



page 6

Movie Review
Page 8



Food Review
Page 9



Joan Young
North Country
Trail
Page 9

\$1.00



Dan Czarnecki's celebrated at final council meeting before retirement

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

Shannon Kennedy, the Executive Director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, kicked off the July 17 meeting of the

Lowell City Council on a positive note. In her public comment, she celebrated a highly successful, incident-free Riverwalk Festival, just over a week prior. "As the new girl,

getting the first one under my belt, that felt good," Kennedy said City council member Marty Chambers echoed her celebration. "I must say, it was very well-attended. Downtown was

as busy as ever. You did a good job," Chambers said, and then he added, jokingly, "That's the only time I'll ever say that."

A number of things were on the docket for the city council, including an update to the police department's harassment ordinance to address issues the department is currently facing. The department has spent months trying to de-escalate noise and harassment issues with Lowell resident, Joe Nelson, an issue that became public knowledge at Nelson's cost-recovery invoice hearing on June 19, and the department worries that existing ordinance does not have enough teeth to disincentivize Nelson's behavior.

Additionally, the council entertained updated wording to the tree ordinance, which the city found vague and difficult to adequately comply with, while dealing with a number of nuisance trees on Bowes Road. Both updates were approved by the council.

The hot-button topic for the July 17 council meeting, which stemmed out of a recent planning commission meeting and continues to spill over into discussion in the Lowell MI Community Chatter Facebook group, was the rezoning of 112 Horatio, 805 East Main, and 825 East Main, into mixed-use properties, to accommodate the

**Dan's retirement,
continued page 2**



Retiring Public Works Director, Dan Czarnecki, reflects on a long career and celebrates all of the great people he has worked with over the years.

Michigan businesses urged to prepare for UPS strike by Teamsters

Michigan's business community, from mom-and-pop operations to sprawling multinational corporations, should be preparing now for a potential logistics-snarling national strike by UPS' 340,000 unionized workers.

That's the warning from some of the state's business groups that are monitoring the labor impasse between the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Atlanta-based United Parcel Service, Inc., which carries about a quarter of the nation's packages on its trucks, vans, and cargo jets, as the nation's fragile supply chain continues its pandemic recovery.

A shutdown could occur as soon as Aug. 1. The union authorized the

strike last month in what it said was a 97 percent approval vote by its members. The five-year UPS-Teamsters collective bargaining agreement, that ends July 31, is the largest private-sector contract in the country.

A UPS strike would have an almost immediate impact on Michigan businesses and consumers, particularly in an era of heavy e-commerce and people enjoying two-day delivery via Amazon (which uses some UPS delivery capacity in addition to its own fleet).

The head of the Small Business Association of Michigan said it's alerting its 31,000 members, who

**Prepare for strike,
continued page 10**

MelCat and Databases Extend Kent District Library Reach

by Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

Kent District Library (KDL) is a popular materials library with collection-development librarians whose entire job is to grow the library's resources and, as needed, prune them down in order to meet the needs of the community. As stewards of taxpayer dollars, these people oversee supply and demand for an intellectual economy, and their decisions assure that the taxpayer receives the most bang for their buck. As a result, the KDL system has no archives, features new and popular books and media, and subscribes to popular online services like Libby, Hoopla, Kanopy, and Freegal. KDL's policy of bringing about the greatest good, for the greatest number of people, is reminiscent of the beliefs of English philosopher, John Stuart Mill, who warned against what he called the "tyranny of

the majority," where populist groups pursue their own objectives at the expense of minority groups. This raises the question, "How does a popular materials library meet the needs of a diverse community without throwing some groups under the bus?"

Johanna Boyle is a collection-development librarian, and she offers a solution. Like her colleague, Alison Kuchta, Boyle oversees the library's online resources and assures that there's something there for everybody. However, with limited public funding, this can be tricky at times. "I think we're very aware that people want to have a good value from the money going into public libraries," Boyle said. "If it just sits there, what's the point?"

By navigating to kdl.org/online-resources, Boyle believes that members of the community can find many of the things they are looking for, even those

who are struggling with something uncommon. By clicking on the button that reads "A-Z Resources," library patrons can find over 100 apps and databases for a variety of different uses, from Consumer Reports to Ancestry.com, to the Grand Rapids Press Historical Archives. A resource library this vast is, for the most part, unheard of without a tuition-funded university budget, but it is available to Lowell area residents so long as they have a library card. In contrast to university databases, those offered through KDL are not intended as a full-academic research source. Resources, like Gale Legal Forms, which assists community members with drawing up legal paperwork for divorce, bankruptcy, and wills, serve a practical, not professorial, purpose.

**MelCat and
Databases,
continued page 4**

Dan’s retirement, continued

redevelopment of the former Roll Away Family Fun Center into 44 residential units with room for a first-floor business.

they are going to have minimal landscaping, if any at all.”

The council voted in favor of the rezoning, but council members



Chamber of Commerce Director Shannon Kennedy celebrates a successful Riverwalk Festival.

A number of neighbors oppose the construction of 44 units of housing, citing parking concerns, additional traffic, water-pressure issues, and worries that the complex will make Lowell lose its small town feel. Many residents have also voiced concerns about how the development will affect water capacity in light of outdoor water rationing in the city and parts of the township for the entirety of the summer. City Manager, Mike Burns, stepped in quickly to address that concern. “We know that at some point the issue with the township is gonna have to be addressed. We anticipate that that will be relatively soon,” Burns said. “The issue we have now is irrigation, and if you look at the site plan,

Cliff Yankovich and Leah Groves had a caveat to their “yes” votes. They acknowledged the legitimacy of the public’s concerns but clarified that these concerns do not affect the zoning issue at hand. In other words, whether or not CopperRock’s project is approved, these properties should be mixed-use. After the zoning concern is addressed, any further developments are the purview of the Planning Commission.

Chambers, who sits on the Planning Commission, expanded on Yankovich and Groves’ addendum to their votes, expressing a desire to rebuild and extend Avery Street, address sewer issues and water pressure, and lower the speed limit back down to 25.

Though there were a number of issues on the docket and some important discussion, the council meeting would have concluded relatively early, if council members had dealt with agenda items only. However, the meeting ran long, but not without good cause, as Dan Czarnecki took to the podium for his last city council as Director of the Department of Public Works (DPW). On Friday, July 21, Czarnecki retired after over 30 years of dedication to public works in Lowell, Ionia, and Wyoming.

Czarnecki noted, “after today I don’t have to give them any more of my time.”

Though Czarnecki only spent the last four years serving Lowell’s DPW, he noted that the staff he worked with in Lowell was the best he had ever worked with in his long and storied career. Those interested in understanding the inside workings of the Lowell community need look no further than Czarnecki’s heartfelt speech, which is available on the City of Lowell YouTube page, because he took time to



Council member, Marty Chambers, applauds Chamber of Commerce Director Shannon Kennedy

Czarnecki’s speech echoed the opening of Charles Dickens’ infamous novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*. Instead of speaking of “the best of times and the worst of times,” Czarnecki acknowledged that his career had high points and low points, and he interacted with positive people and negative people, but he generally encountered more good than anything else. “As for the negative people,”

thank nearly every public employee and outline the vital work they do. If not for council comment, Czarnecki’s farewell would have been about everyone but Czarnecki himself.

Groves told a personal anecdote of her early tenure on the council as a new Lowell resident. At one point, she felt over her head, like she had made the wrong decision, and Czarnecki came to her rescue. “I looked at



Mayor Mike DeVore expresses his appreciation for Dan Czarnecki following the recent sudden passing of the mayor’s father.

you and said, ‘I don’t know what I’m doing,’” Groves said, “and you said, ‘That’s OK. None of us do.’”

Following Groves’ comment, Mayor Mike DeVore broke his professional, if a bit jovial, veneer to admit that Czarnecki helped him through “an unmitigated nightmare” over the past three weeks. DeVore was likely referring to the sudden passing of his father, also named Mike DeVore, who the mayor

and beloved member of the community. “The positive is that I live here, and my dad lived here for a long time, and I’m surrounded by support and caring and love,” DeVore said. “I’ll thank Dan for the last four years, but I’ll thank him more for the last week.”

The next city council meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Those interested in watching the July 17th meeting can find it on the City of Lowell YouTube channel, @cityoflowell.



Council member, Leah Groves, reflects on the assurance Dan Czarnecki gave her when she was new to Lowell and newly elected to the city council.

was incredibly close to, and who Chambers celebrated as an important

The agenda can be found at the City of Lowell home page, lowellmi.gov.

the lowell
ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$33 a year for zipcodes beginning with 493 or 495; \$44 a year any other zip code.

Deadline for display advertising is Monday at Noon
Deadline for classified advertising is Monday at 5 pm

Jon Jacobs Publisher/Editor
Tammy Janowiak Classified/Accounting/Sales
Jon Jacobs Advertising Sales

(616) 897-9261

email: ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com

Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI

Published every Wednesday

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
PO Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331
www.thelowellledger.com

Is your furry family member protected?



With Pet Medical Insurance, you'll rest easy knowing 90% of eligible expenses are covered.
LET'S TALK TODAY.

Deborah Wilks Ins Agency Inc
Deborah Wilks, Agent
11827 Fulton St E
Lowell, MI 49331
Bus: 616-897-9237



Products and services are offered by Trupanion Inc., underwritten by American Pet Insurance Company, Seattle, WA. Terms and conditions apply. State Farm • Bloomington, IL 1801019.1

BEAUTIFUL
FULL COLOR COPIES
RIGHT HERE IN YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD

Lowell
Litho
& Printing

From 1 to 1000's
Brochures Booklets
Sell Sheets Forms
Cards Letterhead
Invitations and more...

The possibilities are ENDLESS!
Give us a call...

616.897.9261

or email us at litho@lowellbuyersguide.com

105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331

MelCat and Databases, continued

During the interview with Boyle, it came up that she was speaking with a reporter who writes food reviews for the Lowell map populated with every restaurant a reporter could possibly review in Lowell. For job seekers, she recom-

of other important skills. Like Coursera, EdX, and Codecademy, LinkedIn Learning has tracks featur-

SAT, ACT, and GRE tests, research colleges and universities, and even prepare for vocational testing. “This one is really cool,” Boyle said, “and I want to get more people to use it.”

Each of these online resources meets the needs of a different group. Academic Search Complete assists college students and hobbyists with their studies. Gale eBooks provides a wide variety of encyclopedias, almanacs, and specialized reference sources that would be hard for KDL to devote shelf-space to. ASLdeafined provides American Sign Language video lessons aimed at deaf students, parents of deaf children, and the community each child gathers around them. Newspaper Source Plus and the New York Times provide major world news, and Scholastic Teachables helps with resources for parents and teachers of students from Pre-K through 8th grade.

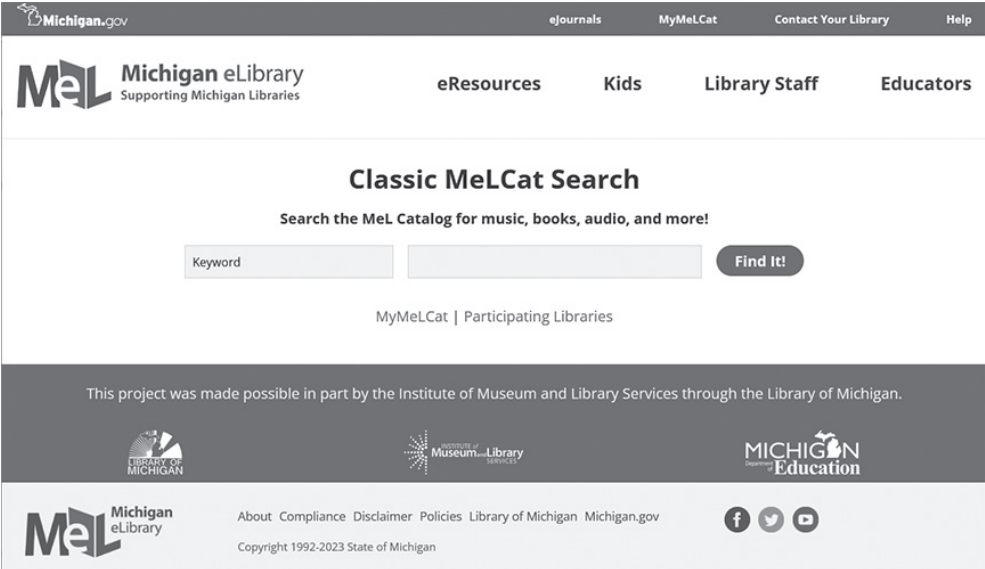
While KDL provides online resources, from small engine repair to stock investment tips, someone who wants to use the library for academic research is best-served using MelCat, the Michigan eLibrary Catalog and Resource. MelCat is basically a collective of libraries willing to share all or part of their catalogue with other participants within the collective. Many

of these are community libraries like KDL, but MelCat also includes university libraries, like Michigan State and Calvin. Though this is the most effective way to facilitate academic research through KDL, the vast majority of MelCat users are looking for older books, art books, coffee table books, and other niche interests one would not expect to find at every participating library. This makes nearly any book a reader could want available within seven to ten business days. Elizabeth Guarino-Kozlowicz is the manager of library collections, and she oversees MelCat. “It seems like we’re meeting the needs of those who know about MelCat,” Guarino-Kozlowicz said. “There are a lot who don’t know.”

Though there are some devout MelCat users within KDL, the decades-old resource is drastically underused. Guarino-Kozlowicz and her colleagues joke that, in its current use, MelCat is primarily a resource for their fellow librarians. This despite the fact that MelCat is a powerful and easy-to-use tool. Patrons simply need to navigate to the MelCat website library.mel.org, search for the book they are interested in, and order it. By doing so, patrons can avoid spending hundreds of dollars on obscure textbooks or enjoy a book they might not have had access to otherwise. Guarino-Kozlowicz speculated that people do not use MelCat as much because it simply is not advertised aggressively enough.

Guarino-Kozlowicz spoke to a number of reasons a library patron may benefit from MelCat that most folks would never think of. For example, a parent may wish to read the entire Baby-Sitters Club series to their children, having enjoyed the series so much when they were a child, but KDL does not stock every volume, or it does, but many are checked out. The missing issues are undoubtedly available via MelCat; an organization may be looking to hold a book club surrounding a particular book. Maybe they are reading Michelle Obama’s *Becoming*, but KDL does not have enough copies for each member of the book club. MelCat can help rustle up the additional copies needed by the club; Perhaps an amateur scholar read a particularly powerful book with great citations in the back, but they fear their local library will not stock any of the obscure titles referenced. MelCat can help in this situation, as well; it can even help a musician find sheet music.

Through low-cost curated databases, collective online library resources, and MelCat’s goodwill collaboration between Michigan libraries, KDL’s librarians—these stewards of taxpayer money—have found a way not to serve just the needs of the many, but also the needs of the few, or the one. As a best practice, before purchasing new media, KDL librarians recommend checking for it at the local library, requesting a KDL interlibrary loan, searching for it using library online resources, or looking it up on MelCat. All of these options are available, at no extra cost to library cardholders, and can be done from a smartphone while on a bus, if need be. Those who do not find their needs represented by a library resource need only reach-out to a librarian to express their concern. While Boyle, Kuchta, and Guarino-Kozlowicz have data sources to help them meet the library system’s needs, feedback from patrons and branch librarians is integral to making sure these resources connect with the public.



Using the Michigan eLibrary Catalog and Resource, or MelCat, library patrons can order books from participating libraries statewide, including university libraries like those of Michigan State, Grand Valley, and Calvin.

Ledger, so she pulled up ReferenceUSA, now Data Axle Reference Solutions, and ran a search of all restaurants in greater Lowell. In moments, she had a heat-

mended LinkedIn Learning, which gives library patrons access to premium LinkedIn courses and certifications, including Excel, Agile, and a number

ing multiple courses with progressive difficulty. For those not quite ready to join the workplace, there is Peterson’s Test Prep, which helps students prepare for

business directory

RISNER'S ROOFING & HOME IMPROVEMENT

SHANE RISNER • 616-897-1080
email: risnersroofing@gmail.com
website: risnersroofing.com

897-4123

Arctic Inc. Heating & Cooling

- Heating & air-conditioning • Wall hung boilers & water heaters
- Geo Thermal systems • Radiant floor heat • Snow melt systems
- Whole house generators • Duct work • Humidifiers

SALES, SERVICE AND INSTALLATION, UPGRADES, NEW HOMES

website: www.HeatingCoolingOnline.com e-mail: info@HeatingCoolingOnline.com

Rich's Service Co.
In-Home Appliance Repair
Dryer Vent Cleaning

INSURED • 20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

Washers • Dryers • Refrigerators
Garbage Disposals • Stoves
• Dishwashers

RICH CURTIS • 897-5686
209 E. Main St., Lowell

BILL WHEELER
Certified Public Accountant

W.J. WHEELER

103 Riverside Dr.
Lowell, MI 49331

897-7711

JERRY'S LAWN MAINTENANCE & SNOWPLOWING

Spring Clean-Up
Fertilizing
Lawn Maintenance
Mosquito Spraying
Mole Control
Bark

616-822-4168

ROGERS NEIGHBORHOOD REALTY

Upsize
downsize
RIGHTSIZE

Buy with Confidence,
Sell with Success!

RogersNeighborhoodRealty.com
317 E Main St, Lowell, MI - 616.644.0784

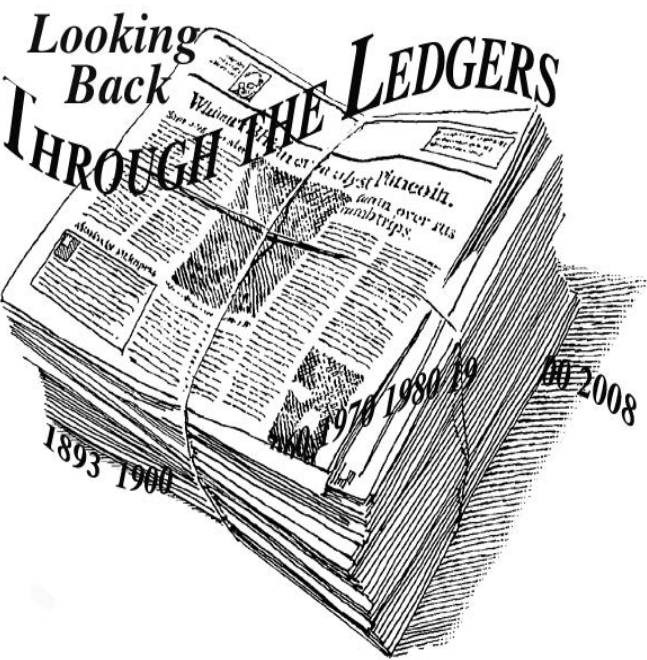


FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS PODCAST
with host **EMMA PALOVA**
Listen in for a chance to win a signed copy in the podcast book giveaway
<http://emmapalova123.podbean.com>,
and major podcasting apps

JULY SCHEDULE
Jacob Bullen, *Assassinating The Godslayer*, July 15
Joan H. Young, special episode Author & hiker finishes NCT twice, July 20
S.W. Raine, *The Elemental's Guardian*, July 21
Jan Leland, *After the Before-Times*, July 28
Special episode, 50th Grand Ledge Island Art Fair, TBA

Sponsored by Doc Chavent & The Lowell Ledger

viewpoint



150 years ago The Lowell Journal July 23, 1873

Mrs. Dr. Ford operates bathing rooms here.
Cherries, strawberries and raspberries have come in bumper crops.
“Milkmen in Grand Rapids are getting rich. They have excellent water power there.”
There will be a Lowell Agricultural Fair this fall, after the State Fair.
The editor follows the horses very closely, and includes an article (not his first) on a Michigan horse, Bangweola.
The warm and wet a week ago, caused many fields of wheat to grow. Some was harvested in good order.

125 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 28, 1898

Clarence Long, with the 33rd Michigan in Cuba, writes to friend, Will, about the fighting around Santiago, adding that all the boys from Lowell are well.
The weather has included frosts that nearly wiped out the cranberry crop, a “young cyclone” at Boston and 96-degree warmth.
The Alto reporter says there’s a sailboat on Murray’s Lake now.
The U.S. Post Office will not return or forward 2nd, 3rd, or 4th class mail without prepayment of postage from now on.

100 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 26, 1923

Webster Morris, founder of the Lowell Journal in 1856, describes Lowell in that year as a country road, lined irregularly on both sides for three-fourths of a mile with cheap wooden buildings. He goes on to describe Lowell buildings in detail.
The state conservation department is seining Murray Lake to remove bill fish, dog fish and any other “noxious fish” they find.
Ypsilanti Reed Furniture Co. shipped a carload each of their new baby cabs to Chicago and New York last week.
The 16th annual Snow School reunion brings 136 people from as far away as Chicago.

75 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 22, 1948

The Lowell Creamery has a new Divco truck with many labor-saving features.
The State Highway Department installs riprap on the east bank of Flat River (west of King Milling feed mill), to keep the bank from washing away during high water.
No traffic light will be installed in Lowell, but more attention will be paid to the 15% of drivers who go too fast.
The cost of the high school addition will be \$125,000; the building fund is \$20,000 short. The board asks for suggestions.
This year’s Showboat will have more than 1,000 additional seats, as compared to other years.

50 years ago Lowell Ledger Suburban Life July 26, 1973

Disappointedly small audiences mark the first three nights of Showboat.
The 4-H Fair will feature a dunk tank for the city manager and mayor.
The sewer-water separation project manages to tie-up Main Street during Showboat Week.
Meanwhile, development outside Saranac has overextended the village sewer system beyond capacity.
The Showboat Garden Club Show, this Friday and Saturday is a “Circus of Flowers” at Runciman School auditorium.

25 years ago The Lowell Ledger July 29, 1998

The M-21/Hudson Street intersection was shut-down, for roughly 15 hours on Saturday, while crews laid a new water main and then repaved the intersection.
Approximately 50 volunteers took time Saturday to

sand and reseal Creekside Kingdom. Nearly 55 gallons of sealer were needed to complete the maintenance work.
Ginny Gauger’s drawing has been selected for the city flag. Her emblem portrays the joining of the Flat and Grand rivers, as well as the new city lights.
Gary Kemp has announced his retirement after 30 years in education, 23 of which were with the Lowell school district.

Find Out
What The Buzz
Is All About
with a subscription to
the lowell
ledger
Call to start your
subscription
897-9261

NEED IT
PRINTED?

FROM
SIGNS &
BANNERS
to
BUSINESS
CARDS &
BOOKLETS
and everything
in between!!!
CONTACT
Lowell
Litho
& Printing
616.897.9261
FOR INFORMATION
OR AN ESTIMATE!
LOWELL LITHO
Your Hometown Printer

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.

Letters can be sent to emailed to
ledger@lowellbuyersguide.com
Deadline is noon on Mondays



At Your Local Library

Kent District Library programs at Englehardt Branch, 200 N. Monroe St. For additional information call 616-784-2007.
Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, noon - 8 pm; Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 9:30 am - 5 pm.

Gather 2 Grow! Lunches at the Library

Weekdays, 12:30 - 1 pm. KDL is proud to partner with Feeding America West Michigan to provide free lunches for students under the age of 18, or up to 26 years of age, if the student is abled differently. (Easy pick-up, shelf-stable, nutritious meals are pre-packaged with several options available to fit almost any dietary need.) Ages 5-17

ToddlerTime

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Nurture your toddler's love of books through music, movement and stories while helping to develop their language, motor and social skills. For ages 0-5.

Storytime

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

Swordsmanship - Japanese Katana

Monday, July 31, 4-5 pm. Instructors from the Swordsmanship Museum and Academy will teach the fundamentals of historical swordsmanship. This program will describe combat taken directly from the training of militant samurai, rather than any modern system. 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 11-17.

Program at the Park: Stormy's Foam Party

Wednesday, Aug. 2, 10 - 11 am. Guests will play with beach balls, frolic in foam bubbles and listen to child-friendly tunes, all while having the time of their lives. Swimwear, a towel and footwear that can get wet is recommended for each child. In partnership with Kent County Parks. This event will take place at Fallasburg Park Open Shelter, 13565 Covered Bridge Rd. Please note that this is not the park's main entrance. For ages 5-10.

KDL Lab Experience

Wednesday, Aug. 2, 1-2 pm. Drop in and allow children to think creatively, tinker, explore and collaborate while engaging in a variety of hands-on activities based on STEM concepts. For ages 5-10.

ABCs of Lowell history

The ABCs of Lowell History is back for another round. This popular series explores a wide variety of topics in Lowell area history. *Items submitted by Lowell Area Historical Museum.*

I is for 'I Spy'

I spy with my little eye...a beautiful block of homes that contain a wealth of Lowell history, both in the events that happened there, and the people who called these houses home. While this may describe many areas in Lowell, the 700 block of Water Street, now Riverside Drive, stands out in several historic ways.

706 Riverside Dr. was built by Martin N. Hine around 1863. He also built many of the early buildings in Lowell, including the no longer standing



Showboat party at 724 Riverside.

when this was the only house on the block. Later Rutherford would take over the canning factory, renaming it L.W. Rutherford & Sons.

In 1935, Walter Gumser bought the house. Gumser served in World War I and

City of Lowell, which is dedicated to improving the park system.

This house was also home to Arnold and Evelyn Wittenbach, owner of Wittenbach Sales and Services. Arnold also served as Mayor of Lowell.

724 Riverside Dr was built in 1911 for Lowell resident, William Stowell. Throughout the years, it has been owned by a number of Lowell citizens, including Susie Childs, Carl and Lottie Kronenberger, C.H. and Mildred Runciman, Chuck Lippert, Roger Brown, and Mike and Toni Blough.

724 and 718 Riverside Dr. have been connected through time in a couple of ways. First, Susie Childs, of 724 Riverside, sold the house to her son-in-law and daughter, Carl and Lottie Kronenberger. Daughter, Susie Irene Lee, built next door at 718 Riverside. In 1920 sisters Lottie and Susie Irene Lee were living side-by-side on Riverside Drive. Second, these properties

were the site for the traditional Monday evening Showboat press night party, since the Showboat's birth in the 1930s, and continued into the 1960s. Many notable celebrities and statesman ,such as Louis Armstrong and then Vice President Gerald R. Ford, have been photographed in the backyard and were on a first-name basis with the Runicmans. Governor's night was held for years during Showboat week and Michigan's Governor, prior Governors, and local governmental officials would participate. Other notable Showboat entertainers, who were guests here, include Steve Allen, Dinah Shore, Milton Berle and Boots Randolph.

Lowell has many beautiful homes, and this block is an example of well-preserved monuments to Lowell's history. The celebrity faces that have visited Lowell, thanks to the Showboat, are numerous, and this one historic block has witnessed it all!



724 Riverside

Central school and the then Congregational Church building, now Believers Baptist Church. Hine later served as Postmaster.

In 1909, the house was sold to Edwin Fallas, son of one of the Fallasburg founders, William Fallas. Edwin owned a canning factory in Lowell. His daughter, Isabel, married Lawrence W. Rutherford at the Fallas home in 1908,

was superintendent of the Lowell schools for close to 40 years. He was also a state representative candidate in 1956.

718 Riverside Dr. was built by Cliff Hatch in 1916 for Dr. Solomon S. and Susie Irene Lee. Dr. Lee was a prominent physician and surgeon. The Lee's loved their community. Upon his death, Dr. Lee bequeathed a large sum of money to the

area churches

Riverside Fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists

"Praying and studying together"
Saturday service begins at 10:30 AM

10300 Vergennes St. SE, Lowell
616-987-0567
www.lowellriverside.com
Pastor Darrel le Roux

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

10305 Bluewater Highway
(Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21

Sunday Services - 10:30 am
www.gslc.church

Richard Boshoven, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

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 - Mondays 7 PM
Barrier-Free

St. Mary Catholic Church

402 Amity Street • 616-897-9820
Website: www.stmarylowell.com
Weekend Masses: Sat 5 pm; Sun 10:30 am
Confession: Saturdays 3:30-4:30 pm
Prayer & Adoration: Wednesdays 9 am to 4:45 pm
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN TO ADULTS

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

865 Lincoln Lake SE • lowellucc.org
Pastor Shannon Jammal-Hollemans
Worship Service - Sundays 10 AM
Open Table (No-cost meal)
Thursdays 5:30 - 6:30 PM
Open & Affirming • LGBTQ+ Inclusive
616-897-5906

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

CHRIST-CENTERED, KINGDOM-FOCUSED HOMES

2275 West Main Street - (Barrier Free)
897-7168 • www.fbclowell.org
Pastor Jon Pickens • Lead Pastor
Pastor Andrew Bolkoom • Pastor of Discipleship

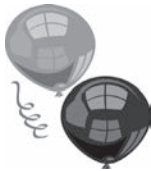
SUNDAY WORSHIP.....9:30 AM (Nursery provided)
LIFE GROUPS 11:00 AM (Nursery-Adult)
Awana (K-5 during school year) Wednesday, 6:15 PM

LOWELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

discover. grow. share
621 E. Main Street
897-5938
www.lowellumc.com • Barrier Free Entrance

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

happy birthday



JULY 27

Betsy Fisher, Kyle Hendrick, Jason Spencer, Paige Wilson.

JULY 31

Nancy Raymor, Sandy Roth, Rochelle Bieri, Morris Robert Young.

JULY 28

Tom Speerstra, Rachel Shanne Smith, Bobby Wright, Tiffany Hunt, Alexander Barr.

AUGUST 1

Barbara Callihan, Bailee Emelander.

AUGUST 2

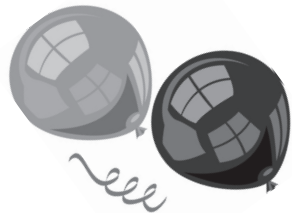
Carolynn Kline.

JULY 29

Rachael Vegter, Mary Fox, Matt Lee.

JULY 30

Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Jodi Mohr, Kimberly DeBold, Paige Rash.





Financial Focus

With Christopher C. Godbold
Edward Jones
Serving Individuals Investors Since 1871

Help get your teen started with a Roth IRA

To be successful in most endeavors, it's important to develop good habits — and that's certainly the case for investors. And the earlier one develops these habits, the better. So, if you have teenagers who may be starting to work at part-time jobs, now may be a great time to introduce them to investing - and one place to begin might be a Roth IRA.

As you may know, a Roth IRA is a popular retirement savings vehicle - its earnings can grow federally tax-free, provided withdrawals aren't taken until the investor is at least 59½ and has had the account five or more years. But because a Roth IRA is funded with after-tax dollars, contributions can be withdrawn at any time, penalty-free, to pay for any expenses — including college. Roth IRA earnings can also be used to help pay for college, although these withdrawals will be taxable. However, if a child is the account owner, a lower tax bracket will likely apply.

In 2023, up to \$6,500 per year can go into your teenager's Roth IRA, as long as the amount contributed doesn't exceed the amount of their taxable compensation for the year. And your child doesn't have to put all the money in - you and the

child's grandparents can also contribute. In fact, you might want to "match" your child's contributions, up to the limit, to provide an incentive for them to continue investing in the Roth IRA. Not only will your matching contribution help build the Roth IRA's assets, but it can also instill in your child's mind the benefit of earning a match - which can prove valuable later on, when your child is in the workforce full-time and has a chance to receive an employer's matching contributions in a 401(k) or similar plan.

Your child may well find a job at a local restaurant or shop, as these businesses have experienced a shortage of workers the past couple of years. But if you have a family business, you can employ your teen to provide income that can go into a Roth IRA. Furthermore, if the business is one parent's sole proprietorship, or it's a partnership in which each partner is the parent, the payments for a child younger than 18 are not subject to Social Security

and Medicare taxes. As an employee, your child must perform reasonable tasks necessary for the business and be paid reasonable wages — that is, wages comparable to what you'd pay a regular employee for the same work.

But wherever your child's wages come from, using some of them to help fund a Roth IRA can be a good move. For one thing, it gives you a chance to explain the value of putting time on your side when you invest — simply put, the more years you invest, the greater your chances of accumulating the resources you need to meet your goals. And by helping your teen open a Roth IRA, which holds stocks, mutual funds or virtually any other type of security, you can discuss the different risk/reward characteristics of various types of investments - the kind of basic knowledge that all investors should have.

Once your teen's first paychecks start coming in, consider bringing up the idea of opening a Roth IRA - you may well be opening the door to a lifetime of consistent and informed investing.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

How much did you earn at your first job? Social Security can tell you

By Hillary Hatch, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Ever wonder how much you earned the year you worked your first job? Or any other year you worked? You can find out by reviewing your Social Security earnings record.

Your earnings record shows your income for each year worked and your progress toward your future Social Security benefits. We keep track of your earnings so we can pay you the benefits you've earned over your lifetime. That's why it's important for you to review your Social Security earnings record.

While it's your employer's responsibility to provide accurate earnings information to us, you should still review your earnings history and inform us of any errors or omissions. This is so you get credit for the contributions you've made through payroll taxes. You're the only person who can look at your life-



time earnings record and verify that it's complete and correct. If an employer didn't properly report even just one year of your earnings to us, your future benefit payments could be less than they should be. Over the course of a lifetime, that could cost you tens of thousands of dollars in retirement or other benefits to which you are entitled. It's important to identify and report errors as soon as possible. As time passes, you may no longer have easy access to past tax documents. Also, some employers may no longer exist or be able to provide past pay-

roll information. The easiest way to verify your earnings record is to visit www.ssa.gov/myaccount and create or sign in to your personal my Social Security account. You should review each year of listed earnings carefully and confirm them using your own records, such as W-2s and tax returns. Keep in mind that earnings from this year and last year may not be listed yet.

You can find out how to correct your Social Security earnings record by reading our publication How to Correct Your Social Security Earnings Record at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10081.pdf.

Let your friends and family know they can access important information like this any time at www.ssa.gov and do much of their business with us online.

Call
616-897-9261
to place your Ad
today!



FAXING IS
EASY!

COME SEE US

\$1 for
1st page
50¢ each
additional



Send or Receive

the lowell ledger
616-897-9261
105 N. Broadway, Lowell



Family Dentistry Since 1994

- ▶ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ▶ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ▶ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ▶ Preventive Care
- ▶ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ▶ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ▶ Implants
- ▶ Insurance Plans Accepted

Accepting
New
Patients

"Gentle & Painless
Dentistry Is Our Goal"

Hours:
Monday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Judd T. Carroll D.M.D.
103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan
(616) 897-7595
www.juddcarrolldentistry.com



Lowell Showboat
SIZZLIN' SUMMER
CONCERTS

Presented by LowellArts & the
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce



Concerts are family-friendly and wheelchair accessible. Bleacher seating is available, or bring a chair. Free parking.

Enjoy Lowell's Social District for your adult beverages. Concessions also available for purchase.



THROUGH AUGUST 24
FREE OUTDOOR CONCERTS

THURSDAYS AT 7:00PM
ON THE RIVERWALK PLAZA BY THE
FLAT RIVER IN DOWNTOWN LOWELL

No concert August 2.
Visit the Kent County Youth Fair July 31 to
August 5 at their new location on Cascade
Road. More info at KCYP.org.

AUGUST 10
Jive at Five

AUGUST 17
Austin Benzing

AUGUST 24
The Schrock Brothers
featuring
Peter Madcat

LEAD SPONSORS





Worth the Popcorn?

By Bill Lee

Barbie: A perfectly plastic comedy

Little did I know, when I bought a movie ticket last Friday, at 10 am in Grand Rapids, that many other people had the same idea. I guess it makes sense as there are plenty of big movies in the theaters right now: *Oppenheimer*, *Mission Impossible 7*, and *Indiana Jones*, among a few others. So when I told a couple of people, including my wife, that I wanted to do a movie review on *Barbie*, they all said, “Really?” The movie about the most famous plastic doll ever - starring Margot Robbie as Barbie and Ryan Gosling as Ken – had to run a bit deeper than expected, right? I was curious. After all, *Barbie* is written and directed by Greta Gerwig and co-written by Noah Baumbach, her life partner. Gerwig is best known for writing and directing *Lady Bird*, an Academy Award nominee in 2017. *Barbie* is not the first time this power couple has collaborated. In 2010, they both co-wrote

Frances Ha, a critically acclaimed indie film that starred Gerwig. The two teamed-up again in 2022 for Baumbach’s satirical *White Noise*, starring Gerwig and Adam Driver.

So, to my thinking, there is no way this couple, who have collaborated on deeply moving scripts, along with award-winning actors Gosling, Robbie, and Helen Mirren (narrator of Barbie), would do a movie just to make money. Okay, well, maybe. But my guess was that *Barbie* had to be some sort of satire, and I am a sucker for a good satire.

Turns out, my gamble paid off. *Barbie*, a two-hour adventure half set in Barbie Land and the other half in Los Angeles, runs deeper than a face-value comedy. Gerwig and Baumbach did not disappoint their fans. Not only did they write a script that pokes fun at every male and female stereotype you could think of, but they also cast two actors at the top of their game, Robbie

and Gosling, who portrayed their respective plastic beauties to perfection.

The opening scene sets the tone with a hilarious spoof on Stanley Kubrik’s 1968 epic *2001: a space odyssey*. Although the scene has been parodied many times by Hollywood, this particular time is unique. While Helen Mirren narrates, the audience watches a group of young girls destroying their dolls after seeing a giant-sized version of Barbie.

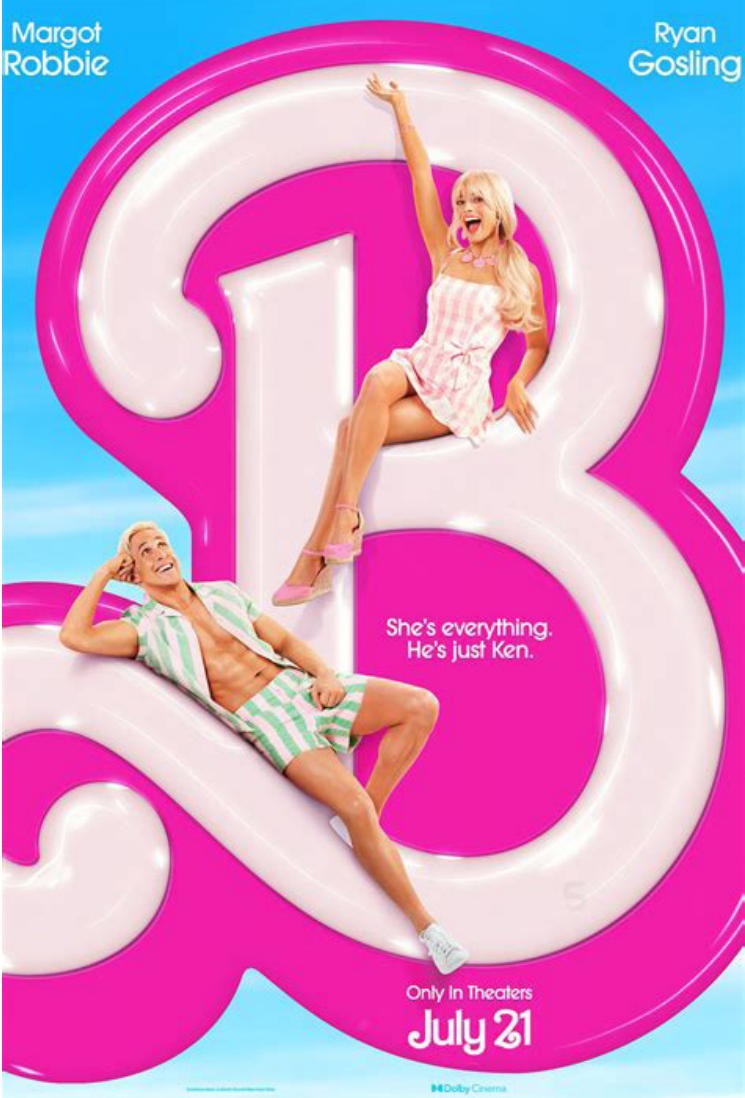
From there, we are taken to Barbie Land where everyone is either named Barbie or Ken, with one exception, a character played meekly by Michael Cera of *Superbad* and *Arrested Development* fame. In Barbie Land, “Barbie has a great day everyday...[and] because of Barbie, all the problems of feminism and equal rights have been solved.” Barbie Land is flawless, that is until ‘Stereotypical Barbie,’ played by Robbie, says in the middle of a party, “Does anyone ever think about death?”

The episode, with imperfection, prompts a visit to “Weird Barbie” (played ridiculously, as you would expect, by Kate McKinnon of SNL fame) for some wisdom, motivating Barbie to visit the real world of Los Angeles to find her owner, who must be experiencing some trauma. Ken decides to join her.

There, Barbie discovers her mother-daughter owners (played by America Ferrara and Ariana Greenblatt) along with corporate CEO at Mattel, Will Farrell, who bumbles his way in trying to “rebox” Barbie before she destroys the company with her improbable existence. Barbie also discovers - to her disappointment - that in the real world, she “represents everything that is wrong with the culture, setting feminism back fifty years.” Ken, in the meantime, discovers everything that is excessively male, and his days of being subservient to Barbie are over.

Throughout *Barbie*, Gerwig and Baumbach have fun with female and male stereotypes and the relationships and power struggles between women and men. In one incredibly hilarious scene, after the Kens have been liberated, they all learn how to play “Push” by Matchbox 20, each to his own devoted Barbie.

Barbie is creative, whimsical, and thoroughly entertaining. The casting of Robbie and Gosling is perfect for satire, as each



represents the ideal of femininity and manhood – Robbie with her slender figure and blonde locks and Gosling with his chiseled abs and boyish face. The other Barbies and Kens are well-cast and campy in their plastic portrayals, particularly, Issa Rae and Simu Liu. Also, a small but important character, played by Rhea Perlman, along with cameos from Dua Lipa and John Cena, add texture

and levity to the movie.

Of note, *Barbie*, Rated PG-13, is inappropriate for children (under ten I would say) as there are some adult themes and messages. *Barbie* is an entertaining comedy that pokes fun at all sorts of things. It will make you chuckle at the inside jokes and laugh-out-loud at the over-the-top-humor. I give it 4.5 popcorn kernels.



Author-hiker Joan Young completes second epic hike of North Country Trail

By Emma Palova
contributing writer

In an unprecedented feat, author Joan H. Young

palachian, Continental Divide, and Pacific Crest. “I just got to hike my favorite place again,”

“It’s a huge chunk of your life. Unless you can hike 25 miles a day, you will be out there for months.”

-Joan Young-

finished her epic walk of the North Country Scenic Trail (NCT) on June 18, 2023, after 18 months and 18 days on the trail.

Young started and finished the 4,800-mile daunting trail at Timber Creek, where it crosses US 10 near her hometown of Scottville. The trail that stretches across eight states, provides diverse experiences from natural to historical and cultural. It is twice as long as the big three trails: the Ap-

Young laughed in a recent interview. Although, one of her goals was to promote NCT, her major goal was to complete a thru hike of the trail.

To avoid deep winter in New York state or Vermont, Young planned the end-to-end hike logistically, starting in December 2021 in her home state of Michigan. “As soon as I finished hiking the trail for the first time in 2010, I wanted to do a continuous hike,” she

said. “I knew I couldn’t do 25 miles a day.” But the only way to find out if she could hike 15 miles a day, day after day, was to do it. Young hiked the trail in flip-flop style; she hiked to the eastern terminus in Middlebury, VT, and then drove her car to the western terminus of the trail at Lake Sakakawea in North Dakota.

Heading east, Young spend the winter months in Ohio, where surprisingly enough, she encountered brutal -6 F temperatures in the morning. Since she wasn’t going to backpack all the route, Young took along Sunny, her fiberglass travel trailer. She worked on refurbishing it as part of her preparations for the hike, along with walking 10 miles twice a week. “My concession to my age was that I had this trailer that I can sleep in,” Young



Author-hiker, Joan Young

said. “The trail is daunting because it’s twice as long as the big three.”

Young, 75, had to change and adjust the route constantly, due to the fact that much of the NCT

is not built out, and her daily mileage. “You have to do research on your own, if you’re going to be backpacking,” she said.

Even though, trail awareness has grown

since the 1980s and 1990s, many people still don’t know that the trail runs past their driveway.

North Country Trail, continued page 9

Schnitz Ada Grill’s Evan’s Double Dip

By Justin Tiemeyer
contributing writer

These days, diners at Schnitz Ada Grill may stop in for a couple of cocktails or sit down with loved ones to enjoy a delicious meatloaf or salmon meal. It would be easy to forget the restaurant was once called Schnitz Deli East and served New York-style sandwiches with piles of meat crammed between two slices of freshly made bread, or, rather, it would be easy to forget for those who only frequent Schnitz for dinner. The Ada Grill is still a delicatessen by day. From 11 am to 3 pm, diners can still order at the counter from the classic sandwich menu, and all of these sandwiches are great, but there is no sandwich in town quite like Evan’s Double Dip.

Evan’s Double Dip is the largest, and ringing in at \$14.75, the most expensive sandwich on the Schnitz Ada Grill lunch menu, but it is worth every penny. Evan’s is one of Schnitz’s many variations on the classic reuben formula, with corned beef, coleslaw, swiss cheese, pastrami, sauerkraut, and Thousand Island dressing on rye bread. All of the reubens at Schnitz are delicious, including the Brooklyn Reuben with pastrami on pumpernickel; served with a side of fries, one might just call this dish ‘No Chips Till Brooklyn.’ By size alone, Evan’s Double Dip wins-out against all of the other reubens. Cut into quarters, the pieces might resemble slices of a decadent cake, but it is, perhaps, best to imagine this sandwich as four delicious meals over the course of the next few days. It is certainly

possible, and incredibly tempting, to eat an Evan’s Double Dip in one sitting, but healthier and a bit more cost effective to savor it over time. It costs \$40.00 to feed a family of four, at even the most affordable fast food restaurants, but only \$14.75 for the economic family who splits an Evan’s Double Dip with fries at Schnitz Ada Grill.

Since it is not impossible to imagine a *Lowell Ledger* reader living downtown, it is worth mentioning that Evan’s Double Dip is also available at the original Schnitz Deli at 1315 Fulton Street. A quick menu comparison suggests that the two locations share the same list of 27 sandwiches, but for many diners the only thing that matters is that Evan’s Double Dip is #17 on both. It would not, however, be correct to say that the two restaurants share the same owner, even if they have at times shared the same website. Brian DeVries owns Schnitz Deli in Fulton Heights. Jeff Hugger, the owner of Schnitz Ada Grill, is his brother-in-law, and though the restaurants have diverged over the years and found different niches in their respective communities, there are some things, like Evan’s Double Dip, that are just too good to give up on or change. Even at dinner time, when Evan’s Double Dip is not even on the menu, savvy diners order it on the regular, and the wait staff does not even blink.

How does Evan’s Double Dip measure up to other reubens? A traditional reuben is grilled; Evan’s is not, and that is fine. It cuts the



Evan’s Double Dip
with French fries at Schnitz Ada Grill.

wait time in-half. Evan’s Double Dip features coleslaw in addition to sauerkraut, which is not terribly common, and it substitutes Thousand Island dressing for Russian dressing, which is a bit more common. The net effect of both of these changes is a sweeter sandwich, resulting from the sweet vinaigrette snap of the slaw and the sweet pickle relish from the Thousand Island. In contrast, a traditional Jewish reuben in New York leans more spicy, as a result of the chili sauce and horseradish in Russian dressing. It is worth noting that there are many variations on the reuben sandwich theme, including the Montreal reuben which substitutes Montreal-style smoked brisket for the corned beef, along with walleye reubens, grouper reubens, and vegetarian reubens, as well. It seems that fans of the reuben sandwich have not historically been sticklers for canon.

Evan’s Double

Dip certainly stacks-up compared to a New York-style reuben, at least vertically. Comparing the sandwich’s quality to those infamous sandwiches of cuisine lore is a bit more difficult. Katz’s Delicatessen in Manhattan is known around the world for its sandwiches, and not just to those who have traveled to New York City for a foodie tour. *When Harry Met Sally’s* eponymous couple was dining at Katz’s, when Meg Ryan’s Sally fell into an ecstatic rapture, prompting a fellow diner to say, “I’ll have what she’s having.” The table Billy Crystal and Meg Ryan ate at is marked by a sign, to this day. Carnegie Deli, which also serves world-famous reubens, was immortalized in Adam Sandler’s 1996 rendition of “The Chanukah Song”: “Guess who eats together at the Carnegie Deli/Bowser from Sha Na Na and Arthur Fonzerelli.” It is hard to imagine a fair fight

between Katz’s, Carnegie, and Schnitz without the cultural significance of the big city delicatessens spoiling the competition. Suffice it to say that Evan’s Double Dip is a hometown favorite. For readers in Lowell, Schnitz Ada Grill is a 10-minute drive, whereas Katz’s Delicatessen is a two-hour flight, and only if you book direct.

Admittedly, Evan’s Double Dip may not be for everybody, but it serves as a great way to navigate the menu at Schnitz Ada Grill. For those who are only going to be in town for one day, never to return again, it seems like a no-brainer: get Evan’s Double Dip, and judge Schnitz, based on how much you love it. Everybody else should try Evan’s Double Dip on their first trip to Schnitz and adjust future ordering based on the experience. If it was close to the target, but not quite perfect, try another reuben next time; otherwise, if it was a miss, try the Big John with

grilled, sliced ribeye and onions on a french roll, or consider ordering from the dinner menu. This strategy makes a menu, with 27 sandwiches and even more dinner selections, a bit less intimidating than it may seem at first glance. From there, it comes down to the perennial question of chips or French fries, and the French fries tend to win that match-up. The chips are crunchy and perfectly seasoned, but the fries have the heft of a steakhouse fry with the crispy, if a bit oily, texture of a thin-cut. The fries also mix better with dressing, condiments, and other liquids on the plate than the chips do.

Schnitz Ada Grill is open from 11 am to 10 pm, Tuesday through Saturday; 11 am to 3 pm Monday; and closed on Sunday. By day (from 11 am to 3 pm), Schnitz functions as an old-fashioned deli; diners order sandwiches from the counter, and they are delivered to the table. By night, Schnitz is a full-service, casual fine-dining establishment with a broader menu of dinner options. For the cocktail fan, Schnitz also has happy hour specials from 3 pm to 6 pm Monday through Friday and 12 pm to 6 pm on Saturday. Diners beware: Evan’s Double Dip is not on the dinner menu, so if Evan’s is not already a common household name, it may be a good idea to write it down on a piece of paper or type it out on a cell phone note. There are many great options at Schnitz Ada Grill, but Evan’s Double Dip is an experience diners are likely to regret missing out on.

Joan Young on the North Country Trail, continued

Fifty-one people hosted Young locally and let her plug-in. According to Young’s statistics, there were 169 days that somebody hiked with her, for a total of 45 people hiking, either for one day or multiple days. Following is an excerpt from Young’s “My Quality Day” blog: “The support people who lived in the trailer with me had a big job. They had to get my break-

fast, pack my lunch, and later, fix dinner. They had to deliver me to the trail, and find and pick me up at an agreed-upon time and place. They had to do shopping, laundry, dishes, keep the trailer from turning into a complete pigsty, and any other tasks that popped up. Unlike her previous section hike in 2010, the thru-hike presents challenges, such as the chang-

ing weather on the long trek. “You take whatever weather is there,” she said. “The biggest challenge of hiking the NCT is the planning and logistics.” Currently, a lot of online resources are available. An online map can be downloaded from northcountrytrail.org; other apps include

North Country Trail,
continued page 16



He should have placed an ad in the Lowell Ledger to get rid of that stuff!

Classifieds:
Inexpensive but Effective!

the lowell ledger

105 N. Broadway • 897-9261



City of Lowell names Rich LaBombard as Assistant City Manager/DPW Director

Lowell, Michigan, July 24, 2023 – City Manager, Michael Burns has appointed Rich LaBombard to the position of Assistant City Manager/DPW Director.

LaBombard previously served as the Assistant City Manager/DPW Director in the City of Lowell from May 2016 to June 2019. Since June 2019, he has served as the City Manager for the City of the Village of Douglas. Prior to Lowell, LaBombard was the Facilities Director for Allegan County for two years and worked in the City of Saginaw in various roles for twelve years prior. He has earned

both a Bachelor of Science and Masters of Science Degrees from Central Michigan University.

LaBombard will oversee all aspects of Public Works, assist and advise the City Manager in daily operations. He will be assigned special projects and will serve as acting City Manager

when necessary.

“I am very pleased to have Rich come back to the City of Lowell,” said City Manager, Mike Burns. “Rich is very well respected by members of the community, city council and staff. He did an excellent job during his tenure previously, and I believe his experiences

from Douglas will be a tremendous benefit to our city. With the many projects currently going on in the city, Rich’s experiences will fit this very well and I am confident he will be a positive impact moving this city forward.

“I am very excited to return to the City of

Lowell. I enjoyed my time in Lowell before and it has been impressive what has happened since my time here prior. There is a great team in Lowell and I can’t wait to hit the ground running,” said LaBombard.

LaBombard’s first day with the city will be September 25, 2023.

Prepare for strike, continued

could be acutely affected by a UPS shutdown, of what may happen. “They’re generally unaware that a major logistical supply-chain disruption is looming, potentially, in the future,” said SBAM President and CEO, Brian Calley. It’s better to prepare now than to wait until a flurry of businesses are scrambling for another shipper because there is only limited capacity available,” he added.

“As everyone seeks to find alternatives, everything from private carriers and smaller carriers to FedEx and the post office, they would likely be overloaded to the point where it would slow their services, as well,” Calley said. “The supply chain impact is multiplied over and over again. It’s significant. There isn’t some big slack in transportation capacity, where it can move from one place to another. Our (national) economy is not sized for extra capacity.”

His advice to businesses of all sizes is to beef-up supplies and inventory,

and communicate with customers that a potential shipping disruption looms. SBAM has sent briefings on the matter to its members, in the wake of UPS-Teamsters talks breaking down on July 5 over part-time wage increases. “That raised it to a level where we felt the need to let people know,” Calley said.

Jim Holcomb, President and CEO of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, echoed those concerns. “Any disruption in UPS services would ripple through the economy,” he said. Small and medium-sized companies are most vulnerable to supply-chain interruptions, Holcomb said. “Those (business owners), in a lot of communities, are driving economic growth across Michigan. We just cannot afford another (disruption) right now.”

The disruption, of course, is the point. Like all unions, the Teamsters are threatening to halt work to force management to a new deal or face a near-total loss

of services and revenue. The union, which represents more than 5,900 UPS workers in Michigan, seeks better working conditions, benefits and wages, as UPS enjoys record revenue and profits. They’ve already agreed to better pay for weekend drivers, that had been part of a two-tier wage system, that will be eliminated, air-conditioning in future delivery trucks and better cooling in the current fleet.

How long before businesses and consumers could feel the financial effects of a strike? “A very short time. A couple of days,” said John Taylor, an associate professor of supply chain management at Wayne State University. “It’s going to be a very, very quick impact.” Which, again, is the point of a strike: to cause inconvenience that puts pressure on management to negotiate.

While the revitalized U.S. labor movement, which has historic metro Detroit roots, is flexing its muscle, a work stoppage would come while the nation’s supply-chain system continues to recover from pandemic strains and a driver shortage endures. “It doesn’t matter what the cause is, when you interrupt the supply chain, it’s going to be bad,” Holcomb said.

The loss of a major shipping service, for even 10 days, could cost as much as \$7 billion nationally, per a study from East Lansing-based consultancy Anderson Economic Group (AEG). That’s based on an estimated loss of \$1.1 billion in wages for striking workers, while

UPS itself would lose an estimated \$816 million. Additionally, businesses and consumers would experience \$4.6 billion in losses, while other industries experience \$2.4 billion in losses. The study didn’t break down the estimated losses by state.

A UAW strike in 2019, which lasted six weeks, cost General Motors about \$989 million, AEG principal and CEO, Patrick Anderson, said, causing a one-state, one-quarter recession in Michigan. With UPS, the economic ripple effects are bigger because it would be a national strike, and the \$7 billion impact prediction may actually be too modest, Anderson said. “That’s possibly an underestimate,” Anderson said.

He, too, expects little companies to be hit hardest: “You’re going to have some small business, they won’t be able to function,” Anderson said. And like the chambers of commerce, he’s warning companies to prepare their supply chain now before a strike occurs. “These people are vulnerable, and they don’t have a logistics officer in their business. The CEO is often also the janitor. They need to start thinking about this right now,” Anderson said.

The ongoing supply chain issues will affect larger corporations, which often use multiple parcel and heavy machinery transportation services, in a less dire way than small companies could be affected, but anyone relying on UPS will feel something if a strike lasts very long. “Because of all of the supply chain has gone through, it’s very

fragile,” said Glenn Stevens, the Executive Director of MICHauto and Vice President of automotive and mobility initiatives for the Detroit Regional Chamber that represents companies in 11 counties in Southeast Michigan.

“The financial situation of companies is probably a lot more fragile than people think it is,” he said. “One critical component can shut down an assembly plant. It doesn’t take much. Thousands of such components are in an automobile....It can get real expensive, really quick, if there’s any type of disruption. “That means higher costs. It’s going to cost more to switch (carriers). The market forces go to work. Costs will go up,” Stevens continued. “It’s not a system that can bear a lot of cost increases, let alone a disruption of this nature. The consumer is going to see it in the end.”

On the west side of the state, there are still worries about a potential UPS strike, even if the area isn’t home to massive automotive corporations. “Our concern is, we’ve seen over recent years what the impact supply chain issues can have on the economy,” said Andy Johnston, Senior Vice President for advocacy and strategic engagement at the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce.

Such hiccups in the system can create months-long backlogs and interruptions in the movement of critical items, raising prices along the entire pipeline. “The

pandemic threw a stick in the bicycle spokes of the supply chain,” he said. Business-to-business shipping would also suffer during a strike, WSU’s Taylor said. “The impact is not only on consumer goods. It’s also on intermediate goods,” Taylor said. That’s stuff made for manufacturers by other manufacturers – the equipment and materials needed to make things.

The U.S. supply chain system, particularly for the automotive manufacturing sector, for decades has been built around just-in-time movement of parts and supplies, which allows businesses to be more efficient by not having warehouses full of inventory. That system has been strained by the pandemic’s harsh effects on the global supply chain and an ongoing truck driver shortage nationally. “(A strike) endangers, piece by piece, the system we built in the ‘80s, ‘90s, and 2000s,” Taylor said. An increase in shipping prices, by even a few percentage points, eventually drifts downstream to consumers in the form of more costly goods, he added.

He said companies of varying sizes, and entities such as hospitals, have been quietly preparing for the possibility of a UPS strike by building up inventory and making deals with other shippers. “They’re going to try to be proactive and order more inventory,” Taylor



616-813-2010
FREE Estimates
Locally owned and operated



- Sealcoating
- Crack Filling
- Patching

- Line Stripping
- Commercial
- Residential

When it comes to Home, the

EXPERIENCE MATTERS.



Call **Mark Johnson** today!
(616) 940-8181
MarkJohnsonAgency.com
6151 28th St. SE, Ste. 10,
Grand Rapids



FARM BUREAU INSURANCE



A Company

RIFLE & PISTOL RANGE

The Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsman's Club, 8731 West Riverside Dr. Saranac, will be opening their range to the public on the following dates. 6/4, 6/18, 7/2, 7/16, 8/6 & 8/20. There is a \$15.00 hourly fee and availability is on a first come first serve basis. (RSO's) will be present. Hours of operation are 10 am - 3 pm. You may call 616-642-9800 with any questions.

THIS AD FOR SALE!

More than 50% of adults have a positive perception of ads in print newspapers.*
Want to be next to trusted content? Place your ad in this newspaper and a network of newspapers in the state!

Call this paper
or 800-227-7636
www.cnaads.com *Kantar Millward Brown, Feb. 2018



Prepare for strike, continued page 12



Live the Life You Want

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

Tips for when you feel overwhelmed

Overwhelming emotions can be positive or negative. For this article, I'll focus on the overwhelm that leaves people feeling stuck in place and unable to deal with their current-life situation. For many, it seems like overwhelm has become a norm. We have more demands at work, with children's activities, in our family, and personal life. But overwhelm isn't just feeling stressed or overly busy; it's a feeling of being over-the-limit of what a person can handle so they feel unable to move forward. Symptoms of overwhelm can negatively affect overall wellness, so I'll start with the most common signs.

Symptoms
Symptoms of overwhelm can affect

behavior, emotions, mental and physical health. Overwhelm can also be a symptom of ADHD/ADD, anxiety, PTSD, OCD, depression, trauma, etc. Some of the most common symptoms of overwhelm are listed below.

Behavioral: Symptoms include difficulty concentrating, which can lead to mistakes. Procrastination/putting things off that need to get done, which results in the list growing longer and increased feelings of stress, anxiety, and overwhelm. Withdrawing from socializing and fun activities, due to a lack of energy or time. Substance abuse, when someone is desperate to cope so they turn to drugs (legal, illegal, or prescription)

or alcohol which can lead to addiction and even put them in danger (physically and emotionally).

Emotional: This may include feelings of anger/rage, anxiety, depression, frustration, helplessness, hopelessness, irritability, sadness, stress, and resentment toward others.

Physical: may include chest pain, dizziness, fatigue/feeling constantly tired, headaches, muscle tension/pain, nausea, shortness of breath, and problems sleeping. These are typically caused by the stress hormones being produced in the body.

If you're experiencing any of the physical symptoms or any of the behavioral, or emotional symptoms and they are negatively affecting your life, it's important to see your doctor to rule out a medical condition. If a medical condition is not the cause of your symptoms, they may be due to overwhelm. A licensed counselor can assist with overwhelm by helping you developing coping strategies and

tools.

Tips for Dealing with Overwhelm

If you feel overwhelmed by life, check-out the tips below, as they may help with managing symptoms.

For Behavioral symptoms:

- Make a list: This can clear some mind clutter and help with focus and concentration.

- Set realistic goals & priorities: Schedule priorities first. If possible, start with smaller priority goals easily reached. Don't overdo it or set too many.

- Split tasks into smaller steps: This makes them more manageable.

- Ask for help: When feeling overwhelmed, ask for help from a trusted co-worker, family member, or friend. If more help is needed, seek out a licensed counselor.

- Take breaks: This is important and helps you refocus. Go outside or do something fun.

For Emotional symptoms:

- Acknowledge your feelings: Don't ignore them. If you try, they may surface when it's not ideal. Take some alone time when you're home or in a safe, private place and let your feelings out. Don't judge (I shouldn't feel this way, etc.); just let the feelings flow and run their course in a healthy way.

- Practice self-compassion: Be kind to yourself in actions and self-talk.

- Practice self-care: You know the drill. Eat healthy, exercise, and work to get enough sleep. Do fun and relaxing activities; don't isolate yourself. This helps to increase energy and focus.

- Set boundaries: This is part of every healthy relationship, even with yourself. It's okay to set time and energy limits. Don't over extend. It's okay to say no. Avoid people who are negative and/or energy-drainers.

For physical symptoms:

- Take breaks, set

boundaries, and practice self-care: see previous descriptions.

- Delegate tasks: Ask for help from a trusted co-worker, family member, or friend. If possible, hire someone to help with specific tasks, yardwork, housekeeping, etc.

- Practice relaxation techniques: Try meditation, deep breathing, mindfulness techniques, etc. For some, cleaning can be relaxing and it is a mindful activity.

You're not alone, as many people struggle with feelings of overwhelm. Look for resources at your local library and online. If you are still struggling with feelings of overwhelm after trying some of these tips, it may be time to seek help from a professional counselor to develop coping strategies. I hope you find this info helpful but it's not intended to provide advice, diagnose, or treat. Be safe and well!

DIFS Directs Michigan insurance companies to report climate risks

Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) Director, Anita Fox, has directed Michigan-based insurance companies to report on their climate change-related risks and mitigation strategies via the national Climate Risk Disclosure Survey. Michigan joins with 26 other states in requiring the survey, a move that will help Michigan consumers and companies to be better prepared for catastrophic short- and long-term climate risks.

"Across the country, we are seeing more frequent and more severe weather events, and this is causing some insurers to exit the market in coastal states," said Director Fox. "Thankfully, our weather patterns in Michigan have been more consistent, but we must be proactive to ensure that the future outlook for Michigan's insurance market remains stable for Michigan consumers and businesses. By remaining vigilant and focusing our insurers on the risks posed by climate change, we can help ensure that Michigan remains a

great place to live, work, and do business."

The Climate Risk Disclosure Survey has been conducted annually since 2010 and currently covers approximately 80 percent of the national insurance market. It includes sections on governance, strategy, risk management, investments, and metrics, and requires insurance companies to measure their progress toward reducing climate risks across all areas of their business. The survey includes insurance companies with \$100 million in direct premium across multiple lines, including health, life, and property and casualty.

Implementing the climate risk survey is one way Michigan is working to help protect consumers from the risks posed by climate change. The bipartisan National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) recently adopted a new standard for the state insurance regulators participating in the survey, ensuring these data collection efforts will play a key

role in insurance policy nationwide. In addition, insurance regulators from France, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom currently require similar reports, and U.S. financial regulators, such as the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, are also taking steps toward requiring climate risk disclosures for financial institutions.

For additional information on preparing

for severe weather in Michigan, visit the DIFS Disaster Preparedness webpage. Consumers with questions or concerns about their insurance or financial services can visit Michigan.gov/DIFScomplaints or call 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday at 877-999-6442.

The mission of the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial

Services is to ensure access to safe and secure insurance and financial services fundamental for the opportunity, security, and success of Michigan residents, while fostering economic growth and sustainability in both industries. In addition, the Department

provides consumer protection, outreach, and financial literacy and education services to Michigan residents. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/DIFS or follow the Department on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

The Jimmie LeRoy Miller
and Linda Jean Miller
Trust

Re: Jimmie LeRoy Miller
and Linda Jean Miller,
decedents

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedents, Linda Jean Miller, who lived at 1072 - 59th Street, S.E., Kentwood, MI 49508, died 6-15-23, and her husband Jimmie LeRoy Miller died 1-14-13.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims

against the deceased or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Deborah S. Tennant, Trustee, of 11475 Edgerton, N.E., Rockford, MI 49341, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 17, 2023

John D. Mitus,
Attorney (P-31244)
410 Bridge Street, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-774-4001

Deborah S. Tennant,
Trustee
11475 Edgerton, N.E.
Rockford, MI 49341

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
OF HEARING
STATE OF MICHIGAN

The Probate Court for the
County of Kent

IN THE MATTER OF:
Conrad Chappell,
Guardianship File
No. 23-213,430-GA,
Conservatorship File No.
23-213612-CA.

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS including his
daughters (one that may
be named Cara) and any
other children and heirs
whose address(es) is/
are unknown and whose
interest in the matter may
be barred or affected by
the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing
will be held on September
15, 2023, at 9:00 am at Kent
Co. Probate Court, 180

Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids,
MI 49503, Courtroom 9C
in person and via Zoom
before Judge David M.
Murkowski (P35026)for
the following purpose:
Appointment of a Guardian
and Appointment of a
Conservator.

Dated: July 20, 2023

Adult Protective Services,
DHHS, Petitioner
121 Martin Luther King
Jr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI
49507
(616) 401-5242

VAN ESSEN and
ASSOCIATES PLLC,
Attys for Petitioner by
Amanda Van Essen Wirth
(P75001)
109 E. Main St.
Suite 11
Zeeland, MI 49464
Phone: (616) 633-0196

obituaries

Pirok

Setsuko “Mitchy” Pirok, age 82 of Lowell, passed away Saturday, July 22, 2023. She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother and three sisters; and her two dogs, Butaro “Boo” and Sugar Plum. Setsuko is survived by her husband, Michael Pirok; daughter, Catherine Pirok Smith; son, Christopher Pirok; grandson, Miles Christopher Pirok; two brothers and one sister still in Japan. Setsuko had an admirable educational background, having graduated from high school, and completed four years in

a special sewing and dressmaking trade school. This education fueled her passion for fashion and personal style, which she delighted in sharing with others throughout her life, as a self-employed professional seamstress. She showcased her remarkable skills and left a lasting impact on those who crossed her path. Deeply committed to her heritage, Setsuko was an active member of the Japanese Heritage Society. She found joy in her hobbies, particularly in the company of friends, and found solace and creativity in flower arranging. Nothing brought her more joy than doting on her grandson, Miles. Visitation will be held from 12pm on Friday July 28, 2023 at Roth-Gerst Chapel 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331. Service at 1pm with Don Silvis officiating. Memorial Contributions can be made to the Humane Society of Western Michigan.

gerst

FUNERAL CARE

Roth-Gerst



WINDOWS/SIDING

DOORS/INSULATION/GUTTERS

SAVE 50% OFF

HEATING/COOLING BILLS

GUARANTEED!!!

SAVE 10% OFF WITH THIS COUPON

897-7300

allweathersealinc.com

319 E. Main Lowell

All-Weather Seal

Not good w/any other offer/ Good on initial presentation

LL&P customer satisfaction survey

Lowell Light & Power (LL&P) strives to provide customers with safe, affordable and reliable electric service. In an effort to gauge how their customers feel about the services they provide, they are asking all current LL&P customers to share their thoughts through a short survey. Customers can either use the survey link within the July and August eBills, or by visiting the website www.lowell-light.org. LL&P recognizes that not all customers will be able to complete an online survey, so paper copies of the survey are available at the office, located at 127 N. Broadway.

“This survey is not only a great way for us to see where we rank with other providers on a national scale, but it also allows the community we serve to tell us where we excel and

where we can improve. We are so appreciative of the time our customers take out of their day to give us such valuable input” said General Manager, Charlie West.

To thank customers for their time and show their appreciation, LL&P will hold drawings for Lowell Bucks and bill credits. The surveys are confidential,

so Lowell Light & Power requests that customers who want to enter the drawings either send a screenshot of the “Thank you” page at the end of the survey, or email their name, address, phone number and account number.

Surveys must be completed by Sept. 1, 2023 and the drawings for prizes will be held by Sept. 15,



2023.

Winners will be contacted by phone and email, and first names will be shared on Lowell Light & Power’s Facebook and Instagram pages.

Not-for-profit public power utilities offer competitive electricity rates. LL&P has been providing electric service to thousands of customers in the City of Lowell and portions of Lowell and Vergennes Townships since 1896. On average, residential public power customers pay 13 percent less than customers of privately-owned utilities. We aren’t motivated by profits to sell more power, so we want to help reduce energy use. It’s a tradition that’s worked for over 120 years.

Prepare for strike, continued

said. “It’s already happening today. These small, medium, and large manufacturers are making contingency plans today.” Messages were left for Michigan Medicine and for Michigan State University, both major logistical users. Earlier this month, University of Michigan Procurement Services instructed its units to plan ahead and expect delays in anticipation of a strike, as the university explored “FedEx shipping alternatives.”

So just how big is UPS to cause such concerns? It transports about 6 percent of the nation’s gross domestic product. When it comes to total revenue from the nation’s domestic shipping, the U.S. Postal Service had the largest share at 32 percent in 2022, followed by UPS at 24 percent, Amazon Logistics at 23 percent, and FedEx with 19 percent, per the Pitney Bowes Parcel Shipping Index.

UPS averaged 24.3 million parcels a day last year and 6.2 billion for 2022, which generated a company record \$100.3 billion in revenue, and record profits of \$11.3 billion. Over the past decade, the company’s revenue has grown more than 80 percent, boosted in recent years by the pandemic. But there are signs that surge may be waning. Revenue fell 3 percent in the fourth quarter last year. The company’s most recent prediction for the full year 2023 revenue

is \$97 billion, with plans to spend \$3 billion to repurchase stock shares.

Workers argue they are entitled to a greater share of earnings. UPS workers last struck in 1997, when a 15-day walkout by 185,000 workers cost the company an estimated \$850 million — all before Amazon, eBay and innumerable other companies helped usher in the era of online-shopping and increased parcel delivery needs. While both the Teamsters and UPS have said much of a new labor deal has been agreed upon, including better working conditions and better wages for full-time workers, the sticking point that halted talks on July 5 is reportedly over raises for part-time workers, who account for more than half of UPS’ Teamster-repped employees.

Teamsters General President, Sean O’Brien, told the trade publication, Supply Train Drive the two sides are about \$6 or \$7 an hour apart on starting rates for part-time workers. The union is also pushing for more full-time employment opportunities. The company said part-time workers currently make an average of \$20 an hour after 30 days.

UPS said it has been training managers and other non-union staff to pick up some sorting and delivery work, if a strike occurs, but experts have said that would cover only a fraction of the parcels the company

delivers daily.

Rival delivery companies don’t have the capacity to pick up all of UPS’ business, but they’re preparing to assume some of it, which is expected to be more costly for companies forced to find a new parcel service. “Those other organizations like DHL and FedEx probably have limited capability to take that on,” said Taylor, the WSU supply chain professor. “It’s very hard to find spare capacity.”

FedEx, which is non-union, is the logical choice for many businesses to turn to, along with the U.S. Postal Service and smaller companies such as DHL. “In the event of an industry disruption, FedEx Corporation’s (NYSE: FDX) priority is protecting capacity and service for existing customers. Therefore, shippers who are considering shifting volume to FedEx, or are currently in discussions with the company to open a new account, are encouraged to begin shipping with FedEx now,” FedEx said in a statement.

Turning to other companies like FedEx and DHL can be costly, Taylor said, because many regular shippers have preferred pricing deals in place with UPS. “They don’t have that great deal with the competitor,” Taylor said, adding that a 3 percent to 5 percent increase in shipping costs is possible, something felt downstream by

consumers. “Shipping can be 20 percent of the finished goods price,” he added. “But that’s all stuff on the margin. It’s not going to look like that big of an increase.”

In the meantime, bargaining between UPS and the Teamsters is set to resume next week. “We are pleased to be back at the negotiating table next week to resolve the few remaining open issues. We are prepared to increase our industry-leading pay and benefits, but need to work quickly to finalize a fair deal that provides certainty for our customers, our employees and businesses across the country,” UPS said in a statement.

O’Brien, the Teamsters President, has asked the White House not to intervene, as it did in December, to force a new labor deal that headed off a potential national rail strike. At a webinar Sunday for Teamsters workers, O’Brien was asked what UPS customers should do if there’s a strike. “They should call UPS and tell them to do the right thing by our members who provide goods and services to them. This is not our members’ fault; this is not the international union’s fault. This is UPS and corporate greed at its best. You should encourage the customers to call UPS and tell them to do the right thing by their drivers, and part-timers, and loaders,” he said.

office hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Closed Fri., Sat. & Sun.

classifieds

for sale

CANONDALE DAY TRIP-PER 7 - Black/silver, like new, low miles, stored in garage, \$450 cash. 616-550-0558.

1997 FLEETWOOD FLAIR MOTORHOME - 31 ft. long, remodeled with only 77,000 miles. Excellent condition for it's age. Must see to really appreciate. \$6,500. Call 616-207-9026.

McCULLOUGH POWER GENERATOR - 5700 watt, 11 hp, \$300; Woodmaster 5500 outdoor wood furnace, heating area 10,000 sq. ft., \$2,000; full size bed frame w/under drawer storage, \$100. Call 616-481-4981.

USED TIRES - Call with size, 616-292-7649/616-295-8820. Rob's Auto - thanks.^{TFN}

NEWSPAPER END ROLLS AVAILABLE AT THE BUYERS GUIDE - Many uses, table cover, art projects, packaging, etc. Usually \$6 - \$9 each. Stop by & grab one today! 105 N. Broadway.

for rent

WE DO BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW - Equal Housing Opportunity. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin.. Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination: 1-800-669-9777 (toll free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

COTTAGES WITH BOATS FOR RENT - for more information google Ron's Quality Waterfront Cottages. 616-644-9414.

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. 2 loctions in Lowell. Rent online at www.mypricelessstorage.com or call 616-558-2900.^{TFN}

wanted

WANTED - Carpenter to fix, corner of garage. 616-207-9026.

ATTENTION CRAFTERS - Easton United Methodist Church of Ionia is looking for vendors for a craft show to be held Saturday, October 14. For registration and additional information, call Judy at 616-690-3072.

CALL FOR AUTHORS TO BE FEATURED - on "For the Love of Books Podcast" hosted by author and journalist Emma Palova of Lowell. The show features Indie & small press authors & their events. Email emapalova123@gmail.com. Listen in on podbean & other major podcast apps: For the Love of Books Podcast

misc.

NEED AN AL-ANON MEETING? - Al-Anon is a fellowship of families and friends of alcoholics. Join us Sunday-Saturday at 10:30 AM and 7 PM on Zoom. Come learn the Steps, Traditions & Concepts of living and coping, in Serenity, with alcoholism. There are no dues or fees for Al-Anon. For Zoom meeting ID & Password, please call Joy at 616-901-7779.

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) WEEKLY MEETINGS - Tuesdays, 6:30 pm at Schneider Manor Community Room, 725 Bowes Rd., Lowell. Cost \$37 per year and \$5 per month... start losing weight TODAY

ATTN LOWELL WIDOWS - We are meeting at various places for lunch or dinner most Mondays. All are welcome. Questions on location, call Elaine 616-856-8022 for more information.

AUXILIARY BINGO - Every Tuesday, 1-5 pm. Doors open at noon. Public welcome! Food & beverages available. Hard cards & chips format. 25¢ per card per game. No up front buy in required. Alto American Legion Post 528. License A22680.

AL-NON IN PERSON MEETINGS - are held at the FROM Building, 11535 Fulton E. on Fridays at 10 am in the Lowell Serenity Club Room and Tuesdays at 7 pm in Room 21. Enter through the southeast parking lot door. Al-Anon principles can help those affected by someone's problem drinking. There are no dues or fees. For more info call 616-987-6587.

QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE - Every Wednesday at 7 pm through Sept. 27. Ticket price \$1 each. Need not be present to win. Public welcome. Purchase tickets at Alto American Legion. Jackpot prize card Queen of Hearts. 50% of ticket sales added to jackpot prize each week. Alto Amerigan Legion #528. Raffle license C30929.

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-877-957-1264

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-718-3124

sales

MULTI-FAMILY SALE - July 27-29, 5998 Montcalm Rd., 9-5pm. Mowers, tools, household, crafts, kids items & so much more!

HUGE BARN SALE - August 2-5, Wednesday-Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-2, No Pre-sales. 10968 Vergennes, between Cumberland and Parnell. Fishing tackle, Paver portable grill, flagpole, table & chairs, purses/bags, tchotchkes, wicker, jewelry, women's clothing, furniture, antiques, golf equipment, primitives, pedestal sink, home decor, Something for everyone!

services

NEED A DUMPSTER? - Dumpster rental, 10-20 yards. Mention this ad for \$10 to \$20 off. Call or text Doug for estimates at 616-295-6640.^{TFN}

WORK WANTED - Double D's tree service Plus 70' & 40' bucket trucks. Tree trimming and removal, brush chipping, Stump

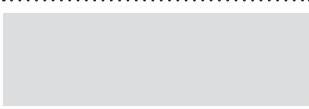
services

grinding. Free estimates and Insured. Call Dave Delinsky 616-212-3008. ^{TFN}

EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE - Lowell & surrounding areas. On road repairs. Rob's Towing & Auto Salvage. "CHEAP HOOKER" 616-292-7649 or 616-295-8820.

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED? - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees...I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: Flat fees only, no hourly billing. FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616) 235-0330.

WHEN IN AN ACCIDENT - CHOOSE WHO TOWS YOUR VEHICLE - Request J&K Roadwide Service, 616-690-0983. Towing, tire change, jump starts, fuel delivery.



NEWSPAPER CARRIERS NEEDED

Taking Applications Driving Route Carrier
Make some extra money on the weekend delivering the Buyer's Guide & News. Pick up papers in Lowell, get paid every week.

APPLY IN PERSON

Stop by the Buyer's Guide office located at
105 N. Broadway, Lowell.
or email your inquiry to:
classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

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

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

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



The Restless Viking

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

~ S.S. City of Milwaukee

by Martha Hayden

What’s a “Boatel?” Well, one can spend the night aboard an original 1931 railcar ferry, The S.S. City of Milwaukee. A “Boatel” is a living history hotel with water underneath! I had no idea that Manistee, Michigan housed an original 1931 Grand Trunk Railroad ferry steamship. Join my husband, Chuck, and I as we tour the ship and spend the night aboard the railroad company’s vessel.

one of fourteen steamships. This clever method saved time and money by avoiding Chicago’s congested rail lines. The S.S. City of Milwaukee is now owned by the Society for the Preservation of the S.S. City of Milwaukee. This group continues to work hard to keep her in pristine shape.

Boarding The Ship
As Chuck and I creaked



I felt tiny next to the 354 foot long steamship. She stands 16 feet above the water and is 56 feet wide.

S.S. City of Milwaukee
This ship had been built in 1930 to replace the S.S. Milwaukee, which had sadly sank on October 22, 1929. For decades, The S.S. City of Milwaukee had been part of the Grand Trunk Railroad fleet of railcar ferries. Later, from 1978-1982, the S.S. City of Milwaukee had worked with the Ann Arbor Railroad until she retired. The steamship was moved to Manistee in 2000. After restoration, she opened for tours and overnight stays in 2004.

Steamship History
From 1892-1982, up to 32 railcars could be transported per trip across Lake Michigan by

across the dock, we were greeted by workers busily maintaining the steel hull of the S.S. City of Milwaukee. As we mounted the metal staircase alongside the ship, we could hear 1930’s jazz music. Checking-in at the gift shop, Brandi led us up another flight to the cabins.

The Exquisite Interior
Music lofted from the Victrola as we entered the common area of the ship. It was as if we’d just stepped back into the 1930’s! The wooden paneled décor, as well as the red tiled floor, reminded me of my Grandmother’s home, built in the 1920’s.

Chuck took my hand and we did a slow-motion jitter

bug. That’s my speed these days. With his affection, I still get ‘twitter-pated!’ He’s just adorable! (Don’t tell him I said so!)

Sleeping Berths
Sleeping berths surrounded the perimeter of the common area. Railroad workers would have the opportunity to relax and rest

as the vessel crossed Lake Michigan.

The Galley
As the journey commenced, four meals had been prepared daily in the galley: breakfast, lunch, dinner and a midnight service, as well. Since the ship came into port frequently, supplies could be replenished regularly, so only a small refrigerator and freezer were needed.

The Captain’s Quarters
The Captain’s Quarters contained a large room with a bed on one side and an adjacent desk. A private stairway, leading to the

helm, stood in the center of his room. The worn risers on the Captain’s private stairway have painted a picture of determination and dedication. A phone device was located in the office area, as well as another at the helm. A third stood ready to receive

bounce. The berths on one side housed the car men who had been responsible for loading and unloading freight cars. Along the opposite side of The Flicker were berths for those who worked in the engine room: the boilermen, oilers and wipers. (The engine room door is pictured

a double bed. “Quaint and cozy” comes to mind, as I recall our stay. Without modern conveniences of heat or air conditioning, the berths have been subject to Mother Nature’s whimsical weather. This particular night in June, the temperature dropped to 48 degrees Fahrenheit. I was thankful that I’d brought



Plaques adorned the original woodwork with names of donors. Chairs had been embroidered naming beneficiaries who had paid for restorations.

direction down below in the engine room.

The Helm
The 360 degree view from the helm was captivating! Being able to wander around the steamship was a treat. Later, we revisited this space with our

above to the left of our tour guide.) These hard working men were not allowed to mingle with the passengers.

The Engine
Using four Scotch boilers, steam was sent to two triple-expansion reciprocating steam engines.

along my down coat!
Departing The S.S. City of Milwaukee
As well as overnight stays, this ship can be rented for group events: reunions, weddings and parties. During October, there are ghost tours which highlight



The Captain could call down to the engine room to communicate commands. (far right)

tour guide and learned about the notification systems. Our guide led us through the red metal door, down the stairwell to “the flicker” and the engine room!

The Flicker
At the bottom of the stairway, we entered “The Flicker.” A cherry red, metal table gleamed in the center of the room with berths surrounding the space. A line of sinks stood along the back wall. Our guide stood on the red table, “The rattling train cars (above) would cause the lights to flicker.” He banged his fist on the ceiling and sure enough, the bulbs flashed. “That’s why this room has been named ‘The Flicker.’” He nodded and hopped down off the bench with a youthful

Each engine had ran at the rate of 1350 horsepower. That’s a total of 2700 horsepower. Even with all that power, the heavily loaded vessel had only traveled at 14 mph. I was struck by the intense work that had taken place here. Keeping the steam engines running smoothly was a challenging task! If the engines were overheating, a small valve could be opened, allowing lake water to cool the mechanisms. Honestly, the thought of water being introduced INSIDE the ship made my heart squeeze tightly.

Our Overnight Stay
Chuck had booked us ‘the railroad executive’s’ berth. It was larger than most, with a seating area and

the two deaths aboard this vessel. There are reports of a ‘ghost cat,’ too. Spending the night aboard the S.S. City of Milwaukee permitted us to tiptoe back-in-time. What a luxury! I highly encourage you to take the opportunity to do the same! Check out our YouTube video of this caper below. Keep being curious!

Resources:
Contact Information:
Society for the Preservation of the S.S. City of Milwaukee and USCGC Acacia, 99 Arthur Street, Manistee, MI, 49660, 231-723-3587, sscityofmilwaukee@gmail.com
SS City of Milwaukee website



(Left) Four young boys would help the cook with every meal. The cook and the assistant had the room shown at the top right. (Bottom right) The narrow hallway had a refrigerator and small freezer.

FUN PAGE

SUDOKU

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

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!

Guess Who?

I am a singer born in New York on August 30, 1989. I got my start acting in musicals. I've written many popular songs, including one for Eminem and Rihanna, and also have had a successful singing career.

Answer: Beyonce

1		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			

SUMMERTIME WORD SEARCH

V	4	T	P	0	0	L	B	T	H	B	A	W	J	R	X	X	Y	S	B
T	A	E	T	E	L	C	I	V	A	B	T	L	U	E	W	T	J	A	B
O	B	G	B	A	H	C	I	L	A	U	B	B	K	B	C	B	T	J	C
G	K	B	B	A	H	C	I	L	A	U	B	B	K	B	C	B	T	J	C
Y	S	G	A	A	H	C	I	L	A	U	B	B	K	B	C	B	T	J	C
O	I	F	B	H	H	C	P	E	C	H	F	B	I	L	Y	F	D	I	H
J	R	E	B	H	H	C	P	E	C	H	F	B	I	L	Y	F	D	I	H
K	T	B	L	C	S	W	P	E	B	X	M	S	I	W	L	E	R	F	B
T	0	A	Y	0	I	T	A	X	A	L	E	R	W	T	0	A	X	K	Y
D	L	A	Y	0	I	T	A	X	A	L	E	R	W	T	0	A	X	K	Y
C	K	T	E	D	I	S	A	E	S	U	E	R	N	L	L	M	C	E	S
A	N	E	U	B	D	E	B	U	N	I	E	R	N	L	L	M	C	E	S
E	C	C	B	X	C	E	K	B	J	N	E	R	F	N	U	C	B	A	B
R	K	A	N	Y	X	U	C	T	N	E	M	Y	O	J	N	E	I	I	F
T	B	E	R	U	B	E	C	F	B	O	B	0	I	Y	N	0	B	N	P
S	P	T	L	E	E	C	F	B	O	B	0	I	Y	N	0	B	N	P	T
U	B	B	B	E	H	I	N	Y	L	U	J	B	U	S	K	X	M	N	Y
0	B	F	N	E	D	M	I	T	0	K	B	U	S	K	X	M	N	Y	B
U	S	M	K	Y	A	P	0	I	F	F	X	J	S	I	J	B	T	T	C
A	X	E	P	X	T	T	T	B	C	0	0	L	I	N	0	L	B	A	B

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

Puzzle solutions
on page 13

SUMMERTIME WORD
SEARCH

AUGUST
BACKYARD
BARBECUE
BEACH

COOLING
ENJOYMENT
FAMILY
FAN
GRILL
HOT
JULY

POOL
RELAXATION
REST
RETREAT
SEASIDE
SHADE
SUMMER

SUNLIGHT
SUNSCREEN
SWIMSUIT
ULTRAVIOLET
VACATION
WARMTH

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to summer.

R T D H G O U

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

Answer: Drought

CLUES ACROSS

- Taxi
- Cattle disease (abbr.)
- Before the present
- They burn in a grill
- Enough (archaic)
- "A Doll's House" playwright
- Long loop of cloth worn around the waist
- Napoleonic Wars battle
- Chinese surname
- Fragrant essential oil
- Follows sigma
- Model
- A place with many dining options
- BBQ dish
- Corn comes on it
- A sheep in its second year
- Triad
- They __
- Actor DiCaprio
- TV's "Edith Bunker"
- Sustenance
- Man who behaves dishonorably
- Cause a loud, harsh

sound

- A way to take in liquids
- Gene type
- The Miami mascot is one
- Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- Casino machine
- Contains cerium
- Something with a letter-like shape
- Handwoven Scandinavian rug
- Legendary actress Ruby

CLUES DOWN

- Conqueror
- Kin relation
- Increases the value of
- Pack
- Popular nut
- Dogs' enemies
- Former OSS
- Unpleasant person
- Come again?
- Beverage container
- Rock formation
- Dorm official
- The bill in a restaurant

20. Type of jug

- Importance requiring swift action
- Outfit
- Small Eurasian deer
- Weight used in China
- A major division of geological time
- Popular beverage
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Practical joking
- Pouchlike structure
- Pound
- Lilly and Manning are two
- Stopped discussing
- Baltimore ballplayer
- Candymaker
- One thousandth of a second (abbr.)
- Northern sea duck
- Partner to cheese
- Cannot be found

Joan Young on the North Country Trail, continued



Joan Young and Chris Loudenslager, NCT Superintendent

Far Out and Avenza, and crowd-sourced apps. The most difficult part of the trail elevation-wise is in western New York state, the area of Finger Lakes and down,” Young said. Minnesota presents some rock scrambling in the Kekekabic and Border Route sections of the state, while the flat areas

tered the hottest weather along Garrison Canal in North Dakota. Following is an excerpt from her blog: “The heat was brutal. But I was walking along

day, I did 18 miles, but I had to do a shorter day the next day because I was so worn out. Then I started getting up and hiking at the crack of dawn so I was pretty much done before the temp hit 100, around 2 in the afternoon.”

closed the access roads to the trail and the parks that got Young off the trail. She returned in June to finish it.

“People call me amazing, but anyone can do it,” she laughed in the interview. “I just put one foot in front of the other.

Arbor hiked with Young for 1,100 miles, through various sections in Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula, and Lower Michigan. Most of the hiking was in winter conditions. “The entire time I hiked with her she



Scenes from the hike, including Upper Tahquamenon, Au Sable Light House and Two Hearted Bridge

valleys and ridges with 500 to 900 feet climbs and descents. “You’re going to be doing up and down, up

of the trail can be found in northwest Ohio around Great Black Swamp and in Minnesota. Young encoun-

the Garrison Diversion canal, at the time, and I kept pouring water over my head. On the hottest

An avid blogger of 15 years, Young logged her daily adventures in her blog after a long day’s hike. She backdated the posts in areas without Wi-Fi or signals, wherever she backpacked, mainly in New York, Vermont, and Minnesota.

Even though she always wanted to get back on the trail, there were some days when Young

God is amazing. I just draw on that source.” Superintendent of NCT, Chris Loudenslager, said that Joan’s accomplishment speaks to the passion and commitment of the NCT volunteers, its community of supporters, and their collective love of the trail. “I believe that Joan’s journey illustrates that a person can hike as

provided a wealth of information that she gathered from her first NCT hike and her advanced logistical research,” he said. “I was amazed at the number of people she seemed to know, remember from her first hike, and who sometimes provided her lodging.”

Although Young is currently happy being off



hoped for little amenities like a dry handkerchief. The only thing that finally stopped her was an inability to walk more than six miles a day on snowshoes. “I just couldn’t bear to move that slowly,” she said. “The snow was getting deeper and deeper and I was getting tired. I was a month behind schedule.” It was the vicious UP weather that blanketed the area with snow, and the parks service

much or as little of the North Country National Scenic Trail as they choose and still have an amazing, rewarding experience,” he said. “You don’t have to hike it in its entirety, in one effort; you can do it in segments and spread it out over time, and make multiple visits; but if a person should choose to, Joan has shown, not just once, but twice, that it is possible.”

Bill Courtois of Ann

the trail, she does not exclude the possibility of doing it again. “I am not done hiking forever,” she said.

NCT headquarters and Trail Shop are located at 229 E. Main St., Lowell, MI. hq@northcountrytrail.org ... 866-HIKE-NCT.

Listen in to the podcast episode on <https://emmapalova123.podbean.com> or wherever you get your podcasts.