

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 3

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, November 18, 1998

Vergennes Township's new supervisor confident that working together will bring about accomplishments

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Vergennes Township's supervisor-elect Tim Wittenbach must feel a little like a buck on the opening day of deer season, with stuff being pumped at him from all directions.

Wittenbach is happy that in his case it is just information.

The supervisor-elect says he is most appreciative of the input that has come in.

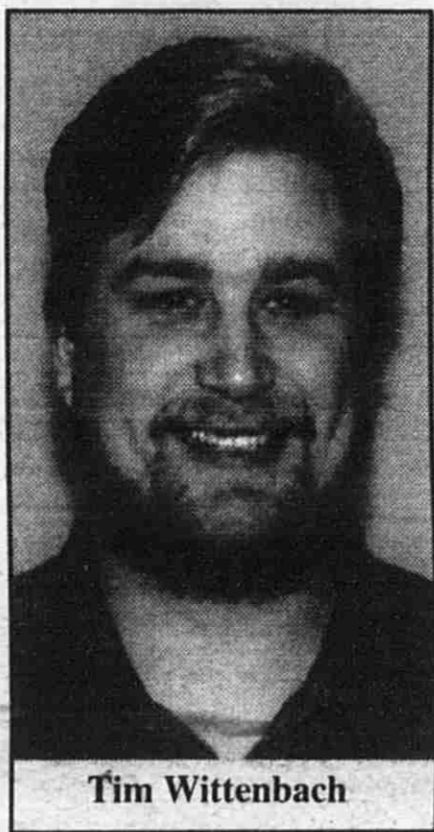
Wittenbach doesn't have any political/governing experience. Don't assume that leaves him feeling inadequate about the job he has undertaken or that Wittenbach is walking into the new position boldly confident.

"I know I don't know everything there is too know, and that I could make mistakes," Wittenbach said. "I believe if I work together with others and others are willing to work together with me, we can work things out."

Wittenbach would like nothing better than for Vergennes Township to be perceived as a community government.

As township supervisor, Wittenbach wants to be responsive to constituents who elected him into office. "I want Vergennes Township to be sensitive to its issues and desires," he says. "If not, they will let us know."

While Wittenbach garnered over 1,000 votes on the Nov. 3 election, he realizes not everybody knows him or of his abilities. He is, however, confident he can do the job.



Tim Wittenbach

His approach will be a straight forward one. "I will present a reason why for every decision made and, with an explanation, try to bring people alongside the township. I don't

want people to think that the township is ever trying to jam something down their throat."

While Wittenbach has no previous government background, he remembers when Kent County commissioner, Jack Horton, first ran for state representative. "That had a big impact on me because he didn't have much experience either."

It inspired him, years later, to put in his application upon hearing former township supervisor Jim Cook was going to resign.

After applying, Wittenbach said he talked to Jim Cook. "He told me that I didn't know enough," Wittenbach says with a smile.

"I respect Mr. Cook. He organized a lot of things for this township."

Those who may doubt Wittenbach's ability serve as an incentive for him. "In the end, the community will make that decision," he explained.

Wittenbach will serve out the remaining two years of Cook's term.

The lifelong Vergennes Township resident is sworn into office on Friday, Nov. 20, at 1 p.m. at the township hall.

Wittenbach, 31, is self-employed (Action Enterprises). He is married (wife Kathy) and they have four children: Vanessa, Jacob, Benjamin and Noah.

Unanswered questions leave ice rink advocate disappointed

.... To pay \$4,100 for such a report is disappointing. I would recommend to the Look committee that no money be paid until questions are answered. I suggest that Mr. Norlin (Wayne) be brought back to answer questions. - Bruce Walter

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The findings of the ice skating facilities feasibility study were described as disappointing and not enlightening.

Bruce Walter, who originally approached the Lowell City Council in February of 1998 regarding city assistance for creation of an outdoor arena, raised concern that questions brought up in preliminary meetings were not addressed during Wayne Norlin's presentation to the Lowell City Council Monday night.

Lowell Parks and Recreation board member Perry Beachum concurred. He stated that one of the major points addressed in earlier meetings was the cost to operate an ice rink facility. Beachum was disappointed that this question was not answered in this study.

"To pay \$4,100 for such a report is disappointing. I would recommend to the Look committee that no money be paid until questions are answered," Walter said. "I suggest that Mr. Norlin (Wayne) be brought back to answer questions."

Walter was also disappointed in that he and other interested parties were not provided with a copy of the report prior to Monday night's meeting.

"I tend to agree with you, Bruce, that you should have gotten a copy," concurred Lowell mayor, Bill Thompson.

In his report to the council, Norlin, Design Plus landscape architect, explained there were three options looked at for an ice rink. They were:

1) Renovating the existing Foreman building.

2) Constructing an outdoor skating rink.
3) Constructing a new facility located at one of several possible sites.

The Foreman building was ruled out by Norlin because it is in the flood plain, its size is inadequate and there is not enough space to develop additional support for a rink.

An outdoor rink was labeled a reasonable idea but drawbacks included a lack of control over weather.

An indoor rink could accommodate hockey and figure skating but would require 44,000 square feet and cost between \$1.8 and \$3 million.

Norlin mentioned the possibility of combining the ice rink facility with other recreational facilities (e.g. swimming pool).

"There is a way to combine the refrigeration and heating cycles into one piece of equipment. The construction of a pool and rink is different," Norlin explained. "By locating both facilities in the same area, parking and access would be combined."

Locations mentioned by Norlin were Stoney-Lakeside Park, Creekside Park and property across the road from the high school.

"Stoney Lakeside has space for one but not both. Something would have to be eliminated at Creekside for a rink to fit, and the property across the street from the high school is owned by the school district," Norlin said.

The landscape architect said other rink establishments were not willing to share operational costs. "This is a very competitive business."

Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale said he would contact Norlin and set up another time for a second presentation.

Electrical fire claims life of five-year-old disabled girl

.... Rescuers were unable to save five-year-old Kathy Smith in an early morning fire last Wednesday.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Bud Marvin recalled, a day after a mobile home fire took the life of Katherine Smith, the happy nature of the five-year-old afflicted with cerebral palsy.

Marvin and his mother were awakened by a cry for help from April Beean early Wednesday morning.

Beean, carrying her six-month-old boy Christopher, woke the Marvins with news that her mobile home was on fire and that Kathy was still inside.

Marvin, after locating a

key, got in through the front door. "I got into the kitchen and almost to the hallway that

leads to Kathy's room, but there was too much smoke and heat," he explained.

The call on the fire went out at 6:44 a.m. Lowell police officer Steve Junewick, in the

area, arrived at 6:45.

"As I approached I could see smoke blowing from the direction of the fire," he explained. "When I arrived, the front windows were caked full of smoke. I went to the back and the back door was already incredibly hot. There were flames in the whole front portion (living room and dining room). There was nothing I could do. I would have if I could. It was beyond hope."

The feeling of being completely helpless increased when the Lowell officer had to hold back Kathy's father, Michael Smith, from trying to enter the trailer.

"I have never seen such terror on a man's face. The only thing I could think to do was have him pray the Lord's Prayer with me," Junewick said.

Fire, cont'd. pg. 23



Fire officials were called to the fire at Valley Vista Mobile Home Park at 6:45 a.m. Wednesday.

Inside the Ledger

Lowell Area Schools
DIRECTIONS

Begins on page 28 continued page 27

The Lowell Ledger-Wednesday, November 18, 1998-Page 10

LL&P and Lowell Cable management operation to remain constant

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The current management operation of Lowell Cable Television and Lowell Light & Power should remain as is for at least a period of one year.

That was the consensus following a discussion between Paul Christman (out-



going superintendent of Lowell Light and Power /Lowell Cable Television), city manager Dave Pasquale and cable television board chairman Ray Quada.

The sides agreed to a recommendation from Lowell mayor, Bill Thompson, that each board would wait a period of one year.

During this time, the new superintendent of Lowell Light and Power and Lowell Cable would have direct supervision of Tom Richards (director of cable programming), and Pasquale

would have direct involvement.

Thompson stated in the coming year all three would meet together weekly to keep each other informed and to come up with a proposal as to how the city, LL&P and cable should be set up to best serve its owners and users.

"Within a one-year time frame, they would complete an agreed proposal as to the operation of cable television and how each would be involved," Thompson said.

It would be brought before the boards for review with input and a final developed operational plan.

School accepts gifts from district valued at \$3,000

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

In the month of giving thanks, the Lowell School Board was grateful in its acceptance of gifts valued at \$3,000.

Louis and Josephine Schmidt of Louis Gallery donated mat board material and wood framing material valued at \$1,500 to the Lowell Schools art department.

Gretchen Brinks donated a 50 gallon fish aquarium and accessories valued at \$500 to the Cherry Creek fifth-grade science/pond project.

The Lowell Community Fund made two donations, one of \$400 to the Lowell Athletic Boosters; the other in the

amount of \$100 to the Cherry Creek and Alto fifth-grade camps.

Don and Gail Hutchinson donated a clarinet with case valued at \$250 to the Lowell Middle School band program.

The Hurm Family donated baking utensils and ingredi-

ents for Cherry Creek's F.E.A.T. program valued at \$150.

Angela Sturm donated \$100 to Cherry Creek Elementary.

There were seven gifts brought before the board at its November meeting.

Township may be asked to cover a third of remaining thermal imager cost

By Amy Briggs
Contributing Writer

A thermal imager costs \$18,000, and the Lowell Fire Department needs \$13,000 more to purchase one.

At the Nov. 16 Lowell Charter Township regular board meeting, township supervisor John Timpson stated that in August the township received a request for \$500 from the fire department. The money was needed to buy a thermal imager, a device used

to locate people trapped inside burning buildings.

According to Timpson, Lowell fire chief, Frank Martin, has approached Lowell Township again this month with information that \$13,000 is yet needed for the imager's purchase.

"The fire department has applied to the Englehardt Fund for this money," Timpson explained. "If that doesn't come

through, they will ask Lowell Township, Vergennes Township, and the city of Lowell to split the cost three ways."

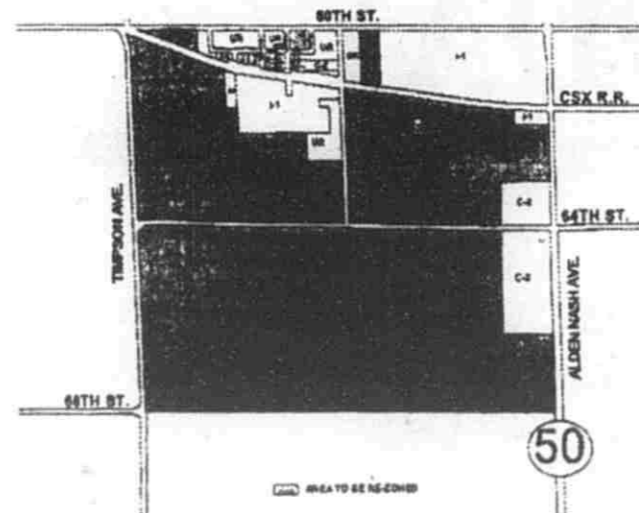
With estimated township costs for the imager at \$4,333, board member Alyn Fletcher admitted, "It's kind of a move from \$500, but if it's a life-saving tool, it's certainly worth it."

Township clerk Carol Wells stated that by next month the preliminary numbers for next year's township budget would be released. Timpson added by that time, the fire department expects to have a response to their Englehardt Fund application. A decision will be made once the numbers are tabulated.

"We're aware of the need for [the imager] and we'll see what we can work out," Wells said.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE AND PROPOSED REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY FROM R-R (RURAL RESIDENTIAL) TO U-R (URBAN RESIDENTIAL)

Notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 10, 1998, at 7:30 p.m., in the historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding: 1) a proposed amendment to Article 8, U-R District to delete mobile home parks as a special land use in the U-R zoning district, and to add mobile home parks as a permitted use in the U-R zoning district, and 2) a zoning map change to rezone the property indicated on the map below in Section 4 from the R-R district to the U-R district. The proposed zoning amendment and zoning map change for the proposed rezoning may be inspected at the Township Hall on Wednesdays or Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

PUBLICATION NOTICE Decedent's Estate FILE No. 98-165,881-SE

ESTATE OF SUSAN KAY SHUKIS DECEASED SS# 367-64-6131

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

NOTICE: A hearing was held on AUGUST 7, 1998 in Kent County Probate Court, 320 OTTAWA AVENUE, NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN before Judge JANET A. HAYNES on the petition of BERNARD SCHAEFER pursuant to which BERNARD SHUKIS was appointed personal representative of the ESTATE OF SUSAN KAY SHUKIS who lived at 842 ARIANNA STREET, NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504 and who died MAY 10, 1998.

Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the personal representative or to both the Kent County Probate Court, and the personal representative within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the estate will then be assigned to entitled persons appearing of record.

November 9, 1998

BERNARD SHUKIS
4015 4 Mile Road NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616-784-3799

November 13, 1998
Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

NEW ACUTE ALZHEIMER'S UNIT IS SEEKING CARING TEAM PLAYERS

ATTENTION LPN'S & RESIDENT CARE GIVERS

The SOMERSET GROUP is seeking interested employees to develop an acute care Alzheimer's Unit. The selected staff will participate in direct care, nutrition and dining, activities and team problem solving. Training will also be provided in selected areas. If you are patient, flexible, enjoy team problem solving mixed with love & compassion and are looking for an enjoyable challenge, please contact Marcia or Sharon at WINDSOR MANOR 2499 Forest Hills, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

Ph. 954-2662.

SYNOPSIS GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 9, 1998

MOTIONS APPROVED:

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA AS SUBMITTED

MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR BIG PINE ISLAND LAKE SEWER STUDY FROM PROGRESSIVE ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,500.

MOTION TO PAY THE AMOUNT OWED OVERBECK CONSTRUCTION IF DONE FOLLOWING PROPER PROCEDURES WHICH TOTALS \$25,581.13 IF TREASURER, CLERK AND SUPERVISOR CAN APPROVE THE AMOUNT AND IT CAN BE PAID BY NOVEMBER 15, 1998.

MOTION TO GRANT TOM LANGLAND A TWO-YEAR FINANCIAL DEFERMENT TO PAY OFF SEWER PERMIT.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45.

Respectfully Submitted By
Colleen O'Brien, Transcriber

Township renews Hope Network contract

Lowell Charter Township voted to renew its yearly services contract with Hope Network at the Nov. 16 regular board meeting.

Township clerk Carol Wells stated at the meeting that the township contracts \$3,000 annually with Hope Network for transportation services for area residents that are elderly or physically challenged. Monies for the contract are provided from the township's community development fund.

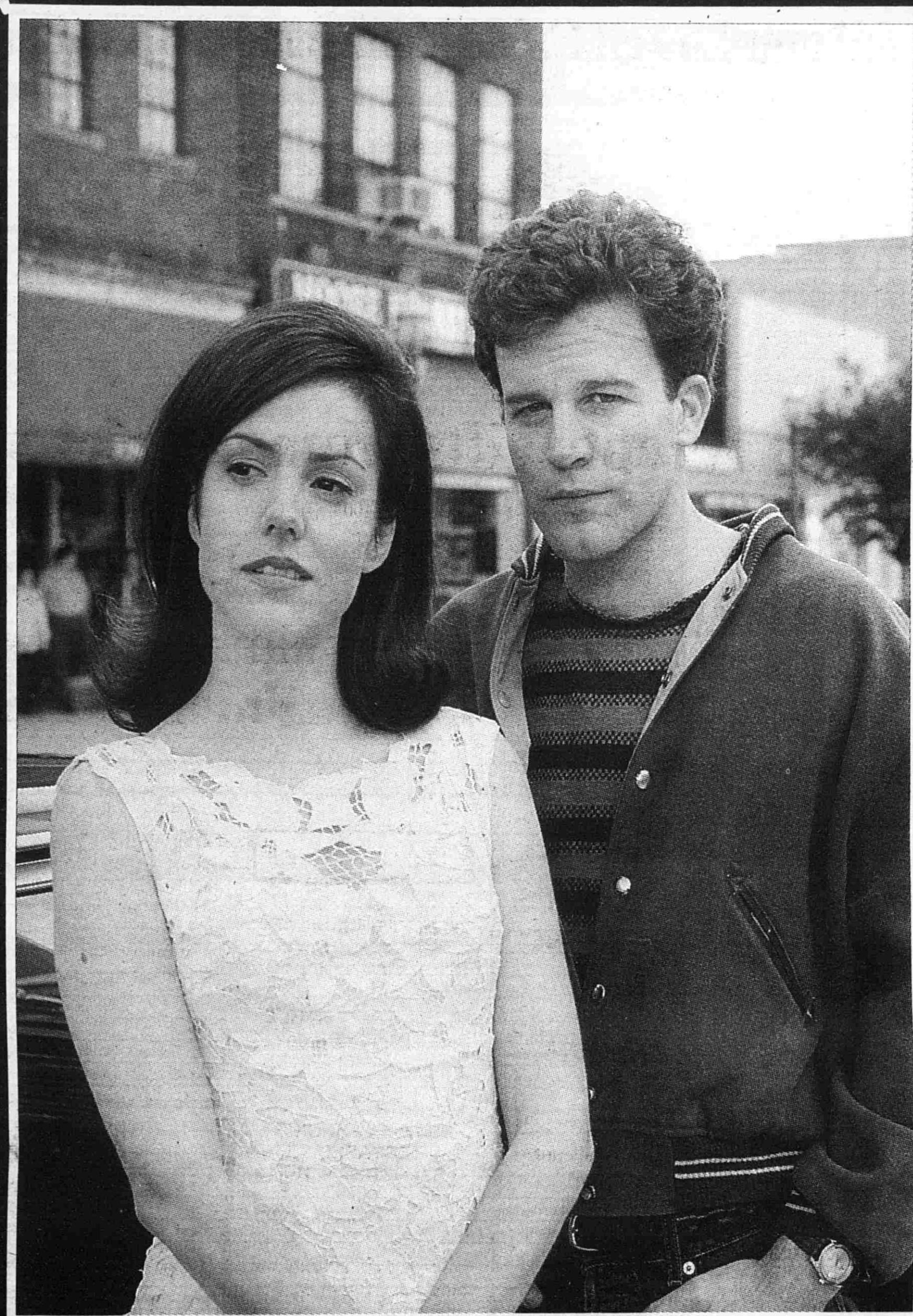
"We sign on each year," Wells said. "The services do get used and the time has come to renew."

Education is...hanging around until you've caught on. —Robert Frost

The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
6	WGUV-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	MTV
22	VH-1
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	COMEDY CENTRAL
40	WEATHER
41	HISTORY
42	AMC
43	WZPX-43
44	HOME & GARDEN
45	LIFETIME
46	TOON DISNEY
47	MSNBC

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



FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20 THRU NOVEMBER 26

A 17-year-old high-school student (Thomas McCarthy) questions the integrity of his mysterious sister-in-law (Mary-Louise Parker, *Boys on the Side*) in *Saint Maybe*. Based on Anne Tyler's best-selling novel, the Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation premieres Sunday on CBS.



FEELIN' BLUE ABOUT MISSING OUT ON PRIME ADVERTISING SPACE??

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The Lowell Ledger

105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331

Call...(616) 897-9261
Or FAX (616) 897-4809

AN ADVERTISEMENT THIS SIZE ON THE FRONT OF THE TV SECTION IS ONLY... **\$50⁰⁰**

DAYTIME MORNING BROADCAST STATIONS 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 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

FRIDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 20, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 20, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

SATURDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 21, 1998 BROADCAST STATIONS 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 NOVEMBER 21, 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

SATURDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 21, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 21, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-6:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 22, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and movies.

MONDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 23, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, NFL Football, and various news and entertainment shows.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 23, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Star Trek: The Next Generation, CBS Up to the Minute, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

TUESDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 24, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, JAG, and various news and entertainment shows.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 24, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Star Trek: The Next Generation, CBS Up to the Minute, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

WEDNESDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 25, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy!, Nanny, and various news and entertainment shows.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 25, 1998. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations. Includes programs like Star Trek: The Next Generation, CBS Up to the Minute, and various comedy and entertainment shows.

THURSDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 26, 1998. Table listing broadcast stations and programs from 7:00 to 11:30 PM.

THURSDAY LATE NIGHT NOVEMBER 26, 1998. Table listing broadcast stations and programs from 12:00 AM to 4:30 AM.

Advertisement for 'The Locusts' movie premiering on cinemax on Friday, November 20 at 8PM. Includes contact info for Lowell Cable TV at 897-8405.

COMING EVENTS

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any non-profit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto, and Saranac area.

TUESDAYS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets every Tuesday evening at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building.

EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY: Lowell Area Jaycees meet at 7 p.m. at Lowell City Hall.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Quak-Zek Sportsmen's Club meets, 8 p.m. at the Club building, 1400 Foreman Road, Lowell.

EVERY FRIDAY: Respite day care for the elderly. Activities and respite for the aging person from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting is held the third Monday of each month at 8 p.m.

EVERY MONTH: The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers are meeting at LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

EVERY FIRST WEDNESDAY: Lowell Area Jaycees meet at 7 p.m. at Lowell City Hall.

FIRST THURSDAY: 4H drama club meeting. The club examines theater related topics, creative and personal development skills.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19 - West Mich. Parents of Murdered Children & Other Survivors of Homicide (POMC).

THURSDAY, NOV. 19 - West Mich. Parents of Murdered Children & Other Survivors of Homicide (POMC).

FIRST MONDAY: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at the High School during lunch periods.

EVERY FOURTH TUES.: Showboat Board meeting, 7 p.m. at the Flat River Antique Mall.

EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets at noon in the community room.

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY: Lowell V.F.W. Auxiliary No. 8303 meets at 3:30 p.m.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 10 a.m.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19 - West Mich. Parents of Murdered Children & Other Survivors of Homicide (POMC).

EVERY THIRD MONDAY: MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meeting from 9:45 a.m. - noon at Saranac Community Church.

TUES. & THURS: Flat River Running Club, 7 p.m. at Fallasburg Park-main parking lot.

SECOND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: 2 to 3:30 p.m., Family Council for the Laurels of Kent Nursing Home.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY: Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Center.

EVERY SAT. Lowell Amateur Radio Club sponsors the 145.270 - repeater which operates on a 24-hour basis.

THURSDAY & FRI., DEC. 3 & DEC. 4: Payments for the Sr. All-Night Party may be turned in to Deb Lonick during lunch periods.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building.

EVERY SECOND TUES.: Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Center.

EVERY TUES.: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time.

EVERY THURSDAY: Elderly volunteers needed to participate in the Intergenerational Program.

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SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society will hold its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash.

EVERY TUES.: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: DivorceCare meets at 7 p.m. at the Helping Hands Child Care Center.

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EVERY 1ST MONDAY: V.F.W. Post 8303 meets at the V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St.

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: DivorceCare meets at 7 p.m. at the Helping Hands Child Care Center.

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EVERY 1ST TUES: Adults with A.D.D./A.D.H.D. Issues Group meeting at St. Lukes Lutheran Church.

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Web Watch advertisement with a computer icon and text about helpful information on Phonics.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949. Lists various community events and meetings.

Lowell Area Schools DIRECTIONS

A MONTHLY COMMUNICATION PUBLICATION TO PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

November 1998

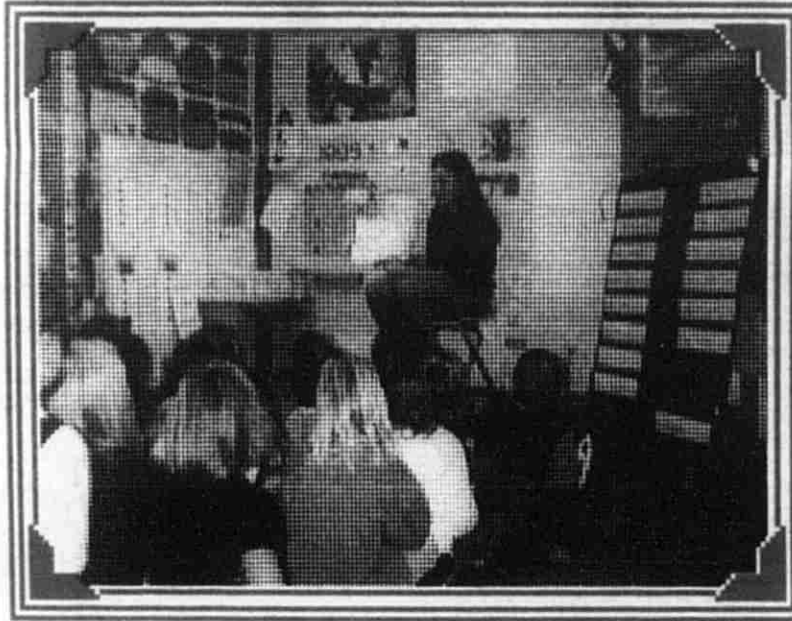
UPCOMING HOLIDAY MUSIC SCHEDULES

- Cherry Creek 2nd Grade....."The Thanksgiving Story"
November 17 - 2:00p.m. in gym
- Middle School 7th & 8th Instrumental Concert
December 10 - 7:00p.m. in gym
- Cherry Creek 5th GradeChristmas Concert
December 11 - 1:30p.m. in
high school Performing Arts Center
- Alto 4th and 5th Grade.....Christmas Program & Sing-a-Long
December 16 - 2:30p.m.
in multi-purpose room
- Middle School.....Vocal Concert
December 16 - 7:00p.m. in gym
- High School.....Vocal Concert
December 17 - 7:00p.m. in
high school Performing Arts Center
- High School.....Instrumental Concert
December 9 - 7:00 p.m. in
Performing Arts Center

FRENCH IN FIRST GRADE

Nancy DeLoof's 1st grade Bushnell Elementary students were treated with a visit from Julie Shortsle, a Grand Rapids Community College student, who is going into education.

She taught the students some French words and read them a children's story she wrote in French.



NEW COMMUNITY ED. CLASSES

Glass Mosaic Patio Stone - Learn the basics of mosaic glass cutting and how to cast your own glass design into concrete to create an 8x8 patio stone. Visit The Stained Glass Place, on 29th St., in Grand Rapids, before your class to pick out your pattern and purchase your glass.

Class: Sun., December 6 12:00 - 4:00p.m. at The Stained Glass Place • Sun., December 13 Stop between 12:00 & 4:00p.m. to unmold project (15 min.)
Cost: \$20 for class / \$26 for materials

Make It, Take It - Make a beveled sun catcher, which is three-dimensional with a crystal center. No cutting or previous experience is required.

Class: Thurs., December 3 7:00-9:00p.m. at The Stained Glass Place Cost: \$12 for class / \$21 for materials

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR THESE CLASSES BY CALLING LOWELL COMMUNITY ED. AT 897-8235.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES NEWS

WINGS PROGRAM PARENT GROUP MEETINGS

WINGS is Lowell Area Schools' academic enrichment program, and it offers monthly parent meetings. Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month, at 7:30p.m. in the board room at the Administration Offices on 300 High Street. Information and support for parents of high ability students in the Lowell school district are offered. For more information, please call either Paula Blumm at 897-5157 (email: Pblumm@aol.com) or Dottie Roth at 897-9257.

EVERYBODY COUNTS PROGRAM

The Educational Support Services Dept. presents an annual program to our elementary students called "Everybody Counts!" It helps promote understanding and acceptance of people with disabilities. A core of trained volunteers goes into each elementary school and offers classes simulation activities which help them to realize what it might be like to have one of the following impairments: vision, hearing, physical, developmental or learning. We are in the fourth year of presenting the first three impairments, and this year have added developmental and learning for the fourth and fifth graders respectively.

It is our hope that this program will make children aware, at an early age, that everyone is important, everyone does have the same feelings of wanting to belong and be liked, and everyone can do things-some just do them a little differently. We must not make fun of anyone because of their impairment. We can be friends with others who have impairments and help them to know that Everybody Counts!

TOTS NEW-BABY

WELCOME BASKETS

Just a reminder that our TOTS Coordinator, Kathy Cole, would like to deliver a welcome basket if your family has recently had a new baby. Please call 897-8415, ext. 224 to schedule a visit.



TWO EARLY CHILDHOOD PARENT MEETINGS SCHEDULED

A Lowell Area Early Childhood PTO is forming for parents of preschool-age children from birth through five years old regardless of what school the child will eventually attend. The organization's purpose will be to help parents better understand their child's growth and development by hearing qualified speakers and attending workshops, sharing experiences and meeting other parents of preschool children. Child care and refreshments will be provided. January 26, 1999, 6:30-7:30p.m., Administration Building-300 High St.

A Countdown to Kindergarten workshop is planned for parents of children entering kindergarten next Fall. Come to a make-it, take-it workshop where fun readiness games will be made following a brief presentation on preparing your child for kindergarten. Refreshments and child care will be provided. This is a free workshop. February 23, 1999, 6:30-7:45p.m., Administration Building-300 High St.

LOWELL HEAD START PROGRAM

Lowell Area Schools works in partnership with the Kent County Head Start Program to provide classroom space for a preschool in the Runciman Building, at 300 High Street. This program is free to low-income families, and it provides children with activities that help them grow mentally, socially, emotionally and physically. Healthy snacks and lunch are part of each day's schedule. Children attending this program spend time in stimulating settings which help them to develop good habits and learn to play and interact well with classmates.

This county program emphasizes that parents are the foremost important teachers of their children and encourage parent involvement. The staff works with families as partners in education to help each child develop and progress toward their successful entry into the regular educational setting.

The program runs weekly from Monday through Thursday, 9:30a.m.-1:00p.m., with free transportation provided. Head Start is funded by the Michigan Family Resources Kent County Head Start. For further information on Lowell's program, please call 897-7920.