

UNEXPECTED STORM HURLS HIGH WINDS OVER LOWELL



This 36th Street home south of Lowell received heavy damage.



Several cars were damaged by fallen trees but, fortunately, there were no reported personal injuries.



A bird house rests precariously but survived its ride earthward.



Saturday's storm caused inconvenience and a lot of clean-up work, but, thankfully, no tragedies.



A fence and sidewalk heave from the force of an uprooted tree.

The sun came out Saturday, briefly, but it did little to lighten the spirits of Lowell area residents as they were cleaning up the aftermath of a tornado-like storm that hit this area shortly after mid-night Friday.

While most area residents slept, or were gathered before the boob-tube engrossing themselves in the late movie featuring Elvis Presley in "Jailhouse Rock," the outside temperatures rose to an all-time record high of 57, and winds estimated to be gusting at 60 miles per hour, or more, swept the southern part of Michigan. Some January thaw!

According to the National Weather Bureau Service, the disastrous happening was the side effects of a major storm centered over Lake Superior that hurled high winds to the east and heavy snow and blizzard conditions to the west.

During the storm's rampage, buildings were demolished or heavily damaged, mobile homes overturned, trees uprooted, and utility poles were snapped, leaving many homes without heat or lights.

No major injuries were recorded here, where the area was deemed the hardest hit in the Kent County radius. About one-third of the City was immobilized from 12:48 a.m. until 6 p.m. when the electrical current was completely restored.

Many businesses on the West side of the City found themselves closed for business Saturday as the Lowell Light and Power crews worked diligently to replace the downed power lines, re-enforce power poles, and remove trees hindering the electrical travel-ways.

Citizens left without power congregated at the high school or spent the day with friends who were fortunate enough not to be affected by the storm.

Just Jesting . . .

Considerable damage was done to the roof and chimney at the George Dey residence on Lincoln Lake Avenue when an uprooted tree hit the residence.

Teenagers watching the late show, heard what sounded as though the chimney was falling in. One of them remarked, in jest, "Oh, it's probably a tree falling!" not knowing how right she was. One occupant of the household is said to have slept through all the excitement.

Night owls and early morning risers were surprised to find streets blocked and the west side of town in darkness when they returned home or planned to do their grocery shopping.

Saturday, those whose day is started with breakfast at Keiser's Kitchen, found there was to be no 'hot' coffee or the sizzle of bacon and eggs.

Out-Of-Order? . . .

One Lowell resident, Dave Carter, kept turning up his electric blanket during the night, wondering why he wasn't getting any heat and learned the cause as he shivered and stumbled out of bed in the morning.

Those attending the fish fry at the Lowell Masonic Lodge Saturday evening dined by candlelight until power was restored.

One plus result of the storm was the wind-fall of wood garnered by the felled trees for fire places or wood-burning stoves. A nice savings at today's prices for a cord of wood, but only if the tree that provided the wood did not cave in your roof.

Bundled up in heavy winter attire, the crew at the Lowell Post Office sorted the mail with the aid of four gasoline lanterns, ensuring the day's deliveries.

Many residents reported uprooted trees, on both sides of town, fences were lifted from their stationary spots and windows were shattered.

A barn at the Groen farm on Bowes Road was leveled when the walls collapsed and the roof fell down on the foundation. Several cars parked at the Nelson Storm-zand residence on Main Street were heavily damaged when a tree made its thundering landing.

One of the homes hardest hit in the rural Lowell area was on 36th Street, owned by William Eggleston, where the winds twisted a mobile home off its setting, tipping it over. A major part of the porch was torn off the Eggleston home, and debris of all kinds sidelined 36th Street as the storm moved on.

The Franciscan Sisters reported the loss of their barn on Downs Road, north of Lowell.

CITY WILL AID RESIDENTS

City crews will be picking up and removing trees and brush downed in last Saturday's storm. Brush and branches should be placed at the curb and will be picked up first and as soon as possible.

Larger limbs and trunks, etc., located on private property, will also be taken care of by the City as soon as crews are able. Please call City Hall, 897-8457, if you wish City pick-up of these items.

A Lot of Hours . . .

John Jones, superintendent of the Lowell Light and Power Company said Tuesday morning, as his crews were still cleaning up, "it took a total of 19½ man hours to completely restore the power to the affected area."

"We had the greatest part back on by 4 in the afternoon," Jones revealed, which left three transformers, and we completed those around 8:30 that night."

Jones stated that the major problem, causing the outages, occurred when a big tree in front of the Claude Williams home on North Hudson Street uprooted and fell across the major power lines, downing all poles leading from the Power Plant on North Broadway to Chatham Street.

Outside help for the Lowell crewmen was enlisted from Kent Electric Company, who are familiar with the Lowell system, having helped with the installation when new lines were installed.

Despite the damage and temporary inconvenience suffered by area residents, Lowell can feel Mother Nature did not play as great a havoc as she is quite capable of playing.



A circuit breaker pole by the Post Office was saved from completely toppling by the metal riser which acted as a brace. The pole, splintered midway was replaced.



Tornado winds and soft ground conspire to send even huge trees crashing to the ground.



Debris from demolished mobile home is scattered along roadside and across fields, carried by the heavy winds which hit the Lowell area early Saturday morning.



Saws were busy cutting wood from fallen trees.

COMING TO THE STRAND THEATRE—Lowell, February 21-24, "Island At The Top Of The World." c41-46

ROSIE DRIVE INN—Special This Week: Fish & Chips, \$1.09. Sunday Morning Breakfast Special. Broasted Chicken To Go. Family Nite, Tuesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. c41

APPOINTMENTS NOT ALWAYS NEEDED—At Vanity Hair Fashions, 203 E. Main. Phone 897-7506. c41f

State Cuts School Aid

The effect of the removal of the State Sales Tax from food and drugs is being felt by the local school system, board members were informed Monday night. Approximately \$25,500 in expected state aid revenue has been cut by Lansing but Lowell School Superintendent Leonard Sinke and Business Manager Jerry Wabeke agreed that with certain cutbacks and careful management in all areas, the budget will still complete the current school year in the black. "It will be close, but I think we'll make it," Sinke said.

The break-even budget is possible partially because school officials estimated the population to be slightly lower than it actually was when the budget was drawn up and thus were able to pick up a little increase in the revenue there.

The new paperback book program, which is a state supported supplemental reading material plan, also received a set back due to the cut in sales tax revenue. Lowell will receive only \$724 which is less than half of what was expected. Board members were told.

Operational millage of 12.5 mills will come up for renewal before the voting public on March 10. This is the amount of millage that was voted three years ago, but it does expire with the current tax period. The board is simply asking for a continuation of the existing mills.

Business Manager Wabeke also informed the board

that he had received no bids on the Frost house, located on Avery Street behind Runciman School, either to tear it down or move it. He received permission from the board to continue advertising it for the next three weeks before other courses of action are considered.

The house must be moved to make way for the necessary expansion of the Runciman playground to comply with guidelines set by the State Board of Education.

Reports of satisfactory progress were given on the additions to both Alto and Bushnell elementary buildings. Most of the walls are up in each area and one-third of the steel is in place at Alto while two-thirds of the steel is set at Bushnell.

The low bid submitted by Video Electronics was accepted by the board to install a communication link between Runciman and Riverside Schools with hallway speakers for warning or emergency calls.

The next meeting of the Citizens' Curriculum Committee will be held this Thursday, January 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria. Anyone sincerely interested who has not been officially appointed to serve on the committee is urged to attend and join the group.

The Lowell School system has been given the go ahead to hire two new custodians under the Federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. This is considered temporary emergency employment for those now unemployed and applications are now being taken.

Realizing that as more people are politically active, politics will belong to the people rather than a chosen few, board members closed their meeting Monday by wholeheartedly endorsing the new Close/Up Program. This program provides a week long exploration of the federal government for high school students where they will not only stay in Washington D C for one week in April, they will actually attend seminars conducted by top government figures making it not only a very worthwhile educational procedure but also an experience that can't be duplicated.

The cost, per student, is \$352, and one scholarship is going to be provided for one student from Lowell Senior High School. In addition, five other students have already signed up to go and others, for whom financing is a problem, have also indicated a desire to attend.

The board gave its permission for the high school to contact various service organizations to see if they might be interested in providing scholarships for additional students.

Area Churches Sponsor Workshop; CROP Regional Director Here

United Methodist Churches of the Lowell area are holding a Mini Social Concerns Workshop on Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell.

Keynoting the conference will be Reverend Keith Pohl, Editor, "Michigan Christian Advocate of Adrian," speaking on the topic: "The Gospel Truth."

Reverend Pohl, a native of Muskegon Heights, received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, his B.D. from Garret Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and his Master in Communication from Michigan State University.

His pastorates include Nashville, Associate Minister at First United Methodist in Grand Rapids, Rockford, and Campus Minister at Michigan State University.

Four workshop sessions will be held and all participants will choose two to attend.

Chief Barry Emmons of the Lowell Police Department will lead a presentation on "Vandalism and Shoplifting." Ms. Janet Waterway of the Protective Services Unit of the Kent County Department of Social Services will discuss "Child Abuse." "Hunger, Pollution, Population" will feature David Bower of CROP, Lansing, and Reverend Pohl. The workshop on "Drug Abuse and Alcohol" will be coordinated by Ms. Barbara Timmer of the Guidance Department of Lowell Senior High School.

David C. Bower, Michigan Regional Director for CROP, will lead the workshop session on "Hunger, Pollution, Population"

Mr. Bower, a Mennonite layman and former Church World Service Representative in Pakistan, was named the CROP Director for Michigan in January of 1970. Mr. Bower came to Michigan from Elkhart, Indiana, where he served as the Office Manager at the CROP National Office for three years. Mr. and Mrs. Bower reside in Lansing, which is the location of the State CROP office.

A native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Bluffton College with a degree in Business Administration, Mr. Bower went to East Pakistan in 1963 as Acting Director of CWS programs in that country. His two-year term in that post included the administration of relief and rehabilitation programs for the victims of drought, cyclones, communal riots, and a resettlement project for the Garo Tribesmen.

When a new Representative for East Pakistan was secured, Mr. Bower was selected to fill a similar position in West Pakistan, representing CWS in the refugee service resulting from the war over Kashmir, in addition to directing the regular CWS program. He also assisted the CWS Representative in India for three months, expediting port clearances for shipments of emergency aid during the severe drought of 1966.

Mr. Bower was involved in CWS program planning in Pakistan at both village and national levels, and was the administrator for community development programs related to nutrition, economic development, and self-help through food-for-work projects.

In 1973, Mr. Bower visited CWS-CROP programs throughout the countries of Haiti and Dominican Republic, where he observed and photographed self-help and development projects.

All interested persons are invited to attend the workshop.

Area churches, Lowell, Vergennes, Snow, Alto, Bowne Center are sponsoring the workshop on Sunday at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell from 2 to 5 p.m.

Working on local arrangements are Mr. and Mrs. John Blanding and Richard Doezema of the Snow Church, Mrs. Robert Barnes of the Lowell Church, Mrs. Auburn Olin of the Vergennes Church, and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Walker of the Alto Church.

The workshop welcomes all interested youth and adults of the area to attend.

SCHOOL Lunch Menu

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS
Week of Jan. 20, 1975

- MONDAY: Beef Stew
Cottage Cheese
Rolls or Bread and P-Nut Butter
Assorted Whipped Desserts
Milk
- TUESDAY: Hot Dogs
Pickles, Carrots & Celery
Whole Kernel Corn
Assorted Fruits & Cookies
Milk
- WEDNESDAY: Turkey & Gravy on Mashed Potatoes
Green or Wax Beans
Jello with Whip
Milk
- THURSDAY: Italian Noodles
Garden Salad
Plain or Garlic Bread
Applesauce
Milk
- FRIDAY: Grilled Cheese Sandwiches
Baked or Green Beans
Potato Chips & Pickles
Chilled Fruit Cocktail
Milk

WIRING - FIXTURES - REPAIRS

RICKERT Electric

208 S. Hudson, Lowell, 897-9802

STRAND Theatre

LOWELL, MICHIGAN

Fri. thru Mon. - Jan. 17 thru 20
Fri. at 8 p.m. - Sat. at 7 & 9 p.m.
Sun. & Mon. at 8 p.m.
- PLUS -
Special Matinee Sunday at 3 p.m.

WALT DISNEY presents
LT. ROBIN CRUSOE, U.S.N.

TECHNICOLOR

MONDAY IS DOLLAR NIGHT

COMING SOON TO THE STRAND

- "For Pete's Sake"
- "That's Entertainment"
- "Where The Lilies Bloom"
- "Harry and Tonto"
- "Island At The Top Of The World"
- "Buster and Billie"

Woman's Club Takes Tour Of France By Film

The Lowell Woman's Club met January 8 in the lounge of the First Congregational Church of Lowell. President Mrs. Harry Richmond opened with the standard ceremonies, and Mrs. Earl Evans introduced her guest, Mrs. Florence Hoats.

Mrs. Elmer Ellis requested six ladies to help with the celebration of the guests of the Cherry Creek Nursing Home whose birthdays occur in February. Six of our members volunteered to furnish cup cakes and to help serve.

Program chairman Mrs. Gardner introduced Jane Rivette of Lowell, who told us about her trip to France as an exchange student. All this was well documented by about 200 slides and prints, and narrated by Jane herself. Altogether, a most excellent program.

Again, we would like to record how fortunate we are to have so many students who are willing to share their abilities with us and many thanks to all the students of Lowell High School.

The meeting was concluded with a social time, and tea was served by Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Noteware, Mrs. ThurteLL and Mrs. Chatterdon.



Miss Rivette



Classes Available

MONDAY:
Accounting I (2nd half)
Arts & Crafts (Ceramics)
GED Preparation
General Science
Sociology
U.S. History
Wood Shop

TUESDAY:
Small Motor Repair
English
Furniture Upholstery
Home Economics (Foods)
Typing I (1st half)

WEDNESDAY:
Adult Reading Improvement
Auto Mechanics
Consumers Math
Typing I (2nd half)
Typing II & Office Machines

THURSDAY:
Parent-Child Living (day class)
Everyday Psychology
Government
Home Economics (sewing)
Language Workshop (day)
Photography I
Photography II

LEISURE TIME CLASSES:
Baby Health Care (Tues.)
Cross Country Skiing (Sat.)
Group Guitar Lessons
Income Tax Preparation (Thur.)
Ladies Night Out (Thur.)
Weaving (Thur.)

You can take leisure time classes.

You can get a high school diploma. FREE

You can learn how to repair a car.

You can prepare to take the G.E.D. Exam.

You can learn to paint or sew or cook.

You can improve reading or math skills. FREE

You can make friends while learning.

CALL LOWELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL . . . 897-5164

Registration Week Of January 20

Classes Begin January 27

CLASSES ARE FREE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL. ALL CREDIT CLASSES MEET FROM 7 TO 10 P.M. FOR 16 WEEKS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN YOUR DIPLOMA, CALL THE LOWELL COMMUNITY SCHOOL OFFICE AT 897-5164. REGISTRATION HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 11 A.M. TO 5 P.M.; TUESDAY-THURSDAY, 7 P.M. TO 9 P.M. THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL OFFICE IS LOCATED IN THE LOWELL SENIOR HIGH. BABYSITTING AVAILABLE, 25¢ PER CHILD.