

The Grand Valley Ledger

Volume 4, Issue 36

Serving Lowell Area

Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, July 18, 1979

Monday Tickets Going Fast

Lowell and all of Michigan are gearing up for the biggest Showboat Week ever.

The 1979 edition of the Lowell Showboat powers into the entertainment spotlight for six nights

starting July 23. The high-quality entertainment moves to the front every night when the brand new Robert E. Lee comes around Cattail Bend on the Flat River at 9 p.m.



BALLOON LANDING

Charlie got the message from Paul Schmitt of Waukesha, Wis., on Monday and he doesn't even know the fellow. Doyle found a broken balloon in his flower garden ("my flower garden") with a note attached asking him to contact Schmitt. Doyle intends to drop him a line this week and report the particulars to the Ledger when he receives an answer.

SHUTDOWN

Gary's Country Meats, 205 E. Main, will be closed next Tuesday and Wednesday, July 24-25, for repairs. He'll reopen Thursday so you can meet for meat (thirty lashes, Gremlin, for not resisting the awful pun).

BACK IN SERVICE

Lowell City Hall has announced that city trucks may again be reserved for overnight use. City workers will park a city dump truck, as they become available, at a residence to be filled with debris and refuse, then pick it up again the next morning. The number to call to make use of this city service is 897-8457.

SHOWBOAT WEEK COUNTDOWN

Only a matter of days remain before the lovely Leslie Uggams and her entourage arrive and the gala Showboat Week begins. Many visitors will get a lasting impression of Lowell from their short visit to our town next week for the entertainment. Make that impression a good one with a ready smile and "Welcome to Lowell".

Visitors who have time on their hands before the performance are reminded that Michigan has about five Covered Bridges and three of these are within ten miles of Lowell, a photographer's delight.

Lowell's Chamber of Commerce has asked for the cooperation of all Lowell businesses to clean up, fix up and decorate for the week-long event which gets underway with the Showboat Parade at 7 p.m. next Monday night, July 23.

... AND SPEAKING OF ...

Any businesses or organizations who wish to enter the Showboat Parade (as we said, Monday night at 7 p.m.) should call Dode Dey at 897-8545 and/or attend the Chamber of Commerce meeting at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 18 at Paul's Showboat restaurant. Parade plans will be finalized then. Anyone with antique cars may also enter the parade.

RESERVATIONS, PLEASE

The deadline for the Class of 1952 reunion has been extended to July 21. For more information, call Mary Alice Speerstrain or write Larry Rosenberg at 105 S. Lakeview, Sturgis, MI 49091.

M-M-M-MICE CREAM

The Methodist Senior High Youth Group will be holding an ice cream social Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28 during Showboat Week from 5 to 8 p.m. on the lawn of the First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main.

FIRE TRUCKS GALORE

Hundreds of fire engine buffs with more than 60 antique fire engines will gather at Greenfield Village July 21 and 22. None of the engines were built later than 1954 and many are from the 19th and early 20th centuries. There is no additional charge for the Fire Apparatus Muster beyond the regular admission. (Just be sure you get back to town for Showboat Week.)

OFF THE BLOTTER

Involved in a property damage accident was Armore Labinne when he struck Yvonne Purdum in a rear-end collision on Main Street near Broadway on Monday, July 9. Injured in a separate property damage accident was Esther DeRushia when she pulled from Eberhard's parking lot and was struck by Charles Tichelaar on Thursday afternoon, July 12.

Jessie Martin of Lowell was struck by Josita Bungard of Muskegon on West Main near Valley Vista Dr. on Friday the 13th. Bungard was cited for improper overtaking and passing. Gery Warning was uninjured on Monday morning, July 9, after he struck a fire hydrant on Monroe St.

Cited to appear in 63rd District Court on charges of having an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle on Wednesday, July 11 were Stanley Crandell and Christopher Watkins of Lowell. Larry Peters was cited to appear in 63rd District Court on charges of larceny under \$100 after he was apprehended by Eberhard's store employees for allegedly shoplifting.

Robin Doty of Belding was injured early Saturday morning when she fell asleep at the wheel of her vehicle and went off the east end of Mercer Street, across Riverside Drive and into the Flat River. Fred Dieble was injured on Saturday evening when he was struck by a car driven by Tony Stormzand. Dieble had been crossing Main Street near Lafayette when the accident occurred.

Kropf Elected President

New Board of Education officers were elected at the regular meeting held Monday, July 9, 1979. All the officers were elected unanimously, and are as follows: Roger Kropf, President; Lloyd Miller, Vice-President; Orion Thaler, Secretary; and Wayne Dowling, Treasurer.

A motion was made to hold regular meetings of the board of education on the second Monday of each month in the board of education offices, 12685 Foreman Road, Lowell, Michigan.

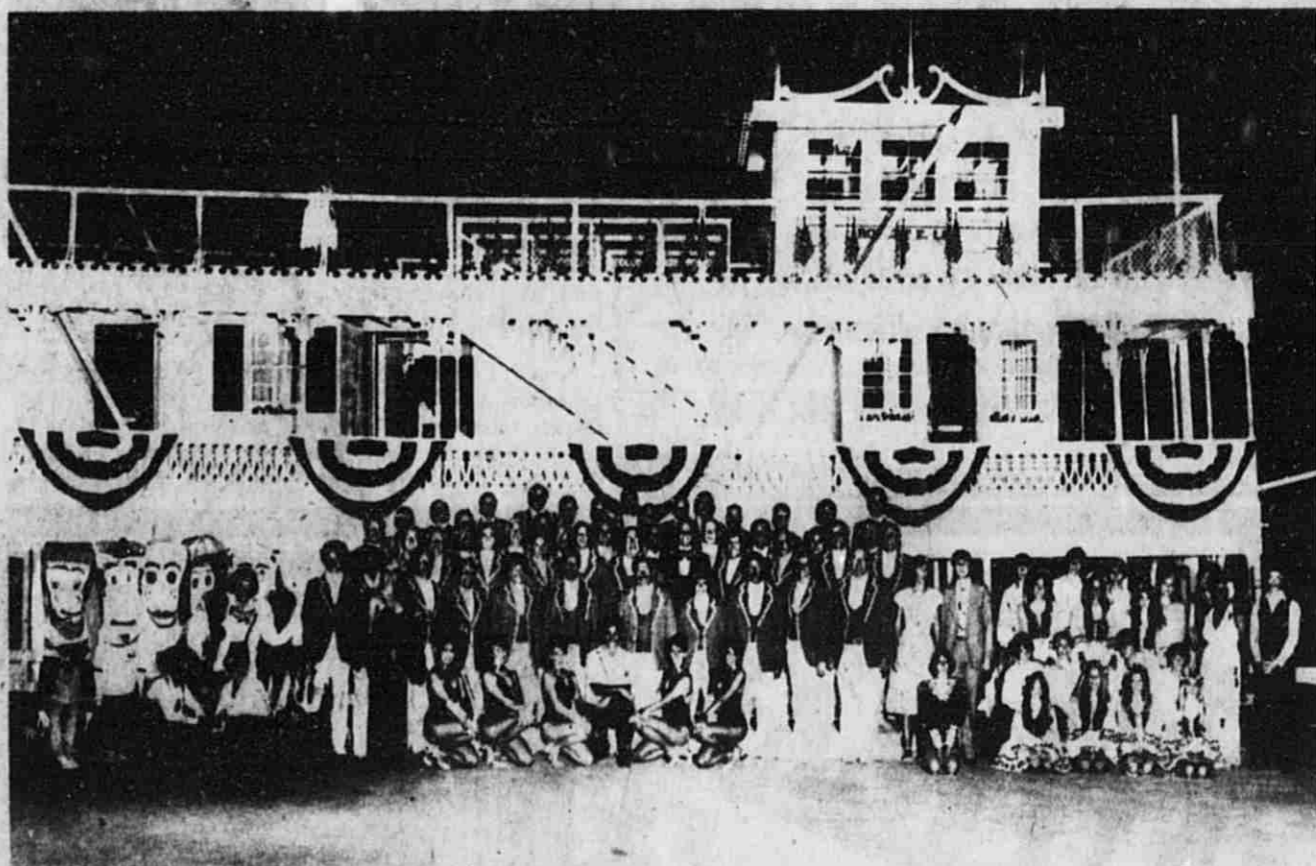
Steve Harrington presented a slide presentation on some trips taken in connection with the Outdoor Education program.

It was decided by the board to advertise for bids for replacement tables for the High School Cafeteria.

Superintendent Kelly informed the board that Patricia Covey, middle school band director, had requested and been granted a one-year sabbatical leave.

It was also decided to offer teaching contracts to the following: James J. Bedi, Robyn DeGraff, and Gary Goff, all at Bushnell Elementary, and Donna Hansen, to teach Home Economics at the Middle School.

Amateur Acts Chosen For Showboat



Riverside Amphitheatre was alive with music and laughter last Saturday night during the annual Talent Search Night. Twelve acts were chosen from a field of 29 to appear with Leslie Uggams on the 1979 Lowell Showboat, July 23-28.

Thanks to a 50 man barbershop chorus, this year's talent winner photo almost didn't fit on the Ledger page! Saturday's winners and the night of appearance for each act are:

Monday, July 23, Sheryl VanDenBerg, Moline, vocalist; Jeff and Emily English, Olivet, vocalists. Tuesday, July 24, Touch of Class, Grand Rapids, band; International Tap Spectacular, Holly, novelty tap dance. Wednesday, July 25, Marsha Love, Grand Rapids, vocalist; Great Lakes Chorus, Grand Rapids, barbershop harmony chorus. Thursday, July 26, Short People, Saranac, comedy; Lansing Dance Theatre, Mason, jazz routine. Friday, July 27, Steve Thompson, Belding, vocalist; Jubilation Dancers, Kentwood, dance medley. Saturday, July 28, Karen Wisniewski, Durand, gymnastics; Debbie Adams, Belding, vocalist.

Ionia Free Fair Line-up Announced

A galaxy of entertainment super stars will descend to the Ionia Free-Fair's stage August 6-11.

Kenny Rogers will step before the footlights for 7 and 9 p.m. performances on August 6. Rogers has captured most of the major country music awards for a male performer.

Ronnie Milsap and Ray Stevens will share the top billing in a 9 p.m. show on August 7. Milsap returns to the Free Fair stage for the second consecutive year. He vaulted to the top in October of 1977 with his selection as the "Entertainer of the year" by the prestigious Country Music Association. Stevens reached stardom with the classic, "Everything is Beautiful".

"The Streak", "Ahab the Arab", and "Misty".

Another "Entertainer of the Year", Mel Tillis, will be featured at 9 p.m. on August 8. This will be the third Free Fair outing for the popular Tillis. Also in the show is the fast-rising T.G. (the Good) Sheppard, considered to be one of the top new country music artists.

The Fair's spotlight will focus on the Charlie Daniels Band at 9 p.m. August 9. The group was nominated this past year to receive instrumental group of the year honors. Charley Pride, a giant in the world of country music, will step front and center on the grandstand stage on August 10 at 9 p.m.

Teen idol and recording star, Shaun Cassidy, will wind up the week's show fare with 7 and 9:30 p.m. performances on August 11.

Joining the headliners will be emcee-comedian Paul Lennon, August 6-7-8; singer-comedian Charlie Slavin, August 9-10-11, and the Jack D'Johns, a group that mixes a light comic touch

Macker Tourney Is A Success

Gus Macker wasn't anybody until Rick Thompson gave the name to Scott McNeal in Junior High. Now there is a major outdoor basketball tournament named after him simply from lack of anything else to call it.

There was an estimated 800 to 1,000 persons attending the tournament, held last Saturday, July 14 and Sunday, July 15. The sixth annual tournament was held on three makeshift courts, one in the McNeal family driveway, and two in Elizabeth Street, which was closed off for the occasion.

Winners of Division One were the Chippewa Pride. The team consisted of Val Bracey, of Central Michigan University who was recently drafted for the Pistons, brother Tim Bracey, who plays for Eastern Michigan University, and Leon Gydon, a CMU senior.

Second place for Division One went to a team known as "S.B." from South Bend, Ind. Glen Sudhop, 7'2", of North Carolina State played on this team and has recently been drafted by the Boston Celtics. The rest of his team consisted of Mike Geary from Aquinas College, and Mark Wallace.

Division two winners were the Ghetto All Stars from Grand Rapids. Bernie Harden, Daryl Henderson and Carter Echols made up this team. Second place in Division Two went to Telephone Inc., which was Tim Harrison, Jim Stone and Leon Charleson.

The winners of Division Three were Earth, Wind, and Fire, composed of Mitch McNeal, Tom LaMonde of Atlanta, Georgia, and Steve "Dawk" Doyle. Second place in that division went to the George Trapp All Stars, Chris Briggs, Robert Thompson, and Denny DeWitt.

The winners of Division Four journeyed here from Toledo, Ohio. Their team, the "Starrz", was made up of Craig Kroegeer, John Alexander, and Jim Marquette. Second went to O'Hara Boilers, Rob Tulecki, Greg Machado, and Mark Lessons.

In the Girls Division Magnetic Storm of Ionia came out on top with a victory over Man's World of Saranac. Kelly Renucci, Terri Leach and Mary Fox playing for Man's World.

The Advisory Board for the Gus Macker Tournament also decided to give awards for

outstanding performances. Most Valuable Players from the divisions are: Val Bracey, Division I; Leon Charleson, Division II; Division III, Mitch McNeal and Steve "Dawk" Doyle; Division IV, Jim Marquette; and in the Girls Division, Mary Fox of Ionia.

Robert Thompson was voted best coach, with Tom Scheidel voted as Most Active and the Outstanding Member of the Advisory Council.

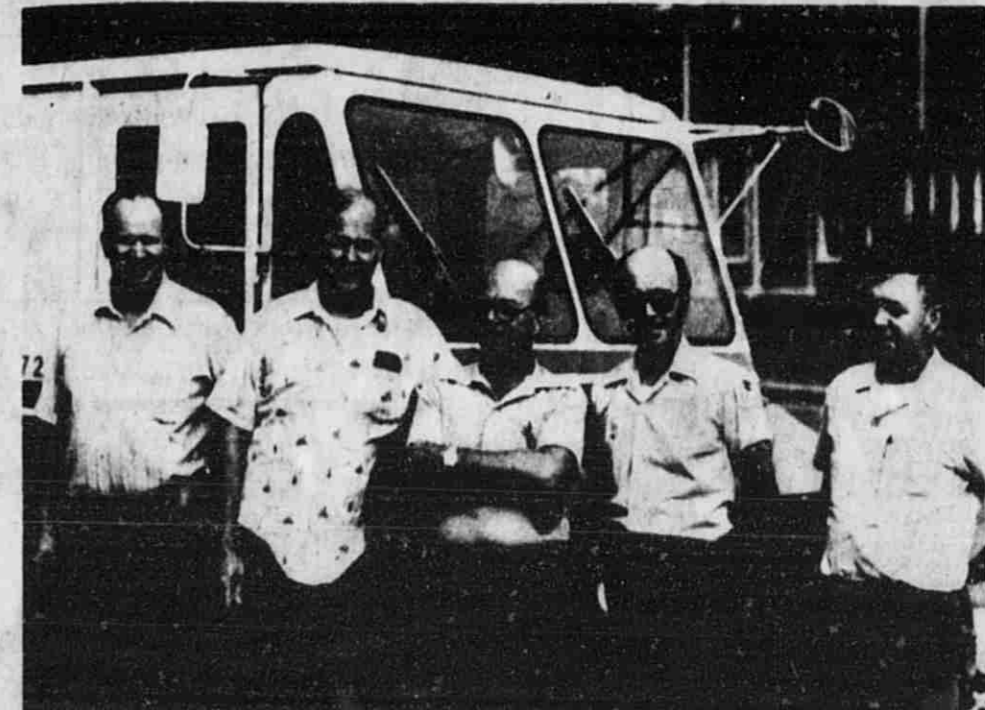
The Grand Rapids Press and the Lowell YMCA co-sponsored the event, with contributions from many Lowell merchants.

Sally Brencken was voted Miss Macker and reigned over the festivities with Jo Goudzward, her first runner up.

Zzano's Is 7-1

Baseball action Sunday, July 15, showed Zzano's Pizza defeating Portland 3-1. The team has seven wins and one loss in the Tri County League. Zzano's will take on Ionia Thursday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m. in Fallasburg Park.

Annual Safety Awards Issued



Safe driving awards have been given to six mail carriers from the Lowell Post Office. Pictured, left to right, are: Bill Condon, 1 yr.; John DeHaan, 4 yrs.; Bernie Kropf, 13 yrs.; Alex Robertson, 3 yrs.; and Jim Ritterdorf, 3 yrs. Rex Collins, 6 yrs., also received an award but was not present for the photo.

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Attend Seminar



Attending the five-day seminar on citizenship sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau recently were Teresa Moore and Brent Phillips, standing, and Lynn Wilcox and Georgia Abbott, seated.

Entering their "own world of politics" June 18-22, over 200 Michigan high school juniors and seniors took part in the 1979 Michigan Farm Bureau Young People's Citizenship Seminar held at Albion College, Albion, MI. The five day seminar, jointly sponsored by the Michigan Farm Bureau and county Farm Bureau organizations, emphasized the importance of an informed, involved electorate in the democratic process of self-government. Students participating in the Seminar from Kent County included Teresa Moore, Brent Phillips, Lynn Wilcox, and Georgia Abbott.

Students Attend Art Camp

Attending Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp for summer sessions are nine band students from the Lowell area. Attending from the Lowell area are: Dennis Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald E. Kelly, 13444 Crestwood Drive, Lowell; Brendon Kettner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kettner, 11100 Bennett, Lowell; Vicky Kidder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Kelly Kidder, 11653 Lally Drive, Lowell; Robert King, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. King, 3810 Quiggle, Ada; Vicky Kissinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Kissinger, 10769 60th Street, Alto; Kim Schneider, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Schneider, 800 Lincoln Lake Road, Lowell; Marc Angus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Angus, 783 Grindle, Lowell; Dannon MacDonald, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duane MacDonald, 423 N. Hudson, Lowell; Scott Covell, son of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Covell, 1788 S. Marble Road, Lowell and Jon Gober, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Gober of Lowell.

Childs, Phillips Complete Training



Pvt. James D. Phillips

Pvt. Stephen C. Childs

Marine Private Stephen C. Childs, son of Clyde and Leona Childs, 317 King St., Lowell, and Marine Private First Class James D. Phillips, son of James and Constance Phillips of 818 Lincoln Lake, Lowell, have completed recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Bartering Is Back



David Tichelaar, left, and David Thaler, center, of Grand Rapids, are congratulated by Robert N. Brady, right, of Barter Systems, Inc. based in Nashville, TN.

Bartering, the simple form of trading, reminiscent of the Indians and early pioneers, has come to Grand Rapids.

Barter Systems, Inc., opened offices at 6518 28th St., SE and serves as a clearing house for the goods and services members conventionally would market for cash. Instead, the system credits a member's account with the retail value of their good or service which they traded into the system and allows them to use those credits to make purchases when they need goods and services from the system. More than \$13 billion in goods and services were bartered for in this country last year.

New members or "subscribers" to Barter Systems pay a

once-only joining fee, annual dues and a per-transaction fee to cover accounting and administrative costs of the exchange. Accounting and bookkeeping is handled entirely by Barter Systems and members are provided with a monthly statement listing each barter transaction and telling them how much credit is in their account.

Anyone interested in learning more about barter and how the barter exchange concept works can write Barter Systems of Grand Rapids, P.O. Box 7510, Grand Rapids, MI 49510, or call 676-1472.

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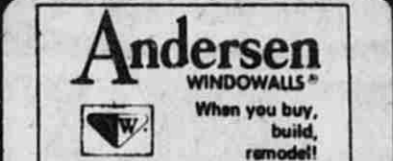
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|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 x 4, per foot | 18 ^c | 2 x 8, per foot | 69 ^c |
| 1 x 6, per foot | 29 ^c | 2 x 10, per foot | 91 ^c |
| 2 x 4, per foot | 34 ^c | 4 x 4, per foot | 67 ^c |
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| 2 x 6 No. 2 & Br. S.P.F. Western | 8'-\$3.46 |
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| 14'-\$6.05 | 16'-\$6.91 |
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| 12'-\$7.77 | 14'-\$9.07 |
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