

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 21, Issue 13

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 7, 1996

## Communication lines tied together regarding fire department issues

By Marc Popiolek  
Contributing Writer

In an effort to develop better communication between local municipalities, in regard to fire department issues, the Vergennes Township Board has appointed township clerk Mari Stone and treasurer Jean Hoffman to the Fire Advisory Council.

"The only way we knew about issues in the township was when we got the bill," said Stone. "We don't have any specific issues to discuss; all we want to do is add some communication between us, Lowell Township and the city of Lowell."

The advisory council includes representatives from the city: Fire Chief Martin; and Dick Huver, from Lowell Township.

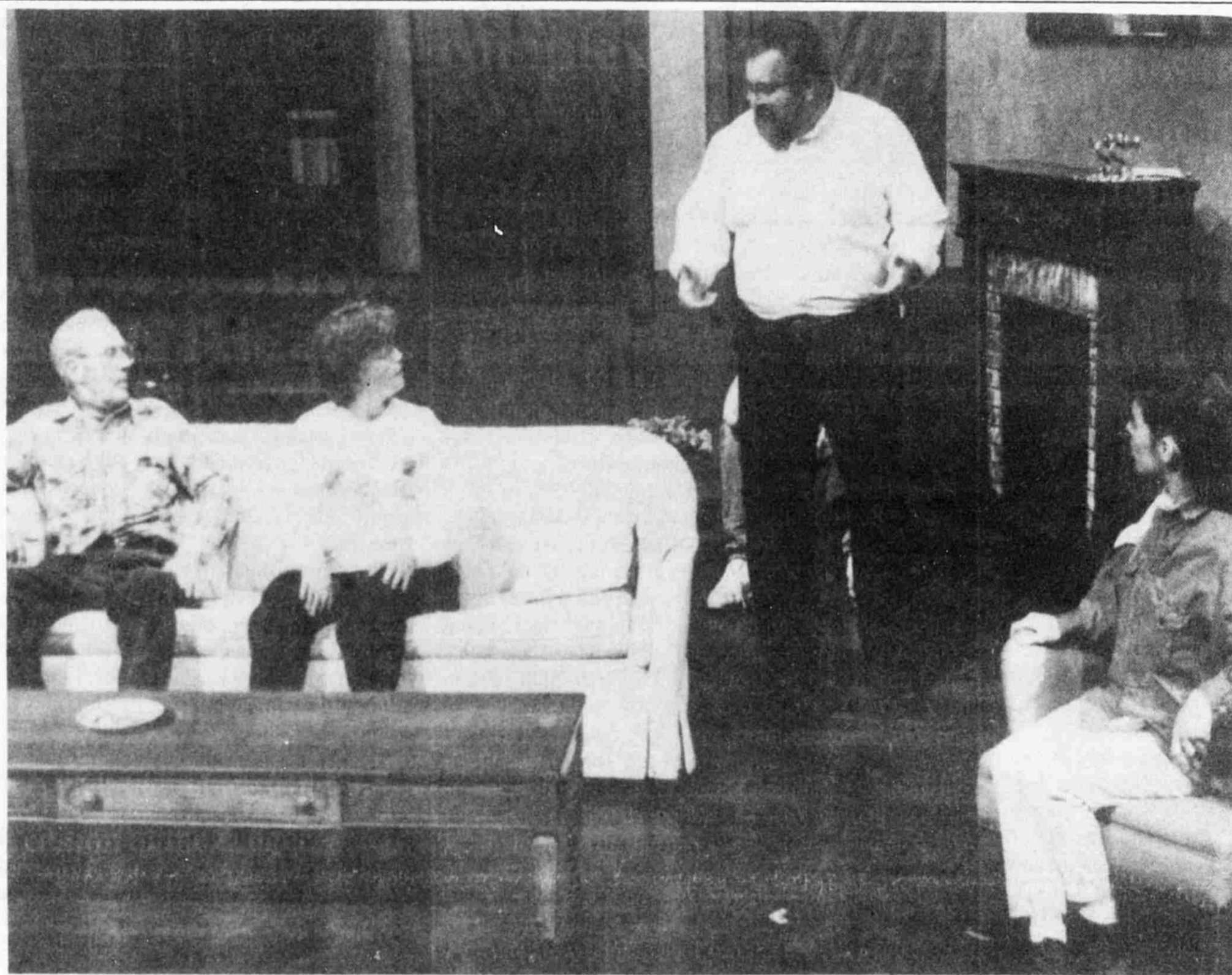
Huver said the council has been together for several years, but only met when the fire department had issues to discuss, such as the purchasing of equipment.

"It's good to meet and figure out what is needed in one, two, or five years down the road," Huver said. "We never knew what the fire department was planning until we got the bill."

Huver and township clerk Carol Wells said the fire department also gave the council a "good year or more" notice when it came to purchasing equipment.

Stone is hoping the council can meet more than just when an issue pops up.

Fire, cont'd., pg. 8



## "Play On!"

*Play On!* A comedy by Rick Abbot will be presented by the Lowell Area Arts Council in the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. this Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 8-10. On Thursday, tickets are \$4 for senior citizens and students, and \$5 for adults. Tickets on Friday and Saturday are \$7. Tickets will be sold at the door. For more information call the LAAC at 897-8545.

## Vergennes Township spruces up senior center with funds

By Marc Popiolek  
Contributing Writer

Lowell's Senior Neighbors Center will have a new look come this summer, thanks to Vergennes Township.

The Vergennes Township Board agreed to allocate \$10,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG) to the Senior Neighbor Center in order to install new windows, paint the inside and install new carpeting.

"We're thrilled to death," said Sue Simmonds, director of the center, located at 314 S. Hudson. "They were very, very thoughtful to include us in their plans."

Simmonds said the center serves a large number of seniors in Vergennes Township through their home meal program, trips and other various programs.

"A lot of Vergennes residents come in, even though we're located in the city of Lowell," she said.

The allocation is part of Vergennes \$33,000 in unprogrammed CDBG funds to be dispersed in July.

The funds are part of a federal program to allocate money for projects that benefit the community or low income families.

Other projects receiving funds include the North Kent Transit Service and the Vergennes Historical Society.

The township had a total of \$52,200 in CDBG funds to allocate for the 1996 year.

"We looked where we could use the funds and Jean (Hoffman, township treasurer) thought the senior center would be a good place to allocate the money," said Mari Stone, township clerk.

Senior funds, cont'd., pg. 8

## School board and administration hear opposition to seven-block format

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell resident Linda Taber has called the possible implementation of a seven-block schedule an "experiment" with kids' education.

Lowell superintendent Bert Bleke called that charge "ridiculous." "The teachers and administration of this school district have worked hard and long in researching

the seven-block schedule."

Joe Barnella does not oppose the block style, but does oppose what is being suggested by Lowell administrators and staff.

His problems lie with the seminar period or what Barnella calls the "miracle" hour.

"Simple logistics say it won't work. I want to see a schedule that shows me where the students are at all times,"

Barnella said.

The Lowell resident also points out that there are four computer classes and one computer terminal.

"If every kid with a problem in their computer class walks into the lab during seminar, there won't be enough computers for all of them," Barnella said. "Then you have nothing more than a study hall."

High school principal Scott Vashaw said it will not be a study hall. He said that when the eight block schedule was initially discussed,

there was only going to be two seminars with each one lasting 87 minutes.

"Under the seven-block format, there will be four seminars a week (each lasting 55 minutes), giving each student more of an opportunity," Vashaw said. "Under the current system, if a student has to ride the bus and can't stay after school, he/she has no opportunity," Vashaw said.

The high school principal noted that the seminar also gives the school an opportunity to address the needs of

Block, cont'd., pg. 8

## Difference in booster pump station treatment makes for varying water rate calculations

By Thad Kraus and  
Marc Popiolek  
Lowell Ledger

City and township calculations for setting water rates for the year differed by approximately \$9,000.

Or the difference between integrated system costs and a non-integrated system cost.

Lowell Charter Township

believes the capital costs of the east and west water booster pump stations should be included as a part of a system that all users pay for.

The city believes that the eastside water pump station should be a non-integrated system cost, payable entirely

Water rate, cont'd., pg. 8

## INSIDE THE LEDGER

Rezoning given for apartment,  
pg. 24

Lowell stuns Hudsonville,  
pg. 18

Sweetheart Swirl Pictures,  
pg. 21

**OBITUARIES**

**BENGSTON** - Dylan Jon Bengston, aged 7 months, our gift from God, went home to the precious arms of Jesus on Sunday, Jan. 28, 1996. Dylan is waiting in heaven to be joined by his parents, David and Joanne Bengston of Jenison; brother Zachary; sister Kaitlyn; grandparents Wray and Carolyn Bengston of Hudsonville, Jan Robert "Buster" and Susan Bomers of Lowell; great-grandparents Teegee and Jane Bengston of Rockford, IL, Clara Long of Leaf River, IL, Polly A. Bomers of Rockford, and Frances M. Hoover of Grand Rapids. Also surviving are many loving aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Funeral Service was held Thursday at Grace Community Church of Hudsonville with Pastor Dan S. Cummings officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pregnancy Resource Center.

**GRAHAM** - George W. Graham Sr., aged 93, of Saranac, passed away February 4, 1996 in Saranac. He was born September 9, 1902, in Lowell, the son of Henry William and Emma (Paulus) Graham. He went on to marry Margaret A. Jeffery February 26, 1931 in Grand Rapids. She preceded him in death January 27, 1992. He was a member of the Church of the Nazarene. He is survived by his son George and Kathy Graham Jr. of Texas; daughter Marje and Bruce Wheelock of Saranac; sister Margaret Baril of Arizona; 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by six

brothers and four sisters. Funeral Services will be held Wednesday (today) at 11 a.m. at the Church of the Nazarene with Rev. Kirk Starkweather officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Contributions to Greater Grand Rapids Hospice

**KETCHAM** - Zilpha J. Ketcham, aged 93, died Wednesday, January 31, 1996. She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl Ketcham; grandchildren Suzanne and Warren. She is survived by her daughter Wanda Stinchcomb of Lowell; stepson John B. (Margaret) Ketcham of Grand Rapids; 10 grandchildren William (Joyce), Patricia VanKeuren, Bruce, Wendy, Mark, Craig (Stacey), John, Kathy, Sharon, Esther; six great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; several nieces. She was a member of V.F.W. Lowell Post #8303. Funeral Services were held Saturday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Reader Jean Raymond officiating. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

**LENNEMAN** - Stanley J. Lenneman, aged 60, of Lowell, was called home on February 1, 1996. He is survived by Eula, his wife of 26 years; children Robyn (Ken) VanEss, Terri (Terry) Reser, Michele (Martin) Blough, Louie (Teri) Smit, Nita (Dean) Stevens, Stanley Lenneman Jr., Tim (Kathy) Lenneman, Tina (Mark) Sausner, VanOverbeek, Tammy

(James) Brown, Tonia McCaul, Todd (Lori) Lenneman; 24 grandchildren; one brother; four sisters; several in-laws, nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were held Monday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Mr. Aaron Steffen, of the Apostolic Christian Church of Alto, officiating. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

**ROTH (WIELAND)** - Marion E. Roth (Wieland), aged 61, of Green Valley, AZ, formerly of Alma, MI, returned peacefully to the Lord, Monday, January 29, 1996. She was the loving wife of William Roth; devoted mother to Pamela and Martin Buschle. Gina Roth and Michael and Betty Roth; beloved grand-

mother of Kristina, Anna and Billy Buschle. She is also survived by her brother Richard (Gail) Wieland and sister-in-law Sharon Wieland. She was preceded in death by her father Emerson Wieland, step-father Walter Wieland, brother Earl Wieland, mother Leona Wieland. Marion was an ac-

tive member of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Tucson, AZ. Services were held Monday. Memorial contributions may be made to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, 8799 N. Northern, Tucson, AZ, 85704. Arrangements by O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst.

**Excellence grants to schools now supporting education improvement in 36 states**

Classrooms from Rhode Island to Oregon and Texas to Minnesota are raising academic standards, expanding the use of technology, promoting greater parental and community involvement and better preparing teachers through funds from the Goals 2000: Educate America Act.

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley today said that 36 states and the District of Columbia have received the excellence grants totaling \$290,660,650 in second-year Goals 2000 support for state, community and school efforts to improve teaching and learning in the current year. Additional states will receive second-year funding in the near future. Forty-eight states participated in year one, sharing grants totaling \$85 million.

The Goals 2000: Educate America Act was passed by Congress with bipartisan support and, Riley said, has garnered strong backing from parents, educators and the business community, who applaud its emphasis on rigorous courses and discipline, and competency in core academic subjects. The Act assists grassroots, community-based reforms focused on

teaching the basics, raising academic standards, improving student achievement and preparing students for careers in the workplace.

In a break with the old top-down approach to government, schools and state receive Goals 2000 funds, and flexibility from the Education Department in the use of those funds, in exchange for a commitment to set challenging academic standards for student learning and improved accountability. The Goals 2000 partnership enables schools, counties, states and the federal government to work together to improve the quality of education across America.

Riley said thousands of local schools would lose their excellence grants under Goals 2000 if proposed cuts to the program are adopted by Congress. President Clinton sought \$750 million for Goals 2000 in fiscal year 1996 to significantly increase the number of participating schools. But the U.S. House of Representatives voted to eliminate all funds for the program as part of a nearly \$4 billion, or 17 percent, cut to education. The Senate Appropriations Committee would

cut Goals 2000 funding to \$310 million.

Local school improvement plans to help students reach high standards of excellence and discipline are developed with broad-based parent, teacher and community input. Many states report they use both voluntary national standards and standards developed by other states to guide them in developing their own individual plans, according to *State Curriculum Frameworks in Mathematics and Science: How Are They Changing Across the States*, a 1995 report prepared by the Council of Chief State School Officers.

Goals 2000 has won support from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Alliance of Business, the Business Roundtable, the National Parent Teacher Association, the National Association of Manufacturers, the American Federation of Teachers, and the Council of Chief State School Officers, among many others.

"If we lose Goals 2000, it would be an incredibly negative setback for this country," said Louis V. Gerstner, chairman and CEO of IBM, at a White House meeting last September.

"From charter schools, to improving reading, and from

upgrading teacher skills to getting more computers in the classroom, I've seen funds for Goals 2000 help energize educational improvements across our country," Riley said. "When you raise expectations and standards, students and school respond favorably."

Ohio, for instance, is using Goals 2000 support to raise student academic achievement, develop a technology network between schools, promote public outreach and awareness about education goals, and connect school districts and colleges of education to better train teachers.

Many school districts in Kentucky are using Goals 2000 support to dramatically expand the use of technology in schools. Increased parent and community involvement, distance learning, teaching workshops for teachers, administrators and families that air on cable television, and school access to electronic mail and the information superhighway represent a few of the districts' efforts. And Massachusetts, Michigan and Minnesota are using Goals 2000 funds to support charter schools.

In year two of the program, 90 percent of the funds go directly for local school improvement.

revenues and expenditures to offset each other with no excess of funds.

The township expects \$68,000 from property taxes, \$254,000 in state revenue, and

remaining revenue from investment earnings, special assessments, licenses and permits, cable television and other miscellaneous funds. Expenditures include

salaries for the supervisor, clerk, treasurer and trustees, rescue and ambulance calls, road projects, and several operating costs.

The expenditures include carrying over \$59,500 from the recreation department fund from last year into the new year and adding \$8,000.

Despite the fact that the township doesn't have a park, it must show funds for purchasing and maintaining a park.

"We must show funds in that account to be eligible for federal grants," said Carol Wells, township clerk. "If we don't use the funds, we can carry it over to the next year."

Wells added that everything in the budget should be spent by the end of the year and if it isn't, it will be adjusted at the end of this year.

**T.L.C. ski trip planned**

T.L.C. is sponsoring a ski trip to Caberfae Ski Resort, on Sunday, Feb. 18. This trip is open to all high schoolers, middle schoolers, or families from the Lowell Area Schools. (If weather is bad, trip will be rescheduled for Sunday, Feb. 25.)

We have two charter buses that will be leaving from the front parking lot of the middle school at 7:15 a.m. We will be leaving Caberfae at 7 p.m., arriving back at the middle school by 9:30-10 p.m. A quick stop at the Big Rapids McDonalds will be made on the way up and on the way back for anyone wanting to buy a quick meal. Skiers are also welcome to bring packed food or buy food at the lodge.

Cost: bus, \$13; lift ticket, \$22; rental, \$19. If you are a beginner skier, we recommend that you pay for a group lesson.

Space is limited. Deadline for reservations is Friday, Feb. 9.

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**TOWN TALK**

**Do you think Governor John Engler will be asked to be vice president and if he is, could you support him?**



**Cathy Conklin**  
Yes, I think he will be. Yes, I could support him. I like the job he's done as Governor.

**Janet Peters**  
I'd support him, but I don't think he will be asked.

**Norm Adcock**  
I would support Governor Engler, but I don't think he will be asked.

**Tom Hutfilz**  
Yes, I think he will be and yes, I would support him.

**Raul Garcia**  
Yes, and I think I could support him.

**Roy Rood**  
I have no idea if he will be asked. However, I could not support him.



**Carl DeVries**  
No, I don't think he will be asked. I could, however, support him. I think he's done well as Governor.



**Lee Kenyon**  
I doubt that he will be asked. My support would depend on who his running mate is.

**No surprises; Township adopts budget**

**By Marc Popiolek**  
*Contributing Writer*

The Lowell Charter Township Board adopted its 1996/97 budget of \$478,422. The township expects its

revenues and expenditures to offset each other with no excess of funds. The township expects \$68,000 from property taxes, \$254,000 in state revenue, and

remaining revenue from investment earnings, special assessments, licenses and permits, cable television and other miscellaneous funds. Expenditures include

salaries for the supervisor, clerk, treasurer and trustees, rescue and ambulance calls, road projects, and several operating costs.

The expenditures include carrying over \$59,500 from the recreation department fund from last year into the new year and adding \$8,000.

**Books defined under materials by KDL**

A resolution establishing the Frank L. Carr Fund and a policy regarding the administration and use of funds were adopted by the Lowell City Council.

The resolution and policy were first presented to the council at its Jan. 15 meeting.

With the adoption of the policy, a perpetual fund will be created whereby the interest proceeds are to assist the library.

Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale corrected a previous statement he made about donating books.

"The statement previously given that books must circulate the district system is not correct," Pasquale said. "The policy is broad enough to include books to be defined under materials."

Ruth McCrank, deputy director of the Kent District Library, said books purchased through the fund may stay at the library.

**FMB seminar will speak on budgeting for rising college costs**

**By Thad Kraus**  
*Lowell Ledger Editor*

College costs have gone up seven to nine percent in each of the last 15 years.

This fact is of rising concern to American families.

There are things parents can do to begin planning for their child's future and to avoid the financial crunch that can occur with the high cost of college education.

This timely information will be presented through a "Paying for College" informational class.

Presented by FMB State Savings Bank and the Alto PTO, it will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. in the Alto Elementary gymnasium. The speaker will be FMB Investment Services' Randy Schultz.

The class will be repeated

on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 7 p.m. in the Cherry Creek Elementary cafeteria. It will be sponsored by FMB and the Lowell Elementary PTO.

The seminar topics will include:

- How much parents should invest monthly to pay for college.
- Which investment options will best meet parents' objectives.
- What loans and grants are available to parents and their children.

"The seminars are going to be informational classes where we talk to parents about college costs and what they can do to start saving now for their child's college education," Schultz said. "Without cuts and uncertainty in financial aid, it's important to start saving early. Saving a

little over a long period of time is less painful."

The days of waiting until a child is in high school to start saving for his or her college education are changing slowly, according to Schultz.

"Younger parents are thinking about college costs earlier in an effort to meet the substantial burden," Schultz said.

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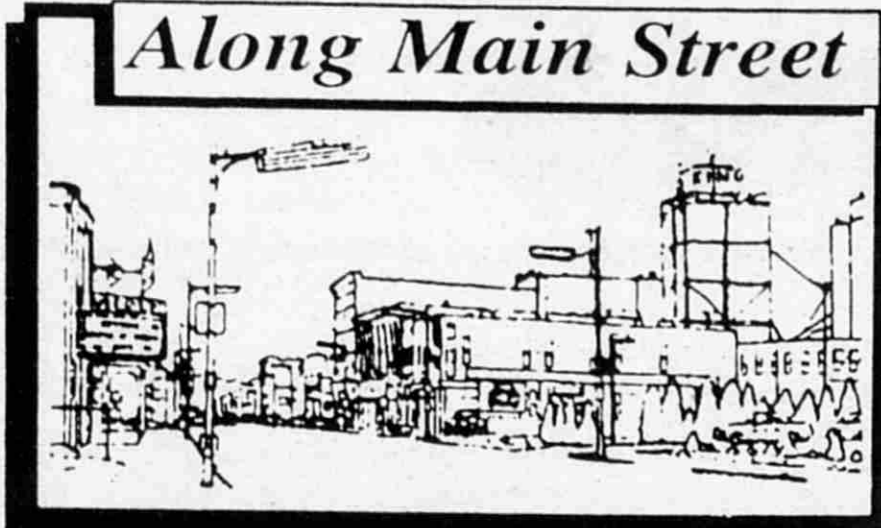
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COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION CANCELLATION  
No commodities will be given out until further notice.

**WRESTLING SIGN-UP**  
Lowell freestyle wrestling sign up will be held Thursday, Feb. 15 at Cherry Creek Elementary cafeteria from 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
For information on cost, age groups and requirements, call Barb Carpenter, 897-6566 or Dennis Kimberlin, 874-9318.

**LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL**  
The LYFL Board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Cherry Creek P.T.O. room on Thursday, Feb. 15.

**LAAC PRESENTS "PLAY ON!"**  
The play "Play On!" will be presented by the Lowell Area Arts Council in the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 and 10. On Thursday tickets are \$4 for senior citizens and students and \$5 for adults. Tickets on Friday and Saturday are \$7 and are available at the door or at the LAAC from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. every day but Monday. For ticket information call the LAAC at 897-8545.

## Block, cont'd.... From Page 1

advance students.  
Lowell resident Art Warning said he laughed when he saw the list of possible classes that could be offered to advanced students. "There was one that had something to do with putting a band aid on a cut (sports medicine)," Warning said.  
School board member Ellen McClain pointed to 46 minutes less planning time for teachers and less class time for students as to why she could not support the proposed seven-block schedule.  
McClain questioned how teachers would be able to adequately plan for classes with less planning time and cover the same amount of material with less class time.  
"I think you have to include seminar as teaching time," Vashaw said. "It would be wrong to exclude it."  
In response to Bleke's objection to referring to the seven-block as an experiment, Barnella said that less than 10 percent

## Water rate, cont'd.... From Page 1

of Michigan schools have implemented block style formats and most of them have only been using the block style for 2-3 years. "Superintendent Bleke may not like it, but that's experimenting."  
Bleke said he was confident in the research which shows kids learn better in longer blocks of time. "It is not experimental by any stretch," he said.  
Whether the block schedule is successful will depend on its progress. Vashaw explains grade-point-averages, scores, proficiency test results, SAT/ACT scores and other items are ways to measure its attainment.  
Taber said she is not willing to wait and see if it passes or fails. "If Lowell changes to a block format, I will look at private schools for my kids," she said. "I think the district has a lot of other serious problems. I think there needs to be a lot more dialogue with parents."

of the city users since it provides no benefit to the township.  
As for the westside booster station, the city believes that 95 percent of the capital cost should be a non-integrated system cost, payable by township users with the remaining five percent payable by all users. "Not everybody should pay for the westside station in that 95 percent of it only serves the township," city attorney Dick Wendt said.  
The township calculations showed a revenue requirement of \$69,575 which requires a rate of \$2.56 per thousand gallons based on an estimated usage of 27,219,000 gallons.  
The city's calculations showed a revenue requirement of \$78,783 imposing a rate of \$2.89 per thousand gallons based on the same estimated usage.  
In resolving the matter, the two sides agreed that the township will pay the city a rate of \$2.56 per thousand gallons through June 30, 1996, and if by that date the rate charged does not produce the city calculated revenue requirement of \$78,783, the township will promptly pay the difference between that amount and the amount collected at the \$2.56 per thousand gallon rate.  
As part of the proposal, the township also agreed to

pay any arrears due to the city based on the \$2.56 rate. For the past seven months the township has been paying the city at a rate of \$2.10 per thousand gallons.  
The township's proposal will cut the cost for users of the system as well as cover the cost of the city's expenses for serving those users.  
Township supervisor John Timpson said the new reduced rate is expected to cover those maintaining and improving the system.  
"We projected our current seven-month usage over a year and we believe we will meet the 30 million gallon limit," he said. "If not, we guaranteed the city we could cover the shortage."  
The township decided to pursue a compromise with the city following a large showing of residents who were angry that their rates had exceeded their expectations.  
The township expected residents to pay \$2.10 per thousand gallons when the project was first installed.  
Users of the system include the new high school and residents of Eastgate Village.  
Timpson said the current agreement came at a good time and will be used when the two sides sit down to renegotiate this year's figures.  
"We learned how they interpret the formula to arrive at

**DRIVERS' EDUCATION SIGNUP**  
Drivers' education forms are now available at the Lowell High School office, Lowell Middle School and New Beginnings. There will be two sessions: 1st session, June 10 - 28 and 2nd session, July 8 - 26.  
You must be 15 years old by May 31, 1996.

**EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCES NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
In order to meet the needs of worshippers, Emmaus Lutheran Church, serving Lowell and Cascade areas, will change the worship time from 9 to 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings beginning Feb. 11.  
The Sunday School time will also be changed from 10:15 to 10:45. It is hoped the change will be helpful to everyone who expressed a desire for a later worship time.

**PAYING FOR COLLEGE**  
Two very informative seminars will be held for parents of area elementary students. These will be given by FMB sponsored by the Lowell and Alto PTO's.  
The Alto seminar is 7 p.m., Feb. 13 at the school and the Lowell seminar is 7 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Cherry Creek School cafeteria. You are invited to attend at either location.

**LMS VOLLEYBALL COACHES NEEDED**  
Lowell Middle School is looking for several girls volleyball coaches. Practice is scheduled to begin in late January and end in late March.  
Qualified individuals interested in a coaching position should contact Barry Hobrila at 897-4442.

**HISTORICAL COMMISSION SEEKING APPLICANTS**  
The Vergennes Township Historical Commission is seeking applicants for the 1996-98 term of office. Appointments

will be made at the March 25 meeting of the Township Board. Candidates should be residents of the township, and interested in serving the community.  
Contact Mari Stone, Vergennes Township Hall, 1038 1/2 Bailey Dr., Lowell, phone 897-5671.

**OFF THE BLOTTER**  
Gail Ayers, 38, of Lowell, was not injured in an accident Jan. 30 when she struck a deer on Alden Nash north of M-21.  
Stephen Stiles, 24, of Lowell, was arrested Jan. 30 on a warrant issued by the Friend of the Court in Kent County.  
Lowell officers investigated 24 accidents in the month of January, three of which incurred injuries to the occupants.  
A car driven by Shannon Perry, 18, of Saranac, was involved in a property damage accident when she lost control and struck a parked vehicle owned by Ruth Divine on Lincoln Lake St. near Godfrey Feb. 1.  
Donald Schwark, 48, of Lowell, was arrested Feb. 1 on a warrant issued out of an Escanaba court for failure to appear in court.  
Sarah Ransom, 74, of Lowell, reported to Lowell officers Feb. 2 that her car was struck by a hit and run driver while parked in a parking lot on West Main St.  
Leroy Schuckebier, 63, of Frankenmuth, and Todd Reed, 30, of Lowell, collided Feb. 2 in the lot of McDonald's on W Main St. No one was injured.  
Rebecca Curtis, 23, of Saranac, and Timothy Sullivan, 36, of Ionia, collided on slick pavement while traversing the Pizza Hut parking lot on West Main Feb. 2. No one was injured.

## Fire, cont'd.... From Page 1

"We plan on meeting quarterly and becoming more aware of issues in the area," she said. "In the past if we didn't get a bill, then we didn't know what was going on."  
Currently, the township provides funds for 1/3 of the cost of purchasing new equipment.  
They also pay for administrative costs depending on the amount of calls the department makes in Vergennes Township. Last year it equaled 20 percent of the department's total costs.

Last year Vergennes contributed \$23,000 to the Lowell Fire Department in 1995

## Senior funds, cont'd.... From Page 1

Stone, township clerk. "What else are we going to use it on? We don't have any low income areas."  
Vergennes' contribution to the center is its first with the federally granted funds and according to Stone will be very helpful to the center.  
"From what I understand, they can't even open some of the windows," she said. "It will also help cut down on their utility bill."  
Simmonds said the center is looking forward to the improvements.  
"The new windows will tilt out so we can wash them from the inside. They haven't been cleaned in a long time because it is quite a big project for us," Simmonds said. "Our current carpet is different colors in each room and is very difficult to keep clean. The new carpeting will add a lot to the interior, as will the paint."  
"This will benefit everyone and spruce up the building. I hope we can have the improvements completed by May, for our open house, but if we don't it's no big deal...I'm just glad we're getting them," concluded Simmonds.

### GOING TO THE DENTIST DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT ANYMORE! COMPLETE FAMILY DENTAL CARE



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### Franciscan Rhythms 16th annual staff recital

Franciscan Rhythms Music Studio in Ada will be conducting their 16th annual staff recital on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. The recital will be held at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes Street, Lowell with a reception following.  
The program will include performances from: Tom Bartha, folk guitar; Paul Vondiziano, classical guitar; Dana Swayze, piano; Tracy Flanders and Penny Hock, piano duo; Matthew Adrianson, marimba; a ladies' barbershop quartet sung by the Studio piano teachers and much more. Contact Sister Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE, at (616) 897-7842 for more information.

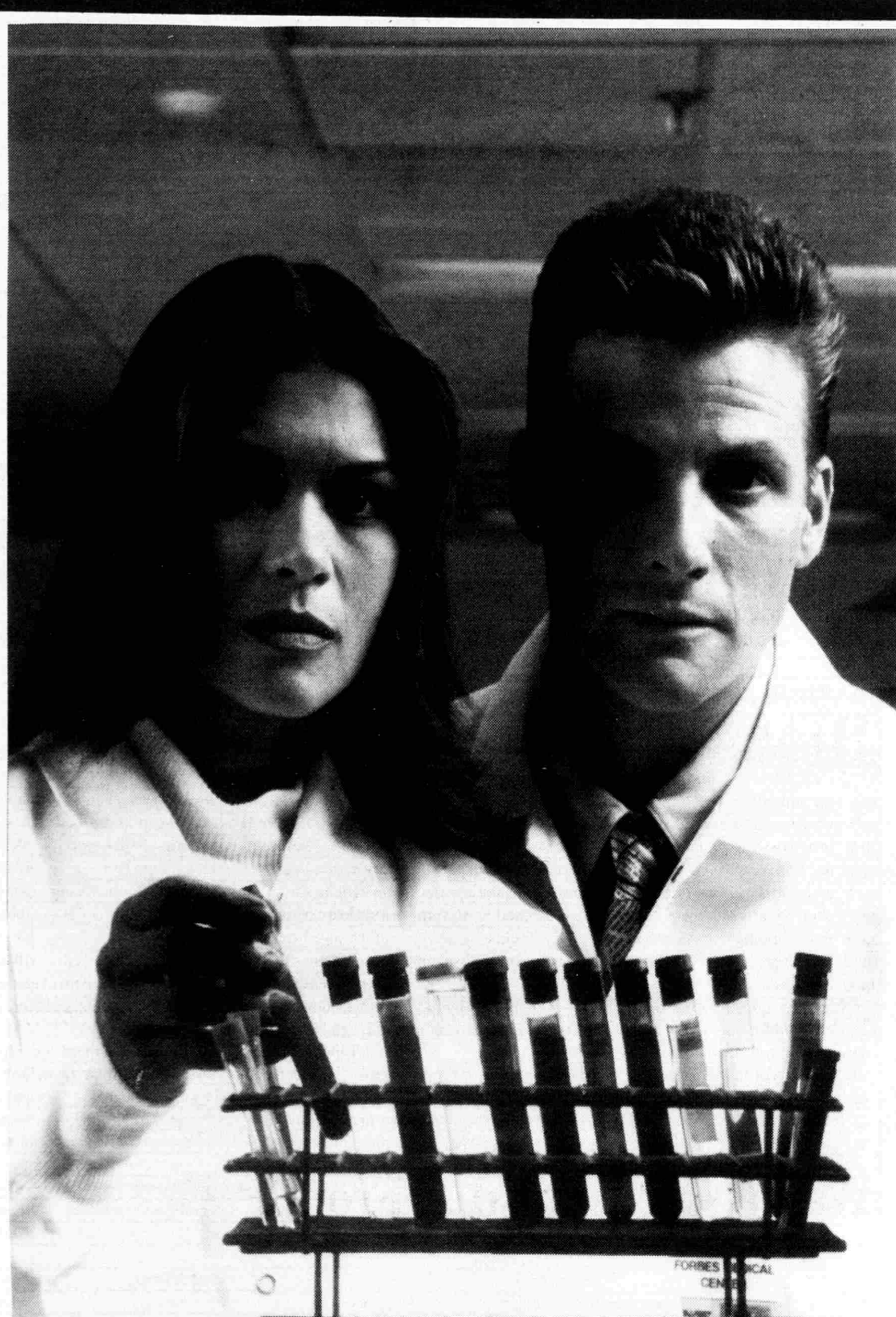
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- Listings Coincide With Numbers On Your Tuner

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-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	EWTN
35	TNN
36	TRAVEL
37	LEARNING
38	SCI-FI
39	VH-1

\*\* Denotes Premium Channels



## FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9 THRU FEBRUARY 15

Nia Peeples (*Courthouse*) and Doug Savant (*Melrose Place*) star as a nurse and doctor caught up in mystery and intrigue in Robin Cook's *Terminal*, airing Monday on NBC. The two become targets after they uncover the diabolical truth hidden within a cancer research institute where wealthy patients are cured.

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- 1988 PONTIAC GRAND AM LE, 4-door, extra clean, auto., air..... \$3,795
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- 1988 CHEVY CAVALIER WAGON, Runs good, auto., stereo..... \$2,495
- 1985 PONTIAC FIERO, Extra clean, low miles, one owner..... \$2,795
- 1986 PLYMOUTH RELIANT, Good body, auto., runs good..... \$2,395
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- 1985 OLDS CIERA, 4-door, V6, auto, runs good..... \$1,795



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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 9, 1996 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 9, 1996 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 10, 1996 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 10, 1996 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 10, 1996. 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.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 10, 1996. 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.

SUNDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 11, 1996. 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, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 11, 1996. 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, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 11, 1996. 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.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 11, 1996. 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.

MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12, 1996. 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.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 12, 1996. 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.

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 13, 1996. 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.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 13, 1996. 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.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 14, 1996. 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.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 14, 1996. 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.







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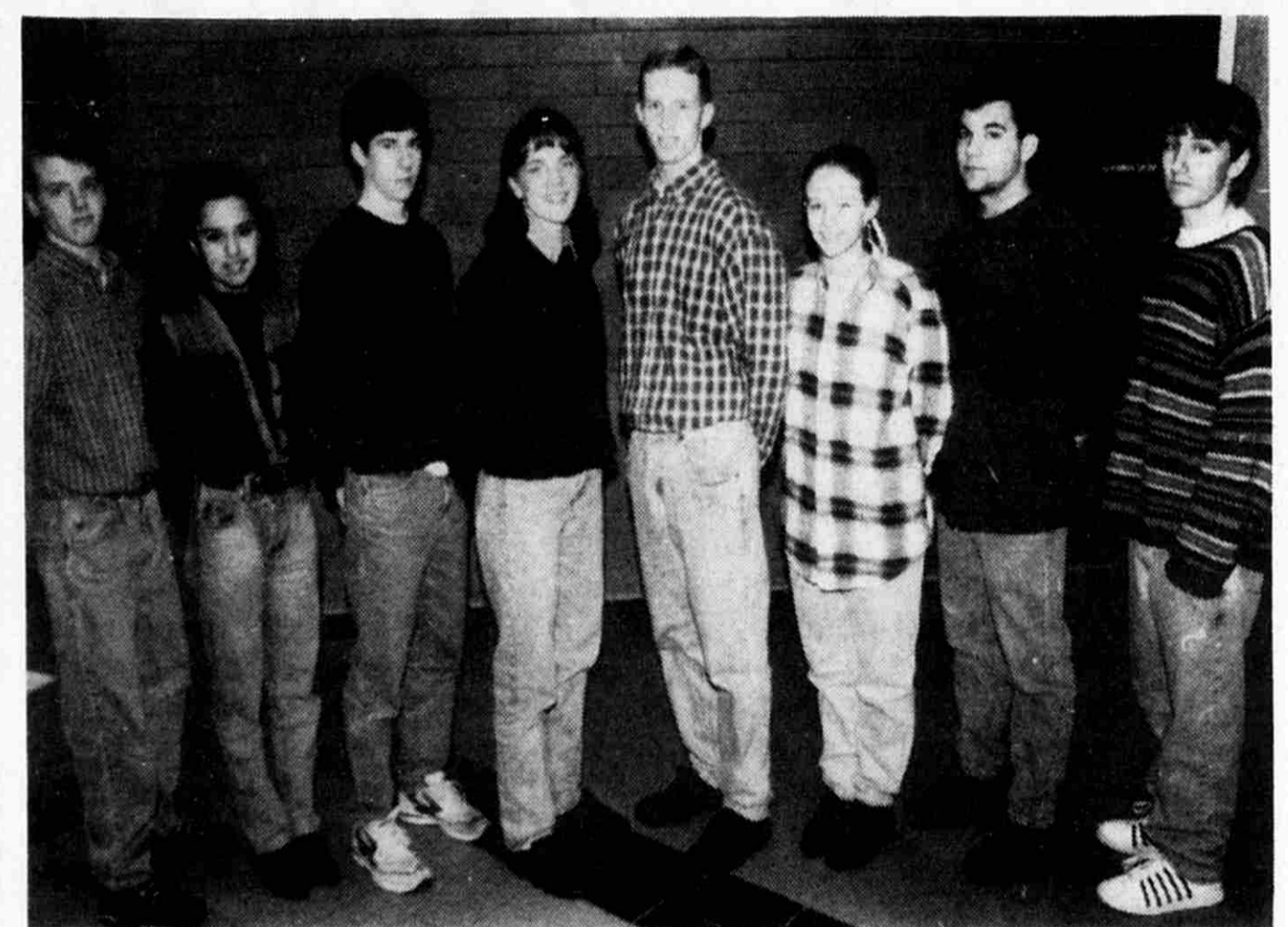
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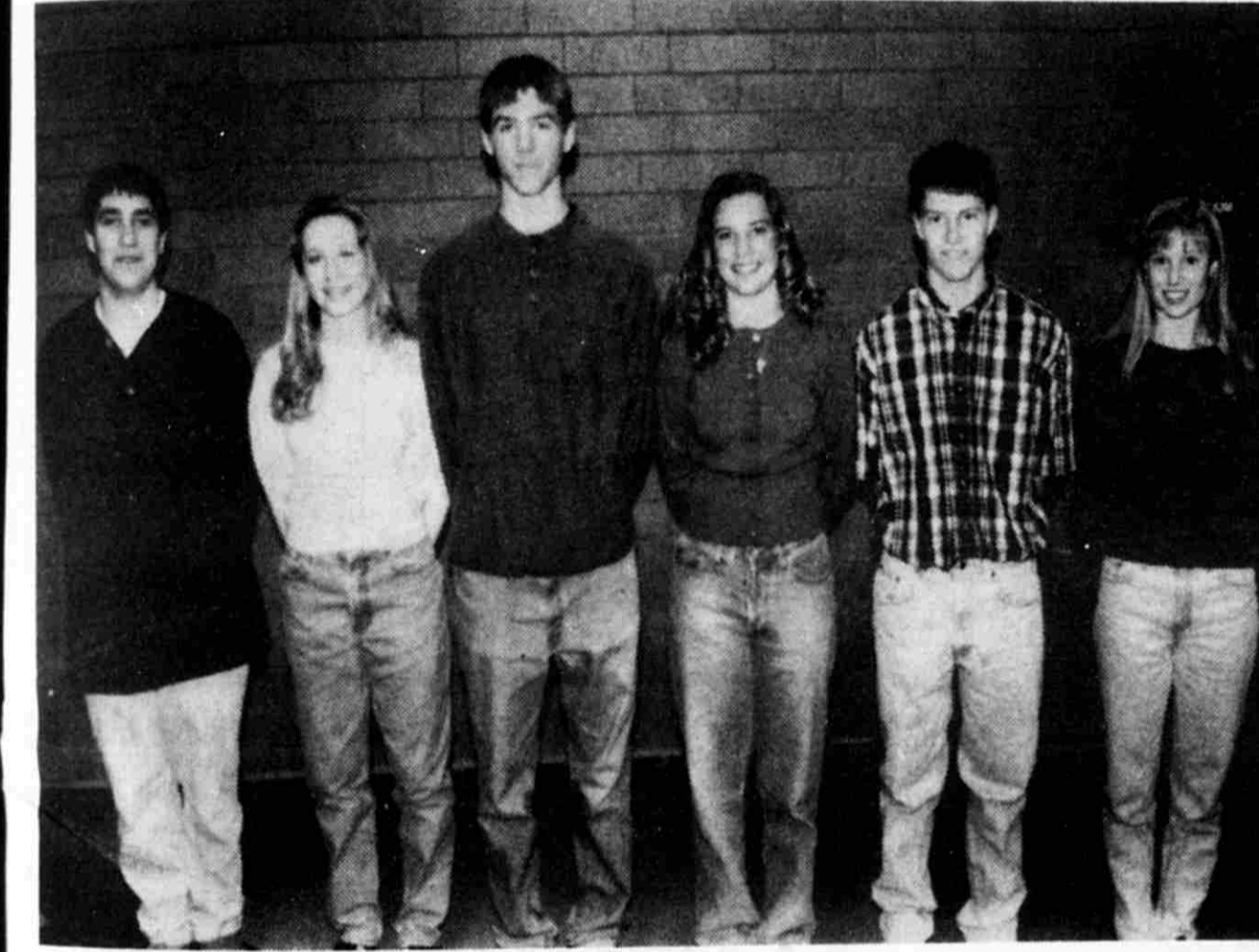
## Students celebrate Valentines with Sweetheart Swirl dance



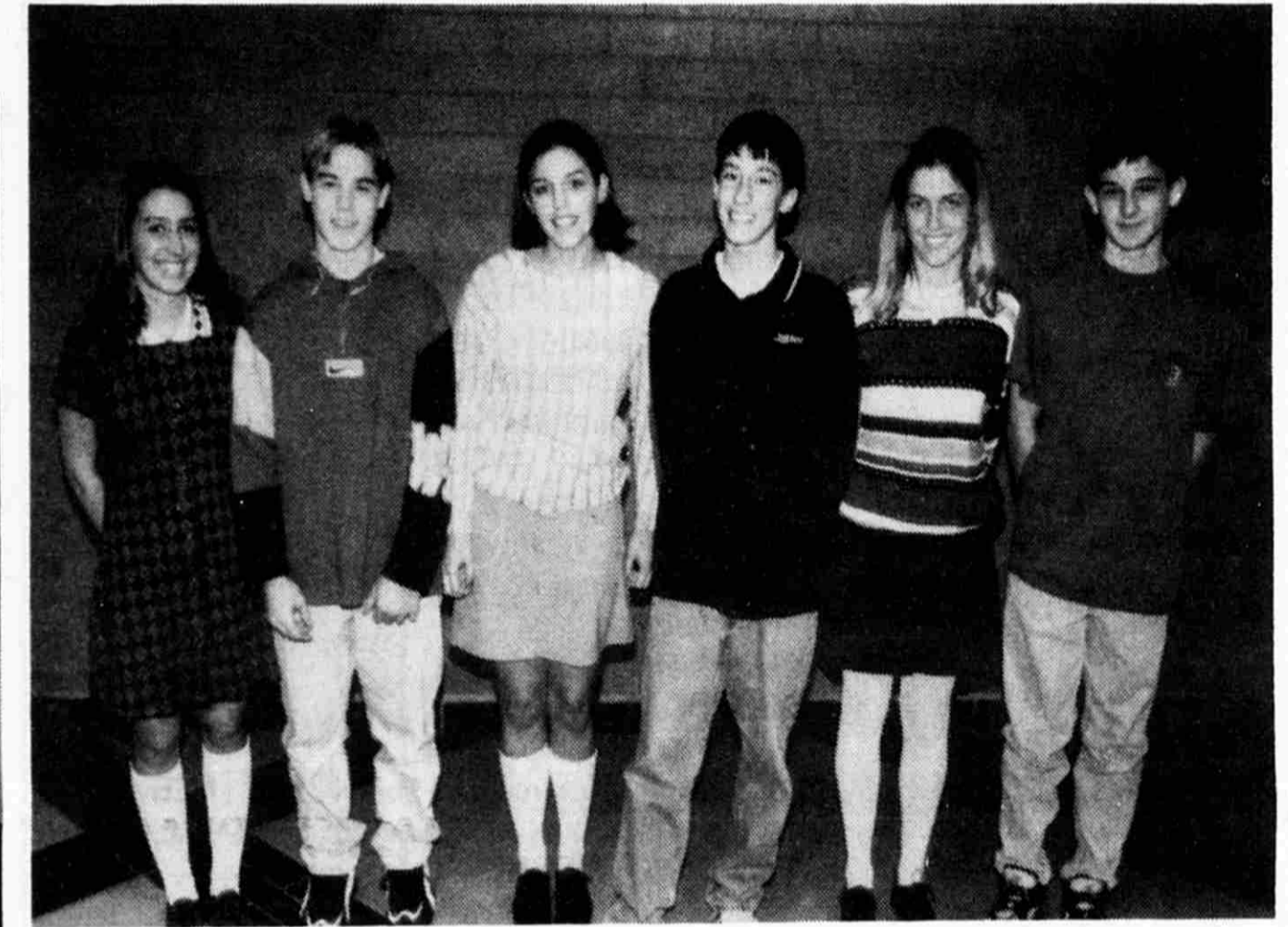
Members of the Sweetheart Swirl senior court, front row, left to right, are: Julie Stewart, Heather Young, Tami Froese, Beth Wilcox, Tracy Loughlin, Shannon Vos and Jeni Hale. Pictured, back row, left to right, are: Chris Goggins, Brandon Hamilton, Nick Staal, Nate Jannenga and B.J. Barber. The 1996 Sweetheart Swirl dance is Saturday (Feb. 10) from 8 until 11:30 p.m. The class prince and princess will be announced at 9:45 p.m.



Members of the Sweetheart Swirl junior court, left to right, are: Brett Plattner, Hayley Braun, John Wojciakowski, Emily Dunn, Brian Willmarth, Ericka Gless, Pat Johnson and Scott West.



Members of the Sweetheart Swirl sophomore court, left to right, are: Scott Mikulski, Erin Gannon, Nate Schoen, Cherrille Webber, Tim VanLaan, and Sandy Spicer.



Members of the Sweetheart Swirl freshman court, left to right, are: Brooke Bennett, T.J. Thayer, Rachael Zalokar, Dan Vosovic, Kaily Wittenbach and Dustin Gless.

## McGee Homestead recognized by national magazine

The national magazine "Country" has listed Lowell's McGee Homestead in its February/March edition. The list includes country inns and bed-and-breakfasts that have been recommended by its readers as the perfect places to stay while touring America's countryside.

The following is the magazine's review of the local bed-and-breakfast: "We fell in love with this 1880 brick farmhouse, set on six-week basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, he will receive technical training in the Mechanical area and be assigned to an Air Force duty station. Price is a 1993 graduate of Lowell High School.

**IN THE SERVICE**

James P. Price, son of Mr. and Mrs. James B. Price of Lowell, entered the United States Air Force on January 24, 1996, according to TSgt. David Kramer, Air Force recruiter. Upon graduation from the

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# Lowell High School blood drive draws an all-time high 51 pints



Rachele Brown is queried for information prior to donating blood at the LHS blood drive.

By Thad Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

In cooperation with the Grand Valley Blood Bank, Lowell High School's student council held its fifth annual student blood drive.

The blood drive brought in 88 potential donors (those wanting to give blood). Of those, 37 were rejected.

The 51 pints of blood donated were a five-year high for the student council blood drive.

Student council president Jenny Jansma said previous blood drives have averaged around 40 pints of blood.

Sue Osmer, a Grand Valley Blood Bank volunteer, said the blood drive was well organized.

Volunteer Betty Schneider added. "They had an excellent turnout and very few rejections."

Over 50 percent of those who tried to give did; for a high school that is good," she said.

Reasons for rejections, according to Schneider, include sickness, low iron and not eating properly.

## Rezoning paves the way for apartment complex along M-21

By Marc Popiolek  
Contributing Writer

Curt Cowels' proposal to build a 96-unit apartment complex on 20 acres of land along M-21 was cleared after the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission and Board approved the rezoning application.

After several meetings and a public hearing, Lowell's governing bodies approved re-zoning the land from Light Industrial and Commercial to Residential/Commercial Planned Urban Development.

With the approval Cowels can start phase one of the project, which is expected to be stretched out over three phases.

Phase one, which could begin as early as this summer, calls for the construction of one building and the first 24 units.

The second 24 units will be constructed in phase two as will the third set of 24 units.

The project, which is called Stoneridge Apartments, will include commercial enterprises in front of the apartment buildings. They are expected to be built in during the third phase of the project.

Mel Beers, chairman of the planning commission, said the rezoning fits two of the township's desires.

"First, it fits in with our master plan, including the service drive," said Beers. "Second, we wanted to get rid of industrial land on the north side of the road and this (project) will."

The site is between Alden Nash and Cumberland Manor, on the north side of M-21.

At the township's public hearing township supervisor John Timpson said the complex will benefit users of the new water system by reducing their rates.

The complex will be "upscale" with two bedrooms, a garage and a choice between 1,106 and 1,184 square feet of living space, according to Cowels.

## COLLEGE NEWS

Grand Valley State University wishes to acknowledge the achievements of those individuals who were placed on the dean's list for the fall semester. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and been enrolled in a minimum of 12 grade point credits.

Students on the list from Lowell are: Shannon D. Bennett, Kenneth J. Berg, Robert J. Berrington III, Jennifer J. Lastfogel, Sean Pawloski and Debra A. Wieland.

Students from Alto include: Amanita S. Boersma and Nicole R. Yonker.

Students from Ada include: Artan Agolli, Amanda L. Cooper, Lori J. Dehlinger, Trevor M. Hollenbeck, Brett M. Knoop, Carolyn H. Mousing, Nicholas R. Ruckman, Ronen Shefer, Daniel J. Sytsma, Kimberly M. Wagner and Jill S. Wenner.

Tisha G. Morey, of Saranac, was also included on the list.

Shelia S. Aalsburg and Michael Wojciakowski, both juniors, and Kathryn A. Abel,

a senior, were all named to the dean's list at Aquinas College.

First honors, known as the dean's list, are awarded to full-time students who have a grade point average of 3.5 or above in a minimum of 12 hours or more of graded credit in any semester.

Kelley Jo Sytsma, of Lowell, was named to Lake Superior State University's dean's list for the 1995 fall semester. She attained at least a 3.5 grade point average on a scale of 4.0.

Sytsma, a junior, is majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife Management.

Jennifer Spoor, daughter of Mike and Linda Spoor, and Brett Carlson, son of Charles and Rebecca Carlson, have both made the dean's list at Grand Rapids Community College for winter session 1995.

## Hurry! Deadline For Valentines Is Friday!

# Grandchildren Are Sweet

### Say Happy Valentine's Day To Your Grandchildren!

Send in the form below with a picture of your grandchild and we will print it, as shown below, in the February 14th edition of the Ledger.



The Cost Is Only \$6 For Each Picture.

The Deadline For The Valentines Is Noon, February 9, 1996

### Grandchildren Are Sweet

Grandparent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Bring your Valentine or send it in with payment to:

# The Lowell Ledger

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