# The Grand Valley Ledger 

## 1,000 residents evacuated by chlorine gas leak

About 1,000 Lowellites were also the city fire chief, and withrudely awakened Sunday morn- in minutes two volunteer fireing and forced to evacuate their ment wearing breathing apparhomes. Lowell sewage treatment atus were inside the building and
plant operator Frank Martin was immediately shut off the leading making a routine inspection and to the leaking copper line. lab analysis of the city's sewage In the meantime police and treatment plant at about 8;00 fire officials, along with city A.M. Sunday when he disco- manager Ray Quada determined vered a chlorine gas leak at the that the deadly chlorine gas was facility. Martin said, "I saw a drifting off to northeast and green cloud drifting near the called for an evacuation of the ground on the northeast end of city's east side. The sewage the building as I drove up", "I treatment plant is located about knew righit away what it was, and two blocks south of Main Street sounded the alarm". Martin is on the west bank of the Flat


MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
The Lowell Middle School is having an Open House beginning al 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 4. Parents are urged to come and meet with School Superintendent Fritz Esch, Middle School Principal David Burdeth and teachers. Coffee will be served in the cafetorium beginning at 7:45.

CHIVALRY IS NOT DEAD!

.
Two customers came into the Ledger at about the same time one day last week. The first was a young lady here to pick up proofs for a monthly newsietter that we primt, she took the proofs, mentioned somehting about muiffer troubie and left. The second customer was a Japanese gentieman that comes here often to have cupies made, he is somehow affiliated with Central States Precision Grinding. He dropped off his originals and also left.
A few minutes later, the copies were all nun and we were assembling them at the counter when we noticed what was happening ou our front door. The Japanese genteman had his jacket spread out under the young lady's car, and with his tool kit and white gloves, he was working away at repairing the faulty exhaust system. Withi a few more minutes the repair work was complete, the Japanes gentleman put his tools away, the young lady thanked him and drove off.
The moral of this story is: "Chivalry is not dead in America, at least not while we have Japanese vistors here"

## OFF THE BLOTTER

Injured in an accident on Tuesday September 20, was Clare Bar num, 76, of Lowell. Bamum was a passenger in a car driven by Mary Orcuth, 80 , of Lowell when she faited to yield right of way at Main and West Street and struck a vehicle driven by Ronald Martin 28 of Lowell.
Richard Longstreet, 29, of Grand Rapids was injured Tuesday September 20 when he stepped out in fron of a car driven by Dennis Jones, 35, of Lowell on Main Street near Center Street.

Donald Chesebro, 25. of Ada struck the rear of a vehicle driven by Raymond Merrills, 27, of Lowell on Main Street near Valley Vista Dr. Thursday September 22.
Stuart Raymor, 24, of Saranac, struck a steel post with the semi tractor trailer he was driving at Main and Hudson Streets Tuesday September 20. Raymor was attempting to make turn at the time. Russell Maxim, 25, of Lowell, lost control of the vehicle he was driving and struck a fire hydrant at the corner of Jackson and King Street early Tuesday monning September 20.
Roger Crout, 29, of Ada backed his pick-up truck into a parked car owned by Kenneth Antcliff of Belding early Sunday September 25 on Main Street near Riverside Dr.

Arrested on Charges of larceny from a motor vehicle Monday September 19, was Scott Myers, 18, of Lowell and a 16 year old juvenile. both were apprehended by Lowell officers after investigation of a complaint of a purse being taken from a car parked on Riverside Drive.

Warrants were obtained by Lowell Officess Wednesday for Kirk Demull. 20, of Lowell and Gary Nickerson. I8, of Grand Rapids, in connection with the Larceny of motorcycles from the Shaffer-Clore used car lot on West Main on 19th of August.

River. About sixty volunteer firemen, regular and reserve police, and emergency medical personnel began blocking streets, and alerting residents by going door to door and by using the public address systems on city vehicles.
People evacuating their homes were told to drive to the high school or middle school parking lots and wait for an "all clear". East/west traffic through the city was re-routed to the north, and was re-routed to the north, and
all streets in the endangered area all streets in the endangered area
were blocked. The "all clear" were blocked. The "all clear
came shortly after $10: 00$ A.M. and the city returned to normal, with the only exception being the sewage treatment plant.
Martin estimated that about 400 pounds of the chlorine gas leaked from the corroded soft copper line leading from one of four 1,000 pound tanks located in the facility. The chlorine is used as a disinfectant in the sewse treatment process, but when it contacts metals it is highly cor rosive. The chlorine gas impregnated everything in the facility, by the time the mishap was discovered.

號


Lowell sewage treatment plant operator Frank Martin holds the culprit piece of soft copper tubing tained only an estimated 400 pounds of chlorine gas when the leak developed. The tank was empty


This scales was a bright and shiny piece of precision taboratory equipment prior to the chlorine leak Sunday. As the picture indicates, extensive corrosion is caused by the gas.
at the plant will have to be re- We were told by the Poison placed. Quada put a "very Control Center that chlorine gas rough doliar estimate on the kiils by both displacing oxygen damage at $\$ 25,000$ to $\$ 30,000$. in the lungs, and by burning the "It could go much higher than tissue within the lungs because it that, depending on how much turns into hydrochloric acid electrical equipment has to be re- when it makes contact with the placed," Quada added. moisture in the lungs.
When asked if residents were
ever in any serious danger from LOWELL MASONS \& EASTthe gas, Quada said, "Probably ERN STARS - are sponsoring not, but chlorine is a deadly gas, a fish fry on Saturday, October and small dense clouds of it can 1 in the Lowell Masonic Temstay intact for relatively long dis- ple. Serving family style from 5 trines. So, we decided that it P.M. to 7 P.M. Adults $\mathbf{\$ 3 . 7 5}$ was better to be safe than sorry, and children under $12 \$ 1$. and called for an evacuation" Quada said that the worst danger NASHVILLE AND GATLINwas to, those with chronic lung BURG - October 28 and breathing disorders, inhaling November 1, 1983, includes even small amounts of the gas tickets to Grand OI' Opry. could prove to be a severe irritant $\$ 275$ per person from Grand to these people.

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## Pests may hitchhike indoors on plants




## Births



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## USED CAR SPECIALS

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1981 Dodge Aries, 4 door, It. green, automatic, air, cruis 1979 Ford E150 Van, 6 cylinder automatic, brown, converted 1979 Mercury Bobcat, 2 door, yellow, automatic, stereo 1977 Ford Mustang, White, automatic, power steering \& brakes. 1978 Chrysler Nowport, 4 door, green, automatic, air, PS, PB. 1974 Dodge Dart Swinger, 2 door, bronze, automatic, powe steering \& brakes.
OTT O Ci, KZ1000, burgundy
1981 Ford Courier, Black 4 speed, tomatic, air, buckets. 1977 Plymouth Volare, Automatic, power steering \& brakes.

## Body Shop Special buff \& wax exterior <br> . ${ }^{\text {. } 75.95}$ <br> SEE ED STORMZAND <br> 

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## Save your flowering annuals from killing frost

The first killing frost need not for plant growth. A combination The essiest way to provide- automatically. If plants are near spell the end of your flowering of one warm white and one cool plants with 12 to 16 hours of light a sunny south window, lighting

Extension horticulture speciaisis al Michigan State University say you can save a few plants from frost and grow them
as house plants.
Coleus. geraniums, impatiens and fibrous-rooted begonias can be grown indoors in the winter, says Lee Taylor, MSU horticulurist. The key is to provide them with enough light to keep stems rom getting long and straggly sparse trance)
Because natural light levels Because natural light levels ally means growing plats under artificial light.
Before you need to worry about that, of coarse, you need plants to grow. Taylor advises aking cuttings and starting new plants from them, though you can also over winter whole
plants.
Take 3 - to 4 -inch cuttings from the tops of the plants. Re move the leaves on the bottom insert the cut end of the stem in damp perlite, vermiculite, peat or sand.
Place cuttings out of direct sunlight and water as needed to keep the rooting medium moist. It should take them about six weeks to develop roots $1 / 2$ to inch long. At that point they can be transplanted into 4 -inch pots of house plant potting soil and placed in a sunny window or under arificial light fo grow. You can save entire plan To ble root poted. To preseve bare-rooted cran're fred a them befor hey'res. Then han the bundles bundes. Then hag a ller or other psidedow ant Temperatures cool, moist area. Temperatures and humidity at least 80 percent Plants to be potted should be tug before frost. Dig up as much of the root system as you can and pot the plant in a container big enough to hold all the roots. Taylor suggests using a soil mixure of one part soil, one part sand and one part peat.
Cut back the tops of the plants by half. Water whenever the soil eels dry, and fertilize about once a month with a house plant fertilizer, following label directions. Grow in a sunny south Plants grown under artificial light will tend to be bushier and more compact and are more likely to bloom during the winter than plants grown in natural
light, Taylor notes. Ordinary Iourescent tubes are adequate
nce). b

The Kent Coummunity Action American Legion Building on
rogram announced today that Thursday and Friday, Septembe the commodities distribution site 29 and 30 , to pick up com in Lowell has beenchanged from modities. the Hi-Lo Gun Club to the AmerMain in Lowell (Skating rink en-

The American Legion graciously agreed, at the last minute, to provide space for distribution when it was discovered that the Gun Club was no longer
available. All residents of the Lamible. Al residens of the Lomelierawhower regiererdio receve esplusus commadifice ant

## ***

Each yeur, the nation's largest estuary, the 4,400 square mile Chesapeake Bay, yields an average of 125 pounds of seafood per acre to sport and commercial fishermen, including 90 percent of the country's softshell crabs, according to the National Wildlife Federation. The Chesapeake is also the dumping ground for 400 million gallons of municipal sew-
age every day. age every day.
In the 1800's, before railroads carried U.S. mail out from Eaynt to move mail and supplies across the hot and supplies across the hot, dry
Southwest deserts, says Rang. er Rick magazine. It took some getting used to, but the 60 or so camels, known as the U.S. Camel Corps, proved worthy of the task.

At midday, when the sun is overhead, a fish can see objects perhaps 15 to 20 feet away in clear, shallow water, says Internationai Wildlife magarine. When the sun is not directly overhead, little light passes through to illuminate the underwater scene, and fish must rely on their excellent senses of smell, hearing and touch.
Each year, almost 50 percent of all North American ducklings are born in and around potholes, says the National Whatife Federation; not those potholes you might see on a typical highway, but around ssions left in the watere of depressions left in the wake of melted glaciers in the Dakotas, M


- 3 Insert Models
white is recommended, but all per day is to put the lights on a them for a few hours in the eve-


## Kent Co. Road Commission

 fall color brochure readyThe Kent County mission has completed their 1983 Fall Color Tour Brochure in time for the changing fall land- Parks. scape. The brochure, free of The brochures are available a charge, is comprised of four the Kent County Road Commisloops covering much of Kent sion General Offices, 1500 County.
The northwest loop is approximately 50 miles long that takes you by Long Lake, Dwight Lydell, and Lamoreaux Parks. The northeast Loop is 48 miles long. Highlights of this loop include Townsend, Seidman, and Chief Hazy Cloud Parks as well
as several natural beauty roads. For more information, call the The 37 mile southeast loop Kent County Road Commissioi features. Thornapple River
Drive, Coldwater River Park and Drive, Coldwater River Park The southwest loop is 48 miles

## $\qquad$ A man with big ideas is a Ebner-Eschenbach <br> ounds Drive. This same loop asses by Johnson, Douglas alker, Brewer, and Paris Th ion General Offices, 1500 Scribner, the West Michigan Tourist Association. The Chamber of Commerce, Convention Bureau of Grand Rapids, Kent County Clerks Office, Kent County Treasurers Office, Ken Kent County Branch Libratil ad Grand Rapids Bibraries, Faries. For mo

Though Sunday was wet and Lowell, were; Phyllis Lessens dismal for the last day of the Fal- the porcelain pottery dish; Ray lasburg Fall Festival there were Zandstra, leaded glass box: Jan bright smiles from the winners in Johnson, the set of woven pil-
lows; Vicki Abel, the small beal
the. Diane Siciliano was the lows; Vicki Abel, the smain bas Diane Siciliano was the ket; Bob Garcia, the tulip photo, pleased quill winner. The dul- and the winner of the Carol
cimer was won by ceah Vededen:- Johnson albums was Marie lanburg, Other winners, also all of demmoa of Grand Rapids.

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