

I'M SHOPPING LOCAL

Three words that will tell your community merchant that you appreciate them.

INVEST IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

VIEW Newspaper Group

BRINGING LOCAL COMMERCE, INFORMATION
AND NEWS TO LOWELL, ALTO AND ADA SINCE 1954

VIEW Newspaper Group

BUYER'S GUIDE AND NEWS



Lowell Showboat
**Sizzlin' Summer
Concert Series**

See Insert for Summer
Concert Line-up!

Lowell, MI 49331

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Phone (616) 897-9555



Missing on Main Street

Missing Along Main explores the buildings that once occupied Main Street but are no longer there.

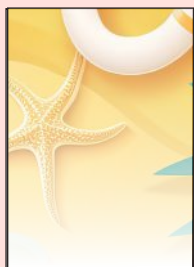
Page 3



Memorial Day

Special section dedicated to honoring and remembering service members who died serving our country.

Page 6



Welcome Summer

Special pages dedicated to summer events and activities.

Page 10

Lowell celebrates Memorial Day with parade



Memorial Day is celebrated annually on the last Monday of May, across the United States. Memorial Day honors service members who died while serving in the United States military. The holiday's inspiration and lengthy history merits consideration as the nation prepares to commemorate countless soldiers' sacrifices once more. Lowell will recognize Memorial Day with a parade on Monday, May 26 at 10 a.m., the parade travels down Main Street with stops at the Veteran's memorials on Main Street and at Oakwood Cemetery, there will be speakers at each stop. **Photo by Bruce Doll**

VIEW Newspaper Group

Proud to be

YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

**BUYER'S GUIDE
AND NEWS**
(616) 897-9555

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Greenville, MI 48838
Permit #338
PO Box 340
Greenville, MI 48838
RESIDENTIAL
CUSTOMER
EDDM



IRA / 401K ROLLOVERS

Discover Your Options

616.719.1490

eric@brookstoneinvestment.com

brookstoneinvestment.com

309 East Main Street
Lowell, MI 49331

Securities offered through J.W. Cole Financial, Inc. (JWC)
Member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services offered through
J.W. Cole Advisors, Inc. (JWCA) Brookstone Investments
and JWC/JWCA are unaffiliated entities.

Lowell's Memorial Day of Remembrance

American Legion Post #152 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8303 invite all Veterans, Civic Organizations, Scouts and other participants to take part in the annual Memorial Day Ceremonies, and salute to our deceased and living Veterans, Monday, May 26, 2025. The parade forms at the old Kent County Youth Fairgrounds on S. Broadway Street at 9 a.m.; all participants must be there by 9:30 a.m., with departure promptly at 10

a.m.

The parade will proceed north on S. Broadway Street, east on Main Street, stopping at the Veteran's memorials on the east side of the Flat River for rendering of honors to Those Who Have Perished at Sea. Speaker will be Bob Seif, U.S. Army. The parade continues east on Main Street, north of Monroe to Oakwood Cemetery, for a short ceremony with Lt. Col. U.S. Marine, Bryan Forney, at the War of the Rebellion Memorial. Any

wishing to participate should contact Herman Weststrate at 616-897-9479. Patriotic themes shall be permitted. Commercial and political advertising is prohibited. Tossing of candy from floats or passing out of literature along the parade route is strictly prohibited.

Participants, Veterans and their families may meet at noon at the Lowell Veterans Center for refreshments.



Photo by Bruce Doll

You may be eligible for SSI and Social Security Benefits

BY HILLARY HATCH

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

You may be able to get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) even if you already receive Social Security benefits. About 2.5 million adults and children get SSI and Social Security at the same time.

We pay Social Security benefits to workers and their eligible family members based on the worker's earnings. SSI is a needs-based program that provides payments to people with little or no income and few resources.

People younger than 65 must be blind or have a disability and meet SSI income and resource limits, while people 65 and older do not have to have a disability. About 1.4 million people 65 and older receive both SSI and Social Security.

What do we mean by "little or no income?"

In 2025, you may be eligible for SSI if your total income — including your Social Security benefit — is less than \$987 per month (the 2025 SSI monthly federal benefit rate plus \$20).

We consider income from all non-

work sources, including pensions, veterans' benefits, unemployment, and Social Security disability, retirement, and survivor benefits. We also count some — but not all — earnings from work, including self-employment.

What do we mean by "few resources?"

Resources are things that you own that you could change to cash and use to support yourself. They include vehicles (if you own more than one) and money in bank accounts, stocks, and bonds. We do not count your home and the land it's on, as long as you live there. To be eligible for SSI, your resources cannot be worth more than:

\$2,000 for a single person.

\$3,000 for a married couple living together.

For more information visit our blog article, "You May Be Eligible for SSI and Social Security Benefits" at blog.ssa.gov/you-may-be-eligible-for-ssi-and-social-security-benefits.

Please share this information with others who may benefit — and post it on social media.

Scan our QR code
to find your
perfect invitation!

Simply Perfect

WEDDING INVITATIONS

Created just for your big day, we've put together sets of
stunning wedding invitations to perfectly match your style.

PRINTING BY

Penny Lane

www.printingbypennylane.com
ginad@pennylaneprinting.com

Missing on Main Street

165 S. Broadway, Kellogg Vinegar Co.

In 1894, John Kellogg established an apple drying plant, known as the Kellogg Apple Drier. His first cider mill went into operation in 1900 in the old barn and farm buildings. Soon there was also a cider and jelly mill in connection. The business was located south of the Fallas Canning factory on South Broadway.

In 1904, a fire resulted in the partial loss of Kellogg's buildings. He rebuilt larger and better. The statistics for 1906 showed that The Kellogg Evaporator, Jelly and Cider Works used 50,000 to 60,000 bushels of apples. Of these, about 20,000 were used for evaporated fruit and the rest for cider vinegar and jelly.

In 1911, a new cement building was built for the Vinegar Plant, which was then doing business as Kellogg and VanDyke. The cement blocks were cast in the basement of the Masonic building at 315-317 East Main. Its footprint was 70 by 40 feet with two stories and a basement. It used 24 generators.

In 1914, the partnership was discontinued and the business was once again conducted by John Kellogg. He retired 10 years later, in 1924. His son, Paul Kellogg, took over and the name became the Paul Kellogg Vinegar Co.

In 1938, the Paul Kellogg Vinegar Co. added two large, modern cider presses, which could crush 300 bushels of apples an hour, compared to 100 bushels an hour. A total of 250 barrels, or 12,000 gallons of cider, could be put out each day and placed in storage tanks to ripen into



Workers at Kellogg's Evaporator, in 1909, were Mrs. Chas. Kraft, Mrs. Peckham, Fred Arthur, Sara Fenning, Will Prentice, John Kellogg, Mrs. Ingersol, Will Peckham, Beca Hatch, Ruby Cane, and Paul Kellogg. **Photo provided**

vinegar. Six new storage tanks were also added, with a capacity of 25,000 gallons each.

They owned five large trucks in 1949 and shipped 90% of their product, by truck, in barrels, jugs and bottles to various points in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The annual capacity for making vinegar was 1,000,000 gallons. Apples were brought here by truckloads from a radius of 100 miles from Lowell. From 75 to 100 carloads of glass containers were shipped in every year to be used to market the vinegar, which was shipped to grocers.

In 1954, an incorporated company was formed, known as Paul Kellogg Vinegar Corporation. The stockholders and officers were: Paul Kellogg, Edward Kiel and Bertha Jessup. A new generator unit was imported from Germany to speed up the process of making vinegar. It rigidly controlled the temperature and air so the fermentation process was strictly controlled and was increased

THE LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM
PRESENTS A WEEKLY SERIES.

10 times.

In 1965, the Paul Kellogg Vinegar Corporation, then owned by Edward Kiel and Gerald Kellogg (son of Paul), bought the L. W. Rutherford Mincemeat property next door, and the recipe, and rights to manufacture the famous Dining Car Mince Meat. The Kellogg company moved their bottling and processing operations to the Rutherford plant. A pipeline was installed to take the vinegar and apple juice from the Kellogg Plant to the new facilities.

In 1979, the old Kellogg Vinegar Plant was razed by Michigan Wire Processing Co., which next operated on the site. They kept the Mincemeat building and connected it to the old Runciman Hallmark Bean building on the east, which they also owned.

Wills & Trusts

*Remain in Control
While Protecting
Your Family*



**Plan for your
peace of mind...**



**Noreen K.
Myers**
Attorney at Law

Free Initial Consultation

307 E. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331

616-897-5460

**Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF**

**SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB**

1-855-417-1306

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

SPECIAL OFFER



Kellogg's Cider Mill and Vinegar Plant began in the old farm barn on S. Broadway, in 1900. **Photo provided**

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

Before

After

**LIMITED
TIME
OFFER!
SAVE!**

**UP TO
50%
OFF
INSTALLATION**

**FREE ESTIMATE
1.833.370.1234**

eriehome

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licenses/

TO PLACE A
CLASSIFIED AD, CALL
(616) 897-9555

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:
NOON TUESDAY

MAST INSULATION SPRAY FOAM

Closed or Open Cell
or Blown-In Fiberglass

Roy Mast • 517-652-9119
2501 N. Ionia Rd., Vermontville



THE Antenna Men

• Digital TV Antennas • Starlink Installs • Towers
• Cellular Enhancement Systems

Give us a call!
269-967-8241
www.theantennamen.com
antennamen@gmail.com

www.cellsignalpros.com People with the Right Connections!

Nelson's Spray Foam LLC

FREE Estimates

• Closed-Cell Foam Insulation
• Blown-in Attic Insulation

517-983-0954
Start Saving Today ~ Use Spray Foam

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. In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots; in the advertising the sale or rental of housing, in the financing of housing, in the provision of real estate brokerage services and in the appraisal of housing. 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).

PRICELESS STORAGE - Indoor/outdoor. New units on Alden Nash, 1 mile South of 196. Call for specials, 616-558-2900.

WHISTLE STOP MINI STORAGE - 12661 Vergennes, N. of Lowell, 5x10; 10x10; 10x20; 10x30; 12x40. Fenced, lighted, key code entry. Call for more information, 616-897-8872.

FOR RENT

HALL FOR RENT - Lowell Veteran's Center, 3100 Alden Nash. Newly remodeled, smoke-free, private. Great location & great rate! www.VFW8303.org. Jan., feb., March & April Veterans Potluck at 2 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 616-897-8303. Call Herm Weststrate 616-299-3619 or text.

FOR SALE

USED TIRES - Call with size, 616-292-7649 or 616-295-8820. Rob's Auto - Thanks!

DAVAL'S USED FURNITURE & ANTIQUES 6 buildings with 15,000 sq. ft. of quality furniture, antiques and collectibles. SAVE TIME AND MONEY. SHOP DAVAL'S FOR THE BEST SELECTION, BEST QUALITY, BEST PRICE. YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT. We are truly a destination place and worth the drive. WE BUY ESTATES. Layaway terms available. Visa/MasterCard/Discover accepted. 2 miles W. of Hastings at 2084 W. M-43 Hwy near Bob's Gun & Tackle. Hours- Sun: 12-5; M-Fri: 10-6; Sat: 9-5. (269) 948-2463.

LAMINATING - at the Lowell Ledger office, 105 N. Broadway. Hours: M-Th 8 am - 4 pm. Largest size is 8.5x11 sheet of paper.

AUCTIONS

GEORGE KING ONLINE Estate Auction, bid now through June 3. 2002 Dodge Ram B1500 van, Craftsman mower, milling tools, RC planes, ham radios/equipment, tools, more at Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com. Questions? Call Joe, 1-800-835-0495.

MISCELLANEOUS

AMISH-BUILT STORAGE sheds starting at \$2,500. We deliver anywhere in Michigan! Call 989-832-1866. DanDan-TheMattressMan.com

An AMISH LOG HEADBOARD AND Queen Pillow Top Mattress Set. Brand new-never used, sell all for \$375. Call anytime, 989-923-1278.

BATH & SHOWER updates in as little as 1 day! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & military discounts available. 1-877-543-9189.

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance

MISCELLANEOUS

Company. Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free Information Kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads #6258.

ECO-FRIENDLY Pond & Lake weed removal tools. Veteran made in Michigan. Visit our website www.WeedGatorProducts.com or call 989-529-3992. 5% discount code GATOR5.

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING forever! Leaf-Filter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936.

HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 seconds. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets now for as little as 70¢/day! 1-844-591-7951.

SUNSETTER. America's number one awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-855-914-1148.

BUYER'S GUIDE AND NEWS

Buyers Guide and News
Proudly Published in
Lowell MI, USA
Since 1954

105 N. Broadway St.,
Lowell, MI 48331
Phone: 616-897-9261
www.lowellledger.org/
buyers-guide

CONTACT US
Display Ads:
displayads@lowellbuyersguide.com

Classified Ads:
classifieds@lowellbuyersguide.com



PRINTED ON 100%
RECYCLED PAPER.
Please recycle this newspaper

PUBLISHED BY
VIEW Newspaper Group
Rick Burrough, President
Wes Smith, Group Publisher

Copyright 2025
©2025 Jams Media, LLC
All Rights Reserved
Printed in the U.S.

All advertising in Buyers Guide and News is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from Buyers Guide and News Ad Dept., 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 48331 (616-897-9261). This newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

CLASSIFIEDS

COMING EVENTS

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.

ATTN LOWELL WIDOWS & WIDOWERS - We are meeting at various places for lunch or dinner. We laugh together and eat. All are welcome. For more information, call Elaine at 616-856-8022.

AUXILIARY BINGO - Every Tuesday, 1-5 pm. Doors open at noon. Public welcome! Must be 18 or older. Food & beverages available. Hard cards & chips format. 25¢ for 2 cards per game. No up front buy in required. Alto American Legion Post 528. License A22680.

WANTED

DONATE YOUR CAR to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

COMING EVENTS

NEED AN AL-ANON MEETING? - Al-Anon is a fellowship of families and friends of alcoholics. We share our experience, strength and hope in order to solve our common problems. 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. Al-Anon is self supporting through it's own voluntary contributions or donations. For Zoom meeting ID & Password, please call Joy at 616-901-7779.

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS) - Tuesdays, 6:30 pm at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd., Lowell.

IN MEMORY

In loving memory of Faye Egan, who passed away 17 years ago on June 1, 2008.

Many years have gone by, a lot of memories are cherished. Days are not forgotten with the love, smiles and laughter you have us.

Love, Gerald (Honey);
Sally & Josh;
Chris & Matt Downer
& families;
Charles Miller.

Accepting New Patients

*"Gentle & Painless
Dentistry is Our Goal"*

Family Dentistry Since 1994

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

HOURS:
Mon. - Wed.
9-5 pm
Thursday
8 am - 2 pm



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



Are you creative?

— NOW HIRING — GRAPHIC DESIGNER

View Newspaper Group is seeking a full-time graphic artist for our Greenville location.

— MONDAY THRU FRIDAY • IN OFFICE • NO WEEKENDS —

This role is ideal for individuals who are passionate about graphic design with a keen eye for quality graphics.

Must have working knowledge of Adobe InDesign and PhotoShop (PC) - Illustrator a plus!

Responsibilities include:

- Newspaper advertising design
- Newspaper composition/layout

We love what we do and we know you will too!

Are you the person we need?

Send your resume to General Manager Amber Rood at arood@thedailynews.cc and let's find out!

VIEW Newspaper Group

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ The County Press | ■ Tri-County Times | ■ The Lowell Ledger |
| ■ Lapeer Area View | ■ Daily News | ■ The Hastings Banner |
| ■ Genesee County View | ■ Tri-County Citizen | ■ Buyer's Guide & News |
| ■ Huron County View | ■ Oxford Leader | ■ The Sun and News |
| ■ Sanilac County News | ■ Lake Orion Review | ■ Ad-Visor & Chronicle |
| ■ Your Buyer's Guide | ■ Clarkston News | ■ Battle Creek Shopper News |
| ■ Jeffersonian | ■ The Citizen | ■ The Reminder |

We are a growing company of 21 community newspapers serving 15 Michigan counties that are delivered weekly to more than 335,000 households with an additional 500,000 monthly online readers.

GIVE US YOUR SCOOP!

If you see news happening,
or if you just want us to
know about something
going on...

Email us:
cjohnson@mihomepaper.com

2025 MEMORIAL DAY

SPECIAL SECTION

'In Flanders Fields,' the poppies blow to commemorate WWI fallen soldiers

By Emma Palova
Contributing Writer

The red poppy, as a symbol of war casualties, started with a poem. In the spring of 1915, a Canadian artillery unit brigade surgeon, named Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, saw bright red poppies blooming on the war-torn fields where so many soldiers, had lost their lives during the Second Battle of Ypres in Belgium. The sight moved him to write the famous poem "In Flanders Fields":

"In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below."

Many area veterans can attest to that, and that's why they sell the red crepe or silk Buddy Poppy, one day ahead of Memorial Day. Memorial Day poppies can't be bought in stores. The Friday before Memorial Day, May 23 this year, is National Poppy Day. During this time, poppies are handmade by veterans as part of their therapeutic rehabilitation and distributed across the country by the American Legion Auxiliary in exchange for donations that assist disabled and hospitalized veterans.

Post commander of Lowell VFW 8303, Herman Weststrate, served in Vietnam for 51 weeks, assigned to the QFR Quick Reaction Force USARV,

and promoted to specialist E4 on March 9, 1968. The members of the post will be selling the red poppies at Keiser's Kitchen on Thursday, from 9 a.m. until close. "It's a day to remember those who have served and gone before us," he said.

Weststrate used the GI bill and graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1980, with bachelor's degree in history from CAS Allendale Campus, at the age of 34, which included a pass-fail in classes in jungle warfare.

Deb McFadden participated in the war for Bosnia twice; in Aviano, Italy, working with the Marines in Tent City, and next year in Tin City. She was in Prince Sultan Air Base Saudi Arabia, prior to Iraqi Freedom/ Ensuring Freedom, working in a coalition clinic for NATO troops. Then, she was activated again,



Post commander of Lowell VFW 8303, Herman Weststrate. **Photo provided**



Deb McFadden in Landstuhl, Germany. **Photo provided**

when the war broke out in 2003, to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, to care for the casualties in Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom.

"I reflect every day on Remembrance Day," she said. "I am a proud American that I was of some help for our troops, and Americans and people, in general. Unless you have been involved or served, you have no real clue as to what it takes to have your freedom. I was so proud of military service from my father, Wilford Shawley, who served in WWII. The Army and the Air Force gave a lot to me. I spent a year in the Army National Guard and one year in USAF Reserve, and 30 years in the Air National Guard."

In other countries, the Red Poppy Day is celebrated in November, in conjunction with Veterans' Day, signifying the end of WWI.

7 ways to honor active military and veterans

A major portion of the North American population is comprised of people who are actively serving in the Armed Forces or those who once did. USAFacts reports the military included 2,079,142 military personnel and 778,539 civilians as of September 2023. In 2023, the U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 15.8 million veterans in the U.S. In Canada, the 2021 Census of Population found that 97,625 Canadians were serving in the Canadian Armed Forces while 461,240 Canadians were characterized as veterans.

Military men and women work tirelessly and selflessly to defend their countries' ideals and freedoms. Too often military members do not get the attention and acclaim they deserve. The month of May, which celebrates Military Appreciation Month as well as Memorial Day, is a perfect time of year to honor those who have served in various ways.

• **Improve the community.** Veterans want the communities they call home to be the best they can be, and that can be achieved by community members pitching in to improve their towns and cities. Doing something honorable, like establishing a park in honor of veterans, can be a great way to improve a community and honor service personnel at the same time.

• **Support veteran-friendly policies.** By supporting policies and organizations that prioritize veterans' rights, individuals are showing veterans they care. Policies that ensure veterans have access to services they need warrant everyone's support.

• **Donate to a nonprofit that supports veterans.** Many charities do important work to bridge the gap in care or services needed by veterans or active military members. Using hard-earned dollars to fund these nonprofits is money well spent.

• **Ask a veteran to be a keynote speaker.** Schools or businesses can ask military members to come in and speak to groups about their experiences. Newspapers and other local publications can write about veterans

and share their stories.

• **Pay respects to the country.** A simple way to honor veterans is to embrace and showcase national pride. Flying the country's flag in front of homes and businesses is a first step. Attending patriotic events, such as parades and memorials, also is a way to honor veterans and others.

• **Keep cemeteries clean.** Respect the hallowed land that is the final resting place for veterans by volunteering to tidy up around headstones and other markers. On key calendar dates, such as Memorial Day, help with the placement of flags on every veteran's grave as a token of thanks for their sacrifice.

• **Volunteer at a VA hospital.** Now more than ever VA hospitals may be short-staffed and have need of more volunteers to help with various services. Volunteer work can include visiting patients or running recreational activities, both of which can boost the spirits of veterans receiving care.

Honoring veterans and other military personnel doesn't have to be difficult. Beyond a simple "thank you," there are many steps people can take to show their gratitude to active military personnel and veterans.

- Metro Creative Connection



Thanks for Your Service

We appreciate your courage, sacrifice and all you do for our country!

Arctic Inc. Heating & Cooling
Call Us At 616-897-4123

Celebrating
40+ Years!

We could not have done this without you!

Website - www.HeatingCoolingOnline.com
Email - info.HeatingCoolingOnline.com

Remembering their Courage & Sacrifice



301 E. Main, Lowell
616-897-8457
www.ci.lowell.mi.us



On Memorial Day and always, we remember and honor all who put service above self as members of our nation's military. Thank you for your sacrifice and dedication to preserving our freedom.

Jones Farm Meats, LLC.

7965 Potters Road, Saranac • 616-642-9212

www.jonesfarmmeats.com

Lest We Forget
Celebrate • Honor • Remember



306 E. Main Street, Lowell • 616-897-7191

Memorial Day weekend travel tips

Certain times of year inspire more travel than others. Memorial Day weekend certainly fits that bill. AAA estimated 44 million people traveled during Memorial Day weekend in 2024, and that popularity is at least in part due to the holiday's reputation as the unofficial beginning to summer.

A Memorial Day weekend getaway can be just what people need to get into the summer swing of things. With summer set to kick off, even if only unofficially, travelers can consider these tips to make the most of this popular time to travel.

- **Book early.** Whether Memorial Day weekend travelers are flying or traveling by bus or train, it's important to book reservations as early as possible. Flights on popular travel weekends fill up quickly, so booking early can increase the chances flyers will be able to depart and return at the time of their choosing. The same goes for bus and train travel. Lodging also can fill up quickly, so book hotel reservations or reserve stays through sites such as Airbnb as early as possible. Booking early can help travelers ensure they aren't shut out of their desired destination, and it also can save money, as rates tend to go up the closer one gets to the travel weekend.

- **Time your travel.** Memorial Day weekend motorists might want to get on the road before the sun rises. Leaving early, when there are fewer cars on the road, reduces the chances of being caught in a traffic jam. If

pre-dawn is simply too early, AAA indicates it's best for Thursday and Friday travelers to be on the road prior to 11 a.m. Leaving after 7 p.m. on Thursday or 8 p.m. on Friday is best for those who must travel at night. Travelers taking to the air or the rails might also benefit by leaving on Thursday and/or returning on the Tuesday after Memorial Day to reduce time spent in crowded airports or train stations.

- **Expect delays.** Travel delays can be stressful, but they're nearly inevitable during peak travel periods like Memorial Day weekend. Parents traveling with young children can plan for travel delays by packing extra snacks and downloading extra entertainment onto kids' tablets. Adults traveling without children can build delays into their itineraries and consider them before booking dining or entertainment reservations on the day of their arrival.

- **Limit luggage.** Memorial Day weekend tends to feature ample sunshine and warm weather, which makes it easier to travel light. Air travelers can pack just a carry-on so they don't have to wait at the luggage carousel or worry about potentially lost bags. Car and train travelers also can pack light so they have more room to maneuver.

Memorial Day weekend is a busy time to travel. A handful of strategies can make this year's travels a little more manageable.

- Metro Creative Connection



The roles and responsibilities of various military members

Reports from the United States Central Intelligence Agency indicate the country has the third largest active military in the world. As of September 2023, the U.S. military consisted of just under three million people, more than two million of whom are military personnel (just under 800,000 are civilian employees).

The U.S. military is made up of seven branches: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, and the National Guard. No two branches of the military perform the same functions, and there are various leadership positions within the branches. The following rundown of various military positions can help Americans gain a greater understanding of the individuals who work to keep the country safe each day.

• **Secretary of Defense:** The Secretary of Defense is a unique position in America, as laws designed to ensure civilian control of the military mandate that the Secretary of Defense cannot have served as an active-duty commissioned officer in the military in the preceding seven years (ten years in the case of a general). The Secretary of Defense is the head of the Department of the Defense and the secretary's authority over the military is second only to the president's.

• **Chief of Naval Operations (CNO):** The CNO is the highest-ranking officer in the United States Navy. The CNO an admiral and is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which is the body of the

most senior uniformed officers within the Department of Defense. Though the CNO is a significant position, the person in the role does not have operational command over naval forces.

• **Four-star General:** General is a title familiar to civilians and armed forces personnel alike. A Four-star General in the U.S. Army is a senior level commissioned officer who typically has more than 30 years of experience and service. General is the highest rank normally available in the U.S. Army, though a General of the Army may be named in time of war where the commanding officer must be equal or of higher rank than individuals commanding armies from other nations.

• **General (Air Force):** General also is the highest rank in the United States Air Force. According to Executivegov.com, four-star generals in the Air Force take charge of command positions in NATO, Numbered Air Forces, and the Chief of Staff.

• **Commandant of the Marine Corps (CMC):** The CMC is the highest-ranking Marine Officer and is also a four-star general. The CMC is on the Joint Chiefs of Staff and reports directly to the Secretary of the Navy. The CMC transmits the plans and recommendations of the Marine Corps to the Secretary and advises on those plans.

These are just a handful of the influential positions established to ensure the U.S. military can effectively fulfill its mission to keep the country safe each and every day.

- Metro Creative Connection

A Salute to Our Soldiers



We salute the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces, those who serve today, and the future generations who will carry on the honorable duties of protecting and preserving America's freedom. Their dedication, patriotism, sacrifice and courage will always be remembered.



MEMORIAL DAY

CELEBRATE • HONOR • REMEMBER



We proudly service septic systems for residential customers.

FULLER

SEPTIC SERVICES

2051 Bowes Rd., Lowell
616-897-3050

Serving Your Area
for Over 50 Years!

ASK US ABOUT OUR GROUP DISCOUNT

WELCOME Summer

2025 SPECIAL SECTION

SUMMER FUN EVENTS

JUNE

Lowell Area Farmers' Market
Thursdays, June 5 - September 25 (no market on July 10), 2 - 7 pm. Locally and regionally grown produce, honey, breads, crafts, and more. Downtown Lowell, north of the library along the Riverwalk. Questions? Contact Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, (616) 897-9161, www.discoverlowell.org.

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
June 12, 7 pm. The Accidentals. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
June 19, 7 pm. The Insiders: A Tribute to Tom Petty. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

St. Patrick Festival
June 27 - 29. 5k run, chicken BBQ dinner, cash raffle, live auction, Euchre tournament, Bingo, Family

Fun Night. St. Patrick Catholic Church, 4351 Parnell Ave., Ada, 616-691-8541.

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
June 26, 7 pm. Kait Rose & Co.: Fleetwood Magic. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

JULY

Lowell Area Farmers' Market
Thursdays, June 5 - September 25 (no market on July 10), 2 - 7 pm. Locally and regionally grown produce, honey, breads, crafts, and more. Downtown Lowell, north of the library along the Riverwalk. Questions? Contact Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, (616) 897-9161, www.discoverlowell.org.

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
July 3, 7 pm. Prior Noon. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
July 10, 7 pm. Kanin Wren's Taylor

Swift Experience. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
July 11, 7 pm. Great Scott (Friday concert). Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
July 17, 7 pm. Shimmie Pearl. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert
July 24, 7 pm. Stone Street Revival. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Riverwalk Festival
July 10, 11 and 12. This 2-night and 1-all day event includes many activities for you and your family to enjoy. Live concerts, Riverwalk Marketplace, Run the Riverwalk 5K, Riverwalk Cruise-in (classic cars), Riverwalk parade, Kidz

**BRING THE PAST TO LIFE
WITH A DAY OF OLD-FASHIONED FUN!**

**FALLASBURG VILLAGE
CELEBRATION**

JULY 26, 2025 • 10AM-6PM

Artisan Market • Live Music • Value Priced Food
Classic Cars, Cycles & Antique Tractors • Santa Visits
Blacksmithing • Demonstrations, Games & So Much More!

WWW.FALLASBURG.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/FALLASBURGVILLAGECELEBRATION/

OPEN MEMORIAL DAY

Remember your loved one this Memorial Day

10% OFF Planters

Sat. May 24 & Mon. May 26

Gardens Galore
GREEN HOUSE & Gardening Supplies

6344 Bivens Road
Nashville, MI 49073
(517) 852-9345

- Vegetable Plants
- Hanging Baskets
- Bedding Plants
- Gardening Supplies
- Asparagus Plants
- Rhubarb Plants
- Everbearing Strawberries

**FRESH STRAWBERRIES
COMING SOON!**

Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm - Closed Sundays
Cash or Check only please

NOW STOCKING DAIRY DOO® PRODUCTS



- DAIRY DOO Compost
- FlowerDoo 201
- VeggieDoo 301
- Topsoil Blend
- Healthy Garden Fertilizer
- All-Purpose Fertilizer

Zone, Bill & Paul's kayak/SUP/canoe race, food booths, Englehardt Library used book sale, \$1,500 Duck Raffle, fireworks and much more! Check it all out at www.riverwalkfestival.org or call Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 616-897-9161, for more information.

Ionian Free Fair

July 10-19. The 10 best days of summer. Grandstand shows, free events for the entire family, midway & more. Ionian Fairgrounds, 317 S. Dexter, Ionian, 616-527-1310. www.ionianfreefair.com

Fallasburg Village Celebration

July 26, 10 am - 6 pm. Historic village tours, stages with music, car show with a rumble, food, demonstrations, family fun and games. Parking \$5. Fallasburg Village, 13944 Covered Bridge Road, Lowell. Fallasburg Historical Society, www.fallasburg.org

Kent County Youth Fair

July 28 - August 2. Kent County Youth Fairgrounds, 13801 Cascade Rd, Lowell. Free entertainment, exhibits, more! 616-897-6050. www.keyf.org

AUG

Lowell Area Farmers' Market

Thursdays, June 5 - September 25 (no market on July 10), 2 - 7 pm. Locally and regionally grown produce, honey, breads, crafts, and more. Downtown Lowell, north of the library along the Riverwalk. Questions? Contact Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, (616) 897-9161, www.discoverlowell.org.

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert

August 7, 7 pm. Magic Bus. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Lowell Showboat Sizzlin' Summer Concert

August 14, 7 pm. Brena. Free parking & admission. Riverwalk Plaza, downtown Lowell. LowellArts, 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Summer Fest

Aug. 22, 6 - 9 pm. Local food, drinks and history to support the Lowell Area Historical Museum. Enjoy appetizers and drinks from local restaurants, caterers, breweries and wineries. Call for ticket information. Lowell Area Historical Museum, 325 W. Main Street, Lowell, 616-897-7688, www.lowell-museum.org

SEPT

Lowell Area Farmers' Market

Thursdays, June 5 - September 25 (no market on July 10), 2 - 7 pm. Locally and regionally grown produce, honey, breads, crafts, and more. Downtown Lowell, north of the library along the Riverwalk. Questions? Contact Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, (616) 897-9161, www.discoverlowell.org.

57th Annual Fallasburg Arts Festival

Sept. 20 & 21, 10 am - 5 pm. A two-day festival held in picturesque Fallasburg Park, featuring 100 unique fine art and fine crafts booths, food booths and a children's craft area. Timeless craft demonstrations take place inside a large pavilion while musicians perform on an outdoor stage. Admission is free. Parking is \$5. Fallasburg Park, 1124 Fallasburg Park Dr., Lowell. LowellArts 616-897-8545. www.lowellartsmi.org

Alto Harvest Festival & Car Show

Sept. 13, 10 am - 3 pm. Activities for the whole family. Classic car show (registration begins at 7:30 am), The Magic Bus performs live on stage, 11:30 - 2:30 pm, food vendors, craft vendors, free children's area. Pancake breakfast 7 am - 10 am at the fire barn. Downtown Alto. New volunteers always welcome! www.AltoDDA.org.

18th Annual Pink Arrow Football Game

Fri., Sept. 26, 7 pm. Lowell Memorial Stadium, 11700 Vergennes, Lowell. Your Arrow Force XVIII Pink t-shirt is your ticket into the game. www.pinkarrowpride.com

With weekly events, shopping in the downtown social district, plenty of parks, and miles of trails and rivers,

your summer fun story starts here.



SUMMER EVENTS

SIZZLIN' SUMMER CONCERTS

Most Thursdays, June 12–August 14

LOWELL AREA FARMERS' MARKET

Most Thursdays, June–September

LOWELL TOWNSHIP BRIDGEOFEST

Saturday, June 28

RIVERWALK FESTIVAL

July 10, 11, 12

FALLASBURG VILLAGE CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 26

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

July 28–August 2



discoverLowell.org

**OUR COMPANY IS GROWING —
DON'T MISS YOUR OPPORTUNITY**



— NOW HIRING —

View Newspaper Group is seeking a

MARKETING SPECIALIST

Responsibilities include:

- Advertising sales
- Account management
- Prepare presentations, proposals and sales contracts
- Attend networking events

VIEW Newspaper Group

email wsmith@mihomepaper.com

810-452-2622

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ The County Press | ■ Tri-County Times | ■ The Lowell Ledger |
| ■ Lapeer Area View | ■ Daily News | ■ The Hastings Banner |
| ■ Genesee County View | ■ Tri-County Citizen | ■ Buyer's Guide & News |
| ■ Huron County View | ■ Oxford Leader | ■ Ad-Visor & Chronicle |
| ■ Sanilac County News | ■ Lake Orion Review | ■ Battle Creek Shopper News |
| ■ Your Buyer's Guide | ■ Clarkston News | ■ The Sun and News |
| ■ Jeffersonian | ■ The Citizen | ■ The Reminder |



FALLASBURG VILLAGE CELEBRATION

You and yours are invited to experience a day of family fun, with a decidedly historical twist, at the Fallasburg Village Celebration on Saturday, July 26th, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bruce Doll, President of the Fallasburg Historical Society (FHS), explained that year four of the celebration will be bigger and have new activities, in addition the favorites from years past.

The road through the village will be closed to traffic so everyone will be able to walk around the village safely. Parking will be just \$5 per car, a fundraiser that will help fund everything the FHS does to preserve the Village. There will be free horse-drawn carriage rides from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; take a nice slow ride and see the village as it would have been seen in the old days.

All the museums will be open with docents in them to answer your questions until 6 p.m.

Starting at the schoolhouse, you will find an area of non-profits, the family games (three-legged race, board walk, hula hoops, and more), and the pioneer trailer where kids of all ages can learn and do some of the chores from the old days. There will be an area where everyone can try metal detecting and see if they can find buried treasure. Civil War reenactors from the Third Michigan, Company F. will be there too.

You have heard about Christmas in July; well, FHS are going to have their own Christmas in July. A note was received from Santa saying that he will make a stop at the Celebration, on his way from his summer residence to the North Pole! Santa said that it will be okay to take

pictures with him in his "Summer Suit!"

A short walk down the road will take you to the Tower Farm. The Tower farmhouse houses our farm implement museum, a must see. There you will also find the Tower Farm Stage that will have music playing from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be five bands playing this year: Hawks & Owls, Cheater B's, Chick & the Boomers, Easy Idle, and singer songwriter and movie star, Sophie Bolen. And new this year will be Croquet; come learn about and play the game.

Also at the Tower farm is the food area. Food choices this year are the \$5 hot dog meals and the \$5 walking taco meals; B.C. Pizza, \$5 for a slice of pizza, a bread stick, and a drink. Main Street D&T will have a pulled-pork sandwich, along with a side and drink for \$10.

There will be tables under the trees to enjoy your meal and listen to the music. Root beer will be available to go with the amazing ice cream made right in front of you.

Across the street from the Tower Farm is the Misner House, another museum full of pieces gathered from the village. There will be some fun miniature goats for you to visit with.

The classic car and motorcycle show, featuring cars and motorcycles from the 1980s and before, is located right next to the Misner House. If you have a classic car, it is only \$10 to register for the show. Registration is from 10 a.m. to noon; the car show will be from noon to 3:30 p.m. Awards (trophies, dash plaques and door prizes) will be given out at 3:30 p.m. Entrants are free to stay longer.

FHS loves educating visitors with demonstrations and hands-on activities. Demonstrations this year will include forging, ice cream

See **CELEBRATION** on 13

CELEBRATION

Continued from Page 12

making, hit and miss engines, weaving, pygmy goats, mini-horses, metal detecting, steam engines and more. The West Michigan Avid Typewriters will be back with their antique typewriters; you can type up your story. New this year will be guided tours of the famous Fallasburg covered bridge. See the bridge up close and learn about its history; did you know that the current bridge is not the first one built there?

on the grounds of the Fallas House is the Artisan Market and the antique tractor & steam show. The market will feature artisans who create high quality, handmade products that will be for sale. Many of the artisans will be demonstrating their talents, as well. There will be fiber, wood, glass, painters and many more artisans. The Fallas House has a variety of beautiful antiques and documentation on the history of Fallasburg. Right behind the market will be the miniature horses. Kids can be given a cart ride with a donation to the MI Horse Driving School. You will not want to miss these adorable horses.

You can find out more at www.fallasburg.org or on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/fallasburghistoricalsociety> You may also use the links above to sign up to volunteer.

Located at 14029 Covered Bridge Rd. NE, Lowell; North on Lincoln Lake to Fallasburg Park Dr. NE, then follow the signs.



VIEW Newspaper Group
READ THEN RECYCLE



Here's My CARD

FLOORING**Call 616-897-9261**

and start receiving your hometown news today!

YOU CAN
SUBSCRIBE
TO THE
LOWELL
LEDGER
OVER
THE
PHONE

FLOORING

**CARPET • HARDWOOD
LAMINATE • TILE • VINYL**

Perry Beachum
924 Riverside Dr., Lowell

616-460-3943**TREE SERVICE**


Stockreef's Tree Service

"Clearing your way to a brighter future"

Dan Stockreef

(616) 970-3832 • 11346 W. Peck Lake
Lowell, MI 49331

Removals • Stump Grinding • Chipping • Storm Damage

Fully Insured

HOME IMPROVEMENT**SHANE RISNER****616-897-1080**

email: risnersroofing@gmail.com

website: risnersroofing.com

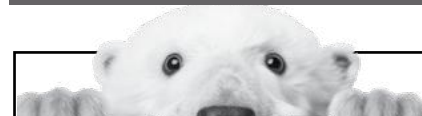
PLUMBING


Mara
Plumbing, Heating & Cooling

(616) 527-9368

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
SERVICE & INSTALLATION
NEW CONSTRUCTION

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
PLUMBING • BOILER SERVICE
SEWER & DRAIN CLEANING
HIGH PRESSURE WATER JETTING
omaraphc.com

HEATING & COOLING

Celebrating 40 Years

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

CAR WASH

Fundraising
Opportunities

QUICK LUBE SERVICES

- Fleet Discounts
- No appointment necessary

AUTO DETAILING

- Call for an appointment

CAR WASH

- 2 Automatic Bays
Open 24/7

DOG WASH - 24/7**YOUR LOCAL U-HAUL DEALER**

11729 Fulton Street East
Lowell, MI 49331 • 616-987-3286

AUTO CARE

GET READY FOR SUMMER

• 30 Years Experience • State Certified
• Licensed & Insured

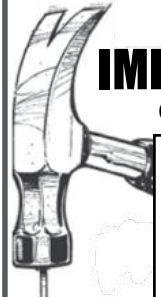
TWO BROTHERS AUTO SERVICE

Monday thru Friday
8 am - 5 pm

Emergency Calling:
616-337-9791
Mon. thru Fri. only

5400 Ivan Road, Saranac • 616-642-9180

4 short miles from Lowell Head Mechanic, Dave Traver



CMC IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTION

All Types of
Building
& Remodeling.
Residential &
Light Commercial

Chris Cavanaugh - Licensed Builder

Ph. 616-299-4803

fax 616-868-7598

THE RESTLESS VIKING



WITH CHUCK & MARTHA HAYDEN

www.restless-viking.com

Using a black light, I found my first Yooperlite along Lake Superior's shoreline. The orange speckled glow from the gray rock was captivating! I wanted to know more. Once I returned home, I messaged Erik Rintamaki, the founder of Yooperlites, and asked my interview questions, sharing my contact information. My phone rang the next night. I was thrilled that he'd called me personally! Recently, he's been on the History Channel, the Discovery Channel and featured on the cover of Rock and Gem Magazine. His enthusiasm shined as we chatted! I was honored that he had taken the time to talk with me, the man behind Yooperlites!

"Well, I should start at the beginning." I could hear Erik's smile over the phone. "Rock hunting has been a family tradition. My grandfather, Viljio, came from Finland and owned Macs Jewelry in Newberry, Michigan." Viljio had hunted for rocks with his son, Erik's dad, and made them into artistic pieces for his shop. "My Grandfather died when my dad was ten," Erik's voice dimmed. "As kids, my dad took us rock hunting." Erik's enthusiasm returned. "I was nine and would get to drive the 1973 Scout. I've always liked rock hunting!"

As the oldest of three kids, Erik would lead his siblings in searching along Lake Superior's shoreline.

Erik was the perfect person to have discovered, revealed and named this new find for Michigan, Yooperlites! This all took place just a few years ago in 2017!

Rocks can be a business

Erik had been a poker room manager at a nearby casino, when a friend encouraged him to create a business from his admiration of rocks. This friend had just been to a rock show where a Lake Superior agate was sold for \$4,000.

Erik purchased some inexpensive agates on Ebay and was able to resell them for a slight profit. It was satisfying and fun to locate deals



Crisp Point Lighthouse Museum had displays of the rusty-colored Lake Superior agates. **Photo by Martha Hayden**

and make a little money on the side. Agates were in demand! Agates were created by puddles of quartz-rich deposits crystallizing inside a pocket of low-fluid pressure. The agate's layering reminds me of Gobstoppers, a layered orb-shaped candy.

Erik was motivated to find more agates. Late into the night after work, when no one else was around, Erik walked the beach carrying a florescent black light. He had hoped that agates would show up more clearly under the short wave light. He found 36 agates using this device.

The Yooperlite discovery

This was followed by three nights in a row where Erik didn't find anything. He never gave up, though. On the fourth night, as he cruised Vermillion Beach at 4:15 a.m. (south of Whitefish Point), he found three nickel-sized stones that glowed florescent orange patterns under his special flashlight. He'd never seen this type of rock before!

One was dotted with orange, another had lines of orange and the third had snowflake orange patterns. In regular light, each stone looked different, too. One was black, another tan and the third was speckled. But, by shining the black light on them, the florescent orange minerals glowed.

The quest for identification

Erik was on a quest to solve the mystery of these stones. He spoke with his friend, Gabe, a geologist from California. He brought the stones to rock shows and to his friend, Kelly Laughlin. Kelly connected Erik with geologist, Shawn Carleson.

Shawn was well known for discovering forty different minerals that had not previously been found in Michigan. Using the electron microscope at Michigan Technological University, Shawn verified that the mineral in Erik's rocks was Sodalite from the Syenite family of minerals. Sodalite had originated from volcanic activity. Sodalite Syenite is a sodium aluminosilicate igneous rock which crystalized from sodium-rich magmas. These rocks did not contain quartz, as agates do.

Sodalite Syenite rocks had never been found around Lake Superior. This unique rock has only been found in northern Namibia; Bancroft, Ontario; Ilimaussaq, Greenland; the Russian Peninsula of Kola; Magnet Cove, Arkansas and Litchfield,

Maine.

Naming the Sodalite Syenite Rocks

Erik and his brother-in-law wove webs of words while walking along the beach. After some time, his brother-in-law thought aloud, "Something – lite." "Yooperlite!" Erik felt like the label fit his find on

many levels.

"Yoopers" is a nickname for residents of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. "U.P." has transformed into "Yooper." Combining "Yooper" and "lite" (from Sodalite) captured the sense of where these rocks were found and their origin.

Sodalite Syenite source is in Canada

Later, it was determined that these

rocks had been formed from a volcano in Canada. A glacier had brought them to the basin of the Great Lakes. Sodalite Syenite has now been located around each of the five freshwater lakes.

Yooperlite business

Erik handles his business, along with the help from a lady, two days each week. Erik has been interviewed by magazines and television shows alike. He organizes sales of flashlights, Yooperlite rocks and nighttime tours three times each week April – October. After rock picking sessions, he polishes Yooperlites as well as agates to sell.

How does one find Yooperlites?

After our interview, I will now use Erik's proven method. He said to hold the black light at shoulder height and scan the rocky shoreline. He recommends standing still and scanning slowly. Take a few steps and repeat.

My first Yooperlite

I had brought my small black light to the shoreline of Lake Superior last month. DaViking and I had traveled to Whitefish Point, Crisp Point Lighthouse and Vermillion Beach to learn about the life saving stations which were once along the shore.

I had scant knowledge of Yooperlites, but had heard about these specialty rocks and figured this would be a perfect opportunity to have a look-see. The water lapped gently along the shore on this

See **YOOPERLITE** on 15

THE MOST TRUSTED NAME IN ROOFING

SHERIFF GOSLIN
QUALITY ROOFING
SINCE 1906

269-962-4036

• LOCAL TRUSTED ROOFING COMPANY WITH 115+ YEARS IN THE BUSINESS
 • 10 YEAR SERVICE GUARANTEE ON ALL WORKMANSHIP
 • WE WORK WITH ALL INSURANCE COMPANYS
 • FRIENDLY, HONEST & EXPERIENCED TEAM
 • WIDE RANGE OF ROOFING / EXTERIOR OPTIONS
 • FULLY LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED
 • A+ RATING WITH BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE INSPECTION

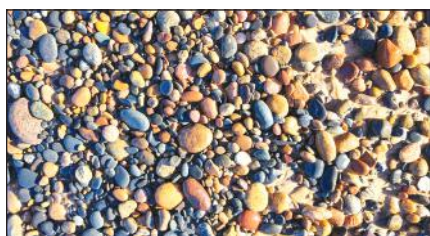
VISIT US ONLINE: SHERIFFGOSLIN.COM/BATTLECREEK

YOOPERLITE

Continued from Page 14

September night. I moved my light slowly over the rocks. The quartz shined like stars in the sky. My breath caught each time thinking I'd found a Yooperlite. I collected small white stones as I continued my caper.

Suddenly, orange beamed from a small spot in the pile, as my light danced over a section. I slid my beam back over the same spot. It was unworldly! "I found one!", I called out. THIS was definitely a Yooperlite. It was unlike anything I'd ever seen!



The Lake Superior coast has enticed rock hunters for generations! **Photo by Martha Hayden**

Rock Hunting

I have always enjoyed rock hunting. In fact, I minored in science with my education degree. I had memorized over 300 rock specimens, but I have never held anything like this!

As you can see below, the Yooperlite rock looks plain under regular lighting. However, when a black light is passed over the stone, neon orange and blue jump out at you. The Sodalite shines brightly!

Once we arrived back at home, I reached out to Erik Rintamaki to learn more. He graciously granted me the phone interview. That same night, DaViking ordered a "Yooperlite" flashlight from Erik's site (listed below). Erik included a large Yooperlite stone along with the flashlight. What an awesome gift!

Erik's outgoing, fun-loving, hardworking manner has struck a chord with me, bringing out my smile! Meeting Erik and learning about him and his pursuits has been an adventure. Encouraged by Erik, I am hooked on rock hunting once again. I'm planning to purchase a rock tumbler, too. Keep looking behind the curtain of life, learning from others and finding curiosities!

South Boston Memorial Day service

South Boston Cemetery Association Memorial Day service will be held on Monday, May 26, 2025, at noon at South Boston Bible Church. Speaker will be Paul Gess, former missionary to Bolivia. Everyone is welcome to attend. Potluck lunch after the service in the fellowship building.

VIEW Newspaper Group

Proud to be
YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTION

810-664-0811
mihomepaper.com
1521 Imlay City Rd.
Lapeer, MI 48446

**Thank You
to our
Veterans!**

**Thank You
to all the volunteers,
the hardworking
employees, crafters &
Tom & Cheri Hagen
for the music.**

**We appreciate your
donations and for
being so generous
to the Saranac Fire
Department!!!**

**A Big Jones Farm Market
Thank You
To All The People Who
Attended Our Customer
Appreciation Day!!**

Grand Prize 1/2 Hog Winner...**Cindy Medina**

9:00 AM - Jane Schafer 10:00 AM - Margaret Jackson
11:00 AM - Ellen Asbury NOON - Linda Vesely
1:00 PM - Tammy Ledsma 2:00 PM - Amy Roth

- Federally Inspected
- Custom Butchering & Processing
- All Custom Processing is Vacuum Packed

Jones Farm Meats, LLC.

Mon.-Fri.
8 to 5;
Sat. 8
to 1

7965 Potters Road, Saranac, MI
Phone 616-642-9212
WE ACCEPT BRIDGE CARDS

**FAMILY OWNED FOR SIX GENERATIONS**



Matching Sponsors



Match Remaining : \$11,905



Common Cents Rare Coins



PARTNER CONNECTOR

Alec and Karen McPherson, Lowell Post Office, Brian and Cheryl Doyle, Patrick and Kati Doyle, Lowell Area Schools, Chimera Designs, Metric Manufacturing, Timpson Transport, Gary and Jane Crosby

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR

Lake Michigan Credit Union

NEIGHBOR CONNECTOR

Boulder Ridge Wild Animal Park, Edward Jones, William and Diane Wieland, First Congregational Church of Lowell, Jamerson and Renee Ries, Lowell Lacrosse, McDonald's

FAMILY CONNECTOR

Knights of Columbus - St. Patrick's, Bill and Dottie Roth, A-1 Laser Die and Engineering, Key Heights, Key Vista

FRIEND CONNECTOR

Frosty Boy of Cascade and Lowell, Mynt Fusion Bistro, Fuller Septic Services

BARREL LOCATIONS

North Locations

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Lighthouse Family YMCA, Alpha Care Center, Lowell City Hall, Lowell Chamber of Commerce, M21 Nutrition, Canfield Plumbing, North Star Antiques, Papa K's Pizza, BC Pizza of Lowell, Litehouse, Sweet Season's Bakery & Cafe, Garden Foundation.

South Locations

Flat River Outreach Ministries, Arrow Veterinary Clinic, Bernard's Ace Hardware, Fish & Finn Outfitters, Heidi's Farm Stand, Lowell Fire Department, MI Hometown Furnishings, Mane Salon & Company, Des Cakes & Ice Cream, Rookies Sportscards Plus, Moose Lodge #809, Green Acres of Lowell

WEEKLY BOX SCORE



	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	TOTALS
NORTH	14,116	7,044	0	0	21,161
SOUTH	33,755.56	18,214	0	0	51,970

Food Fight offers hope

"During my time between jobs, FROM's food pantry was a godsend. They event helped with my rent. When I had nowhere else to turn, their support was nothing short of miraculous." - FROM program participant.

At FROM, our food pantry provides more than just groceries - it offers hope when it's needed most. When our community comes together to support Food Fight - you provide more than just food. Every pantry visit starts with a conversation.

We're thankful for the ongoing support. Every donation makes a difference!

