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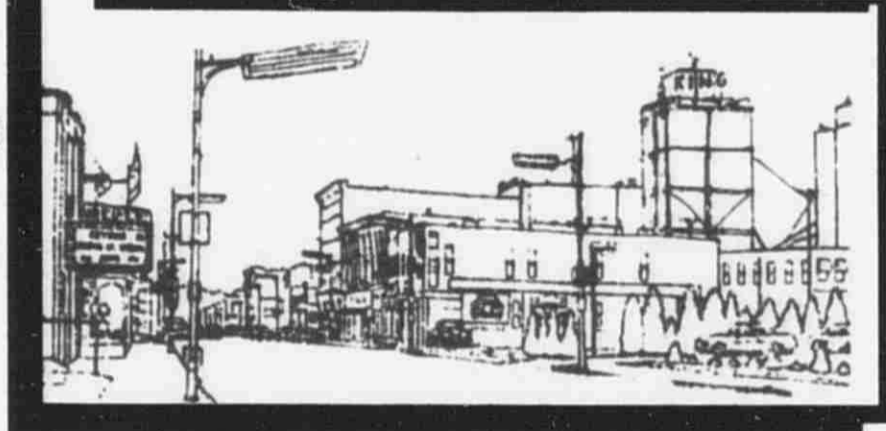
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 18, Issue 2

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 24, 1993

Along Main Street



POP BOTTLE FUND-RAISER

The Lowell Area Fire Department Explorer's Post #21102 will be holding a pop bottle fund-raiser. Bring your donation of empty pop cans and bottles to The Lowell Area Fire Department, 315 South Hudson Street on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Proceeds will be used to purchase smoke alarms for the elderly and needy in the Lowell area.

WOMEN'S CLUB BAKE SALE

The General Federation of Women's Club of Lowell will be holding a bake sale at FMB State Savings Bank on Dec. 3 and 4.

Proceeds will go to Scholarships for Seniors.

YOUTH BASKETBALL COACHES NEEDED

Coaches are needed for the Lowell YMCA youth basketball leagues. Time commitment consists of one, one hour practice per week and games on Saturdays starting in January.

For further information please call the YMCA at 897-8445. Practices start the week of Nov. 29.

POST OFFICE EXTENDED HOURS

The Ada Post office will be extending their hours for the holiday season.

Starting Dec. 6 the window will be open until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday until 1 p.m. These hours will be in effect through Dec. 23.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALE

The Lowell Area Schools Athletic Boosters will be selling Christmas trees and wreaths in the Family Fare parking lot. The sale will be held from Nov. 26 through Dec. 19. The hours will be: Monday through Friday, 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, 12 to 6 p.m.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP

The Lowell support group for family members and friends of Alzheimer's disease patients will meet Wednesday, Dec. 1 at Cumberland Retirement Village, 11535 E. Fulton at 6:30 p.m.

Interested persons may contact group leaders Betty Wiley, 897-4810 or Lynn Bylsma, 897-8413. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information contact the Chapter at (616) 949-7890 or 1-800-722-2516.

LHS CLASS OF 1954

Do you know the whereabouts of these class members: Carolyn Cleveland, Richard Godfrey, Jr., Robert Ray and Benjamin Rogers? Also these teachers: Louise Hoffs Peppel (Mrs. Al) and Jack Howe.

If you know where they are, please call Nancy Potter Porter, (616) 897-4335.

LOWELL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUB BOOK AND CRAFT SALE

The Lowell Federation of Women's Club is holding their annual book and craft sale at the Lowell FMB State Savings Bank on Friday, Dec. 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. until noon.

Come and enjoy their crafts and baked goods made by local women. The proceeds will provide scholarships for local seniors.

OPENINGS FOR YOUTH BASKETBALL

There are still openings for the YMCA youth basketball programs for boys, third and fourth-grade and girls, third and fourth-grade. Call the YMCA for registration information 897-8445.

Main St., cont'd., pg. 8

City in good financial position; Lowell Cable increases net income; while LL&P feels affects of agreement

City treasurer and account clerks commended for condition of accounting records

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

In times of financial uncertainty, the City of Lowell's 1992-93 audit will show the governmental entity to be in good financial position.

This past fiscal year's accounts and records indicate that the City's revenues exceeded its expenditures by \$38,000.

The City's total revenues equal about 1.478 mills. Its expenditures total 1.444 mills.

The City has a fund balance of \$525,000. Records show that fund balances around the state range from \$487,000 to \$631,000.

Tom Dickinson, of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson, noted that approximately \$150,000 of that has already been designated for use

in the future.

Dickinson warned the Council of the DDA's situation being in limbo because of the state education finance reform package. "This is something that will have to be monitored," he said.

In regards to the water and sewer funds, Dickinson said business operation accounts for their costs. "The revenues over the last couple of years have remained pretty much the same. There has been a little growth," he explained.

The audit report commended the City on its financial situation, especially when one takes into effect that it spends in excess of two mills or \$140,000 a year on trash service. "The City of Lowell is one of the few cities who still provides trash pickup," Dickinson said.

Savings were created through the refinancing of sewer bonds. These revenues were used to pay off the debt.

Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale said 37 percent of sewer fund revenues and 20 percent of water fund revenues went toward paying off water and sewer debts.

Dickinson had high praise for the City of Lowell's Treasurer/Finance Director, Judy Noonan and the City's account clerks.

"Maintaining accurate accounting records is vital to maintaining an efficient government operation. The condition of your accounting records has been outstanding," Dickinson said.

Audit continued, pg. 8

Community asked to help create a kingdom for kids

Tina Phillips: "To see one of these kingdoms that has been created in other towns is to be sold on it."

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

He's been referred to as the Johnny Appleseed of the swing sets and community-built projects.

Robert Leathers has provided a guiding hand in helping thousands of volunteers erect approximately 700 playgrounds all over the country.

Leathers assures his clients that his playgrounds will last at least 25 years, but the memories are guaranteed for a lifetime.

Tina Phillips is hoping that the Lowell Community will join her and help build a 10,000 square foot "Create a Kingdom" playground at Creekside Park, and in doing so create a lifetime of memories for her children and all the

Swing continued, pg. 8



Vision of what tomorrow could hold in store for Creekside Park.

Lowell Township receives rebate for unfinished work

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

A delay in road construction has saved Lowell Township \$12,730 in construction costs.

The Kent County Road Commission informed Lowell Township it will still receive the rebate even though they did not get to do the work this year.

The county was to repave a portion of Foreman Rd, between Alden Nash and Gee Drive this past fall, but because it could not receive the necessary easement along Alden Nash it postponed construction until next fall.

However, the township will still receive the rebate because Township Supervisor John Timpson signed a work order for the project

this past summer.

Timpson was informed that the township was eligible for money from the

governor's "Build Michigan" fund if they decided to do road

Cost continued, pg. 8

INSIDE THE LEDGER
Quilting part of centennial history
at St. Pat's, pg. 6

Bi-partisan package on
finance studied, pg. 7

Kids talk turkey, pg. 9

St. Patrick's school quilt to capture history's culture

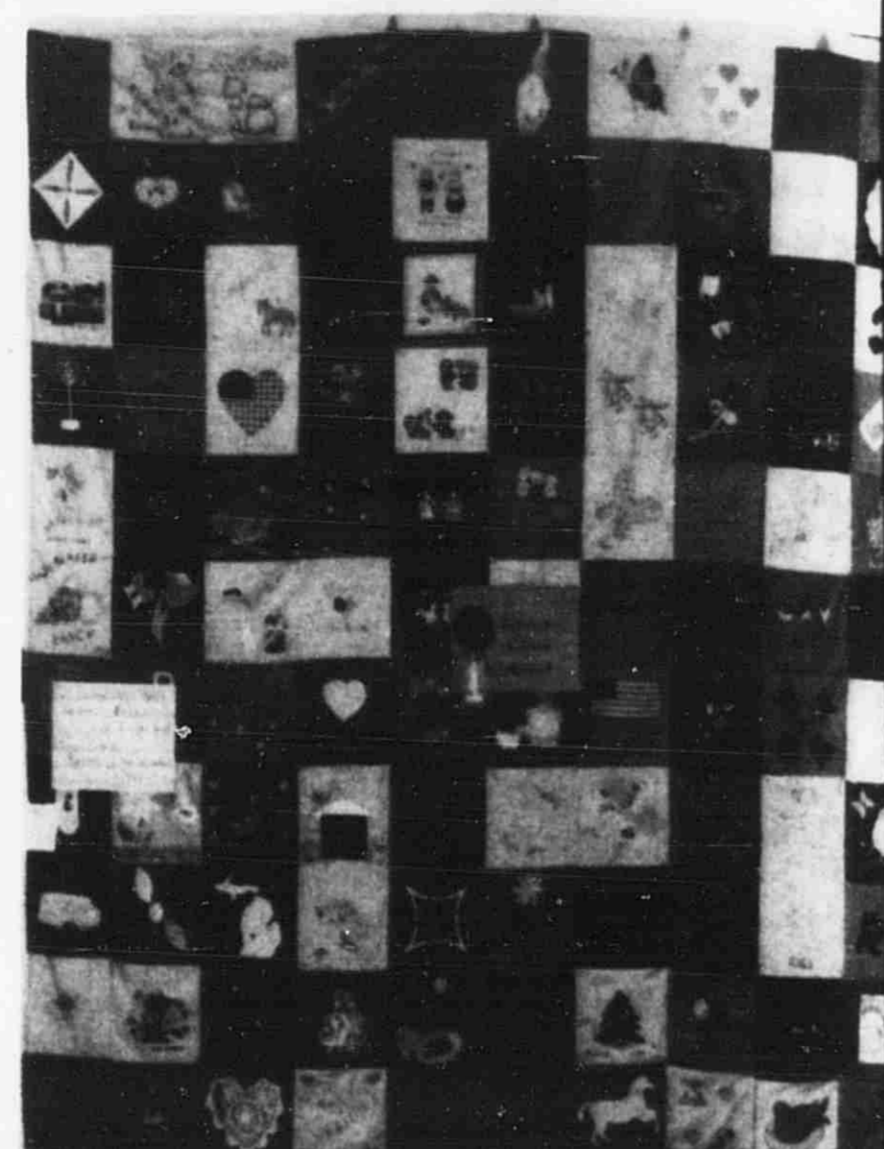
By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It was founded in 1893 under the principalship of Sister Mary Thomas and pastoralship of Father James Crumley. Principals, pastors and teachers have come and gone since that first day in September, 100 years ago, at St. Joseph's Academy. However, the school remains, though under the name of St. Patrick's School. The name change occurred in 1905. The school's history is alive and living in each of its 120 students and their fami-

lies this centennial year. To help celebrate the school's history, students and families will participate in an art as old as the school - quilting. "St. Patrick's is located in a rural setting. Most families have done quilts at some point in their past," St. Patrick's Principal, Roberta Bonner, said. "It's an art that has been kept alive in our community and culture." As part of the school's centennial celebration, St. Patrick's School will involve students in an extended unit on quilting. It will also involve stu-

dents, family and staff in putting together a 120-square quilt. Each 8" by 8" square will be a symbol and representation of each student's family. The quilt project was started in November, and the school has asked that all 120 squares be in by Dec. 1. The quilt will then be sewn together by two members of the parish. When the quilt is completed, it will be displayed at the school. The Catholic School started out as a one-room school and then eventually grew into a three-story struc-

ture where the nuns lived on the third floor. The school was attended by students grades K-12. In 1963, the school switched to a K-8 program. In preparation for the quilt project, classes put together paper quilts based on historical patterns from the past. Other activities will include a study of cemetery records and rubbing of stones, genealogy study, and the study of clothing in the 1890's. On the 100th day of this year (Feb. 2), students will wear centennial clothing and will spend one class period in the one-room school located behind the current building.



Sarah Stoffer's grandmother, Evelyn Kloska, was voted the students choice for best family quilt.

AREA BIRTHS

Jesse Droog is happy to

announce the arrival of his new baby sister, Laura Lynn. She was born November 8, 1993. She weighed 9 lbs. and 1 oz. and was 21 inches long. Their parents are Mark and Lynn Droog of Alto. Grandparents are Jim and Norma Peterson also of Alto

and Carol and the late Al Droog of Inverness, FL. Their special aunt is Kathy Peterson of Lowell. Great-grandmothers are Helen Peterson, Agnes Wieland and Nellie VanderVeen.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES!

Work Days or Evenings

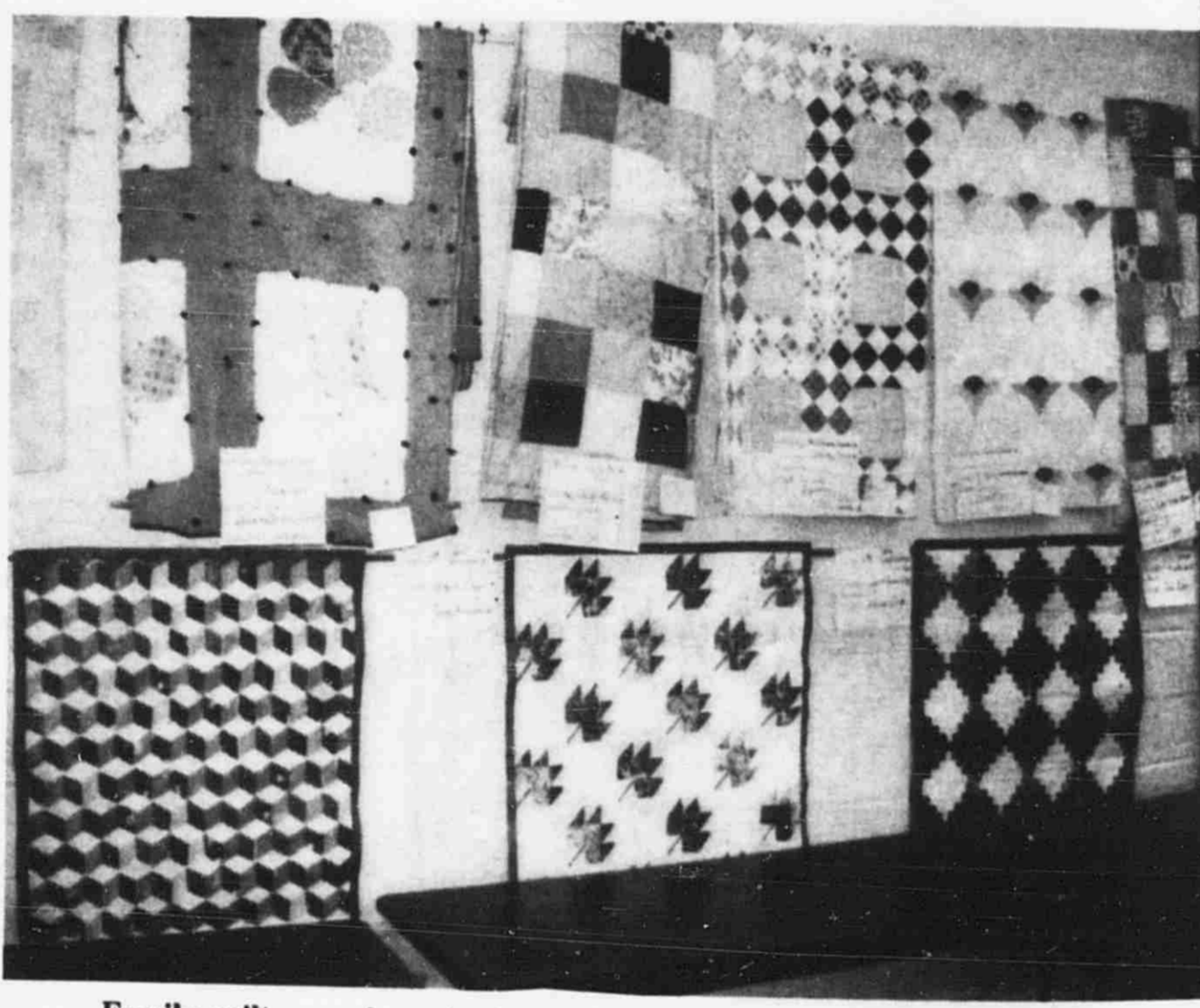
BURGER KING
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FULL TIME PART TIME

- Competitive hourly rates (starting up to \$5 an hour) and benefits.
- Excellent training program.
- Good working conditions.

These are immediate openings at the Burger King* listed below, for Food Handlers and Customer Contact personnel.

Apply In Person At:
LOWELL BURGER KING
1120 W. Main
ASK FOR THE MANAGER



Family quilts were hung in the St. Patrick's cafeteria.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 897-9261

We Sell Service You're Our Top Priority!

Speerstra Agency
A division of Carr Agency, Inc.
115 W. Main St. • Lowell, MI 49331
897-9259 or 897-8500

ROTH 24 HR. TOWING
2264 W. Main (Next Door To Ferrelgas)
897-5934

This space makes business cents at only \$5 a week

Denny Hawk Towing
Nights & Weekends
Local People... Helping Local People
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LOWELL GRAPHICS
SCREEN PRINTING EMBROIDERY

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1250 West Main Street • Lowell, Michigan 49331
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LOWELL, MICHIGAN

This space makes business cents at only \$5 a week

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This space makes business cents at only \$5 a week

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The Boat Man Service

Automotive Supply, Inc.
See Us For Parts, Accessories, Paint Body Shop Supplies & Machine Shop Service.

1450 W. Main Lowell 897-9231
HOURS: Mon. thru Fri., 8:00-7:00 Sat., 8:00-5:30

1180 S. State Rd. Ionia 527-3190
HOURS: Mon. thru Sat., 8:00-5:30

This space makes business cents at only \$5 a week

SAM'S SERVICE CENTER
2400 W. MAIN ST. LOWELL, MI 49331
Service 897-9269 • Parts 897-9260
Wrecker Service

Professional Sound Systems
Professional Sound & Light Shows For All Your Party Needs!
10 Years Of Experience • Reasonable Rates
CD Quality Sound • 1000 Watt Stereo System
Over 5000 Titles On Hand • From 100% To Current Top 40
We Cater To Your Special Requests
Call... Jay Vaziro (616) 897-8520
P.S. we make your party an enjoyable night to remember!

Movement made on per pupil grant - Is it enough?

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

As December grows near, schools from around the state are growing restless in anticipation of the state's new school finance reform package. A preliminary bipartisan school finance reform compromise, relative to tax revenues and distribution, was released late last week by a House Bipartisan Team made up of 14 Democrats and 14 Republicans. The report, made up of preliminary estimates, raises the per pupil basic grant from \$4,500 to \$5,000. A phase-in process will be used to bring schools currently under \$5,000 per student up to the basic grant. The basic grant will be adjusted annually to reflect earmarked state revenue increases and per pupil growth. These schools will be limited to a maximum growth of \$300 per pupil in the first year. Lowell's base figure with the basic grant of \$4,500 per pupil was \$4,576. With the preliminary adjustment in the basic grant, Lowell would incur a 5.5 percent increase,

pushing its base to \$4,829. With additional support for at-risk students, Lowell's total would jump to roughly \$4,884 (\$47 per pupil). Lowell Assistant Superintendent Gary Kemp said \$4,884 would not be enough. Kemp believes it will take approximately \$5,100 to 5,300 if the new school is to be opened. He based that figure on whether enrollment remains stagnant and if estimates on utilities are correct. The distribution package would hold harmless all schools whose current revenue yield is between \$5,000 and \$6,500 per student and guarantee an increase of not less than three percent in 1994-95. For districts who generate more than \$6,500 per student, local millage may be levied to hold themselves harmless for amounts above \$6,500 and provide a \$195 per pupil increase. Representatives from the local "Save Our Students" organization have spent the last couple of weeks lobbying the House and Senate to put a provision in its proposal that would allow schools, such as Lowell, to formulate local monies so it can open up a new school. These funds

would continue until the growth of the basic grant reached a level where additional funds were not needed. Senate Majority Leader Dick Posthumus said the issue of schools trying to open up a new school in 1994-95 is one that needs to be looked at. "How do we make the grants large enough so schools can open up a new building? I'm not sure, but I'm willing to look at suggestions," he said. The Senate Majority Leader said he is hopeful that the finance package will come out of the House Committee so that a package can be voted on Monday or Tuesday of next week (Nov. 28 - Dec. 4). "I think the finance part will come together quicker than the education reform. That will be a little more

difficult because there are special interest groups involved," he said. The House bipartisan team proposal states that the statutory plan will levy 16 mills on non-homesteads. The ballot proposal would increase the sales/use tax by two cents and cut homestead millage to nine mills (the non-homestead millage would remain unchanged at 20 mills). Income tax under the statutory plan will increase to six percent. Under the ballot proposal, the income tax rate would increase to 5.3 percent. Both the statutory and ballot proposal plans would include sales tax on tobacco products, a one percent tax on real estate transactions, and a tax on interstate phone calls.

difficult because there are special interest groups involved," he said. The House bipartisan team proposal states that the statutory plan will levy 16 mills on non-homesteads. The ballot proposal would increase the sales/use tax by two cents and cut homestead millage to nine mills (the non-homestead millage would remain unchanged at 20 mills). Income tax under the statutory plan will increase to six percent. Under the ballot proposal, the income tax rate would increase to 5.3 percent. Both the statutory and ballot proposal plans would include sales tax on tobacco products, a one percent tax on real estate transactions, and a tax on interstate phone calls.

11th annual Rogue River Artisans Show scheduled for Saturday

The sights and sounds of Christmas will bring combined pleasure to holiday shopping at the eleventh annual Rogue River Artisans Show and Sale, Saturday, Dec. 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at DEER RUN GOLF CLUB, 13955 Cascade Road, S.E. This special group of artists and crafts people represent many West Michigan communities, including Rockford, Ada, Newaygo, Niles, Fennville, Lowell, Grand Rapids and Benton Harbor. A total of more than thirty designers/artists will be selling one-of-a-kind, unique items, which included beautifully crafted pottery, country wood, primitives, glass art, baskets, birdhouses, wild life carvings, furniture, wearables, holiday decor and more. New artists and new items will be displayed in a festive atmosphere of live trimmed trees, Christmas music and fresh poinsettias. Lunch will be available from a special club menu and no admission will be charged.

CITY OF LOWELL

NOTICE FOR TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Computer Program Testing for the December 7, 1993 Special General Election will be conducted Wednesday, December 1, 1993 at 3:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main St., Lowell, MI.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

NOTICE FOR TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Computer Program Testing for the December 7, 1993 Special Election will be conducted Friday, December 3, 1993 at 11:00 a.m. in the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell.

Jean Hoffman
Clerk

Cover Contest

We'd like to feature a Covered Bridge from the Ionia County area including Lowell on next year's Ionia County Area Telephone Directory

from **gni** Directory Services

It could be a photo of a covered bridge in the morning, at high noon or dusk, or during the four seasons. Use your imagination & creativity - give us your best shot!!!

Enter Today!

Your photo could be featured on 35,000 telephone directories in the Ionia county area next March.

Cover Contest Prize: \$200 Cash

Deadline: Friday December 17 1993

RULES:

1. Submit minimum size (3X5) color or B/W photo.
2. Include name, address, phone number & best time to be reached.
3. You must be a resident within our Ionia County Area Directory distribution boundaries. The covered bridge must be in the Ionia county area INCLUDING LOWELL also.
4. Entries must be received by Friday, December 17, 1993.

CRITERIA USED IN JUDGING:

1. Photo should be in a vertical format.
2. Photo(s) can be arranged in a collage or a combination of vertical & horizontal photos.
3. Clarity and focus are critical because photo may be enlarged to cover entire front of the directory.

gni Directory Services
P O Box 340, Greenville, MI 48838
616-754-2266 or 1-800-968-2267

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\$18.95 Cars **\$19.95** Light Trucks
Grease (tube), oil filter, including parts & oil
EXCLUDES FOREIGN & DIESEL CARS
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SALE HOURS:
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Thurs. & Fri. 8:30-6:00
Saturday 9-3

SERVICE & PARTS:
Mon. - Fri. 7:45-5:15
Wed. '87 7:45 pm

Now The Area's Newest Jeep Eagle Dealer

CHRYSLER Dodge Plymouth Dodge Trucks

MAIN ST., CONT'D.

POST OFFICE EXTENDS HOLIDAY HOURS
Starting Dec. 1, the Lowell Post Office will stay open late on Wednesday nights for the holiday season.
Their holiday hours will be: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday: 9 a.m. to noon. These hours will be in effect from Dec. 1 through Dec. 22.

LAAC WINTER PLAY TRYOUTS
Tryouts for the Lowell Area Arts Council winter play, "Our Town" will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7 and 8 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Lowell Area Arts Center.
Fifteen men, ages eleven and up, and 7 women, ages sixteen and up, are needed for this year's production. Scripts are available at the Center on South Hudson. For more information call 897-8545.

LIBRARY CLOSING
All branches of the Kent County Library System will be closed Friday, Dec. 10 until 1 p.m. for an all-staff inservice.

LOWELL CHRISTMAS PARADE
Entries are needed for the Lowell Christmas parade. It will be held Saturday, Dec. 4 at 10 a.m. Contact Dee Brown, 897-9161 or 642-9820.

LOWELL LIONS CLUB - ODYSSEY PASSBOOKS
The Lowell Lions Club is selling Odyssey Passbooks. Anyone interested in purchasing one, contact any Lions Club member or Bob Ford, 897-7501.

FIRST AID COURSE OFFERED
The Lowell Area Fire Department is offering an American Red Cross First Aid Course on Dec. 8 and 9 from 6 to 10 p.m. You must attend both days to be certified.
The fee is \$30, and class size is limited to 12 people. To register call 897-5241 before Dec. 3, 1993.

OFF THE BLOTTER
Darrel Boshier, 34, of Grand Rapids, was arrested Nov. 17 for driving under the influence of alcohol, second offense; also driving on a suspended license and open alcohol in a motor vehicle.
Pamela Chesebro, 43, of Lowell, was arrested Nov. 17 for driving with a suspended license, second offense.
Paul Burns, 24, of Ionia, was involved in a property damage accident Nov. 18 when he failed to stop in time and struck the rear of a vehicle driven by Jeany Vennstra, 21, of Lowell. Vennstra's car then struck the rear of a car driven by Mildred White, 43, of Ionia. The accident occurred on West Main near Ridgeview Dr.
Charity Herrington, 17, of Saranac, was involved in a property damage accident Nov. 19 on Main Street near Valley Vista Drive when she attempted to switch lanes and struck a car driven by Michelle Clay, 25, of Lowell.



Audit, continued...

Cable profits and prior losses incurred near break even point

Lowell Cable Television Superintendent Paul Christian was not exaggerating when he said the cable company did very well this past fiscal year.
It wasn't by coincidence either. "We expected to," Christian said.
For the first time since the system was started, the cable profits have almost offset all prior losses incurred. "The cable company is within \$400-\$500," said Virgil Biggs of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson.
Cable's net income for 1993 was \$115,000 as compared to \$93,000 in 1992 and \$10,000 in 1991.
"The rate increase has reflected itself in the operating

profits," Biggs said, "which is needed to pay the large debt."
There is still a little over \$600,000 needed to retire the debt.
This year, the cable company was able to pay off an additional \$100,000 of its debt.
Christian warned that cable operating costs will be increasing in 1994.
He said rates would have to be studied to see if any structure adjustments would be necessary.
Christian reiterated that even with the last increase Lowell Cable remains very competitive.
"If earnings stay as high as they currently are, I think we can expect to pay an additional \$100,000 off our debt again next year," Christian said.
Biggs said Lowell Cable's change from negative trap-

ping to positive trapping should provide a much greater security against unauthorized reception of premium channels. "Even with positive trapping in place, we believe the greatest potential for the loss of revenues is the unauthorized reception of premium channels."
Biggs said the basic cable subscriber totals have leveled off. They dropped from 1,961 in 1992 to 1,959 in 1993. This is the first time in four years that number hasn't increased.
Lowell Light and Power's operating expenses and revenues for the fiscal year were affected by an energy pur-

chasing agreement signed with Belle River in the early 1980's.
The agreement stated that Lowell Light and Power would have to begin taking additional energy from Belle River in 1991 and continue to increase the amount through 1996.
Belle River charges to Lowell Light and Power increased \$103, 535 (from \$212,135 in 1992 to \$315,670 in 1993 for operating expenses).
Lowell Light and Power had to assume usage for more of the produced power which was sold to its own customers, and \$105,263 of new sales was generated from pooled power.
Lowell Light and Power incurred a loss of \$1,700 in 1993, down from a \$4,200 loss in 1992.
"I'm not overly concerned," Christian said. Steps are being taken to

review and update a study from 1990. With this review it will be determined if rates should be adjusted. Even if there was an adjustment, Christian states that Lowell Light and Power would continue to compare favorably to others.
It was also noted in the audit report that standardized forms established to record new customer data, and changes in customer data put into the computerized billing system were not being consistently used.
Biggs added that there were large variances between reports to the board and the completed audit. "Large adjustments had to be made," Biggs said. "However, action taken by the Superintendent has already provided more meaningful statements which will help correct the problem."
After all fundraisers have been exhausted, Phillips said they will seek personal, private and corporate donations. Monies are also available through the Lee and Loo Funds.
Phillips would like to have the "Create a Kingdom" playground built in June.

about the playground project out to the kids. In turn, she believes they will pass on the exciting news to their parents, who will then help to make up the 500-1,200 volunteers needed to help construct the kingdom.
"The more people see and hear about the project, the more excited they will get," Phillips said.
Leathers encourages cities to get as much donated as possible to help keep the costs down.
Fund raisers have included softball tournaments, a Burger King Benefit Night, concession stand revenues, and photo sales.

LL&P's cost of purchased power increases by four times the amount

where the whole town gathers for a day or two and builds it," Phillips said.
Phillips and Brenda Clark have been working on gathering volunteers, raising awareness about the project and raising money. The project will cost approxi-

mately \$50,000. Since May, the two Lowell residents and other volunteers have raised \$3,500.
"We need more substantial things in this town for kids," Phillips said.
To do that, Phillips is working on getting news

Swing, continued...

other children of the community.
"I'm doing this because I'm a mother and it's something I'd love to do," Phillips says. She refers to the "Create a Kingdom" structure that was built in the summer of 1991 in Rockford at the Val-

ley View Elementary School.
"To see one of these kingdoms that has been created in other towns is to be sold on it," Phillips says.
The actual razing of the structure is built by community members. "It's like an old fashioned barn razing

atly need. Once he becomes more aggressive he will really make a valuable contribution."
Last season Aquinas finished tied for first in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) with a 7-3 league record and had an overall record of 16-15. This year team has only six returning players. They have some outstanding young recruits, how-

Amundsen joins Aquinas Basketball team

ever, and should improve with every game. Look for the Saints to be playing really well in the second half of the season.
Aquinas opened Friday, Nov. 19 against Grace College of Indiana in the first round of the Grace Tip-Off Classic in Warsaw, IN.

price for \$13,824 with a trade-in value of \$1,900 on the 1990 Caprice Chevrolet.
With this budgeted purchase, the Lowell Police Department will maintain three cruisers: two full-time cruisers and one semi-marked cruiser for selective enforcement and special duty.
The purchase will be allocated through the general fund.
The township plans on paying off the project over the next two years. The town-

City of Lowell purchases cruiser

ship sets aside \$40,000 a year for road construction every year, thus the two year pay off period.
Timpson says this is the first time the township has received any money for such a project, but would like to see it again.
"I was shocked that we could receive this money, but I guess it is a good way to entice townships to invest in road work. It would be nice to see this again next year," said Timpson.

BINGO

Every Friday Night 7:00 P.M.
Lowell VFW Hall
East Main St., Lowell
Early Bird Bingo at 6:30 P.M.
PUBLIC INVITED

Every Saturday Night 4:00 P.M.
LOWELL MOOSE BINGO
1320 E. FULTON
Early Bird Bingo at 4:00 P.M.

Cost, continued

construction work. Timpson felt it was a good opportunity to save the township some money, so he signed a work order authorizing the project.
In road construction projects, the township pays 55 percent of the total cost while the commission pays 45 percent. The total cost for this project was \$87,072 but with the \$12,730 rebate, the cost will only be \$74,292.
The township plans on paying off the project over the next two years. The town-

TOWN TALK

When does your Mom start preparing the turkey for Thanksgiving Day? How much does the turkey weigh? How long does she bake it? At what temperature? What does she put in and/or on it? What else do you have with your turkey?



Teresa Johnson
She starts preparing the turkey Thanksgiving Day morning. It weighs about 20 pounds. She bakes it for about three hours. She puts stuffing in it and we have pumpkin pie and ham with it.



Jordan Whitman
She starts getting it ready the day before Thanksgiving. It weighs a pound. She bakes it a couple of hours at 400 degrees. We also have stuffing, potatoes and salad with it.



Jimmy Biggs
My mother doesn't bake it; my grandmother does. She starts about 1-2 o'clock on Thanksgiving Day. It weighs 60 pounds maybe. She bakes it at 134 degrees for maybe an hour. She puts stuffing in it.



Nicole Gillikin
My grandmother bakes the turkey. The turkey weighs about 35 pounds, and she bakes it for 45 minutes at 425 degrees. I don't think she puts anything on it. We have potatoes, corn, carrots and jello with it.



Kelsey Capps
Grandma makes the turkey. She starts two or three days before Thanksgiving. It weighs about 36 pounds. She buys it pre-cooked. We have squash and sauce with it.



Tony Pedley
She starts a day before Thanksgiving. It weighs 16 ounces. She bakes it for three hours or so at 535 degrees. She puts nothing on or in it. We don't have much with it but stuffing.

HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY ERNEST GEIGER
November 25, 1993
From Your Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchild.

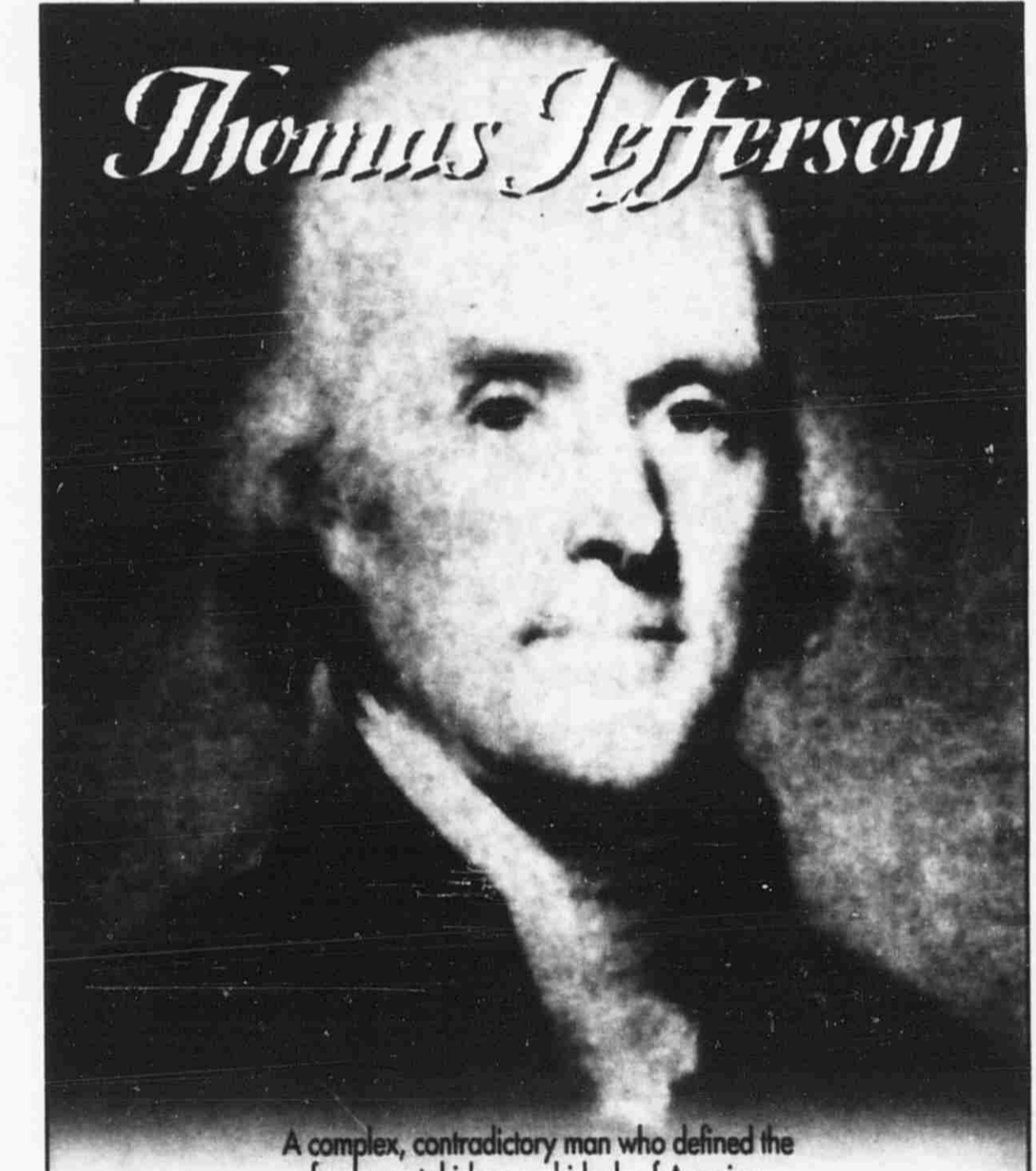


Brian Williams
I think my mother starts the morning of Thanksgiving. It weighs 15 pounds and she cooks it one hour at 350 degrees. She doesn't put anything on or in it. We have mashed potatoes with it.



Katie Hettinga
She starts preparing the turkey on Thursday about 11 a.m. It weighs five pounds and she cooks it for two hours. She puts stuffing inside the turkey. We also have corn, potatoes and sometimes soup with it.

COMING IN NOVEMBER...



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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE FOR TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR GENERAL ELECTION
Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Computer Program Testing for the December 7, 1993 Special General Election will be conducted Monday, November 29, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell.
Carol L. Wells, Clerk
Lowell Charter Township



LOWELL CABLE TV DEPARTMENT
127 N. Broadway, Lowell 897-8405

In spite of parking concerns, Council approves diner site plan

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Yes, Lowell's downtown does have a parking problem. That was the prevailing opinion of the Lowell City Council at Thursday's special public hearing, concerning the site plan approval of the Redhot Diner scheduled for the southwest corner of West Main and Broadway. It also decided that something needed to be done about the problem but not at the expense of a new business coming into town.

"Yes, there is a parking problem, but I don't think that's any grounds to deny someone from bringing a business into town," said Lowell Mayor James Maatman.

After nearly 30 minutes of discussion by roughly 35 Lowell residents, mainly Lowell business men, the Council unanimously approved the site plan for the Redhot Diner.

Not everybody agreed with the Mayor. "I do not think the Planning Commission looked at the whole area when it considered the site plan," said Steve Larkin, owner of Larkin's and Larkin's "The Other Place." "I don't want to stop new business from coming into town, but I don't want to jam up this end of town where there is already a parking concern."

Mike Blough, chairman of the Lowell Planning Commission, said the commission went to extreme lengths in looking over the site plan. "When reviewing the site plan, the Redhot Diner met the criteria of the Master Plan and exceeded the number of parking spots required by zoning and for usage."

Blough added that the commission is in the process of updating the Master Plan. In doing so, it will be looking for ways to help alleviate the parking issue.

Redhot Diner entrepreneur, Jerry Berta, said everybody agrees there is a parking problem, but he meets all the zoning requirements and does not believe a new business should be turned away just because the City has a parking problem.

The lot in which the Redhot Diner will be located was purchased by Ron and Laura McCollum approximately 10-12 years ago from Bucky Curtis.

"The lot was put up for sale and no one made an offer. Ron came along and paid top dollar. I don't think it would be right to penalize him now for having some vision," Curtis said.

Berta reminded the Council that he would be bringing business to the downtown area and with it a ton of publicity.

Duane Lambert, owner of Lambert Variety, said parking is needed if business is to survive in the downtown area

Lambert suggested one thing that could be done: better, stricter enforcement of the two-hour parking limit.

Berta's site plan was approved after meeting a handful of stipulations.

He agreed to the following: extend the sidewalk on the west side of Broadway south to the drive to the south end of the property; extend parking lot width from 58' to 61'; provide two 12'-wide handicapped spaces; provide a catch basin at the southeast corner of the parking lot subject to DPW review; and move the proposed pole sign to the west side of the building or eliminate it.

Following the Council's approval, Berta said he hoped to break ground by March of 1994.

Engineering for west side approved

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Water Treatment Plant to just west of the Valley Vista Trailer Park to West Main) included the cost of design engineering and the cost of bidding.

However, the cost of construction engineering was not included in the initial approval by the Council.

As provided by John Le Fevre of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, a total estimated additional cost of \$5,700 is needed for construction staking, periodic visits, review of payment requests and as-built drawings.

City Manager Dave Pasquale said the City is providing daily inspection which will save on cost.

JV girls win final game

The Lowell girls' junior varsity basketball team defeated Wyoming Rogers in its last home game of the season, 43-37.

Jenny Borg led the team in scoring with 16 points, which included making four of four key foul shots in the fourth quarter.

junior varsity dropped its final game of the season to Forest Hills Central, 31-29.

The game was tied at 15-15 at halftime. The lead changed hands several times throughout the contest.

Richmond led the team in both scoring and rebounding with 15 points and 12 rebounds. Melissa Anderson and Katie Rooker helped with the rebounding and turned in solid defensive efforts.



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SAT: 8:30 AM - 3

NOTICE GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

NOTICE FOR TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR GENERAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Computer Program testing for the December 7, 1993 General Election will be conducted Wednesday, December 1, 1993 at 11:00 a.m. in the Grattan Township Hall, 11676 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI.

Peggy Gurney
Grattan Township Clerk

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lowell City Offices, Lowell Light and Power and Lowell Cable Vision will be closed on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26, 1993 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Sure Distributors, Inc., a Michigan Corporation, Mortgageors, to Aneta M. Townsend, now deceased, Kent County Probate Court File No. 91-153, 199-IE, Mortgage, dated January 24, 1986, recorded on February 11, 1986 in Liber 2197, Page 803, Kent County Register of Deeds. By reason of such default Nancy C. O'Neal, Personal Representative of the Estate of Aneta M. Townsend, Deceased elected to declare the entire unpaid amount of the debt secured by said mortgage due and payable forthwith. At the date of this notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest and advances on said mortgage the sum of Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred Sixty-Seven dollars and Twenty Cents (\$13,467.20). No suit or proceedings at law have been instituted to recover this debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, and to pay such amount with interest, as provided in said mortgage, and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including attorneys fees allowed by law, said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgaged premises at public vendue to the highest bidder at the Hall of Justice in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Thursday, December 2, 1993 at 10:00 a.m. local time. The premises covered by said mortgage are situated in the City of Lowell, County of Kent, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

The West 20 feet of Lot 2 and also Lot 3 except the West 22 feet, Block 1 of Richard and Wickham's Plat, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 2 of plats on page 55.

Subject to existing highways, easements and rights of way of record. The above described premises contains less than three acres and is commercial in nature.

Pursuant to the Public Acts of 1971, as amended, the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of the foreclosure sale, as determined under Section 3240 of said Act, being MSA 27A.3240.

Dated: November 3, 1993

RHOADES, MCKEE, BOER, GOODRICH & TITTA
By: Mary L. Williams
P40705
Attorney For The Personal Representative
600 Waters Building
Grand Rapids, Michigan
49503
(616) 235-3500

God's Kitchen bags plenty of venison without firing a shot

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

No pun intended, but God's Kitchen at 303 S. Division, Grand Rapids, is a place where many prayers get answered.

Just ask Barb Raaymakers who has run its capitol lunch program for the past 13-1/2 years.

She serves on-site meals to roughly 300 people a day. Along with its on-site meals, Raaymakers' husband Dan, runs the "Meals on Wheels" portion of the program. He serves up to 250 people per day.

All the food and money to run the facility are donated with most of the yearly contributions given from November through January.

God's Kitchen receives no government funding. The funding (both monetary and food) comes from private and corporate donations - from scouts and churches - and from hunters.

Raaymakers said only about nine percent of God's Kitchen patrons can pay full price for their meals. "Most just make a donation when they can afford to," she said.

The racks of many of the bucks shot since deer hunting season opened may be hanging on walls throughout the homes in West Michigan, but pounds and pounds of the venison meat are ground up and taken to God's Kitchen where it feeds the homeless and working poor.

"We have enough venison donated that we're able to use it on a daily basis," Raaymakers said.

Lowell's John Vezino recently bagged his second buck of the season and with it, packaged up 31 pounds of venison burger and sent it off to God's Kitchen. Processing the venison costs hunters on an average of \$30-\$40.

"It was my second buck and I didn't have a need for all of the meat," Vezino said. "I'd read about God's Kitchen a few weeks back and decided it could make better use of it."

The venison is used for stew, spaghetti, meatloaf and other palatable delights.

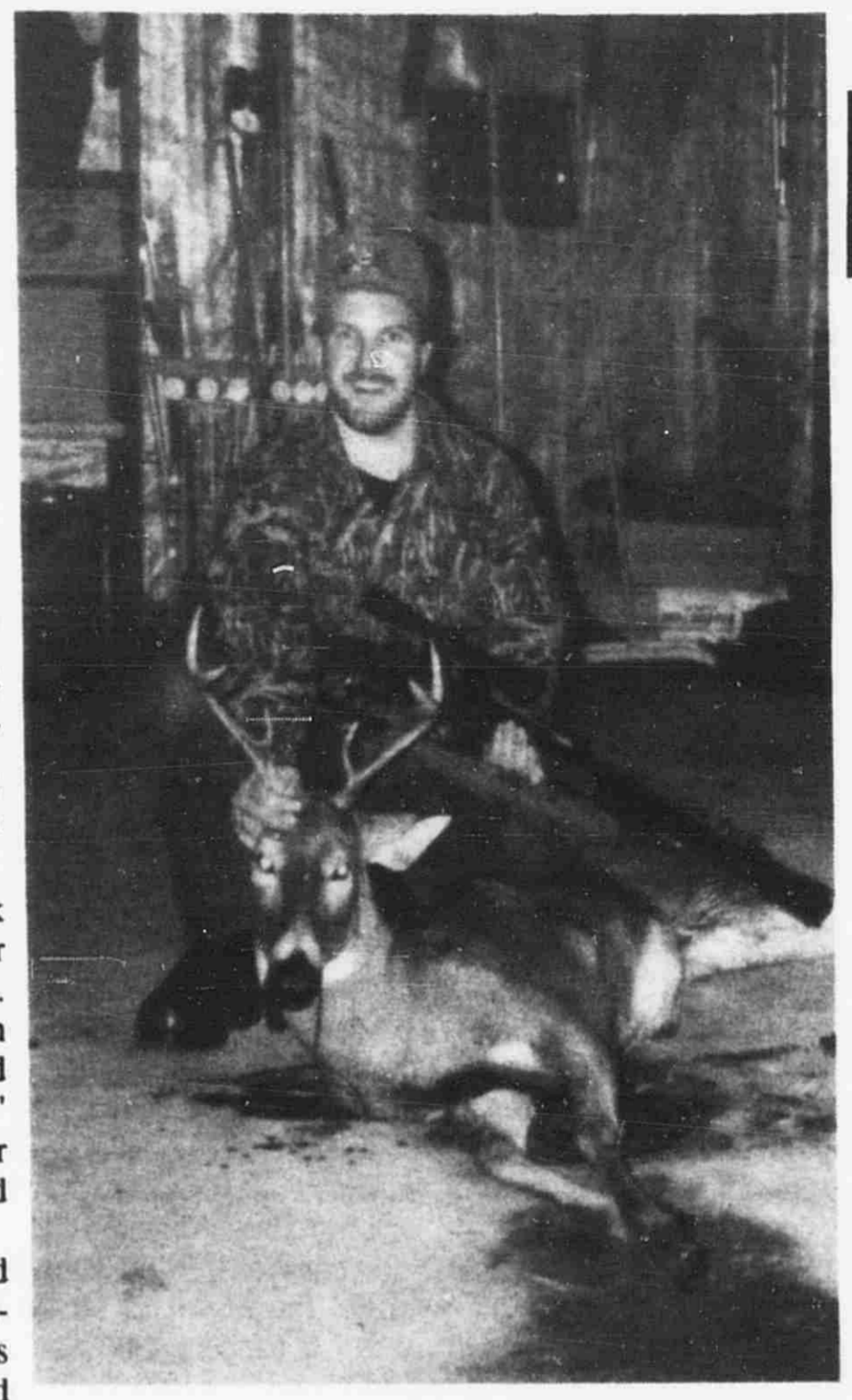
Not only is the food good at God's Kitchen, but the facility provides dignity. It was renovated by Dwelling and then rented out to God's Kitchen.

"It's a beautiful place. It serves people with dignity," Raaymakers said. "We meet a lot of wonderful people each day. People who are hurting, people who have lost their jobs, and people who love to give."

Raaymakers said the job is sometimes very painful and stressful.

When the stress gets real bad or the funds are low, Raaymakers says a prayer. "It just seems to keep you going."

Those interested in making a contribution to God's Kitchen can send a check to God's Kitchen at 303 S. Division, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.



Jon Vezino holds his six-point buck which provided God's Kitchen with 31 pounds of venison.

THANK YOU!

The Lowell High School Sophomore Class would like to thank Family Fare, Bernard's True Value and Pfaller's Clothing Store for donating prizes for our fund-raiser. We appreciate your continuing support of our school system. *Thank you very much!*

THE WINNERS OF THE LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE CLASS RAFFLE WERE AS FOLLOWS:

\$75 at Family Fare:
Jill VanAntwerp and Joan Pfisner

\$50 at Bernard's: Cathy Scott and Jackie Rinks

\$50 at Pfaller's: Mark Rolfs & Wanda Moykrynen

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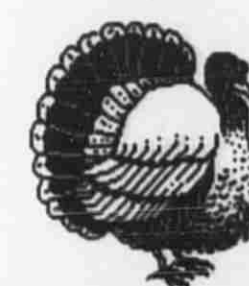
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NURSE ASSISTANT TRAINING - Will pay for your educational classes. Paid orientation period. Potential starting wages of \$5.83 per hr. Bonus after 500 hours of employment. Yearly raises. Interested? Inquire at Lowell Medical Care Center, 350 N. Center St., Lowell or call (616) 897-8473 for an appointment. E.O.E.

HOME TYPISTS - PC users needed. \$35,000 potential. Details. Call (1) 805-962-8000 Ext. B-1520.

ACCOUNTANT - Expanding, quality-oriented CPA Firm is seeking para-professional with associate's degree in accounting. Experience helpful. Major responsibilities include: client write-up services, tax planning and preparation, and financial statement analysis. Retirement plan, fully paid health insurance, competitive salary - excellent opportunity. Send resume to: Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson, 356 E. Main, Saranac, MI 48881. Attn: Kelly Murphy.

PART TIME JOBS AVAILABLE - in the Michigan National Guard. Ages 17-35. Skill training and college money available. Call 616-534-6030 or 1-800-292-1382.

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS - is in urgent need of 1 or 2 volunteer drivers to deliver hot noon meals to homebound seniors. Mileage & training will be provided. If you can help, please call Sue at 897-5949, mornings.

HELP WANTED

TAX PREPARER - CPA FIRM has challenging opportunity for Jan. through April. Full-time employment. Position available every year. Previous tax experience required. Competitive salary, commensurate with experience. Please send resume to: Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson, 356 E. Main, Saranac, MI 48881. Attn: Kelly Murphy.

CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANTS - Lowell Medical Care Center has positions available for Certified Nursing Assistants. Full and part-time positions available on all shifts. We offer an excellent salary, insurance benefits and a pleasant working environment. For immediate consideration, please apply in person or call: Lowell Medical Care Center, 350 N. Center St., Lowell, MI 49331. (616) 897-8473. Equal Opportunity Employer.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST - CPA Firm has part time position available for tax season. Competitive salary. Please send resume to Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson & Dickinson, 356 E. Main, Saranac, MI 48881. Attn: Kelly Murphy.

ACTIVITY AIDE - Lowell Medical Care Center has an opening for a full time Activity Aide. This individual must demonstrate a willingness to work well with geriatric residents and have good writing skills. We offer a competitive wage & benefit package. For immediate consideration, please apply in person or call: Activity Director, Lowell Medical Care Center, 350 N. Center St., Lowell, MI 49331. 897-8473. E.O.E.

REFEREES - Experienced, needed for YMCA men's over '30' Basketball League. Mon. nights, starting Dec. 6 through March. \$12-\$13/game. Call 897-8445.

SNOWPLOW DRIVER WANTED - for residential driveway snowplowing. 897-7737.

HELP WANTED

RN/LPN - Consider becoming part of our quality care at Lowell Medical Care Center. We currently have 12 hour shifts, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. and an 8 hour shift, 3-11. We offer an excellent wage and a pleasant environment. For immediate consideration, please apply in person or call: Director of Nursing, Lowell Medical Care Center, 350 N. Center St., Lowell, MI 49331. (616) 897-8473. Equal Opportunity Employer.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - MOPAR PARTS, windshield washer reservoir with pump, \$5; windshield wiper motor with arm assembly, \$5; brake master cylinder, \$5; power steering pump, \$5; roll bar, Heavy duty, homemade, box-mounted, for small (Dakota) pickup, \$50; light bar (no lights) for 4-wheel drive, to hold KC lights, brand new in box, \$25. 897-6592.

BAHAMA CRUISE! - 5 days/4 nights, Underbooked! Must Sell! \$279/Couple. Limited Tickets. (407) 767-1800 ext. 8404. Mon - Sat 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

REVOLVING LIGHT - Small amber for snowplow, Federal brand, \$25; 500,000 candle power strobe light, 12 volt, brand new, clear or red, \$25 ea. 897-6592.

FOR SALE - 1979-1988 Mustang LX front clip. All steel, \$150. Call 676-2819.

MACINTOSH CLASSIC COMPUTER - Includes many games & programs, keyboard & mouse. 2 MB ram, 52 MB hard drive, monochrome monitor. Asking \$600. Great for students, only 2 yrs. old. Call 897-6592.

FOR SALE - Adult pheasants. Call 949-3002.

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FOR SALE - 1985 Nissan pickup, 4x4, good condition, 154,000 miles, \$1,800. 897-7019.

EVENTS

CHRISTMAS IN THE COUNTRY - Join us at DASA BARN ANTIQUES for a holiday craft show. Refreshments will be served. Fri. Dec. 3, 12-8 p.m., Sat. Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. Dec. 5, 12-5 p.m. 7625 Young Ave., Rockford. Follow the signs off M-44 (Belding Rd.)

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE - Sat., Dec. 4, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Featuring Premier Designs, High Fashion Jewelry. Come and choose that perfect gift for all those special people on your Christmas list. From our beautiful and affordable line of high fashion jewelry at the home of Kelly and Bonnie Bishop, 328 N. Jefferson, Lowell.

CRAFT SALE - Come browse through our selection of handmade crafts for your holiday gift giving. We will be open Friday, Dec. 3 from 4 - 9 p.m. Sat., Dec. 4, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. We are conveniently located on the Christmas parade route, 516 W. Main. Don't forget the Christmas parade. Stop and see us before or after.

OPEN SAT., NOV. 27 - 9-5 for handmade crafts. 11150 36th St. (1 mile E of Alden Nash) Folding wood tables & stools & pretty things for the home. Call 897-7788.

SAVE THOSE POP BOTTLES & CANS! - The Lowell Area Fire Dept. Explorers Post #2102 will be collecting your donated pop cans & bottles on Sat., Dec. 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson. Proceeds go to purchase smoke alarms for the elderly and less fortunate in the Lowell area. Come on out and support this worthwhile cause.

A CHRISTMAS ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR - will be held at West Catholic High School, Sat., Dec. 4, 1993, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Over 80 artists & craftsmen, 25¢ admission.

THANKSGIVING DAY BOWLING - 3 - 9 p.m. Roll Away Lanes, 897-0001.

FOR RENT

HANGAR SPACE FOR RENT - At Lowell Airport Community Hangar. Low monthly rate. Call Roger days at 897-9261 or eves. at 897-5381.

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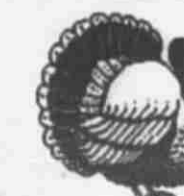
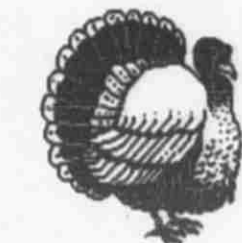
HANGARS FOR RENT - Lowell Airport, one-t-hangar; one 48x80 utility hangar with bi-fold door, water, restroom, 16x20 office, heat & air conditioning. Contact David Pasquale, Lowell City Hall, 897-8457, Mon. - Fri. 8-5.

THANK YOU

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE - involved in the events honoring my induction into the Michigan Wrestling Association Hall of Fame. I would sincerely like to thank the Lowell Area Schools for sponsoring the Friday night hospitality room in Lansing and the Sunday open house. Thanks to everyone who came to these events; you're special. A special thank you goes to the Lowell Free Style Club and all the wrestling supporters who furnished food to make the open house something I'll never forget. Thank you wrestlers for making all this possible for without you I would not have been honored. One last BIG THANK YOU to all the Lowell wrestling community!

Coach Rivers

THANK YOU - Creekside Park Committee wishes to extend a big Thank You to Dave Burdette, Louis Dudeck, Dorothy Csolkovits, Rhonda Benedict, Melinda D'Agostino and the Helping Hands Day Care Center for all their help with the Burger King Benefit Night.





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