

# The Grand Valley Ledger

Volume 7, Issue 43

Serving Lowell Area

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August 30, 1983

## AID Chief, Peter McPherson speaks to Lowell Rotary Club

One Lowell Rotarian quipped at last Wednesday's Rotary meeting, "I thought I had walked in on a McPherson family reunion." Peter McPherson, Administrator for the Agency for International Development was the guest speaker, and many of his family members were on hand along with Rotarians and other guests to hear his speech. McPherson was named an honorary member of the Lowell Rotary Club. McPherson talked of the improving condition of lesser developed countries throughout the world, and likened their progress to advances in health, education and other important areas that have been made in Lowell over the past 100 years.

President Reagan nominated M. Peter McPherson, a former Peace Corps Volunteer, to be

Administrator of the Agency for International Development on January 29, 1981. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 5, 1981.

As Administrator of AID, McPherson oversees and directs U.S. economic development operations in more than 60 Third World countries. He is also Chairman of the board of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Prior to being appointed Administrator of AID, McPherson served as Acting Counsel to President Reagan and General Counsel to the Reagan-Bush Transition.

He was a partner and head of the Washington office of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, an Ohio law firm.

As Special Assistant to President Ford, McPherson assisted in the selection of presidential appointees, including ambassadors and judges. From 1969 to 1975, he was a tax law specialist with the Internal Revenue Service in the international corporate tax area.

From 1964 to 1966, McPherson served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Peru. There he worked on the school feeding programs, organized credit unions, and later worked in AID's Private Enterprise Office in Lima, Peru.

President Ford appointed McPherson to the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), where he served from 1977 to 1980. He was also a member of the Joint Committee on Agriculture Development, a subdivision of BIFAD, and Chairman of its Latin American Work Group.

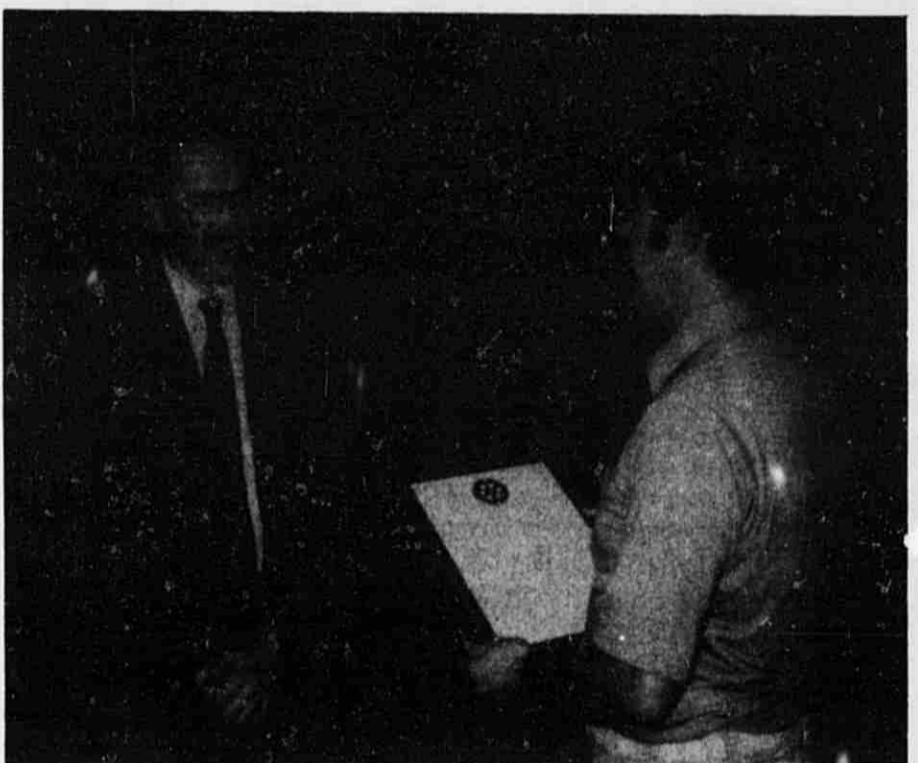
McPherson is a graduate of Michigan State University with a BA degree in political science (1963). He received an MBA degree from Western Michigan University in 1968 and a JD degree from American University in 1969.

### Andrews injured in two car crash

A trip home from a stay in the hospital last Thursday didn't turn out as planned for Al Andrews of 4336 Causeway Dr., Lowell. Andrews was being transported home following a stay in Butterworth Hospital during which he underwent back surgery. Andrews was lying down in the back seat of the family auto driven by his wife Marva. At about 9:55 the eastbound Andrews vehicle failed to yield at the corner of McCabe and 2 Mile Road, and was struck broadside by a southbound vehicle driven by Rose L. Myers of 9215 3 Mile Road, Ada.

Mrs. Andrews and Myers both sought their own treatment for minor injuries. Mr. Andrews was transported back to Butterworth hospital via Mercy Ambulance where he was treated and released.

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Peter McPherson receives an honorary Rotarian plaque from Lowell Rotarian Wendell Christ-off at last Wednesday's meeting.

## Safety urged as school resumes



It seems like just yesterday that the kids were boarding the school buses to go home for the summer. These students are waiting to board a shuttle bus at Bushnell Elementary School on the first day of school.

Michigan youngsters can continue to get high marks in traffic safety by crossing streets properly and keeping out of school bus danger zones, according to the Automobile Club of Michigan.

### Dam's name is set straight

Ozzie Bieri of 1177 Godfrey St., Lowell called us last week to point out a couple of errors in our article about the Fallasburg Dam and Powerhouse. "First off," Ozzie says, "it was never called the Fallasburg Dam or Powerhouse. It was the Consumers Power Co. Dam and Powerhouse." According to Ozzie, the Fallasburg Dam was located just upstream from Fallasburg, and has been gone since early in the century. In our research for a construction date, we got the Consumers Power Co. Dam confused with the Lowell Municipal

Dam, which according to Ozzie is the dam above White's Bridge. Ozzie says he began working for Consumers Power Co. operating the dam in 1904, and it was just three years old then, so it was constructed in 1901.

Ozzie told us that when he was 16 years old, and working at the dam he suffered a severe fall from it. His collarbone was broken and a blood vessel was broken in his brain that rendered him unconscious for four days.

We stand corrected. Thanks for the information Ozzie.

pedestrians and bicyclists ages 5 to 19 decreased 6 percent to 5,091 in 1982 compared to the year before.

"Crossing streets at intersections rather than at mid-block is the most important safety measure children can take while walking to school," stated Robert Cullen, Auto Club's Safety and

cont'd. on back pg.

Appointments not always needed at Vanity Hair Fashions, Open five days Lowell, 897-7506.

A proposal has been made to change the name of the Lowell Sr. High Boosters to the Lowell Athletic Boosters. This proposal will be voted on at our meeting on September 7, 7:30 P.M. at the High School.



### LEDGER TO PUBLISH LATE

Next week's Grand Valley Ledger will be published one day later because of the Monday, Labor Day Holiday. Because we don't receive the materials for our TV section until the Tuesday following a Monday holiday, it's virtually impossible for us to get a paper published in just one production day. Since we tried this on both the Memorial Day and Fourth of July holidays, and didn't receive any complaints, we intend to make this Ledger policy. We will of course give you advance notice. Those in Lowell and on Lowell rural routes will receive your papers on Thursday, others will also be a day later than normal. Thank you for your cooperation, and enjoy the holiday.

### LABOR DAY CLOSINGS

All offices of the State Savings Bank, First Security Bank and Great Lakes Federal Savings and Loan will be closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of the Labor Day Holiday. Also closed will be Lowell City Hall, schools, the Post Office (no delivery or lobby service) and most retail establishments. Two businesses requested that we make special note that they WILL be open Labor Day were T.J.'s Restaurant and Heritage Meat market.

### BALLOON CLASSIC THIS WEEKEND

Looking for something to do this Labor Day Weekend? The Grand Rapids Marriott's 2nd Annual Balloon Classic will be held Friday, September 2 thru Monday, September 5. There will be balloon flights at 7:14 P.M. Friday, 7:10 A.M. and 7:13 P.M. Saturday, 7:11 A.M. and 7:11 P.M. Sunday and 7:12 A.M. on Monday. All events will take place on the Marriott grounds on 28th Street. Other events include a balloon photography contest, a 6:00 A.M. Saturday pancake breakfast and several balloon related seminars open to the public throughout the day on Saturday.

### OFF THE BLOTTER

Arrested on charges of driving while license suspended by Lowell Officers Sunday, August 28 was William Racine, 20, of Lowell Sharon Simon, 29, of Lowell was issued a citation by Lowell Officers for leaving the scene of a property damage accident. The accident occurred when she allegedly backed into a vehicle owned by Mike Hecht of Lowell. The accident took place in the Wittenbach trailer court on N. Pleasant Street, Wednesday August 24.

Arrested and lodged in the Kent County Jail for driving under the influence of alcohol, 3rd offense, was Monty Tousignaut, 33 of Ada. Subsequent to the arrest, Tousignaut was also cited for driving while license suspended, 2nd offense, and refusing to submit to a preliminary breath test. The arrest was made early Saturday morning of August 27.

Arrested and lodged for driving under the influence of alcohol Saturday, August 27 by Lowell Officers was Donald Elliston, 43, of Ionia.

Issued an appearance violation to appear at a later date in 63rd District Court was James Schafer, 20, of Ada, for malicious destruction of property under \$100, in connection with an incident which occurred on August 20.

Reported to Lowell Police Wednesday, August 24 the breaking and entering of the Admiral Gas Station on West Main Street. According to the report culprits made off with a quantity of cigarettes and a small amount of money. The matter is under investigation by the Police Department.





FRIDAY 9/2/83

MORNING
5:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Jekyll and Hyde... Together Again'
7:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Cowboy and the Lady'

8:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Hornet'
8:30 (HBO) Inside the NFL Special
9:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Mouse and His Child'

FRIDAY'S MOVIES

FRIDAY 9/2/83
5:00AM (HBO) - 'Jekyll and Hyde... Together Again'
6:30AM (HBO) - 'The Mouse and His Child'

8:45 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Hornet'
9:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Mouse and His Child'
9:30AM (HBO) - 'The Sea Hornet'

11:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Barbarosa'
8:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'Thank God, It's Friday'

FRIDAY'S MOVIES

8:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'Thank God, It's Friday'
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SATURDAY 9/3/83

MORNING
5:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Barbarosa'
7:30 (MAX) MOVIE: 'Thank God, It's Friday'

SATURDAY'S MOVIES

5:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Barbarosa'
7:30 (MAX) MOVIE: 'Thank God, It's Friday'
8:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Hornet'

8:15 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Mouse and His Child'
8:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Hornet'

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8:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Hornet'
9:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Mouse and His Child'

Red-Hot Stars. Super Movie Hits. In September on HBO.

Superstars and super movies shine on HBO\* in September. Thrill to the smash hit Reds (three Oscars!) with Warren Beatty and Diane Keaton.



"He who does not know the force of words cannot know man." Confucius

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SATURDAY CONT.

Corral, Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell, Victor Mature 1946. Co-Ed Meg Griffin hosts this weekly teen magazine. Conversation w/Fred Lewis. World Tomorrow. Vic's Vacant Lot Programming for Children. Big Story. Meatballs & Spaghetti. Weekend Gardener. Baseball Bunch. Leo Smurfs. Inside Business Today. MOVIE: 'The Pride of the Yankees'...

[MAX] MOVIE: 'Absence of Malice' An overzealous reporter harasses a man suspected of committing a crime. Paul Newman, Sally Field, Melinda Dillon. 1981. Rated PG. Battle of the Video Games. Play Your Best Tennis. The Tomorrow People. Gilligan's Planet. ABC Weekend Special 'Zack and the Magic Factory'...

Livewire. MOVIE: 'House of Dracula' A scientist is tricked into aiding Count Dracula in restoration of life to a monster, which goes berserk. Lon Chaney Jr., John Carradine, Onslow Stevens. 1945. 1983 National High School Rodeo. MOVIE: 'The Girl, the Gold Watch and Everything'...

all up for love. Tony Lo Bianco. Co-Ed Meg Griffin hosts this weekly teen magazine. The Monroes. Welcome Back Kottler. News/Sports/Weather. Reggie Jackson's World of Sports. CBS News. Dance Fever. You! Mag. for Women. Kung Fu. Evans and Novak. Memories with Lawrence Welk. Solid Gold. Barbara Mandrell Show. Hee Haw. Muppet Show. People's Court. MOVIE: 'Raid on Rommel'...

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try to beat inflation. Susan Saint James, Jane Curtin, Jessica Lange. Money Week. America's Top Ten. Laugh Trax. Entertainment. MOVIE: 'The Pride of the Yankees' The story of New York Yankee slugger Lou Gehrig is presented. Gary Cooper, Babe Ruth, Walter Brennan. 1942. American Trail. News/Sports/Weather. MOVIE: 'The Oscar' On Oscar Award night, the favorite nominee is watched by friends who helped him but were not on during his fight to achieve fame. Stephen Boyd, Elke Sommer, Milton Berle. 1966. Father Dear. MOVIE: 'How to Beat the High Cost of Living' Three housewives turn to robbery to...

controlling the Empire. Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher, Harrison Ford. 1978. Rated PG. Westbrook Hospital. News Update. Freeman Reports. Ross Bagley. Contrary to popular belief, bats are not blind, but their vision is extremely poor, thus they navigate by a kind of radar.

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12:00 [MAX] MOVIE: 'Absence of Malice' An overzealous reporter harasses a man suspected of committing a crime. Paul Newman, Sally Field, Melinda Dillon. 1981. Rated PG. Battle of the Video Games. Play Your Best Tennis. The Tomorrow People. Gilligan's Planet. ABC Weekend Special 'Zack and the Magic Factory'...

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3:00 Livewire. MOVIE: 'House of Dracula' A scientist is tricked into aiding Count Dracula in restoration of life to a monster, which goes berserk. Lon Chaney Jr., John Carradine, Onslow Stevens. 1945. 1983 National High School Rodeo. MOVIE: 'The Girl, the Gold Watch and Everything'...

SATURDAY'S MOVIES SATURDAY 9/3/83 5:00AM [HBO] - 'Barbarosa' [MAX] - 'Prom Night' 6:30AM [HBO] - 'Star Wars' 7:00AM [MAX] - 'Marciano' 8:30AM [HBO] - 'Smokey and the Bandit' 9:00AM [MAX] - 'My Darling Clementine' [MAX] - 'The Pride of the Yankees' 10:00AM [MAX] - 'The Lollipop Cover' [MAX] - 'Brimstone' 10:30AM [MAX] - 'Fall Safe' 11:30AM [MAX] - 'Absence of Malice' 12:00PM [MAX] - 'Blondie' [MAX] - 'Children Galore' [HBO] - 'How to Beat the High Cost of Living' [MAX] - 'The Long, Long Trailer' [MAX] - 'City Beneath the Sea' [MAX] - 'Tempest' 2:00PM [MAX] - 'Stopover Toyko' [MAX] - 'Let 'Em Have It' 3:00PM [MAX] - 'House of Dracula' [MAX] - 'The Girl, the Gold Watch and Everything' [HBO] - 'Smokey and the Bandit' [MAX] - 'Blue Steel' 4:00PM [MAX] - 'Fallen Angel' [HBO] - 'Star Wars' [MAX] - 'Marciano' 7:00PM [MAX] - 'Raid on Rommel' 8:00PM [MAX] - 'P.J.' [MAX] - 'Cyrano de Bergerac' [HBO] - 'Fast Times at Ridgemont High' [MAX] - 'Tempest' [MAX] - 'Wake of the Red Witch' [MAX] - 'Dynamo' 9:00PM [MAX] - 'Country Gold' [MAX] - 'To Be Announced' 10:00PM [MAX] - 'The Man in the White Suit' 11:00PM [MAX] - 'The Son of Monte Cristo' [HBO] - 'Smokey and the Bandit' [MAX] - 'Absence of Malice' 12:00AM [MAX] - 'The Carey Treatment' [MAX] - 'Triple Cross' 12:30AM [MAX] - 'The Oscar' [HBO] - 'How to Beat the High Cost of Living' 1:00AM [MAX] - 'The Pride of the Yankees' 2:30AM [HBO] - 'The Missionary' 3:15AM [MAX] - 'Young Doctors in Love' 3:30AM [MAX] - 'Night Creatures' 4:00AM [HBO] - 'Star Wars'

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Illustration of a classic car and a building. Text: STATE SAVINGS BANK DRIVE-IN HOURS Main Office, Westown & Rockford LOBBY HOURS Rockford (M-44) Office 674-8330 LOBBY HOURS Main Office 697-9277

SUNDAY

SUNDAY 9/4/83

- 5:00 International Track and Field: Ivo Van Damme Meet from Brussels, Belgium
5:30 Sports Review
5:30 Sgt. Billic
6:00 Money Week
6:00 Captain Kangaroo
6:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Sea Wolves'

- MOVIE: 'Cactus Flower'
MOVIE: 'The Spirit of St. Louis'
MOVIE: 'Apache Rose'
MOVIE: 'Against the Odds'
MOVIE: 'Ballad of JoJo'

'No instant, magical answers,' says ex-energy secretary



James B. Edwards and President Reagan

America's energy problems aren't over yet, but former Energy Secretary James B. Edwards says solutions are coming into focus that promise great hope for the future.
'The energy crisis is not over, but we can put the siege mentality that it spawned behind us,' says Edwards.

there has not been one death or injury due to nuclear radiation. Nuclear power is safer than nearly any other large-scale form of energy generation.
Edwards defends the decision by America's utilities to build the generation of nuclear plants coming on-line during this decade.

- 12:00 (3) WMU Bronco Football
12:00 (4) This Week with David Brinkley
12:00 (7) MOVIE: 'Sunshine'
12:00 (1) Quest for Certainty
12:00 (3) Bowling
12:00 (5) My View of El Salvador
12:00 (13) World Tomorrow
12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Music Man'

SUNDAY CONT.

- City Hospital becomes a haven for the lovesick in this parody of medical soap operas.
Piranha' A Brazilian burglar ring nabs a cache of gems and stashes them in a lake stocked with deadly piranhas.
Keeping Time
Wall Street Journal
To Be Announced

SUNDAY'S MOVIES

- 6:00AM (HBO) - 'The Sea Wolves'
6:00AM (MAX) - 'My Champion'
8:00AM (HBO) - 'Reds'
10:00AM (MAX) - 'Chimpo On Safari'
10:00AM (17) - 'Crashout'
10:30AM (17) - 'Cactus Flower'
11:30AM (MAX) - 'They All Laughed'

DAYTIME

Monday Through Friday Daytime Network Programming is Listed Here. Refer To This List Throughout The Week...

- WEEKDAYS
MORNING
5:00 (3) CBS News
5:30 (19) Jim Bakker
6:00 (1) (3) (20) Morning Stretch
6:00 (41) CNN Headline News
6:30 (3) (3) CBS Early Morning News
6:45 (1) (3) (2) CBS Morning News
7:00 (3) (3) (6) CBS Morning News

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QUICK QUIZ
Are you a fountain of knowledge about water?
Taking this little true-false test can help you tell.
1. Water is the least expensive commodity.
2. Water is free.
3. Most water systems plan on large rate increases in the near future.

MONDAY

MONDAY 9/5/83

MORNING
5:00 (13) Teletalk: Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Continued
5:30 (13) IMAX MOVIE: 'Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen'

MONDAY'S MOVIES

MONDAY 9/5/83
5:00AM (21) - 'You Are Not So Tough'
5:30AM (19) [MAX] - 'Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen'

and the Arrow' A rebel leader in medieval Italy leads his people to victory against an unjust ruler. Burt Lancaster, Virginia Mayo, Robert Douglas. 1950.
1:30 (13) Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Montreal
2:00 (13) IMAX MOVIE: 'Take Her, She's Mine'

MONDAY'S MOVIES

MONDAY 9/5/83
5:00AM (21) - 'You Are Not So Tough'
5:30AM (19) [MAX] - 'Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen'

from Atlantic City, NJ
2:00 Crossfire
2:30 Black Beauty
2:55 (13) Square Pegs Lauren falls in love with someone who could hurt her. (R)
3:00 (13) That's Incredibly...
3:15 (13) TBS Evening News
3:30 Oscar Remembered

MONDAY'S MOVIES

MONDAY 9/5/83
5:00AM (21) - 'You Are Not So Tough'
5:30AM (19) [MAX] - 'Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen'

TUESDAY

TUESDAY 9/6/83

MORNING
5:00 (13) MOVIE: 'Natural Enemies'
5:15 (13) Billiards: Women's World Invitational
6:00 (13) IMAX MOVIE: 'James Stewart'

TUESDAY'S MOVIES

TUESDAY 9/6/83
5:00AM (21) - 'Natural Enemies'
6:00AM (19) [HBO] - 'Treasure Island'

woman are caught in a web of violence and murder for a fortune in jewels. Dorothy Lamour, Sterling Hayden, Dan Duryea. 1949.
1:00 (13) MOVIE: 'Cyrano de Bergerac'
1:30 (13) NFL's Greatest Moments
1:45 (13) Crossfire

TUESDAY'S MOVIES

TUESDAY 9/6/83
5:00AM (21) - 'Natural Enemies'
6:00AM (19) [HBO] - 'Treasure Island'

entertainment.
(13) Burns & Allen
(13) Newswatch
(13) Late Night with David Letterman
(13) Sports Probe
(13) Jack Benny Show

TUESDAY'S MOVIES

TUESDAY 9/6/83
5:00AM (21) - 'Natural Enemies'
6:00AM (19) [HBO] - 'Treasure Island'

TV TANGLE
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# Bob Wittenbach memorial trophy awarded

Rob Huver, aged 13 of Lowell, and Jim Harthorn, age 14 of Cedar Springs tied for the Bob Wittenbach memorial Versatility

Trophy at the conclusion of the Kent County Youth 4-H Fair during the week of August 1-5. Rob and his horse, Shesa



Rob Huver, Mr. Everett Wittenbach, Jim Harthorn

Playdoll, an AQHA 8 year old bay mare, competed for points in ages 13 and under in Showmanship, Bareback, Western Pleasure, Western Horsemanship and Hunt Seat Pleasure all ages. Rob has participated in the 4-H Youth Fair at Lowell fairgrounds for the last 4 years. He won the AQHA High Point Over-all Horse Trophy at the 1983 fair. He is a member of the Fifth Dimension Horse Club led by Jeff Frazer of Alto.

Rob also was a member of the Kent County Junior Regular Judging Team for the year 1983. At the State Jamboree, held at Michigan State University, his team placed third in the state and he placed 13th in the state as an individual. Rob has won many ribbons and trophies over the past 4 years in showing his ponies and his horse. He has many other interests. He is an honor student at Lowell Middle School, a member of the school band, and enjoys people. He hopes to continue his showing experiences. He is the son of Bob & Judy Huver. Jim Harthorn also shares the honors of the Wittenbach Trophy. Jim and his pony, Toquis, a 1/2 Arabian pony, competed in Pony Showmanship, Saddle Seat Pleasure, Saddle Seat Equitation, Western Pleasure, and Pony Horsemanship.

Jim has participated in the 4-H Youth Fair for 6 years, although only able to show for 5 years. Two years ago it became noticeable that something was happening with Jim. In December 1981 he was diagnosed as having Myasthenia Gravis, a disease causing muscle weakness. In December, 1982, he underwent a Thymectomy. They removed his Thymus Gland and that put him into a complete remission. At this time, Jim can do anything that anyone else can do. Jim also won the Over-all High Point Pony Trophy and the High Point Arabian and Part Arabian Trophy for the 1983 fair.

Jim was a member of the A-1 Riders under the leadership of Pat Peters. Jim & Toquis had the opportunity to represent Kent County at the 1983 State 4-H Horse Show in Lansing this past week. He came home with a gold medal in English Pleasure, 5th in Western Pleasure, Showmanship and English Equitation and an Over-all Grand Champion in English Pleasure. This is not his first year to go to state. At the age of 12, he won 3 gold medals, one grand, and one Reserve Champion.

Jim attends Cedar Springs High School as a sophomore. In the past, he played the cornet in the band and won many medals in this area. Due to his illness, he

is unable to participate in the band, but plays a guitar when he feels able. He is also on the year-book staff and enjoys photography. Jim is the son of Jim and Ann Harthorn.

This trophy is given each year at the Lowell Youth 4-H Fair in memory of Bob Wittenbach. Bob was High Point winner for three years at the fair in the years 1965, 1966, and 1967. Also won at state show Grand Champion for the county in 1965 and 1966.

To be eligible for this award you must ride both English and Western and be the High Point All around rider. You are able to ride or show in five classes.

This award is presented each year by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Wittenbach of Lowell.

## COLLEGE NEWS

Twenty-two Kent County residents are among the upperclass students whose scholarships to attend Alma College have been renewed for the 1983-84 academic year.

The scholarships awarded to students are Alma's Renewal Scholarships, awarded to students showing intellectual promise and outstanding academic achievement; Trustee Honors Scholarships, awarded on the basis of superior academic and extracurricular achievement; and Designated Scholarships, provided by individuals or corporate donors with selection based on varied criteria, all of which take academic achievement into account.

Sophomore Meredyth Althaus, a 1982 graduate of Lowell High School, the daughter of Frederick and Joy Althaus of 422 N. Jefferson, is receiving a Renewal Scholarship.

## School safety, cont'd.

Traffic Engineering manager. "Ninety-five percent of the school-related traffic accidents happen when children attempt to jaywalk or cross streets improperly."

That advice is the highlight of this year's "School's Open -- Drive Carefully" campaign, an annual Auto Club traffic safety program. Classes begin Sept. 6 in most school districts in Michigan.

To help emphasize the importance of extra caution by motorists during the school year, Gov. James Blanchard has declared Sept. 2-8 Michigan Traffic Safety Week.

"More children die in traffic accidents than from any other cause," states the declaration. Michigan motorists can drastically reduce this human toll by driving carefully, wearing safety belts, observing posted speed limits and refraining from mixing alcohol and driving.

"Michigan children did a better job of following safety rules last year than the year before," said Cullen. "But we need more pedestrian and motorist cooperation to complete a school year without traffic deaths."

Twice last year a school bus fatally struck a child who was picking up items he had dropped while leaving the bus, according to State Police.

"Those mishaps occurred in the danger zone -- 10-ft wide area that surrounds the school bus," explained Cullen. "In the danger zone, bus drivers have blind spots in which they're unable to see children as they walk or bend over. Children must be

taught to keep at least 10 feet away from buses so drivers can see them."

Safety teaching aids and safety belts from 55,000 patrolers are among the supplies the Auto Club annually distributes to 4,200 Michigan schools. Parents may pick up free "School's Open -- Drive Carefully" bumper stickers and placemats from the Auto Club's 60 offices statewide.

The Auto Club reminds motorists that 862,000 Michigan youngsters will be traveling to and from elementary schools this year. Drivers especially should be alert for the 120,000 students ages six and under going to school for the first time.

Michigan law requires motorists to stop at least 10 feet behind school buses with flashers on as they load or unload. Motorists should not proceed until those lights stop flashing.

Safety rules which parents should review with school-age youngsters, include:

- Cross only at intersections.
- Look in all directions before crossing streets and watch for cars turning on green lights or making right turns on red lights.
- Obey safety patrolers and crossing guards.
- Walk on the sidewalk. If there isn't one, walk facing traffic.
- Dress in light-colored clothing for maximum visibility.
- Follow the safest route to school, which should be planned on streets with low traffic volume and controlled intersections.

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