range, from a heated area, to allow for year-round use. The course would like to add indoor golf simulators, allowing for potential winter golf simulator leagues, and a full menu of food and drinks. Similar facilities exist at both the Golf Emporium (Greenville) and Maple Hill (Grandville), but Arrowhead is hoping to perfect the idea of indoor golf here in Lowell.

It is a plan that hit early obstacles. Before the building could commence, there was a lot of behind-the-scenes discussions that had to be done, and much of it happened with Vergennes Township, where the golf course is located.

"We worked with the township for about 13 months in order to address all of their concerns. There have been many, many hurdles that we have had to overcome, and likely, many more to come. That is

to be expected on a project like this. We'll just take it one step at a time, and steadfastly, keep moving the project toward completion.

Some areas of discussion over the near-year-long back and forth included lighting for parking in the rural area, hours of operation, and lighting of the driving range, itself, during night hours. Ultimately, the measure passed with unanimous approval during the October 17th meeting. A large group of Arrowhead members, friends, and employees were there to support the course.

The golf course, itself, will not be changing; rather, the driving range area would be. Over the past decade, changes to the golf course include a remodeled clubhouse, introduction of the driving range, and simultaneous introduction of new holes 4 and 5, which replaced two holes phased-out because of the

driving range. Arrowhead has existed as a golf course in Lowell since the early 1960's, when it was founded.

"It will definitely bring a lot of excitement to our facility. It allows us to evolve as a facility in this new era of golf-embracing technology. It will also allow us to operate year-round. A by-product of operating year round, we will be able to retain key employees that we may have lost in the past due to not having any work opportunities in the winter months," Bruwer added. Most of the golf courses employees are local to the area, and due to seasonality, are mostly high school and college students.

Golf in Lowell has been through some changes over the past few years, notably, with the closure of Deer Run Golf Club on Cascade Road. The closest golf courses to Lowell, outside of Arrowhead, sit

in Caledonia, Belmont, Belding, and Ada. Bruwer also owns Morrison Lake Golf Club in Clarksville, just south of Saranac, with Morrison Lake and Arrowhead serving as sister courses. It is through Bruwer's work with the Lowell High School Girls Golf team where this idea came up.

While the high school does have some indoor facilities for golfers, often during the offseason, teams have to leave Lowell to travel to other indoor facilities to work on their game.

"I coach the girls golf team at Lowell and I originally wanted to figure out a way to leverage the golf course to help the kids work on their game over the off season and provide them with as many opportunities as possible to improve. I wanted to find something that could benefit our athletes but also give our loyal customers a new and

exciting way to enjoy our facility.

With the explosion of technology in the game of golf, many opportunities presented themselves that not only can help with game improvement but also entertain. We looked at this project as a way for Arrowhead to evolve as a facility for our long-time customers, the golf team and a way to bring new folks to the game of golf," noted Bruwer.

The course has begun discussions with builders and hopes to have the new expansion ready to go for the winter of 2023.

"This is going to be a lot of fun. People are going to love it and it is going to be a great thing for our community. It really just reinforces one of golf's endearing qualities of being a game and experience that can be enjoyed together across generations. This will allow even more of that. We look forward to folks of all skill levels and ages continuing to enjoy our facility in new ways, as well as how they have always experienced it in that past," Bruwer concluded.

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your child and issuing their first Social Security card. We are there during times of hardship and tragedy to provide disability, spouses, and survivors benefits. And we're there to help you celebrate your retirement, too. We're



here to serve you online, by phone, and in person in our local offices. You can learn more at <https://blog.ssa.gov/we-remain-committed-to-serving-you/>. Please share this information with those who need it. Happy holidays!

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

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NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE, Lowell
Seeking Applications for Board and Commission Appointments

Vergennes Township is accepting applications for the following Board and Commission positions; Board of Review, including alternates, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, LARA citizen representative and Construction Board of Appeals.

Application forms and a summary of job descriptions may be obtained on the township website www.vergennestwp.org (left column 'Quick Links' click on 'forms and applications' then 'Application to Boards, Commissions & Committees'), by emailing the clerk at clerk@vergennestwp.org, or at the township offices located at 69 Lincoln Lake Ave NE, Lowell, MI 49331.

Deadline for application submission is Thursday, December 14, 2022 @ 12 p.m. Applicants will be considered at the December 19, 2022, meeting of the Vergennes Township Board.

Shantell Ford
Vergennes Township Clerk

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Giving Tuesday – a message that circled the globe

By Cliff Yankovich
Contributing writer

Ten years ago, an idea to promote giving was hatched at the 92nd Street YMCA in New York City. In the decade since, the simple message of Giving Tuesday has spread across the US and around the world. The foundation for the movement was simple and brilliant: Make Tuesday a day that encourages people to do good and to celebrate generosity.

What began in a YMCA meeting on the East Coast has now spawned a global network of people collaborating all year-round to inspire the spirit of giving, with a mission to make generosity part of everyday life. What a great mission statement.

The annual Giving Tuesday will be observed on November 29th this year. Many people have heard about the annual observance in the news or maybe as a reminder from a charity or non-profit group that they support. In the Lowell area, we might hear about Giving Tuesday from one of the many non-profits that make our town special, like Lowell Arts, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Pink Arrow Pride, or our Historical Museum.

One of the most powerful aspects of my favorite small town ties in nicely with this subject, Lowell is a generous community. When bragging about Lowell, it is fun to tick-off some examples of our giving nature, like Food Fight, Pink Arrow Pride, that has been copied around Michigan and across the country, or the Englehardt Fund that has benefitted our community in so many ways. We have Senior Neighbors, a Gilda's Club, and the waiting list to get into Schneider Manor is very, very long. Every year, the Look Foundation gives

away thousands of dollars to area non-profits. Our small town gives BIG.

When it comes to giving, it is not all about the money, even if that is the measuring stick that usually comes to mind. Donating money was not the beginning and ending the people who started Giving Tuesday had in mind, far from it. They promote and encourage all kinds of giving and sharing. Their broad concept includes something as simple as sharing a kind or encouraging thought with a neighbor or friend. Another idea they promote is volunteerism. When we give our time to causes or groups that help people, animals or the planet in general, we can do our part in making the world a better place for everyone. When you think about any of the organizations that make Lowell special, almost all of them are volunteer-powered. Look behind the scenes at FROM or Lowell Arts and you will see small armies of men, women, and kids who give of their time, talent and energy on a regular basis to keep such organizations moving ahead and helping the community in general. It is fairly safe to say that any of the organizations in our area, that help in some way, would welcome you, your time, and talents as enthusiastically as they would welcome a monetary donation.

The internet opens up even more opportunities to give on any Tuesday. Maybe your schedule or life situation does not allow you the free time to consistently donate hours or days. There are a myriad of ways to "give" that do not require such commitments. Do you love and want to protect the Great Lakes? Get involved with one of the many organizations who feel the same way. Send emails to

elect officials encouraging them to consider what is best for our environment, when they face certain issues. Simply helping to spread the word on social media, about an issue that touches or enriches your life, can be a form of giving. Something as simple as an

examples of giving that have nothing to do with money. One page I landed on has this great message: "Every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to give."

One of the best parts of any act of kindness or generosity is that you will

benefit as much, or even more, than the person, cause, or organization to which you gave. There are multitudes of studies that clearly demonstrate the benefits can impact givers. It can activate the reward center in your brain. Generosity and giving

will reduce stress, make you feel happier, and in general, improve your life satisfaction.

Pick a Tuesday, any Tuesday, and do what you can do to turn it into a Giving Tuesday.

Together we give.
Nov 29, 2022
GIVING TUESDAY

email that offers thanks and/or encouragement to someone you know is a form of giving that will bring a smile to both the sender and the recipient. The folks behind Giving Tuesday would greatly appreciate you tagging your online efforts with the hashtag #GivingTuesday.

A great place to launch your Giving Tuesday efforts would be to spend some time at their website: www.GivingTuesday.org. Their web pages are loaded with

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CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing at Lowell City Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 7:00 PM concerning a proposed amendment to the City's Zoning Ordinance within Chapters 14, F-1 Floodplain Overlay District and 14A, River's Edge District. The following provides a summary of the proposed amendment and its regulatory effect:

- Section 14.02 – Delineation of the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone:
 - Updated the effective date of the Flood Insurance Study for Kent County to February 23, 2023 and added reference numbers for the City's Flood Insurance Rate Map index panels.
- Section 14.04 – Additional Standards for Development:
 - Add the terms "filling, grading, mining, dredging, paving or storage of equipment or materials" to be included as types of development.
 - Replace "Department of Natural Resources" with "Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy".
 - Removal of language pertaining to nonresidential structures.
 - Replace "Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA)" with "Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)".
- Update elevation regulations throughout to reflect the minimum construction elevation at 1 foot above the 100-year floodplain.
- Section 14A.05 – Additional Standards for Development:
 - Replace "Department of Natural Resources" with "Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy"

At the above time and place, all interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Written comments concerning the proposed amendment may be mailed or delivered to the Lowell City Clerk, 301 East Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331 up to the date of the public hearing. Copies of the proposed ordinance amendments may be viewed at City Hall at the address noted above during normal business hours.

The City will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services to those with disabilities planning to attend upon three (3) days' notice to the City Clerk. Individuals who require such services should contact the City at the address listed above or by telephone at 616-897-8457.

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Listening to your intuition

Intuition is called many things such as a gut feeling, instinct, inner voice, or sixth sense but what is it really? Oxford defines it as “the ability to understand something immediately, without the need for conscious reasoning.” Intuition can help us navigate through some difficult situations, decisions, uncertainties and potential pitfalls. Some entering adulthood ignore or don’t notice intuitive signs. Others have learned to hone their intuition and use it to their advantage. Intuition is a good tool to have at your disposal to help you navigate life.

Different Opinions on Intuition

Some believe our intuition keeps us safe and guides us to make good decisions and life choices, by bridging the conscious and unconscious parts of our mind, along with our instinct and reasoning. Some believe that intuition is based on emotions, so trauma, perceptions, mental illness, fear, etc., can skew a person’s intuition so it can’t always be trusted without further evidence. Not having more evidence can lead to risky or bad decisions and choices.

I’m not disputing either belief and feel both are valid. Our intuition is another tool we have at our disposal to help guide us. Sometimes we only have time to make a quick decision and the best tool we have is our

intuition and reasoning skills. When time permits, I’m in the trust, but obtain more information, camp. I don’t want to overestimate my knowledge or abilities or have emotions possibly cloud my decisions, resulting in a serious mistake. So, while I trust my intuition, when time permits, I prefer to get more information, consult with others, and then analyze the situation to try and make the best possible decision. So, how do you know when your intuition is trying to send you a message?

Intuition Signs

When your intuition is trying to get your attention, it can be with strong or subtle signs. The key is recognizing them. Below are some common signs that your intuition may be trying to get your attention, due to something being off (person, situation, decision, etc.):

- Tight muscles and/or feeling tense
- Increase in heart rate
- Nagging thoughts that won’t go away

- A feeling of unease or uncertainty, or that something is off or not right
- Feeling tired, drained, stressed, or uncomfortable about a situation, decision, or person
- Stomach ache, butterflies, or nausea
- Sweaty or clammy palms
- Tightness in the chest
- A feeling of being weighed down or having a heavy weight on your shoulders or chest
- A sinking feeling

- The hair on the back of your neck raises or you feel shivers or goose bumps but you are not cold
 - You day dream and/or dream at night about similar things over and over.
- Below are signs from your intuition that you are most likely on the right track with a decision, action, person, or situation:
- An overall feeling of calm with relaxed muscles
 - Clarity and a sense of peace
 - A feeling that a huge weight has been lifted from

your body (shoulders, chest, overall)
Intuition is just one tool we have at our disposal to help guide us toward making the best possible decisions. If you are not hearing your natural intuitive signals, there are ways you can tap back into this sense. You can read my past article on “Honing Your Intuition” or google this topic for suggestions and tips. This article is not meant to treat or diagnose. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

outdoors

unexpected

Dave Stegehuis

Venturing out on a hunting expedition usually leads to a series of unique experiences. Wild game have unpredictable habits and movements. Everyone knows the variability of Michigan weather.

There are many memorable events in my own experience which have occurred over years. While lying on a steep hillside along the Flat River waiting for daylight, footsteps in the dry leaves became louder as something unseen in the darkness came closer and closer. The coyote suddenly stopped and sniffed the top of my head and then bolted back into

the darkness. In Quebec, a black bear ran me off a caribou kill and proceeded to dine on caribou steak, while I hunkered in the large rocks along the shoreline of the George River and ate my baloney sandwich. Its O.K. to share. Another time, I hastily vacated my ground blind, when a skunk came to visit. At the break of dawn on opening day last week, a porcupine the size of a basketball ambled toward my box blind then disappeared under the floor. The porky ventures out at night and returns in the morning. The animal didn’t mind sharing the shelter with me and will probably spend

the winter there. Who’s going to argue with the quill covered creature; not I said the fox, not I said the coyote, not I said me, so the porky will spend a warm secure winter in the big woods. Then there are usually the antics of squirrels and a variety of birds and rodents to keep one entertained during slow times.

As I get older, I find that I am becoming more reluctant to take the life of an animal and also tend to avoid physically uncomfortable conditions. However, I keep returning to the fields and woods so that I won’t miss out on any special experiences outdoors. Besides, there is always the satisfaction that the Thanksgiving turkey didn’t come wrapped in plastic.

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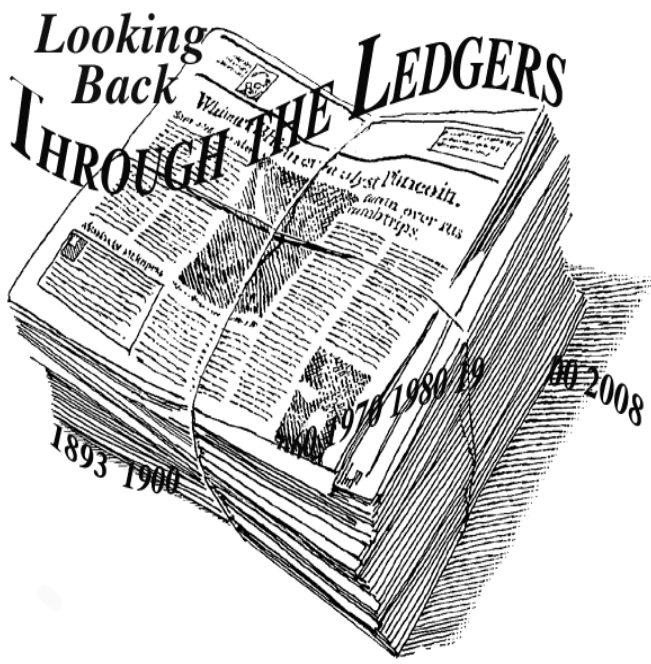
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viewpoint



125 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 23, 1897

The factory building of the old Lowell Furniture company was totally destroyed by fire last Saturday night. Loss on the building and machinery of the Furniture company, \$3,500 with no insurance.

John K. Gavin of Parnell will winter 1,000 bushels of potatoes. He has some idea of going to the Klondike in the spring.

The new stone crusher is at work on John Bergin's place, grinding up road material, and four teams are engaged in drawing the crushed stone to place upon Main Street, where it is badly needed.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 30, 1922

Seward Onan, a well-known Lowell township farmer, aged 53 years, died Sunday at Blodgett hospital, where he was taken after a fall from a scaffold hay loft to the floor, striking on his head and shoulders. His back was broken and internal injuries were received.

Daniel Wingeier, of Alto, passed away and his wife and four daughters continued to farm his 165-acre farm, and pledged to remain there and work it until "Sonny," their 12-year-old brother, was old enough and big enough to swing the job himself.

With the forms ready for the "pouring" of the concrete foundations for his two bungalows, Henry Bank's building program is held up for lack of cement.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 27, 1947

Frank J. McMahon announced to Lowell Board of Trade members at their meeting Wednesday, that Lowell will be one of the few towns in the state with a brilliant Christmas display of colored lights.

An average automobile driver could buy half a year's gasoline supply with the \$70 that is levied by the federal government on new cars in the low price class. -G.M. Magazine "Folks"

Charles Leece, who was critically hurt in an auto accident three weeks ago, is reported getting along well. Pieces of splintered bone have been removed from his leg, but amputation has not been necessary. It is said his injuries will require a three months' stay in the hospital.

Michigan railroad officials are alarmed by the sharp rise in trespassing on railroad property by juveniles

and in mischievous acts by youngsters that have resulted in wrecked trains, deaths and injuries among employees, passengers and the juveniles themselves.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life November 23, 1972

A big buck, toting a 13 point rack with a 19" spread was shot by Sam Noon, while he was hunting near Freeport Sunday. Noon's rack has been entered in Gilmore's Sport Shop's annual contest and could be the winner with a total of 32 points.

The Camp Fire Girls of the Lowell Area are collecting toys to be donated after the Christmas parade, December 2, to the Moose's Operation Santa Claus.

Lowell's first basketball game of the season is just around the corner. Next Tuesday, November 28th, the Red Arrows travel to Ionia to take on the tall, talented Ionia Bulldogs.

The newly-formed Kent County Towing Association will ask the Sheriff's Department for fairer treatment of its members on calls, to spread business around.

Citizens complain that they can't get through to City Hall, so a second phone line is installed.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger November 26, 1997

A fire destroyed the trailer of Arlene Andree's in Key Heights Village on Saturday morning. A stove may have been the cause of the fire.

Local developer, Michael Nosko, has been sent back to the drawing board after his "drastically different" site plan proposal met with mixed reviews from the Lowell Planning Commission.

Lowell Cable superintendent, Paul Christman, called the fiscal year, ending June 30, 1997, an extremely good one. The cable company's net income shot up \$30,184 from 1996.

A candle was the cause of a house fire at 1034 Riverside Dr. early Sunday evening. Due to the power being shut off so that Lowell Light & Power could complete work on the north sub-station, many families

had lit their house with candles. All the family members got out of the home safely.

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the lowell ledger
105 N. Broadway
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to the editor

Letter writer opinions are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this publication.

Dear Editor:

The day started like any other, old Mr. Sun poked his golden orb up the Eastern horizon, signaling to the earth's citizens it was time to stir. But, oh it was a Saturday and many turned over to catch additional shuteye, even the customary alarm had taken the morning off.

This was to be a special day of shopping, laughter, treats, and generally, goodwill. The relatively small community had set aside this weekend to showcase the retail elements that constitute it's Chamber of Commerce. The offerings were not too distinct from countless other hamlets that populate the nation. Gone from the downtowns were the hardwares, clothing shops, and haberdasheries. They joined the groceries and apothecaries who had relocated many years ago. Some had survived, others fell victim to 'big box' retailers, who entered the fray to merely capture the almighty dollar and did little to support the life that was and is, small-town America.

Now, I am one who supports free enterprise. This nation has benefitted from individuals who were

risk-takers. They, and we, have enjoyed life in the land of the free. The promise is for opportunities and there is no guarantee of success, that my friend, is the result of hard work and perhaps more than a little lady luck. No, as I perused the downtown and ducked in and out of a multitude of establishments, I was often greeted by a welcoming smile and a sincere invitation to view the offerings. These folks, for many had placed all their treasure at risk, to become entrepreneurs, and serve the needs of the public.

We have all witnessed towns that failed and were left seemingly abandoned. Boarded-up storefronts and signage from generations ago became their hallmark, to the detriment of all of us. None of us like to be preached to; no, we demand the ability to make a choice. I say to you now, as you venture out this holiday season in search of that special gift for one and all, that you take great care to populate the store on the corner or down the street; I dare say you'll find the perfect gift for friends and love ones. Happy Holidays...

*Roger Royer
Lowell*

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 500-word limit.

**Letters can be sent to emailed to
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Deadline is noon on Mondays**



At Your Local Library

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

Storytime

Mon., Nov. 14, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Nurture your child's love of books and build early literacy skills through stories, rhymes, music and movement. For children 0-5.

Scrabble for Seniors

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

All Aboard Book Club

Thurs., Dec. 8, 10 am - 11 am. Join a fun, informal discussion of great books. This month, we'll discuss Front Desk by Kelly Yang. For ages 18+

Gingerbread Lane

Saturday, December 10, 10:30 - 11:30 am. Stroll down Gingerbread Lane and enjoy gingerbread house decorating. Each child will make a simple gingerbread house. Gingerbread house materials are not for consumption. Space is limited; first come, first served. Doors open 15 minutes before the program begins and you may save one seat for a friend. For ages 0-10

Ready for Reindeer

Saturday, December 17, 10 - 11 am. Traveling all the way from the North Pole (via Rooftop Landing Reindeer Farms), live reindeer will be visiting the library. Dress warmly and don't forget the camera! For all ages.

ABCs of Lowell history

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

Address: 317 E. Main
Date Built: 1910
Builder: William Peck of Lowell Lumber Co.
Owner: J.P. Draper
First business: Dr. J.P. Draper, Veterinary Surgeon & Blacksmith

In October 1910, Dr. J.P. Draper purchased the lots east of the Music Hall and hired William Peck to build a building suitable for a veterinary hospital, livery and blacksmith shop.

A 1912 ad in the Island City Cookbook read: Dr. J.P. Draper, V.S. – Treats all diseases of horses and other domestic animals. Calls Promptly Attended to Day or Night. Office and Hospital in new fire-proof building on Main Street. Blacksmith Shop and 10c Stand-in barn in connection. Office phone 144-2; Residence phone



Peter Speerstra purchased the business from Frank A. Gould in 1944 and continued until 1954. 317 E. Main is the two-story building on the left.

144-3

The building next door was built to be Dr. Draper's stand-in barn for horses.

By October 1914, Fred DeWeert was doing horse-shoeing and general blacksmithing here. Dr. Draper had built another building for his office and

hospital on Washington Street, across from his residence (404 Avery). Dr. James Powell Draper tragically died in 1932 at age 67. He had a headache so he took a nerve medicine made for horses, which contained strychnine. He knew that was the problem and told Dr. S.S. Lee immediately, when he was summoned. Sadly, Dr. Draper soon passed away.

From 1918 to 1954, this building was used for auto sales and service with the adjoining building at 319 E. Main. It housed the following businesses: Arthur Clark's Buick Garage, Bennett & Son's Buick

Garage, Earl Hunter's Star Garage, prior to becoming Frank A. Gould's Auto Sales and Service in 1925. Gould was a Dodge and Plymouth dealer in Lowell for 28 years and was also the agent for Auto Owner's Insurance for 15 years. In 1944, Gould retired and sold his business to Peter Speerstra, who had been associated with him for the previous 16 years. Speerstra retained the name "Gould's Garage" because of its widely-known reputation. He was also a Dodge and Plymouth Dealer.

Lowell Dry Cleaners was listed here from 1955 to 1965, Zzano's Pizza in 1971, Lowell Engineering, and Lowell Auto Body (1985-2005). Flat River Cottage, which hosted a consortium of antique dealers, used this building from 2007 to October 2022.



1948 flood showing Gould's Garage in foreground.

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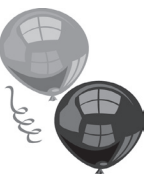
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NOVEMBER 28

Shelly Hildenbrand, Lee Miller.

NOVEMBER 25

Pat Vezino, Amy Swift, Shawn Ayres Hazel, Megan Hewitt, Lorri Myers.

NOVEMBER 29

Gail Thomet, Kelly Sauber, Scott Swanson, Tara Propst, Ethan Pearson.

NOVEMBER 26

John Erickson, Josie Emmette.

NOVEMBER 30

Jason Craig, Todd Ryder, Joe Kiczanski, April McClure.

NOVEMBER 27

Bonnie Vezino, Kim Harding, Marty Chambers, Chad Uzarski, Elizabeth Spies, Heather Burrows, Aaron Rittersdorf, Josh Spencer, Aiden Malone.



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School Board moves on from elections, hears Cherry Creek updates

By Michelle Smith
contributing writer

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education met for its regular meeting, Nov. 14, at the Administrative Offices building.

Voters decided the three open school board seats Nov. 8. The successful candidates are Jared Blough, Jennifer Dougherty, and Patrick Nugent. Nugent ran as an incumbent, and Blough and Dougherty will be new to the board beginning, January 2023.

Emma Sage, the high school student council president, said students have begun a new flex-time program, which sets aside time for students to work closer with teachers and in groups. Sage said the council recently sent representatives to the State of the Student event to discuss mental health awareness.

The Marsha Wilcox Community Service Award was posthumously presented to Lowell resident, the late, Tony Stencel, by Board Vice President, Laurie Kuna. Members of Stencel's family were present to accept the award. Stencel was a sports announcer with Lowell Area Schools. This

award is given annually to a community member who supports public education.

Cherry Creek Elementary Principal, Craig Veldman, presented a report on the progress current third graders are doing academically. These students are being studied specifically to track how they are doing post-pandemic.

Northwest Evaluation Association math and reading scores were compared from the fall of 2021 to the spring of 2022, and in both subjects, substantial improvement was achieved. Veldman said the students' scores were higher than projected, with a growth percentile of 99 percentile in math and 97 percentile in reading. These percentile scores show how these Cherry Creek students scored amongst second graders nationwide.

Veldman said while this improvement is impressive, teaching these children, who missed out on a lot of school experience due to the pandemic, how to be "students" is necessary, too.

"I think it's important that we tell our students, all the time, 'You're more than the data.' And think about what their experience

as a student has been. These second graders were kindergarteners when school was shut down due to Covid. Then they come back for first grade, wearing masks and sitting six feet apart. They need to be taught how to be a student."

Veldman said when these students came in as first graders, their scores were in the 39th percentile in math and 46 percentile in reading. "We were a little concerned about that," he said. "We needed to teach behavior. We needed to teach our second graders what it means to be a student."

Veldman said, math and reading interventionists, and teachers, worked with students to fill in the gaps in the kids' learning in small groups or one-on-one.

An eight-person parent advisory committee has been formed at Cherry Creek Elementary. Representatives from all grade levels, and two representatives from the special education department, are involved. All meetings are open for any parent who wants to attend.

Members of a CCE student leadership team



Family of Tony Stencel: Trisha Propst, Tara Propst, Connie Stencel and Tim Stencel, receive the Marsha Wilcox Award at the Nov. 14 LAS Board Meeting. Nate Fowler and Laurie Kuna (in back row) presented the award. (photo courtesy of Sonja DeDonado)

were part of Veldman's presentation, along with Coordinator of Student Support, Jennafer Slanger. Max Brown and Ellie Burton, both fifth graders, were there to discuss how they became a part of this newly-formed committee and how they hope to be a voice for their fellow students.

Slanger discussed Kids Hope, a mentoring program for at-risk children that is connected to Impact Church. Seventeen mentors have been paired with CCE children to serve as a positive role model, as they meet once a week.

The board approved a bid of \$41,000 from Corporate Live to purchase a new sound board for the Lowell Performing Arts Center. This will replace the current system, which has been in place since the mid-1990s. The new system will have updated technology and more

features, including an option that makes it portable.

Dan Vandermeulen, director of curriculum, reported a program that is facilitated through Fit Body Boot Camp, called The Big Give. This year 98 families with children at Bushnell and Cherry Creek Elementary Schools will be given \$250 worth of presents. This program shops, wraps, and delivers these presents that are preselected by the parents.

Superintendent, Nate Fowler, said the middle school construction is on track to open up the choir room, a corridor, and a new set of bathrooms after the holiday break.

Fowler thanked the community for passing the operating millage on non-homesteads at the Nov. 8 election.

"It was closer than it's been historically, so I think we have some lessons and

some discussion, moving forward from that, to make sure that continues to be part of our operating expenses," he said.

Fowler congratulated the school board candidates on their campaigns and said he looks forward to continuing to work with the board to offer opportunities for Lowell students.

"Our community modeled for our students what it means to live in a democracy and to have an engaged community," he said.

Nugent, who will be serving his seventh term as a school board member, thanked everyone who voted and expressed his thankfulness that the election season is over.

"The election is over. The voters have spoken, and I would ask the community to give our newly-formed board an opportunity to do its work," he said.

New start dates for Medicare Part B coverage coming in 2023

Changes are coming in 2023 for when Medicare Part B coverage starts.

What is not changing:

If you are eligible at age 65, your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP): Begins three months before your 65th birthday. Includes the month of your 65th birthday. Ends three months after your 65th birthday.

If you are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part B or if you sign up during the first three months of your IEP, your coverage will start the month you're first eligible. If you sign up the month you turn 65, your coverage will start the first day of the following month. This won't change with the new rule.

What is changing:

Starting January 1, 2023, your Medicare Part B coverage starts the first day of the month after you sign up if you sign up during the last three months of your IEP.

Before this change, if you signed up during the last three months of your IEP, your Medicare Part B coverage started two to three months after you enrolled.

If you don't sign up

for Medicare Part B during your IEP, you have another chance each year during the General Enrollment Period (GEP). The GEP lasts from January 1 through March 31. Starting January 1, 2023, your coverage starts the first day of the month after you sign up.

You can learn more about these updates on our Medicare webpage at www.ssa.gov/medicare and our

Medicare publication at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf.

Please pass this information along to someone who may need it.

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

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Rogue River Artisans holiday show features a variety of artists

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

The Rogue River Artisans Fine Art & Craft Holiday Show will offer a variety of gifts for men and women of all ages, at the Lowell High School on Dec. 3, from 9 am to 3 pm. Each year, the artists are invited back to participate; the rest of the spots are filled with people who have contacted the organizers, and are then juried.

Artists come from all parts of the state of Michigan, from Falmouth to St. Joseph. "Many come in and make a weekend of it," coordinator Robin White said, "staying in town for

Photos are accepted, showing the artist creating their work, their booth set up or display, and the actual artwork. "With so many people wanting to join the show, it is hard to not select artists," White said.

This year, the show will have 108 booths and many booths have multiple artists, bumping that number of artists to 130 plus. The artwork caters to all types of shoppers, items for young and old, men and women.

The highlights of the show are the incredible talents and creations of the artists represented. Many have become friends and

meeting and shopping at the show. Little ones, from the past, are now the shoppers with their children in tow.

The facility is easily accessible so it allows strollers and wheelchairs with ease and seating in the cafeteria. The lunch and treats available in the cafeteria give shoppers a chance to relax and talk.

"Our hope this season is that we all enjoy the show both shoppers and artists," she said. "With the 'Covid' years, one show canceled and one limited, we are thrilled to resume the full experience for all. We hope we have great attendance."

Robin White, and 20 of her artist friends, started a small holiday arts and crafts show at Deer Run Golf Course where Rick White managed the Golf Shop in the summers in 1983. "We named our group the Rogue River Artisans," White said. "The art show became a hit with local customers. Our patrons were pleased with the talented and diverse group of artists in the show."

Word spread that Deer Run had a great holiday show and the customer base grew in number and geography around West Michigan. In 1996 the show moved to the new Lowell High School where the 2 gyms allowed for a much larger number of juried artists and customers. The organizers began the tradition of having student helpers, from various student activities and classes, help with the show.

A holiday lunch menu became available with the help of the LHS kitchen facility and staff, with great sandwiches, soups, and desserts. Proceeds from the entrance fee go to some Red Arrow activities. "With the help of several Lowell High School staff members we have been able to make some great contributions to LHS students each year," White said.

In addition, the show has become an integral part of the day-long Christmas activities in Lowell, sponsored by the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. The show has been growing steadily for 39 years.

"Both vendors and



Jodee Smith with a customer.



Maxine Shearer is one of the mainstay artists of the Rogue River Artisans holiday show and Christmas through Lowell.

the evening and enjoying the nighttime Christmas parade."

The holiday show attempts do not have too much of an overlap of work and limits artwork to only those items created by the artist.

they all enjoy the talent of fellow artisans. "The festive feeling with shoppers excited about what is shown makes Rick and I very proud of what has evolved over the years," White said.

The other aspect is that friends and family plan on

A team of volunteers works with the coordinators from the selection committee, to the setup, cafeteria help, and parent and student volunteers. The high school contacts and co-chairpersons, are Laurie Summerfield and Julia Crawford.

patrons continually changed over the years but acknowledge this as one of their favorite and best shows in West Michigan," White said. The artists have



Karen Agopian

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Local

Baker mom wins Gingerbread Showdown on Food Network

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

Desiree Gorby of Lowell has won the baking portion of the Gingerbread Showdown on the Food Network, with the futuristic theme, Christmas 2999. Gorby was paired with executive pastry chef, Larome Campbell, from Ritz Carlton in Naples, FL. The team split the prize of \$1,000.

“It was one of the coolest experiences of my life,” she said. “We didn’t want to go too crazy with the theme.” But the team managed to use both traditional elements of Christmas and gingerbread, like elves that will never change and modern cakes in the shape of drones. The challenge was to use a secret ingredient, which were freeze-dried berries. Gorby

three teams, with two members per team, and the entire show required extensive prep work. The gingerbread episodes were filmed in Knoxville, Tennessee, the day after Labor Day.

“I was very surprised to win the baking part,” she said. “It brought so much validation. It was stressful building up to it.” Forty people were constantly on the scene and everybody helped make it happen. “I’ve learned so much,” she said. “It was the last push I needed. It gave me more courage and confidence.”

The baker mom of a two-year-old and a five-year-old sometimes bakes at night and plans to open her own storefront in downtown Lowell as opportunities come. She started baking

While still in school, Gorby worked at Rykes Bakery in Muskegon, and she was the head baker at Ella’s in Lowell in 2013. “She gave me full creativity, as long as I kept the case full,” she said. Gorby learned to make popular items like buckeye brownies, cinnamon rolls, and sugar cookie bars. “Ella was very local,” Gorby said. “I’ve learned a lot of good things like building recipes with top-notch natural products.”

Later she was the head baker at Denny Farms on Jordan Lake Rd., making donuts, pies, cookies, breads, muffins, lemon bars, and cheesecakes. She again enjoyed full artistic freedom as long as the case was full.

In 2018, after a brief stint in California, Gorby was ready to start her own



Desiree Gorby with chef, Larome Campbell.



The winning gingerbread build, with the baking portion made by Desiree Gorby of Lowell.

used them in the filling and to decorate on the outside of the build as an ornament. She also dipped some pieces in green chocolate glaze.

“It was massive,” she said about the build gingerbread house. “We were the first episode to film.” Each episode had

and cooking while in 4H, then Gorby took a Hobby Lobby class, followed by two semesters of Culinary School at the Culinary Institute in Muskegon in 2012 and 2013. “I fell in love with baking and decorating,” she said.

business, Des Cakes under the Cottage Food Law from her house. Among her offerings are: custom cakes, cupcakes, decorated sugar cookies, cake pops, wedding dessert bars, cheesecakes, and wedding cakes. She made her first wedding cake at 16, for her cousin, and

watched it lean in the 95-degree heat. “That’s how I learned,” she laughed.

For custom orders, Gorby needs two weeks lead time, and for weddings, six months to a year. Pick-up or delivery is available. She also has Christmas cookie kits available for \$25; these include 12 sugar cookies in a box, three-colored buttercreams and three containers of sprinkles. People can pre-order items before her Pop-Up Shop in Saranac on Dec. 23.

“I love cheesecakes,” she said. Her personal favorite is vanilla bean cheesecake, topped with just about anything from raspberries, brownies, and chocolate ganache to fresh strawberries.

“My hopes are to have a bakery store in Lowell someday,” Gorby said.

You can watch the episode on the following links:

Food network show link: <https://www.foodnetwork.com/shows/holiday-baking-championship-gingerbread-showdown-episodes/gingerbread-showdown-christmas-2999>

Facebook link: <https://m.facebook.com/100049703651525/>



Desiree Gorby with wedding cake.

You can watch the episode (Christmas 2999) on Discovery Plus or on the Food Network Go App! The next time it airs is December 2 at 9 am.

<https://watch.foodnetwork.com/video/holiday-baking-championship-gingerbread-showdown-food-network-atve-us/christmas-2999>



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- CROSS COUNTRY

SPORTS

Sandman sisters compete in the MITCA Meet of Champions Elite

Submitted by Paul Judd
Girls cross country coach

The 2022 cross country season was extended for two Lowell High School runners, as Annika and Katrina Sandman competed in the MITCA Meet of Champions Elite Team Race, held at Shepherd High School on Saturday, November 12. Eleven teams make-up the race and the coaches of each of these sponsored teams select their team by participating in a "draft," until each 12-person team is complete.

Annika was the first-round selection for team

Running Lab, whereas, Katrina was selected in the fifth round by team Playmaker. Both girls took advantage of a great course as they both nailed personal records, with Annika finishing sixth in 17:41, and Katrina finishing in 44th in 18:45. Annika's finish earned her a spot on the Team Michigan team and the chance to compete in the Mid-East Meet of Champions, held at Rifle Park in Kensington, OH.

At the Mid-East Championship meet, Annika was the second team Michigan finisher, taking

seventh in 18:33. Team Michigan finished third behind Ohio and Indiana. Both races were a great opportunity for the girls, as they had a chance to race with both potential teammates and competitors in a more competitive setting. Team Michigan sent the athletes to Ohio on charter buses and gave the kids an opportunity to make new friends over the weekend.

Pictured: Annika and Katrina Sandman



Hockey squad donning purple and gold this winter

by Brett Bremer

A new era of hockey started for Caledonia Saturday at Southside Ice Arena.

Jeremy Bultema was named the program's new varsity head coach in early summer and the Lowell/Caledonia program is going through a bit of a rebrand. With a majority of the roster from the Caledonia school district, all but two players, the team is now headed by the Caledonia athletic department and will be donning purple and gold as the Caledonia varsity boys' hockey team.

The program remains a co-op with Lowell and Thornapple Kellogg High Schools and will compete in Division 1 during the MHSAA postseason tournament.

"Our district looked at the number of participants on the hockey program and our co-op agreement. We found that over 96 percent of the

participants were Caledonia students," Caledonia High School athletic director, Fred Townsend, said. "So, the obvious thing for us to do was to make sure we were able to continue to grow hockey in Caledonia."

"We want to continue to keep our co-op agreement in place with TK and Lowell, as those communities have helped to contribute to the hockey program and its growth. We love the fact that we have worked with TK and Lowell to help give all students a chance to showcase their skills and talent to bring all three communities together to support hockey."

The team was just 2-21 a year ago, during the regular season, but opened the state postseason with two more wins and came up just shy of a regional championship in a 3-2 loss to the Capital City Capitals in the MHSAA Division 1 Regional Final at Lawson

Ice Arena in Kalamazoo.

This 2022-23 season began with the Fighting Scots falling 6-3 to Byron Center Saturday; team coach Bultema said he expects to be pushing for a Division 2 state championship this season.

Back from the 2021-22 squad for Caledonia are senior defenders, Zach Schneider and Russell Langenburg, and senior forwards, Trevor Vander Molen and Alex Skibinski. They're the only four seniors on the roster this winter.

"We have a large junior group, which is really going to help push us forward and help the growth of the underclassmen," coach Bultema said.

That group of underclassmen is headed by junior goalkeeper, Finn White, junior forwards, Brayden Cramer, Emersen Lippert, Jack VanEss and Griffen Wolverton. White and Wolverton were with

the varsity team a year ago. Cramer has earned an alternate captain's "A" with his work this preseason. Lippert and VanEss are also new to the varsity. Coach Bultema said VanEss is a lacrosse player, playing hockey for the first time and he likes the leadership he has seen from him so far too.

Bultema played high school hockey at East Kentwood. He was a three-year letterwinner with the Davenport University ACHA Division II hockey team, serving two years as a captain, and helped lead DU to its first-ever National Championship at the end of the 2007-08 season. After graduating in 2012, he coached the Davenport program for ten years, serving as the head coach of the DIII team for three seasons.

His son, Rylan Bultema, is among the juniors on the Caledonia roster this winter. Coach Bultema has assisted on some of Rylan's youth teams, but said he hasn't



been his head coach before.

"It's going good," coach Bultema said. "We have a pretty open relationship, so we talk about hockey on and off the ice."

He said they don't have any trouble transitioning from talking hockey to talking homework once practice is through. He also is pretty familiar with a good chuck of this season's roster.

"I had a bunch of kids that were going to play high school on my youth team. So, when I heard the job was open, the transition was fairly easy, especially knowing I'd have some of the young kids I've had for the last year and a half."

In his three weeks of official practice, coach Bultema said he sees a hard-working group that has a lot of fun together.

"With our top two lines, we're going to be very competitive on the front end. We have a solid D core."

"The returning guys, they just make the smart decisions. They don't take runs at guys. They contain very well. Zack Schneider is probably one of the best offensive defensemen in the area. He can rush it up the ice when he needs to. There is a lot of experience back there."

Gaining varsity hockey experience will be key to the success this season, as

a whole, the team has to get better at decision-making on the ice, according to its coach.

"We have been working on that the past three weeks," Bultema said. "We have been going through some systems to help them out there against some of the stronger teams that are probably a little more set, have a little bit more experience than our team does. Decision-making would be the biggest [thing to improve]."

"The way our practice plans work, we actually break down what would happen in a game and see where we're struggling. We did a three-game scrimmage last week and we struggled on the wall a little bit, so we built our practice plan, where we had several guys coming on that winger and he is making a quick decision where he's going with that puck."

The Fighting Scots will compete in the OK Conference's Fischer Division this winter, facing off against Reeths-Puffer, Northview, East Kentwood, Hudsonville and Grand Haven in the conference.

They will play their first home game in Kentwood Wednesday, Nov. 23, against Forest Hills Central. Game time is set for 4:20 p.m. The Fischer Division season starts when the Fighting Scots host Reeths-Puffer Friday, Dec. 2.

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~ canoeing commute

“Hey, let’s go for lunch in Ada. Shopping, too!” Chuck’s eyebrows danced, knowing how I like to eat and shop. “We can take Loki! It will be a trial excursion for our trip down the Mississippi.” Loki is our new freighter canoe. “We can put him in at the fair ground’s boat launch, travel down The Grand River to The Thornapple River and tie him to a tree. It should take an hour or so.” This October Saturday greeted us with a high of 73 degrees. It was a perfect day to motor down the river. I sat at the bow, as we needed to be mindful of shallow areas and underwater debris.

Madame La Framboise – A Remarkable Woman
As we departed west,

Framboise was so successful that her average income ranged between \$5,000- \$10,000 yearly. This provided enough for her children to attend school in Montreal.

Madame La Framboise retired to Mackinac Island and started a school for native children. Her home is now the Harbor View Inn.

My thoughts were interrupted by Chuck instructing, “Grab your paddle!”

Paddling

“Oh, this is too shallow,” Chuck called and tipped the motor out of the water. “Grab your paddle.” He repeated.

Oops! I had been enjoying the surrounding



John Almy. Orson Peck, the ship builder of the John Almy, joined the crowded Lowell riverbank in 1838 to watch his ship’s maiden voyage from Grand Rapids to Lowell. Arriving at the confluence of The Grand River and The Flat River, the John Almy became grounded. Passengers were able to get safely ashore before the John Almy became waterlogged and eventually wrecked.

In 1877, as railroads proved to be more efficient, steamboat rides were seen as nostalgic. The Lillie catered to as many as 200 customers

the Grand River. This wooden span interested us and we needed to learn more about this massive structure.

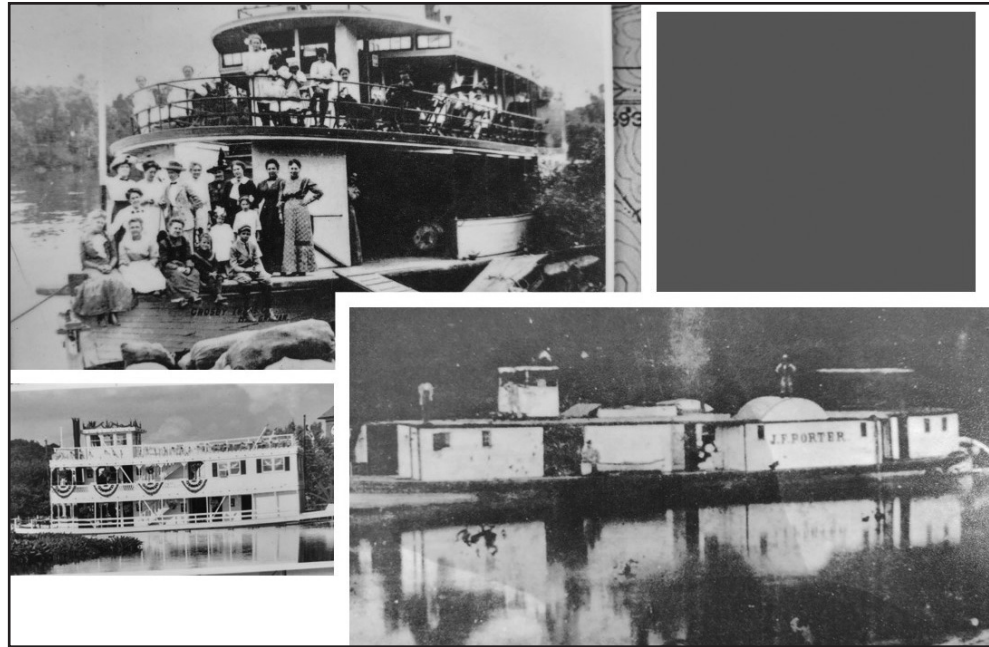
Back in 1999, John Timpson, Supervisor of Lowell Township,

DaViking

“That’s Sister Island,” commented “DaViking.” Who else would take a canoe down a river in late October for a lunch and shopping excursion? My husband, Chuck, DaViking. He holds

mid-1800’s came to mind. Boy, we are fortunate to have modern conveniences.

We met a young Cub Scout selling popcorn. He shared that he has two YouTube channels, so Chuck gave him some



(Bottom Right) The J.F. Porter operated along The Grand River from 1852-1858. This rare photo is the only known image of an early steamboat that had traveled between Lyons and Lowell. Photo Credit: Park Signage from the Lowell Historical Museum.



After locking the valuables, Chuck tied the bow line to a sturdy tree.

I looked eastward and thought about Madame La Framboise and her trading post nearby. Born to a French-Canadian couple, Jean Baptiste Marcotte and an Ottawa Indian, Marie Nekesh, in 1780, Madeline Marcotte learned to speak four languages: French, English, Ottawa and Chippewa. At 14 years-old, she had married Joseph La Framboise. Together they built twelve fur trading posts, which they traveled in a circuit. Within a short span of time, they had two children, Joseph and Josette.

Following her husband’s murder in 1806, she managed these twelve fur trading posts, including the one where The Flat River and the The Grand River meet. All this time, Madeline La Framboise raised her two children alone. During that era, most fur traders annually brought home \$1,000. Madame La

trees’ true colors, thinking about Madame La Framboise and not watching, as the river’s bottom crept close to our boat. Shoving our paddles into the sand, we managed to slide into deeper water.

‘I can’t imagine how Madame La Framboise paddled this area so efficiently.’ I marveled, quietly, as I watched the curled leaves resting on the top of the water. ‘Thank goodness we have a motor and we don’t have to paddle the whole way.’

Steamboats

It was equally amazing to think about the steamboats that traversed these shallow rivers. For two decades, starting in 1837, steamboats conveniently carried passengers along the rivers until railroads were built in 1858.

One captivating story was about the riverboat,

with a \$0.25 steamboat ride from Lowell to Saranac. The advertisement stated a 3:00pm departure, with a return that evening. The journey was considered “Just splendid!”

Clamming and Buttons

Another historical tidbit that caught my imagination as we slid through the water was clamming. Clamming had once been a profitable business on The Flat River, as well as The Grand River. “Why?” you ask. Well, clam shells were used to make buttons. Gus Liebbe operated his button factory from 1934-1946. By 1948, harvesting clams became illegal.

Timpson Bridge

People waved as we slowly motored under the pedestrian bridge connecting two parks along

monitored the construction of South Riverfront Park. He spoke often of building a walking bridge over The Grand River to allow easier access to the South Riverfront Park.

In 2015, the bank-side property, directly north of the park, became available and was purchased. Jerry Hale, Lowell Township Supervisor, and Linda Regan, Lowell Township Clerk, brought John Timpson’s vision of a pedestrian bridge to life. According to the sign, the Timpson Bridge is, “the longest timber framed bridge in North America” and was completed in 2019.

Farms

Similar to the past, Lowell’s rural areas continue to provide space for livestock and growing crops. Some farmland lies adjacent to The Grand River.

an amazing amount of curiosity and knowledge. His confidence spans a vast variety of subjects. I am so fortunate to share this life journey with him!

Arrival in Ada

We arrived in Ada, after 90 minutes or so of travel, using a motor. Reflecting on the previous eras, my admiration for their grit and perseverance sparkled. Our ancestors actually paddled these long distances. I can’t even imagine how long that would take or how tired they must have been. Just sitting in the boat, soaking in the fresh air, gave me a desire for a nap.

The sun was making a speedy westerly decent, so we decided to choose a quick bite from the grocery store deli instead of having a sit-down meal at a restaurant. We would need to get back on the river to make a safe journey in the daylight hours. Again, the

camera time (link below) to advertise his ambitious undertakings. Check out “TyTyBoy17.” Stopping in two clothing stores was enjoyable, but I didn’t find anything that fit the body I currently occupy. Oh well. What’s the deal with crop tops, anyway?

Thank you for joining us on our maiden voyage in our new freighter canoe. Loki proved to be sturdy and reliable. We are looking forward to upcoming capers with Loki as our main source of transportation.

Resources:
Signage stations at the Lowell parks
Madame LaFramboise Article
News 9 & 10 Report



According to News 9 & 10 there are currently 43 species of freshwater mussels in Michigan with 75 percent of them listed as endangered or threatened.

obituaries

BEIMERS

Austin Beimers, age 23 of Lowell, passed away on November 17, 2022. He was preceded in death by his grandma, Charmaine Beimers; and grandpa, Terry VanderWal. He is survived by his parents, Jessica (John) Nave, Keith (Heidi) Beimers; brothers, Zach Nave, Brett Nave; sister, Emily Beimers; grandparents, Glenn Beimers and Linda VanderWal; aunts, Nicole (Jason) Souer, Kara (Simon) Kelley, Sonya (Gail) Beimers;



and cousins, Piper Souer, Flynn Souer, Ethan Kelley, Elliott Kelley, and Emmett Kelley. Austin's life was taken away by cancer at only 23. He fought 4 long years and still lived with humor and smiles every day. He graduated from Ionia High School and got his associates at GRCC Tech. Austin started his own woodworking business, Peg Leg

Woodworking, and made so many beautiful things for others. Austin loved all the doctors and nurses and helping all the sick children at Helen Devos Children's Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 11AM on Wednesday, November 23, 2022, at Roth-Gerst Chapel, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331, with visitation one hour prior. Pastor Ken Ford officiating. Austin always wanted to support the children at the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital; in lieu of flowers donations can be made there. I have lost a life; not my own, but it would have been easier to have lost my own life than to have lost the life that I loved so much.

gerst
FUNERAL CARE
Roth-Gerst

SCUDDER

Robert L. Scudder, age 81 of Ada, MI, passed away on November 20, 2022. He was preceded in death by parents, Jack and Vivian Scudder; and brother, David Scudder. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Geraldine "Geri" Scudder; children, Robert "Bob" (Kathy) Scudder, Daniel "Dan" Scudder; grandchildren, Nicole (Jay) DeJonge, Brandon (Karen) Scudder, Justin Scudder, Cory Scudder, Shaun (Ashley) Scudder, Ben (Lorna) Scudder, Dan (JoAnna) Scudder, Ashley Kurti, Brian (Amber) Williams; many great-grandchildren he loved very much; brother, Larry (Judy) Scudder; many in-law siblings he loved as if they were his own; many nieces and nephews; and caregivers who became family and meant so much to us all.



Robert was an auto mechanic who worked miracles on automobiles, he also was the head mechanic at Forest Hills Public School system and owned and operated Riverside Automotive. He loved boating, his first love other than Geri, and was a wonderful roller-skater in his earlier years. Robert endured almost 8 years recuperating from an auto accident with a TBI. He never stopped loving his family or trying to live life to the best of his abilities. Mass of a Christian Burial will be held at 11am, Wednesday, November 23, 2022, at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave NE, Ada, MI 49301, with visitation one hour prior. Fr. Tom Cavera officiating. Interment St. Patrick Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave NE, Ada, MI 49301.

gerst
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Roth-Gerst

Rear child carrier for sale: memories not included

by Bill Lee
contributing writer

I took off the baby bicycle carrier from the back of my bike last month. For good. My almost four-year old has hit the max-weight capacity and winter is coming; it is very clear to me that next spring she will have her knees up to her ears if I try to squeeze her into it one more season. It's called a Thule Yepp Maxi Easyfit Rear Child Carrier. First off, Thule is a Swedish company, and I'm not sure if over there, "Easy" translates to "Prepare for Bloody Knuckles Installing this Child Carrier." Getting it on three years ago, and then getting it off recently, was no picnic -- a combination of Swedish design and my ineptitude. Like with our daughter's crib, her pack 'n' play, and baby carrier backpack, I plan on selling the carrier on Facebook Marketplace. Be on the lookout.

As a parent, there is this constant battle between hope and fear, when it comes to milestones. We want our kids to begin walking and when they do, we miss them when they crawled, especially when they start bumping into things and falling. We want them to eat on their own without being spoon fed, and when they do, we miss making all those train noises while putting the full spoon to their mouths. We want them, finally, to get potty-trained so we no longer have to lose copious amounts of money or empty the diaper bin, and when they do... okay, actually, that is one milestone I'm glad is over.

The child bike carrier was one of those milestones, and I knew it was going to be a tough one for me. For the last three springs, summers, and falls, my daughter and I shared a bike together. As a family, we biked to playgrounds, restaurants, and little 3-mile sightseeing trips. When she was one and

a half, and we lived in Windsor, Connecticut, we buzzed her around the downtown area and always ended with a contest between me and my wife -- who could coast down, and then up the hill by the library, and hit the plateau without pedaling. Our first summer in Lowell, we explored all the different playgrounds -- including Richards Park, Stoney Lakeside Park, and Grand River Front Park.

Our last bike ride together was October 25, 2022. The hard part was that I knew it would be my last ride with her. Sometimes, not knowing is easier. Just put the bike away for the winter and discover, "Oh, she is too big this spring." But it wasn't like that. The weather was getting cold and fortunately, the day of the ride was perfect -- sunny and almost 70 degrees, possibly the last warm day before we all know what comes next.

That morning, after breakfast, I looked at her and asked, "Hey, do you want to ride the bike to school today?" I was worried she might say no, as she can be a temperamental one at times. Thankfully, she did not disappoint, as she said, "Yes!" very enthusiastically. As I strapped her into the carrier, I asked, "What song do you want to hear?" "Buffalo Soldier," she responded.

We had been listening to Bob Marley's, "Buffalo Soldier," for the last month, to and from school. I tried to sneak in "Three Little Birds" a few times but she would not have it. There was something about "Buffalo Soldier" that she liked. Her school is about a mile from our



The author and daughter on bike two and a half years ago)

house, and when I dropped her off, there was another dad there who struck-up a conversation about my bike, and I couldn't help but say, "Yep, today is the last day. I'm getting it tuned-up tomorrow and then putting it away for the winter."

When I picked her up a couple hours later, that same dad saw me putting my daughter on the child carrier and he said, "Enjoy that last ride."

We did. I took it slower than the other times. I let her hold my phone for the first time so she could listen to "Buffalo Soldier" a few more times before the end. Bob sang, "Woe, yoe yoe, woe yoe yoe yo yo yoe yo yoe!" And we joined in.

When we reached the small hill that allows us to coast all the way down to

our driveway, I called back to her. "Are you ready to go down the hill one more time!" "Yes!" she belted.

I pedaled quickly to gain some speed and then held my feet on the pedals. "Here we go!" I yelled. Almost like a cliché, she screamed, "Yippeeeeee!", as loud as she could and I, almost like a cliché, yelled, "Wheeeeeeee!"

We coasted all the way down the hill, and when we arrived to our road, we slowly rolled into our driveway and stopped. I parked the bike, unbuckled her from the seat, took her helmet off, and then lifted that 40-pound "baby" to the ground. "Next year, you're going to be riding your own bike, okay?" "Okay dad." By the way, you probably figured out that I have a baby carrier for sale. Hit me up, if you have a son or daughter who is around two years old. It might be time for you to create your own memories. It has been attached to my bike for the last three summers. I forget what it is like to ride without it on the back, even when she is not in it. Next spring will be a weird one, but it's time to move onto the next milestone: my daughter riding her own bike.

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wanted

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Shop Small Saturday to take place on November 26

by Bill Lee
contributing writer

One of the great things about living in a smaller town like Lowell is that there are many people and organizations who support each other. Nowhere is this more important than with our local businesses. Small and larger local businesses are the lifeblood that keep the town thriving. On Saturday, November 26, Lowell will be celebrating “Shop Small Saturday” as a way for residents to help local businesses, by doing their shopping in town and not at the big box or online stores.

Liz Baker, Executive Director of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, sees this day (along with shopping locally in general) as the utmost importance to keep Lowell the thriving city that it has become. “If we don’t shop local, and we don’t support our local merchants, we won’t have any,” said Baker. “I also think they are the hub that makes this community go around. We need to support them, and by supporting them, you’re supporting many other things, like organizations that they support.”

One such business in Lowell that is a big part of the community is Bernards Ace Hardware, owned for the last 35 years by the father-son duo, Charlie and Matt Bernard. In fact, the best thing they like about owning Ace here in Lowell are the customers they have gotten to know and help over the years. “We see a wide range of people from all over the area here and see a lot of them on a regular basis,” said Matt Bernard. “You get to know a lot of people through helping them with their repairs. It’s great. If you go anywhere else in Lowell, grocery shopping or the gas station, you run into the same people. Lowell is such a nice community. We’ve been blessed. The people are great, great people.”

In essence, shopping local is an underlying partnership between the businesses and the residents. By shopping local, the resident supports the business, and in turn, the business helps support local programs in town. Ace is a perfect example of this. “It’s our responsibility as being one of the anchor businesses,” said Bernard.

“We have requests for donations and help with charitable functions, from schools and charities and different things that benefit sick people, and we do something for about 95 percent of those requests. We always want to give back and help out, and be an active member of the community and do whatever we can to stay involved, and support people trying to do good things, and the schools and churches, regardless of our denomination.” Besides donating to the community, Ace has also employed hundreds of young high school-aged men and women for over thirty years – just another way that residents and businesses work together.

For a bigger business like Ace, giving back to the community is a bit easier

to do, as compared to a smaller business, because the smaller businesses just don’t have the resources like Ace, which has over 5000 stores in the United States. For those smaller shops, the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce can step in and support their needs. Liz Baker sees two main areas where the Chamber can help these smaller shops: help with marketing and the use of the Lowell Bucks program. “We are able to get marketing money through grants and then use that marketing money to promote Lowell in general, which in turn, brings people in,” said Baker. “We also use it to market already established events, bringing people to Lowell, showing them a good time and exposing them to Main Street and



Bernards: Charlie (left) and Matt Bernard

to our local businesses. We just did a co-op, marketing ad, with several of our small businesses because they just don’t have the budget that other larger businesses have, so we were able to subsidize the ad. The other thing we have is the Lowell Bucks program. If a store doesn’t have the means for a gift card system in their store or don’t want to be bothered with the administration of it, we have Lowell Bucks. Lowell Bucks are accepted in over 60 businesses now, so there is no administration on their part. It is completely 100 percent refundable to them. We don’t charge administration fees. We feel it is important to support local businesses that way.”

A couple of the great misconceptions, that sometimes gets in the way of residents shopping local, are price and convenience. People often think that using a big box store like Home Depot or online store like Amazon will not only be cheaper but also be more convenient. In some ways that might be true, but by doing so, a buyer is compromising customer service and in most cases a competitive, if not better price, at the local store. “Our biggest deal is convenience – get in and get out – and customer service,” said Bernard. “Everybody who walks in is greeted at the front door, and we ask them what we can help them with, and nine times out of ten, they need something that requires our help.” Baker agrees with Bernard’s sentiment but also appeals to local shoppers to take the extra step of researching the prices, as they might be surprised by the price similarities. “There’s a lot of pluses to Amazon but it definitely isn’t cheaper,” said Baker. “My suggestion to most people is to check your local store first. Nine chances out of ten, you’ll find it at a very competitive rate, but the bigger thing

you’re going to have is customer service. You’re not going to get customer service from an Amazon truck. Small business people work hard and long hours, and they’re there for you when others aren’t.”

Small businesses took a big hit to their bottom lines with Covid’s arrival in 2020, but those who are still in business, adjusted and have slowly made their way back to the forefront of people’s shopping experiences. Ace Hardware, like all businesses, had issues with supply chains, but they learned, pivoted, and now order many months in advance versus weeks in advance. Also, the hardware store has done well to stay ahead of some of the new technology that has become popular with customers recently. “A big thing in the last year or two is the increased awareness in the battery-powered tools, like lawnmowers, snow throwers, and trimmers,” said Bernard. “It used to be 10 percent [of our inventory], then 20 and last year was 50, and this year, we’ll see more battery-powered than gas-powered. It’s just easy. You don’t have to start it with a cord, or mix gas, or have fumes.”

Both Liz Baker and Matt Bernard can’t express enough how important the ongoing relationship between Lowell residents and Lowell businesses is presently, and will continue to be, in the future. “We’re a team. We need each other to be successful,” said Baker. Bernard sees how that team works on a daily basis, as he walks the floors of Ace Hardware. “I can’t tell you how many people come in and say I want to shop local,” said Bernard. “I want to support my local businesses because they’re impacting the community and that is important to them.”

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a Special Land Use Site Plan Amendment for the **Kent County Youth Fair** located at 13955 Cascade Road SE, Lowell, Michigan 49331 (PPN 41-20-24-300-002). This site plan amendment has been determined to be a major amendment per Section 20.08 of the Lowell Township Zoning Ordinance. The purpose is to review an amended site plan layout due to adjustments around protected wetlands as determined by the State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, which would have been disturbed in the prior approved site plan. The proposed amendments would reconfigure the layout of the site to prevent disturbance of these protected wetlands.

The hearing will be as follows:

WHEN: MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

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

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

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

Greg Forde, Secretary
Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission



Liz Baker

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Level: Beginner

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!

Puzzle solutions on page 13

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in Tennessee on November 26, 1939. I picked cotton as a kid and worked as a nurse's aide. A 1971 single helped propel my music career, and I am considered the Queen of Rock and Roll.

Answer: Tina Turner

DIABETES WORD SEARCH

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

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

- | | | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
| DIABETES | ASYMPTOMATIC | DEHYDRATION | KETONES |
| WORD SEARCH | BASAL RATE | DIABETIC | MONITOR |
| | BETA | DIETICIAN | NERVES |
| ACIDOSIS | BLOOD | ENDOCRINE | ONSET |
| ADRENAL | CARBOHYDRATE | FEET | PANCREAS |
| ADVERSE | CARDIOVASCULAR | GLUCOSE | STRIP |
| ALBUMINURIA | CONTROL | INSULIN | |

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to diabetes.

O B D L O

--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Blood

	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								70					

CLUES ACROSS

- India's "City of Lakes"
- Large marine mammals
- Used to carry belongings when traveling
- Rechristens
- Equally
- Heavy plant-eating mammals
- Millihenry
- Japanese immigrant to N. America
- Deep, red-brown sea bream
- Norse gods
- Peppermint and peko are two
- Auguste __, founder of positivism
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- High-resolution microscope (abbr.)
- Wide metal vessel used in cooking
- V-shaped open trough
- People of southern Benin
- People of southern Ghana
- It's a significant creed
- Period between eclipses
- Furies
- Emerged
- Philippine Island
- Where wrestlers battle
- Unhappy

CLUES DOWN

- Beloved hound
- Equal to 100 grams
- S-shaped moldings
- Hawaiian cliff
- Everyone has one
- Subatomic particle
- Ghost
- Adult female bird
- Greek temple pillars
- Emits coherent radiation
- Measures the width of printed matter
- Musical interval
- Tantalizes
- Places of worship
- An unskilled actor who

- One who volunteers to help
- Precaution
- Beverage holder
- Very long period of time
- Bullfighting maneuvers
- More critical
- Sends packing in a boxing match
- Taxi
- Decorative Russian tea urn
- North American Great Plains natives
- Seize
- A passage with access only at one end
- Cut a rug
- Devil rays
- Bubble up
- Veranda
- Outcast
- Car mechanics group
- Realm
- A place to get off your feet
- Popular music awards show
- Consumed
- A way to make cooler
- Thus
- Indicates it's been registered

Locals compete in Tae Kwon Do Tournament

Thirty-eight students, from the Litehouse YMCA and Ionia Park and Recreation, competed in the World Class Tae Kwon 2022 Tournament at Grand Rapids Community College Gerald R. Ford Fieldhouse on Saturday, November 12.

For the last two years, the competitive spirit has been kept alive through virtual tournaments. This was the first time in two years the Ramos Institute group were able to have an in-person competition.

Grand Masters Richard Warren, 8th

degree, and Dennis Lewis Sr., 7th degree, made this a historical event by testing for their next rank of 9th Dan and 8th Dan. The testing was performed in front of the audience and competitors. In the 48-year history of Tae Park Tae Kwon, the ranks of 4th degree and above have been a closed testing, with only the judges allowed in the room.

In a competition of 303 competitors, Ramos Institute students all medaled, bringing home 40 gold, 20 silver, and 17 bronze medals.



Back row: Kevin Cashen, Garret Graham, Markus Hemminger, Dave Backstrom, Seth Backstrom, Sydney Graham, Jackson O'Brien, Krysta Cashen, and Master Patricia Ramos. Center row: Teo Sequeira, Noah Visser, Max Munger, Calihan Janowiak, Grand Master Richard Warren, Kathy Adams, Natalie Thompson, Avery DeJong, Tristan Catanach, and Oliver Manning. Front: Sebastian Salinas, Xander Hadley, Caroling DeJong, Ben Rottier, Bo Schiefen, and Kiera Stoutjesdyk. Missing: Lance Miller, Ransom Rathbun. Mike Holmes, Orien Holmes, Drexton Coulier, Dominic Benedict, Jack Benedict, Max Benedict, Marek Douglas, Meara Douglas, Jessica West, Willow Belanger, Wyatt Sims, Lewis Sims, and Jane Sims.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP** PLANNING COMMISSION

The Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance regarding Section 22.03 (n) – “Campgrounds and Recreational Vehicle Parks” to permit glamour camping and primitive-style camping in addition to permitted traditional modern camping uses. Secondly, the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance regarding Section 14.12 (e) – “Environmental Standards Applicable to All PUD Districts,” which will mandate that all stormwater management practices be conducted in compliance with the applicable standards and practices of Kent County, Michigan.

The hearing will be as follows:
WHEN: MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP HALL
2910 ALDEN NASH AVENUE SE
LOWELL, MI. 49331

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

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

Greg Forde, Secretary
 Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission