# The Lowell Ledger 

Volume 21, Issue 25


JAZZ BAND CONCERT IN LOWELL
The Lowell High School jazz band will present "A Night of Jazz" on Monday, May 8 in the high school auditorium at 7 p.m.

The concert will feature the 23 -member ensemble under the direction of Bob Rice. Everyone is welcome and admission is direct
free.

LOWELL AREA HUNGER C.R.O.P. WALK
Mark your calendars for May 7 and plan to walk against hunger. The first annual Lowell Area C.R.O.P. Walk will begin with registration at $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. and the walk starting at 2 p.m. from the First United Methodist Church.
Senator Dick Posthumus will be the Grand Marshal. Twentyfive percent of all pledges will be distributed to the Lowell Food Pantry and Lowell Senior lunch program. For more information about the C.R.O.P. Walk or to sponsor a walker, please call First United Methodist Church at 897-5936.

LOWELL JAZZ BAND TO PERFORM AT STATE CAPITOL
The Lowell High School jazz band will be performing on the front steps of the state capitol in Lansing on Thursday, May 11 , from noon to $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. They will be performing as part of the Michigan Week celebration at the capitol.

PARENT MEETINGS FOR SENIOR ALL-NIGHT PARTY
Parent meetings for the senior all-night party will be May 11 and 18 at 7 p.m. at the high school. The senior all-night party will be held Friday, May 26.

## MUSIC BOOSTERS MEETING

The Music Boosters meeting will be held Monday, May 8 at $6 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. in the middle school band room. This will be the last meeting of this school year. Parents please try and attend this one.

## SPRING BAND CONCERTS

The eighth-grade band and middle school jazz band will perform Thursday, May 11; the high school band concert will

Main Street, cont'd., pg. 8

## ITM reaps rewards

from automobile boom

## with expansion project

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer
The auto industry boom has one local company looking to expand its facilities.

ITM Corporation, 533 Godfrey in Vergennes Township, was granted a special exception use permit by the Vergennes Township Board for a 12 by 60 foot expansion project to its current facility.

The project will add office space for the company, which employs more than 300 people

Jim Hamelink, president and CEO of ITM, said the office expansion will accommodate growth within the company.
"Business has been really good for us. The building will give our office employees more room to operate," said Hamelink. "We've experienced a lot of growth during the past several years, which shows our commitment to our custom-
ITM provides machine services for the automobile indus-
Hamelink said the construction will begin in May and he hopes to have it completed by the end of June.

## With embezzlement struggles behind it, Lowell Youth Football League has a refreshing beginning in its 25th year

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor
The 1995 Lowell Youth Football League (LYFL) season will be special for a couple of reasons.
In its 25 th year, the nonprofit organization will again serve over 200 neighborhood youths.

The season is months away, and already it stands in stark contrast to the one that preceded it.
"The Lowell Youth Football League started the 1994 season with a balance of approximately $\$ 25$ and an out standing debt for 1993 equip ment of $\$ 1,500$, "LYFL president David Biggs said.

This year the league starts preparation for the ' 95 season with a checking balance of $\$ 5,810$ and no equipment debts. Approximately $\$ 2,000$ of that balance has been used to remodel the concession stand and to build an announcer's booth. Materials for these projects were donated by Erb Lumber and Crystal Flash.

The nearly depleted '94 balance (\$25) was traced back to the embezzlement of $\$ 2,200$ by former LYFL treasurer Mary Jo Smith.

The Lowell woman was sentenced last week by Circuit Court Judge George Bith to 24 months probation and 100 hours of community service. Smith must also pay court costs and full restitution.

Biggs said he became suspicious when Smith began missing meetings and no payments were being made on a $\$ 1,500$ equipment bill." I told the company in February that we would start making payments. I talked to them in July and no payments had been made," Biggs reported. Smith admitted to Lowell Police Chief Jim Valentine in September of 1994 that she


The volunteer construction workers responsible for the LYFL's new announcer's booth and refurbished concession stand are, left to right, LYFL president Dave Biggs and treasurer Gary Yeiter (right).
took the money and that she intended to pay the Lowell Youth Football League back. After Tuesday's (April 18) sentencing, Smith's attorney Walter Harrison said Smith wanted to make restitution as soon as possible.

The embezzling of money nearly cost LYFL its '94 season. However, with an anony mous donation and some har work by the league's players,
the nonprofit organization
raised approximately $\$ 7,700$ raised approximately
"That's the thing. It was ' kids' money. The parent and the board were parents to get the money back for the kids," Biggs said.
Of the 210 registered players, 137 of them sold $\$ 100$ worth of pizzas and pies. Players unable to participate in the fund-raiser paid a $\$ 30$ no
participation fee. Also, as in previous years, all players paid a $\$ 30$ registration fee. A lot of our fund-raiser credit has to go to our treasurer Gary Yeiter and his wife Connie," Biggs said. "They got out and pushed it and made sure people were getting the job done. It was just a great job on Yeiters' part. In an effort to avoid hav25th year, cont'd., pg. 8

The first annual Lowell Area C.R.O.P. Walk will begin with registration at 1 p.m. and the walk starting at 2 p.m. from the First United Methodist Church.
CROP WALK • MAY 7


## State's Rainy Day Fund, pg. 20

Burrows sets school long jump record pg. 21

Kids photo their world, pg. 25



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FMB's breakfast forum to help business work for its owners

## Viewpoint


 tively, we spent thousands of dollalass on travelel forod. Coldgeding,
licenses, tackle, charters, etc. For our thre--day effort we ended up with a total of ninit fish. To make matters worse, the
boat I wason was completelyskunked. Sorry you have to hear
all this again, but for that kisd all this again, but for that kind of expenditure 1 m m going to oge
some e mileage from the experience in column material A day ort wo after my column appeared, Frank Martin, our
local fire chief, came into the shop. I was in the composing room and heard him asking for me at the front counter. Twe
thoughts came to mind, both of them bad. Martin either wanted to conduct an inspection of the premises or wa
looking for a donation to the fire department.Ive been in tow


like to see pictures from his walleye trip a few days prior to In this week's town talk column, I I asked eight lucky
individuals if the FBI should be given the power to ninitrate
organizations like the Michigan Militia even if no criminal activity has been detected. It is amazing how the two usually go together.
The obvious proble The obvious problem with giving the FBI that kind of
power is the invasion of peoples rights their constitutional
rights. The other problem is wenther or not we want to giv
govermmet that much ower. If money is the root of al
problems than power is its little brother problems than poweve is its little brother.
Ithink keeping a close eve on what some may or may not
bedoing warrants somediscussion -buteven moreso, I can see
 MEAP: AN IMPORTANT TOOL
FOR CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT The Grand Rapids Symphony \&
Harp Soloist

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Children 11 \& Under $\$ 3$ FREE Bag of $\frac{\text { Popcorn With }}{\text { This Ad }}$ TUESDAY NIGHTS
Two BUCK TUESDAY
BRING A FRIEND!

## Some of the most often askecq queststions regarding the Hasco of the

MEAP test results and those answers provided by the Depa
O. Should the MEAP
educational programs?
A. Using MEAP test results to ovaluate programs is appro

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 ing ashy make the the papers" I read in the Gaid. I brand Raped this Press several years
ago ago.
The article told of a guy in Califorria who'd been sent to the grocery store by his wife. There happened to be a small
carival going on in the parking lot complete with lephant
rides rides for kids. Asthis poor, fate-stricken soul walked across the
parkin lot on his quest for a gallon of mikk, or whatever,
something spooked the elephant. The errand-boy husband was parking lot on his quest for a a galon of milk, or whatever,
somethingspoked the leppant. The erand-boy hustand was
trampled and killed. The story made the national wire sevvices trampled and killed. The story made the national wire services
and was picked up pypaers sound ht country.
whaw that's
wall going out witha flare, and acollisisin with an ostrich
 an elephant in California. Everybo
beat prostate cancer hands down.


 condolences. His statement: "You know, I learned something
very ymportant. hen it's my time to go, w want to go just like
my grandad


mance, accountability and community
he got my unofficial confirmation.
I chuckled ypon hearing at one of the ballparks that fans
showed their disappointment and disgust with players and owners by throwing one dollar bills out onto the fielel. 1 IVe
listened to a loto of talk and read a number of articles by those They er ethe respected or " "well informed" on the baseball issue
in. That may be wners are to bome for thit does the mess bascball San excuss for the behavior of spoiled, greedy players who Brave's ace Dan Glavinper, putanicly e exorcrised Phil Niekro
when the Hall of Famer talked about returain ment player. Niekre, Hat allof famerer wellinn forget more aboout acting liexe a professional and being a class act, than Glavine
canever hope to know. Noth hing pleased me more than to hea


people they serve are quite diverse, so of FE AP results are not
carefully interpected, uninformed persons may draw er carefuly interpreted uninformed persons may draw errone-
ousconclusions romem rankings based on MEAP eresult anene.
MEAP test results can be used to identify schools and MEAP test results can be used to identify schools and
districts with needs in reading, mathematics, and science
When making comparisons of schools within a district


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Sharing The Vision, cont'd....From Page 5

 no heirs, that money ends up on the state's soffers. Similarly,
if somene abandons land for one reason or another, the state
eventus
 Curently in Michimanan appointed occal public administra-
tors decide when property is abandoned or

 attorney general. Asa rule, these administrators are paid about
6 percent of the tolal worth of the property he or she decares
abandoned or unclaimed, which ends up being a lot of money abandoned or unclaimed, which ends up being a lot of money
consididering that Michigh tas take in between $\$ 50$ and $\$ 70$
million year or the pastitwo years under the escheats ssystem.


100 YEARS AGO IN THE JOURNAL - MAY 1, 1895
Ella Wiley



## PUBLIC WORKS

 EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/MAINTENANCE WORKERThe City of Lowell is seeking
applicants for two (2) Public Works equipment operator/maintenance worker positions. One of the positions involves
cemetery sexton duties and the other cemetery sexton duties and the other
involves water distribution system duties. Both positions require previous construction (preferably underground
utility) experience and a commercial utility) experience and a commercial
driver's license or the ability to obtain driver's license or the ability to oblain
one. The sexton duties also require some supervisory experience and the ability to
use a backhoe and to maintain burial records. Basic knowledge of personal
computers is helpful.
The Lowell Knights of Columbus

The current annual salary range for the
positions is $\$ 20,699$ ( $\$ 9.95$ an hour) to $\$ 26,499$ ( $\$ 12.73$ an hour) with a full benefit package (including
coverage) provided.
would like to thank the citizens of Lowell and surrounding area for Mental Retardation Drive
special thank you to Family Fare A special thank you to Family Fare Roll Away and Crystal Flash for
letting us collect at their locations

The Lowell Ledger.Wednesday, May 3, 1995-Page and the attorney general out of the esch eat sprocess. So, we not
only yliminate any oppornuit for political patronge, ubtw
also save the sate
tor. tor. Our changes also allow unclaimed property to go into the
state's main fund more promptly. In fact, the Michigan Department of Treasury estimates the state will gain an immediate
$\$ 10$ million when this new law goos int effect. In addition, the legislation gives holders of abandoned
property an extra 60 days to file their report of the property-
chang property an extra 60 days to file their report of the property-
changing the filing date from November 1 to December 31 of
each year. 1 ta laso requires the Department of Treasury to hire
 So with the passage of this legislation and the governor's certain signature, the citizens of Michigan can rest assured that
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Legislature is doing all it can to its Legisiature is doing alit it can to make government more
responsive, efficient and fair. While changing the escheats
system wont erase all of ows stas's problems responsive, efficien and fair. While changing the escheats
system wont rassall of our stat's proboms, it will save
taxpayers, on average, more than $\$$ million a year. AS always, feel free to contact me at my Lansing office if
ou have any questions or concerns. You can reach me by

## and salutatorian of the 1970 graduating class. Douglas Dok requests rezoning of 20 acres between $\mathrm{M}-21$

 The Lowell Chamber of Commercce has a new office at 101
West Main, next to Christiansens, to be staffed by volunters. The open house will introduce the chamber's drive to impro
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Streot appearance chidren get out and pick up around the town for tio
toms that flare up in people a fflicted witht this chronic disease.
Then in 1 1993, the eood and Druy Amministration appoved
Betaseron, a new form of the anti-viral protein Interferon. It is


 These studies provide growing evidence that the underly
ing cause of MS can indeed be treated. Along with Betaseron,



Environment "spruced" up through the efforts of Alfred Swanson and Kent County elementary children



## The Lowell Ledger's



Dollars for dinosaurs, and ratings: NBC's pre-emptive offer brings Steven Spielberg's Jurassic Park to net
work TV. The 1993 blockbuster airs Sunday. A tyrannosaurus rex, Ariana Richards and Sam Neill (pictured) war. The networks schedules are jammed with movies, specials and series hoopla tor May sweeps.




SATURDAY MORNING MAY 6, 1995




SUNDAY MORNING MAY 7, 1995

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SUNDAY EVENING MAY 7, 1995








| WEDNESDAY EVENING MAY 10， 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| （1）DisN | Dont Eap Pictur | same Streel | Movie：$\star \star \star$＂The Great Muppet Caper＂（1981） Movie：$\star \star 1 / 2$＂Addams Family Values＂（1993） |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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The Lowell Ledger-Wednesday, May 3. 1995 -Page 18


| THURSDAY LATE NIGHT MAY 11,1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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## LOWELL CABLE TV DEPARTMENT

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## The Lowell Ledger

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Legislators talk of using budget stabilization fund for school financing when economy is soft


Burrows sets school record at Mt. Pleasant; Red Arrows roll over Zeeland


Red Arrow netters earn first win against Wyoming Rogers


A field of 11 teams to compete in the first Lowell Track and Field Invitational

##  <br> 




Red Arrow girls rally for three runs with two out in 7th inning win against Northview sind kinur sum


Lowell's baseball team stings Yellowjackets; drops lead in loss to Sailors mpiniderast
 Wednesday evenings from 5-8 PM and Saturday mornings from 9 to NooN April 19th thru May 13th
Call 897-5791, 897-5073 or 897-8968 Also available at Hahn Hardware

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Should the FBI be given the power to infiltrate groups even if no criminal activity has been







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## COMING EVENIS



## THECLISSIJTJDS



Hopscotch in the Park


Mai Vang Yang, 15, Lansing, second from the right, and her family, enjoyed the fresh air and beauty of Fallasburg Park Saturday. Yang and her family are Thailand natives. Shown above Yang and her sisters enjoy the universal game of hopscotch. The game is played a little differently than that which is taught in the United States. The Yang sisters play the Hmong culture version that is taught in Thailand. Yang noted that her family pienics at Fallasburg every year. Pictured above, Mai Kuu Yang, far right, balances herself before deciding her next move.

## COMMUNITY DIALOGUE SPRING SERIES

The purpose of these forums is to provide an opportunity for thoughtful, reasoned discussion on social policy issues with members of our community. The speakers will present their perspectives and you are invited to share your own insights.

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 7:30 p.m. John Tiemstra, Ph.D. Professor of Economics, Calvin College, Grand Rapids "The Falling Dollar, And Other Unsolvable Problems."

MONDAY, MAY 8, 7:30 p.m.
Rev. George Heartwell, Grand Rapids City Commissioner - Heartside Ministries "Welfare Reform: A War On Poverty Or A War On The Poor?"

This series will be held at
First United Methodist Church of Lowell
621 E. Main Street, Lowell, Michigan
Initial Sponsors:
FMB State Savings Bank, First United Methodist Church, First Congregational Church

For Further Information, Contact:
Roger LaWarre 897-5906; Vance Dimmick, Gordie Barry 897-5936, Noreen Meyers 897-5560

Beechtree Golf Course takes some whacks, but scores hole in one with many residents

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer
There's nothing Rollie Lubbinge would like more than to look out his back door and see beautiful rolling green hills every day.

That sentiment is shared by Woodruff(Woody)Palmer and it may come true if he is allowed to build Beechtree Golf Course.

Palmer and several area residents met at the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission's public hearing to discuss the proposed 18 hole golf course.

Some concerns were voiced, but the majority of residents in attendance liked the idea of a golf course in their backyard. Especially if they were granted lifetime memberships, which was not guaranteed.
"Everybody observes beauty in their own way and for me nothing is more beautiful than a golf course," said Lubbinge. "I'd rather have this golf course than a housing development which is allowed in this area."

Palmer is proposing an 18 hole golf course on 180 acres of land at the corner of Cascade and Hilton Roads.

To proceed with the project, Palmer needs 80 acres to be rezoned and then a special use permit granted for the entire 180 acres

Citizens hesitant about the project fear trespassing on their property, an increase in traffic, and effects to the surrounding wildlife and the environment.

Palmer informed citizens
that the golf course would not increase traffic dramatically and the wildlife and environment would not be harmed.
"My plans for the wetlands on the property would actually bring more wildlife to the area," said Palmer. "Other aspects of the environment would be closely monitored by the Department of Natural Resources."

Palmer indicated he would be willing to install fences in areas where golfers could stray from the course. He also said the property would 'be open to the public for the purpose of walking on the land.
"Putting trails on the course is a goal of mine. There is enough room between the fairways to accommodate walkers," said Palmer. "This property is really beautiful and I would like people to see it as such."
Palmer's plans are helped by the fact that the land is heavily wooded, not much of it is good farmland, and it has direct access onto Cascade Road.

One of the biggest benefits is that much of the land is zoned Agriculture II, which allows for residential housing.

If Palmer is allowed to construct a golf course, it will prevent residential development and provide a higher tax base without adding a burden to the school system.

The planning commission will address all of the citizens' concerns before acting on the request, which is expected sometime in May

Large turnout eggs -xactly what Lowell Moose Lodge had in mind

[^0] Moose secretary Ray Jones.

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the recently adopted ordinance numbered 95-2 that amends the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance to expand and revise sections of the ordinance concerning the " $\mid$ " Industrial District has been renamed Vergennes Township Ordinance 95-6.


[^0]:    The Lowell Moose Lodge 809 had their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sat., April 15 at Creekside Park.

    Over 800 children participated in the event and enjoyed the Easter Bunny and Herbie the Clown, along with the multicolored eggs $(6,000)$ and cookies and punch.

    The winners of the age- group grand prizes $(\$ 25)$ were: 3 \& under, Bretney Rypma of Lowell; 4-6, Porsha Bowler of Greenville; 7-9, Michelle Wolf of Lowell; 10-13, Heather Mathews of Caledonia.
    "The Moose Lodge is grateful to all the merchants and organizations of people who donated prizes to this event," said

