

# The Grand Valley Ledger

Volume 10, Issue 12

Serving Lowell Area  Readers Since 1893

February 5, 1986

## Two injured in separate auto accidents here

Two personal injury accidents occurred within a stone throw of each other last week at the foot of the big hill south of Lowell on Segwun, (Alden Nash).

On Wednesday, January 29 Robert Hemmingsen, 38, of 839 Watson, Grand Rapids, was northbound on Segwun at about 10:20 a.m. Hemmingsen told Sheriff's Deputies that he was traveling at about 30 to 35 m.p.h. when he attempted to brake the semi tractor and trailer he was driving. Hemmingsen said the trailer broke loose on the icy pavement, and he lost control of the vehicle as he came down the hill. The truck slammed into two cars parked alongside the roadway. One was registered to Cheryl Bates, the other to Tim Glazier. The truck then left the roadway, and rolled as it went down an embankment on the east side of the road.

The truck, owned by Hale Farms of Lowell, was carrying a load of chicken manure from Herbruck's Poultry Ranch in Saranac. The load spilled, and O.E. Bieri and Sons Construction Co. was called to clean up the mess with their heavy equipment.

Hemmingsen's son, Rodney, 18, was a passenger in the truck, and was injured in the accident. He was transported to Grand Rapids Metropolitan Hospital via Life Ambulance, and was treated for facial lacerations and a neck injuries.

The elder Hemmingsen was cited for violation of the basic speed law.

At about 3:40 p.m. on Friday, January 31, David Ogden, 28, of 8580 McArthur Rd., Greenville was northbound on Segwun near Grand River when he lost control of his vehicle. Witnesses say Ogden was traveling at a high

rate of speed when he crossed the centerline, careened through the parking lot of the Good Shepard Lutheran Church, struck a utility pole and came to rest against the concrete steps of the church.

Ogden suffered a 2 inch laceration to his forehead in the crash, and was uncooperative at the scene. He refused to be transported to a hospital for treatment of his injury. Ogden also refused to submit to an alcohol breath test, and was arrested for driving under the influence of liquor. He was also cited for not having an operator's permit on his person.

Lowell Police, Fire and Rescue responded to both accidents.



Lowell Fireman Kelly Holst waves in arriving fire and rescue equipment at the scene of a one-car accident last Friday. The driver, David Ogden appears to Holst's right.

## Council balks at snow removal rule

A sidewalk snow removal ordinance seems to be a topic that is at least as slippery as the sidewalks themselves on this sleet covered Tuesday morning. A public hearing on the subject was re-opened at Monday's meeting of the Lowell City Council to a considerably smaller audience than when the issue first surfaced in January.

Mayor James Maatman opened the public hearing with a statement regarding a work session held by the council last month, at which the ordinance was discussed in detail. Maatman said the council has decided that we need a more comprehensive study of the matter, to include the installation of new sidewalks and repair of many old sections of sidewalk. "We want to take a close look at the issue of sidewalks in general," he said.

City Manager Ray Quada echoed Maatman's comments saying, "A sidewalk snow removal ordinance is premature at this time. We need to review our whole sidewalk system to determine what is needed in construction, repair and replacement."

Jim Hodges, member of the audience, asked for a timetable. Quada and Maatman said that they have no "timetable", but expect to have some answers "relatively soon." Quada told the audience that any ordinance dealing with sidewalks and snow removal would be dealt with at a new public hearing, properly advertised in the paper.

In other council business, a public hearing was scheduled for the first meeting in March to consider abolishing the requirement for garages to be built with new multi-family housing. The Planning Commission sent the recommendation along to the council following a discussion of the matter at their January meeting.

Quada was given consensus approval by the council to pursue the appointment of a city building inspector. Quada explained that at this point, building inspections are handled by the city assessor, Al Orlyk, and plumbing, electrical and heating inspections have been handled by

state inspectors. Quada said that he has not been dissatisfied with the situation, but pointed out that long delays often occur when the state inspectors are busy covering their large territories.

Quada said that he has had conversations with Joe Nowak, who serves as a part-time inspector for Grattan Township. Quada said Nowak is a licensed inspector for electric, plumbing and heating. Quada felt that Nowak would also be willing to make himself available to builders one day per week at City Hall.

Quada said that the acquiring a city building inspector would likely mean a raise in building permit fees. Currently fees are \$10 for the first \$1,000 of con-

struction costs, and \$1 per additional \$1,000 in costs.

There was some discussion of a proposal for the county asking for local government participation in a county owned hazardous materials truck. The contract was just received at City Hall last Thursday, and Quada suggested that the council take some time to review the proposal. Quada said that he already has some questions and concerns about the idea, but also feels the idea has considerable merit. He told the council that he would be in contact with county officials regarding the proposal.

Lowell's newest park became an issue again. Councilman

Charlie Doyle said that he has yet to talk to a citizen who likes the "Creekside Park" handle, and offered a motion to change the name to the "Lee/Look Park", in honor of two large benefactors to the city. Councilman Jack Fonger seconded the motion, and it went to a vote. Doyle and Fonger voted yes, and Councilmen Bill Thompson and Dean Collins voted no. Maatman cast a tie-breaking no vote, and the "Creekside" name stood.

Considerable discussion followed the vote, but Maatman, Collins and Thompson remained firm on their decision to support the name initially submitted by the Parks Commission.



KENT COUNTY TAX SALE PAPER APPEARS IN THIS ISSUE OF THE LEDGER

The Grand Valley Ledger was again awarded the bid to publish the list of delinquent taxes for the Kent County Treasurer. This is the third year in a row that the Ledger has published these listings. Legal requirements dictate that the tax sale be published three times, so it will appear in our issues of February 5, 12 and 19.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Mrs. Roth's fifth graders at Runciman are working on their fourth issue of a classroom newspaper? They type the articles on a word processor after they have written them.

### LAMBERT'S EXPANSION IS NEAR COMPLETION

An expansion at Lambert Variety is nearly complete. Owner, Duane Lambert is still waiting for some new fixtures, but he is open for business in the small store building to the east of his main store. Lambert bought the building from Tummino & Tummino, Attorneys at Law, after they moved several blocks to the east. Lambert has set up his cards and gifts in the small store, and will use the extra space in his main store to expand his clothing selection.

### OFF THE BLOTTER

Dale Cavanaugh, 20, of Dorr, was arrested by Lowell Officers Friday evening, January 31 on a criminal bench warrant issued by the 63rd District Court.

A vehicle driven by James Marvin, 52, of Lowell was struck from the rear by a vehicle operated by a 16 year old Lowell juvenile on Wednesday, January 29. The accident occurred on West Main St., near West St. There were no injuries.

A car owned by Robert and Kathleen Gingerich was struck by a hit and run driver while parked on Center St., just north of Main St. The incident took place on Monday, January 27. Lowell Police are investigating.

Albert Welch, 57, slid into a vehicle driven by Jeffery Plummer, 31, at Main and Broadway Saturday afternoon, February 1. Both drivers are from Lowell, and no injuries were reported.

Lowell Police Officers investigated 27 accident complaints in January, 5 of which resulted in injuries.

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

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## School receives \$50,000 for new baseball field

Members of the Lowell Board of Education and administration disclosed Monday night at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Lowell Booster's club that it has received a \$50,000 gift from an anonymous donor to build a new baseball field. Although the gift was made December 31, public disclosure of the information was delayed until Monday night's regularly scheduled meeting of the Lowell Schools Booster's Club.

Board President, Chris VanAntwerp, had met with Booster Club Members Monday night to make the first public announcement of receipt and designated purpose of the gift. VanAntwerp said it was highly unusual for the school district to receive such a substantial amount. "Now that we're past the shock and surprised responses, we're beginning to think a little more realistic about our situation. The Board is obviously pleased and overwhelmed with this event. This is a significant event which can be added to the list of good things going on in our school district recently."


When asked why the gift was given anonymously, VanAntwerp responded, "It is the Board's understanding that this is the wish of the donor and that he will remain that way for the time being."


VanAntwerp said the Board would be considering where to build the new field and exploring several options. The district's current baseball facility is located in the northwest corner of the field behind the Middle School.

baseball field may prevent the use of three existing softball diamonds used by the Little League Softball teams. It would also make the area unusable for Soccer Team practice. The district's current baseball facility is located in the northwest corner of the field behind the Middle School.

The Board and administration will be exploring options in the next few weeks regarding location and construction of the new field.

**BOY SCOUT**  
ANNIVERSARY WEEK

1910

1986



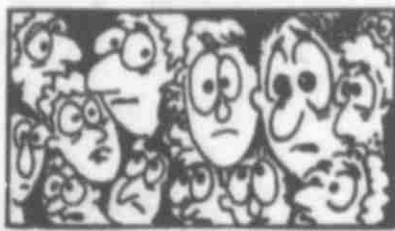
# Obituaries

**AVERILL** - V. Scott Averill, Conservation Officer for the Michigan DNR, aged 39, died in Traverse City on February 1, 1986. He was born in Sparta, MI on November 24, 1946, his parents being Kathryn and Russell Morton, who survive him, together with his wife since July 22, 1972, Susan Dey from Lowell, MI. Also surviving are a son, Randy S., and a daughter, Kristin R., all of Traverse City; sisters Terry Klein of Allegan; and Ann Sweeney of Grand Rapids. Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. at St. Francis Catholic Church, Traverse City, with Fr. Thomas Smith officiating. Graveside services will be held on Wednesday, February 5, at 4:00 P.M. at St. Mary's Cemetery in Lowell. Arrangements made by Covell Funeral Home, Traverse City. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

**BOOMERS** - Mrs. Norma V. Boomers, aged 63, of Ada passed away Tuesday, January 28, 1986. She is survived by her husband, Gerrit; her mother, Mrs. Ida E. Hanson of Lowell; her children, Mrs. Dean (Connie Ann) Gage of Saranac, Mrs. Dean (Linda) Kiste of Sheridan, Mrs. John (Donna) Homan of Ada, Gerrit and Leslie Boomers of Kentwood, Michael and Laura Boomers of Lowell, Mrs. David (Mary Sue) Eteo of Ada, Mrs. Edward (Nancy) Venton of Middleville; her brother, Robert Hanson of Walker; her sister, Mrs. Carl (Carol) Hoffman of Florida; 24 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren. Funeral Services were Friday, January 31, 1986 at 1:00 P.M. at The Ada Community Reformed Church, Rev. Jerry L. Johnson officiating.

**BLOUGH** - Mr. Ivan J. Blough aged 76 of Clarksville, passed away Sunday, February 2, 1986. Surviving are his wife, Letha; one son, Dean J. Blough; one daughter, Mrs. Craig (Shirley) Stuart of Lake Odessa; seven grandchildren, Darin, Daryl and Neil Stuart, David Douglas, Kathy, and Kristi Blough. Funeral Services were Tuesday, February 4 at the Clarksville Bible Church. Pastors Larry Pike and Elwood Norton officiating.

One kind word can warm three winter months.  
Japanese Proverb



Experts predict their will be 6.1 billion people in the world by the year 2000.

The world today averages 93 people a square mile.

## 75th anniversary for scouting

Starting on Scout Sunday, February 2, over 450 western Michigan Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops and Explorer posts will celebrate the 75th Anniversary week February 2-8.

Highlighted by numerous activities - such as Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquets and Boy Scout Courts of Honor -- the Anniversary week features Scout Sunday, February 2, Scout Anniversary and Uniform Day on February 7 and Scout Sabbath on February 8.

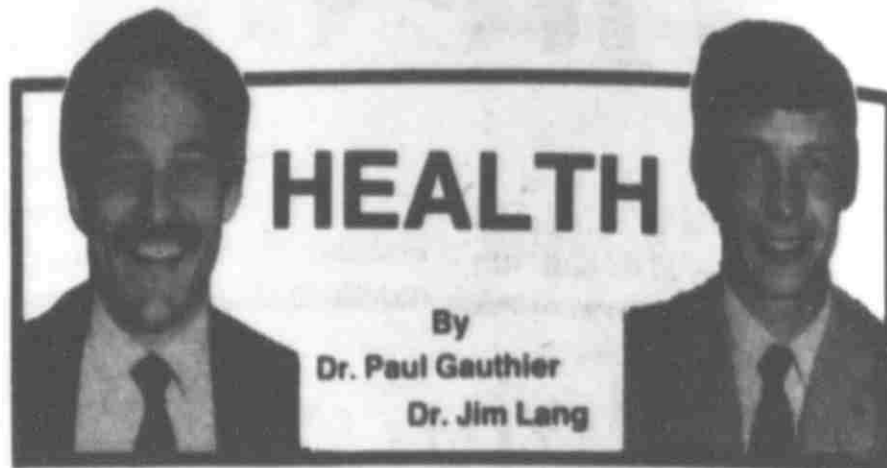
In addition to the Scouting activities, it is anticipated that formal presentations and recognitions will be bestowed upon the unit chartered partners, which are organizations sponsoring

packs, troops and posts and having a strong belief in the Scouting teachings of citizenship training, character development and personal fitness.

Council Director Activities, Paul Bongiovanni indicated that Anniversary Week is a fitting kickoff to another exciting, growth

oriented year in Scouting, enhanced by several new programs, including an expanded Cub Scout emphasis.

Scouting information may be obtained through the Council Service Center, 1935 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49505-6295 (363-3828).



### HEALTH

By  
Dr. Paul Gauthier  
Dr. Jim Lang

#### INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS

In the last few weeks we've seen a slight increase in the number of patients with Infectious Mononucleosis. This is a common infectious disease caused by the Epstein-Barr virus, a member of the herpes family. (This is not the same herpes virus that has received all the bad press...just a distant cousin.) The disease presents most commonly among the young adult age group, especially college students.

Mono can be difficult to diagnose because of the variety of symptoms. Principle clinical features which would make one suspicious of mono include sore throat, fever and enlarged lymph nodes.

Sore throat is the most common symptom of infectious mononucleosis. The throat may have white patches present on the tonsils similar to strep throat. Purple "spitiches" on the posterior roof of the mouth are also suggestive of the disease.

The illness usually starts with mild symptoms of headache, generalized fatigue, and fever. The temperature is usually in the 100-103 degree range. The fever may persist for a week or more.

Lymph node enlargement is the principle symptom suggesting infectious mononucleosis. The lymph nodes in the neck are most commonly involved. They are firm and tender to the touch. The spleen may also become involved. This organ is located behind the lower left ribs and usually cannot be felt unless it becomes enlarged. Mild liver inflammation frequently occurs, sometimes confusing the diagnosis with acute hepatitis.

Once the diagnosis is suggested it is easily confirmed with a simple blood test performed in the doctor's office. Occasionally a throat culture will be performed to rule out strep tonsillitis.

There is no specific therapy for infectious mononucleosis. Because of its viral cause, antibiotics will have no effect. Bed rest, aspirin for fever and sore throat, along with warm salt water gargles are usually advised.

Symptoms gradually improve over 2-4 weeks and the patient is allowed to return to school or work. If the spleen is enlarged, athletics should be curtailed until it returns to normal. The disease is not very contagious and is spread by close personal contact. Household contacts practicing good hygiene will very rarely be come infected.

Notice in the Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any non profit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto, and Saranac area. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

**EVERY THIRD THURSDAY** Pack Meeting, Cub Scout Pack 3188 will meet at Runciman School, beginning at 7:00 p.m. This is a family event. Future activities will be discussed and awards presented.

**WOMEN OF THE MOOSE** Chapter night meeting is held the first Monday of each month, at 8 p.m.

**WOMEN OF THE MOOSE** Business Meeting is held the third Monday of each month, at 8 p.m.

**THE LOWELL WOMENS CLUB** will meet Wednesday, February 12 at 12:00 at Schneider Manor for a Valentine Tea with honorary Senior High Girls as hostesses. A mini report on Home Life will be given by Pam Durkee, Dianne Miller and Cindy Dumas. The program, "Teen Pregnancy Programs for Schools," will be given by Betsy McPherson Knox who has evolved a school program for pregnant teenagers and by Barbara Pierce who directs the New Dawn program for Lowell Area Schools, meeting in the Lowell Congregational Church.

**LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS** invites all its members and friends to its Birthday-Valentine Party at the Center, 214 E. Main, on Tuesday, February 11 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

**THE EVENING CLUB** will meet Tuesday, February 11 at 8:00 p.m. at the home of Virginia Fonger. A mystery program will be given by Betsy Knox. Co-hostesses are Mary Ann Ayres and Helen McMahon.

"A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but after a while he knows something." Wilson Mizener

**QUA-KE-ZIK SPORTSMAN'S CLUB** meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. at the club building at 11400 Foreman Road, Lowell.

**THE LOWELL COMMUNITY BAND** will rehearse the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Lowell High School band room.

**RUNCIMAN-RIVERSIDE PTO** is holding a student book fair February 11-13. Students will be able to browse and purchase books. The book fair will be open during the hours of 9:15 to 3:30. Books will be on display in the Riverside PTO room. All profits will be used for the library.

**THE GRAND RAPIDS BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB** will meet Thursday, February 13 at Duck's Restaurant, 740 Michigan St., N.E. at 6:15 p.m. For reservations call 361-9130.

**SENIOR CITIZEN'S VALENTINE PARTY** - Tuesday, February 11 at the Lowell Senior Neighbor's Center in Lowell, 1:00 p.m. Bring cookies or a red jello dish. Music by the Senior Swing Ensemble. Sponsored by Lowell Community Ed. A prize if you bring someone who has never been to the Senior Center!

**"THE CREATURE CREEPS"** The Lowell Area Arts Council presents their winter play "The Creature Creeps" by Jack Sharkey February 20, 21, 22 and 27, 28 and March 1st in the Lowell Middle School, 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell. Performances start each night at 8:00 p.m. Tickets for both Thursdays are \$3.00 each - \$2.00 for Senior Citizens and students. Fridays and Saturdays tickets are \$4.00 each and must be reserved. Box office is at 149 S. Hudson Street, afternoons from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Phone 897-8545.

**THE RECYCLE CENTER** at Eberhard's parking lot is open for bottles, tin cans, aluminum, newspaper, and brown paper bags.

## "Capitol Column"

By  
State Senator  
Dick Posthumus

Edmund Burke was right when he said, "All government...is founded on compromise and barter." Senate Republicans recently unveiled a new plan which represents a compromise on the income tax rollback date in exchange for property tax relief for seniors, the working poor and small businesses.

The argument over the date of an income tax rollback to 4.6 percent was at a standstill, with Senate Republicans pushing for January 1, 1986, and Governor Blanchard set on March 31, 1986. Although it is only a three month difference, it translates to \$106 million in extra taxes collected. And with the state out of debt, Senate Republicans felt it was asking too much of Michigan taxpayers to wait that long.

As a compromise, Senate Republicans offered to accept a February 14, 1986 rollback date in exchange for an assurance by Governor Blanchard to support additional property tax relief. Under the plan, seniors 65 and up with a State Equalized Value on their home up to \$65,000 would be exempt from paying the school operating portion of their property tax. Also, an additional \$10 million in relief would

be available through the Homestead Property Tax Credit program for low-income workers. Small businesses whose property tax credit exceeds two percent of profits would also benefit, with an annual tax rebate of up to \$1,200 per company. About 40,000 low-profit small businesses would qualify for relief, with the average rebate equalling about \$1,000.

It is time to come to agreement on the question of a tax rollback. We've been arguing for months about the most appropriate rollback date, and still believe that since the bills are paid, we should return to a 4.6 percent rate immediately.

However, since the Governor is obviously not interested in lowering the tax simply because the state is out of debt, and since he hasn't offered any ideas for the extra money that is accumulating, we are willing to give up some ground in return for property tax relief. Our plan is a fair and affordable compromise, which offers real relief to those who need it most. Governor Blanchard has waxed eloquent about providing property tax relief. With our plan, he has the opportunity to make good on his promise to do so.

## Grand Valley Ledger Classified Ad

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# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

For whom it may concern. There are many things in life that are not detrimental to our physical well being, but they touch us in such negative ways as to spurn verbal protest whether to others, ourselves or our coffee cups.

Many of these things adorn newspapers and magazines which we so eagerly absorb. Most all of us, at one time or another, sit in amazement and ponder about the ridiculous events that take place in this world. Occasionally, something of such ridiculous proportion hits closer to home. No matter the subject, many events only hold the uniqueness of the names and order of their events.

One such "thing" is a human affliction that has grown like bacteria through the evolution of our culture. This "thing" has added a somewhat negative connota-

tion to the world of business and politics. This terrible disease, that spreads like cancer, is the voracious propensity to acquire wealth and prestige at the expense of those who try to get the job done "right". Even if the expense be progress. After all, if more benefits can be hoarded in the short run, why consider the long?

Power and wealth can be the most beneficial attributes when used to help make the world a better place. Unfortunately, they

can be as toxic as the pollutants that form acid rain and contaminate the very places we live. It is a shame there cannot be some all-knowing, immortal being who can act as an emission control device and only allow wealth and power to those who will not abuse it.

Life is not perfect, and so the story goes. I cannot help but notice how strange this world is we live in and how scary it can be watching the very adults we

are supposed to emulate act like children. Many a wise man has endured the discrimination of those who are selfish and do not like to be cast in a bad light, no matter the degree of truth. One of these wise men once said, "The most important thing is not life but the good life." His name was Socrates. To him I say, "Welcome to Thebes!"

Steven Jon Kropl



cozy corner

by Roger Brown

I won't bore you with details, but January was one exhausting month for this old boy. Short a key employee all month, we have been confronted by a seemingly endless stream of projects, all under tight deadlines. The tax sale paper that appears in this issue is a good example of what I'm talking about. I've been here by 6:00 a.m. nearly every morning. I've worked evenings. I've worked weekends. I'm Pooped!

So, please excuse me for stooping to a little plagerism in this week's column. Gloria Roth Powell sent the following "Hello from Minnesota" along with a note informing us of her new address in Florida. Gloria's departure from Minnesota, along with her obvious delight with the following quips, tell me that life here in Michigan may not be so bad after all.

### "HELLO FROM MINNESOTA"

1. Minnesota . . . I came. I thawed. I transferred.
2. Survive Minnesota — the rest of the world is easy.
3. If you love Minnesota, raise your right ski.
4. Minnesota — where visitors turn blue with envy.
5. Save a Minnesotan — eat a mosquito. (summers must be a joy too!)
6. One day it's warm — the rest of the year it's cold.
7. Minnesota — home of blonde hair and blue cars.
8. Minnesota — mosquito supplier to the free world.
9. Minnesota — come fall in love with a loon.
10. Land of many cultures — mostly throat.
11. Where the elite meet the sleet.
12. Minnesota: closed for glacier repairs.
13. Land of two seasons: "Winter's Coming" & "Winter's Here" (or as they say in the Michigan U.P. "Winter & the Fourth of July")
14. Minnesota — glove it or leave it.
15. Minnesota: Have you jump started your kid today?
16. There only three things you can grow in Minnesota — colder, older & fatter.
17. Minnesotans: Many are cold, but few are frozen.
18. Why Minnesota? To protect Ontario from Iowa.
19. You are entering Minnesota — use alternate route.
20. Minnesota — land of 10,000 Petersons.
21. Land of the ski, and home of the crazed.
22. 10,000 lakes, and no sharks.
23. In Minnesota, ducks don't fly south, people do.
24. Jack Frost must like Minnesota, he spends half his life here.

My car had been parked out in the freezing rain for about two hours when I left a meeting last Saturday morning. I had to stand in six inches of water while chiseling 1/4 of an inch of ice from my windows. I was getting soaked, my scraper broke and all I could do was feel sorry for myself. But, Gloria's note came to mind, and I could actually feel lucky that I live in Lowell, rather than International Falls. However, I do try not to dwell on a choice between Lowell and Key West at this time of year.



The United States produces more than twice as many cars each year as babies.

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# The Grand Valley Ledger's . . .

## TV

### LISTING MAGAZINE

- Features Complete Listings of Lowell Cable TV Channels On A Daily Basis.
- Special Sports Listings
- Special Daily Movie Listings
- Listings Coincide With Numbers On Your Tuner
- Complete & Easy To Use

- |         |                    |        |
|---------|--------------------|--------|
| WWMT    | Kalamazoo, MI      | • (3)  |
| WUHQ    | Battle Creek, MI   | • (4)  |
| WXMI    | Grand Rapids, MI   | • (17) |
| WLNS    | Lansing, MI        | • (1)  |
| WFSL    | Lansing, MI        | • (47) |
| WOTV    | Grand Rapids, MI   | • (1)  |
| WILX    | Jackson, MI        | • (5)  |
| WGVC    | Allendale, MI      | • (3)  |
| WKAR    | E. Lansing, MI     | • (2)  |
| WZZM    | Grand Rapids, MI   | • (13) |
| HBO     | Home Box Office    | [HBO]  |
| WTBS    | Atlanta, GA        | [HBO]  |
| CINEMAX | Cinemax            | [MAX]  |
| USA     | USA Network        |        |
| DISNEY  | Disney             |        |
| CBN     | CBN Cable Network  |        |
| WGN     | Chicago, IL        |        |
| ESPN    | Sports Network     |        |
| CNN     | Cable News Network |        |
| NICK    | Nickelodeon/A&E    |        |



CONTAINS LISTINGS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 THRU THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1986

What happens if the United States is attacked by terrorists? Mason Adams, Hal Holbrook and Fritz Weaver (left to right) star in "Under Siege," a three-hour movie about such a terrifying idea. The film airs Feb. 9 on NBC.

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## State Savings Bank Consolidated Report of Condition

Consolidated Report of Condition of State Savings Bank of Lowell, Michigan And Foreign and Domestic Subsidiaries, at the close of business December 31, 1985, a state banking institution organized and operating under the banking laws of this state and a member of the Federal Reserve System. Published in accordance with a call made by the State Banking Authority and by the Federal Reserve Bank of this District.

ASSETS	Dollar Amounts in Thousands		C100
	Mill	Thou	
1. Cash and balances due from depository institutions:			
a. Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coin <sup>1,2</sup>	3,452	3,452	1.a.
b. Interest-bearing balances	1,000	1,000	1.b.
2. Securities (from Schedule RC-B)	12,162	12,162	2.
3. Federal funds sold and securities purchased under agreements to resell	6,700	6,700	3.
4. Loans and lease financing receivables:			
a. Loans and leases, net of unearned income (from Schedule RC-C)	38,346	38,346	4.a.
b. LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	173	173	4.b.
c. LESS: Allocated transfer risk reserve	None	None	4.c.
d. Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve (item 4.a minus 4.b and 4.c)	38,173	38,173	4.d.
5. Assets held in trading accounts	None	None	5.
6. Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)	1,369	1,369	6.
7. Other real estate owned	None	None	7.
8. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	None	None	8.
9. Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	None	None	9.
10. Intangible assets (from Schedule RC-M)	None	None	10.
11. Other assets (from Schedule RC-F)	608	608	11.
12. Total assets (sum of items 1 through 11)	61,464	61,464	12.

<sup>1</sup>Includes cash items in process of collection and unposted debits.  
<sup>2</sup>The amount reported in this item must be greater than or equal to the sum of Schedule RC-M, items 2 and 3.

LIABILITIES	Dollar Amounts in Thousands		Mill	Thou
	Mill	Thou		
13. Deposits:				
a. In domestic offices (sum of totals of columns A and C from Schedule RC-E)	54,463	54,463	13.a.	
(1) Noninterest-bearing <sup>1</sup>	6,886	6,886	13.a.(1)	
(2) Interest-bearing	47,577	47,577	13.a.(2)	
b. In foreign offices, Edge and Agreement subsidiaries, and IBFs				
(1) Noninterest-bearing	None	None		
(2) Interest-bearing	None	None		
14. Federal funds purchased and securities sold under agreements to repurchase	None	None	14.	
15. Demand notes issued to the U.S. Treasury	619	619	15.	
16. Other borrowed money	None	None	16.	
17. Mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases	None	None	17.	
18. Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	None	None	18.	
19. Notes and debentures subordinated to deposits	None	None	19.	
20. Other liabilities (from Schedule RC-G)	337	337	20.	
21. Total liabilities (sum of items 13 through 20)	55,419	55,419	21.	
22. Limited-life preferred stock	None	None	22.	
EQUITY CAPITAL				
23. Perpetual preferred stock	None	None	23.	
24. Common stock	375	375	24.	
25. Surplus	2,325	2,325	25.	
26. Undivided profits and capital reserves	3,345	3,345	26.	
27. Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments	None	None	27.	
28. Total equity capital (sum of items 23 through 27)	6,045	6,045	28.	
29. Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, and equity capital (sum of items 21, 22, and 28)	61,464	61,464	29.	
Memoranda - Deposits of State Money - Michigan				823

<sup>1</sup>Includes total demand deposits and noninterest-bearing time and savings deposits.

Robert J. Elzinga, EVP & Cashier of the above-named bank do hereby declare that this Report of Condition has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the State Banking Authority and is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the correctness of this Report of Condition and declare that it has been examined by us and to the best of our knowledge and belief has been prepared in conformance with the instructions issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the State Banking Authority and is true and correct.

Robert J. Elzinga  
Signature of officer authorized to sign report  
Robert J. Elzinga  
Director

H. I. Englehardt  
Director

James B. Cook  
Director

Everett Wittenbach  
Director

State of Michigan County of Kent ss:  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29th day of January, 1986.

Yvonne Gauger  
Notary Public  
My commission expires: 12/22/86

FRIDAY 2/7/86

AFTERNOON

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Harry and Son'
1:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'A Rare Breed'
1:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Dresser'

EVENING

6:00 (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

FRIDAY 2/7/86

6:00AM (MAX) - 'Come and Get It'
6:00AM (HBO) - 'The Dresser' (CC)
6:00AM (MAX) - 'The Hunter'

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY 897-9261

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SATURDAY 2/8/86

MORNING
5:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
5:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

6:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
6:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

7:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
7:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

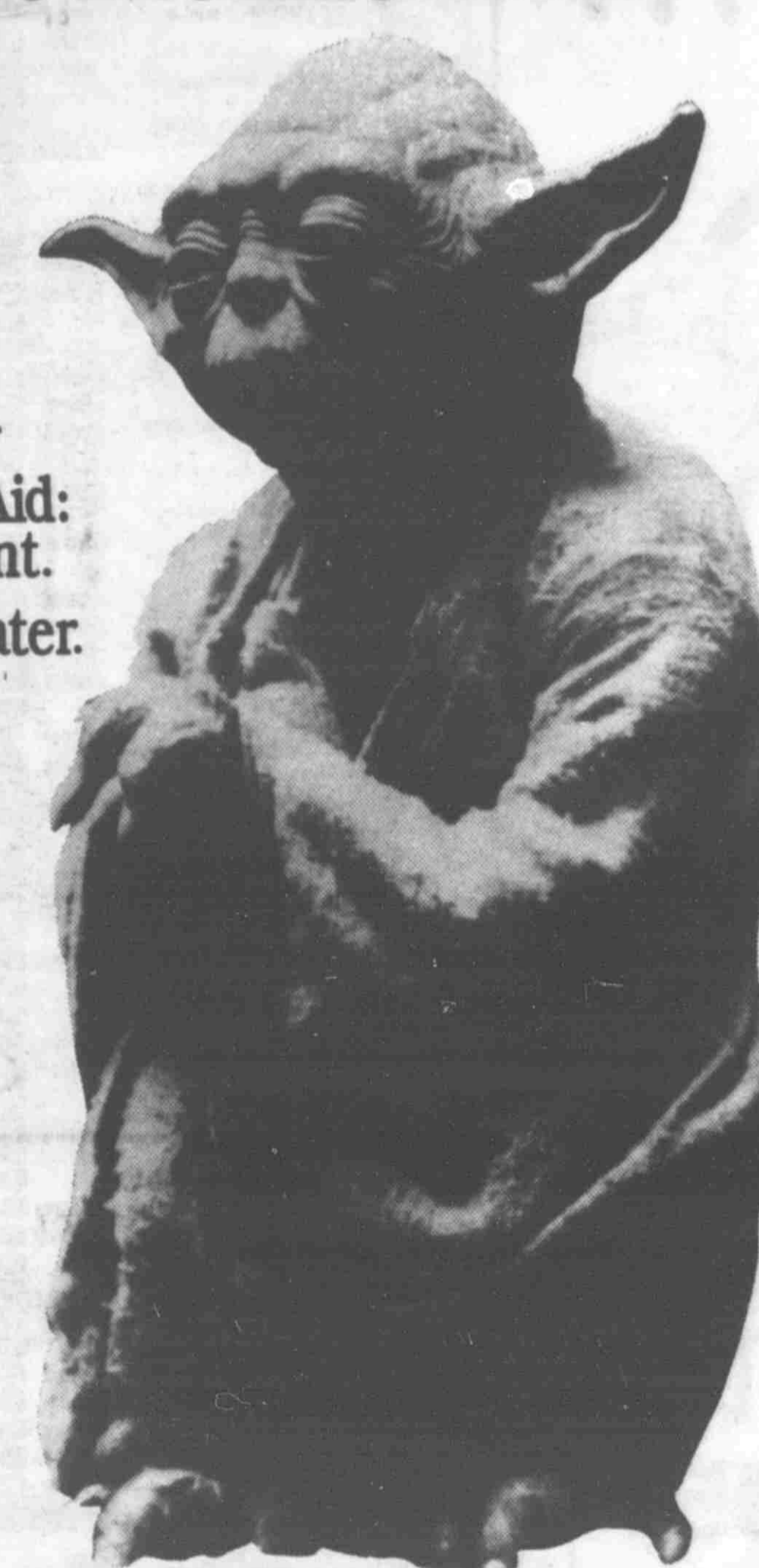
8:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
8:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

9:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
9:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

10:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
10:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

11:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
11:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

In February, Nobody Brings It Home Like HBO.
The Empire Strikes Back.™
A Passage To India.
The Best Of Farm Aid: An American Event.
Ray Bradbury Theater.
The Mean Season.
On Location: Buddy Hackett II.
Mrs. Soffel.
Songwriter.
And Much More.



The Empire Strikes Back.™
A Passage To India.
The Best Of Farm Aid: An American Event.
Ray Bradbury Theater.
The Mean Season.
On Location: Buddy Hackett II.
Mrs. Soffel.
Songwriter.
And Much More.

HBO Red Hot Winter
The Empire Strikes Back™
DON'T MISS OUT. CALL TODAY!
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126 N. Broadway, Lowell
897-8405

10:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
10:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

11:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
11:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

12:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
12:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

1:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
1:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

2:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
2:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

3:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
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7:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

8:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
8:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'

9:00 (MAX) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'
9:30 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Executioner'



Children of Spain fill their shoes with grain or carrots to feed the horses of the Three Wise Men. Gifts are exchanged on January 6th in honor of the arrival of these Magi.

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TVs - Radios - Antennas - Etc.
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VALUABLE COUPON
MOTORCRAFT OIL and OIL FILTER SPECIAL
Includes up to 5 quarts of Motorcraft oil, Motorcraft oil filter and installation. Additional oil and filters extra if required.
TOTAL SPECIAL PRICE - PARTS and LABOR
\$11.95
ANY APPLICABLE TAXES EXTRA. VALID JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1986

VALUABLE COUPON
WIPER BLADES and SOLVENT SPECIAL
Includes parts and installation of two wiper blade refills and one 32 oz. can of Ford Ultra-Clear windshield washer solution concentrate.
TOTAL SPECIAL PRICE AS DESCRIBED
\$6.95
ANY APPLICABLE TAXES EXTRA. VALID JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1986

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This limited warranty covers vehicles in normal use. And excludes routine maintenance parts, belts, hoses, sheet metal and upholstery.
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Table with multiple columns listing property details for various townships including Cannon, Cascade, Courtyard, Gaines, Grand Rapids, and Grattan. Each entry includes lot number, acreage, and owner information.

Most school children can tell you two negatives make a positive, but few can name the man who first said so. It's said to have been John Louth who first laid down that rule of grammar in 1762.



Table with multiple columns listing property descriptions, owner names, and addresses for various townships including Grattan, Lowell, Nelson, Oakfield, and Plainfield. Each entry includes details like lot numbers, acreage, and owner information.

Without clouds and other constituents of the Earth's atmosphere, the surface of our planet would reach a temperature of 176 degrees at the equator by day.

Tooth enamel is the hardest substance in the human body.

The world's tallest known Christmas tree was a 221-foot Douglas fir erected at a shopping center in Seattle in 1950.

A human being sheds skin continually, replacing it with an entire new outer layer about once every 28 days.

Without clouds and other constituents of the Earth's atmosphere, the surface of our planet would reach a temperature of 176 degrees at the equator by day.

Without clouds and other constituents of the Earth's atmosphere, the surface of our planet would reach a temperature of 176 degrees at the equator by day.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for Township of Solon, Sparta, Spencer, and Tyronne.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for Township of Tyronne, Vergennes, and City of Cedar Springs.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for City of Cedar Springs, City of East Grand Rapids, and Township of East Grand Rapids.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for Township of East Grand Rapids, Township of North Range, and Township of North Range West.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for Township of North Range West, Township of North Range East, and Township of North Range North.

Table with 4 columns: State No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for Township of North Range North, Township of North Range South, and Township of North Range West.

Cabbage is rich in vitamin C.

Table with multiple columns listing property details for various cities including Grand Rapids, Holland, and Spring Lake. Columns include Sale No., Description, Acres, and Total Tax. The table is organized into sections for different cities and contains numerous individual property listings.

Table with 4 columns: Sale No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sub-sections for CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS TOWN 7 NORTH RANGE 12 WEST and CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS TOWN 7 NORTH RANGE 11 WEST.

Table with 4 columns: Sale No., Description or Parcel, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sub-sections for CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS TOWN 7 NORTH RANGE 12 WEST and CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS TOWN 7 NORTH RANGE 11 WEST.

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Table with multiple columns listing property details: Sale No., Description, Acres, Taxes, and other financial information. The table is organized into sections for different cities and towns, such as 'CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS' and 'TOWN 7 NORTH RANGE 11 WEST'. Each entry includes a unique identifier and a detailed description of the property, including its location, size, and any existing structures or easements. Financial data includes the sale price, taxes, and interest charges.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest, Charges, and Delinquent. Includes sections for CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS and TOWN NORTH RANGE 11 WEST.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest, Charges, and Delinquent. Includes sections for CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS and TOWN NORTH RANGE 11 WEST.

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Table with multiple columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes sections for City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range 11 West, 12 West, 13 West, 14 West, 15 West, 16 West, 17 West, 18 West, 19 West, 20 West, 21 West, 22 West, 23 West, 24 West, 25 West, 26 West, 27 West, 28 West, 29 West, 30 West, 31 West, 32 West, 33 West, 34 West, 35 West, 36 West, 37 West, 38 West, 39 West, 40 West, 41 West, 42 West, 43 West, 44 West, 45 West, 46 West, 47 West, 48 West, 49 West, 50 West, 51 West, 52 West, 53 West, 54 West, 55 West, 56 West, 57 West, 58 West, 59 West, 60 West, 61 West, 62 West, 63 West, 64 West, 65 West, 66 West, 67 West, 68 West, 69 West, 70 West, 71 West, 72 West, 73 West, 74 West, 75 West, 76 West, 77 West, 78 West, 79 West, 80 West, 81 West, 82 West, 83 West, 84 West, 85 West, 86 West, 87 West, 88 West, 89 West, 90 West, 91 West, 92 West, 93 West, 94 West, 95 West, 96 West, 97 West, 98 West, 99 West, 100 West.

Table with multiple columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes sections for City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range 11 West, 12 West, 13 West, 14 West, 15 West, 16 West, 17 West, 18 West, 19 West, 20 West, 21 West, 22 West, 23 West, 24 West, 25 West, 26 West, 27 West, 28 West, 29 West, 30 West, 31 West, 32 West, 33 West, 34 West, 35 West, 36 West, 37 West, 38 West, 39 West, 40 West, 41 West, 42 West, 43 West, 44 West, 45 West, 46 West, 47 West, 48 West, 49 West, 50 West, 51 West, 52 West, 53 West, 54 West, 55 West, 56 West, 57 West, 58 West, 59 West, 60 West, 61 West, 62 West, 63 West, 64 West, 65 West, 66 West, 67 West, 68 West, 69 West, 70 West, 71 West, 72 West, 73 West, 74 West, 75 West, 76 West, 77 West, 78 West, 79 West, 80 West, 81 West, 82 West, 83 West, 84 West, 85 West, 86 West, 87 West, 88 West, 89 West, 90 West, 91 West, 92 West, 93 West, 94 West, 95 West, 96 West, 97 West, 98 West, 99 West, 100 West.

Table with columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total of Taxes, Interest and Charges Due in 30 Days, Sale Date, City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers.

Table with columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total of Taxes, Interest and Charges Due in 30 Days, Sale Date, City of Grand Rapids, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers.

Table with columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total of Taxes, Interest and Charges Due in 30 Days, Sale Date, City of Kentwood, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers.

Table with columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total of Taxes, Interest and Charges Due in 30 Days, Sale Date, City of Lowell, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers.

Table with columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total of Taxes, Interest and Charges Due in 30 Days, Sale Date, City of Lowell, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers.



Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Rockford, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4777, 4778, 4779, 4780, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Walker, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4781, 4782, 4783, 4784, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Walker, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4785, 4786, 4787, 4788, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4789, 4790, 4791, 4792, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4793, 4794, 4795, 4796, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4797, 4798, 4799, 4800, etc.

A "watch" of nightgales is how you refer to a pair of those birds.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4801, 4802, 4803, 4804, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4805, 4806, 4807, 4808, etc.

Table with 10 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, Total Tax, Interest and Charges Due, Sale Date, City of Wyoming, Town & North Range, and various lot numbers. Includes entries for 4809, 4810, 4811, 4812, etc.

Table with 4 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for CITY OF WYOMING, VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA, VILLAGE OF SPARTA, and CITY OF WYOMING.

Table with 4 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for VILLAGE OF SPARTA, VILLAGE OF SPARTA, VILLAGE OF SPARTA, and VILLAGE OF SPARTA.

Table with 4 columns: Sale No., Description, Acres, and Total Tax. Includes sections for VILLAGE OF SPARTA, VILLAGE OF SPARTA, VILLAGE OF SPARTA, and VILLAGE OF SPARTA.

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SUNDAY

SUNDAY 2/9/86

MORNING
Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

6:30 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

7:00 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

7:30 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

8:00 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

8:30 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

9:00 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

9:30 Sports Review
Turkey Television
Milestone News
College Basketball: North Carolina-Charlotte at Western Kentucky

Form 1040A



You can use the Form 1040A even if you claim the child and disabled dependent care credit, or if you have an IRA. Check your tax package for details.

Form 1040EZ



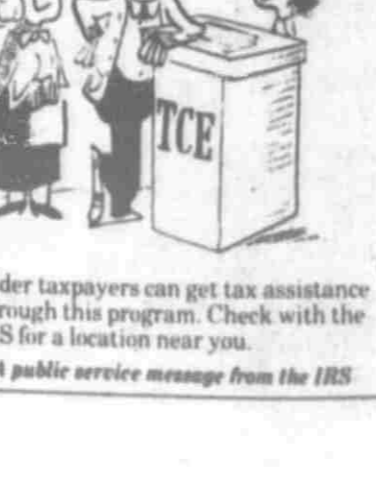
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'D BE THE 'WHOLE' THING! WHY NOT? IT'S ONLY SEVEN LINES!

Undelivered Refunds



If you have moved and think you have a tax refund coming, contact us so we can contact you. For details call the IRS.

Tax Counseling for the Elderly



Older taxpayers can get tax assistance through this program. Check with the IRS for a location near you.

SUNDAY'S MOVIES

6:00AM [IMAX] - 'Hambone and Hillis'
7:00AM [HBO] - 'Empire Strikes Back' (CC)
7:30AM [IMAX] - 'How Sweet It Is'
8:00AM [IMAX] - 'SummerTime'

PRINTING THAT'S OUR BUSINESS...

Advertisement for The Grand Valley Ledger printing services, including contact information and a list of services.

MONDAY

MONDAY 2/10/86 MORNING 5:00 All American Wrestling (R) Sports Review

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Dreamscape' (C) MOVIE: 'Can You Hear the Sound of Music'

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'The Formula' (C) MOVIE: 'The Executioner's Song' (C)

MONDAY'S MOVIES

6:00AM (MAX) 'Man in the Wilderness' (C) 8:00AM (HBO) 'Runaway' (C) 10:00AM (HBO) 'Turk 182' (C)

WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY 2/12/86 MORNING 8:05 (MAX) MOVIE: 'Tax' (C)

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Splish' (C) MOVIE: 'Rainbow: The Legend of Judy Garland'

WEDNESDAY'S MOVIES

6:00AM (MAX) 'Empire Strikes Back' (C) 8:00AM (HBO) 'Archie Adventure' (C)

THURSDAY

THURSDAY 2/13/86 MORNING 6:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Phantom' (C)

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'Where the Boys Are' (C) MOVIE: 'Bud and Lou'

THURSDAY'S MOVIES

6:00AM (HBO) 'Phantom Treehouse' (C) 7:00AM (MAX) 'The Actress' (C)

TUESDAY

TUESDAY 2/11/86 MORNING 5:00 All American Wrestling (R) Sports Review

12:00 (HBO) MOVIE: 'On the Waterfront' (C) MOVIE: 'Country'

TUESDAY'S MOVIES

6:00AM (MAX) 'The Westener' (C) 8:00AM (HBO) 'Harpy and Son' (C)







# Alto Elementary is one of 20 state award winners

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Phillip E. Runkel recently announced the names of 20 Michigan elementary schools that have been nominated for honors in a new national program recognizing outstanding elementary schools. Lowell School District's Alto Elementary was among them.

The 20 schools in 16 counties were selected from 79 elementary schools throughout the state

that participated in the first National Elementary School Recognition Program. There has been a national program honoring outstanding secondary schools since 1983. The two national awards programs will operate on an alternating year basis. However, Michigan will honor outstanding elementary and outstanding secondary schools annually.

In December, all local school superintendents were invited to

participate in the elementary school program by nominating any of their elementary schools for consideration as an exemplary schools, Runkel explained.

A panel of local educators reviewed all the applications and made the final selections. The 20 schools will be honored by the State Board of Education as exemplary Michigan elementary schools and will be considered

for the national honors.

Runkel said U.S. Secretary of Education William J. Bennett will announce the names of the national finalists this spring and the schools that will be chosen for the national recognition will be announced in June.

Federal education officials will be visiting some of the 20 Michigan schools between March 17 and May 23 to determine which ones will be chosen

for the national program.

On Friday, Runkel sent notices to the superintendents and the principals of the 20 winning schools informing them of the honor. Alto Principal James White and Lowell Superintendent of Schools Fritz Esch made the announcement to the Alto Staff on Friday.

State Board of Education President Norman Otto Stockmeyer, Sr., said the 20 schools "are rep-

representative of the many outstanding schools in Michigan's 525 school districts." Members of the review panel had a difficult time selecting only 20 schools from the ones which were considered, Stockmeyer said.

In the first two years of the Secondary School Recognition Program, Michigan led all states in the number of schools that received national honors.

The purpose of the national recognition program is to identify and call attention to a national group of unusually successful public elementary schools. For a school to be recognized, there must be clear evidence that virtually all of its students are developing a solid foundation of skills in reading, writing and mathematics. Among the other criteria are strong leadership and effective working relationships between the schools, parents and others in the community, an orderly and conducive learning atmosphere in the school and effective resolution of problems that affect student learning and the school's daily operations.

## State's schools are improving

The proposed increase for education in the 1987 budget is good news for Michigan schools and I'm glad to see our priorities are straight. The state of our educational system is looking better in 1986.

The 1987 spending plan calls for a 5.5 percent increase for elementary, secondary and higher education, including community colleges.

Under the budget proposal, \$1.02 billion would be appropriated for higher education, an increase of \$49.6 million. Community colleges would be allocated \$185.2 million, a \$9.7 million increase. This budget would include a 3.4 percent increase in the Job Training and Retraining Investment Fund.

The K-12 budget plan calls for \$1.9 billion in spending, with \$1.39 billion in the school aid budget and \$516 million in general fund money.

The announcement of the budget figures coincided with new reports of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test scores released by the state Department of Education. The figures gave us some good news and some bad. The percentage of Michigan public school students passing the standardized reading and math tests rose during 1985 but despite this gain, nearly one-third of all seventh- and tenth-graders did not pass the math portion, which tests basic skills, such as metric measurements, fractions, geometry and equations.

There's much more work to be done. Adequately funding our schools is only part of the solution. Many other issues such as student and teacher competency tests and teacher certification rules must be addressed. I am confident we can make our schools even better and I will maintain my commitment to this goal.



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