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# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 21, Issue 13

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 8, 1995

## Decline in road construction leaves Lowell Charter Township with an extra \$76,903

By Marc Popielek  
Contributing Writer

Townships normally are not in the business of making money, but once in a while an incident occurs which provides them with a small windfall.

In the case of the Lowell Charter Township, that wind-

fall came in the form of \$76,903.

When the township ended the 1993/94 fiscal year, it had accumulated excess funds in the amount of \$117,203.

"We figured to have an excess of \$40,300, but instead we have over \$117,000. That is due to the school construc-

tion and the delay of road work to Foreman Road," said township clerk Carol Wells.

According to Wells, the township budgeted \$108,000 for road construction, but only spent \$8,000.

"Our road budget is in real good shape, thanks to the  
**Windfall, cont'd., pg. 8**

## City council votes to go ahead with engineering study and its 75/25 split

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

After nearly months of talk and discussion, Lowell's City Council moved to go ahead with the engineering services for the Bowes Road realignment project.

"I'm in favor of funding the engineering study so that the city can find out what's all involved," Lowell Mayor James Maatman said. "I'm not sure the city has the money to go ahead with the project once we do find out."

The Kent County Road Commission proposed to undertake the engineering services

for the Bowes Road realignment project at a cost of \$9,500.

Lowell Charter Township Supervisor John Timpson said that if an independent firm was involved, it would cost as much as \$22,000.

Timpson stated at a recent township meeting that its offer to pay 25 percent was its best offer.

Councilman Don Green said the township was not in agreement with the council's counter proposal. "We then have to decide whether or not we proceed with their offer to pay 25 percent or look at other alternatives for Bowes Road. I'm in

**Study, cont'd., pg. 8**

## Art Bieri remembered by peers as a man of character; thought of by students as role model

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

As humans we find it agonizing when the reason something happens cannot always be clearly identified.

That is why the freak accident (Aug. 29), involving two cars and a deer which eventually took the life of Art Bieri on Jan. 25, was all the more painful to close friends and family.

"We may not be able to find a reason," said fellow fisherman and good friend Arnie Kimball. "However, I think Art's death has caused myself and others to stop and re-evaluate our lives and how we are doing."

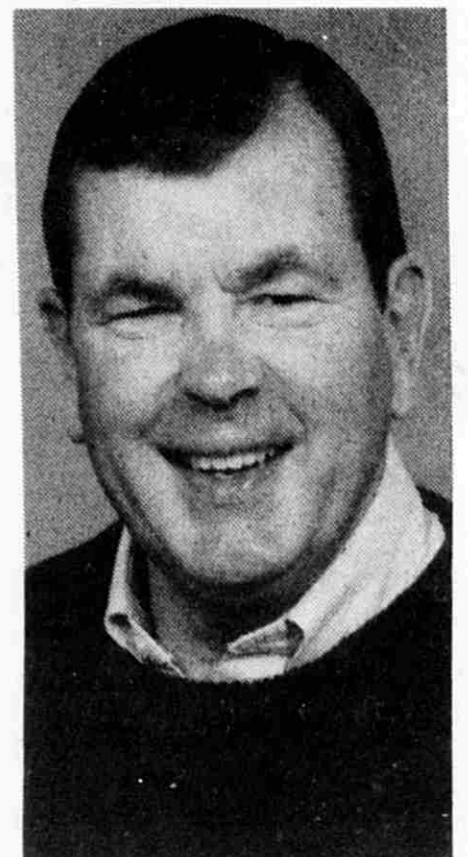
Bieri, who grew up in Lowell, spent 36 1/2 years in the Lowell school system. His retirement was in part due to wanting to spend more time doing things for his family and himself.

While serving in the armed forces during the Korean War, Walter Gumser, superintendent of Lowell Schools, wrote the military on behalf of Bieri, requesting his release from duties three months early.

During his school tenure, Bieri was more than just a math and social studies teacher. He spent time as a counselor, and assistant principal. He also helped young, new teachers break in.

"It was Art Bieri and Arnie Kimball who made sure I felt at home when I first started teaching at Lowell," middle school teacher Ken Akers said. "Whether it had to do with the classroom or the education world, Art always took time to talk with me. When I was through talking to him, I always felt better."

Akers and Bieri did not have the same interest out-  
**Bieri, cont'd. pg. 8**



Art Bieri

### INSIDE THE LEDGER

Audrie's newest floral shop, pg. 7

Council approves variance for Kloosterman, pg. 28

Letters of intentions signed, pg. 20



Sandy Bartlett was recognized as the 14th recipient of the Lowell Area Arts Council's "Arty" Award.

## "Arty" Award frames Bartlett's decade of service to LAAC

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Sandy Bartlett talks about the Lowell Area Arts Council Gallery as a great place to be and as an opportunity for people to be inspired.

Those are simply words without meaning unless Bartlett's actions support them.

Bartlett's commitment to promoting the arts in the Lowell area began 10 years ago when she worked as a member of the gallery committee after joining the Arts Council.

"Sandy has been one of the most dedicated members of the gallery committee, assisting in finding artists, installing exhibits, and helping with the receptions for over 100 gallery shows in the Art Center gallery at FMB," said LAAC chairwoman of the board Jill VanAntwerp.

The LAAC was so inspired by Bartlett's dedication and love for the arts that it presented her with the 1994 "Arty" Award.

Bartlett is the 14th recipient of the award since its inception. Past recipients have included Jim and Cheryl Blodgett, Linda Daugherty, Chris Hodges, Lori Ingraham, George Dey, Peggy Idema, Jan Johnson, Brian Doyle, John Harper, Kathie Quada, Chris and Jill VanAntwerp, Gil Wise and Dode Dey.

"The past winners of the 'Arty' Award all gave tremendous contributions to the arts," Bartlett said. "The award has been a way for the council to show its appreciation."

Bartlett added that she hadn't thought of her involvement in that way. "But, I must tell

you, receiving the award is very uplifting," she said.

The 15-year Lowell resident has never shown any of her art work in a gallery setting. "I've always just dabbled in drawing, oil painting and photography," Bartlett said. "Someday I may want to show my work."

She has not just dabbled in the arts, but she has also taken time to teach the arts.

In 1989, Bartlett began teaching children the basic skills of drawing in after-school classes. An estimated 75 children have enjoyed her drawing workshops. She also has served as an instructor in several of the summer Fine Arts Day Camps held at the LAAC Center. Bartlett developed and helped conduct a workshop for children called "Along the Grand," designed to instruct in the patterns of nature along the river and to incorporate these patterns into related art projects.

As an original member of the LAAC's life drawing class, Bartlett was a participant when the class held a gallery exhibition. She and her husband Gary Dietzel have participated as artists in the Gala Christmas Show and Sale for the past seven years.

Bartlett is a member of the LAAC board of directors, serving as a liaison to the gallery committee. She has also volunteered in many areas of the Fallasburg Fall Festival.

"I think I and everybody who has ever been involved with the LAAC always wanted it to become this great place," Bartlett said. "I'm just thrilled to death with how it has grown."









# LMS honor roll, continued.... From Page 4

Schloop, Richard Schmitt, Lisa Schoen, Donald (D.J.) Shores, Kristin Smit, Joshua Smith, Mark Smith, Sara Soyka, Jessica Sprick.  
 Jolynn Stalsonburg, Katherine Stanford, Jordon Steele, Jenny Stever, Alan Stiver, Amanda Stoutjesdyk, Nichole Straub, Ellen Suman, Suzanne Swift, Nicole Tegg, Kurt Telman, Lindsey Thayer, Teresa Thompson, Jacqueline Thuston, Matthew Trierweiler, Rebecca Trierweiler, Kurt Umlauf, Kimberly Vandebrake, Bradley Vanderjagt, Phillip VanLaan, Amber VanOverbeck, Collin Vincent, Gavin Vincent, Kevin Walker, Matthew Wilcox, Skyler Willett, Jennifer Williams, Patricia Wilson, Joseph Wisner, Paul Wright, Amber Young.

**SEVENTH GRADE**  
 Aaron Alsgaard, Michael Armstrong, Katie Balaam, David Barry, Jennifer Bellechasses, Jacqueline Bennett, Laurie Biener, Theresa Bonner, Eric Bradley, Rebecca Brander, Danny Burton, Abby Christenson, Sarah Claire, Brian Conley, Ian Corey, Tina Delamar, Jennifer DenHouter, Michael Dereske, Nicole Deters, Angela DeWit, Candice Downs, Michael Dykstra, Betsy Eldridge.  
 Stephanie Ellison, Felicia Eshragh, Kathleen Fleet, Douglas Ford, Richard Ford, Bethany Fredline, Nicole Gauw, Megan Gillett, Cherie Gillman, Joseph Giuliano, Elizabeth Graham, Stefanie Hafey, Aaron Hall, Courtney Hedlund, Kyle Holst, Kristeena Hughes, Bradford Jackson, Joseph Jamison, Audra Jastifer, Jim Jastifer, Aaron Kaeb, Ben Kaeb, Kelly Kernen.  
 Elissa Kinney, Amber Kuipers, Trevor Land, Mark Maatman, Louis Markel, Tara May, Jenny McCaul, Leonard McElveen, Melissa McGuire, Bryce McMahon, M. Kate McPherson, Laura McQueen, Kimberly Meiste, Carolyn Mercer, Courtney Merrills, Melissa Miller, Ryan Mix, Jerry Moerdyke, Amanda Osterhaven, Debra Overway, Joseph Patterson.  
 Lindsay Perkins, Bo (BJ) Peterson, McKenzie Plummer, Kerri Postema, Jennifer Prins, Matthew Reed, Michelle Reed, Mike Rekeny, Rachel Rice, Lara Robertson, Daniel Rottier, Elizabeth Roudabush, Brandi Schaefer, Angela Schmidt, Megan Schoenthaler, Timothy Schutte, Lindsay Scigliano, Luke Seitz, Courtney Shaffer, Tashia Shattuck, Debra Sheppard.  
 Jaime Sheppard, Bob Shindorf, Toby Smith, Nathaniel Spencer, Brad Spoelman, Mindy Tarney, Miranda Tase, Lindsey Thaler, Terra Thurlow, Jason Tomczak, Kara Tousley, Arienne Tuinstra, Keith Valentine, Nicholas Vandersloot, Philip VanHall, Lane Vickers, Joshua Vrooman, Lori Walsh, Christine Wansten, Melanie Wieland, Jon Wiering, James Willits, Jennifer Wisner, Maggie Wisner, Charles Wood, Annie Zalokar.

### EIGHTH GRADE

Katherine Akers, Jason Alber, Dara Anchors, Stacy Anderson, Josephine Anstett, Nicole Arnett, Michael Arnsward, Andrea Baker, Jonathan Ballem, Brooke Bennett, Robert Bessey Jr., Joshua Blanding, Nicholas Blough, Lynn Boersma, Sarah Bommarito, Melissa Bowen, Lisa Bristol, Erin Burgess, Kelly Capen, Megan Cindric, Dylan Cole, Nick Collins, Kevin Condon, Bradley Corbit, Kalie Cowan (Nosko), Stacey Craig, Sara Davis, Sarah Debiak, Abby Denton, Sarah DeShane, Amanda Dykstra.  
 Julia Ennis, Michael Eteo, Brandy Fedewa, Brent Feusse, Patricia Fick, Shannon Finnegan, Kimberly Fish, Robert Ford, Rachael Fredline, Meghan Geer, Dustin Gless, Andrew Graham, Landon Graham, Heather Halbeisen, Maxwell Heiman, Ben Hodges, Kyle Hoffman, Janna Holst, Eric Joshua Stauffer, Kimberly Stuckey, Lucas Swanson, Shane Teelander, Joseph Thaler, Thomas Thayer, Richard Tousley, Erin Umlauf, Steven VanLaan, Daniel Vosovic, Nicole Waldron, Bethany Weber, Stefanie Weir, Shelby Williams, Molly Wisner, Kaily Wittenbach, Tasha Yeiter, Katie Yeo, Rachel Zalokar, Ben Zeeuw.

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 Hope is a much greater stimulant of life than any happiness.  
 Friedrich Nietzsche

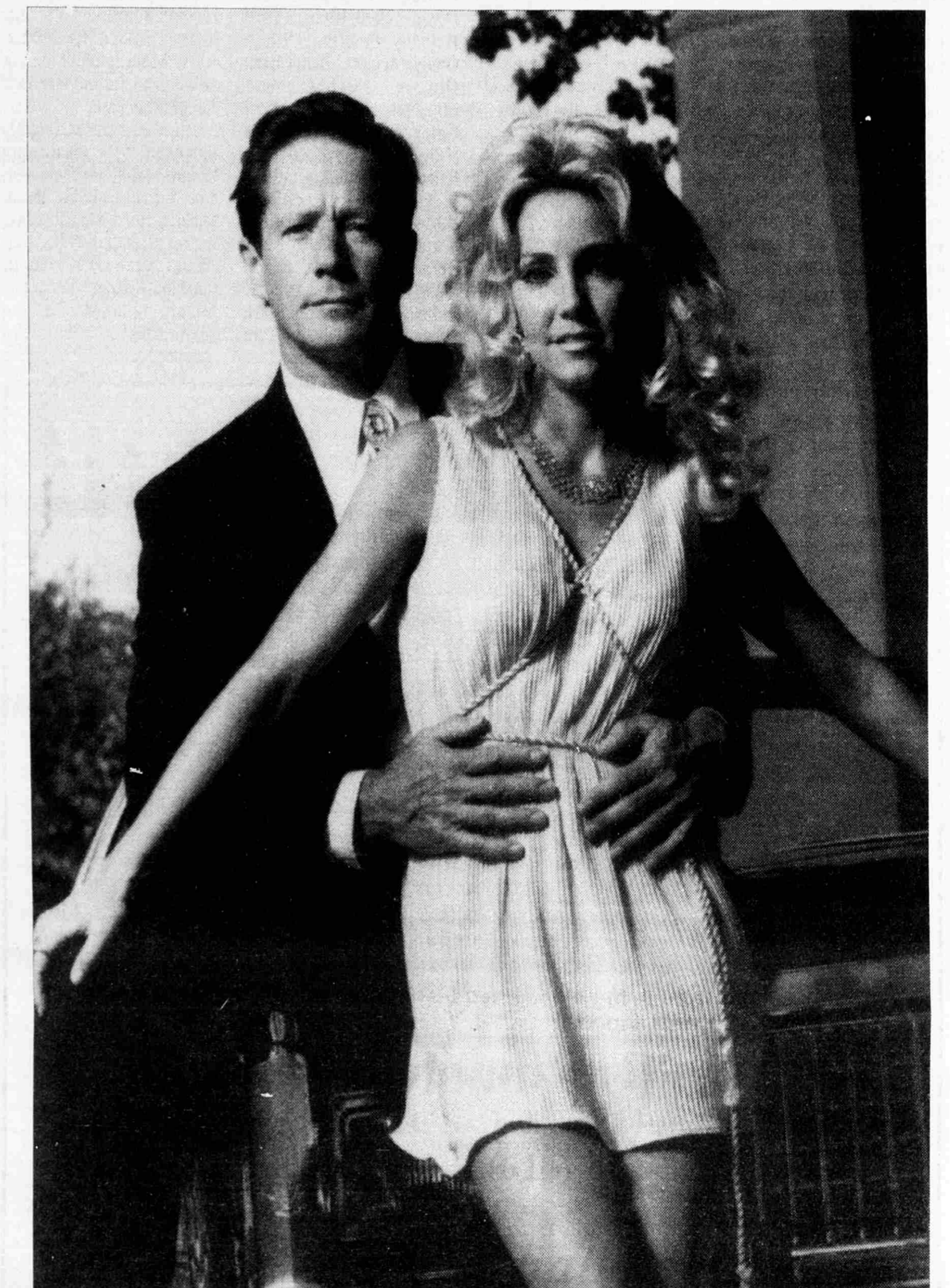
# The Lowell Ledger's

## TV LISTING MAGAZINE

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

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WVMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5	WLLA-64
6	WGVU-35
7	WXMI-17
8	WOOD-8
9	WLNS-6
10	WILX-10
11	WTLJ-54
12	WKAR-23
13	WZZM-13
14	DISNEY**
15	WSYM-47
16	HBO**
17	WTBS
18	C-MAX**
19	FAM
20	FX
21	M-TV
22	LOCAL
23	USA
24	DISCOVERY
25	WGN
26	ESPN
27	CNN
28	HN
29	NICK
30	A & E
31	PASS
32	TNT
33	DOPLAR RADAR
34	EWTV
35	TNN
36	TRAVEL
37	LEARNING
38	SCI-FI
39	VH-1

\*\* Denotes Premium Channels



**FOR THE WEEK OF FEB. 10 THROUGH FEB. 16**

Peter Strauss and Heather Locklear play Texas millionaire T. Cullen Davis and his second wife, Priscilla, in the two-part movie *Texas Justice*, airing Sunday and Monday on ABC. The fact-based drama recounts the couple's infamous divorce case and the murders connected to it.

# Thank You!

*Dear Parents, students, teachers, families, neighbors, organizations and businesses:*

The Lowell Music Boosters wish to extend a huge **THANK YOU** for your donations of time, resources and money toward our \$25,000 goal for the purchase of new band and choir uniforms. Your contributions were greatly appreciated.

**THANKS** to those who purchased cookbooks, poinsettia plants, raffle tickets and t-shirts. Also to those women who gave of their time to participate in the product survey that was done at the high school.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to those parents who have worked many hours to see this project to completion.

Many people had the opportunity to see the marching band this fall and the symphonic band and concert choir at the Christmas concert. The uniforms looked fantastic!

*Please take note of the highlighted businesses and organizations. Stop in and shop and lend your support.*

## Way To Go Lowell...We Did It!

<p><b>THE LOWELL MUSIC BOOSTERS</b>  <b>President</b> Vice President Treasurer          Lanie Rice Terry Raymor Maureen Pawloski</p> <p><b>COOKBOOKS</b>          Chris Hodges, Jackie Tousley, Kim Lum, Mary Kimble</p> <p><b>RAFFLE</b>          Rena Mitchell</p>	<p><b>SECRETARIES</b>          Pam Berrington/Beth Ball</p> <p><b>FUND-RAISERS</b>          Kathy Akers/Marsha LaHaye</p> <p><b>TOLBERT MARKETING</b>          Ellen Lietzke</p>
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**CORPORATE CLUB**  
 Michigan Wire and Processing, Southwell Family, Lowell Middle School Bands, Buyers Guide/Lowell Ledger, Byrne Electric of Rockford, Wendy's of West Michigan, FMB State Savings Bank, Country Roads Inc. of Belding, Lowell High School Bands, Lowell Music Boosters.

**DRESS THE PERFORMER CLUB**  
 Bob and Lanie Rice, John Clore Auto, Ron and Maureen Pawloski, Lowell Education Association, Dale and Karen Latva, Mike and Marsha LaHaye, The Tousley Family, The Lum Family, Mark, Ginny, Bethany and Erin Weber, Mark and Glenna Blanding, Bill and Sue Stouffer, Pfaller's Clothing and Shoes, First Congregational Church School Students, The Gunberg Family, The Lowell Area Jaycees, Dr. Clark Vredenberg DDS, Melvin and Linda Beers, Key Heights Residents Association.

**SYMPHONIC CLUB**  
 Steve and Peggy Idema, Wilma Hoag, Bob and Pam Berrington, Terry and Nancy Raymor, Alan and Jerri Teelander, Chris and Jill VanAntwerp, Jack and Nancy Misner, Cathy Gans, John and Sally Sterly, Lowell Auto Dealer Group, Robert and Christy Jastifer, Benedict Drywall, Inc., Attwood Corporation, Dave and Betty Clark, Tim and Nancy Malone, Al and Ann Mulder, Pat, Dorothy, Beth and Susie Hoag, Ray and Beth Wolfe, Mary L. Benedict, Attorney at Law, Don and Sheila Dubbink, Wilcox Farms Gordon and Marsha Wilcox, Gerald and Kay Wisner, Chadalee Farms, Ed and Sandy Drougal, Softee Creme, Chuck and Vivian Rice, Bob and Kathy Gingrich, Ken and Kathy Akers.

**CONCERT CLUB**  
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**SOLO CLUB**  
 Mrs. A. E. Denkema, Don and Carol Schuster, Michael and Martha Kelly, Paula Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Johnson, Robert and Bonnie Bruce, Anita Huizenga, Pippi's Playhouse, J & J Wholesale Outlet, Bill and Dorothy Roth, Touch of Country, Molly Wepman, Bob and Mary Williams, Allen and Mary Wisner.

*Also the middle school slumber party which included Andrea Baker, Janelle Ford, Julia Ennis, Tiffany Jordan, Angie Johnson and Kelly Carney collected \$54.*

## A GREAT BEGINNING TO 1995

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DAYTIME MORNING 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

DAYTIME AFTERNOON 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

FRIDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 10, 1995 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 10, 1995 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 11, 1995 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

SATURDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 11, 1995 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

SATURDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 11, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 11, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).

SUNDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 12, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 12, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-6:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 12, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM) and cable stations (TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCIFI).



MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 13, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 13, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 14, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 14, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 15, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 15, 1995. Broadcast stations: WWMW, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WLX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, PASS, TNT, NASH, SCI-FI. Premium stations: DISN, HBO, MAX.







# Doris Titcombe newest face at Lowell's City Hall



Doris Titcombe tackles a variety of responsibilities for the city.

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The city of Lowell knew why it hired Doris Titcombe. However, it didn't know what all it was getting.

Titcombe, a Lowell resident for 20 years, was hired in November as a part-time clerk/receptionist for the city.

Her responsibilities include handling the mail, answering the telephone, completing purchase orders, waiting on the front counter and billing.

"We hired Doris for all those reasons. But what we weren't aware of was her computer knowledge," said city deputy clerk Betty Morlock. "That's been a real plus."

Titcombe works Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

"I'm really enjoying it," Titcombe said. The people

have really been friendly." Titcombe's part-time position came about after long-time city employee Wendy DeNolf retired last fall.

## Health With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Donette Bish



### CARBON MONOXIDE - A DEADLY GAS

When Vitas Gerulaitis, a 40-year-old tennis star, died of carbon monoxide poisoning recently, a new awareness of this deadly gas permeated the American public. Carbon monoxide causes the largest number of accidental poisoning deaths in the United States. We can all take some simple precautions to greatly reduce the risk of this happening to our families.

First, have an annual inspection of your home heating system. The fall and early winter - when people turn on long dormant heaters - are the times of greatest risk of carbon monoxide leaks from defective furnaces, flues, or oil heaters. If you cook with natural gas, make sure your kitchen is well ventilated. Never barbecue in an enclosed space. A carbon monoxide detector, preferably installed near bedrooms, is also recommended.

The classic symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning - headaches, fatigue, nausea, dizziness - are very easily chalked up to the flu or too much stress. Because of this, carbon monoxide poisoning may be difficult to detect. It should be suspected if symptoms are present upon awakening in the mornings, but tend to improve as the day goes on after you may have left the house to go to work etc. We suggest a routine inspection of your heating system, at bare minimum, to prevent this potentially life threatening problem.

\*\*\*  
Lying has a kind of respect and reverence with it. We pay a person the compliment of acknowledging his superiority whenever we lie to him.

—Samuel Butler

## LHS teams earn "good sports" honors

Lowell High School's varsity girls' basketball team and varsity soccer team earned post-season awards.

The award is presented each year by True Value Hardware to honor those teams that best exemplify the true meaning of sportsmen.

The Lowell girls' basketball team completed its season with an 18-4 record.

The Red Arrow soccer team finished its season at 4-10-1.

Both teams were presented with the Michigan High School Athletic Association's District "Good Sports are Winners" Award.

## Capital News Briefs

By Jerry Eisinger, Lansing

### Engler's tax plan...

(CNB) Lansing - The Senate Finance Committee reported on Governor John Engler's tax cut proposal. The governor's proposal includes a repeal of the intangibles tax, a measure the Democrats have criticized as another break for the rich.

Senator David Honigman (R-West Bloomfield) came to the defense of the plan. He says the legislation will offer more help to lower income people than higher income people. The Senator argued that the interest and dividends received by lower income people from their investments is generally a higher percentage of their overall intake as compared to wealthy people. But, Senator Gary Peters (D-Pontiac) reminded the Senator that for a person to pay an intangible tax must have at least \$250,000 in investments. Peters said those who do possess a \$250,000 portfolio are almost always wealthy.

### Medicaid grants...

(CNB) Lansing - Governor John Engler testifying before the U.S. Budget Committee argued that Medicaid could save as much as \$100 billion in the next five years if states were given the freedom to administer the benefit. Engler recommended that the federal government block grant the resources to the states in regard to mandated Medicaid programs. The governor said the new mandates have cost both the state and federal government more than \$1.5 billion in Michigan since 1990.

### Governors agree to Welfare policy...

(CNB) Lansing - After hours of discussion, at the close of their annual session in Washington D.C., members of the National Governors Association agreed to a policy on welfare reform that does not call on Congress to enact legislation creating a block grant program. Instead, the policy states that if a block grant program is adopted Congress will respect certain safeguards.

Governor Engler told reporters the federal government is likely to move towards a block grant program. He said the public has to trust the states and local governments to protect children and the needy while still promoting a greater reliance on work.

### Banking bills...

(CNB) Lansing - The House Commerce Committee plans to report bills by the end of March that will bring the state into compliance with new federal banking regulations, and hopefully attract some new bank headquarters to the state. The package of bills, not yet introduced, would allow state-chartered banks to have branches in other states, would allow banks from other states to have charters in Michigan, and would increase the usury cap. Committee Chair Gary Randall (R-Alma) said the usury cap bills are ready to be introduced and the package allowing interstate branching should be ready this month.

### Double bunking gains ground...

(CNB) Lansing - A bill that would repeal the long standing statutory goal of single occupancy prison cells was sent to the House floor from the Judiciary Committee. Republicans are rejecting Democrats' arguments that a link between cell occupancy and rehabilitation needs to be studied before moving ahead on Governor Engler's double-bunking policies.

### Gore to speak to Democrats...

(CNB) - Vice President Al Gore will deliver the keynote address at the state Democratic party's 1995 Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner March 18, the party's single largest annual fund-raising event. Gary Corbin, the party chair, said the Vice President's appearance will "be a boon to both my party and my successor's administration."

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The Lowell Area Arts Council will present "I Remember Mama" Feb. 16-18 at 8 p.m. at the new LHS auditorium. Pictured above, sitting on the floor, left to right, are Laurie Biener and Libby Aronson. Sitting in back, left to right, are Nancy Biener, Don Silvis, Brittanie Weigel, Jesse Gleason and John Fremer.

## Lowell City Council approves Kloosterman's variance request

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Through an unanimous decision, the Lowell Zoning Board of Appeals moved to approve a variance request put forth by Gail Kloosterman.

Her variance petition was to construct an 864 square foot single family home where 1,600 square feet of floor area is required.

Kloosterman stated that her financing institution, the farmers Home Administration, limits the size of the

house to 864 square feet.

Many of Kloosterman's neighbors at 229 James gave their support for the variance at the meeting. Included in attendance were George Blocher, Marilyn Bovee, Mark Baughman and Bev Holst.

At its Jan. 23 meeting, the planning commission recommended the Zoning Board of Appeals not to approve the variance by a vote of 4-2.

The reason for denial rested on the fact that none of the residential districts have a minimum floor area of

1,000 square feet. Also, it stated that the variance did not meet the criteria established in Sections 18.06 and 18.07 of the zoning ordinance.

Currently the property at 229 James Street is zoned R residential district.

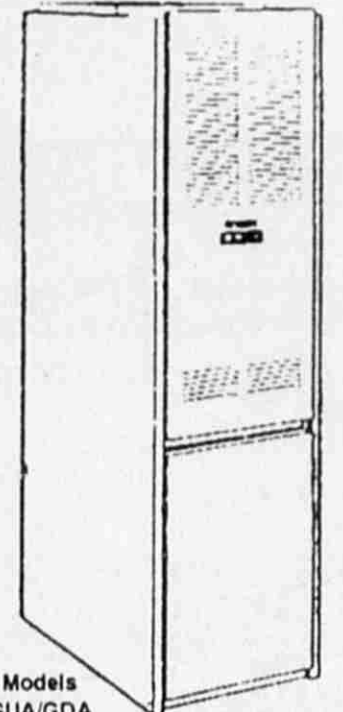
Planning Commission chairman Mike Blough said it is the intent of the planning commission to reexamine the characteristics of each area within the community under the new master plan.

## Lenger earns degree from Taylor

Stephen Lenger, of Lowell, graduated from Taylor University following first semester. Lenger, the son of Paula Lenger, is also a graduate of Lowell High School.

Taylor University is a Christian liberal arts college based in Upland, IN. The institution maintains campuses in both Upland and Fort Wayne, IN. It earns recognition from U.S. News & World Report, Peterson's Competitive Colleges and the Templeton foundations.

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