

# THE LOWELL LEDGER

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LOWELL, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1963



## Keith Avery Challenged At Annual Ag Conference

Keith W. Avery, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Lowell, was challenged "to make right and correct decisions for adaptations and improvements in the program of agricultural education."

## Services Friday For May Bryan

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at the Roth Funeral Home at 1 p. m. for Mrs. Kenneth (May) Bryan of Route 2, Lowell.

## "Y" Swim Team Now In Competition

Lowell Y.M.C.A. swim team in its first year of competition, has not been able to win its meets with other more experienced groups but have shown real progress, their coach Pete Vermaire said.

In its second meet of the season the Lowell "Y" team, coached by Pete Vermaire, lost to a fine Jolly Roger Swim Club team, 161 to 105.

- 7 & 8 year old boys 25 meter backstroke: Greg Callier, 34.5
9 & 10 yr. old boys 25 meter breast stroke, Mark Nisbet, 28.3
9 & 10 yr. old boys 100 meter freestyle relay: 1:20.9—Dale Krupp, Brooke Johnson, Marty Wiczorek and Jon Schwacha.

## Notice

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. TWO FRACTIONAL (2) FT., TOWNSHIPS OF VERGENNES AND KEENE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, That the last day and hour on which persons residing in said school district may register to vote in the special school election to be held in said school district Thursday, September 5, 1963, is: MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1963

PHILORUS HALE Secretary of the Board of Education School District No. 2 fr., Townships of Keene and Vergennes, Counties of Ionia and Kent, State of Michigan

SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ELEVEN (11) TOWNSHIP OF VERGENNES COUNTY OF KENT STATE OF MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, That the last day and hour of which persons residing in said school district may register to vote in the special school election to be held in said school district Thursday, September 5, 1963, is: MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 1963

PERSONS RESIDING IN SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT NOW REGISTERED WITH THE CLERK OF SAID TOWNSHIP OF VERGENNES DO NOT NEED TO RE-REGISTER.

Registrations will be taken by the clerk of said Township of Vergennes at his office at 11464 Bailey Drive, Lowell, Michigan.

DONALD McPHERSON, Secretary of the Board of Education Vergennes Township, Kent County, State of Michigan

WILLIAM SERNE INJURED IN MONTANA PLANE CRASH Reports have reached Mr. and Mrs. William Serne, Sr. of East Fulton Road that their son, William Serne Jr. was injured in a plane crash in Montana.

WE SPECIALIZE In fire insurance for every need. Peter Speerstra Agency, TW 7-9259.

# Showboat Receipts Drop

## Editorial: What About Showboat? After The Fat, 7 Years of Lean?

"What is to be done about the Lowell Showboat next year?" This seems to be '63's thousand-dollar question.

Letter to Editor: Cheasaning Boat Has Good Season Dear Harold: We had 25 of our Showboaters over to your shibang Wednesday night and they report a good show etc.

of coffee-cup comment, however. One well-known local businessman even came into the office Monday to suggest that the Robert E. Lee "be made into a big bonfire." He did NOT, however, want his name associated with the suggestion.

For the second year in succession earnings of the Showboat production have dropped, it was revealed early this week. Earnings of the 1963 Showboat are anticipated to be about \$22,000. This is \$5,000 less than 1962, when Showboat earnings were only \$27,000 a gross which was smaller than those of the previous eight years.

SHOWBOAT TICKET SALES - Last Ten Years Table with columns: Year, Gross Sales. Rows: 1953 (\$35,000), 1954 (33,956), 1955 (31,000), 1956 (36,182), 1957 (34,723), 1958 (30,244), 1959 (38,000), 1960 (30,656), 1961 (34,840), 1962 (27,166), 1963 (Est. \$22,000)

But the drop of five thousand dollars may make the Showboat take another loss in '63.

Full Report in September The real outcome of the 1963 season will not be fully known until the annual meeting of the corporation in September.

Local Area Graduates Of Western Michigan U. Among the 665 graduates from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo on July 26 from this area were: Roa E. Krum BS, 5244 McCords Ave, and James L. Sheriman, MA 1/2, 1, both of Alto; Melbourne J. Hartley BA, 186 Pleasant and Ella L. Swanson, AB R3 both of Lowell.

Auction Sale Saturday, August 3, 1 p. m. at Bert Purchase Farm, Boves Rd., Lowell, Farm tools, household goods and miscellaneous. See complete list in the Want Ad section. p16

Midd-Summer Sale Men's and boy's swim trunks now 20 per cent off. Ladies Jamaicas 20 per cent off. B. F. Goodrich "Sun-Steps" \$2.99. Wepman's Clothing and Shoes, 105 East Main, Lowell. c-16

Steve Collins Pitches No-Hitter Against Saranac Fourteen year old Steve Collins pitched a 6-0 no-hit ball game against Saranac to help his team win the YMCA Junior High-baseball title. With two games left the Lowell No. 1 team has a three game lead.

Remodeling Done At Legion Lanes When bowling enthusiasts enter the American Legion Lanes on East Main Street for a game of ten pins, they will find the surroundings completely changed.

Ernest Gates, Sr. Ada Farmer Dies After Long Illness After a long illness, Ernest O. Gates, Sr., aged 67, of 3259 Honey Creek Avenue, Ada, died last Friday at his home.

Autos Insurance Rates Can be reduced if you are a non-drinker. Save 10 percent with Citizens Mutual Insurance Co., and let us advise you on other discounts available. Rittenger Insurance Service.

Earthquake Earns Him Service Medal Relaxing among the ruins of Leptis Magna, an ancient African city, is T-Sgt. Dennis E. Brenk, recent recipient of the Air Force Commendation Medal. Sgt. Brenk, who is married to the former Catherine Potter of Lowell, earned this latest award for his aid to survivors of a Libyan earthquake which leveled 80 per cent of the city of Barca last February.

Creates Good Will The citation goes on to point out that "his humanitarian efforts and outstanding devotion to duty have helped to weld a bond of international goodwill and friendship between the United States and the United Kingdom of Libya."

Remodeling Done At Legion Lanes (continued) The remodeling program, which was recently completed, includes new underground ball returns, fast and more durable service, and Tele-a-scorers, to aid the bowlers in keeping track of their scores without bothering the person who is marking their strikes down.

Lanes Open Lane manager Henry Koewers announced Monday that the lanes are now open and a special feature is being offered during the month of August. If you bow two games, the third game is free. The alleys are open every day at noon. Students rates will also be in effect. Koewers also announced that the men's and women's bowling leagues will start their tough competition, the first week in September.

CLOSED During the month of August, Stevens Plumbing & Heating on East Main St. will be closed on Saturday afternoons only. p16



Earthquake Earns Him Service Medal (continued) Medals and citations are nothing new for Dennis Brenk, who has earned more than his share during his extensive and varied military career. After completing high school, Sgt. Brenk, a native of Frazee, Minnesota, entered the U.S. Navy and then decided to make the military service a permanent occupation. He finished his tour of duty as a sailor and enlisted again, first in the Army Air Corps, and then in the U. S. Air Force, with which he is presently serving. He has since graduated from various Air Force schools—always with honors—and during the Korean War he received several citations for his meritorious achievements. When a severe earthquake struck Libya last February, Sgt. Brenk was assigned to the 38-bed Air Transportable Infirmary Element of the 772nd USAF Hospital there. At that time, according to a citation which accompanies his latest medal, he "unselfishly and without regard to personal comfort and under extremely adverse conditions assisted in relieving the survivors."

## Showboat Echoes

Reginald Vorhees of Chicago completed his 24th season of "producing" the Lowell Showboat this year.

C. H. Runelman reminisced about the early Showboats the other day and told how Norm Borgerson called him down to a meeting at Look's Drugstore (now the "House of Townsends") one cold February night in 1932.

C. H. Runelman worked with a procession of 29 endmen during his tenure as interlocutor of the Showboat.

boat, was stapled to pre-cut cardboard patterns which were in turn rapidly mounted in place. Bill Christiansen, Jr., was the handyman who cut out the patterns for the boat's intricate wave and sunburst design.

The Showboat professionals appeared at the Fremont Fair the week-end before the Robert E. Lee sailed. The Chamber of Commerce in the baby-food capital of the world sponsored the event, and no admission was charged to view the acts.

The members of the chorus have presented director Bruce Walter with a rotisserie oven to commemorate his fourth year at the musical helm. Bruce and his wife, Anita, left Sunday morning after the show closed for a rest-and-recuperation vacation in the Traverse City area.

Wendy Christoff, whose Aquanaut ski group garnered a lot of publicity for the Showboat this year, also did his share to make the professional entertainers feel welcome in Lowell, Friday afternoon he took the Lenore Sutton Dancers and the Ivy Five out on the Flat River for a water-skiing session.

Some of the acts seem a little familiar? Max and Cherie were at the Ionia Free Fair last year, and C. Dink Freeman headed up the east of the 1962 Cheasaning Showboat.

Vic Skaggs, production manager of the "Steve Allen Show," has expressed an interest in bringing "The Big Fern" to Lowell for next year's show—if "details" can be worked out.

As keepers of the historical flame, we would like to clear up some misinformation in last Sunday's Grand Rapids Press. Theron Richmond was Showboat President for four years—and not just two like the Press stated. During his tenure as "big gun," entertainers like Bob Crosby and Herb Shriver appeared on the Showboat stage, and some of the biggest grosses in the minstrel show's history were realized. Theron also spearheaded many of the Showboat's community projects during this time, including the purchase of a \$6,000 plot of land for Attwood Brass, a donation of \$6,000 to the American Legion for its community building project, the riverbank improvement, and the construction of the \$1,500 boat ramp. Theron served on the board of directors for 22 years, six of which were as secretary. That's a lot of cigar ashes!

We don't vouch for the truth of this one, but word is going around town that the crew from West Michigan Sound Co. brought their own water supply when they came to work the show this year. Rumor has it that Lowell's "tasty" water was making them sick. And the best part of the story is that they were selling their water to thirsty passers-by at only a nickel a glass!

It was drummer Stan Fleck—and not Dan Kovats, as we announced a couple of weeks ago—who led the on-stage band this year. Kovats did the band arrangements.

We heard lots of comments about the beautiful decorations on the boat this year. Harold Ball and his committee can be "blamed" for this. The group devised a new way to putting the frosting on the Robert E. Lee—the tin foil, instead of being stapled directly to the

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Alto Community News

Service men
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Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Dabbert
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Dabbert

STIFF LIP

by Cary's
Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hoffman

Star Corners

Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hoffman

Standings For Y.M.C.A. Activities

Table with columns: League, Wins, Losses, Ties. Includes Industrial League, Church League, and American League.

Lowell Community News

Dr. and Mrs. Norman Borgerson
Mrs. Fern Butler of Grand Rapids

FLAMING YOUTH?



Home Economics Digest

Cool As a Cucumber
Do you find it difficult to keep a cool head...

South Lowell

Remember the Street School
Mrs. George W. Quinn

LAY AWAY NOW!
Car Coats from \$1799
SIZES: 8 to 20
The Delmarie SHOP
Where something new has been added!

Echoes-Continued
All of the professional entertainers
that are appearing at the Casino Hotel...

Foreman Road
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Zindel
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Holmes

South Boston
Mrs. Belle Young
Mrs. Jean Harter received her
wedding presents...

Star Corners
Mrs. Ira Blough
Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Hoffman

Standings For Y.M.C.A. Activities
Industrial League
Church League
American League

Lowell Community News
Dr. and Mrs. Norman Borgerson
Mrs. Fern Butler of Grand Rapids

FLAMING YOUTH?
Do you find it difficult to keep a cool head...

Home Economics Digest
Cool As a Cucumber
Do you find it difficult to keep a cool head...

South Lowell
Remember the Street School
Mrs. George W. Quinn

Home Economics Digest (Continued)
Watch Ledger Want Ad for 'top grade' buys every week.

Star Corners
Mrs. Ira Blough

Standings For Y.M.C.A. Activities
Industrial League

FLAMING YOUTH?

South Lowell
Remember the Street School

Delmarie SHOP
Where something new has been added!

You Get Service When You Bank Here
FARMERS STATE BANK

AMERICAN LEGION BOWLING LANES
NOW OPEN 12 NOON EVERY DAY

THE SECRETARY, TOO, Must Renew License
Getting ready to go on a motor trip vacation?

Enjoy an A&W ROOT BEER AFTER THE Ionia Fair

FREELER SALE AT THORNAPPLE TV & APPLIANCE CENTER
2840 Thornapple River Drive - In Cascade

ALTO PHONE
Clarksville Phone OW 8-351

MIDSUMMER... SALE

AMERICAN LEGION BOWLING LANES
NOW OPEN 12 NOON EVERY DAY

POPULAR SOLID COLOR BLANKETS
Specially Priced Single Blanket

Hotpoint CHEST FREEZER
16 Cubic Ft. Space-Saving Cabinet With 547-Lb. Capacity
\$199.95

Ionia Fair August 5-10
Thrill to 'Zacchini' The Human Missile

THE SECRETARY, TOO, Must Renew License
Getting ready to go on a motor trip vacation?

AMERICAN LEGION BOWLING LANES
NOW OPEN 12 NOON EVERY DAY

POPULAR SOLID COLOR BLANKETS
Specially Priced Single Blanket

Hotpoint GUARANTEE OF SATISFACTION
If you are not completely satisfied...

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Specially Priced Single Blanket



NO REPENTANCE NO FORGIVENESS NO SALVATION

The Bible makes it very plain that all men are sinners. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Church membership without repentance for sin and without faith in Jesus Christ is sacrilegious, for without this there is no salvation.

CALVARY CHAPEL (Christian Reformed) — On West Main Street

BIRTHS

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Seese are the proud parents of a daughter, Roxann Marie, born on July 23, at Butterworth Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ford are announcing the birth of a son, Tommy Joe, born July 14 in Blodgett Hospital.

A son, Peter John Fines, was born July 28, 1963 at Ionia Hospital, Mr. and Mrs. Hayes Fines are the proud parents.

Reunions

A reunion was held for the Lowell High School class of 1950 and their families Sunday, July 28 at Fallisburg Park.

Words cannot express my deep appreciation to my relatives and friends for the calls, cards, letters and gifts sent me while in the hospital.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to all our relatives, neighbors and friends, Drs. McKay and Gerard, Mrs. Olin, those who were pallbearers, and the ladies of the Baptist Church for their help, prayers and many acts of kindness.

coming events

The annual meeting of The Alton Cemetery Association, will be held Tuesday evening August 6, at 8 p. m., at the Alton church.

The Lila group will meet with Mrs. Burras, Thursday, August 1, at 1:30.

Joseph Wilson Womens Relief Corp Supper meeting, August 7 6:30 American Legion Club room. Executive board members urged to be present.

Showboat Ideas

Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Oehrli of Hersey, Mich., write: "We attended the Lowell Showboat Wednesday evening. We enjoyed our first visit there, but do think 99 per cent of the people feel as we do—you could do without the several 'raw' jokes. The show could be a little shorter, too."



Army Pfc Daniel E. Huver of Lowell, departed from Fort Riley, Kansas, July 18, with other members of the 1st Division's 2d Battle Group, 8th Infantry, for duty in Germany as part of Exercise LONG THRUST VIII.

The six-month tour is designed to test the capabilities for reinforcing NATO defenses in Europe. Huver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin J. Huver, of Route 2, Lowell, entered the Army in September 1957, completed basic training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and is an automatic rifleman in the battle group's Company E.

Molly Bee To Sing At Ionia Free Fair

Molly Bee, appearing for the first time at the Ionia Free Fair, August 8 to 10, is a veteran of show business although the pretty singer is only in her early twenties.

Brownies To Be Invested August 6

The Brownie Scout Troop No. 407 have completed their plans for an August 6 Investiture of new Brownies, to be held at Fallisburg Park.

The following girls have turned in their Consent Slips and have also paid their one dollar National Registration fee and are now eligible to be Invested: Shawn Lee Ayres, Tina Marie Des Jarden, Robin Faith Heck, Carol Link, Karen Pribe, Sheryl Olson, Ruth Ann Stahl, Lisa Elaine Sutton, Kyle Ann Wiecezorek, Kay Marie Willemson, and Linda Mae Willemson.

The parents of the Brownies are asked to see that their girls are at the Legion Big Wheel at 1 p. m. on Tuesday, August 6, so they can be transported out to Fallisburg Park.

Marilyn Brown Exchanges Vows With Roger Urbanski

Marilyn Brown and Roger Urbanski were united in marriage on Saturday, July 27, at 4 p. m. in Grand Rapids.

Card of Thanks

I would like to thank my relatives and friends for remembering me with visits, gifts, flowers and plants while I was a patient at Butterworth Hospital.



The wife who can read her husband like a book is usually a critic.

Rittenger Insurance Service

212 E. Main St., Lowell Ph. TW 7-9269

RAVENNA LIVESTOCK SALES

Table listing livestock prices: Veal up to \$36.00 cwt, Beef Steers and Heifers up to \$24.00 cwt, Beef Cows up to \$17.40 cwt, Beef Bulls up to \$19.30 cwt, Feeder Cattle from \$18.75 to \$24.50 cwt, Lambs up to \$16.75 cwt, Hogs up to \$20.30 cwt, Sows up to \$17.50 cwt, Boars up to \$12.10 cwt, Feeder Pigs from \$7.75 to \$12.00 each

The sale has the largest number of buyers paying the highest market prices for your livestock. Valuable Free Gift given away at 9:00 o'clock every Monday night. Must be present to win.

RAVENNA LIVESTOCK SALES

George Wright Auctioneer RAVENNA, MICHIGAN J. Paul Herman Manager

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Table listing meat prices: BEEF CHUCK ROAST lb. 59c, PORK STEAK lb. 53c, PORK ROAST lb. 39c, BEEF RIBS lb. 39c

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