

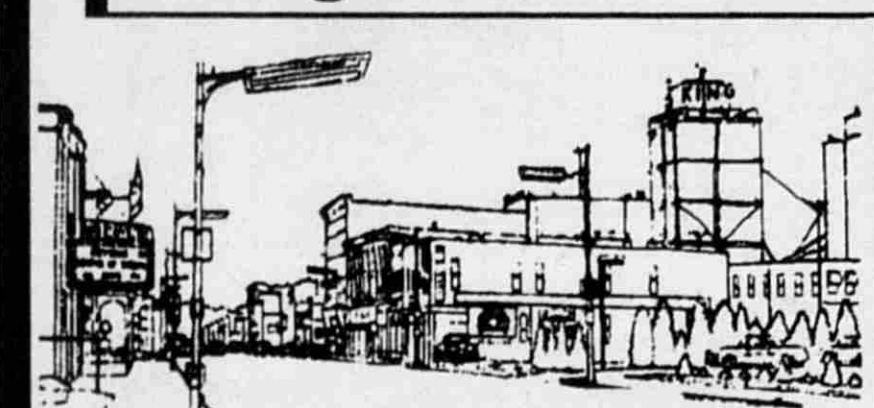
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 21, Issue 31

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

Along Main Street



LOWELL HISTORIC SOCIETY NEEDS INFORMATION ON BUSINESSES OVER THE BRIDGE

The Lowell Historic Society is looking for any old photos or information on businesses over "the bridge," from Springrove Variety at 123 W. Main, east to the old Levee Restaurant at 119 E. Main. Contact Dr. Jim Reagan at 897-9656.

PANEL DISCUSSION SPONSORED BY THE LOWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Save June 28 for a very special program sponsored by the Lowell Area Historical Association. This will be a panel discussion of Lowell area history given by several actual area historians. Please join us at 7:30 p.m. at Cherry Creek School (former middle school), 12675 Foreman, Lowell.

CREEKSIDE KINGDOM PLAYGROUND ANNUAL MAINTENANCE WEEKEND

Sanding, sealing and general maintenance of the playground equipment will take place on June 17 and 18, beginning at 9:30 a.m. both days.

Some of the tools and materials needed are: pitchforks, wheelbarrows, hammers, sanders, paint sprayers, generators and disc grinders.

There will be potluck meals. Childcare will be available. If you are able to donate your time, materials, or a dish to pass, please call Tina Phillips at 897-0709.

LAAC WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

The Lowell Area Arts Council's 3rd annual white elephant yard sale will be held inside the Arts Center, 149 S. Hudson St., June 15 & 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. & June 17, 9 a.m.-12 noon.

THOM ELLIS AND SOLID GROUND TO PERFORM

Thom Ellis with opening act Solid Ground will be performing a benefit concert at the Showboat Amphitheatre on Saturday, June 24 at 7 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10. They can be purchased in advance by calling 897-8280 or by stopping in at the Chamber of Commerce office or the Flat River Antique Mall.

PARTY IN THE PARK

"Party in the Park" featuring the Stoney Creek Band, 70's and 80's rock music, will be held June 16 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. at Creekside Park on Gee Drive. Free admission, food concession available. This is a family event sponsored by the Lowell Area Jaycees.

LOWELL ATHLETIC BOOSTERS FIRST ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

The First Annual Golf Scramble will be held Wednesday, June 21 at Deer Run Golf Course with a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

Put together a team or let us make one for you and have a great time. The \$50 per person fee includes 18 holes, lunch/dinner, golf, memento and prizes awarded for events. For more information contact Mickey Burrows, president, Athletic Boosters at 897-4375.

ATTENTION LOWELL AREA SCHOOL STUDENTS

TLC Network is sponsoring two evenings of ice skating at the Patterson Ice Skating Arena. On Thursday, June 15, from 8 to 10 p.m. the rink is reserved for all Lowell High School students (this past year). On Friday, June 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. the rink will be reserved for all students in kindergarten through eighth-grade (this past year) and their families.

There is no charge for the skating. You may bring your own skates or rent skates there for \$2. High school students must show their ID card at the door. Kindergarten through eighth-grade students, look for the flyer coming home from school.

Main St., cont'd pg. 8

Incumbents Win!

••• Incumbents Jack Lane and Ann Mulder were the winners of four-year board of education terms in Monday's election.

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

By nearly a 2-to-1 margin, school board incumbents Jack Lane and Ann Mulder were voted to four more years on the Lowell School Board.

For Lane, this will mark the third four-year term he has served in the Lowell School District.

It will be Mulder's first four-year term. She earned enough votes in a '94 election to serve out Charlie Kohler's final year of a four-year term.

Only about six percent (approximately 800) of the registered voters turned out to vote on Monday. The unofficial results did not include the 35 absentee ballots.

Mulder tallied an election-high 564 votes. Lane was 36 votes in back of Mulder with 528.

Mulder garnered 288 votes in Precinct I, 33 in Precinct II, and 243 in Precinct III.

Lane tallied 274 in Precinct I, 33 in Precinct II, and 221 in Precinct III.

Write-in candidate Marv

Incumbents, cont'd. pg. 8



Ann Mulder



Jack Lane

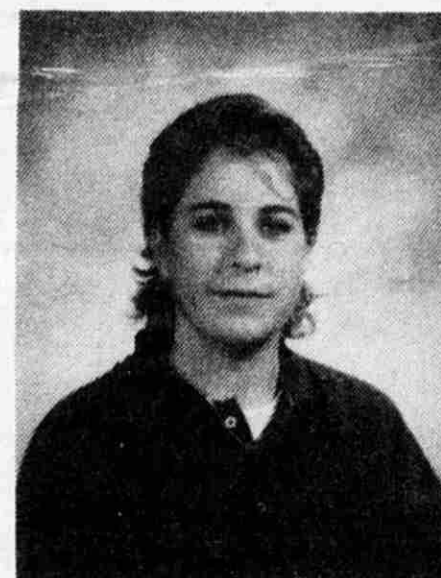


Sanding, raking, and resealing will be some of the maintenance/upkeep work planned for Saturday and Sunday at Creekside Kingdom. Pictured above is Bill Thompson, sanding.

LHS sophomore killed in Knapp St./Beltline accident

••• Amanda Tichelaar died in a weekend crash, her close friend Amberlei Harrall rests in fair condition at Butterworth Hospital

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor



Amanda Tichelaar

Amberlei Harrall is resting comfortably, but in fair condition at Butterworth Hospital following a late Saturday evening, early Sunday morning crash in Grand Rapids.

"She knows everybody, but she sleeps a lot," her brother Brad Harrall confers. "Her body has been traumatized and she is recovering from a bad concussion. Doctors say it is normal for patients like this to sleep a lot. It takes a while for the body to heal."

While doctors are sure Harrall's young 17-year-old body will heal in time, what they, parents and friends are not sure of is how Amberlei will react and then recover from the news that her best friend Amanda Tichelaar was killed from injuries incurred in the accident.

Harrall and her sister had been in a wedding Saturday, and Tichelaar babysat for Harrall's sister.

The girls were supposed to spend the night at the sister's home in Grand Rapids, but decided to drive to Harrall's house on Murray Lake.

Harrall, driving east on Knapp Street, stopped at the first set of southbound lights on the East Beltline. She then, according to the Kent County Sheriff's Department, proceeded but failed to yield at the blinking set of red lights that followed.

Accident, cont'd.. pg. 8

A work reunion is scheduled this weekend for Creekside Kingdom

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Maintenance will keep it together.

Sounds like it could be a Captain and Tenille song from the 70's.

In reality it's the charge behind a Creekside Kingdom work reunion scheduled for June 17 & 18.

"Creekside Kingdom is a great playground that will last 25 years," said work reunion coordinator Tina Phillips. "However, without proper maintenance it won't last that long."

So bring your sander, your rake, your pitch fork, your wheel barrel, your disc grinder, your cordless screw-driver, your extension cord, your safety glasses and be reunited with some old familiar working buddies.

Work is scheduled to begin at approximately 9:30 a.m. on

Creekside, cont'd. pg. 8

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Renovation and new construction budding in the city of Lowell, pages 6 & 7

Cherry Creek Classic 5-K Run & Walk Saturday, page 21

OBITUARIES

BRANDT - Mrs. Gladys (Rider) Brandt, aged 88, of Lowell, widow of Walter, went to be with the Lord early Tuesday, June 6, 1995. Surviving are her children, Doris Lincoln of Shorewood, WI, Michael and Billie Brandt of Howard City; seven grand-children; nine great-grand-children; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Chester and Edith Brandt, Marie VanHouten, and Clarence Worst; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held Friday, Interment Oakwood Cemetery in Lowell. Memorial contributions may be made to Billy Graham Ministries.

FORD - Helen M. (Huver)

Ford, aged 80, of Lowell, passed away Saturday, June 10, 1995. She was preceded in death by her husband, John O. Ford; and her son, Ronald E. Ford. She is survived by her children, Ruth Ann (Gerald) Nelson, Ada; Charles (Paula) Ford, West Bloomfield; grandchildren Darci (Dan) Mierendorf, Jay (Julie) Wakeland and her son J.J. Nelson, Kevin Nelson, Julie, Sara, and Scott Ford; sisters, Catherine Gehringer, Sr. Leorita Huver; sister-in-laws Helen Huver, Alice Collins, Ceila (Norbert) Marquis, Mary Piplow, and Dorothy Ford; mother-in-law Kathryn Ford; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends. The Mass of Christian Burial

will be offered 10 a.m. Wednesday (today) at St. Mary's Church, Lowell. Fr. George J. Fekete and Fr. R. Louis Stasker co-celebrants. Interment St. Mary's Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Visiting Nurses and Hospice, 1401 Cedar NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Home Builders Association praises Lowell Charter Township's stance on housing developments

By Marc Popielek Contributing Writer

In this era of "bigger is better," Lowell Charter Township believes good things come in small packages.

The township was recently recognized for its beliefs by the Greater Grand Rapids Home Builders Association (HBA).

The HBA awarded Lowell Charter Township its American Dream Award for allowing the construction of homes smaller than 800 square feet without a zoning variance.

"Lowell is one of only five cities or townships to allow the construction of a home smaller than 800 square feet," said Judy Barnes, executive vice president of the HBA. "We wanted to recognize those municipalities that make owning a home a little easier." Barnes said Lowell Charter Township, along with Solon Township, the cities of Grand Rapids and Rockford, and the village of Ada, allow young couples to pursue the dream of owning a home.

Rapids, MI 49503.

TICHELAAR - Amanda K. (Mandy) Tichelaar, aged 17, died Sunday, June 11, 1995. She is survived by her parents, Phillip and Jan; brother Adam; sisters Shannon (Brian) Worsley of Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Rapids and Sheila; grandparents, Garnet Wright of Lowell, Harry and Sharon Tichelaar of Ada; several aunts, uncles and cousins; special friend Amberlei Herral. Funeral services will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Ada Community Reformed Church, Rev. Thomas Bartha, officiating. Visitation Wed. 2 to 4 and 7 to 9. Memorial contributions may be made to Ada Community Reformed Church Building Fund, Interment Bailey Cemetery.

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Lowell Charter Township was recognized for its commitment to the young and elderly by HBA.

"A lot of municipalities don't allow for a small home because they want to do away with trailer parks, but what they don't realize is that they are hurting couples who can't afford larger houses," said Barnes. "Their regulations usually force couples into trailer parks because there is nothing else they can do."

Township clerk Carol Wells said the township specifically changed its ordinance in 1980 to cater to the elderly and young couples.

"We wanted young couples to get started and figured the elderly may need smaller houses to retire to. If they wanted something larger down the road, they could always add on," said Wells.

Wells said the township is "happy" to be recognized for their efforts.

Barnes said 800 square foot homes allow couples with

an income of \$22,000 the ability to own a home.

"These small homes cost only \$43,000 and are becoming very popular," said Barnes. "Our Affordable Housing Committee has designed a house which is studied by many people outside of the state."

Instead of other communities following Lowell's lead

Barnes said the trend is still to increase rather than downsize an ordinance's size limits.

"We serve all of Kent County and part of Ottawa County, and all we could do is award five communities this award," said Barnes. "We would like to award more next year, but we don't expect that to happen."

Most men make use of the first part of their life to render the last part miserable.

—Jean De La Bruyere.

In the child's world of dim sensation, play is all in all. "Making believe" is the gist of his whole life, and he cannot so much as take a walk except in character.

—Robert Louis Stevenson

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL VBS POLAR EXPEDITION. PLACE: Calvary Christian Reformed Church, 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, Michigan 49331. DATE: June 19 - 23. TIME: 9:00-11:30 A.M. FOR: KIDS - 4 years thru 6th grade. MOMS - A Special class for moms. (Nursery provided for moms that attend)

The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830). Published weekly for \$12 a year in Kent County, \$17 a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331. Roger K. Brown Publisher (616) 897-9261. Thad Kraus Editor (616) 897-9261. Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI. Published every Wednesday. POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Lowell Ledger P. O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331

THANK YOU! On behalf of the Lowell Senior Parents and the Class of '95, we would like to express our thanks for the tremendous support we received for the Senior All Night Party. Because the Class of '95 was the first class to graduate from the new high school, the theme of the event was "Firsts." The class reminisced about other firsts: steps, bicycle, date, dance, car, etc. The evening began with pizza and bowling at the Eastbrook Lanes. From there they went to the Michigan Athletic Club for swimming, raquetball, tennis, basketball, a chance in the casino (with lots of prizes), making a video Fun Flick, and more food. The last stop was Larkin's Other Place with dancing, more prizes and breakfast. We would like to thank the following merchants, organizations, churches, foundations, and individuals that donated to this great event. You have helped us provide our young adults with a fun and safe celebration of an important milestone in their lives. Our Sincere thanks, Lowell High School's Class of '95 and Senior Parents. List of donors: Admiral Petroleum, Admiral Tobacco, All Seasons Floral, Alto Lions, Amway, Andy Egan Plumbing Co., Arctic Refrigeration (Lowell Heating & Air Conditioning), Attwood Corporation, Backwater Cafe, Bareman's, Bernard's True-Value, Ivan Blough, Construction, Blue Ribbon Feed, Bodyworks Gym, Brenda's Hair Design, Burger King of Lowell, Byrne Electric, Car Quest, Central States Precision, Grinding, Chadalee Farms, Cher's Tan and Travel Center, Cousin's Gift Shop, Cumberland Produce Market, Curtis Laundry & Dry Cleaners, Deer Run Golf Club, Dependable LP Gas Co., David Durkee, OD, Durkee Lumber Co., Elite Auto Body, Inc., Erb Lumber, Etra Supply Company, Dr's. Everhouse & Mogor, Fairchild Oil Company, Fairchild's Crystal Flash, Family Dollar, Family Fare, Faro's Pizza, First Baptist Church, Front Row Video, Fuller Septic, Gary's Country Meats, Drs. Gauthier & Lang, Gordon Food Service, Hahn's Hardware, Heidi Christine's, ITM, J&J's Outlet, Jimmy's Grill, Jostens, Keiser's Kitchen, King Milling Company, Knights of Columbus, Kroff Orchards, L&A Rent-All, L&A Trim, Larkins Saloon, Life Touch, Little Caesars Pizza, Look Memorial Fund, Lowell 66, Lowell Auto Dealers, Lowell Education Association, Lowell Engineering, Lowell Granite Company, Lowell Lanes, Lowell Ledger, Lowell Tire Center, Lowell Veterinary Clinic, Lowell Waterbed, Lowell's New Creations, McDonalds, Meijer, Inc., Metric Manufacturing, Michigan Wire Processing, Modern Photographics, Newell Manufacturing, Northway, Wilson & Assoc., Pfaller's Clothing, Pizza Hut, James Reagan, DDS, Reedy Realty, Rite-Aid Pharmacy, Roll Away, Rookies, Root Lowell Manufacturing, Roth-Gerst Funeral Home, Showboat Automotive, Showboat Video, Sneakers, Speerstra-Carr Agency, Springrove Variety, St. Mary's Hospital, State Farm Insurance, Stuckey's Amoco, Subway, Inc. Lowell, Todd Landman Car Company, United Bank, Clark Vredenburg, DDS, WCUZ, Ray Weigel, III, Wellman Chiropractic, Wendy's West Michigan, West Side Store, Marsha Wilcox, Women of the Moose.

Amended 1994-95 budget and proposed 1995-96 budget approved

By Thad Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Folkert indicated. "People in all the buildings carefully watched what and how they were spending money."

Lowell experienced increased revenues in the areas of miscellaneous (+\$81,000) and incoming transfers and other transactions (+\$120,000).

Reductions in expenditures were enjoyed in the areas of instruction/employment benefits, general administration, and support services/employee benefits.

Folkert also noted Lowell Schools ended the year with a fund balance of \$1.98 million.

It was suggested to Folkert that overestimating had as much to do with the reduction in the budget as anything.

"In the areas of insurance and utilities, we did overestimate," Folkert said. "However, the estimates were based on information we were given at the time."

Folkert indicated that he did not believe such a large swing in the deficit would occur again. "I'm trying to be as accurate as I can, but I'm still being conservative."

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"We were helped by the second warmest winter on record." Lowell Schools business manager Dale Folkert indicated in talking about what went into lowering the budget deficit. "We were also helped by a reduction in MESSA costs and by bidding out insurance."

The proposed 1995-96 budget calls for a budget deficit of \$53,953. Revenues for the year are projected at \$17,852,960. Expenditures are projected at \$17,906,913.

The proposed fund balance for the 1995-96 school year is \$1.98 million.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY 897-9261. Speerstra Agency (897-9259 or 897-8500). Thomet Chevrolet Buick Geo (897-9294). Mr. Goodwrench Complete Body & Frame Repair (897-9294). Audrie's Flowers & Crafts (897-3068). Eckman Landscape, Residential & Commercial (897-0819). Advanced Auto Glass (897-4912, 242-8401). Napieralski & Walsh P.C. Attorneys (942-1111). Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones PLC Attorneys at Law (616) 897-3111. This Space Available! \$5 PER WEEK.

New construction and renovation a hot business item this summer

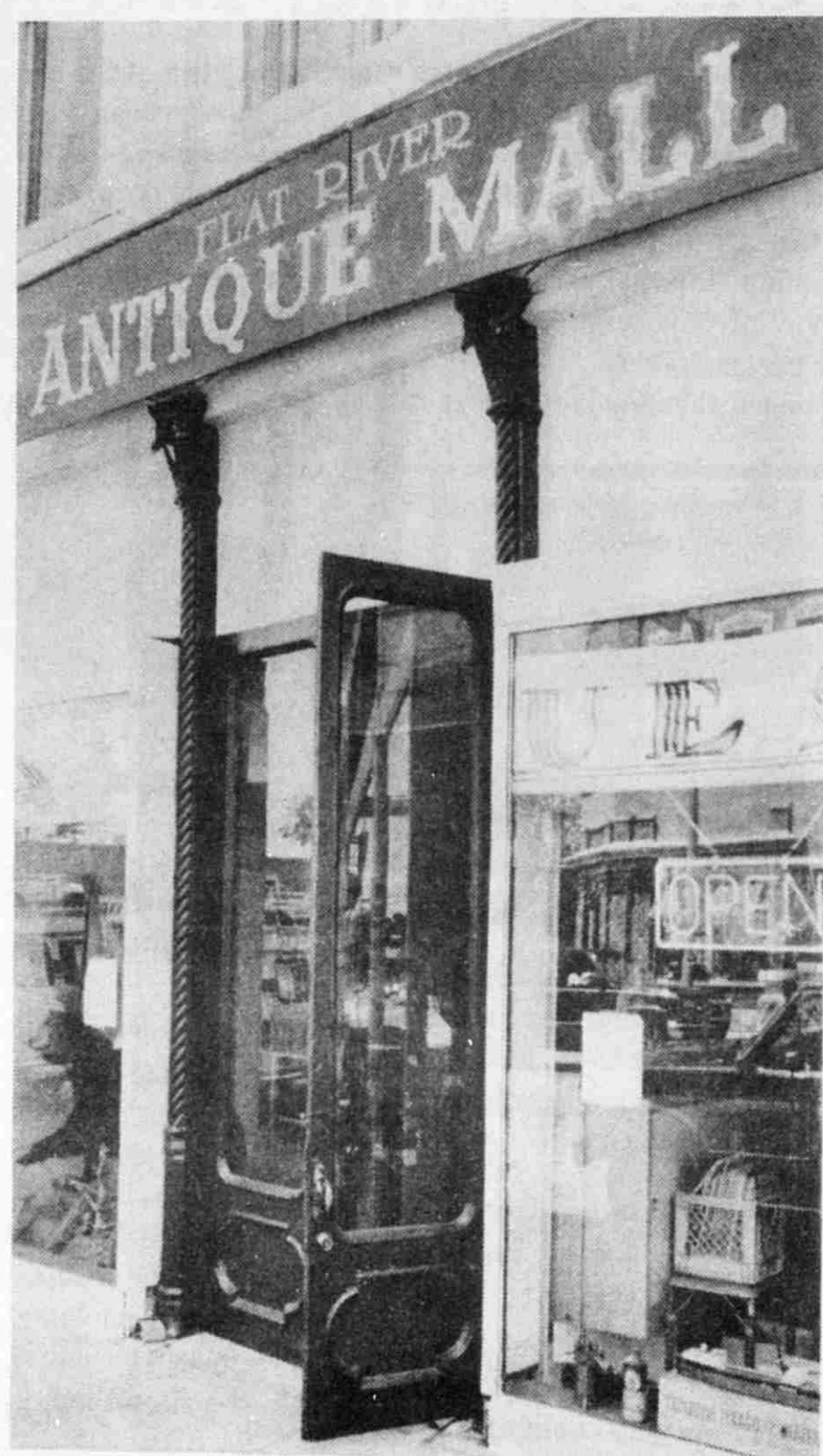
Kids-Play at McDonald's

Four-and-a-half-year-old Amber Halford rests a minute at the bottom of the McDonald's new Playland slide. Monday was the first day the new 43' by 28' play facility was opened to its customers. McDonald's will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new facility on Saturday at 10 a.m. There will also be free ice cream and cake for customers who stop in to check out the playland between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In addition to the Playland, McDonald's added service windows (one new and one relocated), and a sidewalk was installed along the Main Street frontage.



Flat River Antique Mall

In anticipation of the city of Lowell becoming a historic district, Flat River Antique Mall owners Ron and Laura McCollum got a jump as it had its storefront stripped down to its original facade. Windows and their panes were replaced and the building was painted. The painting was done by Custom Touch Painting out of Constock Park. Within the month, Michigan Awning, Grand Rapids, will put an entrance awning above the entrance doors to the antique mall and an awning will be put in above the cafe doors. "We are planning a grand opening once all the work is completed," Laura McCollum said.



Chadalee Farms

Work is underway to construct a 17,334 square foot addition to the west side of the Chadalee Farms plant. There are 70 current jobs, and an additional 10 new jobs are expected to be created within two years of the completed project.

Cousin's

"It was time," declared Karin Hale, owner of Cousin's Hallmark store at 223 W. Main. "It had been 10 years since the building had been painted." The renovation to the outside of the building was also timely. It comes as the city of Lowell prepares for renovation of its downtown over the next two years. Hale hired Tom Vanderkolk, of Colonial Painting and Decorating, to carry out the painting for the building. Design Source completed the sign work.



Construction and renovation, cont'd.... From Page 6



Speerstra-Carr Agency Inc.

D'Agostino Builders recently finished re-siding Speerstra-Carr Agency Inc. at 835 W. Main. The work was completed during the month of May.

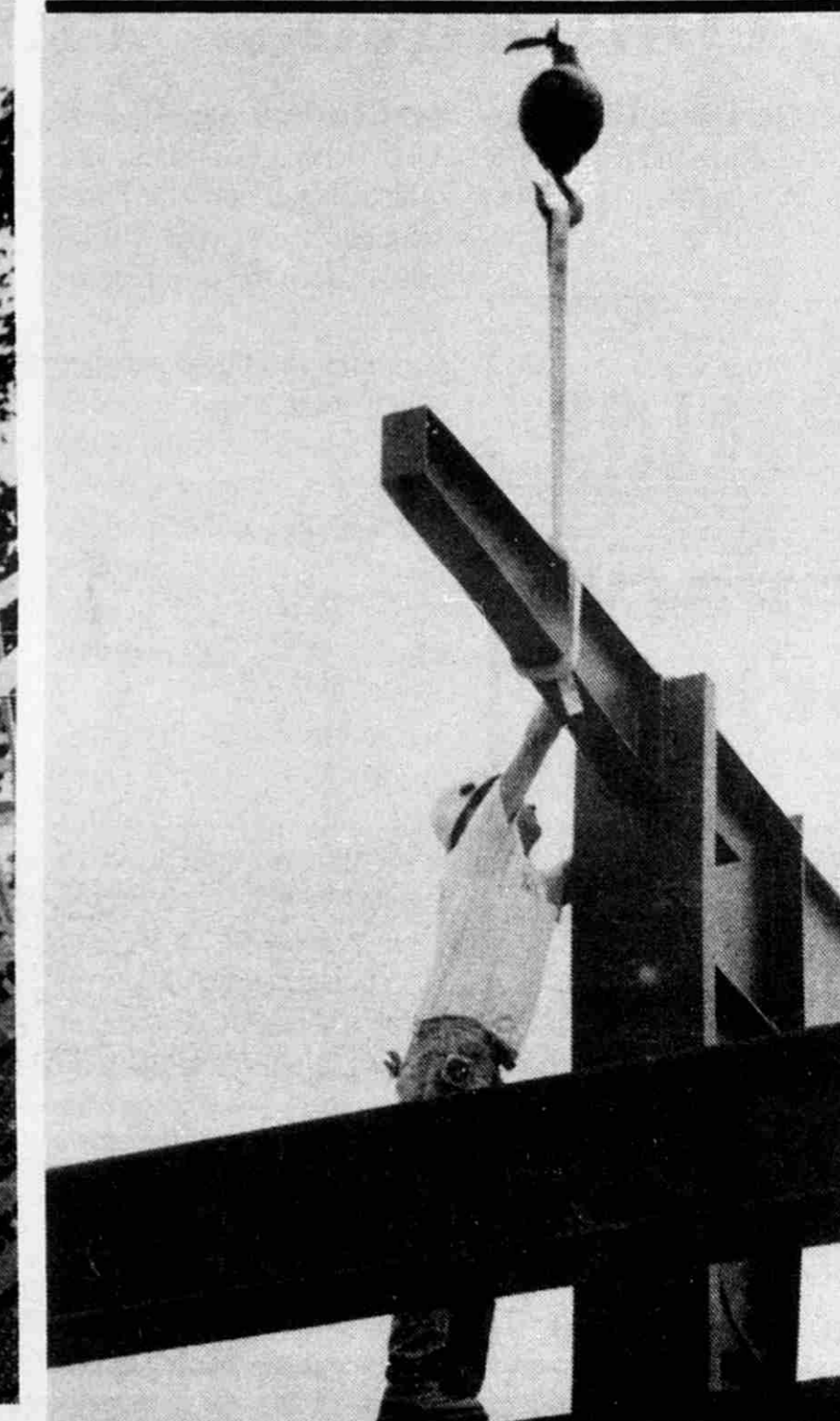


Lowell Food Mart

The renovation work at Lowell Food Mart, 11900 E. Fulton, is nearing completion. Owner Abdul Fassia has extended the inside, and added new counters and a fountain machine. The sale of Hot Stuff Pizza was also expected to begin this week. The property that Lowell Food Mart sits on is owned by VanMannen Oil, which has put in new BP station pumps. In addition, customers with Pacific Pride Pump credit cards can fill up 24 hours a day at the Pacific Pride Pumps on the east side of the building.

Schneider Manor

Construction is under way in building a new eight-unit apartment (four one-bedroom, four two-bedroom) building at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd. Currently there are 69 units at Schneider Manor. The new building will bring the count to 77. With 17 acres, the complex could have as many as 185 units. The site was prepared by the V-Tec Engineering Firm.



NAPA

Jeff Miller, Elmridge Construction, Grand Rapids, works at the site of the new NAPA store currently under construction. Work is scheduled to be completed by July 17. NAPA store manager Jerry VanderMeer said he believes the new store should open Aug. 1.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Council will conduct public hearings at its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 19, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, Michigan.

The purpose of said hearings will be to receive comments on the following:

Ordinance Amending Section 3-28 of Article II, of Chapter 3 of the Lowell Code of Ordinances requiring the Airport Board membership be seven regular members, three of whom may not be city residents.

Consider vacating North Street right of way from Lafayette Street west to the river.

Interested persons may submit comments prior to the meeting or appear in person at City Hall.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

YOUR GOOD SERVICE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF...

But who is speaking to potential new customers in your area about your service? Getting To Know You helps new homeowners find a plumber, carpenter or electrician with a house-warming 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.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

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To become a sponsor, call (800) 645-6376
In New York State (800) 632-9400

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE LAST DATE TO FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS JUNE 20, 1995 - 4 P.M.

Persons interested in seeking election to the Lowell City Council to fill any of the three (3) vacancies occurring, must obtain nominating petition forms for circulations and return not later than 4:00 p.m. on June 20, 1995. Petition forms are available between 8 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from the Lowell City Deputy Clerk, Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street, Lowell.

MAIN ST., CONT'D.

There is a limit of 600 people so get there early.

WARE SCHOOL REUNION

All persons who attended or taught at Ware School are urged to attend the reunion at Fallasburg Park on Sunday, June 25, Potluck meal at 1 p.m. For more information call 455-5138 or 897-7925.

YMCA DAY AT THE WHITECAPS

Attend a West Michigan Whitecaps game with your friends and family Monday, July 10 at 7 p.m.

To get tickets call 897-8445. Reserved seat tickets are \$4 each and must be purchased from the YMCA office no later than June 9.

Incumbents, continued... From Page 1

Hasso received 265 votes while Joe Barnella garnered 239 votes.

"I'm pleased and grateful for the support I got from the community," Lane said. "I look forward to serving the district over the next four years."

Lane ran for the school board seat eight years ago because he wanted to become more involved and because his parents were educators.

He said he ran for a third term because he wants to help insure positive changes for the district. "I want to continue to serve our community, district and all students fairly and equitably."

Lane believes some tough economic times face public

SUMMER FUN CLUB

The Summer Fun Club House provides quality care and supervision for children ages 3-6 and 7-12 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Each week a variety of activities and events are planned by a fun-loving, well-trained staff.

Children ages 3-6 will be located at the First Congregational Church. Children ages 7-12 will meet at the Riverside Community Education Building. For more information or a registration form call the Child Care office at 897-4371 or the YMCA office at 897-8445.

OFF THE BLOTTER

Rosella Maloney, 75, of Lowell, was involved in a property damage accident on Amity and Main St. on June 5 when she turned left off Main St. into the path of a vehicle driven by Amy Fetterhoff, 23, also of Lowell.

Carrie Metternick, 34, of Lowell, had the vehicle she was driving backed into by a pick-up truck driven by Roy Rood,

33, of Saranac, June 5, on West at Main St. No one was injured. Dale Finkler, 46, of Lowell, posted bond on a warrant issued by 63rd District Court for vulnerable adult abuse second degree, June 2.

Rosemary Scharphorn, 38, of Grand Rapids, backed into a fuel pump at the Admiral Gas Station on West Main St. June 5, doing minor damage to her car.

Reported to Lowell Police June 7 was the breaking and entering of the 4-H fair office building at the fairgrounds. A golf cart was taken but was found the same day.

Nancy Anderson, 43, of Lowell, sustained injuries in an accident June 9 on Main St. near Lincoln Lake St. when the car she was driving was struck from behind by a vehicle driven by Wendy Hill, 19, of Ada.

Kevin Beachnaw, 39, of Grand Ledge, was arrested June 9 by a Lowell officer on a friend of the Court warrant out of Ionia County.

Eric Annett, 17, of Lowell, was released June 10 after posting bond on a misdemeanor warrant.

Elizabeth Ellsworth, 30, of Lowell, reported to Lowell officers that her car was damaged June 10 while parked in the Family Fare parking lot by a hit and run driver.

Accident, cont'd... From Page 1

A black Grand Am driven by Michael Emery swerved to avoid hitting the red Cavalier, but could not and the two cars collided. After impact the Grand Am spun off the road and into the ditch. The Cavalier came to rest on the Beltline with its lights off. Moments later a black Jeep Cherokee collided with the Cavalier and then rolled onto its top.

Kent County Deputy Roger Parent said the driver of the Cherokee, Bradley McGinnis, said he was distracted by the car in the ditch just prior to colliding with the Cavalier.

The accident is still under investigation by county deputy Jack Wood, who filed the accident report.

McGinnis, Emery and Sharon Troyer, a passenger in the Grand Am, were all treated for minor injuries.

Wood indicated in his report that alcohol did not appear to be a factor in the accident.

Parent noted it had not been determined as to which collision caused the fatal injuries. The report indicated it did not appear that either Harrall or Tichelaar were wearing seat belts.

Authorities say Tichelaar suffered severe head injuries and was pronounced dead at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 11.

Both girls were sophomores at Lowell High School this past school year.

Tichelaar was a second-year member of the Lowell varsity softball team.

Tichelaar is survived by her parents, Phillip and Jan; brother Adam; sisters, Shannon (Brian) Worsley of Grand Rapids and Sheila; grandparents Garnet Wright of Lowell, Harry and Sharon Tichelaar of Ada; several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Ada Community Reformed Church, Rev. Thomas Bartha officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Ada Community Reformed Church Building Fund, Interment Bailey Cemetery.

VIA's recognized as VIPs

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It takes a community to educate a child.

Volunteers in Action (VIA) is not yet a community but it did provide Lowell School with 4,125 documented hours of labor during the 1994-95 school year.

The actual hours of volunteer time was more, according to VIA coordinator Marlene Heemstra.

"I want to stress the hours I'm presenting to you this evening are documented. There were a lot of volunteers who didn't record their volunteer time," Heemstra said.

Heemstra credited the success of the program to the support of the administrators, teachers and most of all the community members. "Without all of the volunteers, we could not have accomplished all of the special programs and activities that were carried out this year."

Heemstra honored the top seven volunteers at Monday's board meeting. Five of those seven volunteered over 100 hours each. They were Paula Blumm, Marjorie Miller, Rhonda Roossien, Mary Roth and Marilyn Conley.

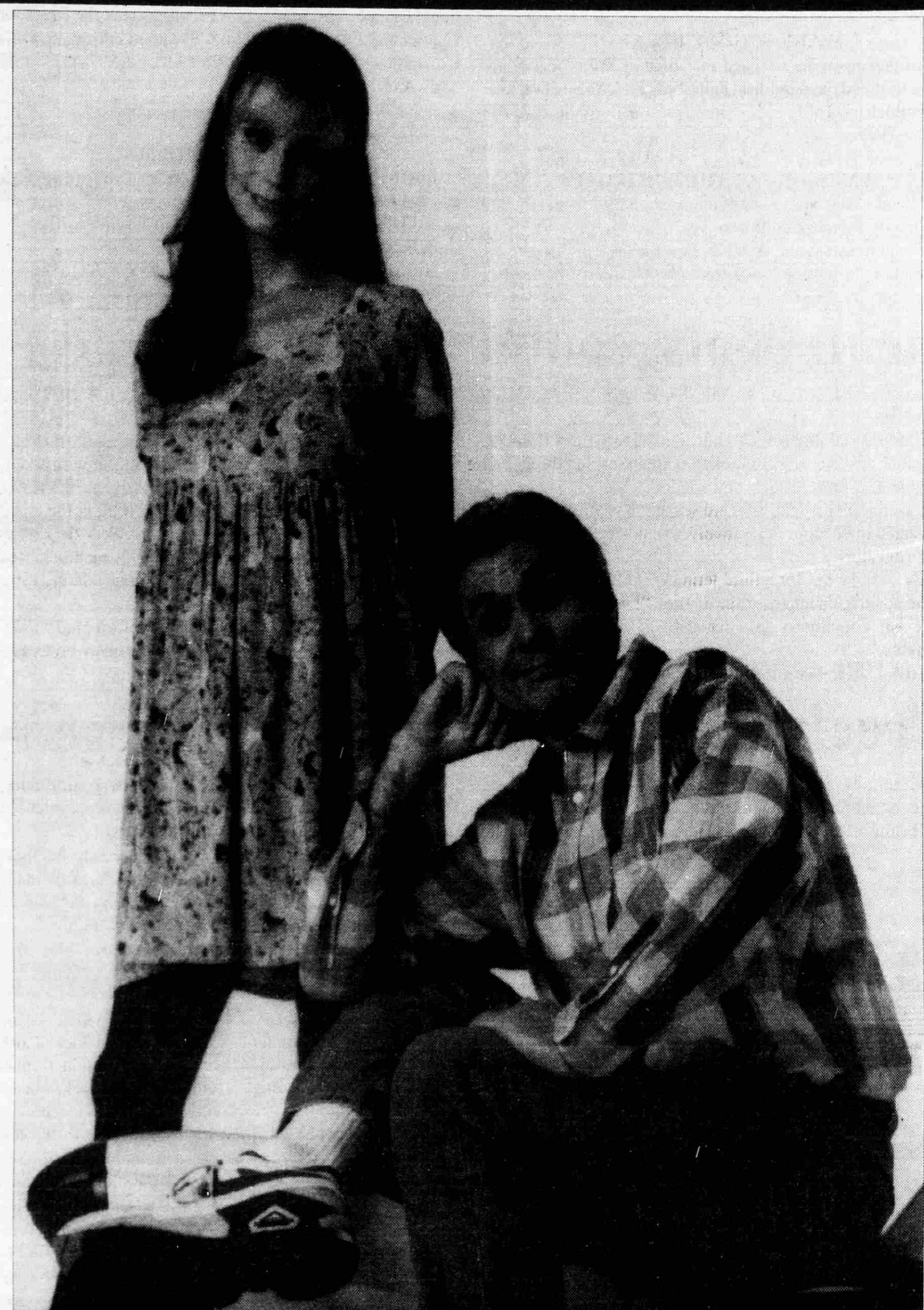
Gail Hutchinson and Deb Mercer volunteered over 200 hours each.

The documented hours at each building were broken down as follows: Alto 1,643; Cherry Creek 1,636; Bushnell 492; Lowell Middle School 340 and the high school 14. In addition to the VIA program, at Lowell High School there were a minimum of 2,813 volunteer hours inclusive of student volunteers, booster clubs, and a media center volunteer.

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



FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 16 THROUGH JUNE 22

Harley Jane Kozak (*Harts of the West*) and stand-up comic Jack Gallagher star in ABC's Saturday comedy *Bringing Up Jack*. Kozak plays a widowed mother of two who's teaching the facts of parenthood to her new husband (Gallagher), host of a Philadelphia sports radio show.

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93252	'83 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, Laredo, loaded	\$19,900
45119-2	'83 CHEVY 8-10, 4x4, sharp	\$12,900
93225	'83 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, Laredo, loaded	\$18,900
6519-1	'83 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY, loaded	\$19,900
1595-1	'83 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE, nice	\$17,900
5507-1	'83 DODGE CARAVAN, V8, 55,000 miles	\$11,900
93230	'83 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN LE, 55,000 miles	\$12,500
44124-1	'83 DODGE DAKOTA 4x2, 50,000 miles	\$8,900
91088-1	'83 DODGE CARAVAN V6, X-tra sharp	\$12,900
93221	'83 DODGE DAKOTA LE, Club, 4x4, sharp	\$16,900
93254	'83 DODGE CARAVAN LE GRAND, sharp	\$14,900
2543-1	'83 JEEP CHEROKEE COUNTRY, X-tra nice!	\$18,500
4583-1	'83 CHEVY 1500 PICKUP, nice, red	\$8,900
45124-1	'82 DODGE DAKOTA, Club, 4x4, sharp	\$14,900
92247	'82 DODGE DAKOTA 4x2, 47,000 miles	\$10,500
92256	'82 DODGE CARAVAN LE, 53,000 miles	\$15,900
9527-1	'82 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER, X-tra nice, V6	\$8,900
5522-1	'82 DODGE CARAVAN, V8, Grand, nice	\$9,900
92264	'82 DODGE CARAVAN LE, high miles	\$9,500
5544-1	'82 DODGE CARAVAN, sharp, 58,000 miles	\$9,500
91258	'81 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER LE, AWD	\$9,500
91209	'81 JEEP CHEROKEE 4x4, nice	\$14,900
91235	'81 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER, high miles	\$8,900
94177-1	'90 FORD RANGER XLT, nice	\$6,900
90189	'90 VOYAGER, V6, loaded, 56,000 miles	\$8,900
54113-2	'90 DODGE CARAVAN V6, burgundy	\$6,500
90215	'90 DODGE 4x4, reg. cab.	\$6,900
5566-1	'89 CHEVY ASTRO VAN, V6, auto	\$6,900
75105-1	'89 CHEVY ASTRO VAN, sharp	\$7,900
75028-1	'89 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER SE, blue, 67,000 miles	\$6,900
5574-1	'89 DODGE CARAVAN - V6, SE, sharp	\$7,400
99243	'89 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER, blue, sharp	\$7,500
1575-2	'89 DODGE DAKOTA, blue, 75,000 miles	\$4,900

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Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Shop Spree', 'Good Morning America', 'Sesame Street', and 'The Simpsons'.

Table with columns for time slots (12:00-6:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Young and the Restless', 'Family Feud', 'The Price is Right', and 'The Simpsons'.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Wheel of Fortune', 'Jeopardy!', 'The Price is Right', and 'The Simpsons'.

Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Late Show', 'Night Show', 'The Price is Right', and 'The Simpsons'.

Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Shop Spree', 'The Price is Right', 'The Simpsons', and 'The X-Files'.

Table with columns for time slots (12:00-6:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations. Includes programs like 'Kids Check', 'Not Just News', 'The Price is Right', and 'The Simpsons'.

SATURDAY EVENING JUNE 17, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 17, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

SUNDAY MORNING JUNE 18, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 18, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (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) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

SUNDAY EVENING JUNE 18, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 18, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations and Cable Stations.

MONDAY EVENING JUNE 19, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 19, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

TUESDAY EVENING JUNE 20, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 20, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

WEDNESDAY EVENING JUNE 21, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 21, 1995. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

THURSDAY EVENING JUNE 22, 1995
Broadcast Stations: WMWT, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable Stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, TNT, NASH, SCIFI, DISN, HBO, MAX.

THURSDAY LATE NIGHT JUNE 22, 1995
Broadcast Stations: WMWT, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM. Cable Stations: TBS, FAM, FX, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, TNT, NASH, SCIFI, DISN, HBO, MAX.

Post-season track awards handed out to spring athletes



Post-season track awards were handed out to the Lowell boys' track team at their banquet on Wednesday. Front row, left to right, are: Ryan Wittenbach, co-rookie of the year; Ryan Teelander, sportsmanship award; Brian Bellechasses, co-rookie of the year; back row, left to right are: John Wojciakowski, most dedicated; Ben Knudstrup, scholar athlete; Ron Acheson, Lowell Lions Club most valuable player; Jim Stoutjesdyk, co-most improved; Denny Briggs, co-most improved.

Post-season track awards were handed out to the Lowell girls' track team at their banquet on Wednesday. Front row, left to right, are: Jenny Jansma, most spirited; Amy Tennis, scholar athlete; Jessica Winsor, rookie of the year; Kortney Gowen, most dedicated; Dawn Burrows, Lowell Lions Club most valuable player; and Julie Wisner, most improved.

IN THE SERVICE

Marine Pfc. Matthew D. Bledsoe, son of Debra L. Pronovche of Saranac, recently graduated from the Marine Corps Basic Combat Engineer Course.

zone over Southern Iraq and deterring Iraqi aggression on the Arabian peninsula. Zillmer's ship was instrumental in intercepting one of the first vessels to violate the international embargo against Iraq.

Zillmer and fellow shipmates participated in a three-day multinational exercise with French naval forces. The exercises were designed to improve communications and coordination between the two naval forces in times of crisis.

and aircraft carriers around the world from the Persian Gulf and Western Pacific Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea.

UNITED BANK OF MICHIGAN ANNOUNCES the retirement of Judy Stewart, Second Vice President & Clarksville Branch Manager effective June 30, 1995. Please join Judy & our staff at our Clarksville Branch on Thurs., June 29, 1995 in celebrating Judy's 14 years of faithful service to United Bank & the community.

Want cool, quiet comfort all summer? Special! Bryant Model 561 10 SEER - 2 TON \$1,595.00 Complete Installed FREE COVER Offer Expires June 17, 1995. Call Bryant to the rescue! Arctic Refrigeration, Inc. DBA Lowell Heating & Air Conditioning 1002 W. Main - Lowell, MI 49331 (616) 897-4123

CAR WASH June 17, 1995 9 AM - 3 PM At Family Fare Please come & help support the Bonnie Blue Bells New Olympians! Proceeds to benefit the New Olympians Cruise in August

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World Television Premiere Disney's The Three Musketeers (ET/PT) SUNDAY JUN 25 7:00 PM. Keifer Sutherland, Charlie Sheen and Chris O'Donnell star in Disney's swashbuckling classic. The Disney Channel. Lowell Cable TV Department 127 N. Broadway, Lowell 897-8405

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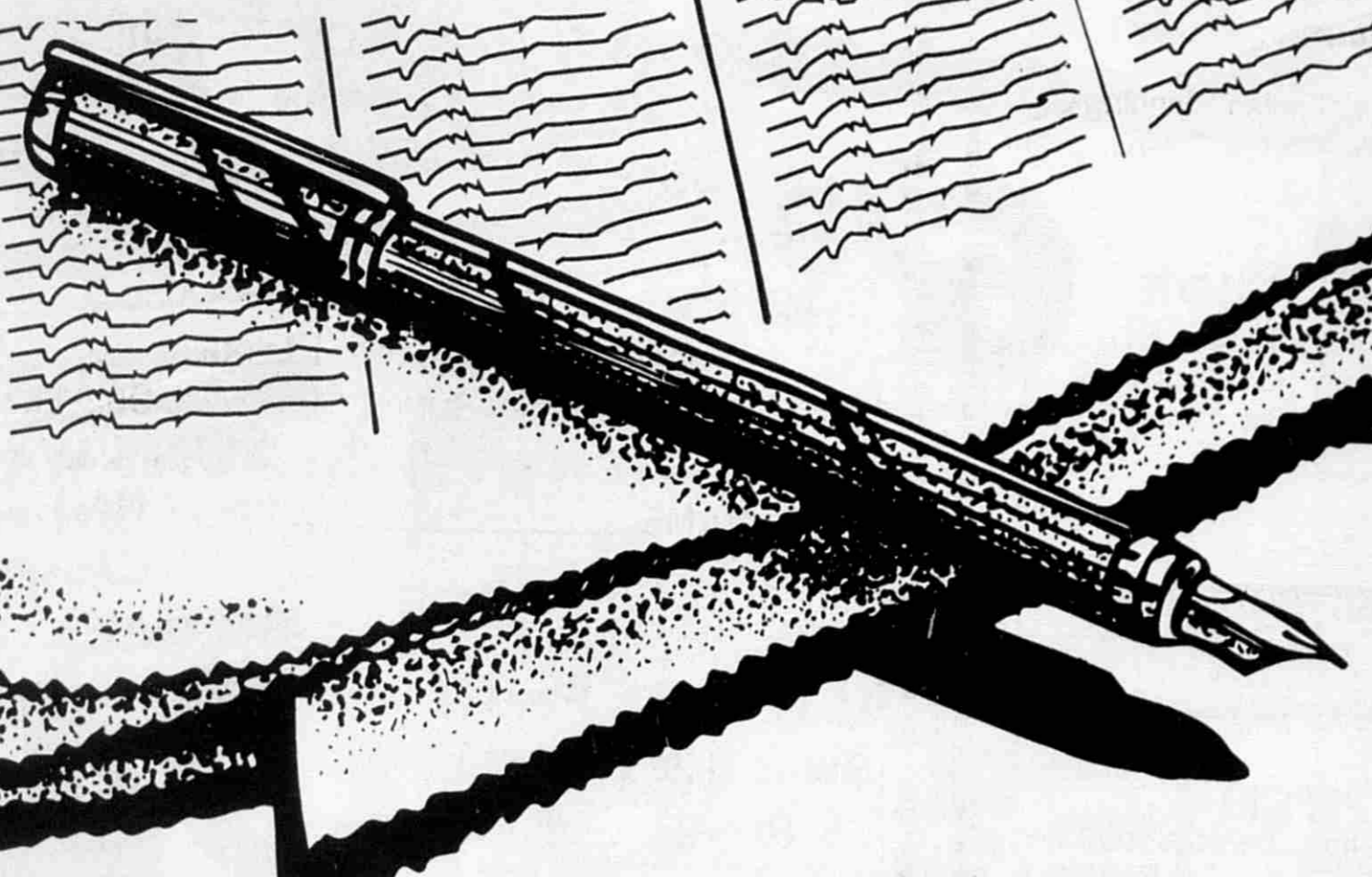
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- And Much, Much More!

Cherry Creek Classic first 5-K run and walk premieres Saturday

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

It's a first-time event with hopes of becoming an annual event. Coordinators of the Cherry Creek Classic are hopeful that participants will walk or run to the June 17th event. The Cherry Creek Classic 5K Run and Walk will start at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday.

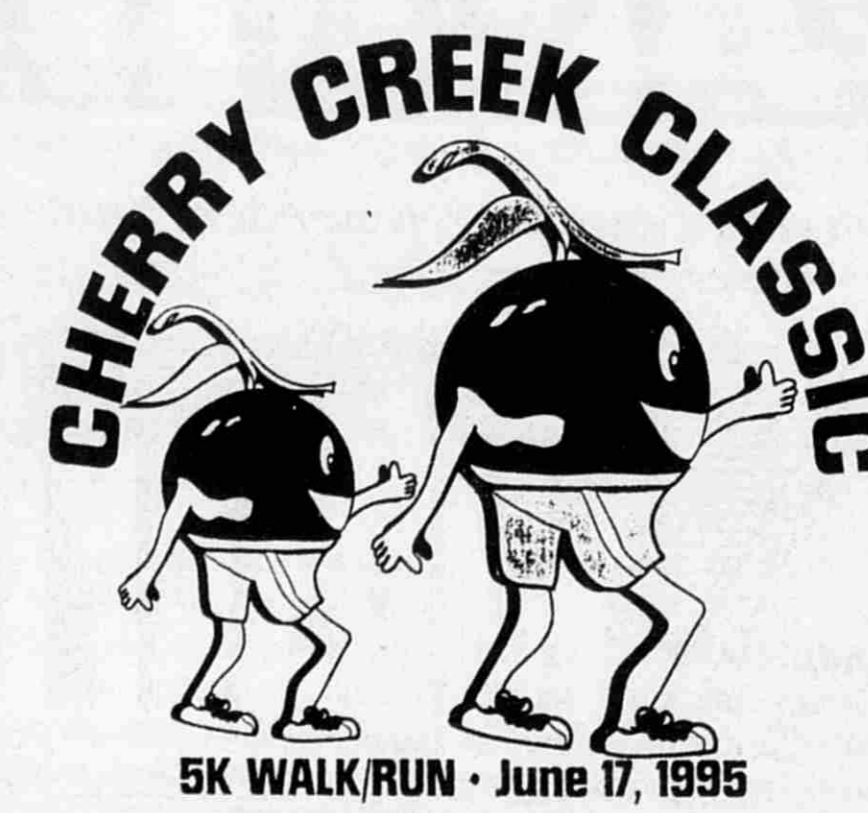
For those who registered before June 12, packets may be picked up on Friday, June 16th from 3 until 8 p.m. and on the morning of the race from 7 until 8 a.m. Participants may also register at these times.

The registration fee the day of the race is \$15. All race participants will receive a Cherry Creek Classic T-shirt.

The top three runners and walkers in each of the six age groups will receive medals. The top overall male and female runners will receive trophies. The awards ceremony is scheduled to begin between 10 and 10:30 a.m.

"We are hoping for 150-200 walkers and/or runners," said race co-coordinators Terry VanderWarf and Thad Kraus.

Following the race fruit will be available for the participants.



5K WALK/RUN • June 17, 1995

The 3.1 mile course will start at Lowell Middle School. Runners and walkers will go west on Foreman to Alden Nash; then south on Alden Nash to Gee Drive. They will make their way east on Gee Drive to Foreman, and then will go east on

Foreman to Cherry Creek Elementary where the race will finish up.

VanderWarf said Foreman Road, Alden Nash from Foreman to Gee Drive, and Gee Drive will be closed from 8:30 until 10 a.m. "Provisions for emergency situations will be provided," VanderWarf said.

Race coordinators said they have been pleased with the response from race sponsors.

Major sponsors for the first ever Cherry Creek Classic are FMB State Savings Bank, King Milling, Sneakers, Kropf Orchard, The Lowell Ledger, Lowell Graphics, Springrove Variety, Blimpie Subs and Salads, the Lowell Jaycees and Dr. David Durkee O.D.

Other area businesses contributing toward the cost of the event are Speerstra Carr Agency Inc. and Lowell Family Medical Center.

"Not only are we grateful to all the sponsors but we are also thankful to all the volunteers who have come forward and offered to help us," VanderWarf said.

The proceeds for the 1995 event will go to the Lowell Showboat.

Lowell Charter Township rejects site plan applauded by citizens

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

After months of meetings and public hearings, Tom DeBoer/ Chris Edgar (TDCE) Inc. finds itself back at the drawing board for its proposed Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR).

In a move that stunned TDCE, but was applauded by citizens, the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission informed TDCE that it "could not and would not" approve its plans for an SBR until a site plan and other issues were properly addressed.

"We don't have any avenue we can pursue until we get a site plan and know exactly what kind of light industrial facility will be built there," said planning commission Chairman Mel Beers.

TDCE proposed an SBR to handle human waste for a light industrial facility near I-96 and Alden Nash.

Beers said an SBR is not the primary function of the land's intent and that the SBR had to be part of the entire facility in order to be granted. "It needs to be a part of a site plan package to be considered," he said.

DeBoer said his company is disappointed with the deci-

sion, especially after spending a lot of money and time on something that was "procedurally wrong."

"We were following the advice of the chairman and township supervisor and for them to tell us all this at this point is very disappointing," said DeBoer. "What they're telling us is to go out and spend another \$75,000 and then come back and maybe we'll grant it to you...that's unfair."

DeBoer and Edgar pointed out that they were seeking "conceptual approval" on an SBR contingent that it met with approval from the Department of Natural Resources, Kent County, and other agencies.

"You (the planning commission) told us to follow proper procedures and we did that, but now you're saying it's all wrong. What do we do now?" said DeBoer.

Beers and planning commission vice president Richard Bryan admitted that the commission "backed itself into a

corner" regarding the proposal, but prevented anything negative from happening.

"We tried to develop a good working relationship with the developer, but got too far involved before realizing we made some mistakes," said Beers. "It's embarrassing to us and we had to eat crow, but we're back on track."

Among the many issues facing TDCE are:

- Who will operate the facility after it's built?
- What kind of industry will be allowed at the site?
- What will the site look like?

Even with these questions, DeBoer and Edgar are not about to quit.

"We're doing the best we can and we're still going to try to make this happen," said Edgar.

The first duty of friendship is to leave your friend his illusions.

—Arthur Schnitzler

No leader, however great a personality he may be, is as important to a people as their own intellectual development.

—G.W. Russell

City traps need to be returned!

The Lowell Police Department has been receiving numerous calls about animals, mainly raccoons, entering attics, sheds, garages, and porches, etc. Because of this, the Police Department has lent out many live traps in an effort to help control this situation. However, due to rotating shifts and other calls, some of these live traps have not been picked up.

Anyone possessing a live trap that belongs to the Lowell Police Department should either call or drop off the trap as soon as possible so that all may benefit from the use of these traps. The police department asks for citizens' immediate attention to this matter.



Using the term "A-1" to describe anything unusually good originated with Lloyd's of London, which so-designated the most seaworthy ships.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

Hearing of the Public Grattan Township Planning Commission

A Public Hearing before the Grattan Planning Commission will be held at the Grattan Township Museum, 11676 Old Belding Road, on:

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1995 at 7:30 PM

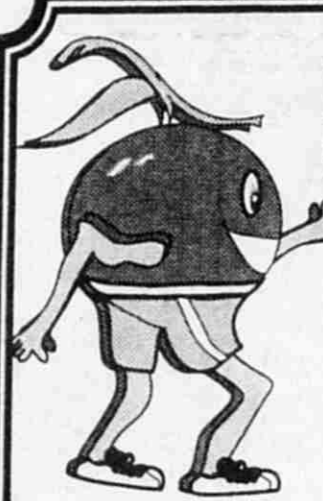
at which time and place the following subject will be heard:

Zoning Ordinance Amendment, the Grattan Township Planning Commission hear all comments on proposed changes to Section 3.29(m)(1)(c) "PRIVATE ROADS" of the Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance.

Section 3.29(E)(1)(c) will be amended to read in full as follows:

Any private road that terminates at a dead-end shall have means for vehicle turnaround, either by use of a cul-de-sac with a minimum radius of forty (40) feet or continuous-loop private road system, both of which must be constructed in accordance with the standards set forth herein. Notwithstanding the preceding, if a private road serves no more than one residential dwelling or one parcel of land, the vehicle turnaround shall be built to the standards reasonably approved by review process and such turnaround shall ensure safe turning and access for fire fighting and emergency equipment, as well as conventional vehicles.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Commission Secretary, Grattan Township Planning Commission, 11676 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI 48809.



CHERRY CREEK CLASSIC 5K WALK/RUN

JUNE 17, 1995

REGISTRATION AT LOWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL:
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Entry Fee Until June 12, \$12; June 13 To Race Day, \$15

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■■■■■ ENTRY FORM ■■■■■

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SHIRT SIZE (CIRCLE) XL L TIME 8:30 AM

5K RUN _____ 5K WALK _____


I know running a road race is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter a run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with running in this event including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather, including high and low temperatures, traffic and conditions of the road, all risks being known by me. Having read this waiver and knowing all the facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I for myself and anyone to act on my behalf, waive and release the city of Lowell, Vergennes & Lowell townships, Cherry Creek Classic, and all personnel, all volunteers, Race Director, and all sponsors involved in this event their representative and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event. I grant my permission to all of the foregoing to use photographs, motion pictures, recordings or any record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

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Proceeds will go to
 The Lowell Showboat



Thom Ellis returns to Lowell Showboat for benefit, June 24th

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

As a young 14 year old, his parents took him to the Grand Ole Opry.

That visit helped forever root Thom Ellis to the core of traditional country music.

"My love for country music is based from Waylon Jennings," Ellis recants, via the telephone, from his home in Nashville.

The traditional country music is stuff by which artists are still identified - something Ellis believes is missing from the new country which has swept the nation the past couple of years.

"There is nobody to identify with the music. None of the music is clearly identified with any of the artists," Ellis said. "There are a few exceptions such as the Joe Diffys and Faith Hills."

Ellis has not had that one big hit yet. A few years ago that would have stuck in his crawl. Today, he is able to view it with different spin.

"There are male artists after male artists out there, and if things don't happen after that first single, they are gone," Ellis says. "Had I found temporary success a couple of years ago, it probably would have come around to bite me in the tail."

For the past six months Ellis has been writing and singing with a group called "Alavez" - which is Spanish for beginning together.

That beginning, new of sorts, has given Ellis a freshness in his excitement.

"We're writing and singing about stuff that makes sense that comes from the heart," Ellis explains. "We're writing with a conviction. You can't fake stuff that comes from the heart."

The boy with Lowell roots describes it as a southwestern sound. "It's Marshall Tucker, it's Santanna, it's country," Ellis said. "It's an alternative, another format from the music they are playing now."

The music Ellis talks about can be heard at the benefit concert on June 24th at the Showboat Amphitheatre.

One of the songs is entitled "Border." "It's about an El Paso, Texas, migrant risking his life to get across the border and a patrol officer risking his life to stop him and how the two eventually meet," Ellis explains.

Another song Ellis and the band will perform is "Trails of Tears," which relates to the farming community.

Opening for Ellis will be Solid Ground. General admission tickets are \$10.

Tickets can be purchased by calling 897-8280 or by stopping at the Flat River Antique Mall or Lowell Chamber of Commerce office.

The chairman coordinator Dale Triplett said as always, volunteers are needed. "Companies may also buy tickets in blocks if they so desire."



Thom Ellis

Bus mechanics and school reach contract agreement

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Schools and its bus mechanics reached a two-year contract agreement.

The agreement falls within the parameters set by the board personnel committee.

The two-year contract calls for a salary increase of 1.9 percent in 1995-96 and an increase of 2.35 for the 1996-97 school year.

Lowell will also provide

its mechanics with VSPII vision insurance which is in alignment with all other full-time school employees.

Lowell Schools will reimburse them \$100 a year for vision expenses and the cost for VSPII will be \$150 a year.

Mike Matlosz, interim director of personnel/community services, indicated that the bus mechanics are not part of any union bargaining group.

It is his reasonable conversation which mostly frightens us in a madman.

—Anatole France

CREEKSIDE KINGDOM PLAYGROUND TEMPORARY CLOSING

Due to the need for annual maintenance to keep Creekside Kingdom's playground equipment safe and fun for our children, the playground will be closed on Saturday and Sunday, June 17 and 18.

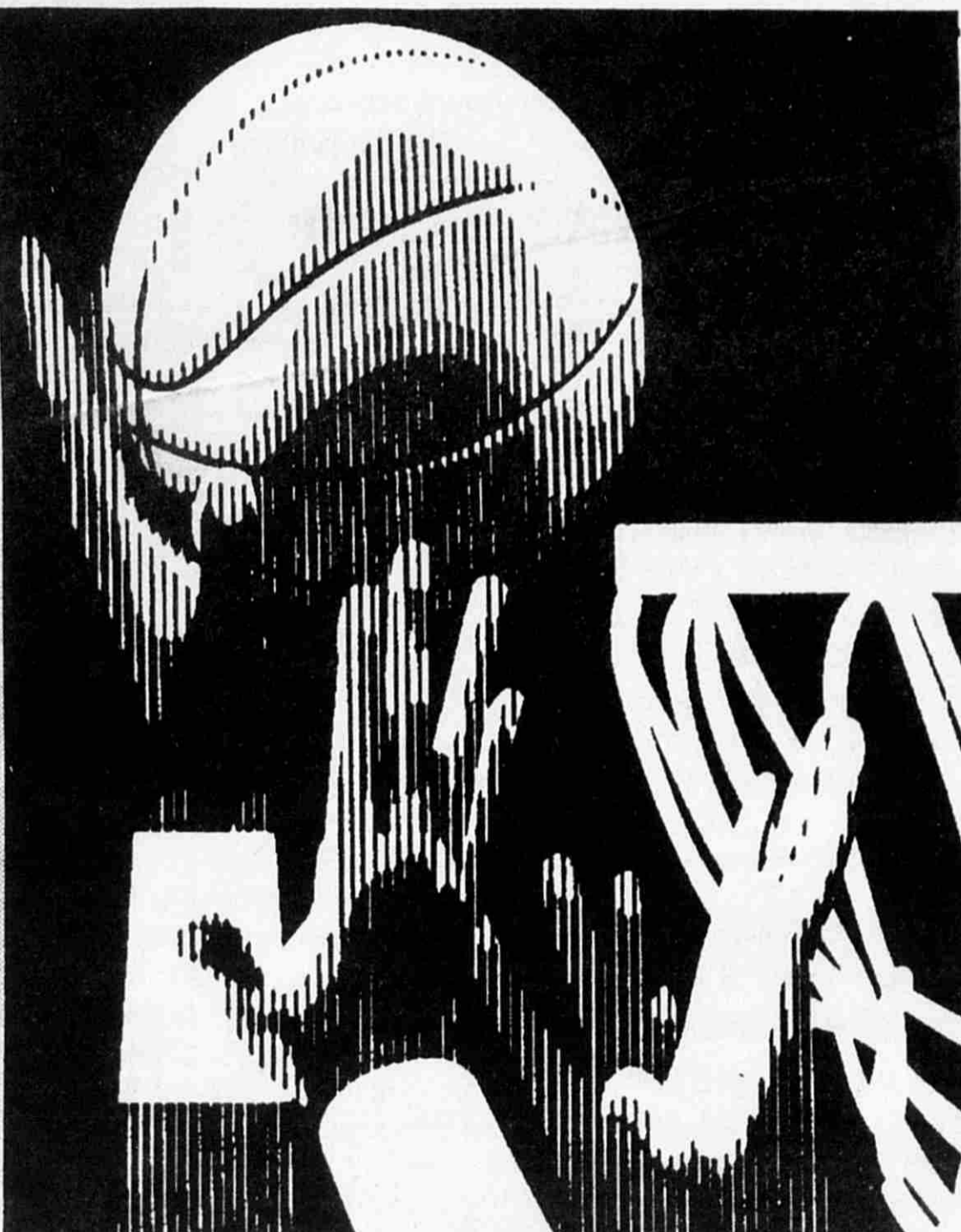
"Showboat City" '95 Hoops Classic 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

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Lowell couple brings back more than just money from Las Vegas

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Editor's Note: At the request of the Lowell couple, of which this story is about, the fictitious names of Mr. and Mrs. X are being used due to the nature of their work.

It was their first trip to Las Vegas.

It was their first expedition to a casino to gamble.

"It was great fun," said Mr. X. Mrs. X adds, "I had a good time but I lost everything."

She lost the green stuff we call money, but they experienced the highest of highs during their six-day stay in Las Vegas.

The high was not a product from an extraordinary gambling experience or even from a Wayne Newton show.

It came one April evening on their drive to dinner. They came to a stop at a corner when Mrs. X noticed that a man was lying on the ground in a parking lot.

The registered nurse of 10 years mentioned that maybe they should stop and see if they could help.

"I'm not sure that a registered nurse is obliged to stop and help, but at least I would like to think that a registered nurse would stop," Mrs. X said. "Although, not all registered nurses are trained in emergency."

After identifying who she was and that she was a registered nurse who also had six years of experience as an EMT, Mrs. X quickly diagnosed that the gentleman lying on the ground had suffered a heart attack.

"I felt for a pulse and didn't get one. He had quit breathing," she said.

Mr. X, who had been an ambulance attendant for eight years and receives CPR training every year, initiated respiration. A nurses aide, who was also on the scene, began compressions. Also helping with compressions was an off-duty county sheriff from South Bend, IN.

After approximately 10 minutes, the paramedics arrived. After shocking the victim twice, they got a pulse. From there, a tube was inserted and an IV was started. He was then transported to a Las Vegas hospital.

The X's received a letter from Nancy Sundell, Syracuse, New York, after returning from vacation. The letter stated Ernest Sundrell was in the Las Vegas hospital for 16 days and then air ambulated home. It stated he incurred minor brain damage from the heart attack. He is currently undergoing rehabilitation and doctors believe he will recover almost completely.

After a month-and-a-half stay in a rehabilitation facility, Sundell went home on Monday, June 5. "Ernest received some brain damage. However, he is able to talk and walks with the aid of a cane," Nancy Sundell said. "Our doctor said he believes Ernest will be close to normal within a year."

Nancy Sundell said she was kneeling beside her husband after he had collapsed from a heart attack when the X's stopped to help. "It's wonderful to know that people will still stop and help," she said.

The experience is something the Sundells and the Xs will never forget. "It was an exhilarating experience," Mrs. X said. "What could top it? It's not something we will forget."

When the X's left Sundell that evening, he was in critical condition and on life support.

"When I received the letter from the Sundrells, I was afraid to open it," Mrs. X said. "But it had good news and was just a lovely letter."

The X's said such an emergency brings out a raw energy which allows them to focus and shut out everything else around them. "You do what you've been trained to do," Mr. X said.

With the X's on their vacation were Tony and Connie Stencil. "Tony said to us afterwards, 'Wow, I didn't know you guys could do that.'"

A gentleman recovering from a heart attack in Syracuse, New York, is mighty grateful they could.

"The letter I sent to them thanked them for stopping and helping Ernest. We are very thankful and lucky they stopped," Nancy Sundell said. "Ernest would have died otherwise."