

Home Improvement  
Lawn & Garden Supplement  
Inside!

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 13, Issue 25

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, May 3, 1989



Along Main Street

## LAAC TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now being accepted by the Lowell Area Arts Council for the Louise Harper Memorial Fine Arts Scholarship.

This \$250 grant will be awarded to one applicant for the study of the fine arts in college, university, or institute of higher education. The fine arts would include such areas as visual arts, theatre arts, music, dance, creative writing, or arts administration.

Applications can be picked up at the Arts Council Center at 149 S. Hudson or the Student Services Center at Lowell High School. Completed applications should be received by either the Student Services Center at LHS or the Arts Council by May 15.

Those with queries can call the LAAC between 12 and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 897-8545.

## LAAC ANNOUNCES CLOSINGS FOR RENOVATIONS

The Lowell Area Arts Council wishes to announce that its gallery is closed until May 14 for renovations.

The gallery will re-open Sunday, May 14 with an exhibit by Middle and High School arts students from Saranac Community Schools.

The office remains open Monday thru Friday from 1-5 p.m.

## LAAC EXTENDS WORKSHOP

The Lowell Area Arts Council Center plans an additional life drawing workshop for area artists.

The workshop offers the opportunity to sketch or paint from professional models and character models in a studio-like setting.

This added session begins Monday, May 8 and runs for 8 weeks. Sessions are 7-10 p.m. and the fee is \$32 for LAAC members and \$36 for non-members.

For further information phone the center at 897-8545 Monday thru Friday, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sessions are limited to twelve participants.

## SENIOR ALL NIGHTER PLANNED FOR MAY 26

Seniors get ready to raise anchor and set sail for an evening filled with fun, food, and fantastic prizes!

It's time for the Class of '89 to share an evening of good times on Friday, May 26. All Seniors are invited and will receive invitations around the third week of May.

If you haven't made your reservation you may do so by contacting Terri Smith at 897-9666.

Any parent interested in helping with final plans may call the number listed above. Join the fun in wishing your senior a fond "Bon Voyage!"

## CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET FOR A CLOTHING DRIVE

Lee Ann McCormick and Cathy Pasquale, two teenagers from Lowell, are organizing a clothing drive for the needy.

Collection date will be Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Old DPW Garage located at Lafayette and Avery Streets.

The girls plan to contact churches, and the YMCA to find out what families or individuals might be in need of clothing and it will be distributed locally.

Any questions contact the Lowell Police Dept. at 897-7123 or Lee Ann at 897-6230 or Cathy at 897-5044.

## WOMAN'S CLUB TO RAFFLE SAMPLER QUILT

The Lowell Woman's Club is holding a raffle for a Sampler Quilt, hand quilted by members of the club.

The quilt will be on display at FMB State Savings Bank through April, then at Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe, Stitchin' Pretty, Food City and Family Fare at various times after that.

Tickets for the raffle are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and are available through any member or can be purchased from Marge Harding at FMB State Savings Bank.

Drawing will be May 10 at the Spring Luncheon of the Woman's Club.

## YMCA STILL HAS OPENINGS FOR ADULT SOFTBALL

The Lowell YMCA still has openings for the Adult Softball Teams.

Stop in or call the YMCA at 897-8445. League play starts May 5.

Cont'd. pg. 24

## Serious injury avoided

Three minor injuries were incurred in bus accident



Children sat in the brush on the side of the road while Lowell Medical personnel checked for injuries.

Roughly 20 Ada Christian students avoided serious harm when the bus they were riding in collided with a vehicle and then tipped over onto its side on the east side of Alden Nash near 40th Street, south of Lowell, on Friday, April 28 at 3:45 p.m.

According to the Kent County Sheriff's Department Deputy Tom Hillen the bus was northbound on Alden Nash when a vehicle driven by David Everitt, 24, of Lowell pulled out to pass the bus. Bus driver, Ruth Haan, Lowell, noticed geese on the east shoulder of the road and moved left of the center line to avoid the geese. She didn't notice the Everitt vehicle. Everitt then lost control of his car and the two vehicles collided with the bus going onto its side and Everitt's car rolling before coming to a stop.

Minor injuries were incurred by three children - Heidi and Heather Haan (daughters of the bus driver), 7 and 10-years old

respectively and Chris Neiderhood, 10, of Lowell, according to the police report.

All three children were transported to Blodgett Hospital by Lowell Ambulance and then treated and released.

Ada Christian School Principal Walter Van Meeteren said the school felt fortunate that no serious harm was incurred by anyone.

"Officials I talked to at the scene of the accident said they were impressed by Haan's ability to get all 20 children safely off the bus following the accident," Van Meeteren said. "The children (except for those with minor injuries) were then transported home by vans or in some cases parents picked their child up at the scene of the accident."

He added that the bus was a 1973 International and from early assessing did not think it could be road worthy again.

To replace the backup bus with a used bus would cost the school



Lowell Medical personnel wrapped Ada Christian children in blankets and gave them comfort following a harrowing bus accident.



There were roughly 20 Ada Christian students on the bus that tipped over in an accident on Alden Nash at 3:45 p.m. Friday.

between \$12-20,000. A new bus would run between \$39-\$47,000.

"However, all that is speculation until the school has an insurance adjuster assess the damages," Van Meeteren says.

The 12-year principal of a school that was originally opened in 1951 said that the Forest Hills School District provides Ada Christian with most of its transportation.

He added that it might be necessary upon occasion to contact another school district down the road for the use of a bus to help finish out the school year.



Three children incurred minor injuries in Friday's accident. School officials felt fortunate that was the extent of injuries. The three students were treated at Blodgett Hospital and released.

COUSINS' CARD & GIFT SHOPPE - New spring selections are in. Open Sunday 12-3. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10-6; and Wed. 10-8.

LITE & LISTEN SOUND - Music for all occasions. Make your reception or party a time to remember. Call Jerry and Alicia Despres at 897-4336.

GARY'S COUNTRY MEATS - For fresh meat cuts, cold cuts and cheese visit Lowell's exclusive meat market at 205 E. Main. Call 897-7306.

LUCCHESI'S SPAGHETTI HOUSE - Serving spaghetti, pizza, submarines, mexican food and lasagna. Open Tues.-Thurs. 4-11 p.m.; Frid. & Sat. 4 until midnight; and Sun. 4-11 p.m.

MCGEE HOMESTEAD - Bed and breakfast, 2534 Alden Nash N.E., Lowell. 897-8142.

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

ICEMAN'S OUTLET - Liquor, beer and wine. 12-pk coke \$2.99. 12-pk Old Style cans \$3.85 plus deposit. Open until 12 p.m. Sun. til 6 p.m.

# Obituaries

**ALBERTS** - Gordon M. Alberts, aged 54, of Ada, died suddenly Sunday, April 23, 1989 at his home. Surviving are his mother, Mrs. Ellen Alberts of Ada; sister, Mrs. Ron (Jacqueline) Rittersdorf of Ada; special friend, Sharon Fiebig; three nieces. Mass of Christian Burial was offered Friday at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Parnell, with the Rev. Julian Reginato as Celebrant. Interment in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

**HILL** - Mrs. Marie Hill, aged 72, of Ada, passed away Wednesday, April 26, 1989. Surviving are her husband, Sam; her children, Judy and David Wexman of Rio Rancho, NM, David Hill of Ada, Jon and Florence Hill of Belmont, Joel Hill of Ada, Dennis and Lynda Hill of Grand Rapids, Dean and Bridget Hill of Novi; six grandchildren; three brothers and three sisters; several nieces and nephews. The Funeral Mass was offered Friday at St. Roberts of Westminster Church, Interment Chapel Hill Cemetery.

**PIAFF** - Carl I. Piaff, aged 59, of Belding, passed away April 26, 1989. He is survived by his wife, Helen (Peg); children, Mrs. John (Carla) Greenop of Belding, Timothy and JoAnn Piaff of Grand Rapids, Tammy Piaff at home; special friends,

Chris and Bonnie Zahm, Michael Smith, all of Belding; brothers, William (Edna) Piaff of Wisconsin, Richard (Linda) Piaff of Utah; sister, Mrs. Jack (Victoria) Lewis of Wyoming, MI; also seven grandchildren. Mr. Piaff was preceded in death by his son James Piaff in 1983. Funeral Services were held Saturday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Pastor G. Kenneth Martin of Belding Community Baptist Church officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery.

**ROBERTS** - Mrs. Pearl C. Roberts, aged 66, of Lowell, passed away April 30, 1989. She is survived by her husband, George; daughters, Mrs. Ronald (Janice) Dean, Hastings, Mrs. Paul (Carole Ann) Wedell, Rapid River, MI; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral Service will be held today (Wednesday) at 1 p.m., at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Rev. Keith McIver officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery.

**SMITH** - Jack L. Smith Jr., of Ft. Benning, GA, aged 33, passed away at Ft. Irwin, CA. He was born in Grand Rapids Feb. 18, 1956. He attended Forest Hills High School in 1975 and married Linda Northrup in 1979 in Lowell. Besides his wife

he is survived by a daughter, Katharine at home; parents, Jack and Carol Smith of Ada; grandmother, Ferne Smith of Grant; grandfather, Nathan Smith of Luther; four brothers, Thomas, James and Dennis all of Grant and Mark of Grand Rapids; one sister, Sandi Smith of Grant; several nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles. Funeral Services will be held Wednesday (today) at the Lake Funeral Home, Saranac with Rev. James Frank officiating. Interment Fallasburg Cemetery, Lowell.

**THOMAS** - John R. Thomas, aged 89, former longtime resident of Lowell, passed away in Grand Haven, Michigan on April

30, 1989. He was born April 8, 1900 at Pierson, Michigan and was married to Marie Bibbler of Lowell. He was a tool and die supervisor at General Motors until his retirement. He is survived by his wife, Marie, presently residing at 400 Friant Street, Grand Haven; two daughters, Mrs. William (Dorothy) Ilvento of Lancaster, PA, and Mrs. Richard (Shirley) Robinson of Grand Haven; nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; one brother, Harry of Flint. He was preceded in death by 12 brothers and sisters. Arrangements were made by VanZantwick Bartels and Kammeraad Funeral Home of Grand Haven.

## City Council notes:

The Lowell City Council voted to spend an estimated \$6,200 on a traffic management plan for M-21. Monday's decision came as a conclusion to various studies conducted by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan State Police. The independent study would identify growth patterns, property usage, traffic counts and many other considerations in an attempt to solve traffic, parking and intersection problems along the busy thoroughfare.

The decision came as a result of a meeting held April 25 regarding traffic speeds, a possible signal light and other related problems along M-21. Those in attendance included Mike Jones of the MDOT, Sgt. Roger Klinge of the State Police, Sgt. Bob Borg of the Kent County Sheriff's Department, Lowell Police Chief Barry Emmons, Lowell DPW Director Tony Siciliano, Councilman Charlie Doyle and Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale. One conclusion came out of the meeting. It was recommended to lower the speed along M-21 from Valley Vista to the west city limits from 50 to 45 miles per hour. The council voted on Monday to officially make that change.

Jones discussed traffic signals at length, and highly recommended a traffic management plan for helping determine if, and where, a signal would best be placed. Downtown parking was also addressed, and Jones recommended that parking spaces be moved further back from intersections. Again, such changes would be included in the traffic management plan.

In other council business, a new three year contract with the police department was approved. Major items in the contract called for 4.5% wage increases for the first and second years of the contract. Starting pay was raised from \$15,500 to \$18,000. The maximum banked compensatory time was increased from 56 to 72 hours. Vacation time was raised to three weeks after six years instead of eight, and one day per year after ten years, to a maximum of four weeks. Longevity payments of \$45.00 (presently \$40.00) per year beyond three years service, to a maximum of \$450 (presently \$400). Personal leave days from two to three per year. Two hour pay guarantee for unscheduled work. Mandatory training in pursuit driving, firearms qualification, non-lethal force and lethal force. Cost of living increase in retirement benefits of 2%. And, overtime will be offered by seniority.

The council accepted a proposal for auditing services from Biggs, Hauserman, Thompson and Dickinson. The proposal calls for a maximum charge of \$14,500, up from \$12,000 maximum last year.

Pasquale passed out copies of the 1989-90 budget for council review. The first public hearing on the budget is slated for May 15. The second public hearing will be held on June 6. Pasquale offered few comments, but did note that millage remains at 12.383 in the proposed budget.

The council authorized over \$7,000 taken from the Lee Fund for the purchase of eight player benches and four sets of bleachers for the ball diamonds at Creekside Park.

## Two Lowell Scouts earn Eagle rank



Travis Briggs stands with his parents, Rick and Carol Briggs, following his Eagle Scout presentation.



Clayton Pelon stands with his parents, Lawrence and Carrie Pelon on the night he was honored with the prestigious Eagle Scout award.

Travis H. Briggs and Clayton L. Pelon became Eagle Scouts 18 and 19 from Boy Scout Troop 102 to be recognized with the Eagle Scout rank, the highest scouting achievement.

The ceremony took place in a troop court of honor on Saturday, April 23 at the First United Methodist Church in Lowell.

The Eagle Scout rank is achieved by less than three percent of all Boy Scouts. It requires the scout to earn 21 merit badges and perform a service project that benefits the community and demonstrates the scout's ability in leadership.

Pelon, 15, the son of Lawrence and Carrie Pelon, has earned 35 merit badges. In fulfilling his service project requirement he organized and helped build a fence around the pond area near the Lowell Middle

School so three wheelers and cars couldn't get in and tear up the ground.

He is also involved in 4-H, horse riding and judging and is a member of the high school's cross country team and equestrian club.

Briggs, a sophomore at Lowell High School has been a Boy Scout for five years and was a Cub Scout for four years. He is also a member of the Lowell soccer team. His service project included putting pockets on the books at the Lowell Public Library and making inventory cards for each book. The project took roughly 40 hours to complete.

Briggs will continue in scouts as a junior assistant scout master while Pelon will serve as a senior patrol leader.

## Students earn degrees at CMU

Several local students are among those receiving degrees from Central Michigan University at the commencement ceremonies on May 6 in Mount Pleasant.

Paula M. Doyle will receive a bachelor of applied arts, and Steven Jon Kropf will receive a

bachelor of science in business administration. Both students are from Lowell.

Philip Schneider III of Alto, will receive his master of arts degree and Wayne C. Lawrence of Ada will receive his bachelor of arts degree.

# Coming Events

Notices 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 will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

**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.

**EVERY SECOND TUESDAY** The Lowell Area Fishing Club now meets at the Flat River Snowmobile Clubhouse on Potters Road, just East of Montcalm Ave, at 7:00 p.m. All prospective members or interested individuals are cordially welcome.

**FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:** The Bowne Township Historical Society will hold regular meetings at the Township Hall, 6059 Linfield, Alto, on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. No December or January meetings.

**EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY:** Lowell Woman's Club meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at Schneider Manor at 12:00. Luncheon and program.

**EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY:** Lowell VFW Auxiliary No. 8303 meets at 8:00 p.m. at the VFW Post, 307 W. Main Street, Lowell.

**EVERY THIRD SUNDAY:** The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd. A Potluck is at 12:30 p.m. with business meeting following. New members and guests are welcome.

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

**EVERY 1ST & 3RD THURS.** - Lowell Area Jaycees, meet at the Lowell Congregational Church at 7:00 p.m. New members welcomed. Membership 21-39 years of age. Leadership training through community involvement. Interested, call 897-9152 or 897-6539.

**EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY** - V.F.W. Post 8303 meets at the V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St., Lowell at 8:00 p.m.

**SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH:** The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Board of Education office located in the Middle School, 12685 Foreman Road.

**EVERY MONDAY EVENING:** "Euchre" will be played at the V.F.W. Post 8303 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$1, prizes. Public welcome.

**MONDAYS THRU MAY 15:** Ladies, join us for an interfaith Bible study time. We are studying the Book of James. Please join us at Calvary Christian Reformed Church, 1151 W. Main St., Lowell at 7:30 p.m.

**THURS., MAY 4:** Vergennes Cooperative Club will meet at Schneider Manor at 1 p.m. The speaker will be from "Citizens Against Crime" She will show how to protect yourself on dark streets, in parking lots, etc. Bring your spouses. New people welcome. Members, bring a friend or two. Just give the callers the number so we can plan the food. Ann Booth, sponsor.

**MAY 5 & 6:** Craft Sale and Bake Sale at FMB State Savings Bank Friday and Saturday. Sponsored by Honey Creek Christian Homes.

**MON., MAY 8:** Lowell Showboat Garden Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Bruce Walter's home on Riverside Dr. Co-hostess Bruce Walters and Marie Doyle.

**MON., MAY 8:** Golden Swingers meet at 6 p.m. for potluck supper in the Lowell High School Home Ec Room. Rev. William Amundsen will show slides of Sweden.

**WED., MAY 10:** Snow United Methodist Women will serve a roast beef and pork dinner at

Snow Christian Center, 3189 Snow Avenue beginning at 5:30 p.m. Public invited.

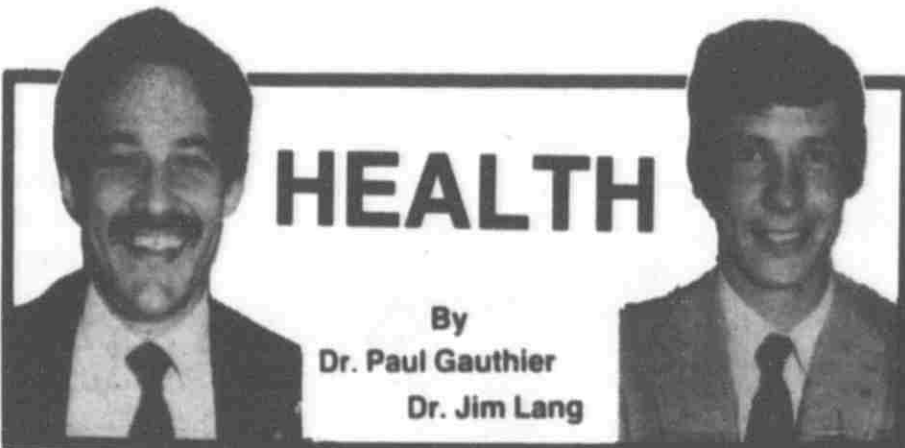
**MON., MAY 15:** Starting 18-hole golf league at Grand Rapids Golf Course, 9 a.m. If interested, please show up.

**MON., MAY 15:** 7 p.m. at Schneider Manor, regular meeting of the West Central Michigan Historical Society. Program by Al VanStyke of Lowell, "How to Build a Buggy Wheel." Visitors welcome. Sponsor, Ida Onan.

**THURS., MAY 18:** Keenagers will meet at Vergennes Methodist Church at 10:00. Henry Tichelaar will show pictures of a Hawaii Holiday. We will have a potluck dinner. Come and bring a friend.

**FRI., MAY 26:** Senior Class All-Nighter. Get ready for a fun-filled evening of mystery, food and prizes. Mark your calendars. Any questions call Terri Smith at 897-9666.

**OCT. 11, 12 & 13:** Mac Island trip for Senior Citizens with a stay at the Grand Hotel for 3 days and 2 nights. Call Mary at 897-7902 for more information.



## CONGESTIVE HEART FAILURE

Congestive heart failure is a very common disorder affecting almost 2.5 million people in the United States alone. Congestive heart failure usually affects older patients with a long standing history of concomitant cardiovascular problems.

The syndrome of congestive heart failure is due to the inability of the heart to effectively function as a pump. Cardiovascular disorders leading to this syndrome include hypertension, heart attack, valvular heart disease and disease of the heart muscle itself. Because of the stress that these disorders place on the heart muscle, over several years, the heart slowly begins to weaken and the chambers enlarge. Cardiac output decreases which means there is less blood flowing to the vital organs. Because of decreased blood flow to the kidneys, fluid is retained which leads to swelling and pulmonary congestion.

Symptoms of congestive heart failure are usually easily recognized. Shortness of breath is one of the principle symptoms and is due to congestion in the lungs. Shortness of breath usually first presents itself during exertion, but as the syndrome progresses, shortness of breath can occur during rest and even while sleeping. Ankle and leg swelling is another common symptom due to excessive fluid accumulation. Other generalized symptoms include palpitations, decreased appetite and generalized weakness.

The diagnosis of congestive heart failure is usually made during an examination which may include a chest x-ray and EKG. Once diagnosed, treatment of congestive heart failure consists of salt restriction and modified physical activity. Drugs are also commonly employed. Digitalis has been used for years and is still one of the most useful medications for treatment of congestive heart failure. It increases the heart's pumping ability. Diuretics are used to decrease fluid retention, which will relieve pulmonary congestions and leg swelling. Several other drugs are used alone or in combination to improve the patient's condition, however, congestive heart failure often progresses and frequently involves hospitalization for intensive management.



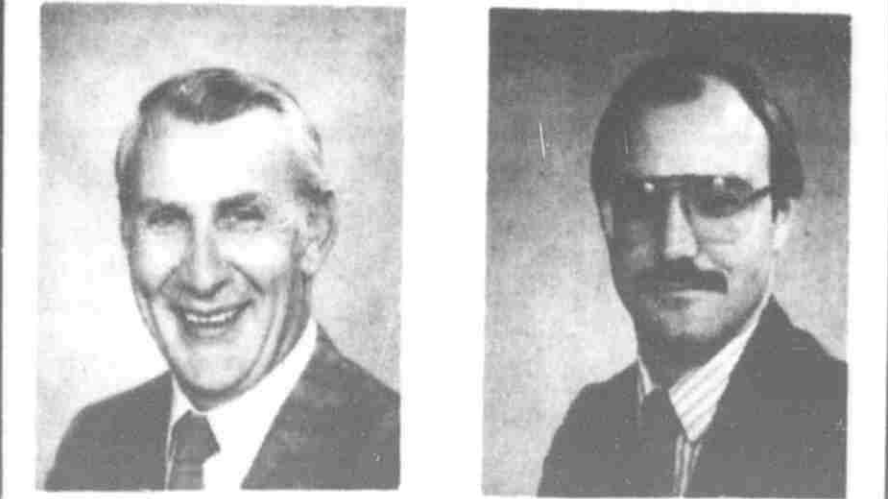
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Gerald Patton

Dale Triplett

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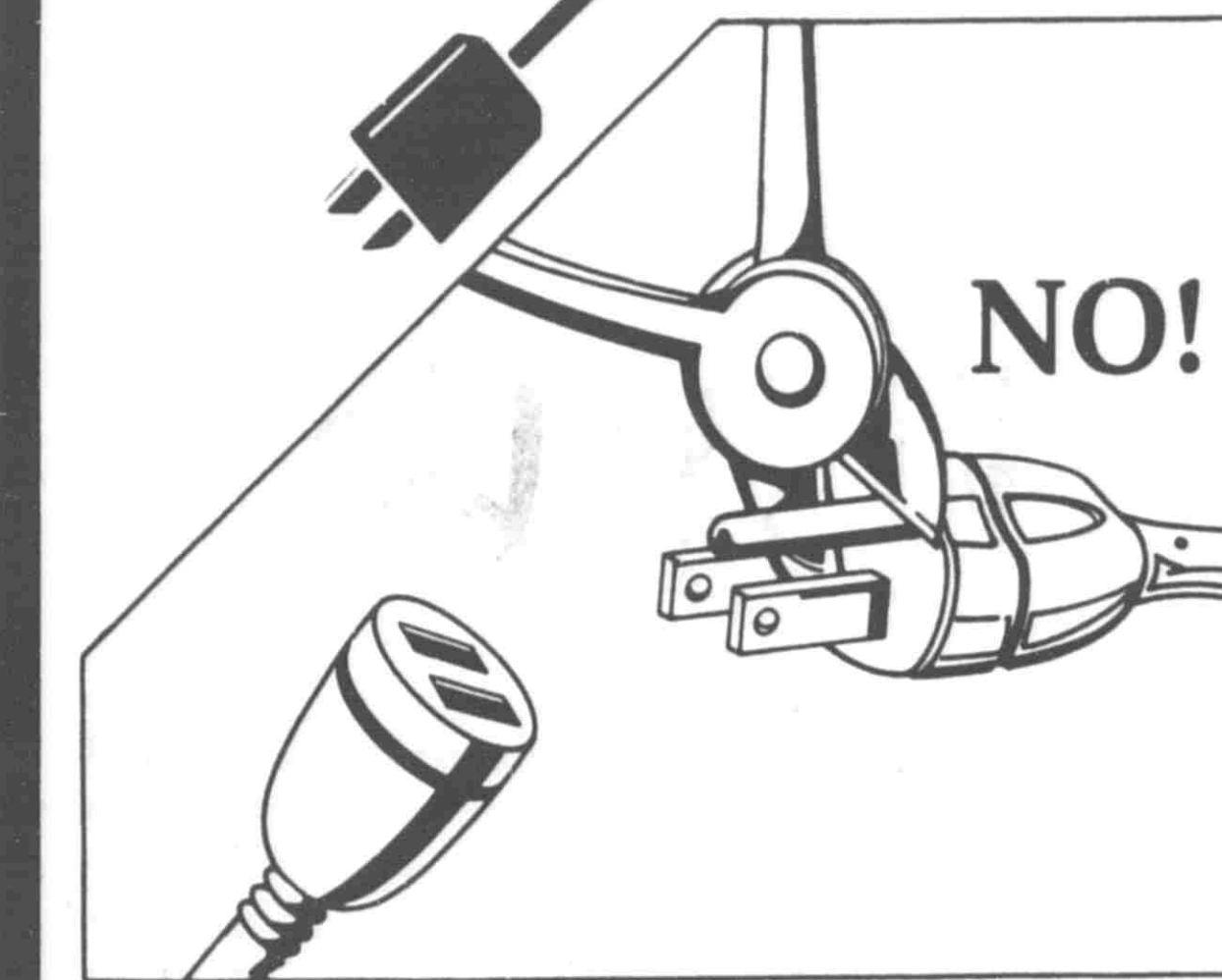
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The banana plant is not a tree. It's an herb. The stalk is made of leaves that overlap each other, like a celery stalk.

# ELECTRICITY. HANDLE WITH CARE



Don't do it! The third prong is there because the appliance must be grounded to avoid electric shock.

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# Introducing

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# INVESTOR'S ACCESS

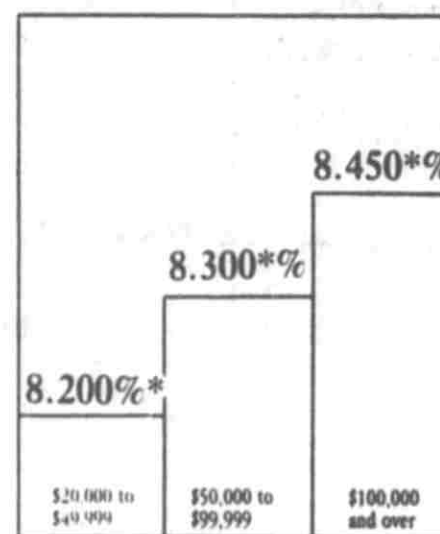
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# Lowell couple plans September wedding



Pamela Sue Durkee & Timothy V. Stepek

Dwayne and Joan Durkee of Alto, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Pamela Sue to Timothy V. Stepek, also of Alto. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lowell High School and Davenport College. The future groom is the son of John and Shirlee Schneider of Lowell and Richard Stepek of Harbor Springs. He is also a graduate of Lowell High School. The wedding will take place on September 23, 1989 at the Bowne Center United Methodist Church.



Joe and Helen Vezino

# Vezinos celebrate 40th anniversary

Joe and Helen (Shepard) Vezino will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on May 7. The Vezino's children are Bob and Bonnie, Joe and Barb, Kevin and Mary, Barry and Pat, Jay and Sarah, Sherri, Jon and Chris, and Kerry. They have ten grandchildren. The family will meet for dinner to honor their parents on this special occasion.

# News of those in the Armed Forces

Army Reserve Private Len T. Slone, son of Marion L. Clemens and stepson of Thomas E. Clemens of Ada, has completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid and Army history and traditions.

Army Reserve 2nd Lt. Brian A. Garrett has completed the Army's adjutant general officer basic course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN.

The course was designed to prepare newly commissioned Adjutant General's Corps officers for their first duty assignment. The training included instruction in leadership, adminis-

# New Arrival

Gordon and Shelly Phillips are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Aubree Jean, on April 17. She weighed 6 lbs. 7 1/2 ozs. and was 19 inches long. Grandparents are Wilma Wolfe of Erlanger, KY and John Wolfe of Rockford and Robert and Florence Phillips of Ada. Great-grandparents are Clarence and Ernestine Wolfe of Lowell and Lucy Burton of Barbourville, KY.

## Homespun Devotions

By Pauline Spray

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart... (Proverbs 3:5).

When I want to bake a special kind of cake for my family, I choose a recipe I am certain will turn out satisfactorily. My grocery budget does not allow for costly failures. I do not throw in a little of this and a little of that, but I stick to a tried and tested formula.

The Lord desires that we, Christians, trust Him as completely as earthly children trust their parents. God created us. We are His responsibility. He is intensely interested in every phase of our welfare.

As long as we remain completely surrendered to His will, our Heavenly Father will supply our needs, guide us, and give us the power to live victoriously. We'll succeed if we "follow the recipe."

Prayer: Dear Lord, Thou art worthy of my confidence. Enable me ever to trust in Thee with all my heart. Let me never lean upon my own understanding lest I fall. Be ever near me. Amen.

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee. Precious Jesus, Saviour, Friend, And I know that Thou art with me. Wilt be with me to the end. Louisa M.R. Stead

# LHS announces May "Students-of-the-Month"

The faculty of Lowell High School recently named the last set of Students-of-the-Month for the academic year. The May selections are seniors Jeff Zillmer and Teresa Fetterhoff, junior Sherene Ward, sophomore Lucien Michel Stoepler, and freshman, Anne Arnold.

Zillmer is the son of Bruce and Carol Zillmer of Lowell. His wide variety of interests have led to a very productive four years of high school for Zillmer. He played varsity football and tennis, was a member of the science olympiad team and the quiz bowl team, took second place in the GVSU calculator contest, and is on the National Honor Society. Outside of school, Zillmer is a member of a bowling league and has worked at Faro's Pizza for over three years. He has won a Regents Scholarship from U of M and will attend there this fall majoring in aerospace engineer-

ing. This summer he will work at Steelcase Corporation. Zillmer's teacher nominator commends him for his academic achievement while taking a very rigorous college prep schedule.

Fetterhoff is the daughter of Roger and Sandy Fetterhoff of Lowell. She works at Lowell Medical Care Center where she was recently selected employee of the month. She enjoys swimming and bowling. Her favorite classes are Spanish and typing. Her teacher nominator says she always has her work done on time and with a great deal of pride. She treats both teachers and classmates with respect.

Ward is the daughter of Ron and Dorothy Ward of Lowell. She has been very involved in athletics during her three years at Lowell, having participated in varsity soccer (earning a letter), softball, and volleyball. She is also involved in international club, Teens Involved, 4-H, and church youth group. She also participates in volunteer work at her church and accompanied a group of church youth to Washington D.C. for two weeks. This summer she will again travel, visiting Mexico and Texas. Her teacher nominator says Sherene is a joy to have in class because she is a hard worker and is extremely attentive in class. She also is willing to help her peers when they need assistance.



Students-of-the-Month for May at Lowell High School are Seniors, Teresa Fetterhoff and Jeff Zillmer, Junior Sherene Ward, Sophomore Lucien Michel Stoepler, and Freshman Anne Arnold.

# Alto School Carnival is Friday

Once again spring is here and it's time for the Alto Elementary School Spring Carnival which will be held on Friday, May 5.

This is an event that is sponsored by the Parents and Teachers Club. The funds raised by this event is used for the children. The Parents and Teachers Club at Alto are working on a three year plan to improve the playground area for the children.

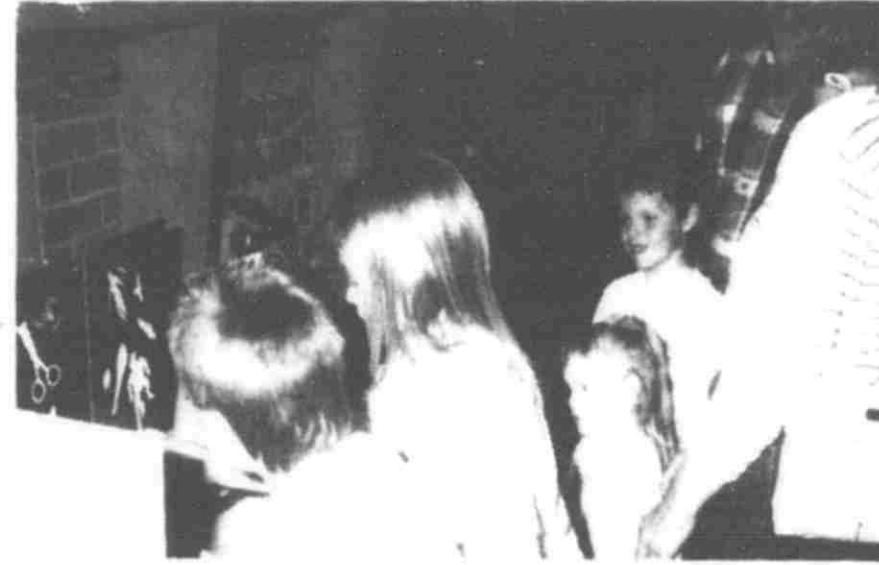
This year the theme chosen for carnival is "Dino-Nite" and the school will be decorated with dinosaurs. There was a poster contest and two winners and two runners-up were chosen from each class to be used in the area businesses to advertise the carnival. Again this year the kids did a great job.

The games at carnival will be open from 6-8:30 p.m. This year instead of the dunk tank there will be a pie throwing booth. It will feature Senator Dick Posthumus and Alto Principal Jim White, along with other Alto celebrities. There will be games for younger kids, as well as for the older kids. Tokens will be given to the game winners and they may be redeemed for prizes in the Prize room.

There will be a large raffle at the carnival and it will run all evening. Raffle time is 6-9 p.m. There are lots of great prizes, like a girl's bike, a boy's bike, a scooter, tickets to Splash Water Park



Students were required to complete projects, such as this camel, at home with help from their families or alone.



Students look over some of the many projects at the Learning Fair at Alto School.

Funland and many more, all donated by area businesses. This year there will be change in the food menu. Featured will be hot dogs, Polish dogs, B.B.Q.'s, and lots of homemade desserts. All at very affordable prices. Dinner will be served from 5-8 p.m. The public is welcome, so come and help celebrate a "Dino-Nite" of fun at Alto School, Friday, May 5 from 5-9 p.m.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY			
<b>ADA CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH</b> 7152 Bradford St. S.E. 676-1698 REV. BRIAN P. BOSSCHER Morning Worship 8:45 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.	<b>ADA COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH</b> 7227 Thomapple River Dr. 676-1032 Pastor THOMAS J. BARTHA Morning Worship 10:00 A.M. Sunday School 11:20 A.M. Evening Worship 6:00 P.M. WE INVITE YOU TO MAKE THIS COMMUNITY CHURCH YOUR CHURCH HOME WELCOME TO ALL	<b>BETHANY BIBLE CHURCH</b> 3900 East Fulton REV. RAYMOND E. BEFUS Morning Worship 9:50 A.M. (Broadcast 10 A.M. WMAX 1470) Sunday School 11:15 A.M. Evening Service 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Service 7:30 P.M.	<b>CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE OF LOWELL</b> 201 North Washington Street REV. RICK UPCHURCH Church School 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening Service 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Mid-Week Service Jr. Teens, Adults 7:00 P.M. Nursery-Come & Worship With Us
<b>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Meeting at the Lowell Middle School (12675 Foreman) Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 A.M. And Children's Activities 10:00 A.M. Midweek Bible Studies and Youth Groups LISTENING AND HELPING 697-6077	<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALTO</b> Corner of 60th Street & Bancroft Avenue Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening Worship 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting 7:00 P.M. GENE SICKLER, PASTOR 868-6403 or 868-6912		<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street Sunday School 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship Services 11:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Awana Wednesday 6:50 P.M. Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 P.M. JOE GERKIN PASTOR 897-0017
<b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road Sunday School 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening Praise 7:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA 7:00 P.M. (Sept - April) Prayer and Bible Study 7:30 P.M. REV. KENNETH R. MCGEE Pastor 897-5648 or 897-4273 YOU ARE WELCOME!	<b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson 897-5906 Worship and Church School 10:00 A.M. Rev. David Hagens Pastor Eleanor Martin Director of Education Marilyn Ossentjuk Director of Music Barrier-Free Nursery Provided	<b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street 897-5936 REGULAR HOURS Morning Worship 9:00 A.M. and 10:45 A.M. Church School 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. REV. WILLIAM AMUNDSEN, MINISTER Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free Entrance	<b>FRIENDSHIP COUNTRY CHAPEL</b> 10200 Grand River Ave Sunday Services 10:30 A.M. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M. BOB ROUSH, PASTOR 897-7489
<b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway Morning Worship 10:00 A.M. Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:00 A.M. JOSEPH FREMER PASTOR 897-8307		<b>MISSIONARY CHURCH</b> 10501 Settlewood Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School 9:45 A.M. Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Evening Service 6:00 P.M. Prayer and Bible Study 7:30 P.M. Wednesdays GLENN H. MARKS Foreman Road 897-9110	<b>ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 402 N. Amity MSGNR. JAMES MORAN Saturday Mass 5:30 P.M. Sunday Mass 9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

Happy Birthday

MAY 4: Jeanne Wallin, John T. Borton.  
 MAY 5: Cricket Sprague, Jeff Johnson, Mary Wright, Kevin Vezino, Kerry Vezino.  
 MAY 6: Hayley Murphy, Iris Clark.  
 MAY 7: Pat Midkiff, Alicia Ehling.  
 MAY 8: Laurie Briggs Linscott, Chuck Dykhuizen, Rhonda Nead, Rhoda Batt, Angie Fickhoff, Keith Murphy.  
 MAY 9: Becky Pawloski.  
 MAY 10: Jim Lindhout, Scott Nagy, Dee Korb, Ronald Moore, Eric Swift, Christopher Sandy, Becky Raymor.

## DINNER DEALS ARE BACK!!!

**MONDAY: Regular Roast Beef Sandwich.....99¢**  
**TUESDAY: Mushroom 'n Swiss Burger.....99¢**  
**WEDNESDAY: Big Deluxe Burger.....99¢**  
**THURSDAY: 1/4 lb. Cheeseburger.....99¢**  
**FRIDAY: Fisherman's Fillet.....99¢**

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**SUNDAY SPECIAL**  
**Hamburgers...49¢ Cheeseburgers...59¢ Cones...29¢**

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# "Children's Love Festival" will fight child abuse



Sheila Carey will be heading up the "Children's Love Festival" June 17 and 18.

When Jack Benny was threatened with, "Your money or your life," he used to hesitatingly reply, "I'm thinking. I'm think-

laughing matter. The choice being referred to is whether to participate in the Children's Love Festival, sponsored by the Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and thus learn and enlighten oneself on how to prevent child abuse and neglect from happening in the future.

"The Children's Love Festival will range from a special activities area for children to workshops for parents. The charge of these workshops will vary from how to teach a child to protect itself from sexual abuse to parents learning not to expect too much from their child and what to expect from their child at various ages," says Sheila Carey, spokesperson for the Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

The children's activity area will be open to children of parents who are attending one of the five workshops. Providing the information and working together at these workshops will be the Kent County Council for Child Abuse and Neglect and the Four-C organization.

The local council got approval from the Lowell City Council to Avery from Washington to Jefferson blocked off so that the Festival Weekend could be held.

Carey said a parade on Friday, June 16 at 6 p.m. will precede the official Festival opening. The Children's Love Festival will then continue through 9 p.m. that evening. It will start back up again on Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m. and run up until 8 p.m.

The Lowell Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect has 10 members. "Officially it is still forming," Carey said. "People interested in joining the Council can contact me at 897-8800. The Council first started formulating plans for the festival in March. "One of the expectations of this Festival is to show parents that there is an alternative to yelling and screaming," she says.

The Festival is still in need of volunteers for Friday and Saturday. "There is also room available for more food and craft booths," Carey explains. The deadline for food booths is May 19 and the deadline for craft booths is May 31. Volunteers interested in helping in the Child's area or with security should call 897-8800.

"There will be a special nursery for infants of parents who want to attend," Carey explains.

She says that the Festival will be used to start a children's fund which will be used for educational workshops and to help fund the YMCA day care center. "In exchange, the daycare center

will act as a dropoff center. It will be a place for parents to take their children when in need of a break," Carey said. "It will act as a prevention method for child abuse and neglect."

Carey, a Lowell resident, graduated from Lowell High school in 1983 and from Chic University (cosmetology school) in 1985. "I had to give up cosmetology because I was allergic to the solutions," Carey said. "The allergic reactions were painful."

The statistics on child abuse in Michigan are both painful and alarming. Over the past 15 years reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in the State of Michigan have skyrocketed over 500 percent, to over 50,000 reported cases last year.

Here are some other important facts people should know about child abuse:

\* Adults who abuse children physically or verbally were usually abused themselves when they were children.

\* Adults who neglect children were usually neglected themselves when they were chil-

dren. \* At least 80 percent of prison inmates were severely abused or neglected during their childhood.

\* Approximately half of all abusive and neglectful parents have children before they reach the age of 20.

\* More children under the age of five die from injuries inflicted by their parents than die from tuberculosis, whooping cough, polio, measles, diabetes, rheumatic fever and appendicitis combined.

"Child abuse is passed on from one generation to the next," emphasizes Carey.

Without education and prevention, countless numbers of abused children will suffer from physical and emotional scars, and many will grow up to be juvenile delinquents, alcoholics, and criminals.

The Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect hopes that when faced with the choice, people will choose education and attend the Children's Love Festival June 16 and 17.

## WOTM makes worthy donations



Lowell's Women of the Moose 1388 recently presented various organizations in the community with monetary donations. Women of the Moose 1388 member Cora Stormzand said the club donated \$1,000 to the YMCA pool project; \$500 to the Lowell Police Department for the drug abuse program; \$500 to the Lowell Athletic Boosters Club; and \$200 toward the LHS all-night senior graduating party. Members of the Women of the Moose 1388 pictured are front, left to right, Hazel Nummer, Connie Roth, Sue Wester, Janet Bovee, Betty Miller, Margie Lowry and Cora Stormzand. Back row, left to right, Phyllis Condon, Joanne Bonneville, Else Lasausky, Carol Ayres, Pat VanDyke, Ellen Mason, Marie Munroe and Emily Zengri.

## Lowell Jaycees recruiting

The Lowell Area Jaycees are recruiting new members and would like to hear from those people who may be interested in joining but don't really know what the Jaycee organization is all about.

Currently the membership includes several area teachers, an accountant, a couple of small business owners and other business professionals, all of whom are dedicated to personal betterment through community im-

provement. The Jaycees are young men and women (21-39) of any race, color, or creed. They are the fastest growing organization in the world serving young men and women; they are a spark to members of their community; and they serve humanity in 90 different countries all over the world, training tomorrow's leaders today. Many people don't know that one of the organization's most important goals is to have fun.

Projects run by the Jaycees include a food booth at the Lowell Showboat in June, a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood Program in July, model building contests for kids, Personal Dynamics Seminars, CPR classes, and Christmas projects for kids and needy families. Come and join to have fun! Come and join to have fun! Come and join to have fun! Call Don Dubink 897-6604 or Mike Cole 897-6567.

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## "Name The Park Contest"

The Lowell City Council and the Lowell Parks and Recreation Commission are sponsoring a "Name the Park Contest".

Person of all ages from the Lowell area are invited to assist in the naming of a new park. The park is located at the gravel pit on Bows Road east of the Water Treatment Plant.

The name for the park can be based on various criteria, including but not limited to the following suggestions: historical, commemorative, community character or natural character. Any name that would be appropriate for a park can be entered. A brief optional explanation of the entered name would be helpful.

The contest begins May 1, 1989 and ends June 1, 1989. Entries must be marked "NAME THE PARK CONTEST" and be submitted at City Hall during regular business hours. The date will be stamped when received. Entries will be opened for judging by the Parks Commission after the contest closes.

The winning entrant will receive a framed letter of recognition from the Mayor and will have Dedication Ceremony privileges.

Everyone is invited to participate in this contest to name the new park and to see the land change from a gravel pit to a park, that all of the community can enjoy in the coming years.

### "NAME THE PARK CONTEST ENTRY FORM"

Suggested Park Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Explanation (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contest rules are available at City Hall. Additional entries may be submitted on plain paper as long as all of the above information is included.

# LAAC will host poet, Terry Wooten, May 12



Terry Wooten

As a poet, author and storyteller, Terry Wooten has an oral repertoire of five hours. Presented to his audience are stories and poems which come from our long heritage in the oral tradition. Ancient poems from other cultures to the modern poets come alive through Wooten.

Michigan folklore, oral histories, American classics, Indian and Chinese translations, Old English and children's poems, as well as his own writings are shared with his audience in his unique oral poetry performances.

Wooten was born and raised in rural northern Michigan and had his imagination sparked by nature, trains, ghost towns and folklore. In 1980 he met Michigan poet Max Elison, who taught him the magic of the oral tradition.

Wooten is also the builder and host poet of the Stone Circle, a triple ring of very large boulders forming a natural amphitheater, the center firepit a hypnotic focus. The circular arrangements of boulders and setting was designed to Wooten to capture the atmosphere of ancient cultures

that gathered in family and community groups to exchange stories of everyday life and lore.

At this Stone Circle, located near Traverse City, every Saturday evening from the summer solstice to Labor Day weekend, Wooten is the host to other poets, storytellers and folk musicians who perform to an audience, many nights 150 to 200 strong.

The Stone Circle offers a unique opportunity to people to recapture and enjoy poetry as it was originally intended. Wooten is the author of the following books: Got In An Argument

Over Harmony, The 45th Parallel, Okay and Words Wild Bloom, Spring. He has also been published in several periodicals.

Wooten will be performing at the Lowell Area Arts Council Center, 149 S. Hudson, Lowell after school from 4:15-5:15 on Friday, May 12, with admission being \$2. He will also perform at 8 p.m. with an admission of \$5. Call Dolores Dey or David Davis at 897-8545 for more information and reservations.

## City Council proceedings

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
of the  
CITY COUNCIL  
of the  
CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN

For the Regular Meeting of Monday, April 17, 1989.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Maatman.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the Clerk called the roll.

Present: Councilmembers Doyle, Fonger, Thompson, and Mayor Maatman.  
Absent: Councilmember Hodges.

IT WAS MOVED by Thompson and seconded by Fonger to excuse the absence of Councilmember Hodges.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED by Fonger and seconded by Doyle that the minutes of the April 3, 1989 meeting be approved as written.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED by Thompson, and seconded by Fonger that the Bills and Accounts Payable be allowed and warrants issued.

YEA: Councilmembers Doyle, Fonger, Thompson, and Mayor Maatman.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 1.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOTALS (4-17-89)**

General Fund	\$55,612.94
Major Street Fund	237.50
Sewer Fund	14,978.27
Water Fund	8,841.99
Equipment Fund	972.46
Data Processing Fund	473.83
Lee Fund	4,081.84
Look Fund	15,628.11
Storm Sewer Fund	125.00

**Item No. 1. METROPOLITAN COUNCIL CONCEPT STUDY.** City Manager Pasquale stated that the concept of a Metropolitan Council Concept has been proposed by several Grand Rapids area communities in order to seek cooperation and coordination on municipal services.

David Boehm, City Manager of Grandville made a presentation on the Metropolitan Council Concept to the Council providing an explanation of the proposal. He stated that the entity would have a coordinating and planning function for services that benefit a number of different governmental entities in the Grand Rapids area. By combining area-wide systems under the umbrella of a metropolitan planning and coordinating entity, it is hoped to create a degree of continuity and foresight which at times has been lacking. Mr. Boehm mentioned that this entity will be voluntary, and thus no communities will be forced to belong to it. The Council will be operated through a board appointed by local governments with a number of committees overseeing specific responsibilities. Some functions of the Council may include water/sewer systems, major streets, economic development, libraries, zoos, public museum and emergency medical services. Several questions were asked by Council to Mr. Boehm after his presentation. No further actions were taken.

**Item No. 2. YMCA - PARKS AGREEMENT.** City Manager Pasquale said that the YMCA agreement on the parks has

yet to be resolved, being deferred from the January 3 Council meeting. The agreement has two issues that need to be addressed: fee charges for YMCA sponsored activities in City parks and swimming pool contribution and pool membership. Doug Ybema, the Director of the YMCA was not ready with his information and therefore did not attend.

The consensus of the Council was to table this matter until the YMCA can be represented. Mayor Maatman stated that he still believes City residents should get a break in cost and that a strong letter needs to be written to the YMCA Board members. It should state the agreement must be completed or otherwise the Y can expect to be billed for the maintenance. Councilmember Thompson stated that it is not that the Council doesn't want to complete the park agreement. This is the third year in a row that the City has gone into the summer season with no agreement. Thompson said the YMCA must understand that something needs to be done. Without an agreement, the City subsidized voucher system will not be used. Several Councilmembers would like to see all funds stopped and the YMCA billed for the maintenance of the fields until an agreement is reached.

**Item No. 3. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION PROPOSED PROJECTS.** City Manager Pasquale mentioned that the Parks and Recreation Commission has two project proposals. The first concerns were the construction of a picnic shelter at Creekside Park. The shelter would be 40 ft. by 80 ft. built in the clear-span pole barn style. With picnic tables and grills, the project would cost \$20,000. Monies would come from the Lee Fund and possible service club donations. The structure can also be used as an ice skating rink in the winter months.

The consensus of the Council was to proceed with the picnic shelter project. The Parks and Recreation Commission also wished to initiate "a name the park contest" for the Bows Rd. gravel pit area. From the Commission's recommendation, a name would be forwarded for Council adoption. The Council gave its general endorsement.

**Item No. 4. MONTHLY REPORTS.** With the regular monthly reports was included a monthly ambulance report for the first time.

It was noted by City Manager Pasquale that three Locust trees be taken from downtown for planting at the cemetery. After Council discussion, it was pointed out that the trees would be taken from the side streets.

**Item No. 5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.** City Manager reported the following:

1. The proposed 1989-90 Budget will be presented at the May 1 Council meeting. Two public hearings will be established with tentative adoption set for June 5.
2. Benjamin Pool Service sawcut around the King Memorial Pool starting the project. Public Works employees have removed the concrete and fill. It was noticed that new wiring is needed for the lighting.
3. A special events permit has been granted to the First Congregational Church. The church wants to block off Spring Street next Sunday (April 23) between 10 a.m. and noon for a potluck.
4. The May 1 Council meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

**Item No. 6. CITIZEN SUGGESTIONS.** None.

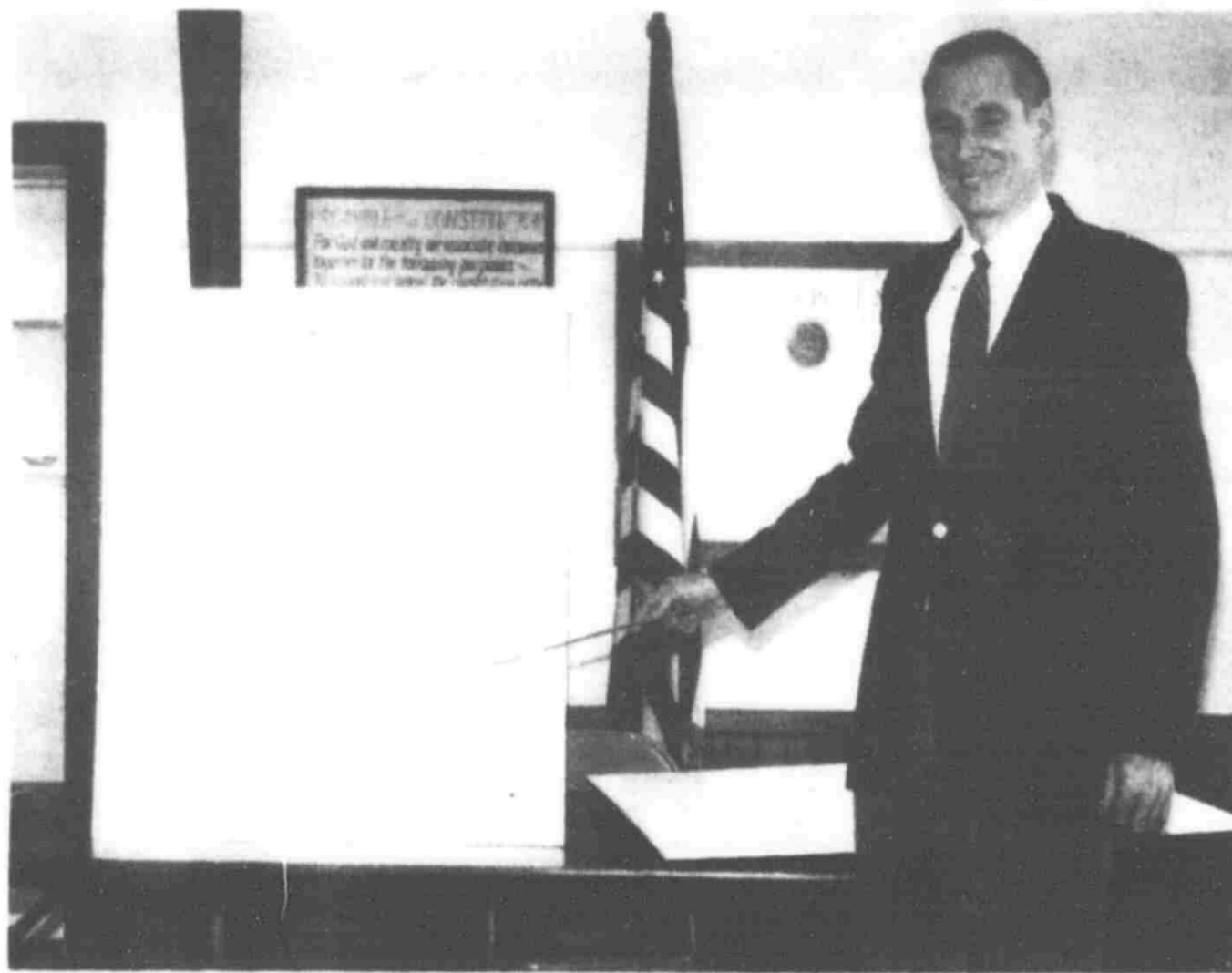
**Item No. 7. COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Fonger questioned the progress of the Water Treatment Plant. City Manager Pasquale reported that the project is progressing slower than had been anticipated. George Regan, Superintendent of the Water Treatment Plant, has estimated that the work will be completed by April 30.

IT WAS MOVED by Doyle to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Approved: May 1, 1989

James D. Maatman, Mayor David M. Pasquale, City Clerk

# MDOT discusses Main St. traffic with merchants



Mike Jones from the Michigan Department of Transportation talked to roughly a dozen local merchants at the Roll Away Lanes Inc., on the transportation and traffic situation in Lowell.

If this were a soap opera they might call it "As the Road Winds." No doubt the struggle for road improvement on M-21, or for a traffic light is a continuing saga for the residents of Lowell and its governing body (Lowell City Council).

On Tuesday, April 18, Mike Jones of the Michigan Department of Transportation spoke to a dozen concerned Lowell merchants at Roll Away Lanes. The get together was organized by the Lowell Chamber of Commerce.

"The number one priority of the Michigan Department of Transportation is to preserve the road system we already have," Jones said. He listed protecting the investment people have already made on the state highway system and concentrating efforts on priority commercial network - system of highways that service the greatest of economic needs in Michigan. In West Michigan that would include

U.S. 131, U.S. 31, Beltline. East of here it includes U.S. 27, M-46, I-96, 196 and 28th Street, according to Jones.

Traffic volumes, accidents, economic vitality of an area and ability of roadway to handle traffic, checkpoints are used in determining the priority list, Jones said.

Note that M-21 was not mentioned. "At the present time there is no plan for widening. How long is hard to predict. That will depend on resources available."

Currently the Michigan Department of Transportation is working with a yearly budget of \$45 million. "Most of our work is rehabilitation. It is thought that the budget may drop to \$20-25 million over the next three years," Jones says.

While residents in Lowell have noticed the increased congestion on M-21, Jones notes that the 16,000 cars per day that travel on M-21 is nearing capacity, it is not the busiest in the area. The two lane portion on the East Beltline has 22-24,000 vehicles traveling over it each day. He also noted that there is not sufficient entering traffic at any one intersection along West Main to warrant a traffic signal using current state guidelines of 140 vehicles per hour over an eight hour period.

Jones' suggestion that the city consider hiring a traffic consultant to do a study along the West end of Lowell so a logical location for a traffic light can be determined. However, at an April 3 meeting the Lowell City Council said "no" to any study. Councilman Bill Thompson said, at the meeting, he was not sure anything would be gained by a traffic study. He suggested that people in the community start calling the Road Commission and writing the Director of Transportation and their senators.

Jones, meanwhile, said the next step taken, seems to be deciding what the best step is. Jones believes that lies within a traffic study. The Lowell City Council believes that the squeaky wheel will get the grease and encourages people to write the road commission, the Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation and their senators.

whether something is gained or not it would give the city a planning tool, so it could plan development, plan connections, and plan service to accommodate future signalization. "It will help the city find out what they have and what they need," he says. "It will help determine the future planning of the city. If it isn't justified now, it will be in the future. Then when the time comes for movement, the spot will have already been identified."

Jones was asked if the gas tax increase is realized would that change the scenario for Lowell any? He said it would provide relief, but wouldn't automatically mean a program for M-21 would be started.

Jim Pfaller of Anderson Shoes asked when does the severity of personal injury accidents outweigh the number of accidents? He added that between Valley Vista and Bowes Road there have been 25 accidents, 13 of which have been personal injury. Jones said there is no easy answer and no correlation from PIs to lights. He said justification for traffic signals involves a variety of things - school pedestrians, number of pedestrians crossing road, vehicle use of major or minor highways.

Jones did say that money for resurfacing and rehabilitation of roads falls under the preserve type project as did the work on I-96 and the East Beltline. "That money is there and is used to keep what we already have."

The next step taken, seems to be deciding what the best step is. Jones believes that lies within a traffic study. The Lowell City Council believes that the squeaky wheel will get the grease and encourages people to write the road commission, the Director of the Michigan Department of Transportation and their senators.

## —Letters to the Editor—

To the Editor:

After careful consideration and much deliberation, we would like to share our thoughts about the A.D.A.D. Kindergarten program with your readers.

1. Commendably, the Lowell School System, during the school year, will survey parents for their observations and reactions to the program.

However, the program is slated for a (2) year pilot program. If the overall reaction is negative there is no immediate plan to return to the old format.

2. The impact on many kindergartners, at least initially, will be stress, fatigue and at the very least emotional adjustment.

Our assurances in face to face contact with Runciman staff, are that provisions for rest and play will be a large part of the school day.

We hope that individually the children will be observed and handled based on daily need.

3. Fiscally, the savings generated by the All Day format have been quoted at \$45,000 to \$90,000 annually. The School Board should provide parents assurances that this money is funneled directly back into the A.D.A.D. Program.

In conclusion, as parents of a kindergarten aged child we are very sensitive to our child's needs and well being. Due to that fact, weighing the issues is much more difficult. To be objective is nearly impossible. However, we fully intend to approach the school year as open-minded as the situation allows.

With that in mind, we pledge to keep the school system fully

appraised of our child's progress during the coming year.

The purpose of this letter is not to criticize, better inform, or re-open the discussion. It is, in fact, more a statement meant for all parents of all school aged children to speak their mind publicly, no matter what the issue. It is your right and obligation to not take it for granted that your opinion doesn't matter. No matter what the outcome, we feel better for "Speaking Our Mind."

Respectfully,  
Bruce & Cindy Boyce

### Students earn college honors

Charles Middaugh, son of Mary Jo Middaugh of Lowell received the Student Employee of the Year Award at the annual Olivet College Honors Convocation, Tuesday, April 25.

The award is presented to an outstanding student employee selected from the twelve monthly award winners from the current academic year.

Middaugh will graduate from Olivet College on May 7, with a bachelor of arts degree in business administration and a minor in music.

Olivet College is a four-year liberal arts college located in south-central Michigan. The college awards the bachelor of arts, bachelor of music and bachelor of music education degrees.

# The Lowell Ledger's . . .

## TV LISTING MAGAZINE

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

Channel	Station	City
3	MTV	Music
4	NASH	Nashville
7 (7)	WSYM	Lansing
8 (8)	WOTV	Grand Rapids
10 (10)	WXMI	Grand Rapids
11 (11)	WGTV	Grand Rapids
12 (12)	WKAR	PBS
13 (13)	WZZM	Grand Rapids
16	HBO	Premium
17	TBS	Atlanta
19	MAX	Premium
21	DISN	Disney
23	USA	Variety
24	FAM	Family
25	WGN	Chicago
26	ESPN	Sports
27	CNN	News
28	CNNHEAD	Headline News
29	NICK	Kids TV
31	PASS	Troy
32 (3)	WWMT	Kalamazoo
33 (4)	WUHQ	Battle Creek
34 (10)	WLX	Lansing
35 (4)	WLNS	Lansing
36	DISC	



CONTAINS LISTINGS FOR FRIDAY, MAY 5, THRU THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1989

VICTORIA TENNANT and Robert Mitchum star as Pamela Tudsbury and Pug Henry, whose affair turns more serious with the passing of time in *War and Remembrance*, this week on ABC. The concluding episodes of Herman Wouk's epic miniseries air Sunday, May 7, through Wednesday, May 10, and Sunday, May 14.



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(Pass is good for the whole family)

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Free Coffee



### TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Please Take Notice that the annual school election of the school district will be held on Monday, June 12, 1989.

THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER WITH THE APPROPRIATE CITY OR TOWNSHIP CLERKS, IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 1989 IS MONDAY, MAY 15, 1989. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING ON MONDAY, MAY 15, 1989, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION.

Persons planning to register with the respective city or township clerks must ascertain the days and hours on which the clerks' offices are open for registration.

This Notice is given by order of the Board of Education of Lowell Area Schools, Kent and Ionia Counties, Michigan.

Jack T. Lane  
Secretary, Board of Education





MONDAY

May 8

MORNING
5:00 Sports Review
5:30 Getting Fit
6:00 [MAX] MOVIE: My Pal Gus
6:00 Bodies in Motion
7:30 [MAX] MOVIE: Sweet Dreams (Stereo) (CC)
8:00 [HBO] MOVIE: Rozanne (Stereo) (CC)
8:30 SportsCenter
9:00 MOVIE: Man from Music Mountain

4:00 Legends of World Class Wrestling
4:30 [HBO] MOVIE: Lost Horizons
5:00 Legends of the Brickyard
5:30 Sunkist K.L.D.S.
7:05 Andy Griffith
7:15 Tigers Today
7:30 Now Hear This
7:30 Crook and Chase
7:30 Kate & Allie
7:30 USA Today
7:30 Cheers
7:30 Young at Heart 1988
7:30 Jeopardy! (CC)
7:30 [HBO] Encyclopedic: The F

MOVIE: Florence Nightingale
MOVIE: Reluctant Astronaut
MOVIE: Care Bears' Adventure in Wonderland
MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

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MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

TUESDAY

May 9

MORNING
5:15 [HBO] MOVIE: Born To Race
5:30 Getting Fit
6:00 [MAX] MOVIE: To Find a Man
6:00 Bodies in Motion
7:30 [MAX] MOVIE: Pat & Mike (CC)
8:30 SportsCenter
9:00 MOVIE: Trigger

4:00 [MAX] MOVIE: The Squeeze (Stereo)
5:00 [HBO] MOVIE: End of the Line
5:30 Legends of the Brickyard
5:30 Inside The PGA Tour
6:00 MOVIE: Brave Little Toaster
6:00 Boardwalk & Baseball's Super Bowl of Sports Trivia

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
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MOVIE: The Untouchables

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

WEDNESDAY

May 10

MORNING
6:00 Getting Fit
6:30 Bodies in Motion
7:00 [MAX] MOVIE: The Gate (Stereo) (CC)
7:30 SportsCenter
8:00 MOVIE: Home on the Prairie

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

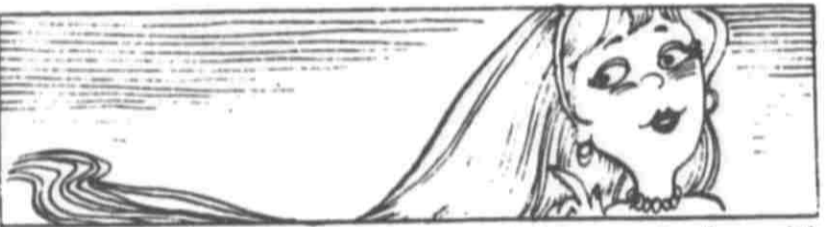
THURSDAY

May 11

MORNING
5:30 Getting Fit
6:00 Bodies in Motion
6:30 [MAX] MOVIE: Nicholas and Alexandra
8:00 [HBO] MOVIE: The Invisible Kid (Stereo) (CC)
8:30 SportsCenter
9:00 MOVIE: Sons of the Pioneers

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
MOVIE: The Power of Choice
MOVIE: The Wind and the Lion
MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables

MOVIE: The Frog Prince
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MOVIE: The Great White Shark
MOVIE: The Last of the Mohicans
MOVIE: The Untouchables



In Copenhagen, Denmark, some brides rent wigs with tresses eight feet long to wear for their weddings.

On average, Salt Lake City, Utah gets 17 inches more snow a year than Fairbanks, Alaska.





# Red Arrow netters fall to East Grand Rapids and Wyoming Park

Lowell's tennis team got a first hand look at two of the top teams in the O-K White this past week. The results were not kind.

Lowell lost to Wyoming Park 5-2 and two days later lost to East Grand Rapids 7-0.

**Wyom. Park 5, Lowell 2**  
The top four singles players for Lowell struggled against the Vikings. Red Arrow coach Terry Abel hopes that while his boys gain experience they don't become discouraged.

"Park was picked to place third in the conference," Abel said. "Our young players are going to have a difficult time with quality teams and players. But we must not get discouraged."

Steve Simkins lost 6-0, 6-2 in his number one singles match to Dave Beutley. Greg Gruizenga, number two singles, lost 6-1, 6-1 to Vikings' Dan Bentley.

Third and fourth singles players for Lowell, Jason White and Matt Shinabarger were defeated 6-4, 6-3 and 6-0, 7-5 respectively.

Red Arrow doubles teams played well, winning two of the three matches. "I'm pleased with the wins by Tim Weststrate and Brad Briggs, Aaron Corcoran and Chad Keech," Abel said.

Weststrate and Briggs won in straight sets 6-0, 6-3. Corcoran and Keech were 6-2, 6-3 victors.

Number one doubles Jeff Zillmer and Erik Kelley lost in straight sets 7-6, 6-2.

EGR 7, Lowell 0

The Pioneers, ranked second in the state in Class B, were simply too good for the Red Arrows.

The best match of the day was



Steve Simkins eyes a forehand return.

experience will help later in the year and next year."

Simkins lost his match 6-1, 6-0. Gruizenga was upended 6-1, 6-2, third singles White fell 6-3, 6-2 and Shinabarger lost the fourth singles match 6-3, 6-4.

"White and Shinabarger are showing continual improvement," Abel said.

In doubles play, Lowell's Zillmer and Kelley lost in a tough three set match, 6-4, 3-6, 2-6.

Weststrate and Briggs defeated their counterparts 6-3, 6-7, 6-1. Corcoran and Dale Richardson followed suit winning in straight sets 6-4, 6-2.

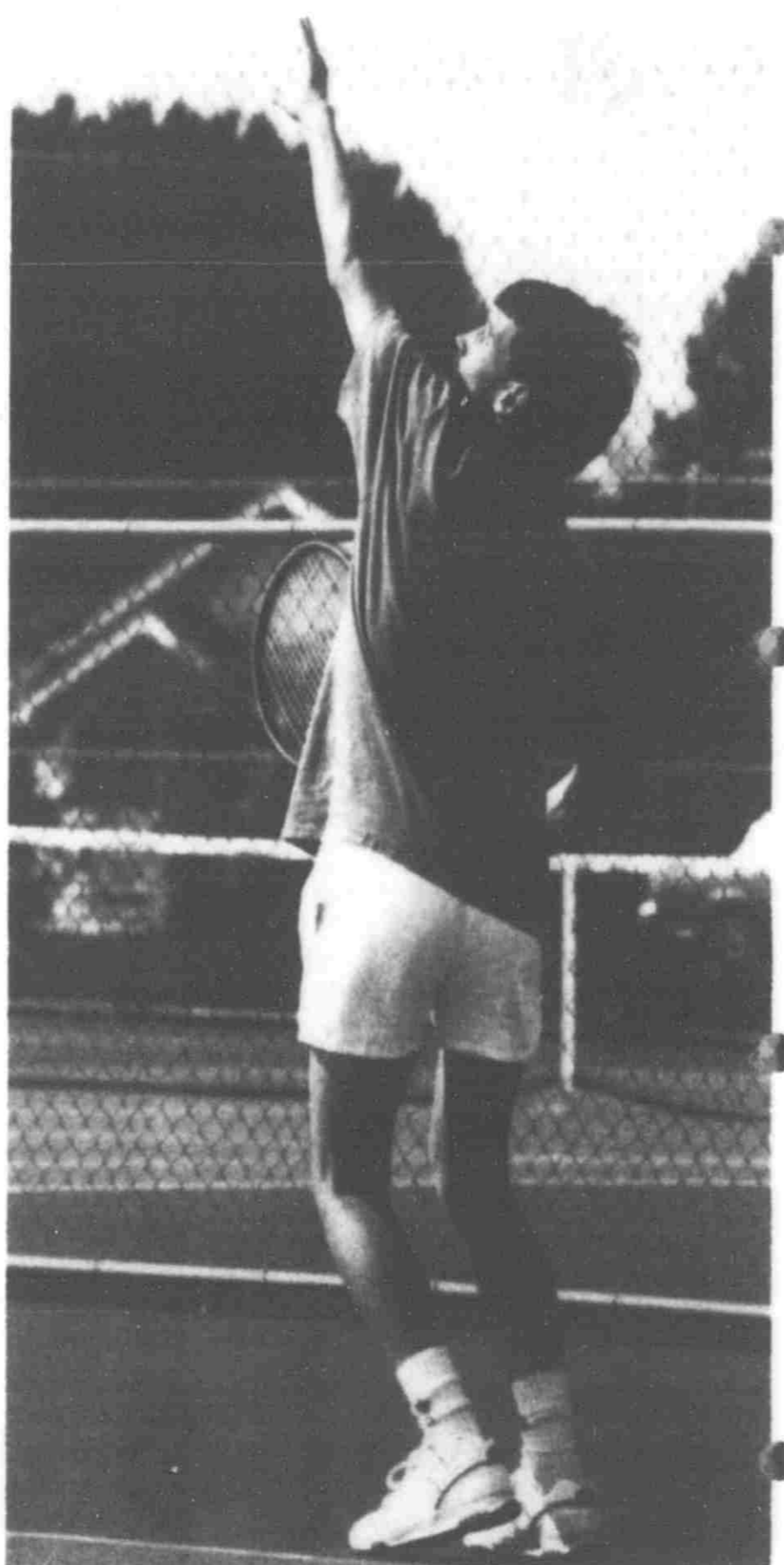
**FH Northern Invitational**  
Lowell played in its first invitational of the year and scored seven points, tying it with Rockford.

"All players are guaranteed three matches and it's a good opportunity to improve their playing skills," Abel commented.

Lowell's coach was pleased with the club's overall play. White continued to play well and scored two points at third singles. Shinabarger played three long matches and scored one point.

Zillmer and Kelley lost their first match in three sets as did Weststrate and Briggs, but both won their final match to score a point apiece.

Corcoran, Keech and Richardson and Werdon also won their last match and scored a point.



Lowell's tennis team found the going tough against the likes of Park and EGR.

between Lowell's Simkins and Pioneer Monte Smith.

Simkins gave Smith all he wanted in the first two games of the match, losing the first 4-6 and then coming back to win the second game 7-5. However, Smith's experience proved to be

too much in the third game as he won going away 6-1.

"Simkins played his best match of the year and almost pulled off a big upset," Abel added.

The three other Arrow singles players were just overwhelmed. White lost 6-0, 6-0. Shinabarger fell 6-1, 6-1 and Paul Garrett was defeated 6-0, 6-0.

Lowell's Corcoran and Keech played very well in a straight set defeat, 7-5, 7-5. "They continue to play well," Abel said.

Zillmer and Kelley were 6-0, 6-0 victims while Weststrate and Briggs were upended 6-1, 6-4. Caledonia 5, Lowell 2

The strength of Caledonia's four singles players proved to be the difference in a match against Lowell.

"Their singles play surprised me," Abel said. "However, it's asking a lot of sophomores to play spots one through four at the varsity level. Hopefully, the

Lowell's Red Arrow baseball team completed its third week of play with three straight wins, improving its record to 4-6.

Included in those three victories were three extras that will serve well for the remainder of the season:

\* Lowell had seven hits or more in each of its three games.

\* Ryan Malcolm, Steve Malone and Mike Gahan combined for three consecutive complete game victories.

\* The third victory was an O-K White Conference opening win.

Put that all together, and Low-

ell coach Kris Kropf and his Red Arrows were feeling pretty good about themselves going into doubleheader action against Rogers.

Lowell 6, Sparta 3  
The Red Arrow traveled to Sparta on Wednesday to open its league schedule play against the Spartans.

Kropf sent Gahan to the mound and the Arrow didn't disappoint his coach or mates. Gahan pitched seven innings, allowed three runs (two earned) on six hits while walking three and striking out eight Spartan batters.

One out later Jerry Goggins came through with a clutch RBI single to left, scoring Mersman Probst, liking what he saw from Goggins, followed with a two-out double, scoring both Goggins and Carpenter.

Red Arrow batters added two insurance runs in the seventh on three hits, a stolen base and a passed ball. The hits included a lead-off triple by Probst and singles by Holtz and Orngank. Holtz's steal of second marked his tenth of the year in as many attempts.

Complementing Gahan's fine pitching were the strong bats of Todd Probst and Kirby Carpenter. Probst had a double, triple, a run scored and two RBIs. Carpenter laced two singles, scored once and plated a run.

The game was scoreless through one inning of play. In the second both clubs pushed across a single run. A one-out double by Craig Mersman followed up by an RBI single by Carpenter gave Lowell a short-lived 1-0 lead. Sparta tied the score with a two-out walk and

back-to-back singles. The score remained tied until the fourth, when Lowell put together a three-run uprising, the third and final run turned out to be the winning run.

"We've started to hit the ball better," Kropf says. "Some of the hits were of the infield variety, but nonetheless we're starting to make contact."

Lowell's three-run fourth started with a Mersman one-out walk. Single off the bat of Carpenter put two Red Arrows on the bases.

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# Lowell's baseball team dumps Sparta and Ionia

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## BOWNE TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE OF HEARING

#### ON AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN BOWNE TOWNSHIP:

TAKE NOTICE that the Township Planning Commission of the Township of Bowne, Kent County, will hold a public hearing to consider amending the zoning ordinance pursuant to Section 14, P.A. 1943, No. 184, as amended.

The proposed amendment deals with Section 11.02 of the Bowne Township Zoning Ordinance and would permit "mixing and packaging of pre-processed meal and flour products" as a permitted use in the "I-1" Light Industrial District.

The tentative text of the zoning ordinance amendment is on file with the Township Clerk for Bowne Township and may be examined at the Township Hall, 6059 Linfield Avenue on Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The public hearing shall be held on:

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1989 at 7:30 P.M.

local time, at the Bowne Township Hall, 6059 Linfield Avenue, Alto, Michigan. All interested persons are invited to attend.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the Township Clerk.

This notice is given by order of the Township Planning Commission of Bowne Township, Michigan.

Sandy Kowalczyk, Township Clerk

C23&25

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<p><b>NATIONAL XT590</b> NATIONAL TIRES</p> <p>AS LOW AS <b>27.95</b> ea.</p>	<p><b>FREE 20-POINT SAFETY CHECK ON ALL SERVICE (\$10.00 VALUE)</b></p> <p>LUBE, OIL &amp; FILTER CHANGE 15 MINUTES!</p> <p><b>12.99*</b></p>	<p>LIFETIME MUFFLER INSTALLED Lifetime Guaranteed Muffler Additional Parts &amp; Labor Extra</p> <p><b>19.99*</b></p>	<p>WYNN'S FUEL INJECTION SERVICE Power Purge Fuel Injectors Wynn's Fuel Injector Cleaner</p> <p><b>39.99*</b></p>
<p>COMPUTERIZED TUNE-UP Brand Name Spark Plugs Set Timing and Carburetor (Where Applicable) Computerized Analysis</p> <p><b>39.99*</b> 4 Cylinder <b>46.99*</b> 6 Cylinder <b>52.99*</b> 8 Cylinder</p>	<p>MONROE SHOCKS INSTALLED 2 Monroe-Matic Plus shocks Lifetime warranty</p> <p><b>39.99*</b></p>	<p>MONROE STRUTS INSTALLED 2 Front Monroe Struts Front end alignment extra</p> <p><b>109.99*</b> Chrysler <b>119.99*</b> Ford <b>129.99*</b> GM</p>	<p><b>SHOP SUPPLIES EXTRA</b></p>

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<p>5MOTO Motor Oil</p> <p><b>1.59</b> Your Choice</p>	<p>HAYNES Repair Manuals</p> <p><b>8.99</b> Most Cars Trucks &amp; Vans</p>	<p>MOTHERS Wheel Mist</p> <p><b>3.99</b> <b>4.99</b></p>	<p>GILA RIVER Jiffy Shade 16" x 16"</p> <p><b>2.99</b></p>	<p>ACTION AUTO Travel Coffee Cup</p> <p>22 oz. <b>79¢</b> Mug <b>1.19</b></p>	<p>US CAR MATS 4 pc. set</p> <p><b>29.99</b> White Supplies Last Assorted Colors</p>	<p>contico Portable Truck Organizer</p> <p><b>12.99</b></p>
<p>GUARDIAN Brake Pads Of Brake Shoes</p> <p><b>5.99</b> Most Cars <b>11.99</b> Semi-Metallic Most Cars</p>	<p>California Turbo Mufflers 2", 2 1/4", 2 1/2"</p> <p><b>6.99</b></p>	<p>Sorensen New Fuel Pumps</p> <p><b>12.99</b> Most Cars</p>	<p>ROBERK Wiper Blades &amp; Refills</p> <p><b>1.99</b> Most Cars</p>	<p><b>GAS SALE</b></p> <p><b>4¢ OFF*</b> on any brand of gasoline.</p> <p>Limit 20 gallons *Offer not valid with other discounts Offer expires 5/13/89</p>	<p><b>Action Auto</b></p> <p>Everything an auto store ought to be</p>	

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HURRY! OFFER EXPIRES 5/13/89

# Lowell thinclads fall to Wildcats & Pioneers

Lowell's boys' track team ran up against two of the stronger teams in the O-K White Conference. In East Grand Rapids, Lowell faced a club that has a strong athlete for each event. In Northview Lowell faced a club that has many



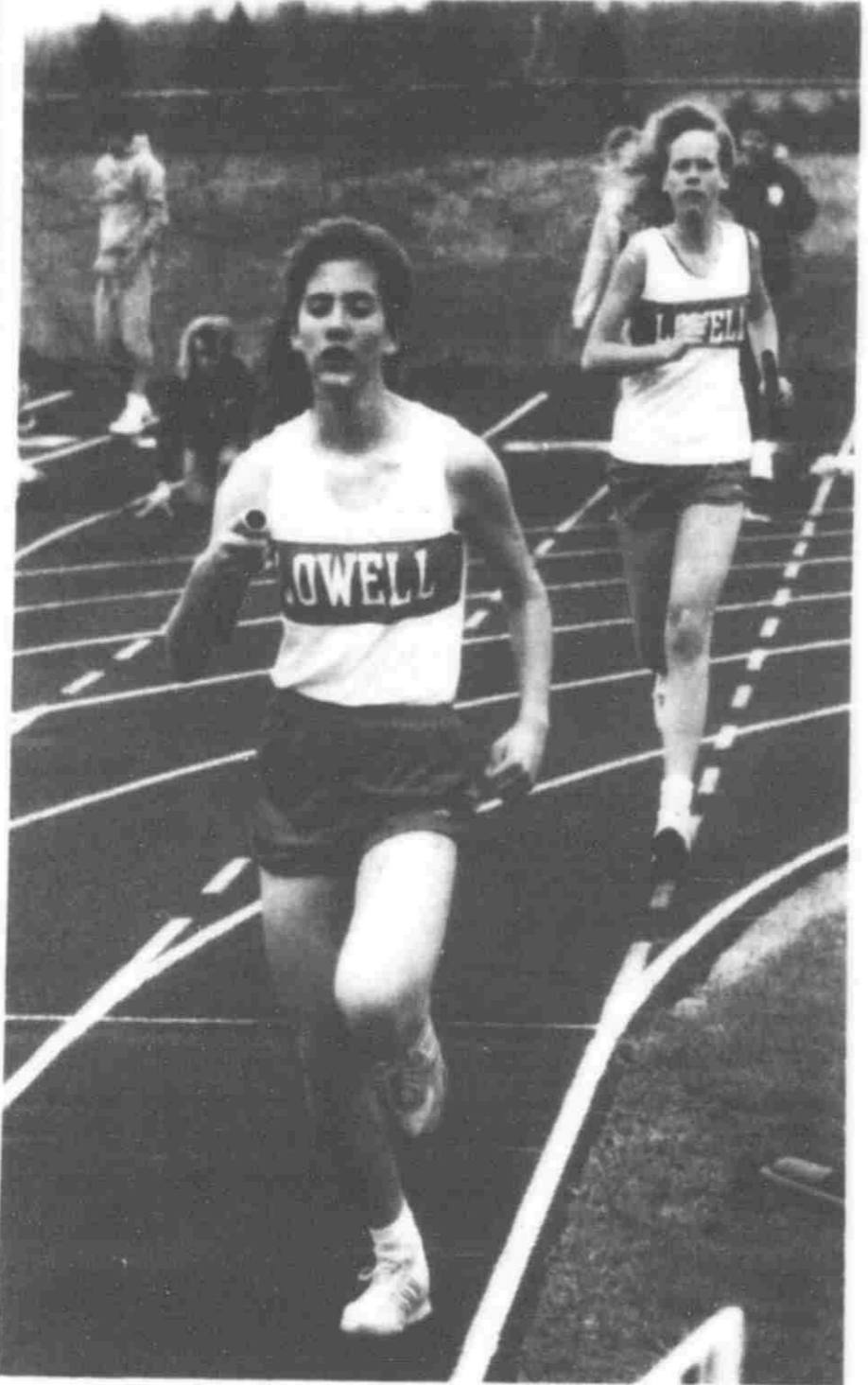
Tonya Stepek focuses on and gets out of the blocks quickly in a meet against Northview.

strong athletes for all the events. "The Wildcats are the strongest team in the O-K White and there isn't another team that's close to them," emphasizes coach Keith Boeve.

The Red Arrows did manage to walk away with a small moral victory. Their score of 41 points tied the highest point total any club has scored against East so far this season.

The highlight of the meet which Northview won 96-41 was the 400-meter dash. The event pitted Mickey Wallace of Northview against Red Arrows' Mike Mull. "It was a preview of the O-K White Conference meet championship race," Boeve said. "They are the two best 400 runners in the conference."

The race the twosome put on reflected that. Coming around the



Lowell coach, Kathy Talus looks to Hillari Kirsch in the long distance events.

last bend it was Mull and Wallace, at the tape it was Wallace and Mull. Hundreds of a second separated the two runners. Wallace recorded a time of 53.05 and Mull was on his heels at 53.21. "It was a super race," Boeve said.

In the 17-event meet Lowell earned two firsts. In the 110 hurdles Brian Bennett took top honors with a time of 16.70, outdistancing his closest opponent, teammate Doug Beimers (17.26).

The other first was handed in by Clay VanderWarf in the 3200-meter run. The Red Arrow came home in 10:35.81.

Teammate Andy Patterson finished third at 11:23.10. "VanderWarf continues to run well," Boeve said.

Rick Stockreef continued to perform well in the field events. He placed second in the discus with a distance of 117-6. However, good against the Wildcats, often isn't good enough. Arrow mate Tom Cichon was second in the long jump at 19-21/2, a personal best by a foot. His Northview opponent went 21-71/2.

Third place finishes in the field event area were brought home by Tom Moore in the High jump (5-8); Mike Fuller in the shot put (35-0); and Brett Knoop in the long jump at 18-9.

Boeve was also pleased with Shawn Smith, who finished second in the 100 dash at 11.45. VanderWarf, who won the 3200 run, placed second in the 1600 with a time of 4:53.57. Northview's Gregg Toole posted a top time of 4:51.45.

Beimers overall may have had the best meet of any Red Arrow. He was second in the 300 hurdles at 43.51. The winning time was posted by Shane Sieracki at 39.53.

The Wildcats' John Humphrey was first in the 800 meter at 2:14.22. Lowell's Joel Manion and Kyle Boston were second and third respectively at 2:17.34 and 2:18.46.

Mull took a third in the 200 dash with a time of 23.90. The best time was record by Wildcat Judy Moore (23.20).

## Lowell, 52, East Grand Rapids, 82

"East Grand Rapids took the firsts and we grabbed the second and thirds," Boeve explained. "It's hard to make up any ground when your opponent is taking the first."

The Pioneers didn't sweep all the events Stockreef, Smith, and Mull made sure of that. Stockreef took a first in the discus at 116-3 and in the pole vault at 10-6. Smith was first in the 100 meters with a time of 11.4. Mull's time of 51.7 was good enough for top honors in the 400 meters.

"We were leading by four after the field events which was exceptional because the boys haven't been able to practice the long jump, high jump or pole vault outside," explained Boeve. "It takes a great group of kids to keep working hard at specialty events when they practice these events only at the meets in competition."

Stockreef scored in three field events against the Pioneers, marking the fourth meet in a row he has done so this year. "He had a great day for us," laments Boeve.

Arrows who placed second included Noah Menerey in the shot put at 35-1/4, Knoop in the long jump at 18-73/4 and Moore in the high jump at 5-8.

VanderWarf came home in second at 4:48 in the 1600-meter run. "The EGR and Northview matches were the first times Clay has really had a chance to run against good competition and his times a down a little," Boeve said. "He also ran against some experienced distance runners and this should help Clay in future races."

Beimers was second in the 300 low hurdles with a time of 43.9. Teammate Mike Mull finished second in the 200 meters at 23.7.

- \* Placing third were:
- \* Stockreef, long jump 18-4.
- \* Chad Newhouse, high jump, 5-4.
- \* Bennett, high hurdles, 16.4.
- \* Patterson in the 1600 and 3200 runs (times were not available).
- \* John Saboo, 400 meters, 55.4.
- \* Manion, 800 meters, 2:17.4.
- \* Smith, 200 meters, 25.6.



Rick Stockreef glides through the air with the greatest of ease at the meet with the Wildcats.



Lowell's Joel Manion makes the turn for the home stretch.

# Arrow girls drop chance to beat EGR

Lowell's girl thinclads led by as many as 11 during the field events, but a long enough period of time to help decide the meet. "The meet came down to that event and unfortunately for the girls a lead after their top runner, Heather Slay defeated Hillari Kirsch in the 3200 meter run. Slay posted a time of 12:28. Kirsch followed her home at 12:40.

The Pioneers took a 62-61 lead after their top runner, Heather Slay defeated Hillari Kirsch in the 3200 meter run. Slay posted a time of 12:28. Kirsch followed her home at 12:40.

That left the outcome of the meet in the hands of those girls running in the 1600-meter relay. Unfortunately for the Red Ar-

rows, their hands failed them for just the briefest period of time, but a long enough period of time to help decide the meet. "The meet came down to that event and unfortunately for the girls a lead after their top runner, Heather Slay defeated Hillari Kirsch in the 3200 meter run. Slay posted a time of 12:28. Kirsch followed her home at 12:40.

Lowell was paced by Arnett and Heather Gowen. Both girls have given consistent performances throughout the season. Cont'd. pg. 21

# YMCA & City Council can't settle contracts

The Lowell City Council and the Lowell YMCA just can't quite see eye to eye these days. YMCA Director Doug Ybema couldn't even get a renewal of the pool contract past the council, despite the fact there were no changes from last year.

## Red Arrow linksters fall in O-K matches

The Red Arrow golf team continued to struggle in its search of some depth, and to that end dropped three of four matches this past week. FHC 201 EGR 212 Lowell 220

In a double dual meet Lowell was victimized by East Grand Rapids and Forest Hills Northview. The Red Arrows again were led by Dina Decator and Julie Tarak. Decator shot a 51 and Tarak carded a 53. Heather Sherman followed the twosome home with a 54, but the elusive fourth golfer coach Jack Ogle has been looking for, just hasn't surfaced. Sarah Kettner was the fourth Arrow home with a round of 71.

The match medalist was Central's Jill Murphy with a round of 46. Her teammate, Kristen Laham was one shot off the pace at 47. Team medalists for the

Pioneers were Mariame Kalliel, came home in 49. The match was played at Indian Hills.

Lowell 208, Creston 287 Dina Decator and Heather Sherman were the match medalists as they sparked Lowell past Creston.

The Red Arrows shot rounds of 48. Julie Tarak followed with a 50 and Sarah Kettner was the fourth golfer in at 62.

Creston's top golfer was Kiersten Iagofsrud, who shot a 64. Rogers 222, Lowell 238

The game of golf was not good for Lowell. The top score was Tarak's round of 50. Decator and Sherman carded 56's, and Amie Kanoza, the fourth Arrow home, shot a 76.

The match medalist was Golden Hawk Karen Sumerix, who came off the course with a 47.

## Softball, cont'd.

Lowell led 6-5 going into the bottom of the eighth. With one out Cougar Erin Wacter tripled into left-center field. Designated hitter Molly Burns then rapped a grounder to Murphy, the Lowell second baseman looked backed the runner, however on the throw to first Wacter raced for home but a strike on a throw by Zywicki fanned her down at the plate to end the game.

Lowell took the lead in the top of the eighth on an RBI single by Murphy.

With the score tied at 3-3, both clubs tallied two runs in the sixth, running the score to 5-5. Schneider went eight innings, threw 90 pitches and gave up five runs on six hits, walking one and striking out one. She also had five wild pitches. The Red Arrows managed just three hits, but were able to take advantage of seven Caholic Central errors. Lowell was guilty of nine errors.

"Neither club played very good defense, but our girls were able to overcome their mistakes against a very good Catholic Central pitcher (Stephanie Kisscorn)," Rodenhouse said.

## Lowell 12-21, Ionia 1-3

In two mercy-rule shortened contests, Lowell cruised past a less talented Ionia softball team.

In game one Schneider tossed a two hitter as the Red Arrows supported her fine pitching with 12 runs on 10 hits. Zywicki went 3-for-4 with three RBIs. Teammate, VanBelkum was 2-for-3 with a triple and three RBIs.

Lowell put the game on ice with six runs in the first and then added three more in the second and third innings. Game two provided much more of the same. Lowell jumped on the Bulldogs early with nine runs in the first and finished the contests with 21 runs on 15 hits. Meanwhile, Peckham went the distance, allowing three runs on two hits, while walking one and striking out four Ionia hitters.

Leading hitters for Lowell were Murphy with three hits and two RBIs and VanBelkum and Peckham each had two hits and three RBIs. Stencel added a fourth-inning home run.

Lowell 11, Sparta 0 The Red Arrows opened their league season with a convincing 10 win over the Spartans from Sparta.

"After that emotional win over Central I thought the girls might come out flat, but they did what they had to do," Rodenhouse said.

Schneider pitched a complete game (six innings), allowing one hit and facing just one hitter past the limit.

Lowell batters pounded out 15 hits and score 11 runs. "We scored at will in all but the fourth inning," Rodenhouse explained.

Leading the way at the plate was Schneider with three hits in four at bats. Zywicki, VanBelkum and Kirby each had two hits apiece. Lowell scored three in the first, one in the second, three in the third, and two in the fifth and sixth innings.

Lowell finished the week at 11-3.

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attempt to explain why city residents get a discount and township residents don't. Verification of residency is also a problem. Ybema also said the discount program creates hard feelings among township residents, and "Invest In Youth" pledges have been lost because of it.

The reasoning behind the council's wish to see city residents get a break in fees was to put some burden on township residents using city facilities. City residents support parks maintenance through property taxes. To date, neither Lowell nor Vergennes Township has helped fund area recreation. Lowell Township may help carry the load if a grant is received. City records show that \$11,600 was spent on parks maintenance last year, plus the \$3,000 given to the YMCA for pool operations. Most of the money spent to develop the city's parks has been derived from the

ell was unable to catch the Hawks. In game two Lowell bats were held to three runs on four hits.

The Arrows scored all three runs in the third when Dan Stockreef singled in two runs and Tom Kazen drove in the third run.

Compton, a bright spot in defeat, allowed two earned runs on six hits while walking one and striking out five.

## Lowell JV loses to Rogers

Lowell junior varsity baseball team picked a win over Sparta 3-2. Sparta scored both of its runs in the first inning while Lowell scored one in the first, and one in the second. John Borg drove in what proved to be the winning run with an RBI single in the third inning.

Lowell hurler Jeff Lillis earned the win in going the distance, allowing only three hits while walking four and striking out four Sparta batters.

Jeff Phillips added a two-run triple in the sixth, however Lowell

## Baseball, cont'd.

Sparta got three of its six hits in the bottom of the seventh as they scored twice. The hits were combined with two Lowell errors.

"It's always nice to win the league opener," said an elated Kropf.

Lowell 15-4, Ionia 3-1 It doesn't happen too often throughout a season, but when it does it's quite relaxing for the coach and a great deal of fun for the players.

In its first game of a doubleheader against Ionia, Lowell pounded out 16 hits and scored 15 runs, a feat that sometimes doesn't happen in three games. Not only were the bats working, but the pitching was superb and the defense was sharp. A coach knows things are going well when the only disappointing news of the afternoon is that the game was shortened by the mercy rule.

Steve Malone went five innings, allowed three runs (two earned) on three hits while walking four and striking out five Bulldog hitters.

The defense behind Malone committed just two errors and the offense had its biggest output of the season.

Lowell scored five runs in the first, one in the second, five in the third, three in the fourth, and

ce Fund, the Look Fund and overment grants.

Because of the problems resulting from the program discount for city residents, the YMCA Board of Directors told Ybema to offer two possible solutions to the council. The first solution offered that the YMCA pay \$2,000 (the money they are losing in fees) to the city as rental of the fields. Then return to a situation where everyone pays the same. The second solution offered was that the YMCA take over maintenance of all recreation fields for a fee of \$9,600 per year, \$2,000 less than the city is currently spending. This solution also called for everyone to pay uniform program fees.

Mayor James Maatman didn't like the idea of the city losing control of park maintenance. Councilman Bill Thompson reiterated the council's stance on residents getting a break in prog-

ram fees. The entire issue came to loggerheads when Ybema explained he couldn't negotiate for the YMCA Board. The councilmen agreed a joint meeting between the entire City Council and YMCA Board was necessary to resolve the issues. Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale was directed to put together such a meeting, possibly later this week.

## Legal Notices

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF KENT  
PROBATE COURT  
CLAIMS NOTICE  
INDEPENDENT PROBATE

File No. 89,147,710-IE

Estate of WINNEDA KOPERSKI, SS No. 372-36-7430.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The Decedent, whose last known address was 1836 Preston Court, Apt. A39, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 died December 20, 1988.

An instrument dated December 18, 1986 has been admitted as the will of the Deceased.

Creditors of the Deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, DEBRA J. COLLETTI, 2 Fountain NE, Suite 372, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 or to both the independent personal representative and the Kent County Probate Court, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, within four months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Debra J. Colletti P36779  
Attorney-at-Law  
2 Fountain NE, Suite 372  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
49503  
(616) 454-7711  
C25

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# "Step Into Spring" Walk-A-Thon a success

Although chilly overcast weather kept many would-be participants away, the walk-a-thon organized by the Lowell Area Jaycees to help the YMCA Pool Fund was a success. Many of the walkers for the April 29th event came away with door prizes which were provided by Lowell area merchants.

The mayor, Jim Maatman, served as the walk's honorary grand marshal and both he and his wife walked five miles to Fallsburg Park.

Others who helped in the event were: Kropf's Orchard, who donated apples; Robinson Cartage, who donated hats for the volunteers; Jerry Davis who helped with the hotdogs, and the National Honor Society students from Lowell High School who donated their time to help with registration and man the checkpoints along the route.

Christoff's donated gift packs won by five lucky people: Noel Clark, Roy Kammers, Jan Brandt, A. J. Huver and Vanessa Heukels. Missy Harrison won a bird feeder donated by Blue Ribbon Feed Company; Marie Spickler won a certificate for a free pizza donated by Westside Deli, while her sister, Lisa, won a season pool pass donated by the YMCA. Julie Heukels won a gift certificate donated by Meijer, Inc. while two other members of the Heukel family, Kris and Becky, won gift certificates donated by M.C. Sporting Goods and Vennen Chrysler Dodge. Sharon Scharaswak won a collector's model Beretta donated by Thomet Chevrolet; Ron

Raymor and Pat Moore each won gift certificates for a free oil change from Wittenbach and Harold Zeigler Ford respectively.

RS Technical Services donated the first, second, and third place prizes for those walkers who obtained the most pledges. Jan Brandt won the first place "boom box" for having obtained \$100 in pledges; Pat Moore won second place for obtaining \$96 in pledges and she received a Kodak camera; Laura Alexander won third place for obtaining \$86 in pledges and won a S&B radio.

Just how much money was raised for the Pool Fund won't be known until the total number of pledges are calculated, bills are sent out, and the pledges paid, but the Jaycees are hopeful that these tasks can be accomplished within the next three weeks.

They wish to extend heartfelt thanks to the walkers and other volunteers, the local businesses for their generosity, the City of Lowell for use of the Showboat Amphitheater, and those who supported the walkers with pledges.



From left to right: Noel Seif, Walk-a-Thon Chairperson; first place winner, Jan Brandt, Third Place winner, Laura Alexander and Jaycee President Don Dubbink. Not pictured is second place winner, Pat Moore.

## Mulder is new face at FMB State Savings

FMB State Savings Bank President and CEO Keith Caldwell announced the hiring of Mark Mulder as the new Loan Officer.

Mulder, who started the last week in February is currently in management training. "Eventu-

ally I'll be a loan officer, but for right now I'm learning and picking up some of the different aspects of the job."

Mulder, originally from Grandville, spent the last three years down in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. at Citicorp Savings of Florida as a financial service representative.

He adds that while there he developed interpersonal communication skills in dealing with the public. "I also gained valuable financial services knowledge," he says.

The Grandville native transferred to Palm Beach Atlantic College from Grand Rapids Junior College. He earned a Bachelor of Science Degree while at the Florida College.

"I heard about the job through a friend of the family (a bank teller)," Mulder says. "I interviewed for the position around Christmas time."

The toughest part about the job move to Lowell from Florida has been a recent basketball injury. "I fractured my jaw in a pick-up game and they reset it and then wired my mouth shut," Mulder explains. "So for 10 days everything I eat has to be blended into a liquid."

He concludes, "Everybody at the bank has been very friendly and helpful and I'm excited about the job change."

\*\*\*\*  
See-through slug: Sea slugs are discriminating eaters. Each sea slug species keeps strictly to its own diet. International Wildlife magazine reports because of this strict diet the slugs often resemble the special sea weed, sponge or coral on which they feed. This protective coloration keeps them well hidden from enemies.



FMB Bank announced the hiring of Mark Mulder as its new Loan Officer.

## Rotary honors four of its own

The Lowell Rotary Club honored four of its members with Paul Harris Fellowships during the club's annual banquet held Friday, April 28 at Saskatoon Golf Club. Receiving fellowships were Brian Doyle, Bruce Walter, Bob Elzinga and Dr. Robert Kyser. Gil Wise and King Doyle, both Paul Harris Fellows, presented the awards. Doyle had the unique honor of presenting the award to his son.

Paul Harris Fellowships are named after Rotary's founder and require a \$1,000.00 donation to the Rotary Foundation. For the past two years it has been possible to specify that each \$1,000.00 fellowship be applied to Rotary International's "Polio



Pictured left to right in the front row are: Paul Harris Fellowship recipients Brian Doyle, Bruce Walter and Bob Elzinga (Dr. Bob Kyser is not pictured). Presenting the awards (back row) were King Doyle and Gil Wise.

Plus" campaign. The program is aimed at stamping out polio worldwide. The Lowell Rotary Club is just a few hundred dollars short of its three year, \$10,000.00 goal in just two years.

The Lowell Rotary Club has approximately 15 Paul Harris Fellows in their membership. The club currently has 64 members, three of which are women who have joined in the past few

months. Several Rotarians participated in a golf outing earlier in the day. After dinner the Rotarians and guests were treated to the ventriloquism, humor and singing of Barbara Jean. Barbara Jean is the 1984 Miss Michigan and won the talent competition in the Miss America pageant with her ventriloquism act. She has appeared with such noted talent as Ronnie Milsap and the Beach Boys.

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219 East Main Street, Lowell  
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**ATTENTION, GRADUATES** - Graduation Open House cards, 5¢; envelopes, 5¢ each; thank you cards with envelopes, 20¢ each. Get yours at Lowell Litho, 105 N. Broadway.

**HELP WANTED**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR PART-TIME** - Now accepting applications for building, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing inspectors. Grattan Township. Also part-time office help. Call 691-8450. Office located at 11676 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809. C24-25

**HELP WANTED**

**WANTED** - Driver, no car necessary. \$4 per hour plus tips. Apply in person at Faro's Pizza, 1004 W. Main, Lowell. C25

**DAYCARE NEEDED** - Reliable person days, part-time. Call 897-5084 or 363-8822, ask for Julie. C25

**LOOKING FOR SUMMER EMPLOYMENT?** - cook and waitresses apply at Sneakers, 211 E. Main, Lowell. C25

**ATTENTION - HIRING!** - Government jobs - your area. \$17,840 - \$69,485. Call 1-602-838-8885. Ext. R 3468.

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**FOR SALE** - Sturdy, solid set of bunk beds, complete with innerspring mattresses. Can be used as 2 twin beds, \$150 or best offer. Call 897-6915. nc25

**ATTENTION - GOVERNMENT HOMES** - from \$1 (U-Repair). Delinquent tax property. Repossessions. Call 1-602-838-8885 Ext. GH 3468. P25-27

**FOR SALE** - 1985 Ford LTD, 6 cylinder, automatic, new tires, excellent condition, \$4,500. Call 897-9332, keep trying. P25

**FOR SALE** - Aluminum storm door, frame and screens, excellent condition \$25; ladies 3 speed Schwinn 26" bike, needs tires \$25; boy's BMX bike, needs minor repair \$20; two steel lawn chairs, heavy duty \$10. Call 897-6592 (leave message). nc25

**FOR SALE** - Amber beacon (Federal), mounted on light bar for snowplow, \$50. Call 897-6592. nc16

**FOR SALE** - 250 used cement blocks, lumber different sizes, manure spreader, Case 95, in good condition, wheel driver, 8" field cultivator. Call after 6 p.m., 691-8974. nc 25

**WANTED**

**CEMENT WORK WANTED** - Sidewalks, driveways and approaches, removed and replaced. Licensed and insured. Residential and commercial. Free estimates. R.B.D. Incorporated, 774-8129. C25

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**FREE** - Use of six to eight acres to someone who will plant crops. 897-8247 evenings. C25fn

**SALES**

**BARN SALE** - Tops fundraiser. Over 20 families. Something for everyone. Crafts, baked goods, clothes for the whole family. Saturday, May 6 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. 43 Center St., Saranac. No prior sales. C25

**IN MEMORIAM**

**IN REMEMBRANCE OF MY WIFE, JANE** - who was laid to rest on May 1, 1987.

In her final days on earth I saw her go through great pain, but not once at anytime did she complain. God Bless and Love You, My Dear Jane.

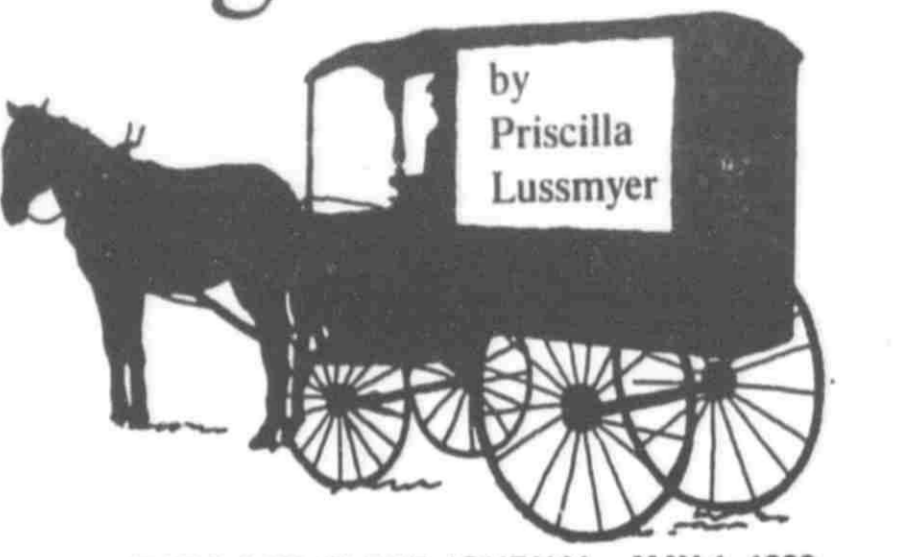
Sadly missed by her Husband, Russ Blakeslee Sons, David and Gary Grandsons, Jeremy & Justin Granddaughter, JoAnne Mother, Gyda Sister, Jean from Lansing C25

**THEN:** The ancient Egyptians had beautifully decorated (though probably not very comfortable) beds made of gold or ivory. Their pillows were made of wood.

**NOW:** Today, modern Americans can get beds made of water. Those many consider the most comfortable are hybrid waterbeds made with side-by-side cylinders under a thick quilted cover. These Somna mattresses developed by Angel Echevarria have neither the hard spots of ordinary mattresses nor the waves of other water mattresses. The Egyptians never had it so good.

The average pencil can draw a line 35 miles long.

## Ledger Entries



**100 YEARS AGO IN THE JOURNAL** - MAY 1, 1889  
Firebugs are burning uninhabited houses in Iowa. "Considerable March weather was left over until the week just passed."

The Township Clerk's office received a beautiful new safe yesterday.

Henry Mitchell, Village Marshall, publishes the notice that cattle and other animals may not run loose; citizens are responsible for keeping their sidewalks safe; slingshots are prohibited; and citizens should not discard papers in the streets, as horses are frightened by them.

Freeport had a very heavy sandstorm yesterday.

**75 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER** - APR. 30, 1914  
The first of a series on Lowell history is a story prepared by Hiram Robinson about life in Lowell settlement of five houses and the Indian village across the Grand, and his father, Rodney Robinson.

Both the Clover Leaf and the Ladies Literary Clubs are entertained by their presidents, Mrs. E. A. Anderson and Mrs. U.B. Williams. Extensive programs of music and readings are given.

Governor Ferris declares Sunday, May 10, Mother's Day. The discovery of "gold" in a Clio gravel pit turns out to be fool's gold.

**50 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER** - MAY 4, 1939  
Jacqueline Day and Ardis Schneider are Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of '39.

The official opening and frozen food demonstration at Wm. Christiansen's new frozen food plant will take place next week, though many have already rented food lockers, and two tons of meat have been processed.

Annual Cleanup Day is May 8, and the editor asks for rubbish-free yards and streets all the time, no ash heaps and riverbank refuse.

A blown tire causes a crash on M-21 east of town, killing two, injuring two and demolishing the cars involved.

**25 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER** - APR. 30, 1964  
John Timpson, president of the Lowell Jaycees, announces the second annual Home and Sport Show at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Buck Barry of WOOD-TV will be the featured attraction.

The old jail cage is transported to the 4-H Fairgrounds for use by the dogcatcher.

Rev. and Mrs. Edward Hawley (Gretchen Hahn) and their two daughters go to Tanzania to work with African refugees. LHS cheerleaders sponsor a Hootenanny and dance with local bands and other acts.

**this week's SCHOOL LUNCH MENU**

**WEEK OF MAY 8, 1989**

**MONDAY**  
Fruit juice, tacos w/meat, cheese and lettuce, cornbread w/honey, salad or vegetable, choice of fresh or canned fruit, milk.

**TUESDAY**  
Sliced roast turkey or chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes or rice and gravy, steamed mixed veggies, wheat rolls w/p-nut butter, jello w/whip or fruit, milk.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Hot dogs or roast beef barbeque on a bun or pita, tossed salad w/dressing, French fries or corn, assorted fruits or pudding, cookies or bars, milk.

**THURSDAY**  
Turkey and noodles or ravioli, steamed peas or cole slaw, French bread w/honey butter, chilled fruits or jello, milk.

**FRIDAY**  
Fishwiches or bologna sandwiches, potato chips and pickles, soup or salad or baked beans, fruit or jello, milk.  
Prices of lunches to students includes milk. Elementary \$1.00, Middle and Senior High \$1.05.

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**MONDAY**  
**Mexican Day**  
ALL Tacos \$89¢  
Wet Burrito \$2.49

**TUESDAY**  
**Family Feast Pan Pizza Pie**  
Cheese Pizza \$5.00  
Deluxe Pizza \$10.00  
(pepperoni • onion • mushroom • sausage • peppers)  
PICKUP ONLY ON SPECIALS

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Broasted Chicken Dinner**  
4 piece dinner \$3.59  
Includes Potato Salad or Cole Slaw, Breadstix & Fries  
8 Piece Bucket \$1.00 OFF

**THURSDAY**  
**Pizza Party Nite**  
ALL YOU CAN EAT PIZZA  
\$3.49 Adult  
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# Middle School concert, May 4

The Middle School Music Dept. will present its annual Spring Concert on Thursday, May 4 at 7 p.m.

The performance will be held in the Middle School gym. Ensembles participating in this evening's event are 6th, 7th and 8th grade bands; 7th and 8th grade choirs; Jazz Lab Band; and

the 8th grade girls' vocal ensemble.

Compositions performed include the music of Henry Mancini, Elvis Presley, Herbie Hancock, James Swearingen, Philip Gordon John Higgins, to name a few.

The concert will feature appearances by two guest performers. Mr. Dale Latva of the Middle School English Dept. and former trumpeter with the Central Michigan University Band will be conducting "Watermelon Man" with the 8th grade band. Ms. Jane Adams, also of the Middle School faculty, will be providing the narration on "Our American Heritage" featuring

many benefits of wearing safety belts and with the various aspects of the laws. Officers will also be available to civic groups for presentations on safety belt use.

The chief announced plans to begin in-service training for officers to acquaint them with the

the 8th grade band and 7th and 8th grade choirs combined.

Please join the 300 plus music students in the Middle School celebrate spring with this annual festival of music.

## Lowell Police to enforce seatbelt usage

The Lowell Police Department has adopted a new policy toward the enforcement of the state's safety belt and child restraint laws. In a statement released by the agency, Chief Barry Emmons vowed that of-

fices will more strictly enforce laws requiring front seat occupants and children under age four to buckle up.

"Safety belts and child car seats have been credited with saving dozens of lives in our area,"

said Chief Emmons. "Our officers will help remind drivers and passengers that traffic safety is a primary concern in Lowell."

The chief announced plans to begin in-service training for officers to acquaint them with the

many benefits of wearing safety belts and with the various aspects of the laws. Officers will also be available to civic groups for presentations on safety belt use.

## LAAC awards summer scholarships

The Lowell Area Arts Council recently awarded \$1,500 worth of scholarships to area middle school and high school youth attending summer camps or institutes.

Tina Yaw and Heidi Bliss of Lowell, will attend Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Receiving

grants to attend a debate workshop at CMU are Jay VanAntwerp and Kristina Jefferson, both of Lowell. Vanessa Heukels will attend the 1989 Dance Convention; Jodie Hammond will study theatre at the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre; Jennifer Afton hopes to attend the State of Michigan

Summer Arts Institute, and Heather Pelon will study at the Knollcrest Music Workshop. All students are from Lowell.

Saranac students receiving grants were Wendy Miles, Kari Jackson, Tonya Bankus, Heather McCarty, Teresa Overbeck, and Marci Weeks. They will attend a

journalism workshop at MSU. Also from Saranac are Tammi Biggs and Zachariah DeYoung who will attend Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp.



Students at Runciman/Riverside Elementary plant trees on the school playground.

## Trees planted at Runciman/Riverside

On April 21, Lowell Schools took part in the tree-planting project sponsored by Alternative Methods for International Stability (A.M.I.S.).

The Riverside fifth graders were quite thrilled to each receive a large tree to plant at home or at school. Mrs. Stormzand's kindergartners also planted two of the trees, making a total of 7 trees added to the playground. All over town, you can see the

results: 8-10 ft. tall locusts or sycamores (plantain bloodgood) and 5-7 ft. American elms (ulmus hybrid). Each student signed a contract to tend the tree; each contract was also signed by an adult sponsor.

The students learned many facts about how trees clean carbon dioxide from air, how they add oxygen, how they help cool a house or yard, and how they add to the value of property. Thank you A.M.I.S.

## Along Main St., cont'd.

### "LETTER TO THE EDITOR" REMINDER

The Lowell Ledger is pleased to publish your responsible views and opinions on subjects concerning our community, but please remember we cannot publish any "letter to the editor" that does not include a signature from the sender. We welcome your opinions and views, so please remember to sign your letters.

### LOCAL FIREMEN PLAN BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Dept. will hold a blood drive on Wednesday, May 10 at the Lowell Middle School from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For appointments call Frank at 897-7736 or John at 897-8072 only after 6 p.m. Walk-ins welcome.

### LIONS CLUB WHITE CANE DRIVE

The Lowell Lions Club members will be out in force at various locations throughout the city on Friday evening, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 seeking your donation in conjunction with White Cane Week.

Funds raised during White Cane Drives are used for sight conservation projects including the leader dog program and fund donations to individuals and various organizations seeking assistance with sight-related needs.

When you see one of the Lions members please give what you can knowing that your gift will enrich the life of another who is afflicted with a sight impairment.

### ENJOY AN EVENING OF POETRY AND STORY TELLING

Terry Wooten, author and storyteller will perform at the Lowell Area Arts Council Center at 149 S. Hudson, Lowell on Friday, May 12 after school. 4:15-5:15 Admission is \$2. He will perform again at 8 p.m. admission is \$5.

Contact Dolores Dey or David Davis at 897-8545 1-5 weekdays for more information and tickets.

### SHOWBOAT CHORUS NEEDS YOUR TALENTS

The Showboat Chorus is looking for singers!! If you are interested in singing in the great '89 Lowell Showboat, Chorus practice is on Monday night at the Runciman Gym.

Last year there were 55 members and they're looking for more. So, come on, join Tim Berlew, the Director, and a lot of your friends for a fun time in the Showboat Chorus. Practices are on Mondays from 7-9 p.m. in the Runciman Gym.

### OFF THE BLOCKER

Lori Ehle, 20, of Lowell was involved in a property damage accident Tuesday, April 25 when she lost control of her car, and struck a mailbox on Valley Vista Drive.

Ann Southland, 23, of Lowell pulled from a drive onto West Main St. near West St. into the path of a vehicle driven by Steve Ferguson, 26, of Wyoming, April 25. No injuries were reported.

A 13 year old juvenile female was lodged in Kent County Juvenile Detention, April 17 for Disorderly Conduct.

An 8 year old passenger in a car driven by Douglas McGregor, 31, of Lowell was injured Saturday, April 29 when his car collided with a car driven by James Hale, 17, of Lowell in the parking lot of Third Base Convenience Store on East Main.

Russell Maxim, 31, of Lowell was cited into 63rd District Court for Malicious Destruction of Property Under \$100 this past week.

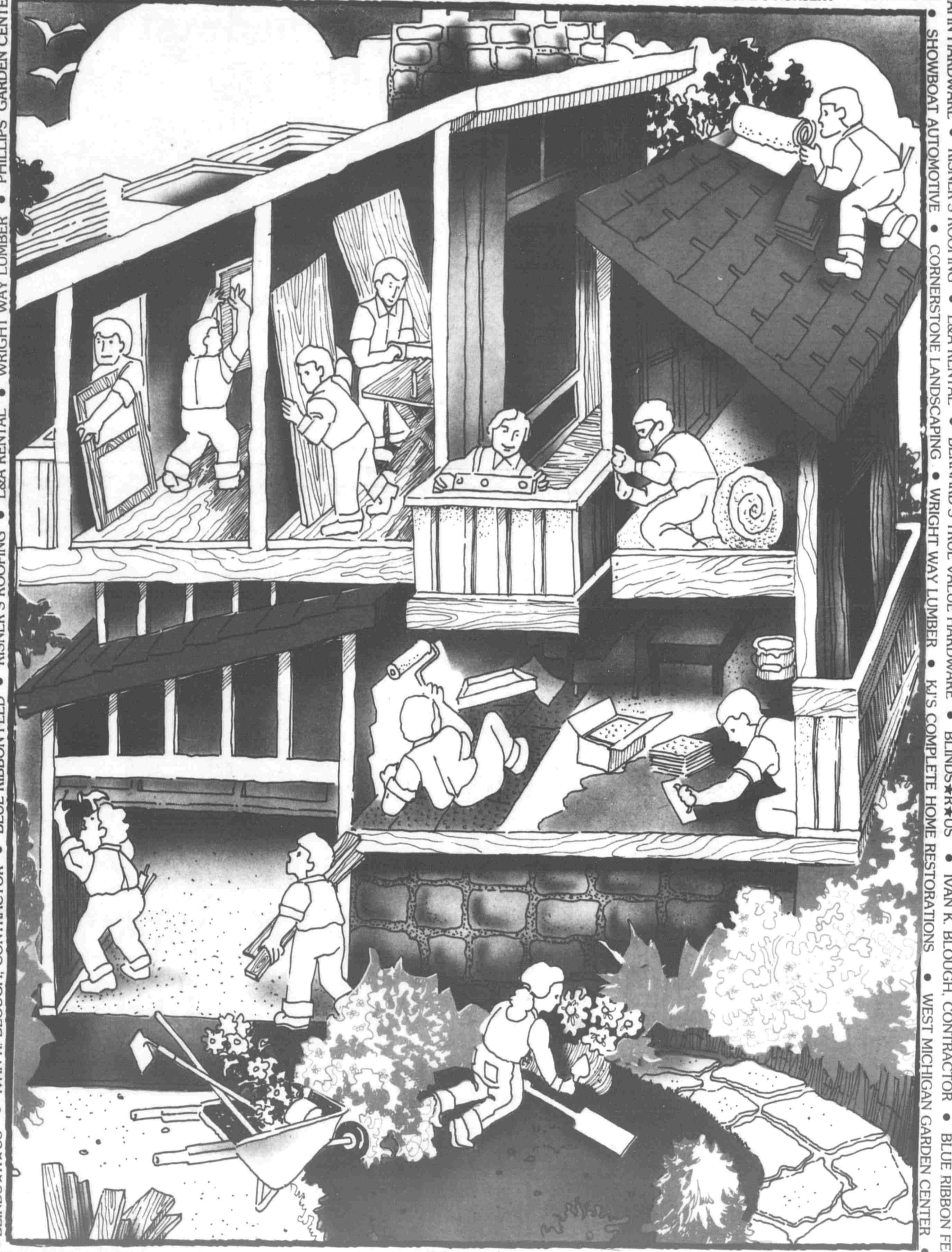
Lowell officers investigated 23 accident complaints in the month of April, of which 3 resulted in injuries. This brings the total for the year to 106 compared to 97 at the same time last year.

Lowell Fire Department responded to 27 fires in the month of April.

# Home Improvement and Lawn & Garden *Guides*

A Supplement to The Lowell Ledger

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## Home Need a Roof?

# Take your time in choosing a reputable roofer

There's a lot more to roofing than meets the eye. No doubt about it. A new roof is the single most important maintenance investment a homeowner will probably ever make. Typically, with the advances in roofing product design, a new roof should offer 20 years protection and peace of mind.

But, as many homeowners know too well, a roof is only as good as the person who installs it. Poor workmanship will create problems later on and shorten the life of the roof.

A new roof is a major investment. That's why homeowners need

to understand how to select a reputable roofing contractor. According to Mike Mehrer, marketing manager of CertainTeed's Shelter Materials Group, "A homeowner should take the same amount of time to evaluate a roofing contractor as he or she would a doctor or lawyer."

Mehrer adds that while selecting a contractor is not easy, there are a number of criteria homeowners can look for when evaluating a roofer's service and reputation.

But, how do homeowners initiate this selection process, and what questions should they ask during an interview?

Here are a few suggestions:

\* Plan to interview two or three contractors, ideally ones who have worked in your neighborhood and for whom you can get independent references. Expect to spend one hour talking to each about their business and about your job.

\* Get the full name and address of the company. If a P.O. Box is given, ask for a complete street address.

\* Find out if the contractor carries comprehensive liability insurance.

Remember, insurance protects the homeowner as well as the contractor if properly licensed.

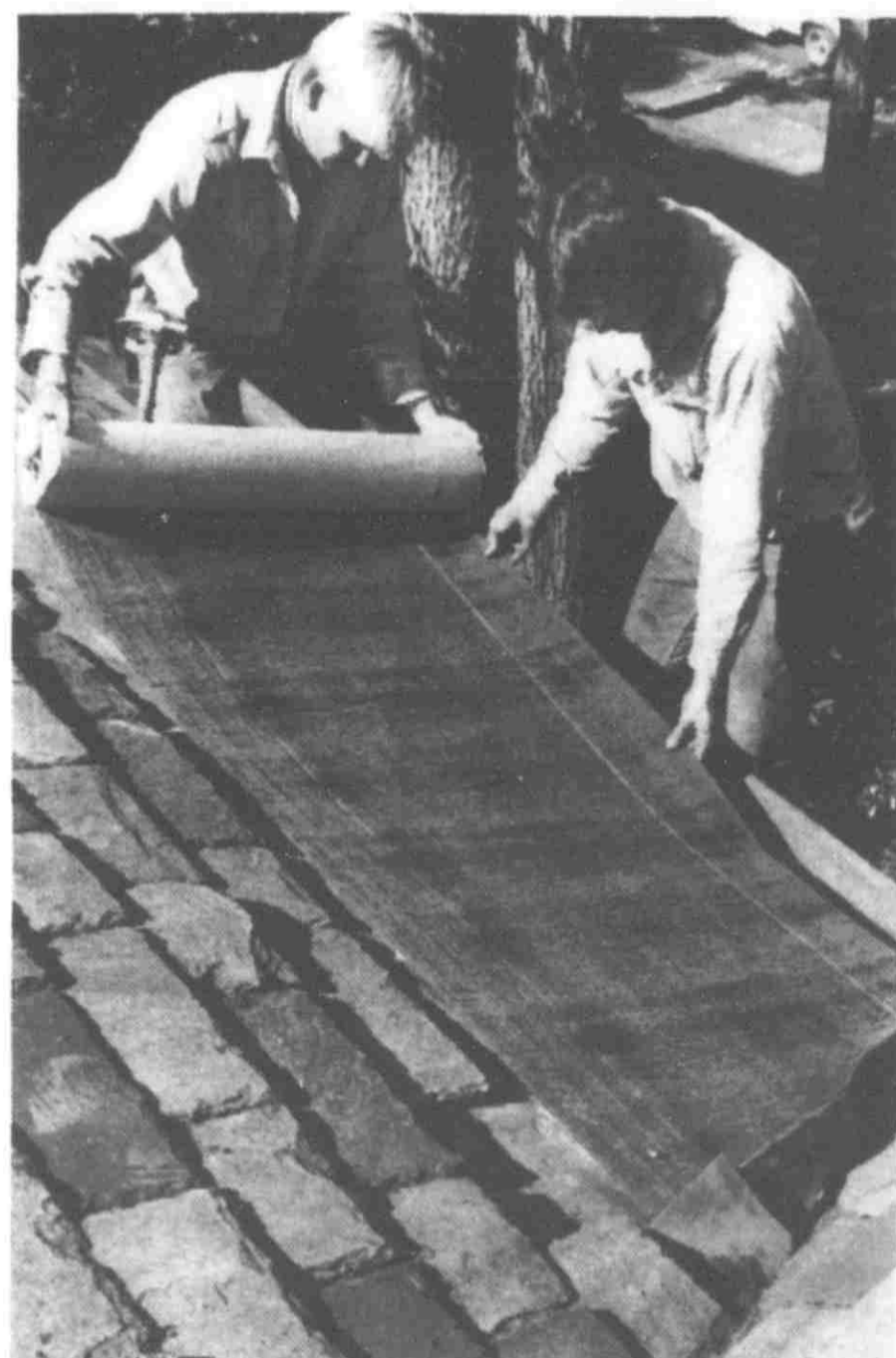
\* Determine whether contractor licensing is required in your area and, if so, if your contractor is properly licensed.

\* Request referrals from previous jobs. Ask the contractor to provide you with eight to 10 job site locations in your area that you might visit.

If homeowners need help finding roofing contractors or more information on roofing, there are a number of local organizations they can contact including: Better Business Bureaus; city, county and state licensing departments; and local trade associations.

Mehrer adds, "The main thing to remember is to not let low price be the most important factor in the selection of a roofing contractor. As with any other major item for the home, quality should be your number one priority."

Homeowners can get a free brochure on "How To Choose A Reputable Roofer," by writing to: "How to Choose a Reputable Roofer" Brochure, CertainTeed Corporation, Shelter Materials Group, P.O. Box 860, Valley Forge, PA 19482.



Choosing a reputable roofing contractor for your reroofing job will help assure that you have a quality roof overhead. It's important that you feel confident in relying on your contractor to give you good advice about roofing products and procedures.

## Drought stricken midwest trees in critical condition

### First aid now or firewood later; experts say

"If folks don't do something to save their trees this year, 1990 is going to be a great year for chain saw sales," says Cincinnati expert, Denny McKeown.

McKeown says even if normal rainfall patterns return to the Midwest this spring, trees damaged in previous years of drought need first aid fast or they may die. He points out that a twenty-five-year-old tree is replaceable at any cost. Homeowners who want to avoid the catastrophic loss of a mature tree must take action this spring. Here are some first aid tips.

1. Put Water Where The Roots

Are: The first step is to replace lost moisture in the tree's "root zone." A thirty-foot-tall tree may have a root system extending sixty feet or more from the trunk, with the "feeder roots" located in the top eight to twelve inches of soil. Obviously, then, directing a stream of water at a large tree's trunk is a waste of time and water. This is particularly true in hard packed soils, where most of the water will run off or evaporate before ever reaching the roots. A much more effective method is to use a root feeder attached to the end of the garden hose. This inexpensive tool, available at garden centers and hardware stores, has a metal probe which is inserted into the ground at a number of points in the root zone (more details below). The root feeder injects water beneath the soil surface where it's immediately available to the roots. Since there's no waste from runoff or evaporation, this is the most effective and conservation-minded way to water.

2. Feed To Replace Depleted Nutrients: In a drought, trees are unable to manufacture nutrients

and rapidly deplete their reserves. In order to begin making and storing food again, they need fertilizing. McKeown says area arborists recommend using a liquid fertilizer and, here again, the root feeder is the tool to use. A good unit, like the one made by Ross Daniels, has a built-in chamber for water-soluble fertilizer cartridges. Choose a high nitrogen (25-10-10) formula and feed several times at intervals of a few weeks this spring and summer. In fall, feed a final time using a no-nitrogen formula (0-10-10) to prepare trees for winter.

3. How To Use The Root Feeder: After you've hooked the root feeder up to the garden hose and loaded the chamber with fertilizer cartridges, insert the probe tip into the soil to a depth of eight to twelve inches -- no deeper. Allow the feeder to run for a few minutes in each of a number of points twelve to eighteen inches apart around the tree's "dripline". This is an imaginary line running around the tree beneath the ends of the outermost branches. With mature trees, repeat the process in a second ring of points out beyond

the dripline. This procedure will reach enough of the important feeder roots to be effective.

4. Prune Out Dead Wood: Trees will benefit from a careful pruning to remove dead and damaged limbs. Ask at the garden center if in doubt about what, when and how much to prune. Very large trees should, of course, be pruned by a professional tree service.

5. Mulch to Retain Moisture & Keep Roots Cool: A four-to-six inch layer of organic mulch such as wood chips, pine bark, even shredded autumn leaves or compost, will save an enormous amount of water that would otherwise be lost to evaporation, and will keep tree roots cool in hot weather. Mulch also gives landscaped areas a more manicured look. You can purchase landscape mulches at the garden center or make your own using a garden shredder.

A modest first aid effort for your trees and shrubs this spring and summer is inexpensive insurance against costly, disappointing losses later on.

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## Pop-out packs give gardeners instant flower beds and borders

Growing beautiful flowers at home used to require the services of a professional gardener or plenty of your own elbow grease. But, technology's rapid advance has not neglected gardening.

Started annuals and perennials in pop-out packs are readily available at any garden center. Modern slow-release fertilizers, weed preventers and economical, easy-to-use power tools now make garden preparation and maintenance a cinch.

So, if you've been putting off flower gardening for lack of time or energy, reconsider. Here are some tips for getting started this spring.

**Start with Perennials:** Once established, they come up year after year and include many tall growers that form an excellent

permanent backdrop for beds and borders. Try mixing varieties that bloom at different times for all-season color.

Good choices for spring bloom are Dutch irises, lupines and peonies; for summer, delphiniums, foxglove (digitalis), old fashioned hollyhocks and fragrant phlox; for fall, monkshood and full-sized chrysanthemums. All of these are sunshine lovers.

**Fill In With Annuals:** In front of your perennial backdrop or in front of foundation plantings and evergreen borders, along walks and driveways, etc., plant started annuals. Popular mid-height choices are geraniums, petunias, marigolds and zinnias, all sun lovers, and available in a rainbow of colors.

For a low-growing border, try

blue ageratum and pink or white sweet alyssum.

**Color in the Shade:** If your garden doesn't get much sunshine, don't despair. Lots of flowers thrive and bloom even in deep shade. The most popular flower in shade is impatiens, but consider others like primroses, tuberous begonias, and hostas.

**Preparing the Soil:** Till the soil to a depth of six to eight inches and mix in a slow-release fertilizer. If needed (at new home sites especially) add soil improvers like peat moss, compost or manure. This can be done by hand, but using a modern power tool, such as the Green Machine Expand-It® System, is faster and simpler. The system uses a single gas-driven power head with interchangeable attachments for different jobs. There's a weeder-

cultivator, string trimmer/brushcutter, lawn edger, leaf blower and snow thrower. This unit not only saves time and energy, but also saves storage space in the garage.

**Mulch - Labor and Water Saver:** After you've planted your garden, water everything thoroughly and then lay down several inches of an organic mulch such as bark, wood chips, or straw. The mulch will keep weeds in the dark so they don't sprout, hold moisture in the soil to save water, keep plant roots cool in the hot weather and give the whole garden a neat, finished appearance. If you use pine bark (or needles) as mulch, be sure to add some lime to the soil to compensate for the pine's natural acidity.



Carla Walters can meet a variety of your plant needs at Two Seasons.



Walters also has a stand in Lowell, located between Westside Deli and McDonald's.

## Getting the most from home improvements under the new tax laws

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 has closed many tax loopholes and contains numerous changes in what is and what is not deductible. And, naturally, many taxpayers are wondering how the new rules are going to affect them in such areas as tax shelters and itemized deductions, particularly interest expense and exemptions.

One feature of our tax code that continues to benefit taxpayers is homeownership. It is, after all, the single largest investment that most of us will make in our lifetime. Therefore, it is important that you understand

the effects of the new tax laws in the area of homeownership and home improvements.

The American dream of homeownership is still a sound investment in a number of ways. For instance, the new tax laws benefit homeowners who make improvements to their home. In fact, home improvements can be one of the most rewarding investments, not only in terms of adding comfort and space, but from a fiscal point of view as well.

Although the cost of improvements to your primary residence is not deductible, but serves only

to increase your cost basis in the residence, there are other financial benefits to making home improvements.

With the new tax laws, you will need to know the difference between an improvement and a repair, and distinguishing between the two is not always easy.

An improvement is considered to be anything that adds to the value of your home or appreciably prolongs its life, such as improving the home's energy efficiency.

Specific projects that count as home improvements include energy upgrades (like adding extra insulation in your attic, walls and crawl spaces; caulking

and weatherstripping), room additions, re-roofing, residing and room add-ons.

Repairs, on the other hand, are designed to maintain your house and grounds in good "working order" and are not deductible, since they do not extend the useful life of the home or add to its value. Typical repairs include patching plaster, replacing windowpanes and fixing anything that's broken.

When repairs are done as part of an extensive remodeling and restoration project, the entire job is considered an improvement.

Home improvements are especially important to taxability when you sell your house. Though home improvement expenses can't be deducted, they can be used to help reduce the amount of capital gains you realize on the sale of your home.

Taxability is also important when you pay for home improvements. Before the new tax laws went into effect, you may have

cont'd pg 5

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## Vertical shutters enhance restored homes

The enthusiasm for restoring older houses is a trend motivated both by economics and by a growing appreciation for the spaciousness, quality and character of the interior architecture of these homes.

While restoration is an adventure not to be undertaken lightly by the impatient and faint-hearted, it can offer enormous rewards aesthetically and in the living space attained, not to mention the abundant returns on investment value and satisfaction of achievement.

One of the first things that strikes your attention in the successfully restored early 20th century-style sitting room shown here is how one detail has been carefully added to the next to build the room's totally coordinated look.

The moldings, beams and fireplace have been painstakingly restored to their former glory by the new owner. A stenciled floral motif highlights the ceiling beams and adds a softening note. The soft and curving lines are reiterated in the rounded shapes of the upholstered pieces.

The window treatment, which emphasizes the height of the room, masks irregularly shaped windows. It combines Joanna vertical louver shutters with a "Finishing Touch" ruffled valance topper from Cameo, both CHF Companies.

The window styling ties the architectural and soft romantic themes together and gives the room its polished look, illustrating once again the most important role windows play in decorating.

Two current fashions much favored by interior designers are illustrated in the window dressing: The return of shutters, now available in many new guises, and the softening of the look with over-treatments of stylish colors.

The Joanna's 2 1/2-inch vertical louvers offer the same light control as a standard vertical blind, but add the textural interest of wood. Now sold in 1 1/4 and 2 1/2-inch width louvers, the shutters come in a broad spectrum of stylish colors.

Easy to care for, they're as practical as they are pretty; combined with soft valance toppers, they're one of today's most popular window treatments.

## Vinyl siding makes sense for new, older or in-between homes

In what stage of its "life cycle" is your home at this very moment? Is it just being built? In need of a complete repainting? Or ready for some extensive repairs to restore its attractive appearance?

Whether you're building a new house or are in the process of remodeling your present home, you should be aware of the low maintenance features and long life of solid vinyl before you choose an exterior siding material.

Once vinyl siding is properly applied, it gives any home a freshly painted look while providing the homeowner with years of freedom from repainting and tiresome upkeep. A simple soap and water rinse is all that is required for maintenance.

Vinyl siding's easy maintenance - combined with the wide selection of designs and colors now available - has made vinyl siding by far the most popular American siding material today.

### Widespread Appeal

A contributing factor to this wide-spread appeal is the lifetime warranty that major manufacturers like Bird Incorporated offer for both standard and premium lines of vinyl siding.

Constructed of tough PVC (Polyvinyl chloride) compound, it cannot corrode or dent like aluminum and will not chip, peel or rot like wood. Color is molded clear through the panels so that even scratches will not show.

### Search out the best

While it is important to invest in good quality siding materials from a reputable manufacturer, it is equally important to select a professional home improvement contractor whose work you can trust. It's a rule of thumb that the overall quality of a job is only as good as the craftsman doing the work.

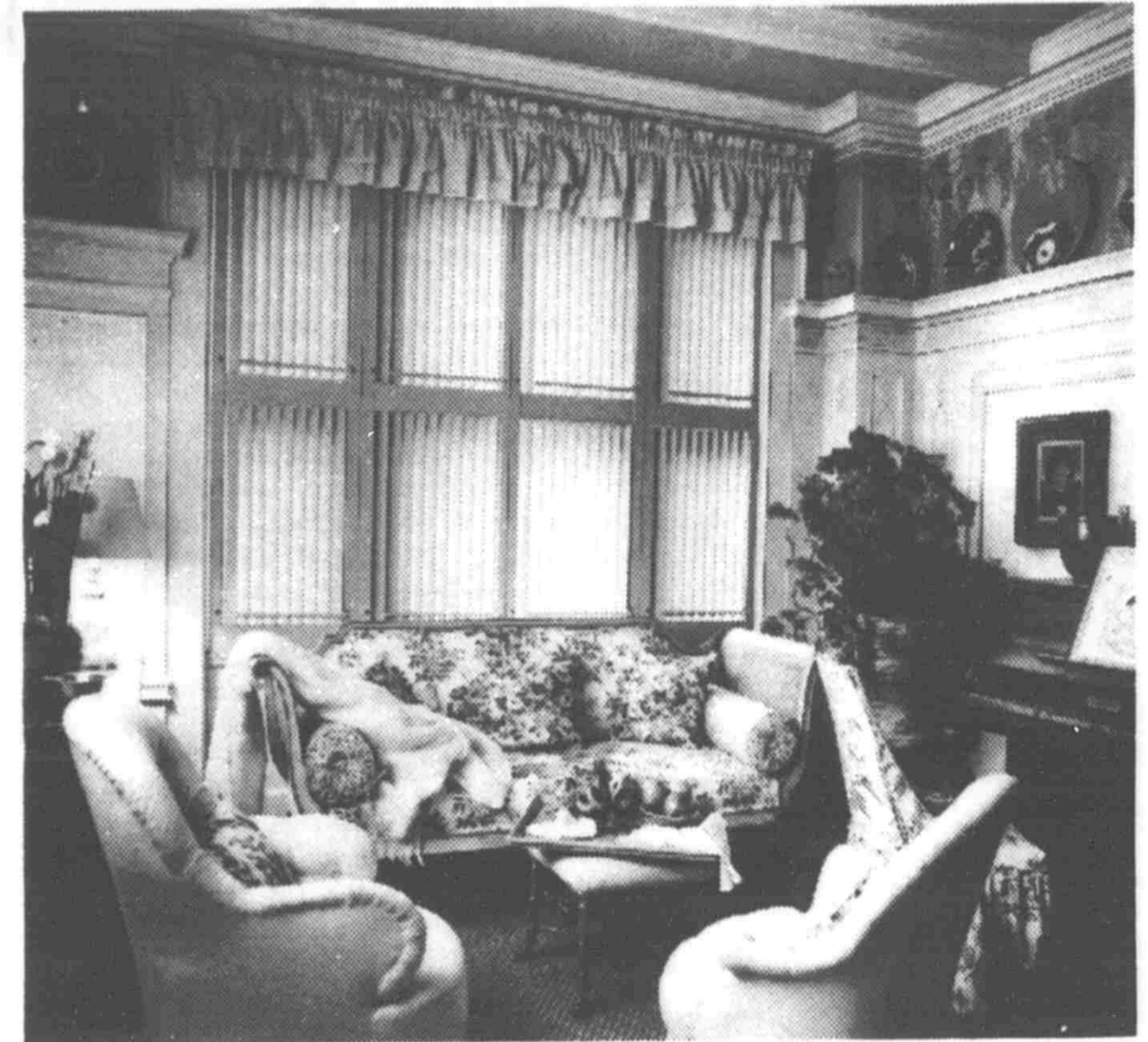
To help homeowners search out the most reputable home remodelers, Bird Incorporated was one of the first manufacturers in the country to institute a Professional Vinyl Siding Contractor Certification Program that acknowledges the best craftspeople in the field.

In order to satisfy the stringent certification requirements, the contractor must meet certain criteria for experience, commitment to ethical practice and professional reputation. Once he or she is certified, he or she agrees to abide by the code set forth by the manufacturer.

For example a Bird-certified contractor must offer a two-year warranty on installation as a complement to Bird's lifetime product warranty.

He or she is also required to provide clear, written estimates and contracts, and carry insurance for worker's compensation, personal injury and property damage. (There have been many unhappy consumers who have found out the hard way that not all contractors fulfill contracts or carry the necessary insurance.)

Cont'd pg 6



The late twentieth century vertical louvered shutters mask irregularly placed windows and emphasize the height and architectural quality of a room.

## New tax laws cont'd

considered using a credit card or a personal bank loan to hire a contractor or to purchase materials for a do-it-yourself project.

However, interest paid on these loans and credit cards is no longer fully deductible and, after 1990, will not be deductible at all.

An alternative to help pay for home improvements is the home equity loan. Interest expense on these types of loans is generally fully deductible as long as the proceeds are used for such things as home improvements, like energy upgrades, or education, medical and other qualified expenses.

You can actually turn the equity in your house into cash and write off the interest on your income tax return if you itemize and use Schedule A.

Home improvements, like upgrading the insulation levels, can also increase the livability and

enhance the resale value of your home. A recent study in Remodeling Contractor indicated that adding insulation in your attic, walls or crawl space not only will make your home a more attractive buy, but will also help you get an approximate 83 percent return on your home improvement investment.

For all home improvement projects that you undertake, remember to keep accurate detailed records of the work done.

One way to keep track of all deductible expenses pertaining to each home improvement project completed over the course of the year is to use a portable tape recorder. This way, you can tape record all your expenses, then write down the information once the project is completed. Another way is always to pay by check to create useful records.

The effects of the new tax laws are sweeping and far-reaching,

and still are not clear to the average person. The CertainTeed Home Institute recommends that, before you make any improvements to your home, you consult with your tax advisor for how TRA '86 applies to your own financial situation.

For a free brochure entitled, "The New Tax Laws And The Energy Efficient Home," write to the CertainTeed Home Institute, P.O. Box 860, Valley Forge, PA 19482.



A fish known as the plaice is such a master of camouflage it can reproduce a checkered pattern on its back if placed on such a background.

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# New government insulation recommendations help beat summer cooling costs

Last summer's record-setting heat wave and drought left many homeowners paying the price both in discomfort and high utility bills. Before temperatures begin to soar again, homeowners should consider upgrading their insulation to the new U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recommendations, energy experts say.

The recommendations for R-values, or insulating effectiveness, are specific to zip code areas and take into account the increased cost of cooling and heating a home over the past several years. They had not been updated since 1975.

An attic insulation study conducted by National Family Opinion, an independent research firm, found that the average insulation level in attics today is around R-20. The average DOE recommendation is R-40.

"The new recommendations are further confirmation that the right amount of insulation can help save on energy costs year-round," says Thomas Seymour of Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corporation, a leading manufacturer of energy-efficient building materials.

"While most people install insulation with thoughts of decreasing their heating bills, insulation also reduces the need for continuous air conditioning by keeping the summer heat out. And that helps keep energy costs down."

Dr. Dave McElroy of Oak

Ridge National Laboratory, which helped develop the recommendations, adds, "Since insulation is relatively inexpensive, the cost/benefit ratio makes increased insulation levels worthwhile."

Sen. Timothy E. Wirth, Chairman of the Alliance to Save Energy and member of the Senate Energy and Banking committees, says, "It's important that homeowners take the new recommendations seriously because Americans spend \$100 billion dollars on household energy, or more than \$1,100 per household, annually. After rent and mortgage payments, energy is the largest cost of home occupancy."

To help keep your energy costs down, three important areas to insulate are the attic, basement and crawl space.

**Unfloored/Unfinished Attics**  
"Installing insulation in the home is a simple and inexpensive do-it-yourself project," Mr. Seymour says. "Completing one of the most effective energy-saving projects - insulating your attic - only costs about \$350 for insulating an average 1,000 sq. ft. space with R-25 fiberglass insulation."

Once you're ready to go to work, you'll need safety glasses, work gloves, a long-sleeved shirt, a mask and a sharp knife.

Begin by laying a piece of temporary flooring to kneel on while working. A plank or 1/2 in.

plywood should do. Leave the insulation in rolls until you're ready to use it, since insulation is compressed for packaging and will expand once the package is opened.

Start laying the fiberglass insulation at the outer edges of the attic. You might find a long-handled "push" broom helpful in extending the insulation to the edges of the attic.

Be careful when you extend the insulation to the attic edges, so that you don't block the flow of air from the cave vents - if your home has them.

Also, be sure to keep insulation a minimum of three inches from light fixtures, and use unfaced material in the space between a masonry chimney and wood framing.

Lay in the long runs first and place the leftovers aside for filling up the smaller spaces later. Where you encounter wiring, push the insulation under.

Be sure to butt each section of insulation tightly up against the adjacent section for a complete thermal barrier.

If you are reinsulating over several inches of existing insulation, and the joist cavity is already filled, lay the new layer at right angles to the joists; this will minimize heat flow.

**Basement Walls**  
To insulate bare walls of heated basements, begin by building a framework of 2x4 studs 16 or 24 inches on-center over the masonry walls. Wedge

the insulation directly between the studs.

If you are using a faced material, staple the flange on the facing to the studs, with the facing towards the warm-winter side. Then, finish by installing paneling or drywall. When using an unfaced material, be sure to install a separate vapor barrier, such as polyethylene film, over the insulation.

Cut pieces of insulation to fit in the band joist between the top plate of your framework and the floor above.

**Crawl Space**  
To insulate masonry walls in heated crawl space, begin by measuring and cutting small pieces of unfaced insulation to fit snugly against band joists. Using long furring strips, nail vertical lengths of unfaced insulation batts to the sill; make sure to use enough insulation to cascade down the wall and extend two feet along the ground into the crawl space.

Faced material cannot be used for this installation because the facing is flammable and should never be left exposed.

On walls that run parallel to joists, it is not necessary to cut separate header strips. Simply use longer pieces of insulation nailed directly to the band joists.

Last, lay a polyethylene film over the insulation and the entire floor area. Use bricks or rocks to help hold the insulation in place on the ground.

To receive a free copy of "The Homeowners' Guide to Insulation and Energy Savings," write to M.S.U. Meeks, Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp., Fiberglass Tower, Toledo, OH 43659.



Mulch saves water, keeps weeds down and gives landscaped areas a professionally-finished look. Homeowners can make their own mulches using a garden shredder which processes wood, fallen leaves, grass clippings and other organic debris.

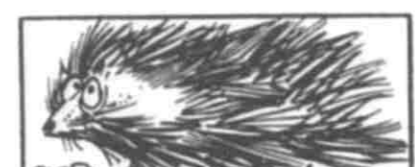
## Garden Mulch: Sounds ugly, looks great & saves

Take a look at the landscaping in any industrial park and you'll see mulch. It's that layer of pine bark nuggets, wood chips or stone spread around the plants and flowers that gives the whole job a clean, finished appearance.

Popular in commercial installations, mulch is mostly overlooked by homeowners and that's too bad. The right mulch in the right place will not only give your garden and landscaped areas a nice, manicured look, it will save you literally tons of water by holding moisture in the soil.

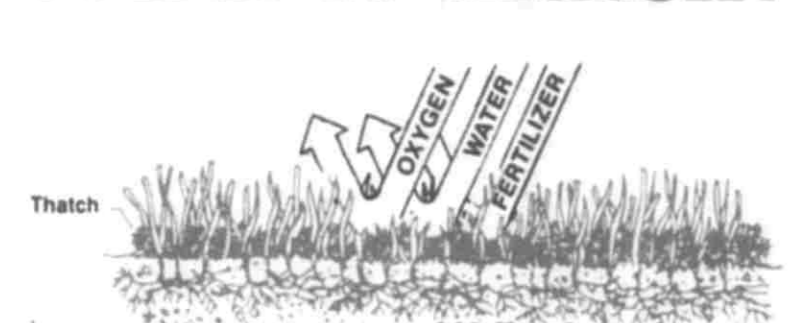
Mulch also keeps weeds in the dark so they don't come up. And, if you use organic mulches, they'll improve your soil as they decompose. Mulches can be bought at the garden center, or you can make your own using a garden shredder. Here are some mulches to consider:

- Pine Bark or Needles:** Pine bark comes in shreds, chips and nuggets of various sizes. It has a soft brown color and pleasant texture. Pine needles are also a lovely, good-smelling mulch. All will last several years, gradually breaking down and improving the soil. Pine mulches acidify the soil so they're best around evergreens, rhododendrons, azaleas and other plants which like this condition. Elsewhere, apply limestone to offset acidity.
  - Wood Chips:** You can buy wood chips, but it's easy to make your own using a garden shredder. The Vornado Chipp'r/Shredd'r/Mulch'r handles heavy wood up to 1 7/8 inches in diameter, as well as grass clippings, fallen leaves and garden waste. These handy machines are available in gas or electric models and can be purchased at hardware stores, garden centers, and wherever outdoor power equipment is sold.
  - Leaves and Grass Clippings:** Shredded, both of these natural byproducts of your yard make excellent mulches. Neither grass nor leaves should be used unprocessed as they will compact and form an impenetrable mat.
  - Salt Hay and Straw:** Not as attractive as bark or chips, but great for the vegetable garden, salt hay and straw decompose in one season and improve the soil. While in place, these and other mulches keep vegetables clean and minimize weeding and watering.
  - Stones and Other Inorganic Mulches:** Gravel, river stones, sheet plastic and various synthetic fabrics all have some value as mulch -- black plastic is great for tomatoes -- but won't improve soil quality as organics will.
  - Exotic Mulches:** Depending on where you live, you may have access to one or more unusual mulch materials. Cocoa bean and buck wheat hulls, corncoobs, shredded sugar cane ("bagasse"), ground oyster shell, and sawdust all make serviceable mulches.
- Mulch should be spread in four-to-six inch layers around landscape trees and shrubs, between rows of vegetables, in annual and perennial beds, wherever there would otherwise be stretches of bare soil. It's best to lay mulch after soil has warmed up in the spring.



A mature porcupine has over 30,000 quills.

## What is thatch?

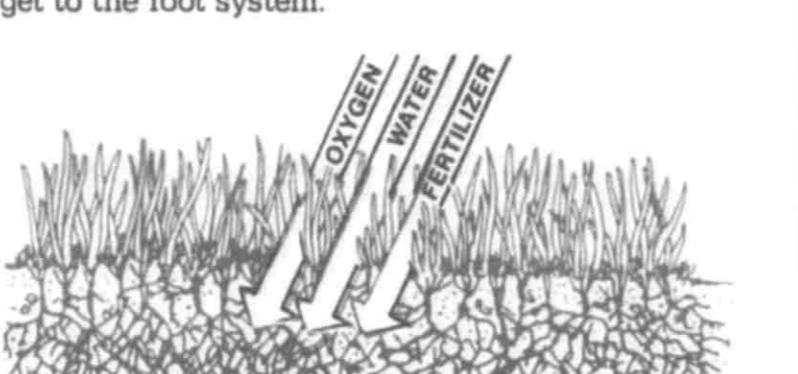


Thatch is a dense mat, an accumulation of roots, stems and grass clippings between the soil and the visible green vegetation. Often several inches thick, thatch prevents the penetration of oxygen, fertilizers and water down into the soil where they are needed.

Thatch also creates a breeding ground for fungus and for insects that destroy lawns. Every time you mow the lawn, more thatch builds up, creating a denser barrier to the nutrients your lawn needs.



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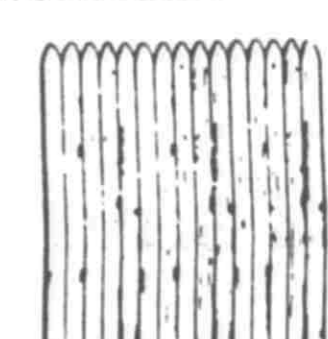
4x8 - 1/2" Foil 2 Sides Regular \$6.59	4x8 - 1" Foil 2 Sides Regular \$11.20
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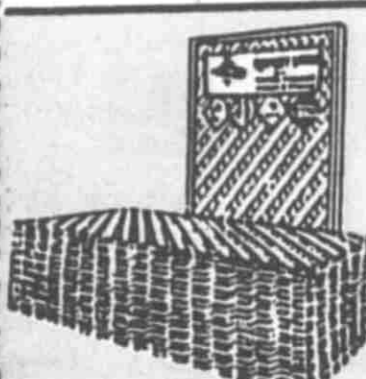
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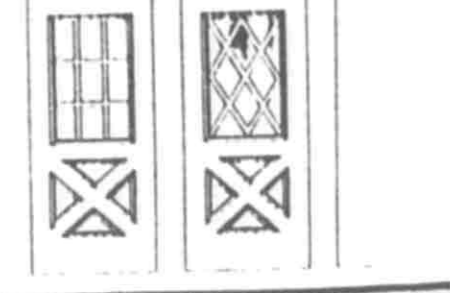
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# Advice for ceramic tile installers and repairers

As winter yields to warm spring breezes, homeowners turn their attention to sprucing up those rooms of the house that receive especially heavy use during cold-weather months. Kitchen and baths are often first on the list.

In particular, spring finds many do-it-yourselfers repairing and replacing the ceramic tile that is so popular in creating a dramatic and striking look to fit with the homeowner's unique style.

Ceramic tile, however, can be tricky to work with and even trickier to repair. It can be heavy and brittle - subject to a variety of ills if not installed or maintained properly.

Red Devil, Inc., the Union, New Jersey, based manufacturer of chemical products and tools for the do-it-yourselfer, offers the following suggestions for installing, maintaining and repairing ceramic tile on walls.

## To tile a wall

Here are some general guidelines to follow when tiling a wall for the first time. When tile is applied over a solid surface such as wallboard, hardboard or plywood, surface material must be exterior grade.

Begin by squaring off the work area. No wall is perfect, so you need to be very careful in making your area square. Be certain that the distance from the vertical squared lines to the walls does not exceed the width of the tile.

Spread the adhesive over a 3'x5' area of wall, forming ridges in the adhesive with the appropriate adhesive trowel. Tile half the wall at a time, working in horizontal lines.

To avoid using a tool box worth of tools, Red Devil has developed the Mastercutter™, a multi-purpose tool which has alleviated the complexity and frustration often associated with do-it-yourself tiling projects.

The Mastercutter, a hand-held device, measures, scores and snaps tiles, as well as removing old grout and helping to align the wall tile surface.

Press each tile into the adhesive (also called mastic) but don't slide it or the adhesive will be forced up the edges onto the tile surface. After each row of tile, check with your level to be sure you are working in a straight pattern.

When you have finished tiling the wall, the adhesive must set for at least 24 hours. To apply the waterproof grout in the joints, follow the manufacturer's mixing instructions carefully and use a rubber-surfaced trowel to spread the grout.

When the grout begins to dry, wipe off the excess. After the grout is thoroughly dry, rinse the wall and wipe with a clean towel.

Generally, you will need to caulk at the bottom where the tile ends, as in tiling around the bathtub. If you are concerned about unsightly caulking lines which might destroy the look you've worked so hard to create, try Red Devil Clear Caulk.

Clear Caulk applies crystal clear and remains clearer than other products, including silicones, after years in place. Clear Caulk blends with any surface and custom color. It is extremely elastic, will not crack or peel and is warranted for the life of the project.

## Repair and maintenance

Wall tile failure is due to several factors: Movement of the wall support, warping of the studs, shifting of the foundation or improper preparation and installation. Wall tile may also have to be removed and replaced because of crazing, where a pattern of hairline cracks appear over the glazed surface of the tile.

There are several rules of thumb to observe about repairing ceramic tiling. First, repairing ceramic tiling can be a nightmare if you do not have the proper equipment or products.

Second, fix the damage as soon as possible. Don't let the problem get any worse or you could end up replacing an entire wall or floor.

Third, make sure you have tiles left over from the initial installation. Purchasing and matching tiles can be a tedious and sometimes



A tile cutter as illustrated, drastically reduces the time and myriad of tools needed for the simplest of tiling jobs.

## Remove the damaged tile

Remove the damaged tile by scoring out the old cement along the joints. There are several tools on the market that aid in the removal of stubborn tile and adhesive.

## Step-by-step for repairing tile

When the job involves removing more than a few floor tiles, Red Devil Slamscraper™ Impact Tool makes short work of this tough job. The Slamscraper, used like a push broom, does most of the work, delivering a force of up to 150 lbs. per square inch through a sliding hammer action.

After you have removed the tile, clean to the original surface. All the old grout and adhesive must be completely removed as well. To ensure that this is done, brush or vacuum the surface thoroughly.

Cut the replacement tile to the correct size. Apply the ceramic tile adhesive to the back of the new tile with a putty knife. Keep the adhesive about 1/2 inch away from the edges of the tile. If you are replacing more than a few tiles, it's better to apply the adhesive directly to the original surface.

Don't get the adhesive into the space where the grout is to be placed; the grout won't hold properly to the adhesive. Paint thinner will remove the adhesive that may be left on the tile.

With a recommended applicator such as the Mastercutter (or by holding the tile by the edges), position the replacement piece even with the remaining tile. Gently force the tile into place. Most adhesives will set within a half hour and will be completely dry within 24 hours.

After the adhesive has dried, prepare the grout. Usually, you need to mix the grout to a cream consistency. Apply the grouting cement

to fill the joints. Let the grout set for at least 15 minutes, then remove the excess grout with a damp sponge. When the grout has dried completely, polish with a rag.

For information on the use of these or any other Red Devil product, you can call the toll-free number 1-800-247-3790 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. (E.S.T.) Monday through Friday, and ask for "Big Red."

# Tips for a beautiful and healthy vegetable garden

Good gardening is largely a matter of common sense. But it helps to know a couple of tricks. Here are some tips to help reduce your work load and keep your garden free of weeds and pests for a beautiful, bountiful harvest.

**Dig You Must:** Soil preparation is half the weed battle. Cultivate to a depth of 8 to 10 inches with a tiller or by hand. You'll not only loosen and aerate the soil, you'll bury a lot of weed seeds and insect eggs deep enough to kill them.

**Choose Seeds and Plants Carefully:** Check seed packets or seedling labels for disease-resistance. A tomato labelled "VFN" means it's resistant to Verticillium wilt, Fusarium and nematodes. Ask the nurseryman what kinds are best. Pick varieties suited to your climate - early maturing types if you have a short growing season.

**Plant in Blocks:** Plant your seed or started seedlings in tight blocks a foot or so square, with boards or straw-mulched paths in between. This checkerboard method leaves little bare ground for weeds to invade and gives easy access to plants.

**Mix Things Up A Little:** Mix blocks of vegetables with herbs, flowers, and other ornamental plants for a more interesting garden, and to discourage attack by large numbers of the same kind of pest.

**Beat The Bugs, Safely:** You needn't panic and start spraying chemicals around if you see a bug. Plants can tolerate a few pests without serious damage. If you must take action, keep it simple: \* to control slugs, sink a

shallow dish to its rim in the garden and fill it with beer. Crowds of these voracious pests will be attracted, fall in and drown overnight. \* To foil cutworms, put paper cup collars around your tomato plants, and sink them an inch or two into the soil. \* Hand-pick and squash tomato hornworms, or use Bt, (Bacillus thuringiensis) a natural control for caterpillars and worms. \* Use safe, insecticidal soaps for aphids, mealybugs, spider mites, scale and whitefly.

If insects get out of hand and you need an insecticide, always look for non-toxics like the insecticidal soaps or natural pyrethrin-based insecticides made by Safer. These products control pests without posing a threat to people, pets or the environment.

Attracting birds to your property will help reduce insect populations. You can also buy and release beneficial insects such as ladybugs and praying mantis which feed on aphids and other pests.

**Water at the Ground Level:** Don't hose vegetable plants down. Keeping leaves and fruit dry will greatly reduce plant diseases. Investing in a simple drip irrigation kit or soaker hose will save work and water, while helping keep plants healthy.

Good gardening habits and a sensible approach to pest and weed control make for an attractive garden and a healthy harvest.

Safer offers a free booklet of tips for yard, garden and houseplant care. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: P.O. Box 1665, New York, NY 10116.

# Ubell offers pointers for prime time performance

Do-it-yourselfers have a love/hate relationship with painting. That's what a well-known paint manufacturer found when it surveyed consumers who do painting projects: Roughly half of the respondents said they "love to paint," and the remainder said they "hate to paint."

Whether you fall into one group or the other, painting is the most popular DIY project, according to a home repair survey conducted by the Good Housekeeping Institute.

The reasons for looking forward to your next painting project - or cringing when the house begins to crack and peel - are many, but there are a few practical pointers that can help you achieve better painting performances, whether you enjoy painting or not.

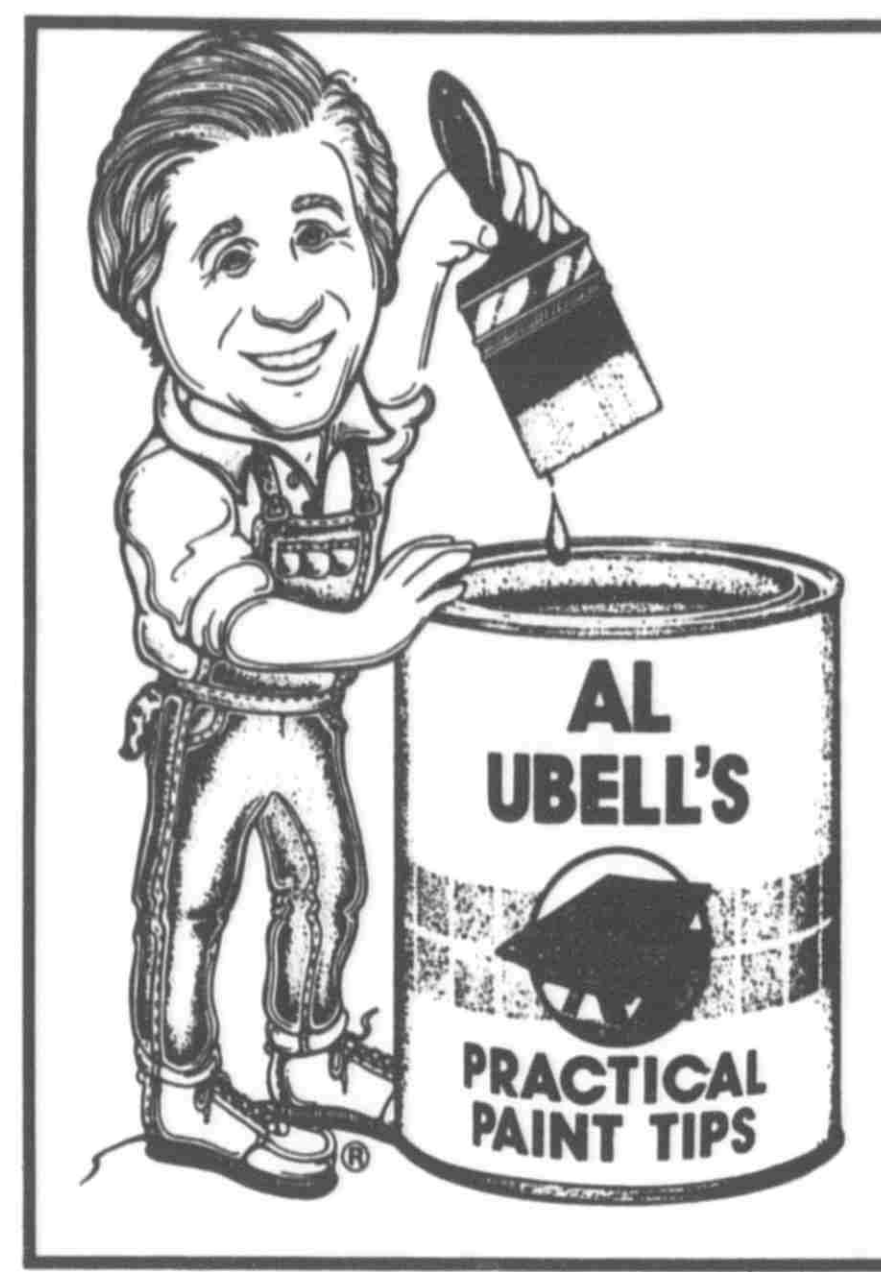
The following is a collection of tips designed to overcome some of the pesky painting challenges we all face during this spring home improvement season:

## The great frame-up

Is there an easy way to paint

## Customize your paint

The surface you paint, and its



environment, can require special coating performance features. Some of these can be achieved with paint additives that you mix into the paint before applying it.

For example, if the north side of your home is susceptible to mildew growth, fungicide additives will fight the bacteria growth on those moist areas.

There are also paint insecticides and preservatives that help ward off wood infestation and rot. Other additives are designed to improve paint adhesion

and flowing/leveling characteristics. Check your local paint store for these special items.

**Know your enemy**  
The need to repaint is often caused by moisture. If it's a metal surface, moisture will speed surface oxidation, or rust; if it's wood, moisture penetrates the paint film and enters the wood fibers.

Varying moisture levels in the wood lead to warping and cracking, which in turn can cause the paint to peel. Also, moisture in the wood creates a culture that enables bacteria to grow and rot

the window frame and not the window? If you have the masking tape blues, try this: Take a single newspaper sheet, wet it, and place it squarely on the glass overlapping the frame. Before the paper dries, use a utility knife to carefully cut the newspaper along the edge where the glass and frame meet, then paint.

When the paint and paper dry, remove the paper to reveal a clean, straight paint line and a clear window pane.

**A groovy idea**  
The groove around the top of the paint can that helps secure the lid doubles as a paint collector. As you work, this "lip" fills with paint and overflows down the can sides and onto the floor.

A drainage system will alleviate this mess and can be created simply by punching a few small holes in the can's rim, using a hammer and an awl or ice pick. The paint will then drain back into the can.

# Impatiens:

## Flowers for all uses

"Paint your yard" with the flower which, in recent years, has become America's number one favorite - and with good reason. It's a very versatile plant, which thrives in sun or shade.

Impatiens, with single or double blooms, are available in a number of varieties, with heights ranging from six inches to two feet. You can use them as a ground cover in areas too shady for good grass growth - you can use them as a bed around the base of a specimen tree in your lawn to accent the beauty of the tree. They need almost no care except for regular feeding with a soluble plant food such as Miracle-Gro.

Imagine impatiens as a welcoming multi-colored border on either side of the walk leading up to your house! In a foundation planting, impatiens create a superb setting for your shrubbery with the added benefit of acting as a "living mulch" - forcing out most weeds.

Imagine, too, a bed along the edge of your property massed with impatiens - all one color, or in a checkerboard pattern, or just random scattering of reds, whites, pinks, oranges and violets. You're the artist - wield your own paintbrush.

The flower is resistant to insects and diseases and is very undemanding. Nothing could be easier! Just dig a hole, insert a transplant in it and fill around it with soil. Your impatiens will grow and flower.

But if you want breathtaking displays of this beauty, water each

planting hole with a cupful of a complete soluble plant food such as Miracle-Gro mixed one tablespoon to a gallon of water. It contains important trace elements of plant nutrients that all plants must have to grow strong and beautiful.

After that, a liquid feeding every week or two will reward you with a magnificent show of color throughout your property. If you have a large garden area, the Miracle-Gro No-Clog Feeder makes this an easy, pleasant task. Just remember - between feedings, in the absence of at least moderate rainfall, water your garden well!

Suppose you don't have - or can't spare - a lot of garden space? Impatiens lend themselves beautifully to container gardening - perhaps a tall double variety such as Rosette Hybrid in the center of a large tub or half-barrel with Elfins around the edge.

Picture a display like that on either side of the entrance to your home. The new, six-inch Super Elfins variety is ideal in a rock garden.

The versatile impatiens is among the longest blooming annuals, flowering from mid-spring until frost. If you'd like to make it a "flower for most seasons," take cuttings in mid-summer, pot them up and bring them indoors (do this early to let the plants become gradually accustomed to the dry conditions indoors in winter), put them on a sunny windowsill, and they'll continue to grow and flower.



There's no flower more versatile than the impatiens. They'll grow almost anywhere, in shade or sun, in soils rich or poor, even in sand.

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entire opening with cellophane wrap (plastic food wrap will work).

Next, secure the lid by tapping with a hammer, then stand the can on its lid and step on it with your full body weight (do not use this step for plastic containers). Finally, store the can upside-down, which prevents air from entering the can and drying out the paint.

## Give stiff bristles the brush

Like most things, the cost of a good paint brush is going up. Here is a paint brush storage technique to extend brush life by keeping the bristles from hardening.

After you rinse paint from the brush (using mineral spirits for oil-base and soap and warm water for latex paints), place the handle between your palms and rub them vigorously for 30 seconds. This will spin the remaining liquid out of the brush and help it dry.

Then, lay a full newspaper page on the floor. Place the brush at the bottom left edge of the paper with the handle off the page. Turn the brush over, folding the paper with it and wrap the bristles tightly, and continue this process until the brush is completely "packaged" in paper. A rubber band will keep it from unraveling and the bristles will stay flexible in storage.

**Paint storage wrap-up**  
When you buy a gallon of paint, use only part of the contents, and store it for an extended period, the paint may begin to harden inside the can. Try this: Before you close a paint can, wipe out the groove around the top of the can, then cover the

entire opening with cellophane wrap (plastic food wrap will work).

Next, secure the lid by tapping with a hammer, then stand the can on its lid and step on it with your full body weight (do not use this step for plastic containers). Finally, store the can upside-down, which prevents air from entering the can and drying out the paint.

Paint brushes are available in various sizes and materials, and choosing the right brush for the job will save you time and money.

Of course, the brush size will be dictated by the area to be covered and the need for careful trimming - siding jobs suggest a larger four-inch size, while the "angle sash" brushes are designed for window frames, moldings and other narrow surfaces.

Bristles are either natural or synthetic. Natural is best for oil-based coatings, varnishes and polyurethane coating, but do not work well for latex or water-base paints because the bristles absorb water and lose shape. Synthetic brushes, the best of which have nylon/polyester blend bristles, perform well with all types of paints.

Finally, before you apply a paint, sealer or stain, make sure you follow the surface preparation directions on the container. If you love to paint, you'll be especially pleased with the results; if you hate to paint, proper surface preparation will give you a longer-lasting finish.

# home improvement time

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Lovely and Easy to Care For...

## A rose for all seasons is a delight for Gardeners

Rose is a rose is a rose... sometimes. For the wildlife gardener, the word rose brings to mind wonderfully scented, beautifully flowering mounds of lush green foliage sustained only through minute-by-minute fungicide applications - or that much maligned, wonderful habitat resource, the rampant multiflora.

The middle ground, however, a floriferous, easy to care for, densely shrubby rose, is fairly barren. Yes, there are the rugosas and native species such as the prairie, swamp and pasture roses. They are not for everyone however. Rugosas are sometimes fussy and the natives are hard to come by.

A rose introduced in 1987 has changed this. An All-America Rose selection, it offers lots of

bloom over a period of months. It is very hardy, practically care-free, densely shrubby and bears heavy crops of hips throughout the fall and into the winter. This seeming miracle is the Bonica shrub rose.

What does this rose look like? Think of a multiflora which stays fairly compact, four feet high by five wide. Add hundreds of pink flowers per plant, each two to three inches in diameter, fully double and slightly fragrant. Frame the flower against deep green, glossy foliage. That's a rough sketch of the Bonica.

The Bonica may not be a breakthrough plant for rose breeders, but its introduction is very significant for residential and commercial landscapes.

It's the result of crosses - an

unnamed seedling of a climber, the evergreen rose and a named Rambler, Mile. Martha Carron, pollinated by the well-known floribunda, Picasso.

The original cross was made by the French rose breeder, the House of Meilland. This new rose was tested for years here in the United States. It has flourished through severe win-

ter, summer heat, drought and pestilence that would have killed lesser plants. The Conard-Pyle Company introduced this rose into the American horticultural trade.

For wildlife, this rose offers the cover density of the multiflora. In summer, the rose provides ideal nesting habitat for mockingbirds, song sparrows,

cardinals and catbirds. In winter, a grouping of three or more Bonicas placed near your bird feeders offers safe harbor for many species of songbirds waiting their turn for a sunflower, millet, or niger seed snack.

The abundant half-inch long fruits or hips, the product of summer insect pollination, begin to

color orange-red in September. They hold their color well, providing winter landscape interest. These fruits provide birds and mammals with food through January.

As you visit your local garden center this spring and summer, look for this rose - then find a home for it in your landscape. You'll be glad you did.

## Introduce your child . . . To the pleasures of growing a garden

Childhood development specialists have long understood the value of gardening. Gardening provides children with invaluable early life creative experiences. It also teaches a number

of important life lessons, including a strong commitment to responsibility, and emphasizes the rewards one gains from care and nurturing.

The value of gardening has also been proven with older children. Many cities such as Dayton, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., have shown inner-city youth gardening programs pay big dividends in developing a sense of community and respect for property, plus the harvest payoff after a long season of tending the garden.

Many experts believe that one of the most rewarding experiences a child can have is to reap the rewards of fresh flowers, fruits and vegetables grown in one's own garden.

Children as young as two years can be successful gardeners. The trick, however, is to start on a scale to match the youngsters' physical capabilities and attention spans. It's important to give children the benefit of early success by allowing them an easily managed garden. In some cases, it might be just a bed of a few flowers, or one or two tomato plants.

You will be amazed at how children thrill at the joy of discovery by watching their very own planting grow, mature and fruit. After a year or two of fairly easy success is the best time to lead them into more challenging and physically demanding tasks.

To get started choose an area where you know things will grow, or are currently growing.

Vegetables and annual flowers need a full day of sun and plenty of water. The area you choose for your beginning gardener should be level, to avoid seed or unestablished plants from running off after a heavy rain or watering.

The time to get started is what gardeners call the "last fear of frost". According to the Garden Council, the most reliable way to get this date is to phone the local agricultural extension agent who is listed in your phone book. You want the soil warm and dry enough to work easily with your hands.

Next, clear the designed garden area of all vegetation. Many children seem to like having their garden staked and tied off with cord, making this their own special territory. Next spread compost or peat moss or shredded leaves on the ground at the rate of two to three inches. Add a good general garden fertilizer, about one pound to 10 square feet. Work this into the soil.

The remaining preparation is to divide the garden into rows with stakes and string. Consult the seed packet information to determine how far apart rows should be and how deep to plant the seed.

After the work of planting is done, the real lessons of gardening begin, because it is time for "tending" for long days before any results are seen. The child learns that his responsibility is necessary if future results are to be realized.

When the young plants reach two to three inches in height, "thin" out the garden by pulling out extra seedlings. Too many plants in one bed will rob all the plants of needed growing space and nutrients.

When plants reach three to four inches high, it's time to sprinkle small amounts of fertilizer along the side of each row. Then water lightly. An alternative to this is to use a water-soluble fertilizer which will allow you to feed and water at the same time.

A weekly or twice-weekly weeding and watering is about the only care the new plants will need, until it's time to pick the flowers for an indoor bouquet or to harvest the fresh vegetables for the dinner table.



To teach a child gardening is to provide that child with a skill that will last a lifetime. Senior citizens often describe their early gardening experiences under the watchful eye of a caring adult as some of their happiest memories. Begin now to build the joy of gardening your children will always cherish.

## Do you know how to plant a salad bowl garden?

The fun, flavor and satisfaction of home-raised vegetables prompts millions of American homeowners to plant backyard gardens every year. But, until recently, those of us who live in apartments or simply lack the space, time and energy for full-scale gardening have had to settle for store-bought fare.

The recent development of modern, lightweight potting mixes and the availability of large, inexpensive containers has made it possible to raise prize-winning vegetables on a

deck, patio or even in a sunny windowsill. Container gardeners are now raising tomatoes, peppers, even sweet corn in pots. Salad greens are among the easiest to grow and will make a beautiful decorative planter as well.

Here are some tips for planting your own salad bowl garden.

1. Select a wide-mouthed container at least five or six inches deep. Glazed or unglazed ceramic bowls, are excellent, but you may use any suitably-sized

container provided it has drainage holes in the bottom.

2. Fill the container with a lightweight, soilless potting mixture designed for container-gardening. A good choice is Hoffman Container Gardening Soil Mix. This mix offers an excellent air and water holding capacity so that plant roots will neither dry out nor be suffocated by compacted soil - a common problem with standard potting soils. Lightweight mixes need to be thoroughly dampened before planting.

3. Plant seed or started transplants from your garden center. Looseleaf, non-heading varieties of lettuce work best. Here are some other easy-to-grow, good-tasting vegetables to try: Swiss Chard. Resembles lettuce, but doesn't boil to seed in hot weather. Try the ruby red variety, "Rhubarb", interplanted with green salad vegetables for a beautifully decorative bowl.

4. Set your salad bowl gardens where they'll receive five or six hours of sunshine daily. Bowls of lettuce alone will tolerate somewhat less than this. If you place the bowls outdoors on a patio or deck, remember to wait until danger of frost is past. As the weather turns warmer, you will need to provide some shade during the hottest part of the day to slow lettuce down and prolong your harvest.

5. Keep the soil in your containers uniformly moist but not soggy. If you have a number of containers planted, or need to be away from home for a day or two, you may want to consider some kind of automatic watering system such as drip irrigation. There are several good kits available for home container gardeners.

6. Vegetables grown in containers do best with small amounts of fertilizer applied often. Feed them with a complete fertilizer

(one containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium plus trace elements) starting when they are four to six inches tall and then every two weeks thereafter, using half the amount recommended on the package.

Once your salad bowls are up

and growing, use them as decorative accents on your patio, deck or a sunny spot indoors. For added color, try mixing them with pots of bright edible annual flowers like nasturtiums, of flowering herbs.

## Window shopping requires a close and thorough look

If you are one of the millions of Americans who will be having new windows installed in their homes this year, here's a tip about window shopping: Take a close look at the windows as well as through them.

The Vinyl Window and Door Institute suggests that homeowners look for these features: energy efficiency, low maintenance and durability as well as appearance.

Because the color is part of the vinyl, the windows do not need to be painted. A mild detergent and water is all that's needed to keep the frame and sash new looking. Vinyl windows also have a sash that can be tilted or removed for easy cleaning.

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## The Question Is...

### To spray or not to spray

To spray or not to spray? Liquid vs. dry fertilizer

It's spring, time to store the shovel and put away the icemelter. At the local home and garden center, boxes, bags and bottles of fertilizer are popping up all over. The ultimate question hangs - To spray or not to spray - what's best for my lawn?

To choose the proper fertilizer, consider these points before you reach the store:

1. Know thyself - do you want to spend days grooming the yard or merely hours?

2. Know thy lawn - have had recurring problems, how many square feet do you really need to cover? Remember to subtract the square footage of your driveway, house and large plants.

With these answers in mind, you're ready to compare products and packages.

As a rule, liquid fertilizers offer excellent quality when properly applied, but too often they're not used correctly. The fertilizer is sprayed, but the application does not necessarily coincide with the grass' growing

cycle. Instead of being diluted by rain, the liquid may be absorbed by the ground at full strength, creating over-application.

Other questions arise when considering liquids, such as how much is needed to cover the lawn, and how fast should I walk to ensure that's covered? It's often difficult to keep track of what has and has not been sprayed.

Dry products, on the other hand, are easier to measure, especially for the novice gardener. You can see the product in the covered area, so overfertilizing and burning are less likely to occur. Dry fertilizers are also diluted by rain, then absorbed into the ground. When choosing dry products, always look for:

1. Granular or ammoniated-type fertilizers - often referred to

as homogeneous fertilizers, they reduce the risk of burning due to over-application and insure balanced turf feeding.

2. Slow-release nitrogen products - they are easily absorbed into the ground and prevent burning because of the timed release action.

3. Triamine - this ingredient is a broad spectrum weed control product, so it attacks a large number of weeds.

4. Self-spreading bags - these convenient applicators eliminate the need for spreaders, depending on the size of your lawn. Recently introduced products, such as Nature's Best Brand LawnPak 2000 are available in self-spreading bags.

5. Complete year-round packages - these handy kits contain at least four applications for the entire year, and they're generally reasonably priced.

With checklist in hand, you should now be ready to make an educated decision between the myriads of liquid and dry fertilizers on the market. Remember, time upfront can turn lawn care from a chore into a hobby.

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Salad bowl gardens can be grown spring through fall on a patio or deck and year 'round in a sunny spot indoors. This container gardener has planted bowls with several kinds of lettuce and herbs.



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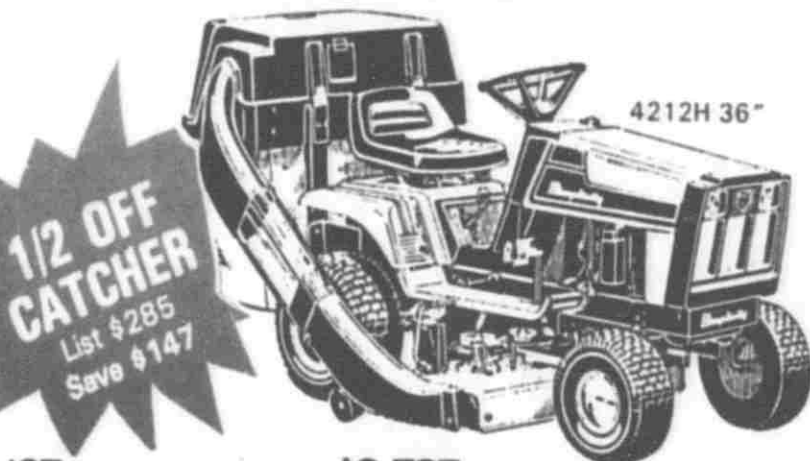
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Showboat Automotive's Hugh Cosgrove, right, and Kirk Foley, left, can set you up with a riding lawn mower to take care of your lawn this summer.

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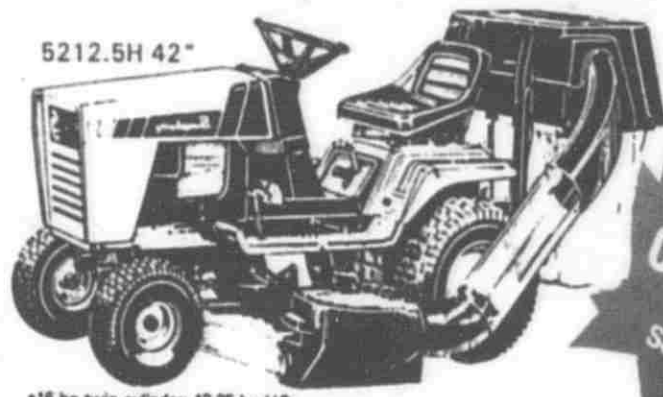


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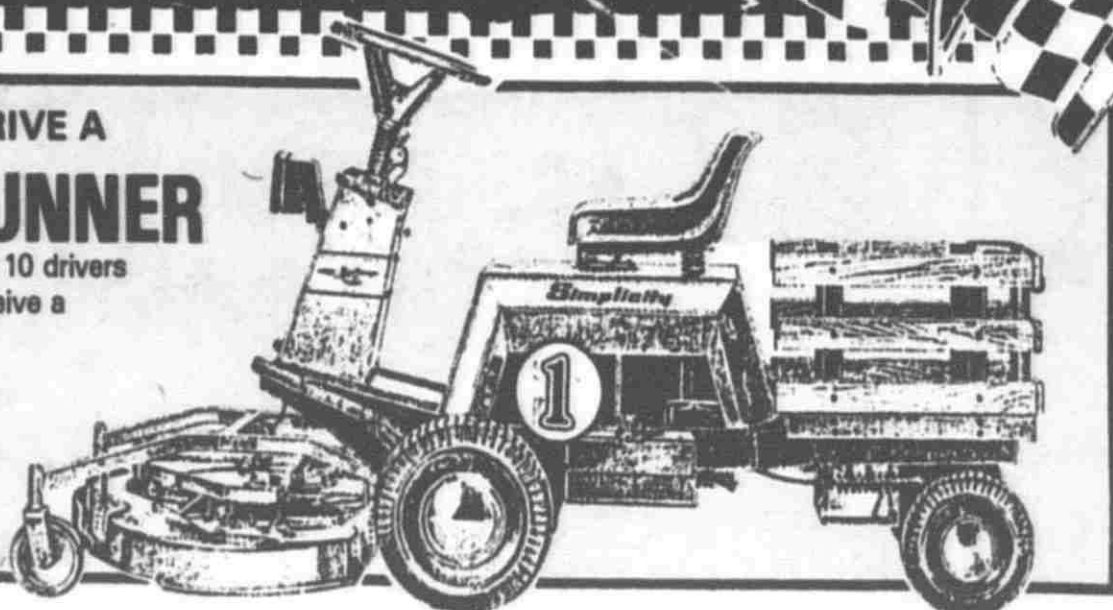
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## Tips for lawn mower shoppers

Nearly six million walk-behind lawn mowers are sold each year in the United States. Below are answers to the most asked questions of lawn mower shoppers, according to The Toro Company.

\* What are my choices? You'll find a wide range of lawn mower models and prices, ranging from bargain basement to more than \$700.

There are self-propelling and walk power mowers; side-discharge, rear and side-bagging and mulching models; pull start or key electric start features; safety systems and more to consider.

\* How do I narrow my choices? Start with the critical component in the mower, the engine. You'll find three types of lawn mower engines today: standard four-cycle, two-cycle and overhead valve (OHV) four-cycle engines.

The standard four-cycle is the highly durable longtime standard of the industry. But in recent years, the two-cycle has grown in popularity. The two-cycle is smaller and lighter and has fewer moving parts to wear out or break.

The newest engine on the scene is the OHV four-cycle engine. Its technologically superior design provides extra cutting power, ease of starting and long life.

Remember these upkeep tips about four and two-cycles: With separate oil and gas chambers, the four-cycle will require occasional oil changes. You needn't change the oil on the two-cycle, but you will have to mix oil with each tank of gasoline.

\* Will my mower start easily? This is the deepest fear of a lawn mower shopper. You can deal with your concern by asking the dealer to let you test-start a mower.

Also, ask if starting is part of the warranty. For instance, Toro's GTS line of mowers is guaranteed to start on the first or second pull for five years, or Toro fixes it free.

Key electric start options are available on some models. Add 15 percent to the cost of the mower in return for the convenience of automotive-type starting.

\* Is a self-propelling model right for me? A self-propelling model, with wheels that drive the mower while you guide it, is the perfect choice for those who don't want to push their mower back and forth across the lawn.

Some self-propelled models have various speed options. You may want to run your mower at a slower speed when trimming in confined areas.

When purchasing a rear-bagger, you may want to inquire about a rear-wheel drive, self-propelling version. Why? Because as the bag fills, the front wheels will lose drive traction.

Side-discharge baggers are typically front-wheel drive and are easier to control. The operator must simply tilt the wheels up to stop and turn.

\* Will the mower beautifully groom my yard? What you don't want is a mower that leaves tall blades of uncut grass called "stragglers" or forms a pattern of lines on your yard, resulting from the mower cutting lower on one side. A test drive can steer you clear of these models.

If you are able to arrange a test drive, mow a 20' square test plot and eyeball the grass surface from your hands and knees to determine the quality of cut.

If the ability to pick up pine needles, shreds of paper and sticks is important, select a model with strong vacuuming power. Some models, including Toro's Vacu-Power line, are designed with unimpeded air flow for superior vacuuming power.

\* What cutting width do I need? Consider first the layout and size of your yard. If your backyard is a maze of flower beds and obstacles, you might want a narrow width mower to make maneuvering easier. Mowers generally range in size from 17" to 22", with the 21" the standard for many homeowners.

\* What about my safety? A variety of options is available that will protect the operator while the mower is in operation.

Some models have a special brake designed to stop the blade and the engine quickly each time the handle is released. A "blade brake clutch" is also available. The clutch stops the blade while leaving the engine running. It saves you from having to restart the mower many times during the mowing task, but expect to pay \$40-\$45 for the feature.

Your mower should also have a trailing shield at the rear of the mower deck to prevent rocks and other debris from being thrown.

\* Which bagging option should I choose? Two types are available: Rear-baggers and a side-discharge mower with bagging attachment. Rear-baggers allow close, easy trimming with either side of the mower. Because the clippings don't need to "turn a corner" from a side chute into the bag as they do on a side-discharge bagger, they don't clog as easily.

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