

The Grand Valley Ledger

Volume 6, Issue 21

Serving Lowell Area  Readers Since 1893

March 30, 1982

Cable TV update

For those interested in cable TV service in Lowell and the surrounding area, the last two companies submitting proposals to the City of Lowell will do so at public hearings before the city council Monday, April 5 beginning at 8:00 p.m. The two companies making their presentations will be Lowell-Saranac Cable Vue (Liggett Broadcast Group) and the Lowell Light and Power Company.

These public hearings are

the final step in the city's elaborate procedure for selecting a company to service Lowell with cable television. When these hearings have been conducted it will only remain for the council to make their decision in granting the franchise. According to preliminary construction schedules in some of the proposals, initial hook-ups to cable service could be as near as late summer if the franchise is granted in early April.

"March Madness" Tonight!

Six Lowell merchants are staging a "March Madness" sales promotion tonight, Wednesday, March 31st from 7-10 p.m. Shoppers can purchase any "in stock" items (with some exceptions at some stores) for a full twenty percent off the marked price.

Participating merchants are, Lambert's Variety; Riverside Fireplace Shoppe; That Special Place; West's Apparel; Pfaller's Riverfront Clothing and Anderson Family Shoes.

Whether it's twenty percent off a candy bar at Lambert's Variety or twenty percent off a thousand dollar wood stove at Riverside Fireplace Shoppe, it's money that smart shoppers can keep in their pocket. Besides the big discounts, most stores will be conducting door prize drawings for customers who stop in and register.



Duane Lambert, owner of Lambert's Variety applies window dressings proclaiming Wednesday evening as "March Madness" in his as well as five other stores in Lowell. Shoppers can take advantage of 20 percent across the board discounts on everything purchased during this three hour spree.



GRASS FIRES GALORE!

Lowell Fire Chief Frank Martin has informed us that the Lowell Fire Department responded to their first grass fire for the year last Tuesday and have been called to six others since. In all but one instance the fires were started by sparks from trash barrels. With that in mind, Chief Martin is prompted to remind residents to use extreme caution with any kind of fire out of doors during this time of year when all the grass and other vegetation is dry and easily ignitable.

A.M. HEALTH CLINIC CANCELLED

The morning session of the Kent County Health Clinic at Lowell City Hall on Thursday, April 1st is cancelled. The clinic will be open during the afternoon hours of 1-4 only.

SKIN CARE TIPS

The Lowell "Y" will conduct an evening class on Skin Care featuring "The make-up that's more than a cover up". Mary Kay Cosmetics Make-up and Skin Care Lesson will be presented free of charge at the YMCA office on April 13, at 7:00 p.m. Reservations only. Products will be made available for purchase following the class.

OFF THE BLOTTER

Mark Osburn was injured early Sunday morning March 28 when he lost control of his car and struck a street lamp pole on Main Street near Monroe.

Arrested by Lowell officers Saturday evening for driving under the influence of alcohol was James Barnaby of Grand Rapids. He was lodged in the Kent County jail until bond was posted early Sunday morning.

Appearance violations were issued for "Turving" in the Lowell Fair Grounds Friday afternoon to Michael Harrington and Monty Gray. Both will appear at a later date in 63rd District court.

Referred to Probate Court by Lowell Police was a juvenile for vandalism to Middle School property.

Tom Graham of Grand Rapids received over \$200 in fines and court costs and restitution fees from 63rd District Court Thursday, when he plead guilty to charges of destruction of property over \$100 which occurred at the Middle School Friday the 19th. Lowell Police arrested both Graham and a juvenile subject for the act. The juvenile will be referred to probate court at a later date.

Perry honored for service

Nearly two thousand people stood and sang "Happy Birthday" to 56 year old Bob Perry last Friday night. The crowd was on hand for the Detroit Lions vs. Lowell coaches basketball game and filled the Lowell High School gym to near capacity, netting around \$2,000 for LASA. Everyone, including Lowell Area Schools Athletic Director Bob Perry was surprised when LASA chairman Chuck Dykhuizen awarded Perry a plaque honoring him for 30 years of dedicated service to Lowell sports. It was just coincidence that it was Perry's birthday, and it is likely to be a birthday not soon forgotten.

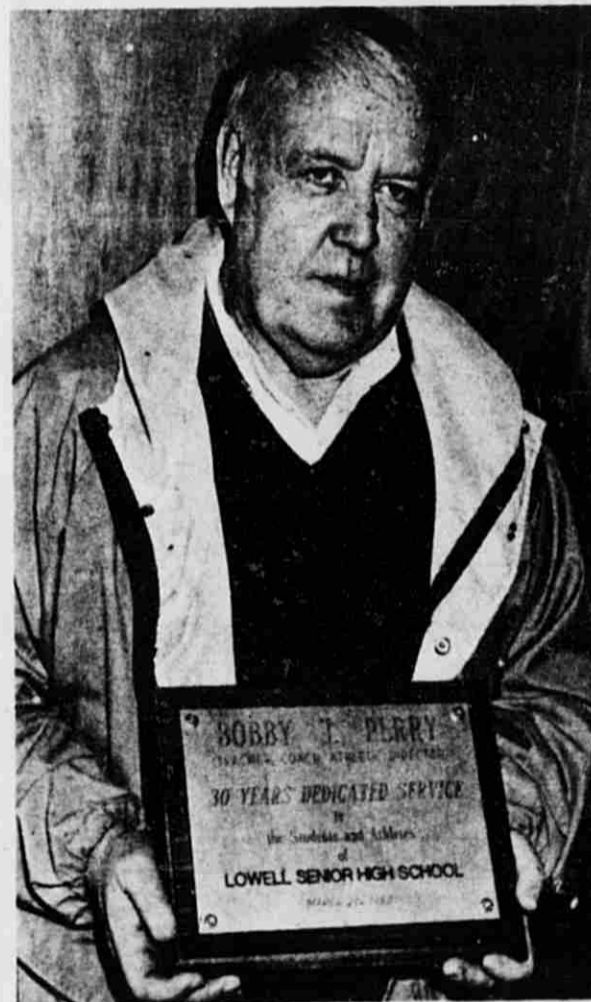
Perry came to Lowell in the fall of 1951 and taught athletics, civics and biology while beginning his coaching career as a varsity football coach. Over the years at Lowell, Bob has coached a variety of sports including, football for 9 years, track for 20 years, cross country for 12

years, J.V. basketball for six years and even a turn at tennis for a couple of years. Bob took over the reins of athletic director in the fall of 1968 and has held the position since. Besides his coaching, Bob helped to organize summer league youth baseball in the late fifties before the YMCA took it over. Another sideline for Bob for the past 17 years has been instructing driver training at the school.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH PRESENTS GUEST SOLOISTS

The Senior Choir of First Congregational Church, with guest soloists, proudly presents: "The Crucifixion". A meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer; for full chorus of mixed voices and soli for tenor and bass with organ accompaniment by John Stainer.

There will be duplicate presentations at each service on Sunday, April 4th, at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. A childcare for pre-schoolers and younger is offered and there is a Fellowship Hour between services in the Church Dining Room with friends and guests most welcome.



Bob Perry displays the plaque awarded to him for his "thirty years of dedicated service to the students and athletes of Lowell Senior High School."

PRECISION & FASHION HAIRSTYLING — For both men and women. Man's World Hairstyling. Phone 897-8102.

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thru
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life
is it
anyway

?

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ROSIES — Ham and Cheese omelet, \$1.99. Hippie Burger basket \$1.85.

Obituaries

MARTELL — Clifford H. Martell, aged 79, of Lowell, passed away Saturday, March 27, 1982. He is survived by his wife, Velma; daughter, Mrs. Douglas (Velma J.) Hartley of Lowell; a brother, Floyd E. Martell of Trufant; three grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. Funeral Services were Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Lowell, with Dr. Richard Greenwood officiating. Interment Fairplains Cemetery.

NELSON — Iolene, aged 59, of Granger, Indiana, passed away March 19, 1982. She is survived by her husband, Edward; 4 sons. One son preceded her in death. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren; her mother, five sisters and one brother; many nieces and nephews; her aunt, Mrs. Pearl Clark of Alto and several cousins in the Lowell area. Mrs. Nelson, the former Iolene Beebe, graduated from Lowell High School in 1940 before moving to Indiana.

SMITH — Lovisa Smith, aged 64, of Lowell, passed away Monday, March 29, 1982. She is survived by her husband, Carl; children, Mrs. Mark (Alice) Alcorn of Detroit; sons, Alfred and Allan at home; brothers, Claude and Gordon Ridgway of Lowell; sisters, Mrs. Blanche Colmenter of Homer, Mrs. Evelyn Buche of Springport, and Mrs. Mable Barton of Lowell; and three grandchildren. Funeral Services will be Wednesday 1 p.m. at the Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Lowell, with Rev. Gerald R. Bates officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery.

SWAIN — Kenneth E. Swain, aged 54, of Grand Rapids, passed away March 24, 1982 at Butterworth Hospital. Surviving are his wife, Kay; one son, Ken of Grand Rapids; four daughters, Fatty and Ed Dietz of California, Sally and Tom VanGessel, Darlene and Dan Gerke, and Catherine Ann Swain, all of Grand Rapids; his mother,

Eva and step-father, Ken Boss of Elsworth, MI; one brother, Clare of Lansing; three sisters, Mrs. Norman (Grace) Webster of Grand Rapids, Mrs. Bill (Audrey) Kaiser of Keewaden, MI, Mrs. Al (Irene) Smith of Alto; ten grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. The Funeral Service was held Friday at the Sullivan-Boor Funeral Home. Interment Resurrection Cemetery.

VEENSTRA — Jacob Veenstra, aged 83, of Atwood, MI, passed away Monday, March 22, 1982. Surviving are his children, Dar and Wilma Penfold of Atwood, Frank and Gezina Meehof of Grandville, Rev. Paul and Kay Veenstra of Ogilvie, Minn., Corwin and Minnie Sloothaak of Hamilton, Tom and Flora Wynsma of Atwood, Rev. Richard and Jennie VandeKieft of Lowell, Jim and Pat Veenstra, Andrew and Arlene Veenstra, Jacob Jr. and Jan Veenstra all of Atwood; 37 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren; three bro-

thers, Wesley, Paul and Andrew Veenstra all of Atwood; two sisters, Flora Burns of Atwood, and Gertrude Veenstra of Grand Rapids; one sister-in-law, Cornelia Veenstra of Grand Rapids. Funeral Services were held at the Atwood Christian Reformed Church, Thursday, March 25, Rev. Sprintsma officiating.

Estate planning crucial to small business owners

Changes in tax laws that affect larger estates and liberalize rules for gifts can make estate planning a simpler, less formidable process for some people. But for others, especially owners of small businesses, the new rules offer an assortment of opportunities that should be reviewed carefully.

If you're a small business owner, your estate includes your business -- whatever percentage you own -- as well as your personal assets. One of your first decisions should be what you want done eventually with the business. If you decide that the business should be left to your heirs, you must then decide how to do that without attracting high estate taxes.

In the past, many family businesses were sold when the inheritance carried high estate taxes. The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 sidesteps some estate tax problems by increasing the non-taxed estate to \$225,000 in 1982. This amount continues to increase until 1987 when it reaches \$600,000. Your estate, then, is less likely to incur large tax liabilities due to the value of your business.

An alternative to paying estate taxes, is to pass on your estate through a series of gifts during your lifetime. Because the new gift tax laws also permit an increase in the tax-exempt amount, you can effectively reduce the amount of your estate. The key to this is striking the proper balance between lifetime gifts and the amount to be passed on.

As an example, let's use Jack's Printing Shop, a privately-owned small business worth \$400,000, including the building and the land. His other assets, investments and cash total \$150,000. His total estate in 1982 is \$550,000, but Jack is worried because his business keeps growing at five percent

RUSSELL — Henry J. Russell, aged 66, of Sand Lake, passed away Saturday at his residence. Surviving are his wife, Henrietta; five children, Mrs. Arthur (Mary) Merklinger of Lowell, Mrs. Kenneth (Ann) Mitz of Cedar Springs, Mrs. Gary (Judy) Nelson of Lake Odessa; 14 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Mrs.

Henrietta Tanner of Grand Rapids. Funeral Services were held Tuesday at the Bliss-Earl Funeral Home, Cedar Springs, Fr. Theodor Kozlowski officiating. Interment Elmwood Cemetery.

Coming Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 1: Vergennes Cooperative Club will meet at Schneider Manor at 1 p.m. Sponsor will be Carrie Groenenbloom.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2: Crafts and Bake Sale, State Savings Bank; sponsored by Honey Creek Christian Homes Ladies Guild. Starts at 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3: Cyclamen Chapter #94 OES invites their families and friends to their Friendship Night at 8 p.m. in the Lowell Masonic Temple. This is our fun night.

Keeping utilities costs in line

(Prepared by The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants)

Have your monthly bills for gas, electricity, water, oil and telephone services been climbing at a rate faster than you've budgeted for? From 1976 to 1981 those costs on a national average rose 79 percent. Nonetheless, with proper planning, you can manage your monthly utility bills just as you manage other household expenses.

What rate do you pay for utilities? Utilities have a set rate for a certain amount of usage, but rates are not always the same. For example, power rates are high during daytime, and lower at night. Electricity costs, if air conditioning is involved, rise sharply during summer months.

What is estimated billing? Estimated billing stabilizes monthly gas and electric payments by averaging bills over an entire year. This helps you sidestep seasonal highs. However, don't confuse this with estimates made when the meter reader can't gain access to your meter. Those estimates might be based on recent usage which could be higher than your current use.

What other fees should you check? If you pay a flat telephone service fee, find out what portion covers equipment rental. If you buy your own phone, you might save money in the long run, but it's wise to check first.

How will the AT & T reorganization affect your phone bill?

Now's a good time to review all the charges on your telephone bill because the billing system may change. It's possible that you will get separate phone bills. One for local service, one for long distance and another for equipment rental. According to Paula Horii of AT&T, details related to separating the parent company from its operating units and the impact on billing procedures will be ironed out and announced in the next six months.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6: The annual meeting of the Alton Cemetery Association will be held at the Alton Church at 8 p.m.

TUES. APRIL 6: The Lowell Lions club will sponsor a blood Drive at the Methodist Church Education building in Lowell. Open from 3-8 P.M. You may call for an appointment at 897-7904.

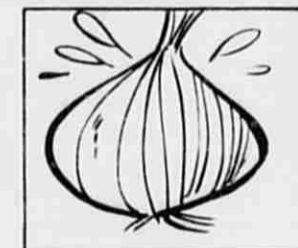
TUES. APRIL 6: The Annual meeting of the Alton Church Society will be held at the Alton Church at 8:00 P.M.

WED. APRIL 7: Bake Sale and Flea Market at the Senior Neighbors Center, 214 E. Main Donations accepted. Clean out to contribute; Buy

In the meantime, ask your phone company representative to explain what your rental and local service charges cover. The boundaries of local service could change, according to telephone company officials. Local areas will be established by state regulatory bodies and local service rates are expected to increase.

Should you be collecting more interest on your deposit? If you paid a deposit in order to get phone or utility service, the interest on this deposit may have risen in your state. Your utility company or state public service commission will know. Most utility companies will return your deposit with interest after a year by deducting it from your bill.

How can you cut costs? The best way to cut costs, and keep your payments stable, is to monitor your use of utilities. Electricity, for example, is billed in kilowatt-hours which is watts multiplied by hours used divided by 1,000.



You'll be able to chop onions without tears if you periodically rinse your hands under cold water while chopping.

to spruce up. (no clothing will be handled). 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7: Notice to all members of Clark-Ellis Post #152 American Legion. Oyster Stew and vegetable beef stew supper, 6:30 p.m. at post clubrooms. Free to members. Bring own table service (bowl, coffee cup, knife and spoon). Volunteers for KP duty Wednesday afternoon needed. Contact Bob Ellis or Roman Maloney.

MONDAY, APRIL 12: The Golden Swingers will meet for potluck supper at 6 p.m. at the Lowell High School home economics room. Bring own service and a dish to pass. Coffee furnished. There will be a good program for the evening. All welcome.

Independent Bank declares dividends

The Board of Directors of Independent Bank Corporation, an Ionia-based bank holding company, has declared a 5 percent stock dividend payable on April 30, 1982, to shareholders of record on April 20, 1982. At the same time, the directors declared a regular quarterly dividend of .14c per share, payable on April 20, 1982 to shareholders of record on April 10, 1982.

Loren C. Adgate, president of the corporation, pointed out that this is the 8th stock dividend and the 28th consecutive quarterly dividend paid since the organization of the bank holding company in June, 1974.

Stockholders of fractional shares resulting from the stock dividend will be paid cash on the basis of \$7.00 per share. This value is equivalent to \$7.35 per share before the stock dividend.

Independent Bank Corporation's bank affiliates are First Security Bank, Ionia, Independent Bank - West, Independent Bank - West Michigan, Rockford, First State Bank of Newwaygo, Western State Bank, Howard City, The Olivet State Bank and The Peoples Bank of Leslie.

The first American student to work his way through college was Zechariah Bridgen, 14, who graduated from Harvard in 1657. He earned "money by ringing the bell and wayting."

MARCH MADNESS

Wed. March 31st 7 - 10 P.M.

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U.S. Army Honor Awardee

September wedding planned

HOMESPUN DEVOTIONS

by Pauline E. Spray



Meditate upon these things: give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all (1 Timothy 4:15).

My sister-in-law can go into the kitchen dressed in her Sunday best and prepare dinner without damaging her apron-less dress in the least. As for myself, I cannot work without an apron.

If the Christian's conversation is kept free from evil, pessimism, and faultfinding, it must be protected, also. The only successful way to protect one's speech is to guard one's thoughts with all diligence. What one thinks about, one talks about.

And, if an individual constantly thinks of himself as a failure, he will become one. Someone has said, "Thoughts are the seeds of future deeds." One will become a negative person, full of doubts, indecisions, and excuses if he continually

harbors thoughts of fear.

On the other hand, if the Christian protects his thinking by deliberately substituting positive, constructive assertions for negative suggestions, he will be a happier person. More will be accomplished for the Lord. His influence will be greater. When it comes to one's thoughts, it pays to "wear an apron."

Prayer: O Lord, guard my thoughts throughout this day. Cast out all negatives and evil suggestions. Fill my mind with good things. Help me to meditate upon Thy Word so that my profiting may appear to all those about me. Amen.

All for Jesus! all for Jesus! All my bow'r's ransomed pow'r's: All my tho'ts and words and doings. All my days and all my hours.

MARY D. JAMES



Tim Rogers

Tim Rogers has achieved the distinction of being selected the Association of United States Army Honor Awardee out of the 174 men in his Combat Engineer Company. Selection as the AUSA Honor Awardee of the Cycle is a tremendous accomplishment for Tim. Tim is stationed at Fort Leonardwood, Missouri. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers of Murray Lake.

Ferris announces honors list

Nearly 1,950 Ferris State College students are included on the academic honors list for the recently completed winter quarter here, Dr. Donald A. Priebe, vice president for academic affairs, has announced.

To be eligible, a Ferris student must have compiled a 3.25 grade point average in

at least 14 quarter hours of graded work; a 4.00 is all A's. Among Lowell area students are Ruth Reagan of Lowell, Ronald K. James and Beverly Ripley of Alto and John Anderson and William Crosby of Ada.

The total list of 1,935 students honored includes 104 who earned all A grades.

Grand Valley College selects deans list

Forty-nine students in the Seidman College of Business and Administration and 193 students from the College of Arts and Sciences at Grand Valley State Colleges were named to the Dean's List for fall semester, 1981. Students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average or higher while

earning 15 or more grade point credits.

Making the Grand Valley State College's Dean's List from this are Mark MacDonald and Patricia Papke, both of Lowell.



Debbie Thomet and David Galbreath

Stewart and Pat Thomet have announced the engagement of their daughter, Debra Thomet, of 6241 Timpson Ave. in Alto; to David Galbreath of 2301 Lowellview in Lowell. David is the son of Stanley and Helen Galbreath. The wedding date is set for September 18.

Debra graduated from Lowell Senior High in 1979 and presently works at Amway Corporation. David graduated from Lowell Senior High in 1980 and works at Lowell Engineering Corporation.

Marraige announced

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Covert of Lowell are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Peggy to Debra Bradley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Bradley of Mesa, Arizona. The couple were married February 13, 1982 in the Mesa LDS Temple.



Peggy Bradley

The bride is a graduate of Lowell High School and Brigham Young University. She taught school in Payson, Utah, for two years and recently returned from a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The groom is a graduate of Mesa High School and has received training through Maricopa Tech., Mesa College and Phoenix College in firefighting, law enforcement and emergency medical training.

Dean is presently employed with the Arizona Department of Public Safety. The couple are residing at 1751 E. Broadway, Apt. A, Mesa, Arizona, 85204.

YOU NAME IT... Phone pad, grocery list, score sheets, doodle pads, notes for Mom, whatever. Ledger Scratch Pads are 75c a pound. Pick your own size! 105 N. Broadway.

Advertisement for Blue Crocodile Ceramics, featuring various ceramic products and contact information for Thomet Chevrolet and Buick.

CANADA

ONTARIO—1. Pointe Pelee: 45 mi. E. of Detroit via Hwy. 3. Dip along both shorelines. Late park hours for smelt dipper run April 13-May 1. Park gates close at 10 p.m. or after parking lots fill. Ontario \$5 smelt license required for non-residents. 2. In Wheatley: At end of Camper's Cove Road. Dip along shoreline. Much of the land is private, permission to fish may be needed.

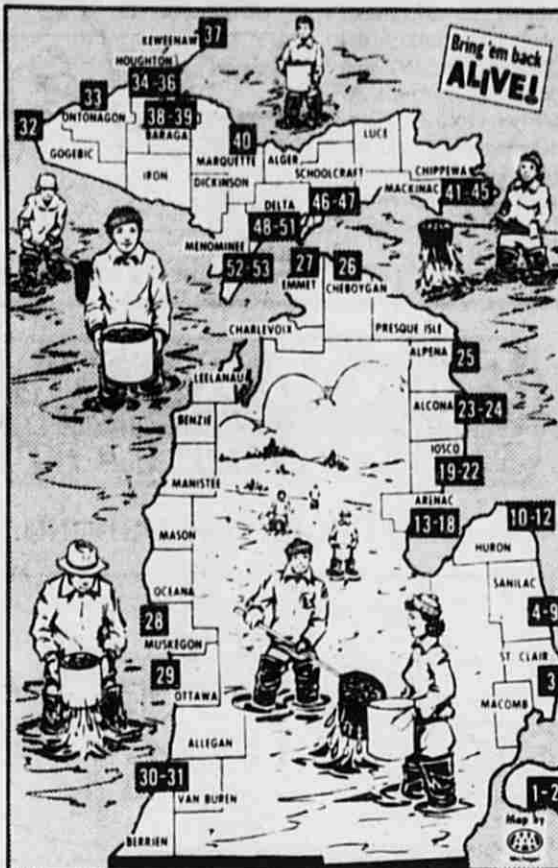
LOWER PENINSULA

ST. CLAIR COUNTY—3. St. Clair River: In Port Huron at foot of Blue Water Bridge, Sears Dock and Pine Grove Park; at St. Clair north of Pine River mouth; at Marine City and at Algonac south of M-29. Long-handled nets needed in most areas because of deep water and strong current.

SANILAC COUNTY—4. Lexington Harbor: At Lexington. Dip from piers and along shoreline. 5. Port Sanilac Harbor: At Port Sanilac. Dip from pier and along shoreline. 6. Bridgehampton River: At Forestier along M-25. Dip from mouth to hwy. 7. Cherry Creek: At Sanilac County Park 1 mi. N. of Forestier. Dip in park near creek mouth. 8. Elk Creek: At Sanilac State Park 2 mi. S. of Forestville along M-25. Dip from mouth to hwy. and along shoreline. 9. Mill Creek: At Forestville along M-25. Dip from mouth to hwy.

HURON COUNTY—10. Ocker Creek: 1.5 mi. S. of Port Hope along M-25. Dip from mouth to hwy. 11. Willow Creek: At Huron City along M-25. Dip at M-25 bridge. Land near mouth is private, permission to fish there may be needed. 12. New River: 1.5 mi. N. of Huron City along M-25. Dip at hwy. bridge. Land near mouth is private, permission to fish there may be needed.

ARENA COUNTY—13. Au Gres River: At Au Gres along U.S. 23. Dip along shore near mouth. Long-handled nets needed off breakwall. 14. Schmitzbank Creek: On S. side of Point Lookout north of Au Gres. Dip at mouth. 15. Lake Huron: Near Bear Track Inn, approx. 8 mi. N. of Au Gres. Dip along shoreline. 16. Angelo's Creek: Between Bessinger and Hammill Beach roads. Dip at mouth. 17. White Stone Point: Dip along shore near water plant. 18. Whitney Drain: At Singing Bridge 9 mi. S. of Tawas City along U.S. 23. Dip in lake off mouth and in river. 19. Tawas River: At Tawas City along U.S. 23. Dip along shore, along breakwall just north of river mouth and at mouth. 20. Tawas City Park: At Tawas City. Use long-



handled dip nets off dock for best results, or dip along shoreline. 21. Dead Au Sable River: 2 mi. S. of Oscoda along U.S. 23. Dip at hwy. Land near mouth is private, permission to fish there may be needed. 22. Au Sable River: At Oscoda. Dip on breakwalls with long-handled nets and along shore of river for 1/2 mi. upstream. 23. Alcona County—23. Harrisville Harbor: At Harrisville. Dip in harbor, especially near Mill Creek mouth. 24. Black River: In Black River, at Black River Rd. and Lakeshore Dr. 2 mi. E. of U.S. 23. Dip at mouth and along shoreline. 25. Thunder Bay River: In Alpena. Dip at 9th Street Dam. Long-handled nets helpful as water is too deep to wade. 26. CHEBOYGAN COUNTY—26. Mill Creek: 4 mi. E. of Mackinaw City along

1982's Best Locations for Smelt Dipping

Creek: 5 mi. S. of South Haven off 29th Ave. and 77th St. Dip at mouth and along shore.

UPPER PENINSULA

GOGEBIC COUNTY—32. Manistee River: 17 mi. N.W. of Ironwood via U.S. 2 and County Rd. 505. Dip at Legion Park along C.R. 505 or at river mouth.

ONTONAGON COUNTY—33. Union River: 2.5 mi. W. of Silver City along M-107. Dip from hwy. to mouth and along nearby shoreline. HOUGHTON COUNTY—34. Schlotz Creek: At Oskar, on Portage Ship Canal. Dip from hwy. to mouth. 35. Sweden Creek: 1.5 mi. W. of Hancock on Portage Canal along M-203. Dip from hwy. to mouth. 36. Pike River: At Chassell along U.S. 41. Dip from hwy. to mouth.

KEWEEENAW COUNTY—37. Fanny Hooe Creek: At Fort Wilkins State Park E. of Copper Harbor. Dip from outlet to mouth.

BARAGA COUNTY—38. Falls River: In L'Anse along U.S. 41. Dip at mouth. 39. Silver River: 10 mi. N.E. of L'Anse on Huron Bay. Dip from hwy. to mouth.

MARQUETTE COUNTY—40. Dead River: In Marquette south of Presque Isle Park. Dip to bridge. MACKINAC COUNTY—41. Nunns Creek: 10 mi. W. of Cedarville along M-134. Dip from hwy. to mouth only. 42. Carp River: 12 mi. N.E. of St. Ignace along Mackinac Trail. Dip at mouth. 43. Cut River: 2 mi. E. of Epoufette along U.S. 2. Walk down to river, dip at mouth. 44. Paquin Creek: 3 mi. W. of Epoufette along U.S. 2. Walk in, dip at mouth. 45. Black River: 6 mi. E. of Naubinway along U.S. 2. Dip from hwy. to mouth.

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY—46. Manistique River: At Manistique. Dip near mouth. Long-handled nets helpful. 47. Thompson Creek: At Thompson along U.S. 2. Dip at mouth and along shoreline.

DELTA COUNTY—48. Taccoosh River: In Rapid River along U.S. 2. Dip from hwy. to mouth. 49. Days River: 2 mi. N. of Kipling along U.S. 2. Dip from hwy. to mouth. 50. Escanaba River: 3 mi. N. of Escanaba along U.S. 2. Dip from dam to mouth. 51. Ford River: At Ford River along M-35. Dip from hwy. to mouth.

MEMORINEE COUNTY—52. Cedar River: At Cedar River along M-35. Dip from mouth to 1/2 mi. upstream. 53. Menominee River: At Menominee. Dip near bridges with long-handled nets.

A smelt-dipping trip is a tradition for thousands of Michiganians who head for lakes and rivers to scoop up bucketfuls during April and May spawning runs, according to the Automobile Club of Michigan.

"Entire families and carloads of friends head for their favorite fishing spots and often stand up to their chests in 40-degree water all night long to dip for smelt," stated James Drury, Auto Club Travel Operations manager.

Smelt sell for up to \$3 a pound at state food stores. Whether broiled in flour or deep-fried in batter, they are considered one of the Great Lakes' best-tasting fish.

Fifty-three Great Lakes smelt hot spots—including Canada's Point Pelee National Park and the Wheatley area southeast of Detroit—are listed on Auto Club's 1982 Smelt Guide.

Since smelt runs are triggered partly by snowmelt, this winter's record and near-record snowfalls in many parts of the state should produce an excellent season, Auto Club observers predict.

Best runs of smelt averaging 8 inches long and weighing about 2 ounces each usually occur between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. in 42- to 45 degree water temperatures. Occasional runs also occur during daylight hours.

"Lake Huron beaches and tributaries traditionally have been sites of the state's best

runs," Drury said. This year, anglers predict best Lake Huron runs between April 13 and April 30.

"While many Lake Michigan rivers are spotty, best runs should be from April 15-25," he added.

In the Upper Peninsula, best Lake Superior runs occur from the second to third week of May. Along Lakes Huron and Michigan in the U.P., nights from mid-April to early May are best.

"Peak Canadian activity at Point Pelee usually take place around April 20, but runs could vary by much as a week due to the weather.

Anglers are reminded that hand nets may be used for smelt up to one-half mile upstream from any river mouth from March 1-May 31 south of Highway M-72 and from April 10-May 31 north of M-72. Large dip nets up to 9 feet square are allowed on some streams by permit only. The State Department of Natural Resources 1982 Michigan Fishing Guide should be consulted for more information.

Doyle's Law: No matter how many reporters share a cab, each puts the full fare on his own expense account.

Law of Life's Highway: If everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.



The coach was invented by the Egyptians, who also pioneered seats made of woven rope and woven reeds, much like the wicker still done today.

Large church directory listing services for various churches including Missionary Church, Whitneyville Church, ADA Community Reformed Church, First Baptist Church of Alto, Galilee Baptist Church of Saranac, Church of the Nazarene of Lowell, First Baptist Church of Lowell, Bethany Bible Church, Calvary Christian Reformed Church of Lowell, First Congregational Church of Lowell, First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Saranac Community Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, and Vergennes United Methodist Church.

ATTEND SERVICES

Advertisement for child car seats, featuring 'Protect Your Child!' and 'NEW LAW TAKES EFFECT APRIL 1st'. Lists prices for GM Infant Love Seat (\$26.70) and GM Child Love Seat (\$42.50). Includes an image of a child in a car seat.

Advertisement for Energy Saving products, featuring a smiling sun character and the slogan 'WE'RE IN CONTROL'. Text discusses energy conservation and promotes Lowell Light & Power.

Letters

Dear Sir:
I have read with interest the articles regarding Helen Look Daley. However, I have not seen anything published as to her family history so thought this would be of interest.

Helen's roots were very deep in the history of Lowell. Her great grandfather, John Rickert, came from Canada and settled in Keene Township, Ionia County.

Her grandfather (John's son) William Rickert, operated a confectionery store in Lowell. In fact, his picture was on display during Lowell's Sesquicentennial, in the mini-mall along with other businessmen of the early days.

William (1835-1928) and Elizabeth (1834-1906) Rickert had two children, Evelyn and Harrison (a dentist). Their daughter, Evelyn Rickert and Dexter G. Look were married December 3, 1885. Dexter Look owned the D.G. Look Drug Store in Lowell. He devoted much time to public affairs; local as well as state. He was a State Representative. In William Rickert's later years he also worked in the drug store behind the cigar and candy counter.

Helen Look Daley's parents are Dexter G. and Evelyn Rickert Look. Helen's surviving relatives would be second cousins. From the Lowell area are Gladys Rickert Clemenz and Glenn Rickert of Pinckney Road in Keene Township who lives on the Rickert Centennial Farm.

This information is from the Rickert Genealogy records. "Lowell - 100 Years of History 1831-1931" and the "Lowell Michigan, 1893" portfolio.

Marilyn Rickert Cahoon
Clarksville, MI

It's A Girl!!

Michelle Ann Herblert was born March 18, 1982 and weighed in at 8 lbs, 1 oz. Proud parents are Pat and Patty Herblert of Rockford. At home are two brothers, Nicholas and Jason. Grandparents and Dick and Barb Curtis and Glenn and Theda



People once believed that a branch of juniper wood would keep the stables safe from lightning—and the devil.

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Saturday, April 3
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- #### FUEL-SAVING DRIVING TIPS!
- Here's a list of what we feel are the simplest—yet most effective—ways of conserving fuel when driving. Since these tips are designed to modify motoring habits (rather than suggesting expensive add-on equipment), they can only save you money when they're properly observed.
- Press the accelerator down slowly when you're starting off from a dead stop, and try to avoid pushing the pedal more than 1/4 of its full travel whenever possible.
 - Keep your windows closed when you drive, especially when you're traveling at highway speeds.
 - Inflate your tires to their maximum recommended limit. Also, if you're in the market for new tires, consider a radial-ply design—or at least a larger-diameter tire—since such items are proven fuel-savers.
 - Always obey the 55-MPH speed limit. Actually, whenever you drive above 40 miles per hour, you not only consume extra fuel but also waste even more gasoline by forcing your auto to overcome additional wind resistance.
 - Try to maintain a steady road speed. The best way to maintain constant forward momentum is to avoid tailgating.
 - Don't let your engine idle for long periods of time when you're warming it up, even on cold mornings. Modern cars usually require only about a minute's worth of running—at the most—before they can be driven in wintertime temperatures.
 - Time your driving to avoid getting "caught" by stoplights. On many boulevards, traffic control signals are purposely scheduled to the motorist's advantage... assuring that by traveling at the correct—and steady—speed, he or she will have green lights all the way!
 - If you are stuck in a stop-and-go driving situation, you can save gasoline by shifting your automatic transmission to neutral when the car is at a standstill.
 - Don't allow your car to idle for more than a minute in traffic. If you know that you'll be sitting in one spot for longer than 60 seconds, shut the car's engine off.
 - Be certain your vehicle is in top mechanical condition at all times. Keep it tuned and periodically check its points, plugs, and especially its air filter... to see if the components are in good condition.
 - Purchase your gasoline during the coolest times of the day, when the liquid is densest. You'll actually be getting a more concentrated gallon for your money when you fill up in the chilly hours of early morning or late evening.
 - Drive in a straight line whenever possible. Choose the route that offers the fewest corners and curves.
 - Avoid pressing the accelerator to the floor when climbing hills if you possibly can. You will, of course, lose momentum by going "easy" on the pedal... but if you can still maintain a safe speed, do so and save gasoline.
 - During the icy winter season, always scrape the snow from your auto before starting the engine and driving off. Such frozen moisture not only offers additional wind resistance, but can add as much as a hundred pounds or more to your vehicle's total weight!
 - Try to keep the fuel tank filled on the "high" side as a rule. A fairly full fuel reservoir has less evaporation loss than will a nearly empty one.
- For FREE additional information on energy efficiency or on THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS magazine, send your name and address and ask for Reprint No. 1359 "Local Self-Reliance" Mail to Doing MORE With LESS!, P.O. Box 70, Hendersonville, N.C. 28791. Copyright 1982 THE MOTHER EARTH NEWS, Inc.

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Birds eye view of Americana

By Postmaster Charlie Doyle of the Lowell Post Office

With the issue of a new block of stamps featuring the official bird and flower of each of the 50 United States, the Postal Service is highlighting some treasured, but lesser-known, slices of Americana.

The new stamps, which come in panes of 50, bear the First-Class postage denomination of 20 cents. They will be issued April 14. The stamp designs are the work of the first father-and-son team ever to design postage stamps -- Arthur Singer and his son Alan.

Many state legislatures went to considerable effort to select the appropriate bird and flower to represent their state. Some appointed official commissions to research the question. Others left the selection to a vote of school children. Several went to civic groups, garden clubs or state Audubon societies. And others surveyed all of these groups. One adopted its bird and flower after receiving ballots published in a newspaper back in 1894.

Efforts taken to select and protect state birds and flowers offer interesting insights into a unique aspect of Americana. Here are a few examples:

After a Colorado legislature adopted the columbine in 1899, the subsequent assembly of 1925 took steps to protect the flower from "needless destruction or waste." They placed bans on picking and selling 'columbines.

The 1918 legislature of Massachusetts was also serious about protecting its mayflowers. It not only imposed a \$50 fine for the unlawful uprooting of the plant, it doubled that penalty if a person perpetrated such an act "While in disguise or secretly at night."

A devastating invasion of crop-gobbling crickets in the late 1840s apparently influenced Utah's selection of its symbols. The sago lily, whose bulbous roots served as food during the crop shortages, was designated the state flower. The California seagull, which miraculously appeared to eat the invading crickets, was subsequently selected as the official bird.

Ohio designated the scarlet carnation in tribute to an assassinated president. In 1904, the legislature made its selection "as a token of love and reverence to the memory of William McKinley," who was fond of the flower.

The similarity between the yellowhammer's colors and the gray-with-yellow-stripe uniforms Confederate soldiers wore in the Civil War is believed to have led to its selection as Alabama's state bird.

By Postmaster Charlie Doyle of the Lowell Post Office

The world's first known zoo was kept by Queen Hatshepsut of Egypt about 1500 B.C. Giraffes, monkeys and leopards were part of the collection.



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GRANADAS	23 city 34 hwy. MPG	
THUNDERBIRDS	18 city 28 hwy. MPG	\$750 CASH INCENTIVES ON MUSTANG, FAIRMONT, GRANADA, E - F SERIES TRUCKS & VANS BRONCOS
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Close Up Foundation seminars

Grand Rapids area high schools have once again been invited by the Washington-based Close Up Foundation to participate in a series of government studies seminars during the weeks of Mar. 2, 9, and 16, 1982.

"Close Up is a nonprofit, nonpartisan government studies program that takes students out of the traditional classroom and puts them in the classroom of Washington," said Dan Hester, community coordinator for the Close Up Foundation.

More than 350 students and teachers from nearly 50 schools throughout the area are expected to participate.

While in Washington, the students will question policymakers and lawmakers, and behind-the-scenes members of the federal bureaucracy. They will also meet with experts involved in the legislative, executive and

judicial processes of government, as well as with lobbyists and media personalities. By the end of their stay, the students will have a broader understanding of both foreign and domestic issues.

"The students will also have the opportunity to share their views with each other and with CLOSE UP staff members in daily small group discussions," Hester added.

He noted that the students will also have some time for independent study in congressional hearings and the Supreme Court, and for several scheduled social events.

The CLOSE UP program first became available in the Grand Rapids area in 1975 and since that time more than 3,200 students and teachers have participated. A local program focusing on state and local government by local teachers and the

state department of education has served as a model for similar programs in the nation.

The program is open to all students in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades, regardless of grade point average. A teacher from each invited school will participate not as a chaperone but as a participant in a parallel program designed to provide ideas and resources for use in the classroom back home.

In order that students from a variety of backgrounds may attend the program, Close Up provides fellowship funds for teachers and low-to-moderate income students from each participating school. Funds for these fellowships are provided through the Allen J. Ellender Fellowship Program, established by Congress and administered by Close Up.

Lowell FFA members win awards



Back Row left to right: Jeff Kauffman, Jamie Poll, Kirk Sterzick, Chris Wingeier. Middle Row left to right: Jenny Dine, Kathy Byrne, Mark Kettner. Kneeling left to right: Nancy Metternick, Diana Bock.

Lowell FFA members attending the 54th Annual State FFA Convention at Michigan State University on March 24-26th, 1982 earned honors for their chapter.

Jenny Dine won the State Greenhand Public Speaking contest for first year FFA members, while Chris Wingeier placed 4th in the State Public Speaking contest. Both received gold awards.

Other members earning State Awards were: Nancy Metternick, outstanding junior award; Jamie Poll, Kirk

Sterzick and Chris Wingeier the State FFA degree; Jeff Kauffman, selected for the National FFA Chorus; and the group "Cerje" (Kathy Byrne, Diana Bock, Mark Kettner and Chris Wingeier) selected as the State musical talent.

Representing the Lowell chapter as voting delegates at the convention were Lloyd Seese and Mark Wilcox. They were among delegates representing 162 FFA Chapters in Michigan schools.

Mr. Peter Siler, Lowell

FFA Advisor was also honored by the Michigan Association of FFA for being the chapter advisor of Lynn Wilcox who served as State Vice President for Region Five this past year.

THANKS FOR WAITING - We have scratch pads in stock again. Asstd. weights and sizes, while they last. 75¢ @ Lb. (Limit 5 lbs.) Grand Valley Ledger, 105 N. Broadway.

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FACTS & FIGURES
Milk is a nearly perfect food. Although milk averages about 87 percent water, it contains nearly all the basic food materials needed for growth and energy. Milk solids (the amount other than water) contain protein, fat, carbohydrates and ash. A large part of the calcium and phosphorus in food eaten by people in the U.S. is in milk.

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8:30 - 5:30	Mon., Tu., & Wed.	Mon., Tues., Wed. & Thurs.
Friday	9:00 - Noon	9:30 - 5:30
8:30 - 1:00	Thurs. & Sat	Friday
Saturday	9:00 - 5:30	9:30 - 1:00
	Friday	Saturday

OPEN LETTER

Dear friends, Sometimes the bereaved do not talk at all. Their grief produces a kind of numbness and silence. It is difficult to comfort or help this kind of person. They do not respond to your presence or the things you say. There is no easy way to penetrate this silence and you do not need to intrude in their grief. The friend who expresses sympathy and love can do no more.

Respectfully,

David Gerst

ROTH-GERST FUNERAL HOME
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This Week's Dry Cleaning Special

2 PIECE SUITS \$329

Good Thru Tuesday, April 6

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Diet Wise Elderly Choose Nutritious Foods

Some elderly people, for various reasons, do not eat enough; their caloric and nutrient intakes become too low to maintain health. Decreased activity, chronic illness, loss of sensitivity to taste and smell, loss or impairment of teeth, and inadequate income can all affect the eating habits of an older adult.

The nutrient requirements of elderly adults are still basically those of younger adults, according to the American Medical Association, even though fewer calories are needed. So, older individuals should choose foods high in proteins, minerals and vitamins to make every bite count.

Many older people reduce their intakes of meat without increasing their consumption of other protein-rich foods. Calcium and iron intakes are also often too low.

Milk, cheese or yogurt should be regular features of the diet because they are excellent sources of protein and calcium. Iron needs can be met by using lean



meats, egg yolks, green leafy vegetables and whole-grain or enriched breads and cereals.

Fruit and vegetables (green and yellow) are needed each day, particularly for their vitamin C, vitamin A and fiber content.

Elderly people concerned about the cost of food will find that there are many ways to obtain items high in nutrients and low in cost. For example, canned evaporated milk and nonfat dry milk have the same protein and calcium value as that of fresh fluid milk and frequently can be substituted for fresh milk in cooking and baking.

The large packages of nonperishable items like sugar, flour, rice and beans are generally less expensive per pound than are the small packages and do not lose nutritive value during storage of several months.

Also, low-cost cuts of meat and fish are as high in nutritive value as are the more expensive items. Thrifty buys are usually available on stew meats,

pot roasts, liver, variety meats and fresh fish in season.

February, 1982
Science News Service
AMA

Attention Farmers!!!
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Student Leaders Selected

Thirty-nine student leaders and two student assistant directors have been selected to help in Western Michigan University's summer freshman orientation program.

Among them is Martha Applegate, a junior whose home address is 8712 Bailey Drive, Lowell.

The leaders and assistant directors were chosen by the Orientation Office from 165 candidates. The selection process was based on a personal interview, two references, academic standing, curriculum, work experience and campus involvement in clubs, student groups and organizations. A final deciding factor was the student's enthusiasm in presenting a positive WMU student image.

Beginning June 29 and continuing through July 23, students who will be freshmen at Western this fall will visit the campus for three-day periods to register for

classes, take preliminary tests, meet counselors and professors, and generally learn their way about campus. Student leaders will aid each of the groups and, in many cases their parents, in "getting acquainted" with Western.

Legal Notices

SOLICITATION FOR BIDS
The Kent County Purchasing Department is soliciting bids for the items listed below. Detailed specifications are available at the Purchasing Office Room 227, County Administration Building, 300 Monroe Avenue N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502. The bids will be publicly opened in the Purchasing Office at the time designated below. The County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids as it deems to be in its best interests.

Bid For: Cars & Light Trucks. Must be received by Wednesday, April 7, 1982 at 10:00 a.m.

Bid For: Mimeo Paper for Health Dept. Must be received by Friday, April 9, 1982 at 10:00 a.m.

JACK STANLEY, CPPD
DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING

STATE OF MICHIGAN
The Probate Court for the County of Kent
JUVENILE DIVISION

Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held in the Juvenile Court in the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan in the matter of, on the date and time and on petition by petitioner shown below alleging that "said children are Neglected Children within the provisions of the Juvenile Code. To preserve your parental rights under the law any parent or guardian shall contact the Juvenile Court Center, 1501 Cedar NE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, or take such other action as may be permitted by law, on or before the hearing date. Failure to comply with this order may result in said children being made temporary wards of the court."

Child: Yvonne Thompson
Hearing: April 20, 1982 at 4:00 p.m.
Petitioner: Keith Kohl

Child: Judy Britton
Hearing: April 21, 1982 at 2:00 p.m.
Petitioner: Gloria Anderson

Child: Danielle Gonzalez
Hearing: April 22, 1982 at 11:00 a.m.
Petitioner: Diane Gillman

Dated: March 24, 1982

Publication in the Grand Valley Ledger at least one week prior to the hearing date is ordered.

JOHN P. STEKETE
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Child: Yolande Ingrid Lammer
Hearing: April 7, 1982 at 2:00 p.m.
Petitioner: Gisela Poetschke

Child: James C. Bevier
Hearing: April 19, 1982 at 11:00 a.m.
Petitioner: Gayle Tolson

Child: Lisa Ann Ruesegger
Hearing: April 22, 1982 at 9:00 a.m.
Petitioner: Gisela Poetschke

Dated: March 24, 1982

Publication in the Grand Valley Ledger once at least one week prior to the hearing date is ordered.

JOHN P. STEKETE
JUDGE OF PROBATE



Hawaii leads the 50 states in residents with a fondness for travel. Some 30 out of every thousand Hawaiians received new passports in recent years.

U. of M. annual honors convocation

Some 3,436 University of Michigan students on the Ann Arbor campus were recognized at the University's annual Honors Convocation March 26.

Wade H. McCree Jr., U-M professor of law and former U.S. solicitor general, was the featured speaker.

A total of 3,993 awards were recognized at the convocation. Of the total, 3,410 were Class Honors, recognizing an undergraduate academic record equal to at least half A's and half B's for two terms (one term for new students) during 1981.

In addition, 361 students were named James B. Angell Scholars. They have maintained an all-A record for two or more consecutive terms as undergraduates.

Also, 222 members of the freshman class received the William J. Branstrom Prize, a book of their choice and a bookmark. The recipients ranked in the top five percent of their class.

Some students have won more than one type of honor. Receiving honors from this area were Mary Alice Magle of 940 Boynton, Lowell; Anthony Schwacha of 2755 Segwun, Lowell and Mark Rhodes of 3584 Lee Rd., Saranac. All were recipients of class honors.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF LOWELL

Public Hearings will be held before the Lowell City Council at their Regular Meeting on Monday, April 5, 1982, at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI on proposals submitted by Liggett Broadcast Group and Lowell Light and Power.

Citizens are invited to submit written or oral comments either at the meeting, or to the City Manager's office, concerning the installation of Cable Television in the City of Lowell.

c21

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF LOWELL

The Lowell City Council at their Regular Meeting of Monday, March 1, 1982, adopted the Revised Zoning Code.

Copies for public viewing are available at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street and the Lowell Public Library, 325 W. Main Street.

Any questions or comments concerning said Code Revision should be directed to the City Manager, Ray Quada, at 301 E. Main Street.

The Revised Zoning Code will become effective at 12:01 a.m., April 15, 1982.

Ray E. Quada,
City Manager - Clerk
c21-22

Bids open on two highway projects in Lowell

Bids on two major highway projects in the Lowell area, totaling \$3,203,291 in cost, have been opened in Lansing, reports Charles K. Brooks, district highway engineer for the Michigan Department of Transportation in West Michigan.

Milbocker & Sons of Allegan is the apparent low bidder of seven at \$1,256,393 for the four-lane Cascade Rd. span over the Thornapple River in the village of Cascade SE.

Velting Contractors, Inc., of Kentwood is the apparent bidder of seven at \$1,946,898 for widening to four lanes 44th St. from East Paris Ave. west two miles to Breton Rd. SE.

The bids have been referred to the State Administrative Board for tabulation and report, says Brooks. This is standard procedure.

The new Cascade Rd. span will replace the bridge widened from two lanes to four lanes in 1929.

Construction is slated to begin in May and will take 12 to 14 months to complete. One lane will be open to traffic at all times during the construction period. A flagman will control the flow of traffic.

The federal government will pay 80 percent of the cost, with the MDT and the Kent County Road Commission paying 10 percent each.

In the 44th St. project, widening will provide better traffic flow, and curbs, gutters, sidewalks and a boulevard will be built.

Construction is scheduled to begin in May, with completion by November 15. The federal government is paying 73 percent of the cost, with the City of Kentwood and the KCRC paying 13.5 percent each.

by Dave Barnes



The first ship to pass through the Panama Canal was the *Alex Lavalley* on January 7, 1914.



Americans eat more apples than all the rest of the world combined.

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES TOTAL \$13,300,000

John L. Damstra, Kent County Treasurer, reported today that the delinquent real property taxes for the year 1981 will total approximately \$13,300,000. This amount exceeds the prior year (1980 - \$10,400,000) by \$2,900,000, an increase of 27.88 percent.

Mr. Damstra also reported on current collections, during March 1982, of the 1981 delinquent taxes. Total collections through Friday, March 26, 1982, were \$1,012,987.

The collections this month are greater than last year by approximately \$240,000. This indicates that although delinquent taxes have increased, the collections have increased by 31 percent also.

Mr. Damstra reminded delinquent taxpayers that the interest rate charged on the 1981 tax was increased to 1 1/4 percent per month, which equals 15 percent annual interest. In addition to interest, a 4 percent collection fee is charged on the taxes returned delinquent. Interest is added on the first day of each month.

The Treasurer encourages taxpayers to make partial payments on their outstanding taxes if they cannot make full payment at one time. Payments must be received by the Treasurer prior to the end of the month to avoid additional interest charges! Postmarks are not acceptable. Taxpayers with questions are invited to call the Kent County Treasurer at A/C 616 774-3576.



cozy corner

By Roger Brown

With the wife still gone, I was really looking for something to do this past weekend, so when a news release about a gimmick road rally came into the Ledger, I read it with interest. The kids spent Sunday afternoon with their grandparents and a friend and I set out to enter the rally, something neither of us had ever done before.

We arrived at the starting point in plenty of time, registered, collected all the information being passed out and went back to the car to try to figure out what we were doing. One of the first things we saw in the instructions was a list of things we would need. Of the things listed, we had none, not even a basic like a pencil. We took off to buy these necessities and got back to the pre-start meeting just as the instructor said, "well I guess that's it, are there any questions?" Not wanting to flaunt our stupidity, we just made like de Tarbaby and we say nutin'.

You say you don't know what a gimmick rally is? Well, neither did I, and there I was, lined up to start in one. Before the afternoon was over I did learn enough about what we were doing to give you a brief definition of a gimmick rally. The object of the thing is to drive the course according to step by step instructions, always keeping track of your mileage in order to come as close as possible to the official mileage at each checkpoint. The instructions for the course are not specific, like "turn left on Main St." They are more like clues, such as, "right after rock", the rock being a big boulder in someone's yard. And just so that wouldn't be too easy, there were several questions to be answered by noting landmarks throughout the 100 to 125 mile course.

So here we were, driving higgledy piggledy around Kent County looking for such clues as "celery", which turned out to be a street, and "bull" that we finally discovered to be a little silhouette of a bull hanging over a garage door. I figure the more passengers you've got to help you look, the better off you are. A school bus with about thirty people looking out the windows would be perfect. Needless to say, we missed a few clues.

When we reported in at the first checkpoint, I had no idea what I should list for mileage, so I took a guess and said nine miles. The official mileage was 6.65, not a bad guess considering my odometer registered over 27 miles. These people count every hundredth of a mile a point, so I was penalized 235 points at the first checkpoint, enough to put me out of the running for a trophy I figured. After asking a few basic questions of the officials at the checkpoint, we took off with a little better understanding of what we were doing. Lo and behold we hit the next checkpoint and reported mileage just 1/100th off from the official mileage. "Hey, we've got this down pat", we thought.

Over an hour later, and after re-starting the third leg more times than I care to count, we still hadn't come across the next checkpoint. We were having trouble trying to work our way through a certain section of the course and even ended up in Allegan County once; a definite no-no in the instructions. It was at this point that I said, "it's 4:30, we've been in this car for three and one half hours, we're only two thirds of the way through the course and we're hopelessly lost. What do ya say we bag it?" The navigator "Roger" that and we set a beeline course for Lowell.

I wish the Detroit Lions would go to a 52 week season so I wouldn't get involved in Sunday afternoon projects like this.

Farnsdick's Corollary: After things have gone from bad to worse, the cycle will repeat itself.

American Red Cross to sponsor jogging workshop

Spring has arrived and thousands of winter-weary joggers will soon be out in full-force. Jogging is a popular way to maintain physical fitness, but there is potential for a number of medical problems related to jogging. The Kent County Red Cross chapter is sponsoring a workshop specifically designed to address these concerns.

The workshop is the first of its type in this area and is being conducted by Red Cross nursing and health services. It will focus on what type of medical problems can occur to runners, joggers or athletes and what care should be given.

The seminar will be Monday, April 19, at the Red Cross chapter building, 1050 Fuller, NE, and will run from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Heat exhaustion, heat cramps and heat stroke will be covered in detail because these conditions have occurred to joggers participating in local marathon events.

Sue Offenbecker, R.N., C.E.N., and director of emergency care for St. Mary's Hospital, is the Red Cross volunteer instructor for the course.

"Anyone involved in or interested in working with runners is invited to attend this course," said Offenbecker. "And we particularly hope that nurses and first-aiders will sign up."

There will be no fee for the workshop, but pre-registration is required because classroom space is limited. To register, call Red Cross Nursing and Health services, a United Way service, at 456-8661.

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