

Lowell Ledger Suburban Life

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Will You Be Out Of Business?

Effects Of Forced Relocation

Editor's Note:

The following article is a reprint from the September-October, 1974, Western Wear and Equipment magazine.

Today you have a business, perhaps small, yet one upon which you are dependent for a living.

Tomorrow you may receive a letter from an urban renewal authority or from your state highway department giving you notice that the premises you occupy is slated for demolition.

A catastrophe? Yes, if you examine the findings of Prof. Basil G. Zimmer, Brown University, who says: "The rebuilding of American cities which is one of the major tasks of the last half of this century, exacts a heavy economic toll from many small businessmen who are unable to continue in business after having been displaced by urban renewal or highway construction projects."

Your first reaction to the threat of forced relocation will probably be one of anger and no doubt you've read of committees formed by irate businessmen bent on thwarting removal proceedings.

Eminent Domain

But, the power of eminent domain overcomes such opposition and despite court proceedings, the only relief obtained is usually just an interval of time—not a reprieve.

The chief fear of owners forced to relocate is that



At the September 3 meeting of the Lowell Showboat Board of Directors, the date for the 1975 show was set for one full week, July 21-26.

The reversal back to a one week show was approved by an 8-2 board vote.

The nationwide U.S. Highway speed limit would be set permanently at 55 mph under a measure given 85-0 approval by the Senate. The speed limit provisions was part of a highway bill okayed by the Senate last week and sent to the House.

The provision would make permanent a temporary 55 mph limit that was enacted in the midst of the energy crisis last winter, but which is to expire June 30, 1975.

Forty-eight horsemen have churned the dusty west Texas trail from Peos to Fort Stockton to deliver a packet of letters. It took them two hours and 33 minutes.

A letter containing a stopwatch took 23 hours to cover the same 54-mile distance via the U.S. Postal Service.

A training meeting for United Fund campaign workers will be held at Lowell Senior High School Thursday, September 19, at 10:45 a.m.

Ed Janis, United Fund Director, will be there to explain the work of United Fund, answer questions and show the new United Fund movie, "Little Child Lost."

Arrested September 1 for making a false report to a police officer was Burton Hiller, Jr., of Ada. Hiller was released to appear before the Honorable Judge Joseph B. White later this month.

Hiller is employed by the SS Security Agency working at the Attwood Corporation on North Monroe St.

The theft of a lawn mower from a garage at the residence of Jane Finch on North Hudson Street is under investigation by the Lowell Police Department.

Lowell police officers also arrested two juveniles last week for shoplifting at the Eberhard's Store on West Main Street.

A Lowell juvenile has confessed to the breaking and entering of Jackson Motor Sales on West Main Street, and will appear in Juvenile Court later this month.

The youth also admitted stealing a vehicle from Thomet Chevrolet and Buick on West Main.

The City of Lowell's Water Department will be flushing the water mains next week, Tuesday through Friday, September 24, 25, 26 and 27.

Flushing will start at 8 a.m., weather permitting.

At a special meeting of the Bowne Township Board September 9, Harold Metternick, sr., was appointed treasurer of the township, to fill the unexpired term of the late Richard Fairchild.

An Alto resident, employed by the Linton Lumber Company, Mr. Metternick also serves as secretary of the Lowell Area Schools' Board of Education.

On the move in Michigan for 56 years has been L.V. Eberhard, owner and operator of Eberhard Foods. Besides his Lowell store at 1335 West Main Street, Eberhard operates 27 other stores from his Grand Rapids headquarters.

This month marks his 56th year in the business and he'll be celebrating it with a gigantic anniversary sale in all of his stores.

ROSIE DRIVE INN—Special This Week: Wow Burgers, 89¢. Sunday Morning Breakfast Special? Family nite every Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Bucket of Chicken To Go.

the move will be harmful. Businesses dependent on a neighborhood trade, or trade of a particular ethnic or racial group are extremely sensitive to changes in location.

Relocation?

For many small, marginal businesses, relocation is not feasible. The owners may be elderly, or have very limited financial resources. Displacement in such cases has the effect of depriving the owners of their usual livelihood, even if it was a meager one. And, in today's money market, it would be costly to finance the new fixtures required for setting up an establishment in a new location.

Surprising as it may seem, it is almost universal that proprietors of businesses forced to relocate are not paid for the loss of earnings, are not paid for goodwill, and are not reimbursed for the value of the leasehold.

It may have taken a lifetime of toil, perhaps years of deprivation, before a business began to earn a decent living; or a business may have been bought with a substantial payment being made for the previous owner's struggles—represented by "key" money.

All of this is lost—and oft times it represents the owner's principal asset, the bulk of his estate.

Own The Premises

Those proprietors owning the business premises make out a little better. A good lawyer, familiar with condemnation proceedings, is often able to obtain more for the property than its actual worth. These "informal" adjustments help to make the loss less severe. But if the property was rented, even such token arrangements are not possible.

Perhaps the only compensation received is in the form of an allowance for moving costs and a token payment for fixtures which cannot be removed. Different state legislatures set different limits on what will be paid to businesses forced to vacate premises.

What Does Happen if an Owner Does Relocate?

The retailer has to start all over again—a tedious and expensive chore—compounded by the fact that in most instances the move will be to quarters costing considerably more to rent.

The manufacturer or wholesaler can hang on to former customers, but here too, rent and other costs may seriously erode profits.

In a study conducted by Prof. Zimmer of Providence, R.I., of firms displaced by urban-renewal and highway-construction projects, it was found that forty-three percent of the firms starting over again at new locations reported that their incomes declined. This doesn't tell the entire story. A great many of the firms didn't even bother to reopen after being evicted.

Of the non-survivors, about one-fifth became unemployed after displacement; one fifth gave up in despair and didn't bother to reopen at a new location, retiring instead.

Some of the non-survivors preferred to seek employment instead of relocating. Of these about 50% went into white collar occupations, 25% took jobs at the craftsman level, and about 20% at semi-skilled operative levels.

Non-Survivors

Those Providence businessmen who didn't survive the displacement agreed that they would have been better off if they had not been displaced. They felt too that, when government requires businesses to move, owners who cannot relocate should be compensated for the "worth of the business" as well as for the fixed assets. In general there was a feeling that they had been deprived of their livelihood and that they should have been compensated accordingly.

The wisdom of certain urban-renewal projects has been debated. So too highway-construction programs that cause a roadway to be built through an old established business neighborhood.

While sometimes efficient in the physical clearance of slum areas, the heavy burden has been placed on many small businesses, particularly those dependent on sites in low-rent areas.

Such a business may be marginal in the larger economic system. But to the owner his business is a way of life as well as a means of earning a living. Neither dimension can rightly be ignored when individual rights, costs and damage are measured.

Plan in Advance

If our country is to continue to rebuild its cities through extensive urban-renewal programs and if extensive highway-construction programs are necessary, more time is needed to study the consequences of the expense and the effort. Are the gains worth not only the social and economic costs, but the individual costs as well?

Be Vocal

Your answer—your thoughts on the subject and what you think about the economic factors involved—should be communicated to your local newspapers and to those who represent you in your state legislature.

After all, tomorrow it may be you who faces the problem of forced relocation!

Child Care Program To Be Heard Monday

Ann Scott, Home Economics Extension Agent for Kent County, will be the guest speaker at the first bi-monthly program sponsored by the Lowell Child Care Council and the Lowell Area Jayettes.

The program is scheduled for Monday, September 23, at 8 p.m. in the Educational Building of the First United Methodist Church of Lowell.

The topic to be presented is "Make Good Things Happen Between You and Your Child." Parents and those who work with children and/or parents will be interested in the areas of day-to-day living with a child, helping a child to have positive experiences and to succeed, and how a parent can save his or her sanity.

Safe Driver Award Presented To Carriers



The National Safety Council Driver Award was presented to five employees of the Lowell Post Office this week—Jack Fonger, 13 year award; Paul Kerkas, 12 year award; Bill Dawson, 12 year award; Bernard Kropf, eight year award; and Rex Collins, one year award.

The National Safety Council Safe Driver Award is the recognized trademark of professional drivers who have proved their skill in avoiding traffic accidents. The more than two million drivers who have earned the award since 1930 have made it the highest award for professional safe driving performance.

The Safe Driver Award Emblem is a gold-plated metal shield bearing the words "National Safety Council Safe Drivers Award" in gold on a hard fired, blue enamel background that borders the familiar figure of the man behind the wheel. A wallet-sized certificate accompanies each award. This certificate indicates the number of safe driving years, the date earned, the registered serial number of the award.

The total miles driven during this period is over 800,000 and all were driven within a radius of seven miles from the Lowell Post Office.

Required By Law

Safety Course For Young Hunters September 28

A course prepared so that young hunters and every other sportsman who takes to the field can enjoy the sport of hunting in a safe and sensible manner, is being co-sponsored by two Lowell Clubs—the Hi-Lo Gun Club, and the Lowell Moose Lodge, No. 809, Civic Affairs Committee.

The one-day course will be held Saturday, September 28, from 12:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. at the Hi-Lo Gun Club, 11840 Potters Road, north of Lowell.

Open to all boys and girls, 11 years and older, the course is required by law. All children must obtain a Hunter's Safety Certificate, given upon completion of the course, before they can be issued a license to hunt in the State of Michigan.

Materials for the course, designed to make participants better hunters, better sportsmen, and better citizens, were prepared by members of Michigan's Department of Natural Resources with the assistance of Consumers Power Company, the Dow Chemical Company, and the Strosacker Foundation.

Skilled instructors will be on hand September 28 to conduct the six-phase program which will cover:

How to live with guns and ammunition; think safety, hunt safely; bow and arrow hunting the safe way; privileges and responsibilities of hunting; plan to survive; and basic first aid.

Parents are also invited to sit in on the study session at the club, located one-half mile east of Fallsburg Park Drive, one-half mile west of White's Bridge Road, across McPherson Bridge east on same Road, south side of Road.

Upon completion of the course and the awarding

of certificates, the now qualified hunters will be the guests at a lunch of hot dogs and pop served by the Civic Affairs Chuck Wagon.

Any additional information desired about the course, can be secured by calling 897-7867.



Accordionist To Headline Review

The Lowell Showboat will present their first "Showboat Review" this Saturday, September 21, at 8 p.m. Starring in this one-night show will be the famous accordionist and assistant conductor of the Lawrence Welk Television Show, Myron Floren. Along with Mr. Floren will be the well remembered and popular Ink Spots.

To complete the review, Showboat will also present the very beautiful and talented singing artist, Miss Harriette Blake, along with a full orchestra, and Gordon Gould acting as Master of Ceremonies.

This evening promises to be well worth the \$4 general admission charge and Showboat is confident that the patrons will enjoy the two wonderful hours of solid professional entertainment.

The "Showboat Review" marks a first in Western Michigan outdoor entertainment. Gone will be the standard Lowell Showboat format with the boat coming down the river and the various local talents, but instead will be presented a totally professional show. Still present will be the wonderful new Showboat Amphitheatre located just north of the old stands.

Customers and visiting entertainers alike have proclaimed this new facility to be one of the finest outdoor arenas in the country. Western Michigan should be proud of this outdoor theatre as it offers something normally only found near Detroit.

Of all the exceptionally fine musicians and performers in the famous televised Lawrence Welk organization, one of the most in demand for personal appearances throughout the country is quiet-mannered, fast fingered accordionist, Myron Floren. Seldom a week goes by that he does not fly to two or three cities, between television tapings and recordings, chalking up an average of more than 150,000 air miles each year.

Sharing the spotlight with Mr. Floren will be the memorable Ink Spots. They've kept the good old sound of the very first Ink Spots, even though the personnel has changed over the years. You'd swear it was 1939 all over again. Such familiar hits of the past like: "Maybe," "If I Didn't Care," "The Gypsy," "It's A Sin To Tell A Lie," bring back a nostalgic feeling of yesteryear. Other familiar songs such as "Paper Doll," "Shanty Town," and "We Three," done only in the style the Ink Spots have made famous should entertain the audience fully.

The addition to the "Showboat Review" of Harriette Blake will round out the show in grand style. An attractive blonde, Miss Blake reminds one of Barbara Eden, so she's easy to look at—and equally easy to listen to. Her part of the show will lend a big city supper club atmosphere to the stage as her material is sophisticated with such familiar songs as "My Way," "For Once In A Life Time," and "This Is My Life."

Popular Fall Sport



When Andy Vredenburg, right, came to sign up for YMCA Soccer, he got to pose for a picture with Soccer Instructor, Jim White, of the Lowell Middle School, and Andy's little brother Matt.

Distributes Brochures



Passing out the Community Schools and YMCA program brochures to Harold Englehardt of the State Savings Bank of Lowell is Rodney Smith and Ronnie Moore. Mr. Smith recently came to Lowell as Community Schools Director and Mr. Moore is Director of the Lowell YMCA.

Indian Guides

A Positive Way To Building A Lasting Relationship

Y-Indian Guides and Princesses is a positive way to help build a meaningful and lasting relationship between a father and his son or daughter. This is the sole purpose of this YMCA sponsored program. An opportunity to investigate Y-Indian Guides and Princesses is offered on one of the following nights at your school.



Wearing a YMCA Indian Guide head dress appropriate for the occasion, Lowell Mayor Carlen Anderson is shown signing the official proclamation marking YMCA Week for Lowell, Alto, Clarksville, Saranac and surrounding areas.

FINAL VISITORS' NIGHT AT VEEN OBSERVATORY

Final 1974 Visitors Nights at the James C. Veen Observatory will be Friday, September 27th, Saturday, October 12th, and Friday, October 25th, from 8:30 to 11 p.m.

PROCLAMATION—Y-Indian Guide Week, September 21, 1974. WHEREAS, the Young Men's Christian Association Indian Guide program was initiated 50 years ago to foster the championship of father and son and strengthen the family—the single most vital unit in our society; and

SCOUTING NEWS

At their first Fall meeting September 9, Lowell Boy Scout Troop 102 planned for a two-day pistol match for September 14-15. Additional program activities will include a Fall Campout for the weekend of September 27-28.

Top economists for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. are predicting no growth at all in the real gross national product during 1974.

Letters to the Editor

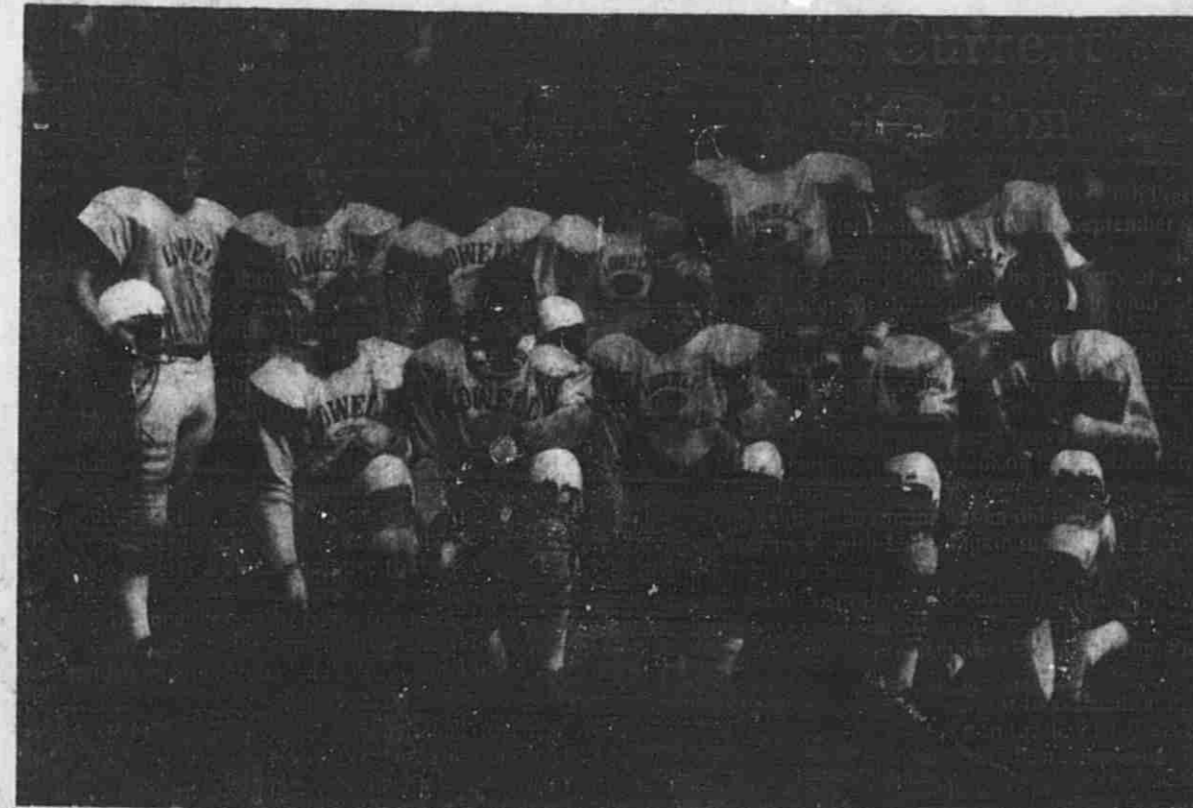
To Whom it May Concern: I sincerely hope this letter will reflect more than my own views and feelings on this subject of Little League Football.

After reading the proceedings of the school board meeting of September 9, 1974, I'm astonished to read the complete reversal of Al Rowe's support concerning the use of Recreation Park (since we all pay taxes) not his football field, for Little League night games.

When Rowe addressed the parents and players at our kickoff meeting we really believed his sincerity on the Little League Program. We left feeling we had a champion on the professional level of the sport.

School Board Agenda

- The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meeting in the Middle School Cafeteria on Monday, September 23 at 7:30 p.m. The agenda includes: 1. Adoption of Elementary Building Plans



Red Arrow Returning Letterman—Back row from left, John Piper, Bill Heintzleman, Karl Higgins, Bruce Billock, Gordie Klahn, Dan Courser.



Red Arrow coaches proudly display the V.F.W. trophy won Friday night in the game against Ionia. They are: kneeling, Mike Clark and Kim Lathwell. Standing, from left, Dave Peden, Richard Brennan, Al Rowe, Al Eckman and Chuck Bostrom.

Arrows Win V.F.W. Trophy

The Lowell Red Arrows' football team retained permanent possession of the coveted V.F.W. traveling trophy Friday night by registering an impressive 14-0 win over their non-conference rivals, Ionia.

Lowell Freshmen Edge Out Ionia

The Lowell Freshmen and the Ionia Freshmen battled in a hard hitting defensive balgame last Thursday at Lowell's Recreation Park.

MSU's Annual 'Band Day'

Four thousand young musicians, forming a giant "MSU" will fill Spartan Stadium in East Lansing with music Saturday, September 21, for Michigan State University's 19th annual Band Day.

Forest Hills Takes Double Victory

Forest Hills Northern High School's cross-country team gained a pair of non-league dual victories last Tuesday on their home course.

Red Arrow Runners Lose Tri-River Opener

In cross-country action last week, Lowell High School's Red Arrows opened the 1974 season with losses to Forest Hills Northern and Belding and a win over Conestock Park.

American Legion Roller Rink

OPEN — Friday and Saturdays, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday matinee, 2:00-4:30 p.m. Sunday matinee, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

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Two Teams Going To MUCC State Shoot

The Alto Sportsmen's Club will be sending two teams a men's & women's to the MUCC State Shoot at Walded Lake this Sunday, September 22.

Not Everyone Subscribes To The Ledger-Suburban Life but then, not everyone comes in out of the rain, either. How About You? RATES: \$5.00 per year inside Kent & Ionia Counties

You and Your FAMILY PROUDLY PRESENTS "SHOWBOAT REVIEW" at The Showboat Amphitheatre SAT., SEPT. 21, AT 8 p. m. ONE NIGHT ONLY Starring MYRON FLOREN featured Accordionist

Do It Now! ILA'S DECORATING SERVICE 676-5096 SEE MY COMPLETE LINE OF WALLPAPER AND PAINT BOOKS

Boy's Clubs Forming Shown are several Middle School boys that have joined the 1974-1975 YMCA Boy's Clubs, Jr. Hi-Y and Gra-Y.

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City To Seek Grant For Park Development

Plans for the acquisition of four parcels of land to be used for future public recreation areas were revealed at the regular meeting of the Lowell City Council Monday night.

An offer of a grant for the City from the Waterways Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources was made in 1972 for the purpose of constructing a boat launching facility on the north bank of the Grand River along the east side of Hudson Street. At

that time, the cost to build such a facility was estimated to be \$47,000 with \$42,300 (90%) in grants from the Waterways and \$4,700 (10%) in local money.

Council action Monday night authorized City Manager Blaine Bacon to apply for a matching grant from the federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. An attempt to obtain a BOR grant was made previously but a moratorium at the federal level temporarily dried up the appropriated funds.

The City is able to request the matching federal grant only as long as work has not yet started on the boat launching ramp. The federal grant program gives land acquisition the highest priority.

For this reason the City will apply for the federal BOR grants to purchase four parcels of land which would give the City more complete ownership of the municipal recreation area between Hudson Street and the Flat River. Ownership of this area would give the City a better opportunity to plan for recreational uses.

Although plans for the development of these new areas are not definite, projects being considered include tennis courts and a softball diamond.

What Price Water?

In other action, Council members adopted a resolution of intent to issue bonds for the construction of a Water Treatment Facility. The Farmers' Home Administration has offered to buy the bonds at 5% interest over a 40 year period.

This should be welcome news to Lowell water users who have longed for a taste of some good, clean, clear aqua pura for many years.

However, as with everything else, there is a price tag, and City fathers wish to "make it perfectly clear" that the realization of this dream will require an increase in water rates. For the residential user, whose base rate is now \$2.00, plus 25¢ per thousand gallons used, the rate would go to \$4.50 base, plus 36¢ per thousand gallons.

This increase would be offset for households now using water softeners requiring salt, or who pay a rental charge for water softener service. It is believed such extra water treatment would no longer be necessary.

There is a 45 day waiting period before bonds may be issued.

Tree Planting Time

George Watson, cemetery and parks supervisor, reported to Council on a survey conducted by a professional arborist, of City-owned trees, showing numbers, variety and condition. Two large trees in Richards Park, one 62" in diameter has been found to have heartwood fungus and is 60% deteriorated and whose "condition is irreversible." The other tree, though not in good health—it's symptoms have not been diagnosed—but Watson said it might be possible to prolong its life with a little fertilizer and tender loving care. Fourteen percent of the total number of city-owned trees are either in poor condition or dead.

Watson also said now is the time for residents who wish to have a tree planted between the sidewalk and curb to place their order—now, September 30—the

deadline for ordering for fall planting in November. Late orders would be held for next Spring. Cost for a tree 1 1/4" to 2" diameter, 8-10 feet high is \$15. A free planting service is offered by the City. Payment for the tree must be received before planting, Watson stated.

Complaints

Complaints of speeding cars, squealing tires, and excessive muffler noise on City streets, received by Council, were discussed and will be brought to the attention of Chief of Police, Barry Emmons.

Students congregating in the area of the High and Middle School, often obstructing traffic, was, again, an issue, to be referred to the Police Department.

"We have a very poor accident record," City Manager Bacon told Council members Monday night.

According to a recent report from a Michigan State Police Department Survey, Lowell ranked 198th out of 203 communities studied.

Vandals Hit Beauty Salon

Kent County Sheriff's officers have under investigation the breaking in and vandalizing of the Forest Hills Beauty Salon at 940 Forest Hills Avenue SE.

Deputies reported damage was extensive. Tables were overturned, glass on a soft drink machine was busted, a phone was ripped off the wall and equipment and chairs were covered with hair sprays and dyes.

In addition to the damaged equipment, valued at \$2,882, a \$100 stereo was damaged in the Salon.

A witness, walking her dogs, said she heard glass break and saw a young man with short hair running from the building area, deputies added. Entry was made by breaking in a window in the back of the building.

Memorial Mass To Be Held For Mary Walsh

A Memorial Mass will be said Wednesday, September 25, at Lowell's St. Mary's Church at 11 a.m. for Mary F. Walsh.

The former Lowell resident passed away September 9 at St. Ann's Home in Grand Rapids, where she had resided for the past year.

Ms. Walsh was employed for many years by the Lowell Light and Power Company.

Funeral services were held September 12 at St. Mary's Church in Charlevoix, with burial being made there, in the Church's cemetery.

She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Robert M. Morse.



Several members of her family and a lot of her friends dropped in Saturday to wish Mrs. Laura Dawson a Happy Birthday—her 93rd.

"It was a grand day," Mrs. Dawson beamed, "and I want to thank everyone for making it so perfect in every way."

Mrs. Dawson, who still maintains her household and gets around very actively, is a life-long Lowell area resident, being born in Vergennes Township.

ALTO LIBRARY SCHEDULE

The Alto Library, member of the Kent County Library System will have classes visiting the library from now until the end of the school year, next Spring. They will be in the library on Tuesday and Friday from 1-3 p.m.

The public is still invited to use the library at these times, however, conditions may be a bit crowded.

Regular hours are Tuesday, 1-8 p.m.; Friday, 1-6 p.m. and Saturday, 1-5 p.m.

TRYOUTS THIS FRIDAY

Tryouts for Tarradiddle Tales, a production of the Women's In-School Touring Group of the Grand Rapids Civic Theater will be Friday, September 20, at 1 p.m. at the Civic Theater on West Leonard.

Showings will begin the end of October. For booking information, schools may call 458-7611.

STRAND
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SEE SHOW HOURS BELOW

FRI. THRU MON. - SEPT. 20 THRU 23

DUE TO THE LENGTH OF THIS PROGRAM, THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE SHOW EACH NIGHT AT 7 P.M.
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Michigan State Police Graduate First Service Trooper Class

The Michigan State Police graduated their first service trooper class of 46 members in ceremonies, September 6, in the National Guard armory in Lansing. Principal speaker for the occasion was Richard H. Austin, Michigan Secretary of State.

Col. George L. Halverson, department director, administered the oath to this service officer group of men and presented their badges. He also addressed the class members, their relatives, and friends.

Post assignments for the service officers who reported for duty September 10 were announced by Lt. Col. Forrest Jacob, field services director.

Patrick D. Herblet of Lowell was among the first service trooper class, Michigan State Police, to graduate September 6. Herblet has been assigned to the Rockford State Police Post.



Following satisfactory service, these officers who range in age at enlistment from 17 to 20, will become eligible for regular trooper training when they reach 21. Their civil service 05 level position has a beginning pay of \$8,143 annually. Their duties include various clerical and other non-law enforcement type duties at posts, districts or other department operations. Their uniforms are the same as those for regular troopers except for insignia and other emblem material.

The State Police service trooper position is replacing that of the former cadet 04 position which was established for the department in 1968 when the first class was graduated. Colonel Halverson at that time was commander of the training division.

Survey To Gather Data On Disease Immunizations

The Bureau of the Census will survey a sample of households in this area the week of September 16-20 to determine the extent people have been immunized against selected diseases, Robert G. McWilliam, Director of the Bureau's Regional Office in Detroit announced today.

The immunization survey conducted nationally every year, provides information on immunization against measles, influenza, small pox, polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, rubella, and mumps. This information is needed for administration of health programs geared to disease prevention.

These health questions are in addition to the usual ones asked in the monthly survey on employment and unemployment conducted nationwide by the Bureau for the U.S. Department of Labor.

If you have facts which could help solve a crime, you might earn a reward. Call 774-2345 or your local police department and say you want to be a...

SILENT OBSERVER

BIG BUSINESS

Food is America's biggest business. The average American eats 1,500 lbs. of food every year, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Over 12 million people from retailers to wholesalers to shippers and farmers help us prepare our evening meals.

PAPER DEMAND

Demand for paper products is expected to increase by about 7 million tons over the next three years.

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