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The Lowell Ledger

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Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 5, 1994

Lowell site chosen in wetland mitigation; Kent County Airport vows to work with Lowell residents

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

Building trust and an understanding with Lowell residents is very important for us right now," said Jerry Lovell, Director of Facilities at the Kent County Airport.

That comment comes with the airport's decision to relocate 320 acres of wetlands to Lowell Township.

That decision has been met with resistance from residents along Segwun Ave. who are afraid the wetlands would hurt the area.

Jim Anderson, 5337 Segwun Ave., Carol Wieland, 5640 Pratt Lake, Sheryl Rittenger, 5675 Segwun Ave., and Jim Peterson, 12605 60th St. will all be affected with the airport's decision. Wieland holds the most acreage with 158, followed by Anderson's

and Rittenger's 80 acres and Peterson's two acres.

The airport needs the land because it intends to build a new 8,500 foot runway and extend a current runway 1,100 feet. With the construction, the airport will destroy 76 acres of wetlands.

In an effort to get some answers to the airport's survey, Anderson hired an environmental consulting firm. The firm came up with three points of contradiction to the airport's study:

First, why the airport needs to locate the wetland nearly nine miles from the project site; Secondly, is why do they need to jump watershed districts, and finally, why does the airport need 320 acres when they will only destroy 78 acres in the next year.

Lovell says the airport

took many factors into consideration before they chose the Lowell site. According to him, those considerations take into account all of the questions raised by the environmental study.

Lovell says the airport started with 25 sites and narrowed it down to a number based on DNR and FAA regulations. Also the land needed would have to accommodate several types of wetlands.

"We are relocating more than just swamp-like wetlands, the majority of wetlands we relocate will be the wooded kind. This made the choice even more difficult," said Lovell. "The areas considered around Lowell matched these particular needs."

In looking at FAA regulations, one states that no wetlands can be located more than two miles from the end

of a runway.

"When we took the FAA guideline into consideration, it pushed the desirable sites quite a distance from the airport," said Lovell.

When it comes to staying in the same watershed district, Lovell says the Lowell site is still in the same district. He says the Coldwater River is a tributary of the Thornapple; thus it is in the same watershed district.

In regards to the airport's land needs, Lovell says DNR standards and the working of the land calls for 320 acres.

According to Department of Natural Resources regulations, when one acre of wetlands is destroyed, it must be replaced with one and a half acres.

Lovell says that ratio needs to be expanded to three acres for every one.

"When you start to work the land, you need more than

what is called for; in this case we expect to need three acres for every one destroyed," said Lovell.

Lovell also explained that the DNR requires an entity not mitigate more than two sites and to try to keep it to one site.

"We can't bank the excess land, but the need for future replacements is there so we're looking to get all the land necessary right now," said Lovell.

Currently, the airport is waiting for the appraisal values of each property before they go any further. Lovell says when they get those in they will notify the township and the citizens involved.

According to Lovell, the appraisal figures will not only consider the value of the land but will take other factors into consideration.

Those other factors include the cost of the timber

on the land, the cost of moving machinery, relocating any people necessary and the cost of buying a new home for those people.

"We're not just going to take their land and expect them to find another place," said Lovell. "We will help move them any way we can."

Lovell says moving people from their homes is the last thing the airport wants to do. "First we want to see if we can work around their property to let them stay," he said.

If an agreement can't be worked out between the airport and the residents, then the airport will be forced to condemn the land.

Lovell says condemnation is the last choice, but even if that happens, the airport will "do everything in its power to work with those people."



Along Main Street

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR ALL NIGHT SENIOR PARTY

Plan to attend the organizational meeting for the "All Night Senior Party." The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in room A-1 in the high school.

The next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 5.

COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION

Commodities will be distributed Thursday, Jan. 27 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Lowell Moose Recreational Building, 210 E. Main.

Check the "expiration date" on your commodities pick-up card. If it has expired and you want to renew it, you must bring the following: current proof of total household income; current proof of eligibility for ADC, General Assistance, SSI and Food Stamps and Social Security recipients: Form SSA-1099 Social Security Benefit Statement. You must have the current information or you will not receive any commodities.

YMCA KIDDIE GYM CLASS CORRECTION

The class description for the YMCA preschool Kiddie Gym class was listed as starting November 2 through Dec. 14. The correct dates for the class will be January 4 through February 15. The class is available to all boys and girls ages 3 to 5 years.

For further information call the YMCA at 897-8445. Limited space is available.

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.

All of the profits from the fund-raiser will go to the Bushnell/Runciman fifth-grade camp fund. Books are \$35 and will be available in the lobby at FMB State Savings Bank from 2:30 until 5 p.m. and at Hahn Hardware through January.

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Special assessments, ranging from \$1,600 to \$13,000 for the westside water improvement project, had some westside residents questioning just how badly they need treated city water, following a public hearing on the creation of a special assessment district and adoption of a resolution determining to make improvements.

"With a special water assessment of \$13,000 for water I don't need, I can pump a lot of water for that price," said Stan Krzykwa.

Collection for the special water assessments would begin with the July tax bill.

Krzykwa asked if the special assessment couldn't be extended over a longer period of time than 20 years.

City Attorney Dick Wendt said historically special assessments are spread out over 10-15 years. "The city has gone out another five years in this case," he said. "The problem with running out payments is you end up pay-

ing more because there is higher interest."

The lot assessment is \$23 per frontage foot (or \$11.50 per frontage foot if the main serves both sides of the street) plus \$450 per lot. Residents will pay the equivalent cost for an eight-inch main, regardless of the actual main size.

The westside water project will total \$1.35 million dollars. The residents will be special assessed \$197,000 while the city will contribute approximately \$1.16 million.

With the approval to establish a district, bids will now be sought so that a cost for the project can be attained.

Residents will be sent a notice of when a second public hearing will be held along with its exact costs.

At the second public hearing, the council will take action on a resolution to approve a special assessment roll.

"I approved it, but if residents don't believe the project provides them any special benefit, there is an appeal process," Wendt said.

Don Fizer, owner of

Michigan Wire, asked what the value of water is if there is no sewer service to go with it. "I agree the water situation needs updating, but where are people going to put the water? There is no sewer system - they'll put it back in their septic and then have to have them pumped," he said.

Both Fizer and Ursula Mahan, 12035 Gee Dr., pumped the council as to why the westside water project was being done now.

Newly appointed mayor pro tem, Bill Thompson said safety was a main concern. "Right now the city is not equipped to handle a severe fire on the west side. It's a safety issue. Something has to or will have to be done."

Neither Fizer nor Mahan left the meeting convinced that their safety was the main reason. "I don't think my

safety is the reason," said Fizer. He was more apt to believe it was the new high school.

Mahan said the timing of the project coincided with the new high school project and led her to believe it was being done more for the new high school and not safety.

Mayor James Maatman said the school was an impetus to do the project now and not wait a year or two, but eventually it has to be done. "It is not legal the way things are now," he said.

Thompson added that it is cheaper for the city to get water in a team effort with Lowell Township. "Also, with the interest rates low, the time is ideal."

Fizer stated that he did not believe a water system without a sewer system had any

Water, cont'd. pg. 8

INSIDE THE LEDGER

School keeps options open, pg. 8

Criteria and funding discussed for sidewalk program, pg. 11

OBITUARIES

BISHOP - Wayne L. Bishop, 59, of Ionia, died Monday at his home. He was born March 19, 1934 in Rockford, the son of Claude and Violet Bishop. He came to Ionia 15 years ago from Lake Odessa. He had been employed at Keeler Brass, Brown Corp. and Lake-wood Schools. He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict. Surviving are three sons, Timothy Bishop of Lake Odessa, Clay Bishop of Ionia and Eric Bishop of Grand Rapids; one daughter Sarah Bishop of Lake Odessa; six grandchildren; four sisters, Barb Page of Cedar Springs, Irene Cook of Lowell, Alma Wells of Rockford and Ardith Briggs of Lowell; and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Claire, Cliff, Bud and Arnold; and one sister Donna. Funeral services were held at Myers Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Lawrence Hodge officiating. Memorials may be made to the family.

ENGLAND - Randall (Randy) England, aged 30, of Wyoming, passed away suddenly December 30, 1993. Loving son of Art and Phyllis England of Wyoming. Also surviving are his sisters and

brothers, Kathryn and Ronald Moore of WY, Amalie and Karl Colley of Wyoming, Linda and Terry Bartrum of WY, Jamie and Monica England of WY, Laurence and Sharon England of Alto, Timothy and Noemi England of Effingham, IL, Jody and Cindy England of Zeeland, and Cory England of WY; many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held Monday with Rev. Richard Rowlands officiating. Interment Kent Memorial Gardens.

FRYE - Dr. Robert R. Frye, of Muskegon, 72 years, passed away unexpectedly Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1993 at his residence. His survivors include his wife of fifty years, Arbutus (Audrie); two daughters and their husbands, Gayle and Glenn Hartley of Grandville and Sharon and Michael Lesky of Lowell; 7 grandchildren, Christopher (Kathy) Lesky of Sparta, Sara, Melissa, and Amanda Lesky of Lowell, Angela, Elizabeth, and Jennifer Hartley of Grandville; a cousin Leo (June) Fountain of Lehigh Acres, FL; sisters-in-law Trula Winkle of Sheffield, AL and Irene King of Clinton, TN; and many nieces and

nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother Clarence Frye and a sister Ada Snyder. Funeral Services were held Sunday at McGrath Memorial Congregational Church with Rev. James M. Harwood officiating. Memorials may be made to Dr. Robert R. Frye Christian Education Scholarship Fund through McGrath Memorial Congregational Church.

OSBURN - Mark Osburn, of Lowell, died December 27, 1993. He is survived by his wife Freda; children James Wert, David (Marilyn) Wert, Mark Jr. (Susan) Osburn, Claire (Kimberly) Osburn, all of Lowell, Frances, (Brian) Radhs, Roseanna Osburn, all of Lakeview; brothers Lowell Osburn, Harold (Shirley) Osburn of Lowell; sister Laura Conley of Stanton; brother-in-law Lee Condon of Lowell; sister-in-law Elaine (Frank) Moore of Grand Rapids; ten grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Funeral Service was held December 30 at the Roth-Gerst Chapel

TRYON - Calvin F. Tryon Sr., aged 70 of Rockford, died Monday, Dec. 27, 1993 at his home. Surviving are his wife of 47 years, Betty Tryon; his children, Calvin F. and Janet Tryon Jr. of Coral; Bonnie Tryon of Rockford; three grandchildren, Robert, Melinda, and Amanda; his mother Hazel Tryon; his brothers and sisters, Adelbert

and Ann Tryon, Don Tryon, Grace and Tom Wiest all of Grand Rapids. Russ and Pat Tryon of Lake Odessa, Jerry and Sandy Tryon of Lowell; several nieces and nephews. Calvin was a decorated Combat Veteran serving in the U.S. Marines during WWII and was a member of the American Legion Post #47. In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place and a

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Service of Remembrance was held Dec. 29 at the Reyers North Valley Chapel. For those who wish, memorials may be made to Hospice of Greater Grand Rapids.

YOUNG - Mr. Archie E. Young, aged 70, formerly of Caledonia and Nashville, MI, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 29, 1993. He was a retiree of General Motors A.C. Rochester Plant/U.A.W. Local 167 in Wyoming. He was preceded in death by his son Terry Alan in 1982. He was a loving, caring husband, father, grandfather to his fam-

ily. Surviving are his wife Dorothy; his children David (Nancy) of Jenison, Karen (Arthur) Morgan of Lowell, Eunice (Terry) Farber of Burr Ridge, IL, Timothy (Brenda) Young of Mason, Peggy (Chris) Schantz of Nashville; his sisters Muriel (Donald) Mead of Nashville, Eunice (Edward) Afton of Kent City; ten grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. Funeral Service was held Friday. Memorial contributions to Hospice of Greater Grand Rapids.

PUBLIC NOTICE LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

The district's technology consultants, Child's Consulting Associates, and the district's Technology Committee, will make a public presentation of the technological recommendations for the new high school, middle school, and elementary buildings at a special Board Workshop session on Monday, January 10, 6:30 p.m. The Board of Education is asking all interested citizens to attend and to place any comments in writing to Child's Consulting Association on or before Wednesday, January 19.

Make a Resolution for Energy Conservation

START NEW HABITS THIS YEAR THAT CONSERVE ENERGY. Save electricity and help us all save our precious natural resources.

- These easy tips will help you stick to your resolution:
 - Wash a full load when doing your laundry and using your dishwasher. Use cold or warm water instead of hot.
 - Lower your water heater temperature to 120 degrees F. Don't forget your thermostat. Every degree you lower your thermostat saves about three percent on your heating bill.
 - Make sure your attic, basement and fireplace are well insulated.

- Weatherstrip space around doors and caulk all your windows.
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Jan. 7: Brandon McCabe, Amy Alderink, Bonny Bishop, Bob Leyman, Beckie Seese, Grace Peters, Jean Nugent, Kim Griffioen, Elena Richmond, Lois Seese.

Jan. 8: Omar Stahl, Ron Stanford, Helena Rose Guastavino.

Jan. 9: Katie Alderink, Paul Blattner, Dan MacDonald, Al Groenke, Gerald Mullen, Forrest Bowden.

Jan. 10: Cecil Gochenour, Eric Claypool, Mary Jo Vezino.

Jan. 11: Cindy Dumas, Renee Ellison, Laura Wierckz, Marion Guastavino.

Jan. 12: Debbie Biggs, Judy Ellison, Stuart Sauber, Rick Steghuis, Mike Kathan, Rick Castro, Michael Vezino, Marie Rickert.

IN THE SERVICE

Navy Airman Apprentice Adam C. Sherman, son of John P. and Jan L. Sherman of Alto, recently returned from a six-month Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf deployment with Strike Fighter Squadron 94, Naval Air Station, Lemoore, CA, embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln.

Sherman's squadron, the other squadrons of Carrier Airwing Eleven and USS Abraham Lincoln supported Operation Southern Watch, enforcing the U.N. sanctioned

"no-fly" zone over southern Iraq. Later, President Clinton ordered those units to the coast of Somalia in support of United Nations efforts in that country and the associated U.S. humanitarian mission known as Operation Continue Hope.

During the deployment, Sherman visited Hong Kong; the United Arab Emirates; Perth, Australia and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. While in Hawaii, USS Abraham Lincoln and its embarked units participated in several events commemorating Pearl Harbor

Day and embarked over 700 friends and family members of the crew for the cruise back to Alameda.

Sherman's squadron flies the F/A-18 Hornet which performs both fighter and attack roles for the Navy and Marine Corps.

This deployment exem-

plified the new Navy and Marine Corps strategy entitled "...From the Sea," in which, on short notice, U.S. forces are poised to respond to crises in distant lands, from the sea.

The 1992 graduate of Caledonia High School of Caledonia joined the Navy in April, 1993.

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CONTACT DERMATITIS

Contact dermatitis is a skin disease resulting from inflammation after the skin is exposed to an allergen or an irritant. While contact dermatitis is most common in adulthood, children can suffer from this ailment as well. Typical types of contact dermatitis are: poison ivy, poison oak, nickel allergy (from hairpins, zippers, earrings, etc.), reaction to soaps and bleaches, and reaction to cosmetics. When the skin is exposed to these allergens, it undergoes inflammatory response. Typically this response results in redness, swelling, blistering, skin erosion and possibly hives. While the reaction to certain allergens or irritants may be obvious, the exact cause of the reaction may be very difficult to identify. Often, there is no discernible history to support an allergic reaction, and your doctor will treat you empirically (on the basis of suspicion rather than absolute documentation). The most important aspect of treatment is to identify and eliminate exposure to the offending agent. If the

rash is oozing, wet room temperature compresses are used to keep the area clean and reduce itching. Burrow's Solution is an over the counter product which is good to use on any rash which blisters. Topical or oral steroids (cortisone) also can be very

beneficial in reducing inflammation. While many cases of contact dermatitis can be managed using only symptomatic treatment, any persistent rash should be seen by your doctor for possible further treatment and to rule out the possibility of secondary infection.

To The Editor, cont'd...

district where he is," is a classic cop-out. He states that the board wants him to go away, he is mistaken. I will personally volunteer to circulate Mr. Eshragh's petitions for one of the three vacancies to be filled by the voters in June.

Assuming the role of watchdog, from the position of a spectator, may serve a public good, but at some point those who are willing, and have the guts, to submit themselves and their ideas to the voters must put things back together and solve the problems.

At the appropriate time, all the parties involved must spell out what they want and seek resolutions of the disputed issues. To say you're opposed to mismanagement does not make you a unique person.

We all oppose mismanagement. However, some of us try to understand the total picture and become involved in the solution.

There are those of us who have been leading the charge for several years to bring true reform to the way schools conduct their affairs. The reform movement has finally caught on as witnessed in Lansing and that's where much of it must start. It should be noted that even a strong-willed legislature and a supportive governor could not bring about true reform, only superficial changes will occur in the years ahead.

In-house, we will heed the advice and information we have received from Citizens for Quality Education,

V.O.I.D. and others, and hopefully strengthen the district and reassure the public of the district's financial soundness and the integrity of its employees, but we will not relinquish that responsibility to a self-appointed committee. The decisions will be made by those who were elected by the voters.

With respect to computers, telephone equipment, televisions and VCRs in the classrooms, I urge anyone with suggestions to communicate them to the district's consultant via Mr. James White, Director of Curriculum. In the end, it's the districts' consultant who will make the recommendation to the Board of Education that will guide the future of technology in our schools.

Once again, I point out to Mr. Eshragh and others who are concerned about the district, that at the first meeting in July of 1994, three new people will be seated on the Board of Education. If you really care, you should run for office and make yourself accountable to all the voters-not just to a small group of individuals.

In the future, Thad, I hope you extend us the courtesy of at least an opportunity to comment.

Ray Quada



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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 to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

Congregational Church basement, Corner of Spring and Hudson St. Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Qua-Ke-Zik Sportsmen's Club - meets at 8 p.m. at the Club building, 1400 Foreman Road, Lowell.

EVERY THIRD SUN.: The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 18841 Potters Rd. Just east of Montcalm Ave. at 1 p.m. New members and guests are welcome.

EVERY SUNDAY: The Grattan Museum, Old Belding Road in Grattan, is open from 2 to 4 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting is held the third Monday of each month at 8 p.m.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: 149 S. Hudson St. Hours: Tuesday thru Friday, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Closed holidays. Phone 897-8545.

ALTO LIBRARY HOURS: Open Tues. 12 to 8 p.m.; Thurs. 12 to 8 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Phone 868-6038

SECOND MONDAY EACH MONTH: The South Kent 4-H group regular meetings at 7 p.m. in the Alto Elementary School cafeteria.

EVERY TUES.: Support One, 7:30 p.m. at Saranac Community Church.

WEDNESDAY: Rollaway Ltd. Senior Bowling, 1 p.m., 55 and over.

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, 12675 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: Overeaters Anonymous New meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 10305 Bluewater Hwy., Lowell. Call 361-5463. Come join us!

EVERY WED.: Royal Rangers for the boys at 7 p.m. Sonshine Adventure Team for the girls kindergarten and up. Christ Ambassadors for the youth (7th thru 12th-grades) Christian Clubs to help our children grow through the means of achievement programs, special activities, crafts, and basic moral learning. For more information, call Christian Life Center, 3050 Alden Nash S.E., 897-1100

1ST WEDNESDAY: Men's breakfast at Lowell Senior Center, 314 S. Hudson St. Call 897-5949 for reservations.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: Golden Ages meet 6 p.m. at Hale House (Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson). Potluck. All are welcome.

FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: Alzheimers Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. at Cumberland Retirement Village. Phone 897-4810 for information.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102, for boys 11 and up or completing the 5th grade, will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end of North Washington Street. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For more information call 897-8829.

EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY: Lowell Area Jaycees meet at 7 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall. New members welcomed. Membership 21-39 years of age. Leadership training through community involvement.

EVERY THURS - 10 a.m. at the home of Linda Johnson, 3550 Alden Nash S.E. Moms In Touch International. Mothers meeting to pray for their children and schools. All Lowell School mothers are invited.

THURSDAYS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI, No. 333. Saranac, meets every Thursday evening at the Saranac Public Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Lowell V.F.W. Hall, 307 E. Main St. at 8 p.m.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, South Hudson, Lowell.

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY: The Alto Lions Club meets at Dari's at 7 p.m.

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.

TUESDAYS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI #372 meets every Tuesday evening at the Lowell

LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

Weekly Activities

MON.: 8 a.m. Walkers. **WED.:** 9:30 a.m. Bingo.

TUES.: 8 a.m. Walkers. **THURS.:** 1 p.m. Euchre.

WED.: 1 p.m. Shopping assistance. **FRI.:** 8 a.m. Walkers.

Special Events

TUES., JAN. 4: 1 p.m., Shopping at Roger's Plaza.

MON., JAN. 17: Martin Luther King Day, Center closed.

WED., JAN. 5: 7:45 a.m., Men's traveling breakfast.

WED., JAN. 19: 9:30 a.m., Advisory council.

WED., JAN. 5: 10 a.m., Blood pressure.

FRI., JAN. 21: 1 p.m., Movies at the Center.

THURS., JAN. 6: 11 a.m., Wellness clinic.

WED., JAN. 26: 7:45 a.m. Women's traveling breakfast.

TUES., JAN. 11: 1 p.m., Movies in Grand Rapids.

THURS., JAN. 13: Noon, Lunch and learn, Senior High School.

Make noon meal reservations three working days in advance.

Parents, Grandparents and Business People

"WE WILL HAVE SOME COMPUTERS, BUT THERE WON'T BE AS MANY AS WE NEED,"
(Dr. Fritz Esch, Superintendent of Lowell Area Schools, East Press, 12/30/93)

On Monday, January 10, at 7:30 at the Middle School, the Lowell School Board will accept bids for A PORTION of a voice/video system to be installed at the schools. There are NO COMPUTERS in these bids which will commit between \$500-600,000 in funds for a so-called "infrastructure," which is nothing more than cabling, phones and a video distribution system. According to information received at the latest board meeting, there is insufficient money to even install the entire voice/video system in the high school. With a partial system installed, it will now require two persons to start a video for a classroom.

Do you really want students to be watching videos all the time? While this system would be nice to have, it is expensive. Most of the same benefits can be obtained by recorded programs from satellite or cable TV and use of monitors and VCR's on carts in the classroom.

Citizens For Quality Education has developed a plan which will not only provide TV and voice communications to a greater extent than what is currently in the Lowell school buildings, but will provide computers and resources in much greater numbers than the plan being considered. We have estimated the costs and think that our entire plan can be implemented for the same money that is about to be spent on the "infrastructure." Of course, true costs can only be determined through competitive bidding.

QUESTIONS YOU SHOULD BE ASKING:

Do we really need a phone in every classroom? Teachers have had to live in the 18th century by having only 1-2 phones available to the entire staff, but to go to the opposite extreme is unnecessary. We recommend placing phones only in teacher workrooms.

Is it really necessary to wire every classroom for computers when the plan does not call for computers in every classroom for several years? By the time Lowell has money for computers for every classroom (if ever), communications and networking will most likely be wireless. Consider the U.P.S. Drivers with electronic delivery pads, cellular phones, notebook computers, palm-size personal electronic assistants with infrared communication, etc. Why use valuable resources now on something that may never be used?

Do you want students to be watching videos all the time? Have other funding alternatives been currently examined, i.e. CHANNEL 1 which provides equipment and "infrastructure" at little cost to the district in return for agreement to show their commercials if their programming is used.

Can you honestly say that it is in the best interest of the students that they watch videos but they must learn without the use of computers?

\$113,000 has been committed to pay for a technology consultant (\$53,000 already spent plus \$60,000 more authorized for this year). We offer our technology plan at no cost. We will request time at the January 10 Board Meeting for our technology "experts" to present the benefits of computers in the classroom.

The Lowell School Board needs to hear from you before these resources are no longer available.

Norm Byrnes 676-2520	Jack Lane 691-7054	Chris VanAntwerp 897-5242
Steve Idema 897-5658	Ray Quada 897-8533	Marsha Wilcox 897-8949

WE ARE CITIZENS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION • CALL 897-9748 OR 868-7284

TOWN TALK

The Barbie Liberation Organization recently switched the voice boxes on 300 Barbie and G.I. Joe dolls. The Barbies were saying things like "Dead men don't lie," and the G.I. Joe dolls were saying things like "Want to go shopping?" The organization said the dolls are sexist and that Barbies teach girls to be passive and G.I. Joe dolls teach little boys to be violent. What do you think?



Amy Phelps (Matthew)
My seven-year-old girl has a Barbie and she's not like that at all. My boys even play with the Barbies.



Helen Payne
No way! The organization ought to leave the dolls alone. You can find those attributes in everything - if you're looking for them.



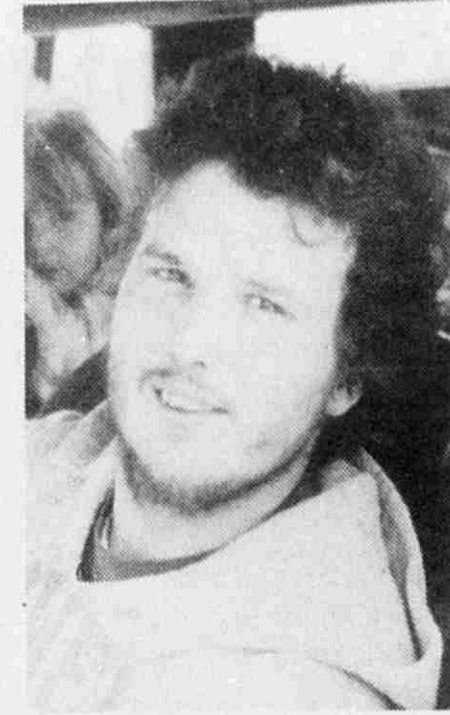
Judy Miller
No. I think people should let little boys be little boys and little girls be little girls.



Kim Lepsinski
No, I don't agree. I think groups are going overboard. The dolls are just another toy. I have little girls who play with G.I. Joe dolls.



Linda Ruesink
I think they should let little girls and boys be little girls and boys. Let them be kids and worry about the other stuff later.



Rick Barber
It's crazy. I don't think they teach any of that.



Ellen Myers
I don't think Barbies teach girls to be passive, although I do believe toys do teach boys to be aggressive. More so than toys, I think kids pick these things up from television and the home environment.



Roberta Linkfield
Leave the kids alone. Toys are toys to be enjoyed by little kids, not for all of this deep-seeded stuff.



Doug Kimmel
It's crazy. I don't think those dolls do any of that.

Students, continued...

rabbis and enjoys fishing. He has been involved in the Hershey Track Summer Program in which he placed sixth in the state for the 800 meter last summer. He plans to join the LHS track team this spring. Wojciakowski is treasurer of his 4-H Club and is a member

of the St. Patrick's Church Youth Group. The faculty and staff of Lowell High School are proud to have these five young people represent the student body and ask the community to join in honoring them as students-of-the-month.

Lowell YMCA Winter Fitness Schedule

Beginning January 10, 1994

Hi/Low Impact Fitness — This is a fun upbeat program for all fitness levels. It a medium to high intensity workout with a combination high/low impact. Includes cardiovascular workout, flexibility, strength and followed by a cool down.

Morning Class
Starts: Jan. 10 - Jan. 21 Time: 10 - 11 a.m. Mon-Wed-Fri
*Jan. 24 - June 10 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Mon-Wed-Fri
Place: United Methodist Church
Instructor: Caron Stetler
(morning babysitting available for .50¢ per child/class)

Low Intensity/Low Impact Fitness — Come join the fun at our morning low intensity/low impact fitness class. Exercise at your own pace to music from the past and today.

Morning Class
Starts: Jan. 10 - Jan. 21 Time: 9 - 9:45 a.m. Mon and Fri
*Jan. 24 - June 10 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Mon and Fri
Place: United Methodist Church
Instructor: Caron Stetler, Terri Nausieda

Step Aerobics — A low impact and low-high intensity class that's ideal for all fitness levels. Stepping up and down on a variable height bench helps participants burn calories and body fat. Limited space is available! Hurry and sign up today!

Evening Class
Starts: Jan. 10 - May 26 Time: 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Tues and Thurs
Place: Bushnell School Gymnasium
Instructor: Jody Smith, Joice Smith

* Please note that the class time changes the week of Jan. 24 to accommodate Lowell Public School time changes.

You can sign up for classes by the session or pay a drop-in daily fee. For registration and other information, contact:
Lowell YMCA • 323 W. Main St. • 897-8445

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Gall and city council work to set uniform sidewalk standards

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Inspection criteria and funding were the two major areas of focus in Director of Public Works, Art Galls' report on the city sidewalk repair/replacement program. Gall told the Council that it would be desirable to set uniform standards to judge a sidewalk's condition. "Such standards would help minimize citizen complaints by eliminating the opinion of a sidewalk's condition," Gall said. Inspection criteria fall into two categories - safety con-

cerns and appearance concerns.

Typical safety concerns would include differences in elevation, extreme tilt, deep spalled areas, large cracks and poor drainage (pockets of water).

Typical appearance concerns would include minor surface spalling, hairline cracks and discoloration.

Gall said cities tend to focus on safety items. "Replacing a sidewalk because of its appearance is difficult to justify," he said.

In Gall's survey of local municipalities, the most prevalent standard for replac-

ing sidewalk is a half-inch or greater difference in elevation between slabs or sections of slabs. The council told Gall it was comfortable with whatever Gall felt was best, whether it was a half-inch or an inch. "That's a judgement factor and I know you're looking for something more concrete," Hodges smiled. "I think possibly with more traveled areas, the separation should be less," he added. He asked if it was possible to have separate criteria for the more traveled areas as compared to some less traveled residential walk.

As for funding, the council agreed that its participation level would be 25 percent across the board whether it is new or replacement. City Manager Dave Pas-

quale said if funds are not there some years, the council could consider doing less and still provide 25 percent. "The project would just take a little longer," Pasquale said.

He also noted that the DDA may also help limit some of the project cost. Funds for the program could be provided by block grant money, dedicated mills and the improvement fund.

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1990 VOYAGER SE - 6 cyl., auto, air, stereo, tilt, cruise.

1990 CARAVAN LE - 1 owner, 64,000 miles, fully loaded.

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(2) 1988 GRAND'S SE - Both have 6 cyl., auto, air, stereo, tilt, cruise.

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Times running out to secure your spot in our next Ionia County Area Telephone Directory!

LAST DAY
Friday,
January 7th!

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Directory Services

Don't hesitate ... call today!

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616-754-2266

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Lowell wrestlers drop holiday matches to Sparta and Grandville

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's wrestlers finished 2-2 at the Grandville Invitational, but its losses came against the clubs it measures itself by.

The Red Arrows defeated Big Rapids 39-18 and Jenison 54-17. They lost to defending Class A state champion Grandville 17-40 and league foe Sparta 25-34.

In a battle for third place, Sparta won eight of 13 matches to win going away.

Lowell's Scott Swanson, 103 pounds, was a 10-8 winner.

Dan Spicer, 112, posted a pin at 5:22 of the third period, giving Lowell a 9-0 lead.

Sparta pinned losses on Red Arrows' Matt Osmolinski and Mike Rottier.

Osmolinski, 119, lost 16-5. Rottier, 125, was defeated 16-1.

Lowell's Doug Weeks, 130, broke a 9-9 tie with a 15-4 decision.

Red Arrow Scott Kamphuis, 135, lost by the count of 14-7.

Sparta took an 18-13 lead when Matt Inman, 140, was pinned at 4:33 of the third period.

The Spartans made it 21-13 with a 5-4 decision at the expense of 145-pounder, Todd Lyonnais.

Kory Kirkbride, 152, pulled Lowell to within two points at 21-19 with a pin at 2:32 of the second period.

Rich Stouffer lost a tough 6-3 decision to Sparta's Jeremy Andrus in the 171-pound match.

Sean Smith was pinned at

1:32 of the first period in the 189-pound match.

Lowell's heavy weight Chris Nauta finished up with a pin in 1:31 of the first period.

In its loss to Grandville, Lowell got wins at 103, 152,

171 and heavyweight. Swanson won 6-3 at 103.

Kirkbride was a 10-4 winner at 152 pounds. Stouffer tallied a pin at 1:18 of the first period. Nauta took just 53 seconds to pin his Grandville counterpart.

Against Big Rapids, Swanson, Spicer and Risner all won by way of forfeit.

Posting pins for Lowell were Stouffer, 171, at 1:32 of the first period and Nauta (HWT) at 34 seconds of the first period.

Decisions were handed in by Mike Rottier, 125, 13-12.

Ron Osmolinski, 140, was a 12-10 victor. Kirkbride, 152, won 13-9 in his match.

Vergennes Township restructures its board

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

as the secretary.

The Vergennes Township Planning Commission will have a new look for the upcoming year.

After the township board re-appointed Lynn Drown and Gil Wise to the planning commission, the commission restructured itself for 1994.

Wise, who has been serving as the commission chairman, has been elected vice chairperson. Richard Gillette will serve as the new chairperson. Cheryl Tolley remains

Wise and Drown will serve three-year terms on the seven-member board. Wise, 1069 Alden Nash, has served for four years as the chairperson while Drown, 1003 Bailey Rd., first came on the commission in August. She filled the term vacated when Roger Roberts resigned.

The vice chairperson position is a new one for the commission. The commission decided it needed the extra position because of the increased business in the area.

A man's homeland is wherever he prospers.
—Aristophanes

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But who is speaking to potential new customers in your area about your service? Getting To Know You helps new homeowners find appliance or auto repair, exterminator or locksmith with a housewarming package filled with needed information about selected community service companies. Join the finest merchants and professionals by subscribing to your local Getting To Know You program, and help your new neighbors get acquainted with you.

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EXHIBIT A CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS TO ELECTORS AND TAX- PAYERS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, SE- CURED BY THE REVENUES OF THE CITY'S WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM THEREON

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CITY OF LOWELL intends to issue revenue bonds in a maximum amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

The bonds shall be issued for the purpose of defraying a portion of the costs of constructing water storage facilities, pumps, water transmission and distribution lines and related appurtenant properties and facilities on the west side of the City.

The bonds to be issued shall mature within the maximum term permitted by law with interest on the unpaid balance at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law. The bonds shall be issued pursuant to Act 94 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1933, as amended.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT

The principal of and interest on said bonds shall be payable solely from revenues derived from the operation of the City's Water Supply System and shall not constitute a general obligation of the City nor an indebtedness of the City within any constitutional or statutory limitation.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

The bonds will be issued without a vote of the electors unless, within 45 days from the date of publication of this notice, a petition, signed by not less than 10% of the registered electors residing within the city limits of the City of Lowell, shall have been filed with the City Clerk requesting a referendum upon the question of the issuance of said bonds, then the bonds shall not be issued until approved by the vote of the majority of the electors of the City qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

This notice is published pursuant to the requirements of Section 33 of Act 94 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1933, as amended.

David M. Pasquale, City Clerk,
City of Lowell

Our channel line up will be changed on
Thursday, December 9, 1993
between the hours of 8 a.m. and 12 noon.
The new line up is as follows:

Channel	Symbol	Channel	Symbol
2.....	LOCAL	17.....	WTBS
3.....	WWMT-3	18.....	C-MAX*
4.....	WOTV-41	19.....	FAM
5.....	WLLA-64	20.....	TNN*
6.....	WGVU-35	21.....	M-TV*
7.....	WXMI-17	22.....	LOCAL
8.....	WOOD-8	23.....	USA
9.....	WLNS-6	24.....	DISCOVERY
10.....	WILX-10	25.....	WGN
11.....	WTLJ-54	26.....	ESPN
12.....	WKAR-23	27.....	CNN
13.....	WZZM-13	28.....	HN
14.....	DISNEY*	29.....	NICK
15.....	WSYM-47	30.....	A & E
16.....	HBO*	31.....	PASS
		32.....	TNT

* Denotes Premium Channels



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VOL. I. LOWELL, KENT COUNTY, MICH., JULY 1, 1893. NO. 1

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The Lowell Ledger
Wednesday, January 27, 1993
Volume 17, Issue 11

Township land use plan scrutinized closely by commission and residents
Timpson: If the area is controlled closely, the township can maintain growth properly.

School payroll discrepancies leads to dismissal of employee

New public library a motivating force behind East Riverfront plan

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Grandchildren Are Sweet

Say Happy Valentine's Day To Your Grandchildren!

Send in the form below with a picture of your grandchild and we will print it in the February 9th edition of the Ledger.



Grandchild's Name
With Love From
Grandparent's Name



Grandchild's Name
With Love From
Grandparent's Name



Grandchild's Name
With Love From
Grandparent's Name



Grandchild's Name
With Love From
Grandparent's Name

The Cost Is Only \$3 For Each Picture.
The Deadline For The Valentines Is Noon, February 7, 1994

Your Name (Grandparent) _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Child's Name _____



Photos can be picked up at the Ledger office after print date

Bring your Valentine or send it in with payment to:

The Lowell Ledger



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CEMENT WORK - of all kinds. City sidewalks. Also blacktop drives. 897-0346.

EXPERT FURNITURE REFINISHING - all hand stripping & all hand rubbed finishes. Call Sam for free estimates. 868-0268.

LEAVES HAVE FALLEN - your eaves are full, if you want your eaves cleaned, call THE FLOWER LADY, 642-9533.

EQUITY BUILDERS - Specializing in kitchen, bath & basement remodels. Call Gary at 949-6996.

LAND CONTRACTS - Best price for your land contracts. Call Sara with Bailey & Bailey Capital Brokers, 363-8540.

EVENTS

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

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

PARENTS+ KIDS - Scotch Doubles Bowling League. Starts Jan. 13, 6:30 p.m. Roll Away Lanes, 897-0001.

HELP WANTED

DIETARY POSITIONS - Lowell Medical Care Center has positions available in the Dietary Dept. Days & afternoon shifts are open. Experience in long term care facility preferred. For immediate consideration, please apply in person. Lowell Medical Care Center, 350 N. Center St., Lowell, MI 49331. E.O.E.

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.

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.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS - For animal caretaker/custodian in rapidly expanding Veterinary Clinic. Full & part-time positions open. Must be good with animals, clean cut, dependable, hard working, 18 years or older. Includes some weekends. Please send resume to: Lowell Veterinary Clinic, Attn: Office Manager, 11610 East Fulton, Lowell, MI, 49331. No phone calls please.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Experienced Medical Office Assistant. Must know insurance billing and collections, computer entry and have good general medical office skills. Non-smokers only. You must prove to be reliable, friendly and enjoy helping people. Good references required. Good wages benefits and working conditions for the right person. Send resume in confidence to: PERSONNEL, PO Box 92, Lowell, MI 49331.

PART-TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST - One service plus adult through children's music. Send resume to: First Congregational U.C.C. of Lowell, 404 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331.

FOR RENT

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.

CENTER COURT APTS. - LOWELL - 1 & 2 bedroom apts. with heat, carports, garages, short term leases, small pet, air & more. 897-0099 or 897-8292 day or night. \$20/mo. discount with good credit & this ad.

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom house in city of Lowell. \$425 plus deposit. Must have good references. 676-0833.



PRECIOUS MOMENTS FIGURINES RETIRED - Boy with Christmas tree, \$75; Football boy, \$50; girl with presents, \$60. Call 897-8520.

FOR SALE

COTTAGE FOR SALE - on Silver Lake near Hart. Beautiful view of sand dunes, lake frontage, 4 bedroom. By owner. \$99,500. Call 616-897-5381 evenings or 616-897-9261 days. Ask for Roger.

PRECIOUS MOMENTS - 1989 & 1990 dated ornaments, \$15 each; 1990 & 1991 ball ornaments, \$30 each. Call 897-8520.

SEASONED HARDWOODS - \$100 a cord, delivered. Call 242-7540.

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.

FREE

FREE PUPPY - Black & white, found in woods, about 12 weeks old, needs good home. Call 897-5989.

WANTED

CRAFTERS WANTED - Space for rent in craft shop in Rockford. No consignment fees, no commission fees. Rental fee \$10 a week. January/February special rent for 2 months & get 3 weeks free! Call Rozes 866-5096, 10-5 p.m. or 866-6879 after 5 p.m.

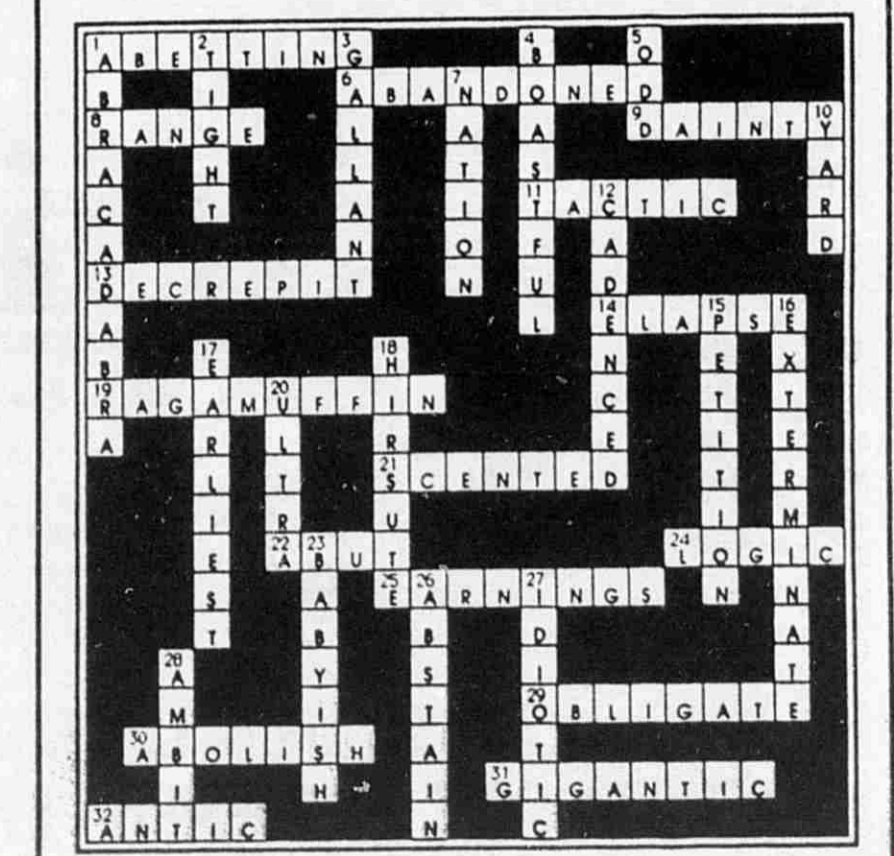
BE PART OF A FLOWER LADY PROJECT! - If you're not going to plant those fall mums that adorn your porch or line your driveway, give 'em to the Flower Lady! She'll find mum's garden spot - maybe even a park - where everyone can enjoy them right here in Lowell. Call 642-9533 to arrange for pickup.



PUBLIC NOTICE - If you know Angie (Wood) Johnson, get in touch with her as soon as possible! She's getting old fast! She just turned the ripe old age of 30!

DISCOVER CLASSIFIED POTENTIAL

CROSSWORD ANSWERS



"Get More In 94!"

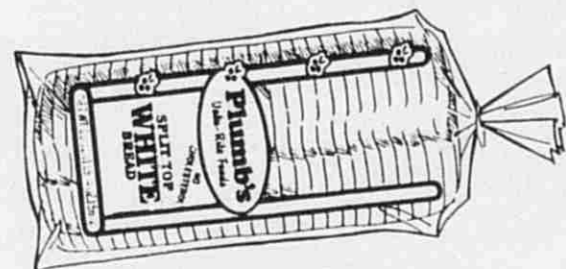


Sale starts Monday, January 3 through Sunday, January 9, 1994

Pick... **Plumb's**



9-PACK HAWAIIAN PUNCH
Red, Blue or Purple Drink Boxes
\$1.99



PLUMB'S SPLIT TOP WHITE BREAD
20-oz. loaf

5 \$2
FOR



FRESH SPLIT CHICKEN BREASTS
Country Pride Grade A

\$1.00
LB.



OSCAR MAYER LUNCHABLES
4 1/2-oz. assorted varieties
ECKRICH LUNCH MEATS
8-oz. all varieties except ham & salami



1.00



GERBER 2ND FOODS
4-oz. Fruits & Vegetables, Dinners & Desserts

4 \$1
FOR

SPARTAN SODA POP
2-liter all flavors

59¢



100% PURE ORANGE JUICE
Country Fresh 1/2-gallon

99¢



DOWNYFLAKE WAFFLES
12-oz. Buttermilk, Homestyle, Blueberry
79¢



KRAFT GRAPE JELLY
32-oz. jar

99¢



CAMPBELL'S RAMEN NOODLES
2 1/2-3 oz. regular or light chicken, beef, pork, oriental

6 \$1
FOR

RUFFLES POTATO CHIPS
14-oz. assorted

2 \$3
FOR



8-PACK PEPSI PRODUCTS
20-oz. bottles all varieties

\$2.79



CRISPY FRESH HEAD LETTUCE
each

2 \$1
FOR



1335 W. MAIN, LOWELL PH. 897-8425 LOTTO
SENIORS SAVE 5% TUESDAY DOUBLE MFR. COUPONS EVERYDAY
POSTAGE STAMPS FAX SERVICE \$1.00 MONEY ORDERS 49¢ W.I.C. & FOOD STAMPS WELCOME