











## HIGHWAY PROJECTS . . .

Bids will be taken August 21 in Lansing on 62 Highway construction and maintenance projects, the State Highway Commission announced this week.

Among the projects in Kent County will be the reconstruction of two-tenths mile of Thornapple River Drive from a point just west of Cascade Road, east, in Cascade including storm sewer construction, base improvement, paving and curb and gutter; to be financed by Federal Aid Urban Program; \$100,000; December, 1974, completion date.



**STRAND**  
LOWELL

PLEASE NOTE  
SPECIAL HOURS BELOW

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**STARTS TODAY!**  
**One Full Week!**

1 Show Wed. thru Fri. at 8 p.m.  
2 Shows Saturday at 7 and 9  
1 Show Sun. thru Tues. at 8 p.m.

**'American Graffiti'**  
'Where Were You In '62?'

Wed. Aug. 14 thru Tues. Aug. 20

## Board Faces Rising Prices

Rising food prices hit the Board of Education Monday night when Hot Lunch Supervisor Marilyn Bovee reported the outlook of the school lunch program for the coming year.

Although Mrs. Bovee was able to hold the line last year without increasing the cost of lunches to the students, (other than classing Middle School with the Senior High), she stated that when school opened last year she was paying \$11 per 100 pounds for sugar but that by the time the year was over the price had risen to \$30 per 100 and that during the summer it has risen even higher to where now the best price she can get is \$38.

This is just one item out of many, all of which have gone up which will necessitate an increase in price to the students. Mrs. Bovee indicated, however, that with careful planning she thinks it possible to hold the increase to only five cents which will make all elementary lunches 35 cents and Middle School and Senior High, 40 cents.

Milk bids for the coming year were opened from three bidders with Meadowgold proposing the lowest figure followed by Sealtest and then Farr View. All three bids contained escalator clauses to allow for further price fluctuation (either higher or lower) throughout the school year.

The bid will be awarded as soon as it is checked to see that all specifications are met.

## Happy Birthday

- AUGUST 15**  
Patrick McCormick III  
Bill Barber  
Barbara Gray  
Ruth Cannon
- AUGUST 16**  
Teressa Jones  
Troy Hall  
Rev. Douglas Wingeier
- AUGUST 17**  
Jennifer Speerstra  
Grace Graul  
Dell Kropf
- AUGUST 18**  
Melanie Nelson  
Dora Isler  
Nella Mae Sterling
- AUGUST 19**  
Bessie Clarke  
Barbara Webber  
Beth Breland  
Kenneth Bryn
- AUGUST 20**  
Anthony Koster  
Thelma Roth  
Page Lombardo
- AUGUST 21**  
Marie MacDonald

COME TO ALTO'S SECOND ANNUAL

## TRACTOR PULLING CONTEST

Saturday, August 17

CORNER OF 64TH STREET & TIMPSON AVENUE

STARTING AT 1 P.M.



LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME —  
ALTO SCHOOL — 6 p.m.  
STREET DANCE — 9 p.m.

Sponsored by the Alto Businessmen's Association to benefit annual Children's Christmas Party.

## New Snow Trail To Run Through Lowell Area

Plans have been unveiled for a major snowmobile trail linking Wabasis Lake, northeast of Grand Rapids, with Gun Lake to the south. The marked public trail running 50 to 60 miles across leased private land and varying in width from eight to 20 feet, depending on terrain, would be the first of its type in west Michigan.

"Until now, the closest public trail has been in Newaygo County," said Roger A. Matthews, trail chairman for the Western Michigan Snowmobile Council. "Most of the 13 clubs we represent have their own trails, but these are available only to members." The north-south route will be established with \$20,000 from the State Department of Natural Resources on a one-year pilot basis.

Matthews explained that the trail leasing idea is a departure from the DNR's previous method of leasing large tracts of land for snowmobile use, a policy he says the council opposed as "not being what the snowmobilers want." In return for the money, trail markers and stop signs at road crossings, the DNR has asked the council to determine the location of the trail, contact the landowners for easements and arrange for posting of signs.

Besides providing snowmobilers a scenic path, Matthews says the route will have four objectives: To prevent accidents with cars by taking snowmobilers off the roads, to control as far as possible where snowmobiles will run, to establish a north/south trail to permit snowmobiles to travel from one area to another without trespassing, and to encourage snowmobilers to use facilities that are in their immediate area.

Plans call for the trail to go from Wabasis Lake Park to Fallsburg Park, cross Grand River at Lowell, cross Int. 96 via Segwun Ave., proceed to Coldwater River Park, skirt Middleville and end at Gun Lake (Yankee Springs Recreational Area). The exact routing will be determined by the clubs that comprise the council who have been assigned various sections of the trail. Participating clubs include the Belding Drift Busters, Flat River (Lowell), North Kent, Byron Center, Middleville, Forest Hills, Wayland, Dorr Trailblazers, Greater Grand Rapids, Alaska Night Riders, Gun Lake, Grand Valley, and Dutton.

Most of the trail would be across open pasture, fire trails and existing paths through wooded areas, with access available at several points. "There will not be much carving up of the land involved, although some farmers might need to move their fences," Matthews said.

The timetable calls for the council to acquire leases from landowners between August 15 and October 15, which would give the DNR about a month to complete the trail before the first major snowfall. "The main thing now is to convince the landowners," said Matthews, who said a special dinner will be held early next May for those who participate "so we can discuss any problems they experience and correct them next year."

About April 15, after the season is over, the council will police the trail, picking up any litter which accumulates, Matthews added.

### FARMS STILL DECLINING

The number of U.S. farms in 1974 is estimated at 2.8 million—down 1 percent from last year and continuing a steady annual drop since 1936.

Caught in the middle on fuel oil, gasoline and motor oil, the school again for the second year received only one bid from a gas and oil supplier. This is largely due to allotments based on previous usage and since the bus fleet, etc., consumes large amounts, the allotments of other possible bidders will not cover it.

Petroleum Supplier was given the contract at the following specified prices: gasoline, 32¢ per gallon; fuel oil, 32¢ per gallon, and motor oil \$1.50 per gallon. The price will hold firm for 60 days and then also may fluctuate either up or down.

In other action, the board approved negotiations for non-certified personnel as outlined by Business Manager Gerald Wabeke. Wabeke stated that these final negotiations will just about make a general system-wide salary increase of the accepted government cost of living increase based on the lowest base in each department.

A new agreement covering principals' salaries and working conditions was approved with one lone member, Phil Kropf, dissenting.

"I know that the salaries are in line with those of other schools in this area but I feel that they are out of line with our community," Kropf said as he cast the only no vote. "Maybe we have to pay them but I don't have to like it," he muttered.

What to do with the former Koewers' house, which must be moved in order to make way for additional playground space at Runciman, came in for a long period of discussion at the Monday night meeting but nothing was resolved.

A committee with power to act was finally appointed to meet later this week and determine whether the best course to pursue would be to contract to have it moved and then sell it or rent it; or sell it as is and have the purchasing party move it.

The board unanimously voted to offer a contract to David Burdette, former principal at Three Oakes' River Valley Schools, as the new principal of Bushnell Elementary.

Teaching contracts will also be offered to Peter Siler, senior high agriculture; Maura Kunst, middle school art; Melvin Weaver, middle school counselor; David Steele, Alto third grade, and Joanne Allinder, Bushnell first grade.

Mrs. Allinder's contract will be contingent upon whether or not the board accepts Gail Humphrey's request for a sabbatical leave for the 1974-75 school year.

In other board action, Orion Thaler was appointed to represent the local body at a Board Workshop at Western Michigan University on August 21, and tentative approval was also given to include provisions in the architect's drawing for air-conditioning in the new additions to Bushnell and Alto with the decision being made at a later date as to whether to actually implement them.

In closing, Supt. Leonard Sinke informed members that the first event to begin the new school year will be the annual Teacher-Board-Community Leader Breakfast in the Middle School cafeteria at 8 a.m., Wednesday, August 28.

The board also announced that a public hearing on the new 1974-75 budget has been set for the first regular board meeting in September.

### SQUASH FLOWERS FALLING OFF

Don't be surprised or worried if you lose the first flowers on your squash and pumpkins, say Michigan State University horticulturists. The first blossoms are male flowers which do not produce fruit. Female flowers develop a little later along with additional male flowers. Loss of the first blossoms does not mean your plants are sick.



**HERE** is where to find all of  
your **HUNTING NEEDS**

## GILMORE'S SPORTING GOODS

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### OVER 200 GUNS TO CHOOSE FROM

- BROWNING 20 ga., over and under, was \$800.00 **Now \$650.00**
- WINCHESTER Model 94, 30-30, was \$199.95 **Now \$85.00**
- WINCHESTER Singles, 12 and 20 ga. only (limited supply), was \$54.95 **Now \$46.95**

BROWNING, REMINGTON AND SAVAGE RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS

### Shells

BLAZER, 22 Long Rifle, Special \$8.50 per carton of 500

Limited Supply —12 gauge 7½ Shot Super X, were \$5.25 per box **Now \$2.99 per box**

38 CALIBER—And 357 Caliber Shot Shells for Revolvers Available



### Loading Supplies

- MEC 650 Loader, was \$129.95 **Now \$99.95**
- MEC 600 Loader, was \$ 69.95 **Now \$54.95**
- PRIMERS were \$15.00 per 1,000 **Now \$12.00 per 1,000**
- WINCHESTER DOUBLE AA WADS, 12 ga., were \$12.50 per 1,000 **Now \$11.00 per 1,000**

LEE LOADERS, \$9.95 all gauges available.

### Gun Cleaning Supplies

### Archery Supplies

- BROWNING Bows & Arrows
- BEAR Bows & Arrows
- BROWNING COMPOUND BOWS AVAILABLE



### Scopes

- WEAVER RED FIELD
- BROWNING



DOG TRAINING BELLS ●● SQUIRREL CALLS, DUCK & GOOSE CALLS

●● PISTOL, SHOTGUN & RIFLE CASES ●●

**GILMORE'S SPORTING GOODS**