

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 14

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 4, 1998

## Home-based business inspection provision strikes a nerve with Vergennes Township residents

••• Vocal resistance to provision moves planning commission to strike it from the proposed home-based business ordinance.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Vergennes Township residents said wording in the inspection provision of the amended proposed ordinance for home-based businesses struck at their constitutional rights.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Vergennes Township Planning Commission told its attorney to strike the paragraph from the ordinance.

The paragraph in question was point 11 on page 9 of the ordinance. It read:

*The owners of the home based business area and/or the operators of the home based business consenting to the zoning administrator or his appointee, right to inspect, upon request at any reasonable time, the home based business area and all buildings used in conjunction with the home based business.*

"The township is trying to give itself more power than even the Kent County Sheriff's Department has," said township resident Phil Schreur.

Bill Schreur asked for justification of having the paragraph in the proposed amended ordinance.

*If it has to do with the fire code, then the fire marshal should deal with it. I am not comfortable with the township having blanket coverage to just walk in.*

PHIL SCHREUR

Township attorney Jim Dozema said it is for home businesses on property not ideally suited for it. "The township is given privileges and it has the right to check that they are not being abused upon complaints of activity," he explained.

Bill Schreur said abuses dealing with smell, noise and traffic can be checked without going inside a person's house. "If it has to do with the fire code, then the fire marshal should deal with it," he said. "I am not comfortable with the township having blanket coverage to just walk in."

Roger O'Dell agreed with Schreur. "Activity in violation of the ordinance would be

noticeable from the outside," he explained.

Planning commissioner Mark Weber said he did not see the township going into anyone's house without just cause. "Because of this, I am comfortable with just taking it out," he said. "I don't think the township will have any problems with anyone here tonight. What we're trying to protect ourselves against is that one percent."

Ken Thuston thought there should be a procedure the township should have to go through before entering a house.

Many in attendance thought that procedure should be due process (attaining a warrant).

"Inspecting a house/building should not be a spur of the moment thing. It should be a legal issue. The township should have to go through the court system," Phil Schreur said.

With the phrase struck from the ordinance, Dozema said enforcement would have to come in an ordinary manner such as a letter, the issuance of a ticket or a lawsuit.

Two other points where adjustments will be made are the standards used in determining,

Inspection, cont'd. pg.30

## City's light industrial ordinance to fill zoning void

By J.N. Boorsma  
 Contributing Writer

Citing it as a missing part of the city's zoning regulations, the Lowell City Council has set a public hearing on a proposed light industrial zoning district.

The district was created in response to a piece of property that a business, which did not quite fit the industrial zoning requirements, was looking at, said Lowell Planning Commission chair Dan Brubaker, who attended the city council's Monday night meeting. The business eventually did move in at the location, which was zoned industrial. Meanwhile, the planning commission decided to review the need for a new zoning district—light industrial.

"The primary difference between industrial and light industrial is that industrial is manufacturing, while light industrial uses previously manufactured goods and has a less intense use than industrial," Brubaker said.

While there are no plans to rezone any property to light industrial, Brubaker said the planning commission members felt it

*The primary difference between industrial and light industrial is that industrial is manufacturing, while light industrial uses previously manufactured goods and has a less intense use than industrial.*

Dan Brubaker  
 Planning Commission Chairman

was a good idea to have something on the books for future development. Brubaker said he has received interest from one person about rezoning to light industrial if the new ordinance is passed.

The planning commission unanimously recommended adoption of the light industrial zoning ordinance.

"It sounds like a piece that has been missing from our current zoning regulations," said councilor Charles Myers, who recommended and the council approved having the public hearing on the light industrial zoning ordinance at its Feb. 17 meeting.

City council meetings are held at the Englehardt Library at 7:30 p.m.

## Enhancing arts in Lowell, a team effort

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

It was a discussion on art to incorporate the best thinking of three different agencies in the area and how they might enhance arts in the Lowell community by working together.

That was the charge when representatives of Lowell Area Schools, the Franciscan Life Process Center and the Lowell Area Arts Council met Thursday.

"We're looking for specific ways to work together so we're not in competition," said Jim White, Lowell Schools' director of curriculum and instruction.

White believes this can be done through common calendaring, marketing and vision

for the community. There is also talk that the concept of developing a one-week summer arts program can be accomplished through a joint effort.

effort in coordinating a calendar instead of getting in one another's way," said Franciscan Sister Colleen Nagle.

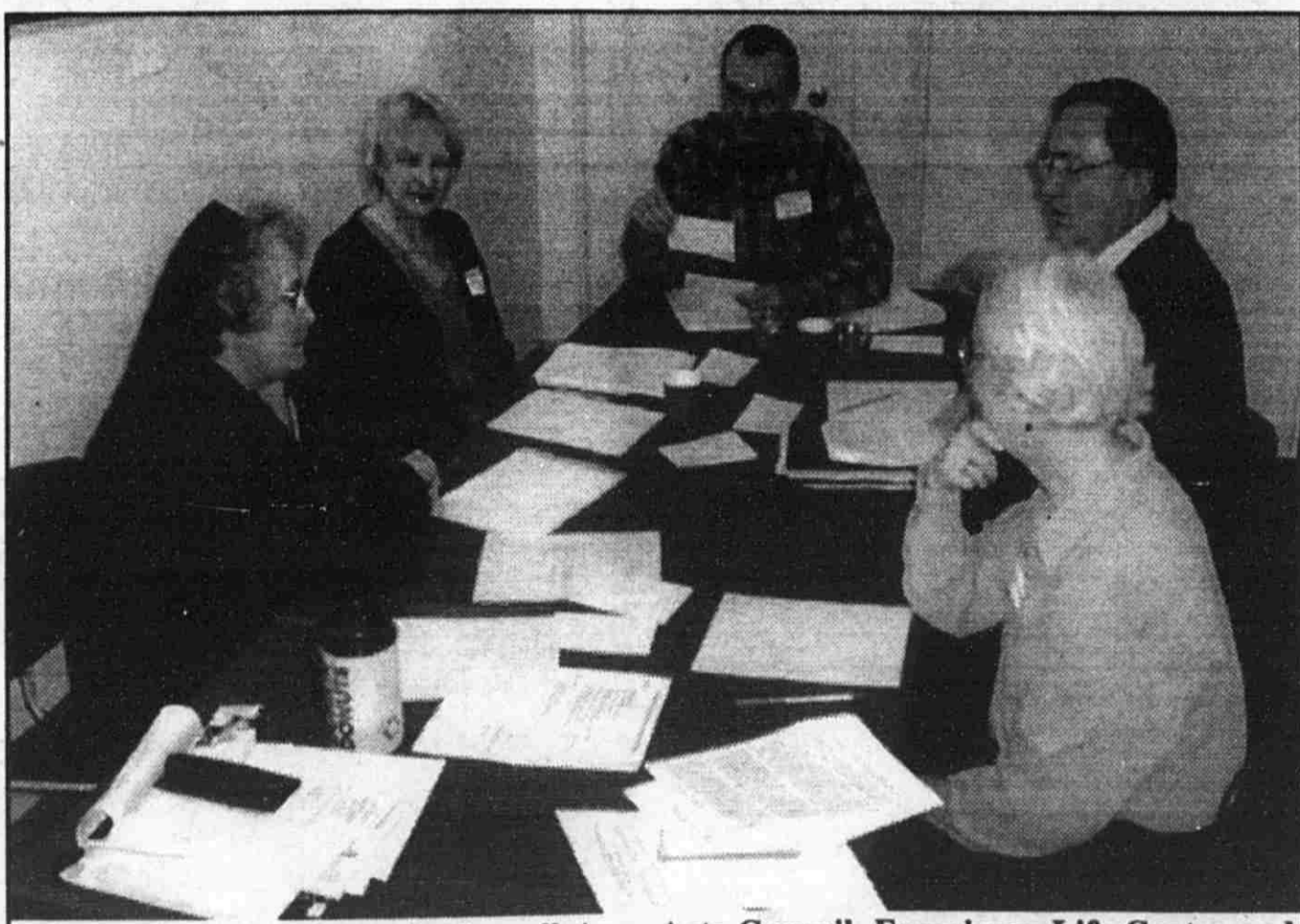
White added that the idea is to come up with common activities that we can work jointly on and still maintain each entity's integrity and uniqueness.

Another motive for such discussions is also fueled by funding, which has been an arts' stumbling block.

"Funding for the arts is a constant worry and challenge," said Sister Colleen. "It will always be that way. We're hoping to curtail that a little."

Locally, the arts could be enriched through the Englehardt Community Fund.

Sister Colleen said everyone in attendance was sincere in their desire that some things can be done in a joint effort.



Representatives from the Lowell Area Arts Council, Franciscan Life Center and Lowell Area Schools shared ideas on how they could work together in promoting arts.

Art activities that have been going on were used to help set goals for future art activity.

"There is support to promote a joint

### INSIDE THE LEDGER



BRIDAL GUIDE '98  
 Pages 13 - 20

## OBITUARIES

**BROCK** - Ruth I. Brock, aged 73, of Saranac, passed away January 31, 1998, in Ionia. She was born February 29, 1924, in Lockport Twp., the daughter of William and Geneve Brandt. She married Harrison Brock, February 16, 1940, in Lansing. He preceded her in death

April 17, 1987. She is survived by her son Harrison and Vicki Brock Jr. of Saranac; daughter Charles and Connie Sekoian of Ionia; daughter-in-law Elizabeth Brock of Clarksville; brothers Kenneth and Linda Brandt of Lake Odessa, Carl and Tam Brandt of Saranac; sister Betty Green

**MOL** - Mr. Arthur R. Mol, aged 73, passed away Saturday afternoon, January 31, 1998, at Butterworth Hospital. Mr. Mol was a member

of Ionia, 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by one son Russell in 1996; brothers Don, Ray, Max and sisters Evelyn and Hazel. Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Lake Funeral Home in Saranac with Rev. Ken Harger officiating.

of Local #70 (Plumber and Steamfitters Union) and the American Legion Post #47 in Comstock Park. He served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII receiving the Purple Heart and the Silver Star. On September 28, 1945, he married the former Rose Irene Bacon, who survives. Also surviving are his children Robert Mol and his wife Margaret of Grand Rapids, Thomas Mol and his wife Char of Belmont, Donald Mol and his wife Chris of Lowell;

his grandchildren Mindy (Joseph) Poulias, Amy Mol, Susan Mol, Elizabeth Mol and Corey Mol; his great-grandchildren Stephanie Poulias and Joey Poulias; a brother-in-law Martin Schuiling; a sister-in-law Mrs. Caroline Mol; and many nieces and nephews. Mr. Mol was preceded in death by his sisters, Betty Schuiling, Joyce Siegel, and Lillian Bacon; and a brother George Mol. The service for Mr. Mol was held Tuesday afternoon at the Pederson Funeral Home in Rockford with Pastor Rick Tigchon officiating. Military honors were under the auspices of the Kent County Veterans Honor

Guard. Interment in Rockford Cemetery. Memorials to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.

**NAGY** - W.E. "Bill" Nagy, aged 88, of Florida, passed away January 25, 1998. Formerly of Grand Rapids and originator of Grand Rapids Auto Auction. He was preceded in death in September by his wife Illa and in 1995 by grandson Brett. Surviving are his children Tom (Sandra) Nagy of Saranac, Dick (Carol) Nagy of Sand Lake, Beth Hamilton and Mary Lynn Mantofel of Florida; 10 grandchildren.

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## Englehardt Library to host calligraphy class

The basics of calligraphy, the ancient art of writing words, will be taught by Sister Maura Behrenfeld at the Englehardt Library on Monday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. This program, sponsored by the Friends of the Englehardt Library, is for adults. Registration is necessary and a five dollar fee will be charged to cover supplies.

Sister Maura has taught many classes in calligraphy at the Franciscan Educational Center in Lowell. She will be teaching a style of lettering which was once used to write historical documents during the Middle Ages and now has become an exquisite art form and hobby to many.

For more information about the calligraphy program or to register, please call the Englehardt Library, a branch of the Kent District Library, at 897-9596. The Englehardt Library is located at 200 N. Monroe in Lowell.



President Theodore Roosevelt designated Devils Tower National Monument in northeastern Wyoming as the nation's first national monument. Devils Tower is a volcanic tower standing 865 feet above its base, which is 415 feet high.

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please call 897-8690**

## 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**      **Thad Kraus**  
Publisher                      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

## Huntington Banks to help march in '98 Lowell Community Expo

◆◆◆ Coordinators make second-year changes to accommodate concerns.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

The Lowell Community Expo of '98 will "march" in a little sooner than it did in 1997.

Last year's May event will be bumped up to Saturday, March 28. The doors to the Lowell Community Expo (high school) will swing open at 10 a.m. and remain open until 4 p.m. Admission is free.

"We bumped the date up because of the weather," said Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce spokesperson and

co-coordinator Liz Baker.

The beautiful May weather last year may have actually hindered attendance. The thinking is... March weather isn't as nice and lends itself more to indoor activities.

Another noticeable change is the addition of Huntington National Banks and Mortgage Company as a third sponsor of the event. Huntington National

Banks will help increase the event's exposure. It will also lighten the underwriting costs shouldered by Lowell Area Schools (services in kind) and

get away. With a change in the banking institution's name, it also enables Huntington to get out and tell its story in a bigger way this year."

Local illustrator Gary Eldridge was retained to create a logo for the Lowell Community Expo.

It will be displayed on a banner which will hang in the downtown area for the three weeks prior to the Expo.

The four symbols on the logo represent businesses and organizations (handshake), the learning community (book), realtors and neigh-

borhoods (house), and retail and financial opportunities (dollar sign).

The layout of the booths will be designed to enhance the flow and walking pattern of Expo patrons.

Some of the businesses and organizations which had booths last year said they felt removed from the central part of the Expo, according to Baker.

"We've listened to the feedback and have tried to make changes to accommodate those concerns this year," Baker said.

A focus of last year's Expo was to attract relocation agencies, developers, contractors, realtors and personnel com-

panies from the Grand Rapids area.

"This year, we're going to emphasize the area contiguous to Lowell," said Lowell associate superintendent and co-coordinator of the Expo, Dick Korb. "We also want to emphasize to local residents what's available in their own backyard."

To this end, the Lowell Community Expo is encouraging businesses to use the event as a job fair and display current and planned job vacancies.

Baker says door prizes will be given away throughout the day. The Lowell Boosters Club will have food available throughout the day.



the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce.

"Last year's Expo got a good response," said Pete Kubacki, city executive for Huntington. "We see merits in becoming involved in a big-

## Moore Wins Packer Jersey

Lowell's Ryan Moore, 12, was a lucky winner in Jay's Potato Chip Super Bowl drawing. Moore, along with his father Mike Moore, entered the drawing during a visit to Family Fare. The drawing took place Super Bowl Sunday. He won a Green Bay Packer jersey. Other winners in the drawing were Sharon Gisting, who was the winner of a \$50 Spartan Store grocery gift certificate, and J. Sejat, who won a \$50 gift certificate from Foot Locker.



## Robbery toughest on 10 year old

By Amy Briggs  
Contributing Writer

"We were robbed by the robbers and shortchanged by the police," laughs Lowell Charter Township resident Art Blough... but when his family home was robbed Dec. 10th, it was no laughing matter.

While the Bloughs' house was being remodeled, thieves broke in and stole everything from stereos to a car.

"Our son was hit the hardest," reports Art's wife Veronica Blough. "He lost his game TV, his minibike... it was mostly his stuff that was stolen."

Though Kent County Police obtained clear fingerprints at the scene, the Bloughs report that the police have been slow in pursuing their case. Even when a promising suspect lead turned up, "it was four weeks till we heard any-

thing," Veronica Blough states.

Worst for the Bloughs has been the effect of the robbery on their 10-year-old son. "He can't comprehend that the police aren't catching the bad guys," they explain. "It's disillusioning."

Lowell Charter Township supervisor John Timpson says that neighborhood awareness is key to keeping crime rates down.

"I don't know that crime is increasing," states Timpson, "but we all must keep our eyes open and be ready to call 911 if the need arises."

Persons interested in forming a Lowell Charter Township neighborhood watch program are asked to call Timpson at 897-7600.

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Kevin  
**616-897-6171**

## Township increases transit allocation

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Transit assistance numbers are rising not only in the city of Lowell and Lowell Township, but also in Vergennes Township.

The township, like its neighbors, has allocated extra Community Development Block Grant monies to North Kent Transit to cover the cost of increased system riders.

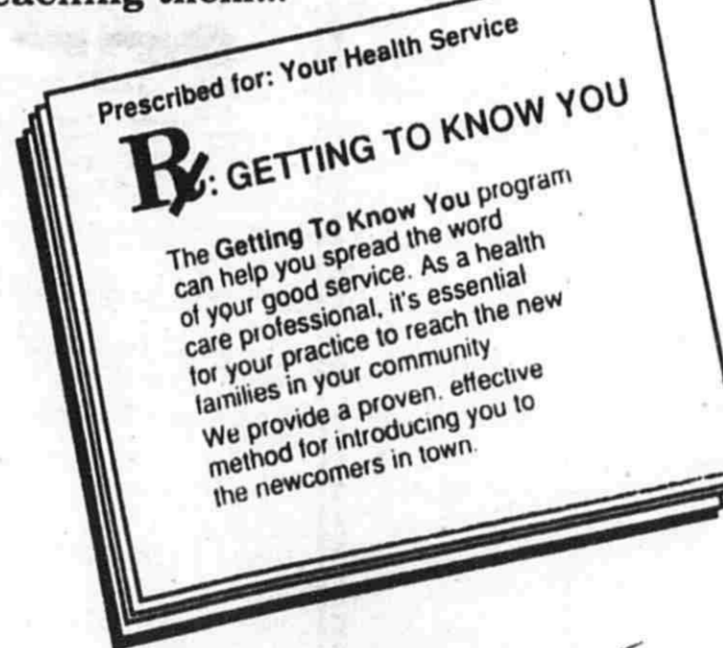
Vergennes amended its 1997-98 contract with North Kent Transit from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to meet increased usage through July.

Vergennes Township has also approved allocating \$2,000 toward the program for the 1998-99 fiscal year. Don Gowdy, director of

transportation for Hope Network, attributed the increased ridership in the township to widened interest, and to more awareness by those in need of the service.

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# Reflections

Of Faith

By Rev. Bill Brandner  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Please read: Isaiah 29:13, Matt 15:9, Mark 7:6. These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

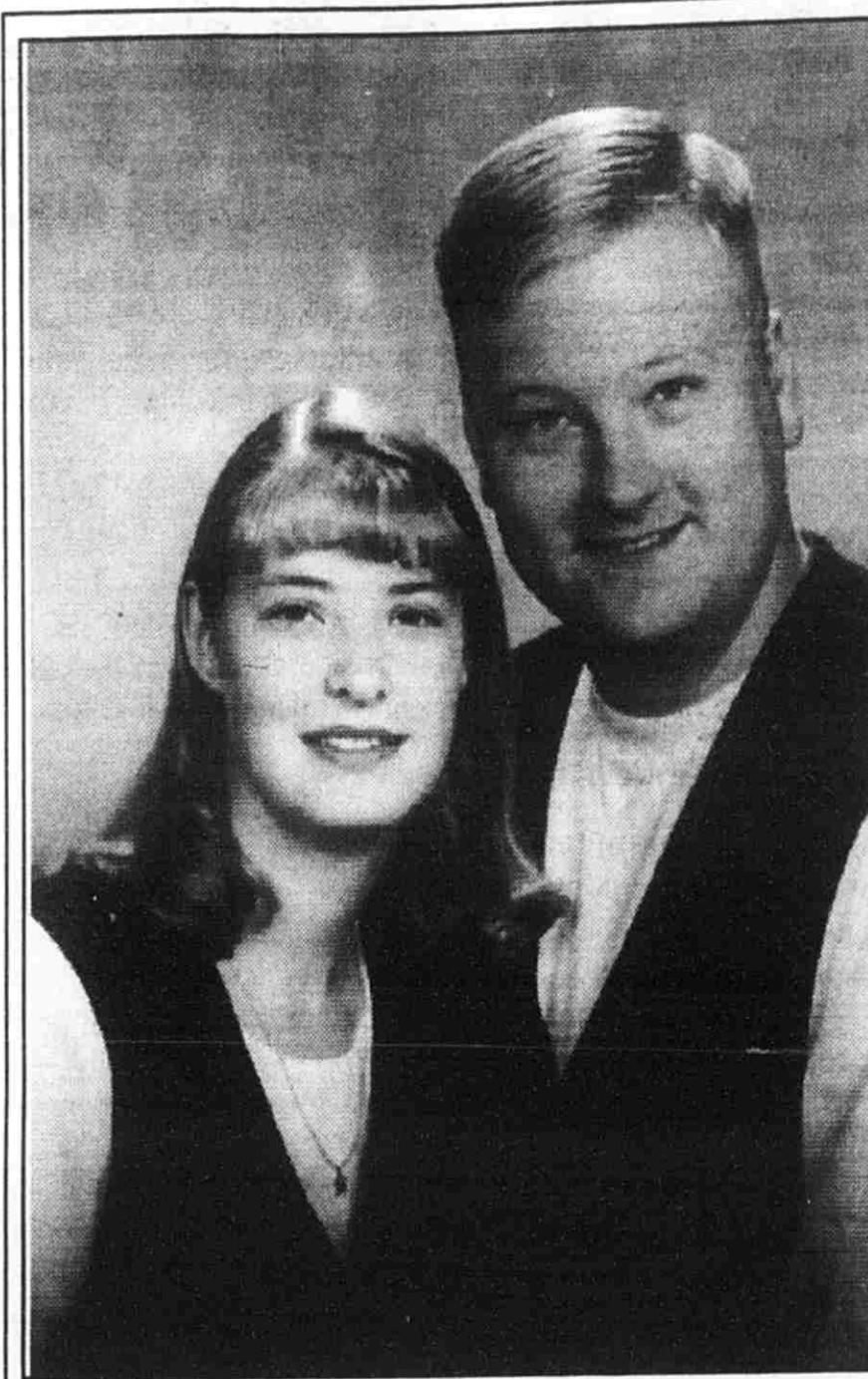
Most of our churches are in the after Christmas and pre-Lent season called Epiphany. There is an emphasis on the revelation of Jesus Christ, light of the world. There is also an emphasis on the Christian community being the light to the world. To what extent are our churches a ray of hope, a beacon of light? To what extent

the hurting, the lost, rejected, and the hopeless want to go. The world still needs the church, more than ever, but only the church that is interested in and capable of manifesting God's Glory, his Epiphany in Jesus Christ.

Isaiah, Matthew and Mark in the above passages point out one of the most ancient and persistent problems of the religious. God wants humble and vulnerable people to be disciples, and to disciple others, who truly worship God with their hearts. Too often what we get instead is institutionalized Christians, who do not know God in any personal way, or the cult of the saved who are scandalized by us normal, sinful people. Either way the light never quite seems to shine like it ought to.

The joy of your relationship with God in Christ is your heart-connection with him and with others. It is a matter of the heart; let your eyes be close to God.

Our world needs more from us as disciples than business as usual, tradition, rituals, church politics, and self-righteous and unloving attitudes. Far from being the example, the church is often the laughingstock. The Christian church is often the last place



## Mokma and Gabrion plan May wedding

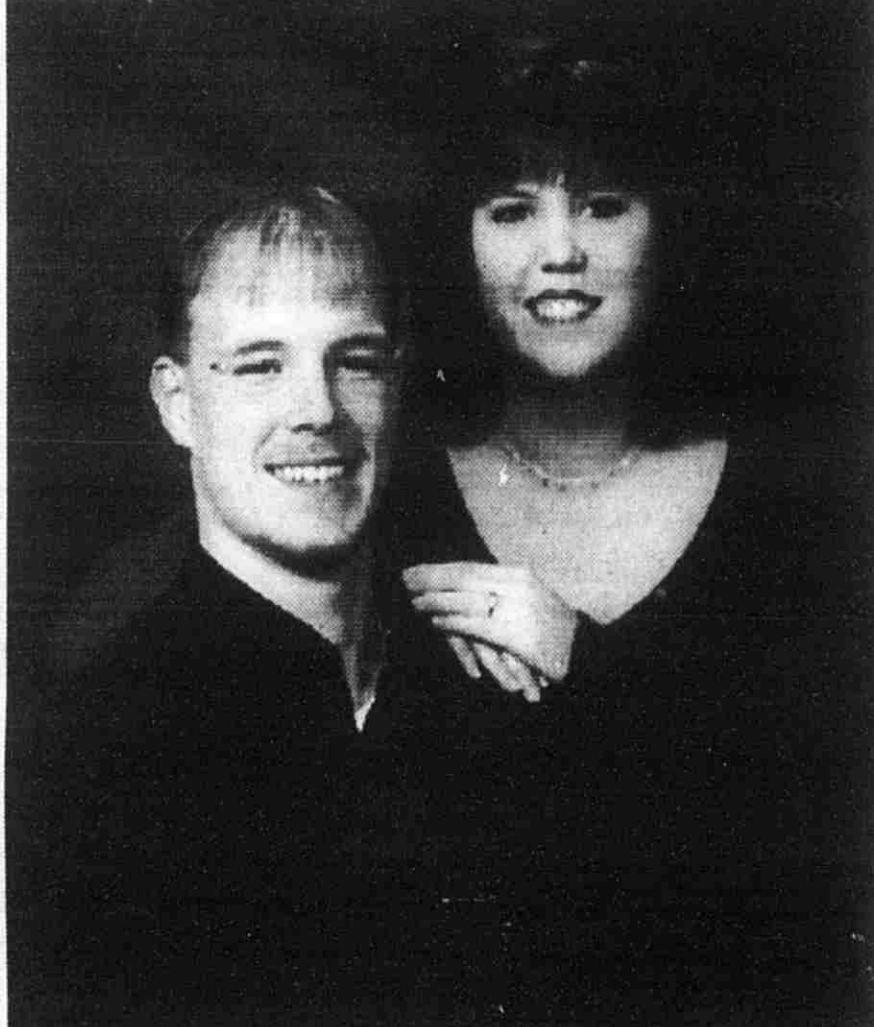
Jennifer Lynn Mokma and Brian John Gabrion will wed on May 30, 1998. The future bride of Holland is the daughter of Keith and Kathy Mokma, also of Holland. She is a graduate of Hamilton High School and is attending Grand Valley University. Her fiancée of Allendale is the son of John and Dolores Gabrion of Lowell. He is a graduate of Lowell High School and Davenport College.

## Eskew and Beimers announce engagement

Heather Rene Eskew will become the bride of Douglas James Beimers on June 20, 1998.

The bride to be, of Wyoming, is the daughter of Suzanne Eskew, also of Wyoming, and Ronald and Brenda Eskew of Lakeview. She is a graduate of Lee High School and has attended Grand Rapids Community College.

The future groom of Lowell is the son of Kurt and Deb Beimers, also of Lowell. He is a graduate of Lowell High School and is currently attending Grand Rapids Community College.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- FEBRUARY 5** - Ann Mulder, Kenneth Gregersen Sr., Colleen Myers, Mandy Schneider.
- FEBRUARY 6** - Donna Oesch, Reed Stormzand, Norm Johnson, Angie Blough.
- FEBRUARY 7** - Margaret Peckham.
- FEBRUARY 8** - Clare Krebs, Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse.
- FEBRUARY 9** - Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Inga Weeks, Noah Newhouse, Allee Brenk, David Potter, "AJ" Alvin Davis Brenk II.
- FEBRUARY 10** - Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.
- FEBRUARY 11** - Gladys Thorne.



The average birth weight for a piglet is three pounds.

## School News

### Week of 2/9 - 2/13 ELEMENTARY

**MON:** Taco w/meat & cheese & lettuce, sweet potatoes, Johnny cake/syrup, fruit selection, milk.

**TUES:** Lowell Red Arrow sandwich, tater tots, oranges, canned fruit or apple crisp, milk.

**WED:** Chicken nuggets, corn, homemade dinner roll, gelatin w/whip or fruit, milk.

**THURS:** Pizza pockets, fruit juice, baby carrots, assorted fruit, milk.

**FRI:** Italian dunkers w/cheese, Calif. blend vegetables, fresh or canned fruit, milk.

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

**MON:** Taco w/meat, cheese & lettuce, turkey & ham wrap sandwich, cheeseburger, chef salad, yogurt; choose 2: lettuce salad, sweet potatoes, Spanish rice; corn bread w/syrup, fruit selection, milk.

**TUES:** Lowell Red Arrow sub, chicken fajita, cheeseburger, chef salad, yogurt; choose 2: baked potato half, dill pickle half, side salad; oranges or apple crisp, milk.

**WED:** Chicken fries, cheeseburger, chef salad, yogurt; choose 2: au gratin potatoes, green beans, side salad; dinner roll, gelatin w/whip or fruit, milk.

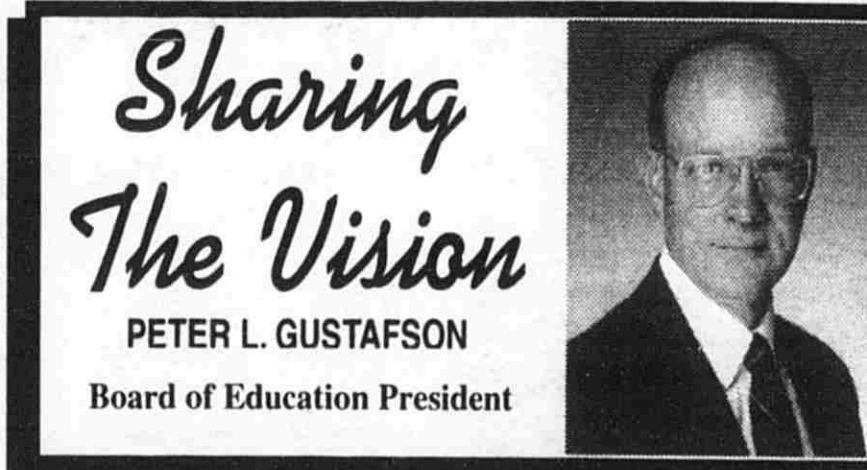
**THURS:** Pizza pocket, turkey croissant, chef salad, cheeseburger, yogurt; choose 2: Oven fries, side salad, cole slaw; assorted fruit, milk.

**FRI:** Italian dunkers w/cheese stick, turkey enchilada/1 breadstick, cheeseburger or chef salad; choose 2: Calif. blend, carrot sticks or side salad, fresh or canned fruit, milk.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>ADA COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH</b> 7227 Thornapple River Dr. 676-1032 Pastor: THOMAS J. BARTHA Morning Worship.....9:30 A.M. Sunday School.....11:00 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. We invite you to make this community church your church home. WELCOME TO ALL.</p>		<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M. Sunday School.....11:20 A.M. Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p><b>LOWELL WESLEYAN CHURCH</b> "A great place to bring your family!" 1069 N. Lincoln Lake Rd. Phone 897-6890 or 897-8304 <b>Sunday Morning Worship begins at 11 A.M.</b> Pastor Bill Price</p>
<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship.....8:30 A.M. Koinonia.....9:30 A.M. Sunday School.....9:50 A.M. Worship.....11:00 A.M. Wed. Worship, 1st. Wed. of ea. month.....6:45 P.M. REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>EMMAUS LUTHERAN E.L.C.A.</b> Meeting At: Pine Ridge Elementary School 3250 Redford S.E. Bill Brandner - Pastor 897-1584 WORSHIP: 8:45 Traditional 11:00 A.M. Contemporary SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 A.M. Church office 956-6695</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • (816) 897-1100 Nursery for Every Service SUNDAYS: Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Believer's Praise Service: 6:00 p.m. Kids Church WEDNESDAYS: Family Night: (for All Ages) 7:00 p.m. We don't build a church with programs We build people with a process</p>	
<p><b>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH</b> 10501 Sattlemood • Ph. 897-7185 Sunday School.....9:45 A.M. Morning Worship.....11 A.M. Evening Service.....6:00 P.M. Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:30 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>		<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 Sunday School.....9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Wednesday Evening.....7:00 P.M. JOSEPH FREMER, PASTOR 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>APPENDICITIS</b></p> <p>Removal of the appendix is the most common reason for abdominal surgery. The appendix is a 3 inch long, worm-shaped pouch extending from the cecum located in the right abdomen.</p> <p>Appendicitis occurs when a seed or other hard object blocks the opening of the appendix resulting in inflammation and swelling. Appendicitis can occur at any age, but it is most common in adolescents and young adults. If appendicitis is not treated in the early stages, the appendix may rupture spreading infection to the entire abdominal cavity. Prompt evaluation and surgery will prevent this serious condition.</p> <p>The symptoms of appendicitis may be very vague. A low-grade fever is usually present along with dull abdominal pain</p>
<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street Sun. Worship Service: 9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M. AWANA/J.V. Wed. 6:15 Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times 897-7168 A Family Friendly Fellowship</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 "YOU ARE WELCOME"</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor Louise Weeks.....Interim Christian Ed Director Meghan Culver.....Music Director Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School.....10:00 A.M. Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening.....6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry.....7:00 P.M. TIMOTHY E. HARMON, Minister Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>

# Viewpoint



Sharing  
The Vision  
PETER L. GUSTAFSON  
Board of Education President

It seems appropriate in the *Vision* column to write about the Shared Vision Initiative now underway in the Kent Intermediate School District. KISD consists of the 20 districts (including Lowell Area Schools) in Kent County. During 1997, school and community leaders came together to think about educational issues from a cooperative regional standpoint.

The goal: To develop a shared vision for the future of public education in our area as we approach the 21st century. This important effort is being led by Earl Holton, the president of Meijer, Inc. There are many good citizens and educators who are involved in this process.

As part of the Shared Vision project, a community survey was conducted last fall throughout KISD in order to assess public sentiment about our schools. Some highlights of the survey results are as follows:

1. KISD residents rate their own and area schools much more favorably than residents elsewhere throughout the state

of Michigan. Twice as many Kent County residents gave their public schools high marks, and more than half rated their schools as deserving an "A" or "B" grade.

2. Women, older individuals, and those with higher incomes grade the schools higher than did other groups.

3. When assessing school quality, people give the most consideration to teachers, curriculum and the extent of drugs and violence in the schools.

4. They give the least consideration to news reports, sports programs, and the dropout rate when weighing school quality.

5. A strong majority view it as a primary responsibility of parents to make sure that children get immunized, have something safe and productive to do after school, do their homework, learn community values, and learn manners and sportsmanship.

6. At least 50 percent of the citizens see an important role for the schools in drug and AIDS education, getting help for children with emotional problems, and disciplining students for smoking, swearing and engaging in disruptive behavior.

I hope to report to the community further on other key points, and what they will mean for Lowell, as the Shared Vision is developed later this year.



By  
Priscilla Lussmyer

## Ledger Entries of 100, 75, 50 and 25 Years Ago

### 100 YEARS AGO IN THE LOWELL LEDGER - FEB. 3, 1898

The Ledger bemoans the opening of a company in Fort Wayne, predicted to expand rapidly and become a major plant. The inventor of the Eclipse mop handle and the Eclipse Potato Bag Sprayer to be manufactured, is C.W. Parks, formerly of Lowell.

Train's Hall has been wired on the exterior so it can be lit when needed. Very pretty.

Village Improvement group will meet tonight to hear the committee on soliciting membership.

The Grattan mail carrier did not get to Lowell Tuesday on account of the storm and snowdrifts.

"Corp. B. Morse, a Michigan soldier, has in his possession a gold medal awarded by the government for acts of bravery in the civil war at Spotsylvania May 12, 1864. Mr. Morse enlisted in Company C, third Infantry of Michigan.

### 75 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER AND ALTO SOLO - FEB. 1, 1922

Our own state representative Dexter G. Look will be toastmaster; Lieutenant Governor Thomas Reid, Speaker of the House George Welsh and someone from the Norfolk and Western Railroad will be speakers at the annual Board of Trade banquet at City Hall Tuesday. Solos, duet and orchestra music, and a delicious dinner served by the Methodist Ladies Aid Society.

The Senior Class is sponsoring the "greatest living American violinist," Roderick White, for a concert next week.

Miss Brownell, teacher of Lowell District No. 1, reports 15 pupils and 93% attendance; the school has a new teakettle and stew kettle, so there will be more good feeds Friday noons.

### 50 YEARS AGO IN THE LOWELL LEDGER - FEB. 5, 1948

The diary of Civil War veteran S.E. Hull has been sent to his granddaughter Margaret Hull of Lowell. He lived near Alto when he enlisted.

Farmers at Farmers Week at Michigan State College hear that U.S. soils are being rapidly depleted and that good soil conservation pays off both in farm health and dollars.

The first driver's ed class receives licenses: Patricia Hesche, Morna Rickert, Marylyn Collins and Cletus Witherell. Instructor is Charles B. White.

The new phone directory has 1100 names. Fifteen Roths beat out 12 Smiths and 12 Millers.

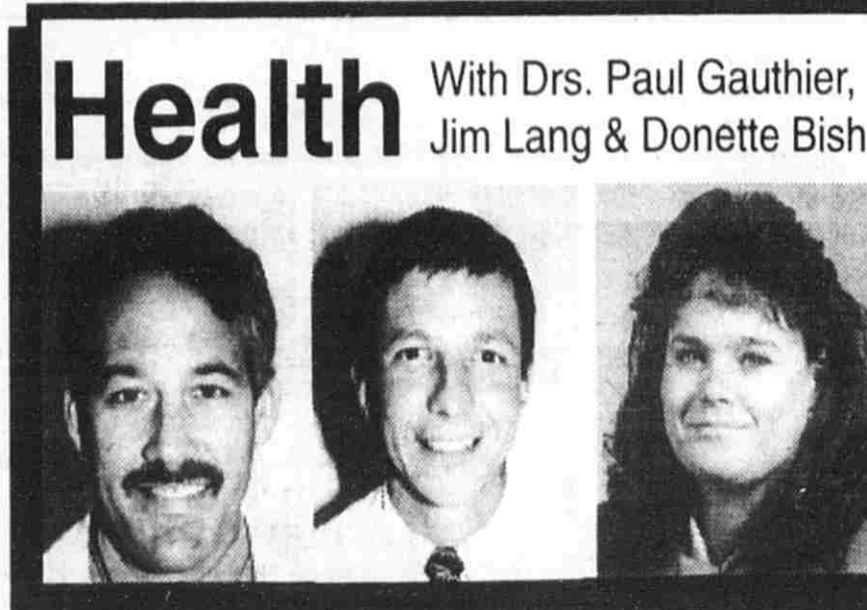
Many rural people still don't know the name of their road and their house number.

### 25 YEARS AGO IN THE LEDGER-SUBURBAN LIFE - FEB. 1, 1973

A new fire safety program, placing red ball stickers on the bedroom windows of children and invalids, is announced for Lowell and Alto.

The question of replacing the faulty football field lights is tabled again by the school board.

Lippert's new store is opening today.  
Lack of snow and ice this winter has hunters and fishermen concerned.



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

located centrally around the belly button and migrating to the right lower quadrant of the abdomen. Usually there is a loss of appetite and possible nausea.

The diagnosis of appendicitis is sometimes difficult to make. Physical examination may reveal worsening of pain when pressing on the right lower abdomen. A blood test will usually show an elevated white blood count. Occasionally, X-rays or ultrasound examinations reveal an enlarged appendix.

The only treatment for appendicitis is immediate surgery. A small incision is made in the abdomen and the inflamed appendix is removed. Sometimes an appendectomy can be done with the laparoscope making the incision even smaller. Hospital stay is usually one or two days after the surgery and people are usually back at work in 2-3 weeks. A ruptured appendix will require a longer hospital stay and IV antibiotics to treat the intra-abdominal infection.

## Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed one written page or one typed, double-spaced page.

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331.  
Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

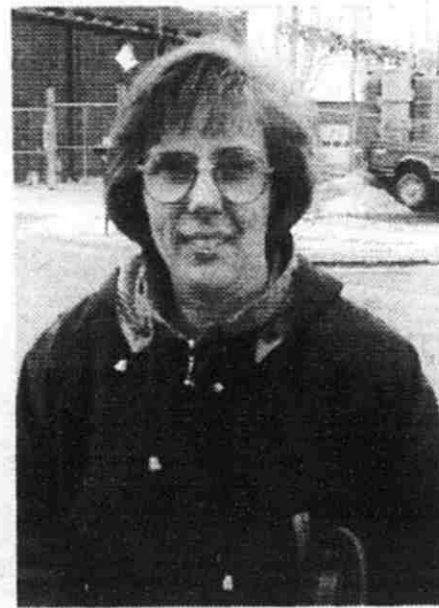
The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

# TOWN TALK

**Given Carla Tucker will be put to death by legal injection, does it make a difference to you whether it's a man or woman being put to death or that Tucker and her supporters say she's a changed woman? Do you support the death penalty in general?**



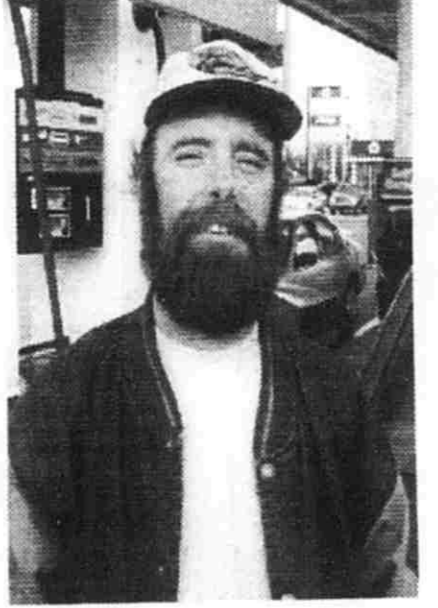
**Barb Roth**  
No, it doesn't matter man or woman. A leopard doesn't change its spots. It depends on why a person is being put to death. In this case, I support the death penalty.



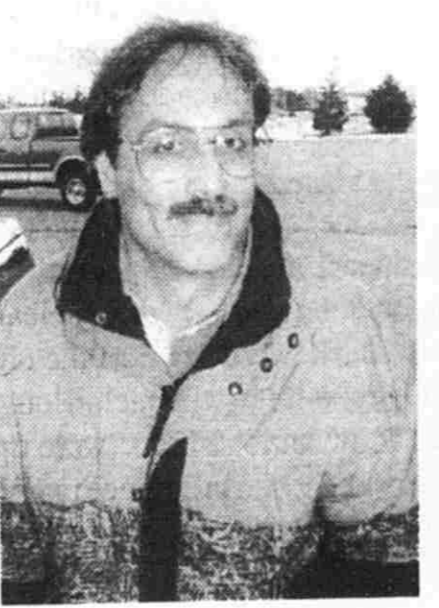
**Catharina Bek**  
No, it doesn't matter and no the fact they say she's changed doesn't change things. If you take someone's life, then you're asking for it.



**Pat Hoag**  
No, it doesn't matter if it's a man or woman. Her case has gone through the court system and all her appeals against capital punishment. For religious reasons I don't believe in capital punishment. That is a civil thing we created.



**Kim Chase**  
No. Not really as long as she's deserving. No, her saying she's changed doesn't change things. She'd have to spend more time in jail for others to determine that. I support if a person takes a life, their's should be taken.



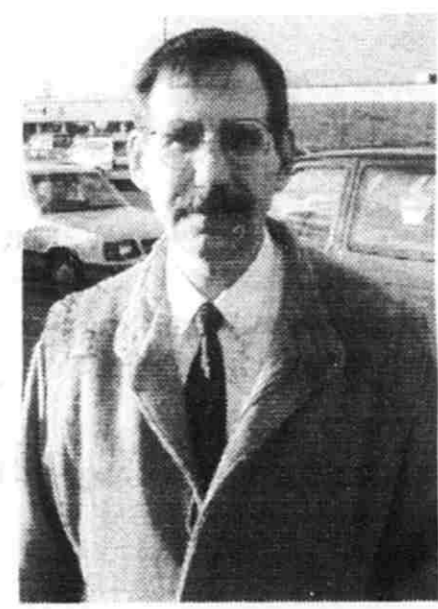
**Jim Piscelli**  
It doesn't make a difference to me whether it's a man or woman. If she's changed, it doesn't make a difference. I support if a person takes a life, their's should be taken.



**Joe Yeiter**  
I don't think it matters if it's a man or woman. If you kill someone, then I support capital punishment.



**Megan Hedlund**  
She's committed a crime and she should pay regardless of the sex. She should have thought about changing before she axed the man. If someone takes a life, he/she deserves the same.



**Ernie Collins**  
No, it doesn't matter if it's a man or woman. It doesn't matter if she's changed. She should pay the ultimate penalty for what she did.



The first commercial valentines were made in the early 1800s.

## COLLEGE NEWS

Ferris State University's fall semester (August-December) academic honors list includes 1,257 students, university officials have announced.

To be eligible, a Ferris student must have compiled a 3.50 grade point average in at least 12 semester hours of work. The list includes 190 students who earned 4.00 grade point averages, or all A grades.

Honored students from this area include Jennifer S. Anderson, Tara E. Dennis and Nicholas C. Malokofsky, all of Lowell.

Emily VanStrien, a sophomore and daughter of Elizabeth R. and Greg Allen VanStrien of Lowell, was

among the more than 260 students named to the Kalamazoo College dean's list for the fall 1997 quarter. To achieve the honor, students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on a scale of 4.0.

Founded in 1833, Kalamazoo College is among the 100 oldest colleges and universities in the United States.

Kalamazoo College offers 27 majors and 26 minors leading to a bachelor's degree for its 1,250 students. It is noted for its innovative Kalamazoo Plan, which has four components: on-campus liberal arts courses and a senior individualized project are required for all students, while career development internships and study abroad are optional.

Kalamazoo College's study abroad program, in which more than 80 percent of all Kalamazoo students participate, is unique in American higher education.

Kelley Sytsma has been placed on the dean's list honors for academic excellence for the 1997 fall semester at Lake Superior State University. The dean's list includes only those full-time students who have earned a 3.5 grade point average or better.

Katie L. VanTil, daughter of James and Lynette VanTil of Alto, was on the 1997 dean's list at Calvin College. To earn a spot on the dean's list at Calvin requires that a student maintain a 3.5 grade point average for the semester and have a 3.3 cumulative grade point average at one of the country's top Christian, liberal-arts colleges.

Established in 1876 in Grand Rapids, Calvin had a 1996-97 enrollment of 4,085 students. Only about 25 percent of that student body achieved dean's list status during the fall semester.

# Council supports ordinance to help keep the city clean

By J.N. Boorsma  
Contributing Writer

Lowell residents planning to walk their dogs might want to prepare, in advance, to be able to clean up any messes.

Monday night, in a narrow vote of 3-2, the Lowell City Council passed a new city ordinance which prohibits owners of dogs from having their animals damage landscaped areas and not allowing dog excrement without proper disposal on all public and private properties unless permission is granted.

"The ordinance is a direct result of the number of complaints and letters the city and police department have received," said city manager David Pasquale. City clerk Betty Morlock said the complaints start rolling in around

spring time and while they are primarily focused on the downtown area, she also has gotten them from residential areas.

"(The complaints have) been occurring more since the downtown area has been renovated and people are out and about more seeing animal remnants," said police chief Jim Valentine, whose department recommended adoption of the ordinance.

Valentine said the ordinance would give officers a means to back up efforts in helping to keep the city clean.

However, two of the city councilors, Michael Blough and Charles Myers, were opposed to the ordinance mainly because they believed it was a bit broad in the areas it would effect and wanted to see a

limitation on where it would be enforced.

Blough said his concern centered on known rural grassy areas in the city where residents have been used to allowing their pets to run. If the person doesn't have any means to clean up after the

animal, he could be reported and receive a violation, he said.

Valentine said officers would be allowed to exercise their discriminatory powers. Obviously a person allowing an animal to run in a rural area and not cleaning up after it

would not be taken to court since the risk of another person coming along soon after and stepping in anything would be slim, he said.

Councilor Jeanne Shores said she would object to the ordinance being limited to just public areas since in her neigh-

borhood she has seen people regularly walk their dogs and not clean up after themselves.

"This attempts to regulate what should be normal, good neighbor-type policy," Myers said, adding that it appears the city is regulating everyone for the sake of a few offenders.

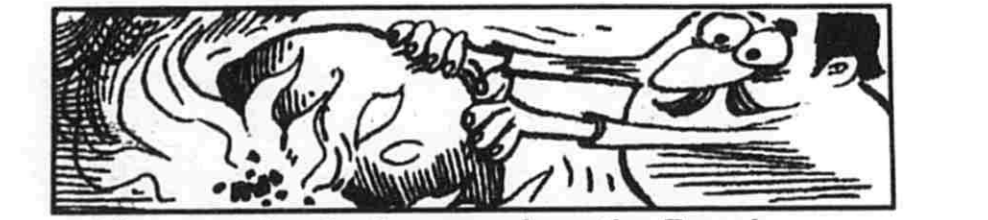
## AREA BIRTHS

Todd and Annette Pearson are proud to announce the arrival of Brendan Michael on January 6, 1998, at 12:17 p.m. He weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. and measured 19 inches long.

He was welcomed home by big sister Audrey and big brother Ethan. Proud grandparents are Fay and Margo Sterling of Lowell and Myron and Shirley Pearson of East Grand Rapids along with great-grandparents Rose and Ed Dancer of Lowell and Sadie Sterling of Chippewa Lake.

Big brother Jacob and big sister Tabetha welcome home their new brother Zachary Charles, born Tuesday, January 27, 1998, at 6:46 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and measured 19 1/2 inches long.

Proud parents are Lance Hiskey and Penny Wright. Grandparents are Charles and Jean Wright of Lowell, Ted Hiskey of Colorado and Sharon Nagelhout of St. Louis, MI.

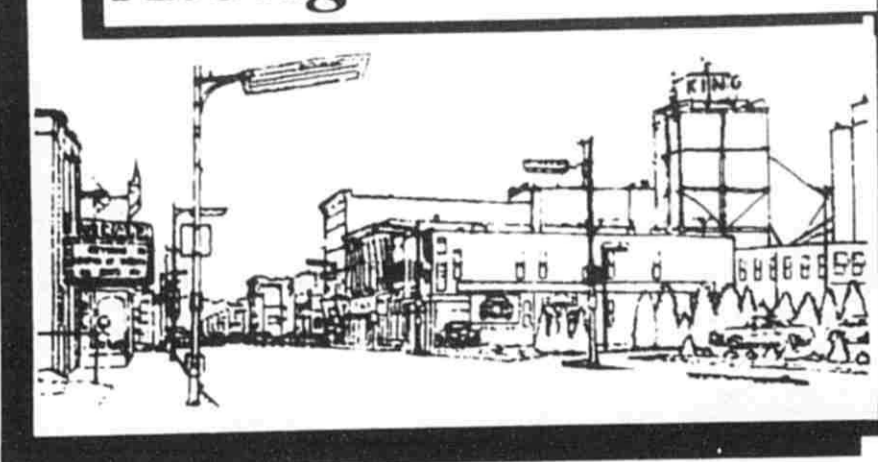


The word "curfew" comes from the French expression *couverfeu* which means cover the fire.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grattan Township 1998 Calendar</b></p> <p>Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed: Monday, February 16 - Presidents Day Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day Monday, September 7 - Labor Day Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day Thursday, December 24 through Sunday, January 4 - Christmas Break</p> <p><b>Board &amp; Commission Meetings:</b> Township Board - 2nd &amp; 4th Monday, 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission - 1st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Zoning Board of Appeals - 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Public Safety Committee - 4th Wednesday of odd months, 7:30 p.m. Fire Department Officers - 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Firefighters Regular Mtg. - 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Historical Committee - 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COLLEGE NEWS</b></p> <p>Ferris State University's fall semester (August-December) academic honors list includes 1,257 students, university officials have announced.</p> <p>To be eligible, a Ferris student must have compiled a 3.50 grade point average in at least 12 semester hours of work. The list includes 190 students who earned 4.00 grade point averages, or all A grades.</p> <p>Honored students from this area include Jennifer S. Anderson, Tara E. Dennis and Nicholas C. Malokofsky, all of Lowell.</p> <p>Emily VanStrien, a sophomore and daughter of Elizabeth R. and Greg Allen VanStrien of Lowell, was</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thomet</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chevrolet BUICK GEO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1250 West Main Street • Lowell, Michigan 49331</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mr. Goodwrench</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">★ COMPLETE BODY &amp; FRAME REPAIR <b>Phone 897-9294</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEAWEED FLOOR COVERING</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">LARGE SELECTION OF CARPET, VINYL FLOORS &amp; CERAMIC TILE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OPEN MONDAY 9-5 • TUESDAY 9-5 THURSDAY 9-5 • WEDNESDAY 9-8 FRIDAY 9-7 • SATURDAY 10-2</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CALL: 897-2122</b> FAX: 897-2124</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>QUALITY TAX SERVICE, INC.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">216 E. Main St., Lowell <b>(616) 897-7668</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">• CORPORATE, BUSINESS &amp; PERSONAL TAX PREPARATIONS • BUSINESS START-UP &amp; CONSULTING • PAYROLL AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOURS: MON - FRI • 9:30 AM - 6 PM <i>Others By Appointment</i></p>	
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### Along Main Street



#### CELEBRATING WOMEN IN SPORTS

During the week of Feb. 9, our nation celebrates women and girls in sports. In an effort to recognize these people locally, the athletic department at Lowell High School would like to extend an invitation to all elementary and middle school girls to attend the volleyball match at LHS vs. Ionia & Thornapple-Kellogg on Monday, Feb. 9, at 5:30 p.m. They will be honoring former Lowell female athletes at this game. Also, on Wednesday, Feb. 11, the gymnastics team will be at LHS against East Grand Rapids at 7 p.m.

#### LAAC PRESENTS LET'S MURDER MARSHA

The play *Let's Murder Marsha* 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. 12, 13, and 14. On Thursday, tickets are \$4 for children, students

and senior citizens and \$5 for adults. Tickets on Friday and Saturday are \$7.

Tickets are available at the door or at the LAAC, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday and Sunday or by phone at 897-8545. Call for information on group rates.

#### FREESTYLE WRESTLING SIGN UPS

Lowell freestyle wrestling sign ups will be held Feb. 11 and 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Cherry Creek cafeteria. There will be a new group "0" for 5 and 6 year olds. Practice for all wrestlers starts Feb. 24 at 5:45 p.m.

You must be in the Lowell School District, bring a birth certificate and a parent must be present. The cost is \$35. If you have any questions, call Barb Carpenter, 897-6566.

#### CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME

The Lowell Area Schools athletic department will host a charity basketball game on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school. Tickets for Detroit Lions vs. local heroes are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. Tickets and raffle tickets are available at any of the Lowell schools, Sneakers Restaurant, Lowell YMCA, Lowell Lanes and any high school football player.

Free autographs from the Lions' players will be available for kids at halftime.

#### SANDY BARTLETT IS BACK

Lowell Area Arts Center and Sandy Bartlett bring drawing

workshops back. Geared for children ages 8-12, the basic drawing classes reach both beginning and advanced students. All materials are furnished; class size is limited.

Classes begin February 18 and 19. Call the Art Center at 897-8545 to sign up.

#### LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO

The second annual Community Expo is coming March 28. Businesses and entrepreneurs, if you haven't already received your application, please call Liz at the chamber office, 897-9161.

Don't delay! Reserve your space today.

#### FATHER/DAUGHTER ART EXHIBITION

Award-winning Grand Rapids artist Larry Blovits and Lauri Blovits-Friar exhibit a collection of new works in portraits, landscapes and still-life. The Lowell Area Arts Center at 149 S. Hudson hosts the exhibition of oils, pastels and water-colors from Jan. 27 through Feb. 28.

The public is invited. Normal viewing hours are Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

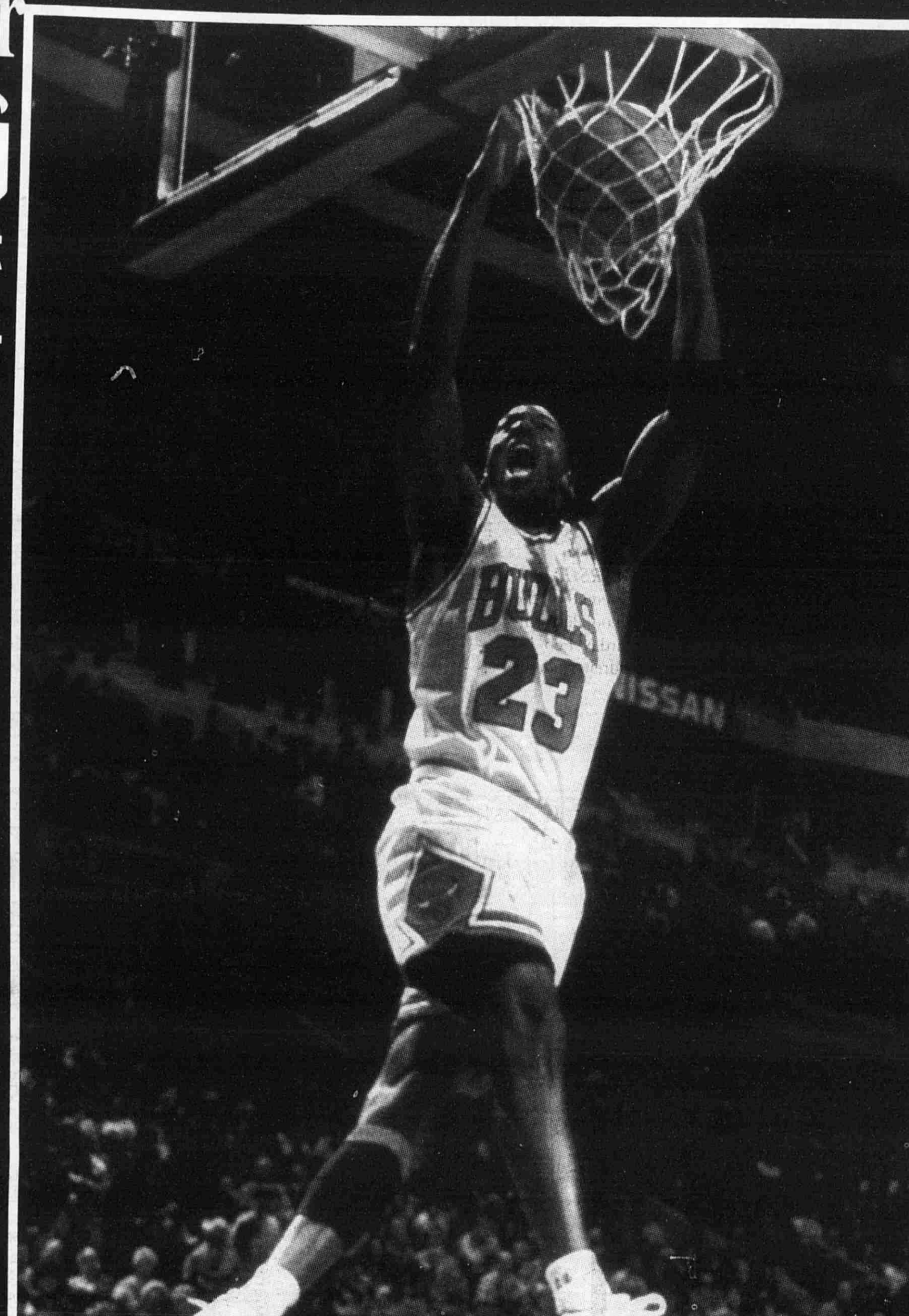
#### CLASS OF '93 REUNION

If you are interested in participating and organizing a five-year reunion for the Lowell High School class of 1993, please contact Megan (Leach) Hedlund at 897-0637.

# The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5*	WILV-43
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
23	USA
24	DISCOVERY
25	WGN
26	ESPN
27	CNN
28*	HN
29	NICK
30	A&E
31	FOX SPORTS
32	TNT
33*	C-SPAN
34*	EWTN
35	TNN
36	TRAVEL
37	LEARNING
38	SCI-FI
39*	VH-1
40	WEATHER
41	HISTORY
42	AMC

\* Denotes channels not appearing in the grids  
\*\* Denotes Premium Channels



## FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6 THRU FEBRUARY 12

Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan looks to lift the Eastern Conference to victory in the 1998 NBA All-Star Game, airing Sunday on NBC from Madison Square Garden in New York. One of the hot topics surrounding this year's game is talk of Jordan's possible retirement.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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PHONE 897-1197

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• TUES - FRI, 5-8

• SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11 - 5

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 7, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 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





# BRIDAL GUIDE '98



## Jewelry "Romancing The Stone" Is Easy

For centuries, men have been romancing women with fine jewelry as a means of expressing their love.

In addition to its physical qualities, fine jewelry has symbolized and communicated a wide variety of romantic sentiment throughout history according to Lynn Ramsey, president of the Jewelry Information Center in New York.

"It began with the ring, symbolizing eternity," says Ramsey. "Pure gold rings were found in Egyptian tombs dating back to the 12th century B.C."

In the Middle Ages, cryptic poetic messages, such as "All Thine Is Mine," were engraved on rings, known as "posies." Hundreds of years later, in 1936, an anxious Duke of Windsor inscribed "Hold Tight" in the clasp of a diamond and ruby bracelet he gave to his soon-to-be wife.

Venus, the goddess of love, was sometimes depicted wearing black and white pearls, signifying the dark and light side of passion. The ancients loved her playful son, Cupid, and his arrows have been a favorite icon of jewelers since the dawn of goldsmithing. Later, this potent symbol was encrusted with diamonds, rubies, pearls and other gems.

Contrary to what you might think, snakes are also symbols of love. They represent endless, eternal love. Butterflies, too, are tokens of romance. In mythology, Cupid's lover, Psyche, was pursued until she changed into a butterfly. In Elizabethan and Victorian times, flies or moths were symbols of the heart and soul hovering dangerously close to the flame of love.

Birds get into the act, too. Swallows are considered to be a message of faithfulness because they always return. Doves are also a good choice because they mate for life.

Flowers, especially roses, depict love in bloom. On their wedding day in 1939, director Alexander Korda gave actress Merle Oberon three Cartier diamond-and-gold roses. Other flowers have romantic implications, too. The daisy means innocence; mistletoe, a kiss; and the pansy signifies thoughts.

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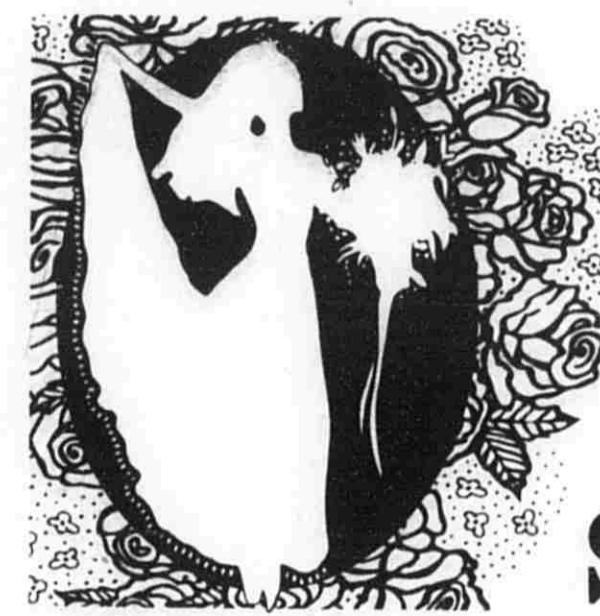
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# BRIDAL GUIDE '98



## Selecting A Photographer

Your wedding photographs will bring you years of pleasure, so select your photographer with great care. Because most good photographers are in demand, start interviewing them six to nine months before your wedding date.

To help put your mind at ease with a personal recommendation, begin by looking through the wedding albums of friends and relatives who live in your area. Your caterer, florist or reception-site coordinator may also provide some leads. You may want to meet with several photographers before making a final selection. I recommend hiring a professional who specializes in weddings, not a part-time photographer or one who only occasionally handles large events.

When you meet with the photographer, ask to view sample wedding albums. These are perhaps as important as individual shots, since they give you an idea of the scope of the photographer's talent. Discuss formal portraits to be taken either in the photographer's studio or "on location" at various sites.

When interviewing a photographer, be sure to discuss the number of pictures he or she takes, the cost of each print, the style and cost of the albums, and whether there are travel costs or extra fees. Most wedding photographers offer a package, which is a predetermined number of pictures in various sizes for a set fee that includes the prints and the album. Ordering the package is usually the most cost-effective option.

Check to see whether packages are available for parents' albums, too. Most wedding photographers keep the negatives, however. Check to see how long they hold onto these and whether you can purchase the negatives sometime in the future. Whoever stores the negatives should keep them in a fireproof file.

Last but certainly not least, choose a photographer whose personality will make you and your guests feel at ease. Aside from liking the photographer's work, you should feel confident that the two of you will communicate clearly.

To make sure there are no misunderstandings, include all aspects of your agreement with the photographer in a written contract. The contract should include

the wedding date, the photographer's arrival time, length of shooting time and fees and overtime charges, if any. It should also include the photographer's name, so you are guaranteed that the person you met with, and not an assistant, takes the photos. List all locations—the bride's home, ceremony site and reception site—and provide addresses and directions for each. Include the cost and details of a photo package selection and the cost of additional photos you may want to order.

If you're planning to send an announcement of your wedding to the newspaper, be sure that

he can take a black-and-white portrait of the two of you as husband and wife. Order an 8x10-inch, black-and-white glossy print to send to the newspaper.

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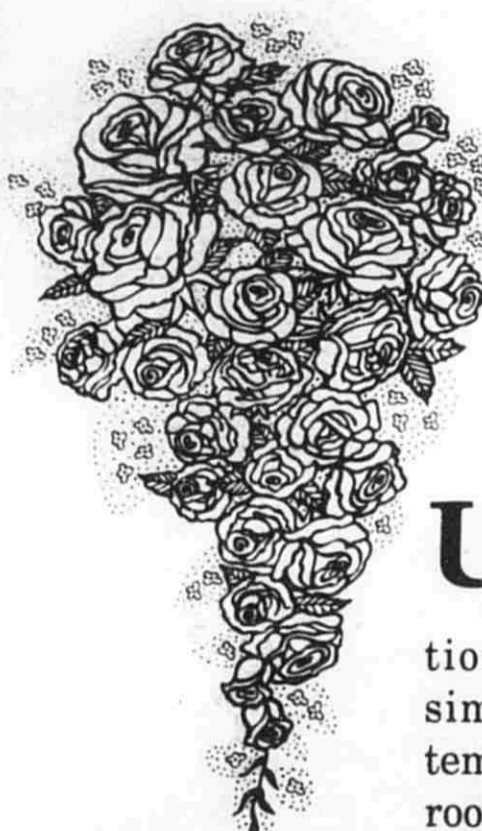
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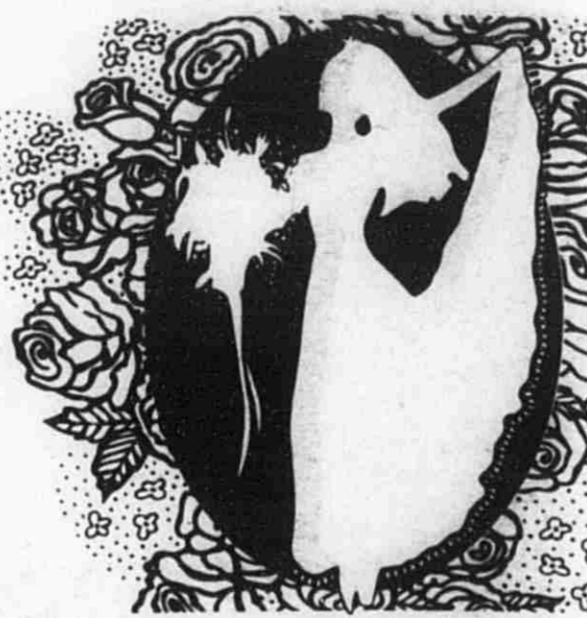
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# BRIDAL GUIDE '98



## Unique Wedding Locations

Not so long ago, wedding loca-

tion choices were simple: a church or temple, the grand ballroom of a luxury hotel or a private home were places where couples got married. Today, the

sky's the limit, and some adventurous couples actually take their vows while aloft in hot-air balloons. Anything goes, and more so if your wedding will be an informal one.

The location you choose to set your cer-

emony and reception provides the foundation for your wedding style. Once you've made that crucial decision, you can start to compile the guest list, consider the music and flowers and all the other details. If yours is to be a theme

wedding, your site will help bring your vision to life. The great hall of a rented mansion is ideal for a Renaissance theme, while carefully cultivated museum gardens would perfectly frame an afternoon Victorian wedding.

Size is the crucial factor in considering a home or garden wedding. Couples these days are opting to take their home wedding outdoors, with the help of a rented tent.

### Private Clubs

Private clubs are lovely settings, but few open their doors to non-members. Private clubs often have exquisite banquet rooms and lush grounds-many are situated at the edge of a golf course. They offer most of the same amenities as hotels, and their atmosphere is a bit more private.

### Mountains, Parks And Beaches

Once considered off-beat, this type of wedding now typically includes all the traditional rituals. The setting adds a touch of adventure to the celebration.

### Private Homes Or Gardens

There's a special warmth and personality unique to the home wedding. The event can be a formal, catered affair or an informal ceremony and do-it-yourself reception.



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Kathy (Little) Smith

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# BRIDAL GUIDE '98



## Recipe For Newlyweds' First Dinner

The wedding and honeymoon are over, and you find yourself finally alone in your home as husband and wife.

First, pinch yourself to make sure it's real, then take a deep breath. Tomorrow you'll have to face "reality" and continue life as usual.

But for now, create one more memorable moment to keep you afloat on "cloud nine" a little longer with a meal

the two of you will never forget.

Riunite, the Italian wine maker and sponsor of the \$50,000 dream wedding contest, has an idea for your first meal that is simple to prepare, covers every detail from wine to sweets and is sure to make your evening a romantic success.

This is one of five ideas for celebrations during this special time in your life offered in Riunite's guide to en-

tertaining, *From Bride-To-Be To Newlywed-Five Entertaining Scenarios To Get You To Happily Ever After.*

Your first romantic dinner begins with a chilled glass of Riunite Pinot Grigio or Riunite Chardonnay and a sampling of fresh fruit, cheese and French bread. Next, the guide suggests an entrée of swordfish steak topped with shrimp in a mus-

tard sauce accompanied by baby greens in a lemon-mustard vinaigrette. For the finale, end with a luscious dark chocolate crème brûlée served with a dazzling glass of Riunite's Royal Raspberry over cracked ice.

One last tip-don't forget to chill the wine, turn on some soft music and dim the lights.

There is no need to search for the perfect

meal because Riunite has done it all for you. In addition to offering entertaining ideas and menus, Riunite's booklet includes tips for table decor including

flowers, linens and candles to set the ambience of the evening.

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The differences between diamonds are subtle indeed. But to people of discriminating taste, it's quality that makes all the difference. Your jeweler is the expert where diamonds are concerned. And he can show you high-quality diamonds in all sizes. They simply look better and will enhance your jewelry, no matter what the design.

Quality. It's unmistakable. And it's as important in diamonds as in anything else you own.

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# BRIDAL GUIDE '98

## Favorite Wedding Flowers

We usually associate roses with

weddings. Their intoxicating fragrance, stunning range of hues and romantic history make them the ideal wedding blooms. But another flower has graced the bride and her event for even longer: the orange blossom. These small, white blooms smell divine, although the scent

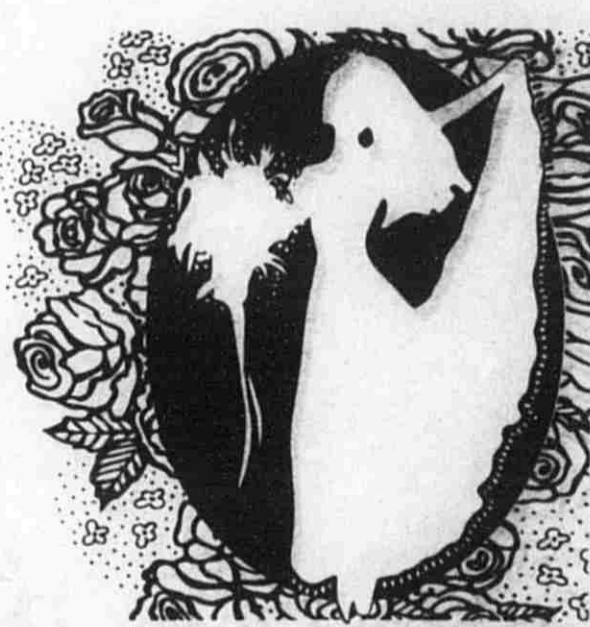
usually fades during shipping. The orange tree produces both fruit and flowers at the same time and stay green all year long, suggesting a union that is perennially fruitful and vibrant. This metaphor has not been lost on brides, who for centuries have included orange blossoms in their wedding wreaths and bouquets. On the day she wed Prince Albert, Queen Victoria herself glowed beneath a crown of orange blossoms woven with diamonds.

All of the most popular flowers are associated with some noble or desirable quality. The

list below includes some favorite wedding flowers and their special meanings.

- Apple blossoms-good fortune
- Baby's breath-pure heart
- Blue violet-faithfulness
- Bluebell-constancy
- Carnation-distinction
- Chrysanthemum-friendship
- Daffodil-joy
- Daisy-loyalty
- Forget-me-not-true love
- Forsythia-anticipation
- Gardenia-joy
- Gladiolus-generosity
- Iris-wisdom
- Ivy-fidelity

- Lily-purity and innocence
- Lily of the valley-happiness
- Magnolia-nobility
- Orange blossom-purity and fertility
- Orchid-beauty
- Peony-happiness
- Rose-deep love
- Stephanotis-happiness in marriage
- Sweet pea-delicate pleasures
- White daisy-innocence
- Zinnia-goodness



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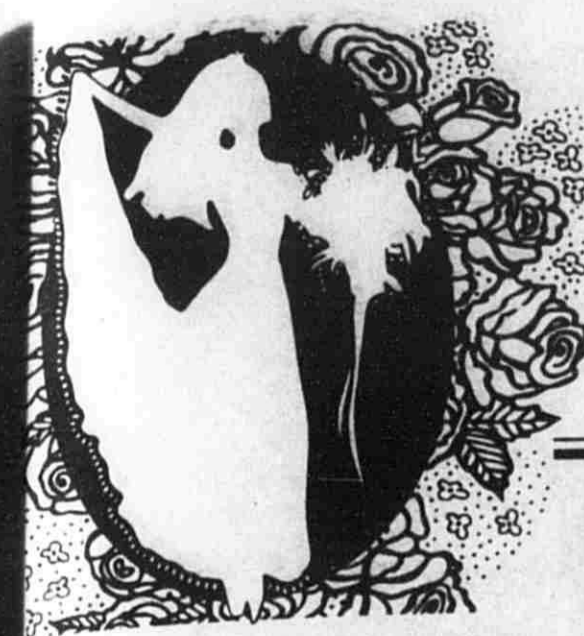
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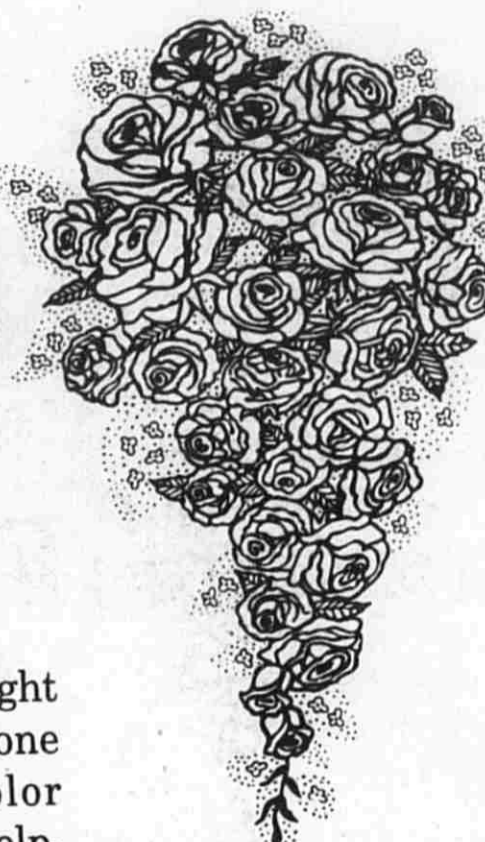
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# BRIDAL GUIDE '98

## Showers With A Theme



Not long ago, most newlyweds were young and inexperienced in the art of furnishing a home. This is less the case today. Many couples have been out on their own for some time before they marry and have already accumulated many household items. A theme shower affords such couples the opportunity to fine-tune their wish list and have a lot of fun as well. Theme showers are also a smart idea if the couple

will be given more than oneshower. Having two different themes will help prevent duplicate gifts. Some popular themes:

**Lingerie Showers**  
Lingerie showers are a favorite, perhaps because so many working women rarely allow themselves to indulge in clothes that are "impractical" and unabashedly romantic. Lacy nightgowns, delicate camisoles, silk teddies, sexy bras or a sleek satin robe are sure to

make the bride's honeymoon a little sweeter. Other thoughtful gifts might be perfume, bath accessories or jewelry. Or get a baby picture of the bride's fiancé from his mother and put it in a pretty frame. The bride will cherish it throughout the years to come.

**Linen Showers**  
Linen showers are a savvy choice. Here, at last, is your chance to get those 300-thread-count cotton sheets you've lusted after for

years. Though you might have a number of linens already, these will eventually wear out. Taking a fresh, brand-new set of towels from the box three years from now will be a real treat. If you decide on a linen shower, you might want to let everyone know your color scheme. It can be helpful to register in a department store for items such as monogrammed towels, a scale, bathroom sets

and accessories, bed sheets, pillows or blankets.

this... **BRIDAL GUIDE '98**

is published by the  
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Manicures Are 1/2 OFF  
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SUNDAY AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 8, 1998

Table with columns for time slots (12:00 to 6:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 8, 1998

Table with columns for time slots (7:00 to 11:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 8, 1998

Table with columns for time slots (12:00 to 4:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

MONDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 9, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list various programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and Olympic Winter Games.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 9, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and WOVU.

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 10, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and Olympic Winter Games.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 10, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and WOVU.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 11, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30). Rows list programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, and Olympic Winter Games.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT FEBRUARY 11, 1998. Table with columns for Broadcast Stations and time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30). Rows list programs like Late Show, Politically Incorrect, and WOVU.



# Comprehensive plan prepares township for future

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Vergennes is a township in a state of flux.

Its future is laced with the promise of opportunity and the anxiety that comes with addressing its problems.

Under the direction of project manager Larry Nix of Williams and Works, the township board, planning commission and zoning board of appeals have begun

the process of authoring a comprehensive plan which will assess the township's current state, identify its goals and objectives, and its preferred future.

Nix says there are no perfect answers. Ideas must be shared and discussed.

"We will rely and depend a lot on public input," Nix said. This will be done through community-wide futuring sessions, a community sur-

vey of property owners and a public hearing once the document is drafted.

"The process won't solve everyone's concerns. It will at least address the ideas and challenges presented by the public," Nix said.

The interpretation of the data gathered will be used to complete the current assessment report's first draft. This is scheduled for March.

Of the problems identified by township officials at a joint meeting, the transition from an agricultural to a non-farming community while keeping the rural character and atmosphere in the face of rapid growth may be its biggest challenge.

"Our challenge is to keep the rural atmosphere and open spaces, and to protect farmers from losing the ability to have a pension from their land," said Vergennes Town-

ship Planning Commission chairman Rick Gillette.

Infrastructure improvements (roads, sewer, water, township hall) were identified as areas which need to be addressed.

Improvements that require services/utilities from the city of Lowell could bring to the surface the concern with annexation.

"There is an annexation history (e.g., Attwood) in the local area and locally," Vergennes Township clerk Mari Stone said. "There is no talk about it now. It may come up, though, if city services are needed."

Stone described the current climate between the two governmental entities as a cooperative one.

Nix believes the township's biggest opportunity may lie in its natural resources. There are eight miles

of the Flat River which are only 15 percent developed.

"This is one of the most unique pieces of property left in lower Michigan," Gillette said. "I believe it is a tremendous asset to the township."

The township can also work with aging farmers who may decide to keep land enrolled in PA116 or who may decide not to let it be developed.

## Alto Library offers program on birds

Not all birds fly south for the winter. Those which stay behind have an especially difficult time searching for food. One way to learn how to help our feathered friends is by attending "Have a Heart for the Birds," a program being offered at Alto Branch Library, 6071 Linfield, Thursday, Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. This program is for ages 6 and up.

"Have a Heart for the Birds" will feature special guest speaker Don Taylor from Wild Birds Unlimited. It will show how anyone can become a birdwatcher right in their own backyard, especially when the birds are attracted by a special treat made just for them from the heart.

For more information about the program or to register, please call the Alto Branch of the Kent District Library at 868-6038.

The 16-month project in authoring a comprehensive plan is not new. It takes the township through a process of collecting and receiving information, gaining an idea of where it is going, surveying the public and holding a public hearing.

Helping Nix take the township through these steps is Williams and Works project planner, Bill Fischer.

**LOWELL DAY**  
IN LAKELAND FLORIDA  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 1 • 1 PM**  
Directions: Take 98 N to Duff Road, turn west to Huntington Hills on south side of road.  
Any questions call:  
Mary (941) 683-6336, Barb (941) 642-7136 or Carmen (941) 683-9071.

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

In reviewing the City's current ordinances, nothing addresses this problem.

The Police Department had reviewed the proposed ordinance amendment and recommended approval.

Councilmember Shores stated in the future, the City needs to address concerns for cats.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to establish a public hearing on February 2, 1998 to consider an Ordinance Amendment regarding dog waste products.

YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #5. MONTHLY REPORTS. No comments were received from materials received.

Item #6. CITIZEN COMMENTS. No comments were received.

Item #7. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Shores had three issues to discuss, but two had been resolved. These were the horse sign/trailer in the Ridgeview Plaza (removed) and the condition of the American flag in front of City Hall (replaced). The third item was that she had an opportunity to speak to 2 third grade classes at Cherry Creek Elementary School. These classes were studying City, State and Federal government. The students had prepared questions prior to her speaking. They were very attentive and well behaved. Shores thoroughly enjoyed herself and was very impressed with these future leaders of our community.

Councilmember Green was pleased that the horse sign/trailer was removed.

Councilmember Myers asked that the Police Department watch the east end of Main Street, because some snowmobilers are trespassing through yards instead of using the snowmobile trail.

Councilmember Blough had been approached by a student to volunteer their time to create a Web Page for the City of Lowell. He is a Russian exchange student, Alex Shevchenko, staying with the Blough family. He wished Council approval to meet with the City Manager to discuss what information should be on the page. Also, if the Council desired to proceed with this project. This would be not only a project of his exchange program, but he is also very anxious to show the rest of the world his neighborhood of Lowell.

The consensus of the Council was that this is a great opportunity for both the City and Alex Shevchenko.

Mayor Thompson had provided all the Councilmembers

and the Chief of Police with a copy of a letter that he had received from a young lady named Becky Brinkley regarding skateboarding in Lowell. Thompson asked that Council review this letter and provide input to him so that he could respond to Ms. Brinkley. Thompson noted that Ms. Brinkley did a great job in directing her comments in the letter.

City Manager Pasquale stated that the problem the City has with skateboarding in the downtown area is it's very dangerous. People are walking out of a store with the skateboarders traveling down the sidewalk very fast. It gives little time to stop. Also, the skaters tend to jump off of building steps, which is dangerous as well as damaging to the concrete.

Chief of Police Valentine noted that not only is it a danger to pedestrians and skateboarders, but also potential for damage to concrete and park benches. There also seems to be some disrespect to the merchants when they try to address the danger issues with some of the skateboarders. Valentine did state that not all the skateboarders were disrespectful, but one can ruin it for everyone who participates.

Mayor Thompson suggested that the Parks and Recreation Commission review this issue.

Item #8. MANAGER'S REPORT. City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

a. Copies of the Downtown Development Authority meeting minutes of December 11, 1997 were provided.

b. A City resident had requested that the City Council adopt an ordinance requiring leaf pickup for residences. He had noticed properties whose leaves had not been picked up and felt this was not proper.

In briefly discussing this with Councilmember Green, enforcement of this would be difficult. In clearing of snow or cutting of grass, a certain height is given. The amount of leaves would be difficult to calculate when determining a violation.

Councilmember Myers agreed that enforcement would be hard. A property owner could have just raked the yard and within a few hours with a shift of wind, all of the neighbors' leaves could have blown into the yard.

Mayor Thompson stated that it is hard to enforce a good neighbor rule, such as this would be.

Consensus of the Council was that the enforcement of leaf pick up ordinance is nearly impossible.

c. The first round of grant applications to the Lowell Area Community Fund (Englehardt Trust) are due April 27. Awards will be announced in June.

Item #9. APPOINTMENTS. The following commission

and board positions were appointed or reappointed:

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to reappoint Jim Serne to a three year term to the Airport Board expiring January 1, 2001.

YEA: 4.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
ABSTAIN: 1. (Thompson)  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by SHORES to reappoint Terry Conley to a four year term to the Downtown Development Authority expiring January 1, 2002.

YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BLOUGH to reappoint Perry Beachum for a three year term to the Parks and Recreation Commission expiring January 1, 2001.

YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY THOMPSON and seconded by MYERS to appoint Daniel Pipe to the Historic District Commission to complete the term which expires on January 1, 2000.

YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and supported by GREEN to reappoint Judy Noonon for a three year term to the Building Authority expiring January 1, 2001.

YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Thompson commented that the City is very fortunate to get those who volunteer for these committees. The City is in need of more individuals to serve on boards and commissions. It is very educational.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

DATE APPROVED:  
Monday, February 2, 1998

William F. Thompson, Mayor  
David M. Pasquale, City Clerk

# Red Arrows compete in sideline cheerleading at Caledonia and Union

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's varsity cheerleading squad competed in its second sideline cheerleading competition in as many weeks.

First at Union and then at Caledonia on Saturday, the Red Arrow squad placed fourth.

Lowell began competing just two years ago using only a small portion of its squad. That changed last year as the entire Red Arrow team (16 members) began competing.

"To be noticed and recognized in this sport, you need to have big numbers," said Lowell cheerleading coach Cari Slot. "It gives a team presence."

Each team does a flat cheer in round one. A flat cheer includes jumps but no stunts. The second round is reserved for stunts.

Squads are judged on formation, crowd involvement, leadership/vocals, execution, floor mobility, group coordination, and creativity of material.

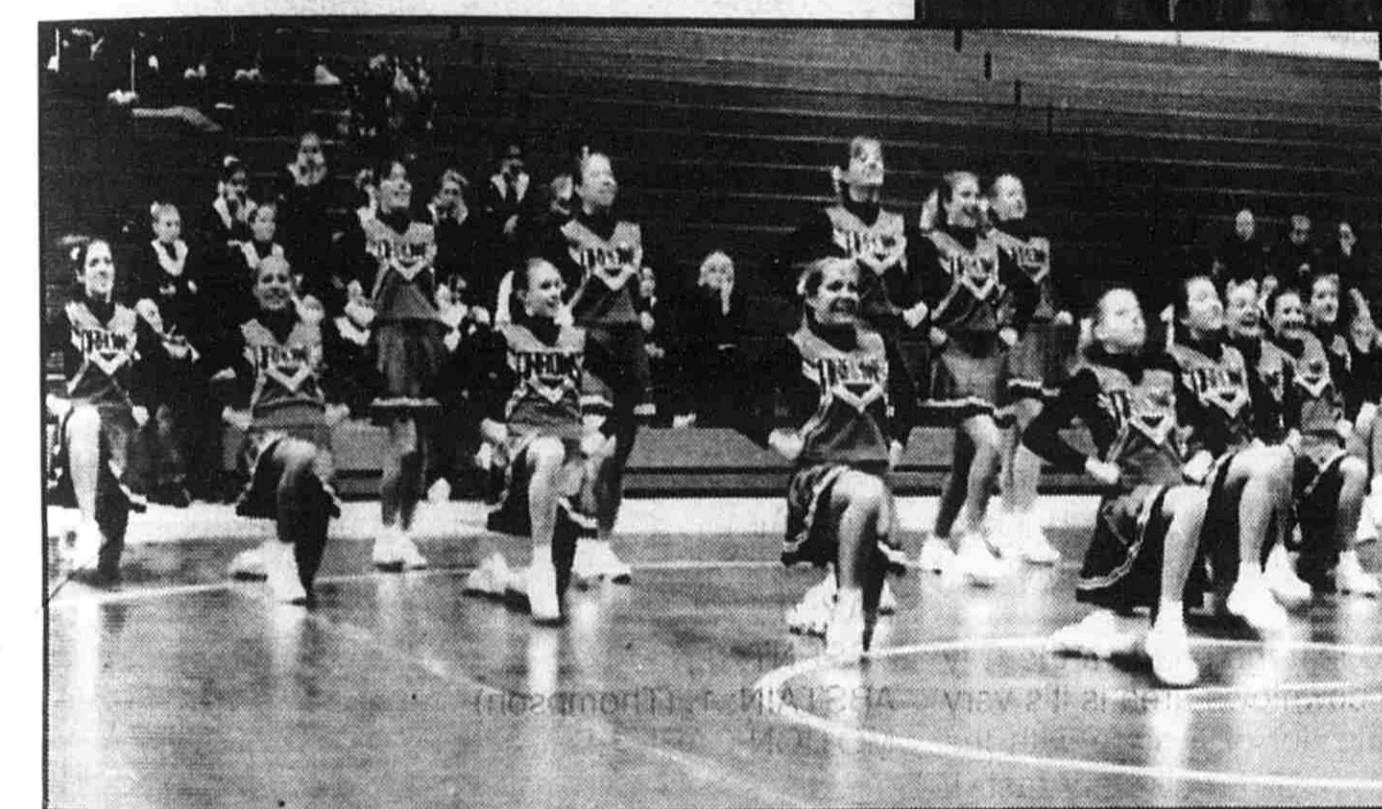
Each cheer is over two minutes. "You have two and a half minutes. You've got to be perfect. There are no halves like in baseball. You can't have a bad first half and come out and play well in the second half. It's all or nothing," Slot said.

The Lowell coach said the girls have worked hard (three hours a day). "I'm happy with how they've ex-

ecuted. They've put in the time at practice," Slot explained. "The most important part, though, is the girls are having fun."



Members of the varsity sideline cheerleading squad are Ainsley Smit, Nola Dzwonek, Sarah Debiak, Kelly O'Dell, Liz Lonick, Jessica Garber, Sandi Spicer, Lori Catlin, Beth Weber, Jessica Koopman, Amy Meiste, Erin Umlauf, Melissa Sobie, Sarah Sper, Sandy Lonick and Alana Valentine.



# TOWNSHIP OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF HEARING (UNDER ACT 198, PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN, 1974 AS AMENDED)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Township of Vergennes will hold a public hearing on February 16, 1998 at or after 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, Michigan 49331, telephone (616) 897-5671, to consider a request from Divine Machinery Sales, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for new facilities located at 12958 Christopher Drive, Lowell, Michigan 49331 in Vergennes Township, Michigan under the provisions of Act 198 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1974, as amended. The facilities will be located within an Industrial Development District located within the Township of Vergennes, County of Kent, State of Michigan, described as follows:

The North 449.63 feet of the South 8656.25 feet of the West 1/2 Southwest 1/4, Section 35, Town 7 North, Range 9 West, except part lying East of Lincoln Lake Road; also except the North 82.5 feet of the East 132 feet thereof, Township of Vergennes, Kent County, Michigan.

The facilities to which the application relates lies within the above described parcel and itself is described in the application for the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate.

The applicant, the Township Assessor, representatives of each taxing unit affected that levies ad valorem property taxes within the Township of Vergennes or any other person may appear at this meeting and give testimony.

Mari C. Stone  
Township Clerk

# Show Us Your Smile!

## JANUARY SMILE OF THE MONTH:

NAME:.....Elsa Finch  
AGE:.....3 1/2 years old  
BIRTHDAY.....7/8/94  
HOBBIES.....Elsa likes sledding and her favorite color is purple.



Elsa receives a prize for her great checkup.

## January "No Cavities" Club Members

Laura Brady	Elsa Finch	Justin Hewitt
Tabitha May	Sara Brady	Willie Hewitt
Zane Weaver	Tim Noall	Tiffany Venneman
Lorena Grzeskowiak	Betsy Osborne	Sydney Burrows
Christina Isaacson	Jennifer Blattner	Allison Johnson
Hugh Skiffington	Cameron Bishop	Abby Johnson

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Ann Wilson, D.D.S.

New Patients Welcome!

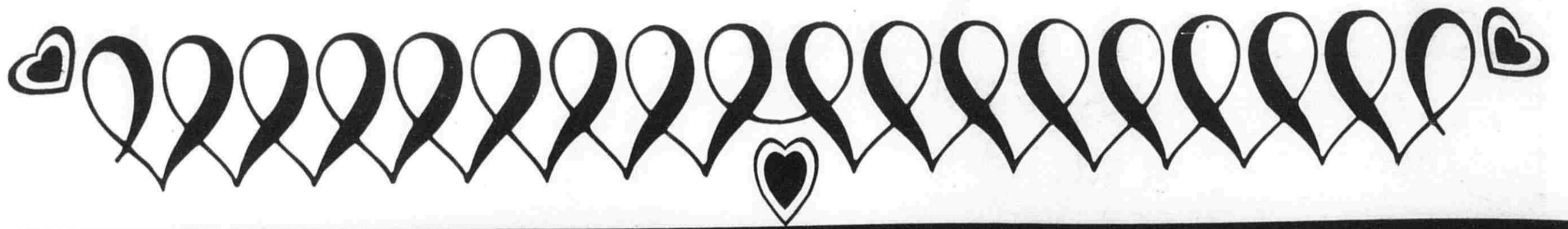
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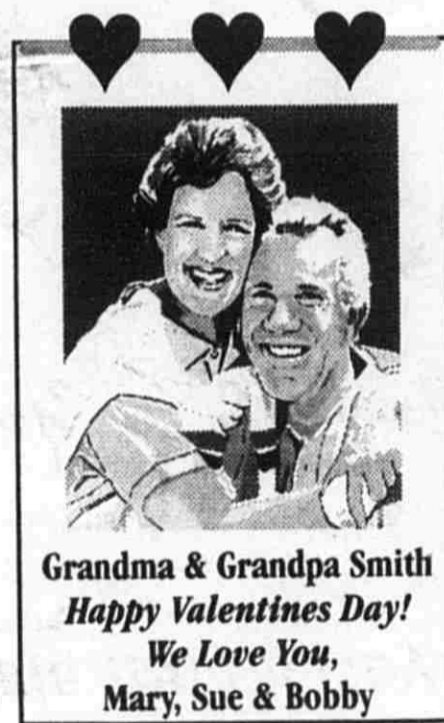






# Say Happy Valentine's Day To Your Grandchildren OR To Your Grandparents!

Send in the form below with a picture of your grandchild or grandparents and we will print it as shown in The Ledger in time for Valentine's Day!



The Cost  
Is Only \$6<sup>00</sup>  
For Each Valentine  
With Picture!

Your greeting will appear in the  
February 11, 1998 edition of the Ledger.

Your valentine & picture must  
be at the Ledger office by  
5 PM, Monday February 9, 1998

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Greeting: \_\_\_\_\_  
 From: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Greetings are limited to 4 lines as shown in examples.  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Bring your Valentine in or  
send it with payment to:

**The Lowell Ledger**

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