

# The Grand Valley Ledger

Volume 4, Issue 10

Serving Lowell Area

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January 17, 1979

## MM's Pups Need Home

"It's decision time," says the Kent County Humane Society. Eight Malamute pups are still without adoptive homes and are nearing the time when officials will have to dispose of them if no one wants them.

In mid-December, Mother Malamute (MM) commandeered a local dog house in Valley Vista to give birth to her litter. "M" kept local officials who tried to evict her at bay.

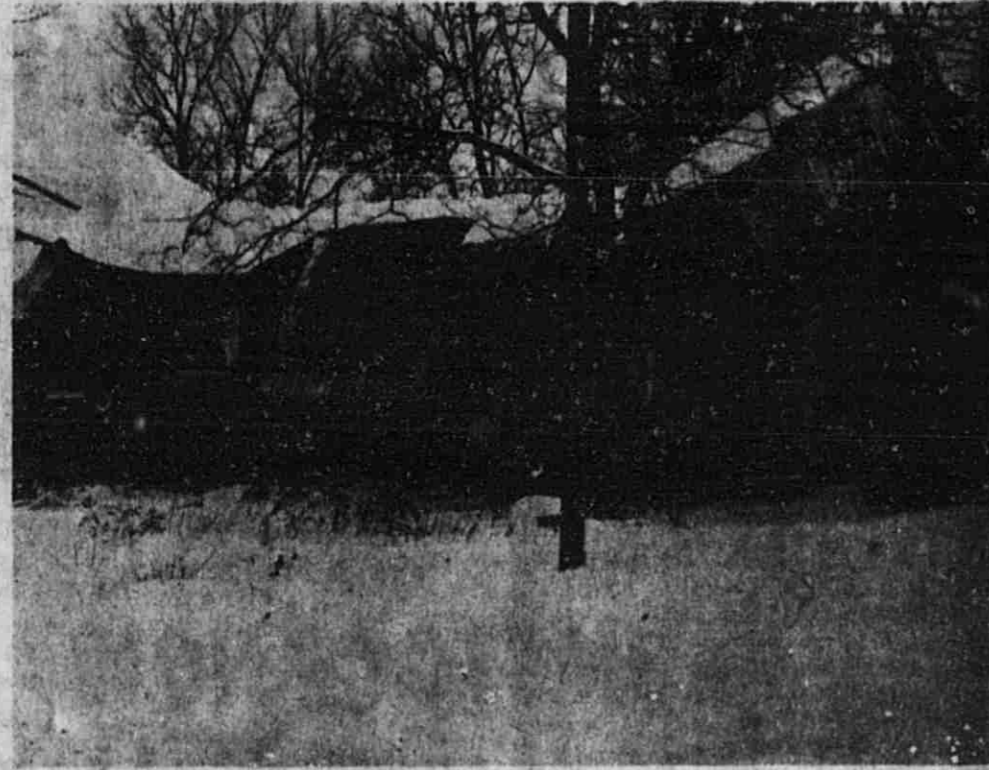
The stray and her pups were finally picked up and taken to the Humane Society in hopes that the beautiful dogs would be claimed but so far only one family has come to look.

The puppies are now being weaned and the mother will be ready for adoption in about three weeks. Humane Society officials will postpone final disposition on the litter for another week.

The Humane Society is located at 1690 Bristol NW, Grand Rapids.

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# Blizzard Brings The Area To Standstill



There's not much market for a sway-backed barn so the aging structure which collapsed during the blizzard will probably be razed. Property of the L.C. Pennock Estate located at Bowes and Center Rds., no damage estimate had been made at press time.

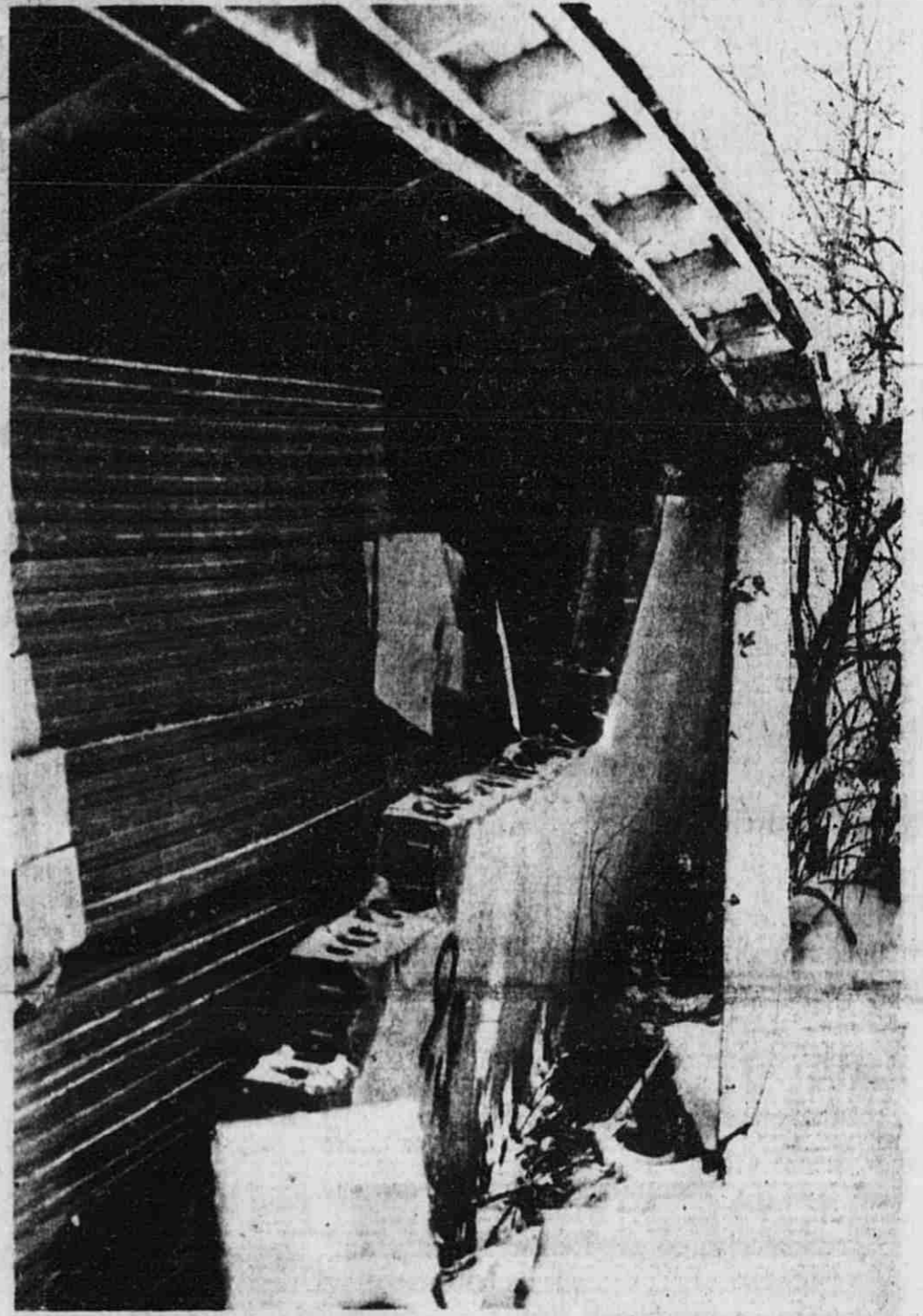
though many of their country cousins were still snowed in on Monday. Schools throughout the county were closed Monday and Tuesday as Kent County Road Commission (KCRC) crews busted through the drifts trying to open roads to even one-lane traffic.

Superintendent Don Kelley said that the decision to close school was held off until the last minute after reports from the KCRC that they would have to work all night. Seven days have been lost so far this school year to "acts of God." State aid is lost only if school is not called off and less than 70 percent of the students are in attendance. Normally, only two to three days have to be called. Last year, the blizzard cost seven school days alone.

Lowell police aided stranded motorists and city plows as they cleared side streets. Officers reported few accidents as most residents heeded warnings not to drive unless absolutely necessary.

Bud's Ambulance crews noted exceptional cooperation from area emergency personnel. When the ambulance itself was unable to clear the drifts, four-wheel drive vehicles aided the paramedics. Mark Armstrong, paramedic with Bud's East Office in Lowell, said that many calls handled over the weekend resulted directly from over-exertion from shoveling. Armstrong urged citizens to be prudent when tackling their driveways and walks.

Greatest storm damage in the area occurred at Erb's Lumber on Main St. in Lowell. Snow



The cinder block walls supporting a storage building at Erb Lumber Company on W. Main St. gave way under the weight of the snow and the roof came crashing down on the company's stock of rough sawn siding and foam insulation Saturday night. Jim Guber, manager of Erb's, estimates it will cost \$38,000 to replace the 26 x 120 foot building.



## Lowell Man Leaving Beef Board

Dick Posthumus of Lowell, who has directed the Michigan Beef Industry Commission since it first opened its offices four and a half years ago announced that he will be leaving the commission in January, 1979.

Posthumus has been appointed by the minority leader of the Michigan House of Representatives, William Bryant Jr., to be the director of program development and legislative research for the House Republicans.

In making his move known, Posthumus said he had enjoyed working for the Commission on behalf of the Michigan Beef Industry. He felt he had accomplished his goal of making the Commission a valuable instrument operating to improve the economic climate for the industry while being a creditable source for consumer information.

Milt Brown, chairman of the commission, in accepting his resignation, said Posthumus "has been a credit and valuable asset to the Michigan Beef Industry, but that the commission understands his desire to meet new challenges." Brown then went on to announce that as of Jan. 14 Miss Retha Hankey of Lansing will assume the post of executive vice president. Miss Hankey is presently the consumer information specialist for the Commission. Brown said the Commission was unanimous in supporting Hankey's promotion because of her knowledge and professionalism in dealing with people and problems.

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Area residents are ready to believe the scientists who say we may be in for another ice age. Last week the thermometer dipped to 21 below, the coldest this area has seen in 28 years. Over the weekend, over 15 inches of snow fell, bringing back chilly memories of the blizzard that struck a year ago. Crews from the Lowell Department of Public Works bladed the drifts around the clock so that city folk could move around

## City Council Meeting Is Short But Productive

If Monday evening's weather was brisk, the January 15 meeting of the Lowell City

## Charged In Hastings Burglary

Three Lowell men and one juvenile have been apprehended for the burglary of Bob's Party Store on M-37 south of Hastings, Detective Ken DeMott of the Barry County Sheriff's Department reported.

They were arrested by DeMott and Detective George Howell, also of the Sheriff's Department. Charged in the Dec. 28 burglary are Mark Jay Stinchcomb, 19; Brian A. Racine, 19, and Keith L. Moore, 17, along with a juvenile.

Detective DeMott said three watches, a pocket calculator and 26 out of 46 rings stolen from the store were recovered. Also taken were a case of Stroh's beer, eight cases of Pabst beer and eight cases of Miller beer, eight bottles of wine and candy.

**ROSIE DRIVE INN** — 800 W. Main, Lowell. This Week's Special: Fish & Chips, \$1.49. Tuesday night, Family Night, Burger Night, Wednesday Night, Chicken Night.

**CHICKEN TAKE-OUT** Thursday night, Liver & Onions; Saturday night.

**SIZZLER NIGHT** **BREAKFAST SPECIAL EVERY MORNING** c10

Council was just as brisk lasting only about 30 minutes. A work study session that promised to be quite time consuming, was scheduled to follow the regular meeting. With this in mind, the councilmen went about their business with little discussion regarding the agenda items.

One agenda item concerned a resolution authorizing the removal of C.E.T.A. employees from the retirement system. The resolution required no action however, as state legislators recently passed a similar action into state law.

The City Manager was authorized by the council to solicit bids for carpeting in the city hall. The proposed carpeting would be installed everywhere except the police evidence room and, of course, the fire station.

The city's law firm has been Frehofer, Hecht, Oosterhouse, DeBoer, and Cooper with James Flickinger, a member of that firm, being the city's representative. The city has been informed that Flickinger is leaving the firm and would like to keep the city's business. Frehofer, Hecht, Oosterhouse, DeBoer and Cooper also told the city that they would like to keep the business and that a new attorney would be assigned to represent Lowell.

No action was taken in the matter other than to request a resume from the proposed new attorney. The councilmen did however, express a wish for freedom to select a specialist when and if a lawsuit of a major nature arises.

The council then adjourned to the work study session where a variety of topics were discussed. Most of the discussion involved updates of projects that have been started over the past year, with the City Manager or the Councilman directly involved giving a status report. The Councilmen seemed genuinely pleased with the results of the nearly two-hour session and plan to make them a quarterly event.



The Dennis Nead family in Saranac thought they heard a strange noise about 5 a.m. Sunday but couldn't see anything from their windows. Neighbors called about 8 a.m. to tell them that their two-stall garage had fallen in on top of their cars. The vehicles sustained moderate damage. Obviously, the garage is going to need some help.

building caused a 26 x 120 ft. building to collapse which had housed large sheets of rough-sawn lumber and sheets of foam insulation. The inventory sus-

tained only minimal damage, but the building will cost \$38,000 to replace.

Northern Propane Gas, on E. Fulton (Main St.) lost a 4,800 sq. ft. warehouse sometime Monday night. The building housed some appliances and a truck was pinned underneath the wreckage. The building collapsed with the weight of the snow and is probably a total loss.

Another structure belonging to the L.C. Pennock Estate

**GREAT CURL! GREAT BODY!** With Uniperm at Vanity Hair Fashions, 203 E. Main, Lowell, 897-7506. c10

collapsed at Bowes and Center Rds. The aging barn will probably have to be razed. No damage estimate was available at press time.

In Saranac, the Dennis Nead family of 130 South St. awakened Sunday morning to find the roof of their two-stall garage collapsed.

**IS THERE A FAVORITE** — Person or loved one in your life? Take advantage of our third annual SWEETHEART SPECIAL at Modern Photographics. Call or stop for details at 104 W. Main, Lowell, 897-5606 or 938 4th Ave., Lake Odessa, 374-7337. c10

**DUSTY TROPHIES** Do you have any mounted animals or pelts cluttering up your attic, basement or garage? Instead of gathering dust, these items could be used by the Outdoor Education Program as educational tools. If you have any of these trophies of long-forgotten hunting expeditions to donate to the program, contact Steve Harrington at Lowell Middle School, 897-9223.

**PRIZE TRIP** Added to the prizes to be won on Feb. 3 at the Showboat Corporation's Las Vegas Night is a trip to Las Vegas for two—for real. Five bucks will get you started with thousands of dollars in play money for Black Jack, Roulette and other games. If you are 18 or older, you are cordially invited to attend. Play runs from 7-11 p.m. when the dancing will start at Deer Run Golf Club. Tickets are available at the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, Showboat Board members, UAW 1231 Education Committee and at the door. Volunteers to work on the event are still being sought. Call Nancy Wood at 897-8546 if you would like to help. The event will benefit the Re-float the Showboat Campaign.

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**cozy corner**

By Roger Brown

Did you hear about the Governor of Illinois declaring the entire northern part of his state a disaster area and then hopping a plane for Florida. To do something like that takes a lot of nerve, but is nonetheless, very, very smart. The only thing that stinks about it, is that I can't figure out a way to do the same thing.

I've thought of kinking the gas line to our furnace at the Ledger and letting the whole place freeze up. I could then quit publishing because of the severe cold and go to Florida until spring.

I've thought of firing Jim Ryder, our snow shoveler, and then let the snow pile up past the front door. Our snowblower, and then let it off to the Bahamas until mid-March, at least.

With all this snow accumulation, there's a chance the Ledger's roof could come down thus forcing me into an extended vacation in Acapulco.

The garbage truck is having trouble getting down the alley, which is deep with snow, to make a pickup at the Ledger. At the rate the garbage piles up, we may be forced out because of it, and it would be off to the Bahamas until mid-March, at least.

The old station wagon is showing signs that this may be her last winter, and if she dies, we won't have any means by which to haul the newspapers back from the printers in Hastings. This situation would of course necessitate a lengthy trip to Tahiti.

Actually, I'm only kidding about all of this. I really like all of this snow and waiting for the six o'clock news each night with held breath, to see if we have broken any snowfall records.

And I just love wading through snow, shoveling snow, scraping and brushing snow off my car, getting stuck in snow, etc. And God didn't make little green apples, and it don't rain in Indianapolis in the summertime, etc., etc., etc.

I've thought of letting the snow pile up past the front door. Our snowblower, and then let it off to the Bahamas until mid-March, at least.

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### New World Quartet Here Sunday



Borodin. Both composers are of the late 19th-early 20th century. Tickets are available for \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for students. The young men who comprise the ensemble have impressive backgrounds in music and have amassed awesome accomplishments in the few years since their chamber quartet was formed. They are presently artist-in-residence at Grand Rapids Junior College and are a repeat selection as Official Quartet for the State of Michigan.

The public is invited to attend and meet the artists after the performance at a coffee hour in the dining room of the church.

The New World Quartet is the perfect antidote for the winter doldrums. Critically acclaimed, the string ensemble will appear in concert on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 21, at the First Congregational Church of Lowell in Hudson St.

Presented by the Lowell Area Arts Council, the four young artists will perform two quartets in their hour and one-half concert, one by Maurice Ravel and the other by Alexander Scriabin.

Ernest Oesch of Freeport provided and presented two trophies—one to Donna Henry for High Cow in Butterfat Production and Tim Reisbig of Ionia for High Cow in Milk Production in the 4-H Division exhibited at the Ionia Free Fair.

The awards were sponsored by: William Steere, ADL Systems, Portland; Larry O'Mara, Berg Brothers, Alto; Roy Caldwell, Central Dairy Supply, Lansing; Larry Curtis, Clarksville Elevator, Clarksville; Robert Sheldon and Roy Cook, Farm Bureau Insurance Group, Ionia; Gerald Boehle and Richard Ravell, Federal Land Bank, Ionia; Charles Loy, Hawley Farm Supply, Saranac; Harold Buys, Ionia Elevator/Tow Line Feeds, Ionia; Orville Decker, Lake Odessa Cooperative Association, Lake Odessa; Vern Lettings & Fink Brown, Lake Odessa Livestock Auction, Lake Odessa; Paul Allen, Lakewood Grain & Storage, Woodbury; John Eckholm, Michigan Glass Lined Storage, Greenville; Perry Stowell, Patz Equipment, Lake Odessa; Bert Moran, Portland Cooperative, Portland; Michael Crumbaugh, Production Credit Association, Ionia; Larry Smith, Smith Bros. Elevator, Lake Odessa; Harold Hull, Surgo, Ionia; Max Vipond, Union Bank, Lake Odessa.

Elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms were Jim Leak, Bruce Walkington, and Jim Haver.

The speaker of the evening was Maynard Roth of Clarksville who presented a program on his trip to Europe.

### Happy Lowell Farmer Birthday Named To DeKalb Club

A local farmer was recently named a member of the DeKalb Yieldmasters Club for producing one of the top Ionia County corn yields.

Aldrick planted the corn on May 22 at a population of 21,000 plants per acre and harvested an estimated stand of 20,000 plants per acre on October 28.

The DeKalb Yieldmasters Club promotes an exchange of ideas and information among the nation's leading grain producers. Through the sharing of such information, the program encourages farmers to adopt management practices that will aid them in obtaining maximum profit from each acre.

Nothing puzzles me more than time and space; and yet nothing puzzles me less, for I never think about them. — Charles Lamb

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**LUNCH MENU**

**LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 1979**

**MON., JAN. 22: Tacos with Meat, Cheese and Lettuce, Buttermilk Green and Wax Beans, Johnny Cake or Biscuits with Syrup, Fruit or Whipped Jello, Milk.**

**TUES., JAN. 23: Hot Dogs with Pickles, Tossed Salad, Buttered Corn, Cookies or Bars, Choice of Canned or Fresh Fruit, Milk.**

**WED., JAN. 24: Oven Fried Chicken with Mashed Potatoes or Rice, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls or Bread, Choice of Whipped Jello or Fruit, Milk.**

**THURS., JAN. 25: Goulash or Lasagna, Cabbage Salad, French Bread, Chilled Fruit, Milk.**

**FRI., JAN. 26: Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Potato Chips and Pickles, Vegetable Soup, Assorted Fruits, Milk.**

**Free Throws Tell The Story**

Stellar free throw shooting carried Rockford to a 65-61 basketball victory over Lowell Wednesday on the losers' court.

**Ries Sets WMHA Record**

Bob McGrew, Steve Ries, and Kerry Kyser did it again in a 9-3 victory over the Kenowa Hills Knights last Thursday.

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**The Grand Valley Ledger**

(USPS 453-830)

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**Area Sports... Grapplers Shine At Belding**

The Lowell wrestling teams traveled to Belding last Thursday and came back with two victories, (49-14) Varsity and 35-14 JV.

**Bowlers Take First**

Two of the youngest bowling trophy winners in the area are Linda Keim and Robert Kuiper.

**Free Throws Tell The Story**

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# The Back Page...

## Potpourri...



Continued...

### CANCELLED

Did you get the feeling that last weekend was cancelled? The area was in the deep freeze again with most of the county impassable after nearly 15 inches of that white stuff drifted closed. Most weekend activities were cancelled including some Sunday church services. If it's warm where you are, be advised that Michiganders may petition the legislature to permanently bar the return of a faint-hearted soul who fled the state for a warmer climate.

### ALTERED

Lowell Police Chief Barry Emmons issued a warning to residents and businessmen that altered \$20 bills have been passed in Lowell. The corners are cut from \$20 bills, pasted on ones and used to get change for small items. And don't take any wooden nickels, either.

### CPR Classes To Start Jan. 22

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation is a life-saving technique you can learn by attending an American Red Cross CPR course in Lowell. The Kent County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 1050 Fuller, NE, will host the class with the Lowell YMCA and First United Methodist Church.

The course will meet for three consecutive weeks on Monday nights from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Lowell Methodist Church starting Jan. 22.

The course itself is free but there is a 35c charge for books used in the training. There is room for five more in the class.

### FIGURES DON'T LIE

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## Blizzard; cont'd. from pg. 1

ed. Their two cars sustained moderate damage.

Police Chief Barry Emmons warned area residents that the increasing buildup of snow on flat roofed residences and businesses should be removed if at all possible. The snow covers several layers of ice built up in the last few weeks. He also cautioned snowmobilers about using city streets. Snowmobilers will be tolerated as emergency vehicles but their use for racing will net them a ticket and/or impoundment. Chief Emmons asks that snowmobilers use the most direct routes to food stores, etc.

Emmons also asks parents to advise their children that hitching rides on the back of a moving vehicle is not only dangerous but a violation of the law.

The new state law which prohibits shoveling snow into the streets has resulted in warnings in the area but no tickets were issued. Citizens should also be aware that the law requires homeowners to reduce the size of piled snow if it restricts the view of drivers.

Emmons had high praise for the cooperation of the community in moving their vehicles from the streets to facilitate plowing. City streets were passable in Lowell and Saranac long before surrounding communities.

In Lowell, reserve police officers were out in force aiding stranded motorists, transporting nurses to nursing homes and delivering medicines.

Senior Neighbors Center reports that they were able to deliver meals to the homebound aged with the aid of four-wheel drive vehicles. Margaret Dean, Center Director, said that the Kent County Nutrition Program has provided emergency pre-packaged foods for the homebound senior in the event that delivery should become impossible. Elderly residents needing this service are asked to call the Senior Neighbors Center at 897-5250.

### Date Set For Area X-Country Race

February 3, 1979 is the date of the first major cross-country ski race for West Michigan.

Race sponsors, the West Michigan Environmental Action Council and WOTV, announced they are jointly sponsoring the event at Sporthaus Nordic Touring Center. "Growing interest in the sport of cross-country skiing and the lack of a major race near the metropolitan area prompted us to plan the race," commented Ken Sikkema, Executive Director of the WMEAC.

Dan Cool, Race Chairman, explained that the race is designed to attract both novice and experienced skiers. Loops of three and five kilometers are planned for inexperienced skiers interested in racing. Veteran skiers and experienced racers will race on a separate, more challenging course of ten and fifteen kilometers. Special technique, equipment, and clothes workshops will be sponsored Friday night before at the Touring Center.

A registration fee of \$4 was established to cover costs. Interested skiers should contact the Action Council (451-3051) for necessary registration forms.

### Engagement Announced



JoEllen Green

The engagement of JoEllen Green to David L. Whittemore has been announced. Ms. Green is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Green of Lowell.

Whittemore is the son of David K. Whittemore of Lowell and Mrs. Jean Whittemore of Saranac.

No wedding date has been set.

**LEADER DEADLINES**  
News, Mondays at 5 p.m.  
Classified ads, Tuesdays at noon.  
Display ads, Mondays at 5 p.m.

## if it fitz'

By Jim Fitzgerald

When Superman was born in 1938, in a comic book, I was 12 years old, the perfect age to be enchanted by an invincible man. But there must have been something wrong with me.

All of my buddies wanted to grow up to be Superman. I wanted to grow up to be Clark Kent, with no phone booth. Honest.

And I made it. All my adult life I've been a mild-mannered newspaper reporter. That's all I ever wanted to be. There's something to be said for setting low goals: Success is more easily obtained, especially if you kick extra points.

Superman is on my mind for the obvious reason. Today he is starring as Marlon Brando's son in the most expensive movie ever made. If you've never heard of this movie, you're dead and it's remarkable that you're able to read this column. You should probably have a few words with your mortician.

I saw the movie "Superman" the first night it played in Detroit. I was in a hurry because I wanted to tell my family and friends what I thought of the movie before I read what the critics thought of it. I'm always influenced by the opinions of professional critics, and I hate to disagree with them. I'm mild-mannered, remember.

"Star Wars" was tough on me. Before I saw it, I read the opinions of several eminent critics. They all said it was a great movie. I thought it was dumb, but I never told anyone. When people said they loved "Star Wars," it wouldn't have been mild-mannered of me to tell them they were stupid.

Besides, they would have pointed to the rave reviews and said I was weird to be the only person in the world who didn't love "Star Wars." So I simply said I hadn't seen the movie. One of the advantages of not being Superman is you can lie.

But even a mild-mannered person can get indigestion from swallowing too many opinions. I didn't want the "Superman" movie to be another "Star Wars." I wanted to get my "Superman" opinion on the record before I was intimidated by the professional critics.

As soon as the movie ended, I announced to my wife and all the people sitting around us: "That was a dumb, boring movie. I'm going to tell everyone not to waste money on it."

On the way home, I stopped at several tea rooms to spread the word further. I ripped "Superman" good. I said it was fine for little kids but it would bore sensible adults into insensibility. I said there was nothing funny or exciting about some guy flying from New York to California via phony photography instead of by United Airlines.

As I left one tea room, I heard a woman ask: "Who was that unmild man?" This bothered me, I'll admit. I didn't want to blow my Clark Kent image. But at least I had voiced my opinion before I could be cowed by the reviews in the next day's newspapers.

It was a good thing. The professional critics are nuts about "Superman." Many of them say it's even better than "Star Wars," for goodness sake.

My wife was bothered by my isolated position. "There must be something wrong with you," she said.

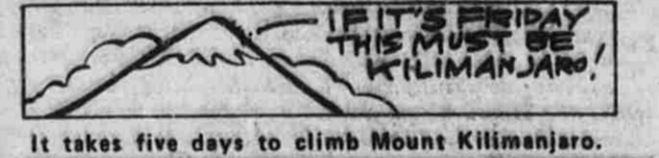
I suppose. What's wrong with me now is probably the same thing that was wrong with me 40 years ago when Superman made his debut. He bored me in the comic book because, no matter how terrible the threat, the readers always knew Superman would win in the end. The movie bored me for the same reason.

What fun is it to root for a perfect person? That's as exciting as rooting for Wednesday to follow Tuesday.

On the other hand, a real Clark Kent, without a phone booth, will lose more often than not. But it can be exciting to root for him. There's always the chance Clark might drop his mild-manner long enough to fight off whatever is being dumped on him.

Without the aid of blue underwear, Clark might even refuse to go along with the crowds and the critics who think a movie must be super if \$10 million worth of advertising says it is.

It's true this world needs heroes. But heroes are made, not born to Marlon Brando in 2 weeks' gestation at \$1.8 million per week. You may quote that, but please do it in a mild manner. Thank you.



It takes five days to climb Mount Kilimanjaro.

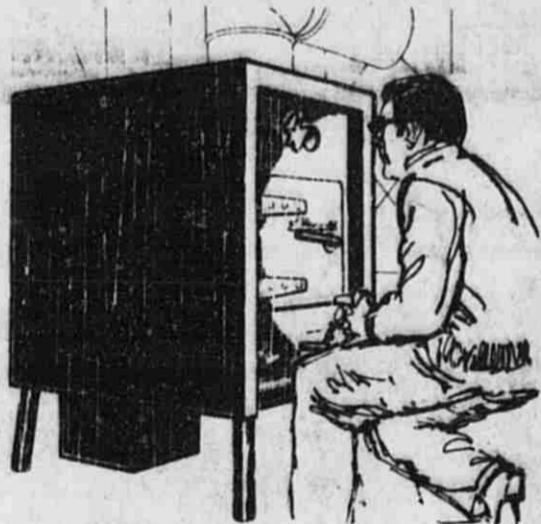
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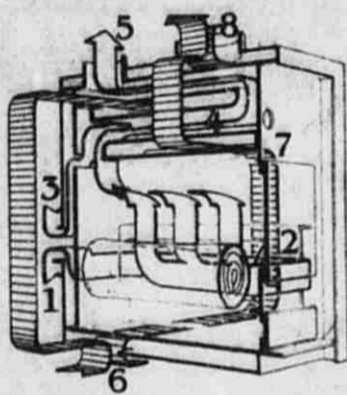
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## Seeing IS Believing



On the front of every Volcano is an inspection port with a swing away cover, through which the observer sees a sheet of bright orange & blue flame sweeping over and around wide, flat steel surfaces of hollow crossflow baffles. He sees the very heart of the Volcano, and the truly significant difference that makes it the most sophisticated wood burner in the world.

This sheet of flame (gases burning in the secondary combustion chamber) superheats room-heating, fan-forced air ducted around the firebox and through the hollow baffles.



- 1 A precisely controlled volume of combustion air is pre-heated and ducted evenly through the primary firebox.
- 2 Ducted evenly through the primary firebox.
- 3 Added fresh air is introduced to the secondary firebox to
- 4 ignite escaping gases in a super-hot flame,
- 5 permitting little fuel loss out the chimney.
- 6 Cool air near the floor is fan-forced through hot air jacket & hollow baffles and
- 7 exhausted into room or into hot air system.

This intense secondary burn, observable and fascinating to watch on every Volcano, easily demonstrates Volcano's lead in woodfiring technology.

When hooked to forced air or hot water systems (hydronic models available), the Volcano literally provides all the heat a homeowner needs with measurably less wood consumption than even the most modern of competitor stoves. Inside, the Volcano is as new as tomorrow; with the outward appearance of the Quaker Box Stove of yesteryear.

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