

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 22

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Lowell Community Expo marks its third year

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

When Liz Baker took over as assistant director of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce, someone mentioned to her the idea of having a Lowell Community Expo.

"I first thought, 'yeah, yeah, yeah,' but then when I really started to consider it, it made sense," Baker said. "Why not market our own community to our own people?"

Thus was the humble beginnings of the Lowell Community Expo, which marks its third year in 1999. This year, the expo, which already has various confirmed business, school, government, and church organizations, will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 27 at Lowell High School,

11700 Vergennes St. Admission is free.

"At first, we did try to market it beyond our own community to people who were interested in moving to Lowell," Baker said. "After that first event, we were surprised at the turnout and the number of people in our own community who came to the event."

Since then, Lowell Community Expo, which welcomes anyone, has been designed and marketed to those living in and around the Lowell area. Baker said it basically encompasses the school district, but does reach up into the Greenville, Belding, and Ionia areas. In fact, sponsoring the event along with the Lowell Chamber of Commerce and Lowell Area

Schools is the Ionia County National Bank.

The expo will be packed full of things, businesses, and other opportunities within the Lowell area.

"We are focusing on what Lowell has to offer people, whether they are newcomers, retired, or a young family just starting out," said the assistant director. "Lowell has a lot to offer."

According to Baker, many people have made some

great discoveries at the expo. Some have found businesses that service their needs right

thought had closed, but had only moved just down the street.

We are focusing on what Lowell has to offer people.....

- Liz Baker, assistant director of LACC

here in Lowell versus having to go to Grand Rapids. Others have re-established themselves with places they

Some of the groups expected to come to this year's event include the following:

Rotary Club, hosting a raffle; local car dealerships, displaying new automobiles; Lowell Fire Department, demonstrating its fire house to children; and Lowell Area Schools, with at least four booths with information.

Planning to make appearances at this year's expo are the Whitecaps' Crash from 11 a.m. to noon, the Riverwalk Duck, P.C. the Patrol Car, and the Easter Bunny.

Lowell's bus fleet receives perfect score in recent state inspection

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

A couple of weeks ago, Larry Mikulski, Lowell transportation supervisor, probably looked like a worried father waiting to see how his "kid" did on the big exam.

That is because it was that annual time again when the Michigan State Police come to inspect Mikulski "kids" which just happens to be the Lowell Area Schools 50-school bus fleet.

"They give a week's notice because they want to review the buses while they are working," Mikulski said. "So they called about a couple of weeks ago and announced they were coming in this week. My heart always drops every year."

It's not because Lowell's buses don't do well during the inspection (in fact, over the past several years the district has received a good to excellent

rating); it's just a very intense and stressful time for Mikulski and his staff, especially Duane Hamilton and Leo Bowen, the two mechanics in charge of keeping the fleet running.

But something very different happened this year.

It takes inspectors approximately a week to get through a fleet like Lowell's. They look at about eight to 12 buses a day, taking anywhere from a half hour to 45 minutes to check everything out from brakes to the sound of the horn. If something serious is found with a bus, it will receive a red tag, which means the bus can't move until it's fixed. If a minor problem is found, the bus receives a yellow tag, meaning it can be used, but the problem must be fixed.

"At about the noon hour, I would go out there and ask, 'How we doin'?' How we doin'?" Mikulski said. "And

Bus fleet, cont'd., pg. 8



From left to right: Leo Bowen, Larry Mikulski and Duane Hamilton.

Thompson announces he won't run for another term on city council

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

On the heels of a discussion about whether the mayor's position should be elected or appointed, Mayor Bill Thompson announced that he would not seek reelection to the council this fall.

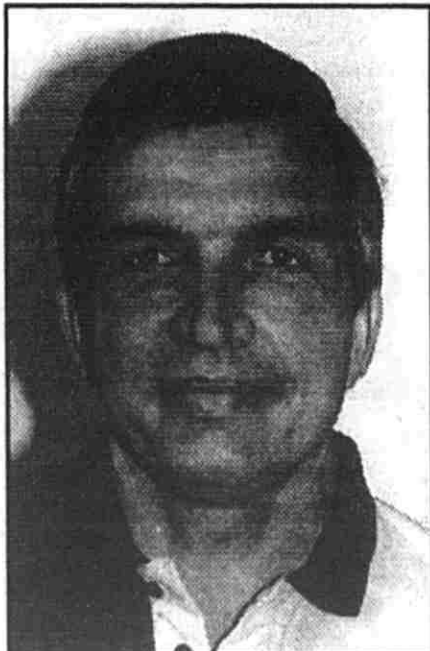
"I have made it clear that I will not be seeking reelection this year and would like to encourage people to run for the council," Thompson said. "There is a lot you learn from

this side of the table versus being out there (in the audience.)"

Thompson has been on the council for 16 years, the

last four serving as the city's mayor. To become mayor, the Lowell City Council must

Thompson, cont'd., pg. 3

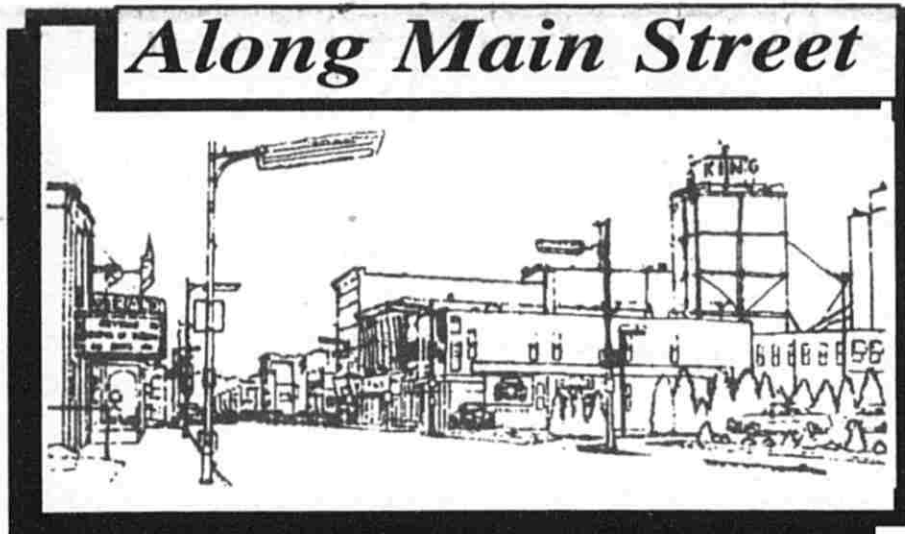


Bill Thompson

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Lowell Area Schools DIRECTIONS

Pages 23 & 24



Along Main Street

POP CAN DRIVE FOR SENIOR ALL-NIGHT PARTY
Save those pop cans! On Sat., March 20, during the morning hours, senior students and their parents will be collecting pop cans door to door. Money made will go to the Senior All-Night Party, sponsored by Parents of Seniors.

FALLASBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING
A potluck and annual meeting of the Fallasburg Historical Society is scheduled for Monday, March 22, 6:30 p.m. at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

At 7:30 p.m. John Obermeyer of the Civil War Graves Registration Project will speak. For further information, call 897-6430.

LMS DRAMA CLASS PLAY

The Lowell Middle School eighth-grade drama class will present a musical adaptation of *The Little Mermaid* on Tuesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the middle school cafeteria at 750 Foreman.

The public is invited and admission is free.

DRIVER'S TRAINING SIGNUPS

The signup period for students wanting to take driver's training this summer will be thru March 26. Applications are available at the high school and middle school. The two sessions offered are: session 1 from June 14 thru July 2 and session 2 from July 12 thru July 30.

To be eligible you must have been born before Nov. 12, 1984. The fee is \$50 and includes Segment 2. Any questions can be directed to Al Eckman at Lowell High School, 897-4125.

LASSO SPONSORS SPORTSWEAR SALE

The Lowell Area Select Soccer Organization (LASSO) will be sponsoring an Adidas sportswear and sample sale on Saturday, March 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The sale will be held at the Lowell United Methodist Church.

Main St., cont'd., pg. 8

OBITUARIES

ALGER - Virginia M. Alger, aged 73, of Lowell, formerly of Cadillac, passed away March 8, 1999. She is survived by her sisters Gladys (Lloyd) Walker, Lilly Williams, both of NC; sister-in-law Eleanor Smith of Watersmeet, MI; nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held Saturday. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

HENRY - Beulah Henry, aged 89, of Alto, went to the arms of Jesus on March 6, 1999. She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Myron N. Henry. She was the daughter of Arch and Grace Wood of McCords, Michigan, and was preceded in death by her parents and a brother Charles Wood. She was much loved by numerous friends and her family. Beulah loved to garden and made beautiful God's earth by not only gardening about her home in McCords, but also she developed a nature walk across from her home in McCords, that was enjoyed by the community and many school children. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, family requests expressions of sympathy please consider donations to a charity of your choice. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

KITTREDGE - John S. Kittredge, aged 80, of Lowell, passed away Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at Spectrum

and Esther Sherwood; many nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services were held Tuesday with the Rev. Gordon Barry officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst, Lowell.

MOSS - Mrs. Eleanor Moss, aged 87, died very peacefully on March 9, 1999, surrounded by her family and longtime friend, Lee Major. Eleanor was born on August 17, 1911, in Washington, NJ, to Sarah and James Trimble. She attended Sweet Briar College in Lynchburg, VA and graduated with honors with Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School in New York City. Her career as an Executive Secretary spanned 25 years. She served as executive secretary to the vice president of Olin Corporation in New York City, and as an assistant to the editor at Fawcett Publications. She was married for 48 years to Raymond Moss. After moving to Lowell, she served as secretary to the pastor of Lowell Congregational U.C.C. During her years of retirement, she joined a group of retired professional women who enjoyed travel, bridge, and exercise. For the last seven years, she resided at the Clark Retirement Community, where she enjoyed the company of many friends and received loving care from the staff. Her life will be remembered gratefully by her daughter Susan (Doug) Budzynski and their children Jenny, Juliet, Tim (Carol) Budzynski, Wendy, Melissa Budzynski and Dave

LEEMAN - Peter M. Leeman, aged 84, of Lowell, passed away Saturday, March 13, 1999, in Lansing. He was preceded in death by his wife of 33 years, Betty. He is survived by a son Richard of Lansing; one brother Maurice Leeman of Marion; two sisters-in-law Barbara Wilsted

Bulkowski, Max, and Paul. She is also survived by nine great-grandchildren. Funeral and committal services were held Friday at the Clark Retirement Community with the Rev. Bill Curnouw of the Grandville-Jenison Congregational U.C.C. officiating. In lieu of flowers, you are asked to consider a donation to the Alzheimer's Association.

SAGANEK - Mr. Otto Saganek was born April 26, 1920, in Marion Township, Charlevoix County, on the family farm, one of 11 children to Michael and Anna (Swobada) Saganek. Mr. Saganek was a longtime resident of Grand Rapids and Lowell, a former farmer and longtime employee of American Seating Co. He served in the Armed Services during WWII in New Guinea and the Philippines. Surviving are his wife of 56 years Viola (McMillan) Saganek of Crystal River, FL; his children Mavis (Joseph) Moritti of Ada, Shirley (Curtiss) Chadwick of Saranac, David Saganek of Kalamazoo, Theresa (Daniel) Vander Zand of Caledonia; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters Lillian Karwoski of West Olive, MI, and Helen Tucker of Alexandria, MO. Funeral services were held Thursday, March 11, with the Rev. James Frank of Galilee Baptist Church of Saranac officiating. Interment in Rosedale Memorial Park. For those who wish, memorials may be made to the Salvation Army or Hospice of Greater Grand Rapids.

STAAL - Florence E. Staal, aged 89, of Lowell, died Thursday, March 11, 1999. She was preceded in death by

her husbands Burnett Condon and Gerald Staal; sons Bernie Condon and John (Jack) Condon; son-in-law Carl Shores. She is survived by her daughter Jeanne Shores of Lowell; daughter-in-law Julie Condon of Greenville; grandchildren Bernie (Etta) Condon of Lowell, Nancy (George) Currier of Co, Carla (Al) Burrows of Lowell, Jacki (Dan) Scholtens of Greenville, Deb (Fred) Peasley of Marysville, Terri (Jim) Hostler of Saranac; many great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held Saturday at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Dr. Roger LaWarre of First Congregational Church of Lowell, officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Alheimers

Association or First Congregational Church of Lowell. Arrangements by Roth-Gerst of Lowell.

Historical Society discusses Civil War grave registration

Five graves in the Foxes' Corners and Fallsburg cemeteries are recorded as those of Civil War veterans. One was killed in the war, one served in the 16th Michigan Infantry and the others served in other state militias. Three have no birth or death dates recorded.

John Obermeyer, of Grand Rapids, is actively involved in the project and will be speaking on Monday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Schneider Manor. He says, "The purpose of the graves registration is twofold: to find where all Michigan Civil War soldiers are buried (they may be buried in any state or country) and to find and identify all graves in Michigan of Civil War soldiers, no matter their origins."

The annual meeting, sponsored by Fallsburg Historical Society, will be preceded by a potluck supper at 6:30 p.m. All are invited including guests and visitors.

LPD's newest "officer" focuses on safety

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

As P.C. rolls slowly into the room, he catches himself on the door.

"Oh," he said, "I'm still trying to learn how to maneuver around here."

He settles himself on the floor and clearly states:

"I am P.C., the Patrol Car. I am the newest member of the Lowell Area Police Department. What would you like to know?"

What would anyone want to know from a small plastic police car that stands about three feet high and comes with flashing lights, a siren, and working headlights? Actually, quite a bit.

P.C. has an extremely important role at the police department...he is in charge of informing people, especially children, about safety.

"My biggest task will be to talk to all the kids about such safety issues as not talking to strangers, good touch/

bad touch, bicycle safety, and so on," P.C. said.

According to P.C.'s personal appointment coordinator, officer Steven Bukala, P.C. will make his debut appearance at the Lowell Community Expo '99, March 27, and will then begin speaking about bicycle safety this spring in the local elementary schools. P.C. will also be at many of the community events to talk to all ages about safety in general from bikes to car seats to crossing the street.

Bukala, who does the DARE program in the schools and the bicycle patrol, actually met another P.C., who was on staff with the Kent County Sheriff's Department last year. It was at that time he thought such a robotic car would be a nice addition to the Lowell Police Department.

"I was made possible through a grant by the Englehardt Foundation," P.C. said.

P.C. costs about \$7,000 with the Englehardt Foundation covering the entire cost.

Bukala said P.C. also has coloring books and other items to give to the kids. Bukala is currently looking for people who would be willing to donate to purchase those items.

Chief of police James Valentine made arrangements for P.C. to be stripped for free by Magic Graphics. In return, P.C. served as a demo for the company at a recent convention.

P.C., who likes the Beach Boys music and wasn't afraid to show off some of his dance moves, said he is looking forward to getting to know the people of Lowell.

"I think the kids will be pretty excited to see me," P.C. said.

Bukala said many police departments have found P.C. is nonthreatening to children.

The company that makes P.C., Robotronics, also has discovered that some departments have been able to use P.C. as a way to deal with children in traumatic situations because the children are more comfortable talking to the animated vehicle than a real person.

For now, P.C. will remain under wraps at the department, or rather in the hall, until his big debut. Don't feel too bad for the little fellow...he has had a chance to take a look around his new home—from the rear window of a police car.

And before rolling along, P.C. just couldn't help but show off his sense of humor.

"Hey, why did the turtle cross the road?" he asked. "To get to the 'Shell' station."



P.C., the Patrol Car, the newest member of the Lowell Police Department, will be speaking to children and adults about the importance of safety at the Expo.

Thompson continued...From Page 1

appoint the person, who holds the position for two years.

Because of the way the city of Lowell does select its mayor and the fact that there will be a new one in the year 2000, councilor Charles Myers asked the council to consider how it would like to continue this process.

"In the last 16 years, there have only been two mayors," said Myers. Before Thompson, Jim Maatman served as mayor for 12 years before retiring from the council.

"If I were to poll Don (Green), Jeanne (Shores), or Mike (Blough), I am sure they would all say that they aspire to be the mayor some day," Myers said.

The city staff prepared a report, at Myers request, where they surveyed 16 cities about the same size as Lowell on how they elect the mayor. Of the 16 cities, six indicated they appoint the mayor and 10 indicated the mayor is elected.

To change the process to an elective mayor would require a change in the charter.

said City Manager David Pasquale. A change in the charter would require a vote of the people. To rotate the current appointed position, however, is considered a policy change that the council could do itself. Pasquale said.

"There is nothing wrong with somebody being mayor for a long time," Green said.

"There is nothing wrong with a person being mayor for a short period either."

Myers said he only brought up the subject, not necessarily to change what the council is currently doing, but to evaluate the process.

"In January, I'm done," Thompson said. "So either way, there is going to be a new mayor."

Also up for re-election in the fall is Myers, who said he plans to run, and Blough, who said he has not yet made a decision.

COLLEGE NEWS

Amy Carolyn Teunis, a 1996 graduate of Lowell High School, was recently placed on the dean's list at the University of Michigan. Students must maintain a 3.5 GPA and have completed at least 28 credit hours of study.

In addition, she has been named as a James B. Angell scholar. This award is for students who record two or more consecutive semesters of work and maintain a 4.0 GPA for that period.

Teunis, a junior, has also been selected by the faculty as the Phoebe Martha Scott award winner for the 1998-1999 school year. This honor is to recognize the top female student in the kinesiology department who is also "friendly, outgoing, helpful and is involved in campus and sports activities."

The award and scholarship will be presented at the Honors brunch to be held in Ann Arbor on March 21.

She is the daughter of Chuck and Susan Teunis of Ada.

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MAIN ST., CONT'D.

YMCA ADULT SOFTBALL REGISTRATIONS
Adult softball registrations for both spring and summer leagues have begun.
Please call the YMCA at 897-8445 or stop in at 323 W. Main St. for further information.

PHONE BOOK RECYCLING
Lowell United Methodist Church is the local collection site for used phone books. Books will be received through Sunday, March 21. Pitsch Co. has donated a trailer for the collection. The books will be used to make insulation for Habitat for Humanity.

The Lowell area is urged to contribute to this great effort. Please be aware this is for phone books only, no catalogs.

LOWELL FIRE DEPT. PANCAKE BREAKFAST
On Sat., March 27 from 7 a.m. until 11 a.m., the Lowell Area Fire Department, 315 S. Hudson, will serve a pancake breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee and milk. Proceeds to go toward fire equipment.

Young author receives recognition

This year, Josh Fisher's writing *Marionettes* was selected for publication in *Kaleidoscope*, a Michigan Reading Association publication. Fisher attends eighth grade at Lowell Area Middle School. *Kaleidoscope* is a book of short stories and poems by students from all over Michigan. Sponsored by the Michigan Reading Association, *Kaleidoscope* was started eight years ago with the purpose of celebrating the talents of young authors. Each year approximately 150 schools submit one outstanding piece of student writing for publication. The young authors, from kindergarten through twelfth grade, address a wide variety of topics and have at least one thing in common - they love to write.

In addition to becoming published authors, the students are also invited to attend a special luncheon featuring Jon Scieszka, a well-known children's author. The guest author will discuss his work, answer questions, and commend the students' writing. This experience further encourages the idea that the students are themselves authors, and motivates them to continue to write.

Planning commission close to approving farm market building permit for Crawford

By J.N. Boersma
Contributing Writer

Michael Crawford has one more hoop to jump through before he can start building his farm market on the corner of N. Hudson and Main streets. At a special Lowell Planning Commission meeting held March 8, the commission informed Crawford that he would need to get a variance for lot coverage on the property. Under the city's ordinance, a property owner may cover up to 60 percent of his/her lot. On Crawford's site plan, he is indicating 80 percent of lot coverage.

"There was some discussion over the definition of lot coverage," said planning commission chair Dan Brubaker. "We decided that anything paved would be included in the term of lot coverage."

The planning commission recommended approval of the variance for lot coverage to the zoning board of appeals. The Lowell City Council, acting as the zoning board of appeals, has set a public hearing on the variance at the next regular city council meeting, April 5.

At the March 8 meeting, Crawford did present, as requested by the planning commission, a color rendering of his building. After reviewing the rendering and listening to public comments, the commission approved a site plan

for Crawford subject to the approval of the variance.

The site plan approval also had several conditions. Crawford was to present a landscaping plan which meets the ordinance for city staff to review and approve. He also needs to scale back his building to 30 by 60 feet, something Crawford had indicated he planned to do at an earlier meeting, to make room for one more parking space, which he is required to have.

"An issue was raised as to whether he would need (the Michigan Department of Transportation's) approval for the curbs," Brubaker said. "We made the approval subject to that he gets all the state permits he needs."

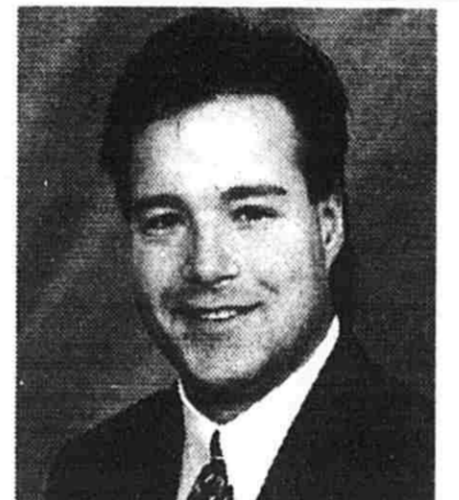
Several people were present at the meeting, again raising concerns about the development of the site and commenting on how it appeared that the planning commission has bent over backwards to help Crawford with his

project. Something, said Charlie Bernard, that the planning commission hasn't done in the past for other businesses. Brubaker said he disagrees and does believe the commission has tried to be helpful with all the applicants who have come before the planning commission.

"Crawford has had to jump through a lot of hoops to get this approved," he said.

In the end, Brubaker said he does believe the planning commission was fair in dealing with this particular case. "Our job is to look at the ordinance, look at the application before us, and determine if the site plan we were looking at meets the ordinance as written," Brubaker said. "In the opinion of the planning commission, with some changes, it did."

BUSINESS MATTERS



Pat Schaefer

Greenridge Realty announced that Pat Schaefer received Realtor of the Month in February.

This award recognizes Schaefer for his outstanding success and achievements.

Bus fleet, continued...From Page 1

the response would be, "Nothing."

In fact, Mikulski started seeing the number of buses checked getting higher and higher and the report remained the same: no problems found. Suddenly, it dawned on Mikulski and the mechanics that the fleet would receive a clean bill of health with no red or yellow tags.

For Hamilton and Bowen, it has meant special recognition from the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education, pats on the back from the drivers, and even a story in the local newspaper.

Both men say they couldn't have achieved this by themselves. They give credit to the bus drivers who, in between the regular checks the mechanics give each bus, report anything they think is out of the ordinary.

Superintendent Bert Bleke said this accomplishment by Hamilton and Bowen and the drivers is an excellent example of teamwork.

"Parents must be able to take great comfort in knowing that they are putting little Johnny or Suzie on one of the safest bus organizations in the state," Mikulski said. "I think that is something that needs to be shouted out."

So how do you top a perfect score? Well, Hamilton said, you try to achieve for two years in a row.

"It will be tough," Bowen said. "The buses will be another year older."

Hamilton has been with the Lowell Area Schools for three years serving as a mechanic. This is Bowen's first year as a mechanic for the district.

Hamilton and Bowen, it has meant special recognition from the Lowell Area Schools Board of Education, pats on the back from the drivers, and even a story in the local newspaper.

Both men say they couldn't have achieved this by themselves. They give credit to the bus drivers who, in between the regular checks the mechanics give each bus, report anything they think is out of the ordinary.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE BUDGET HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Grattan Township Board will hold a public hearing for the purpose of answering questions, reviewing and adopting the annual budget for the 1999/2000 fiscal year.

The meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 1999 in the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan at 7:00 p.m.

All interested parties are welcome. A copy of the proposed budgets can be viewed at the Township Hall prior to the public hearing.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING

Peggy A. Gurney
Grattan Township Clerk

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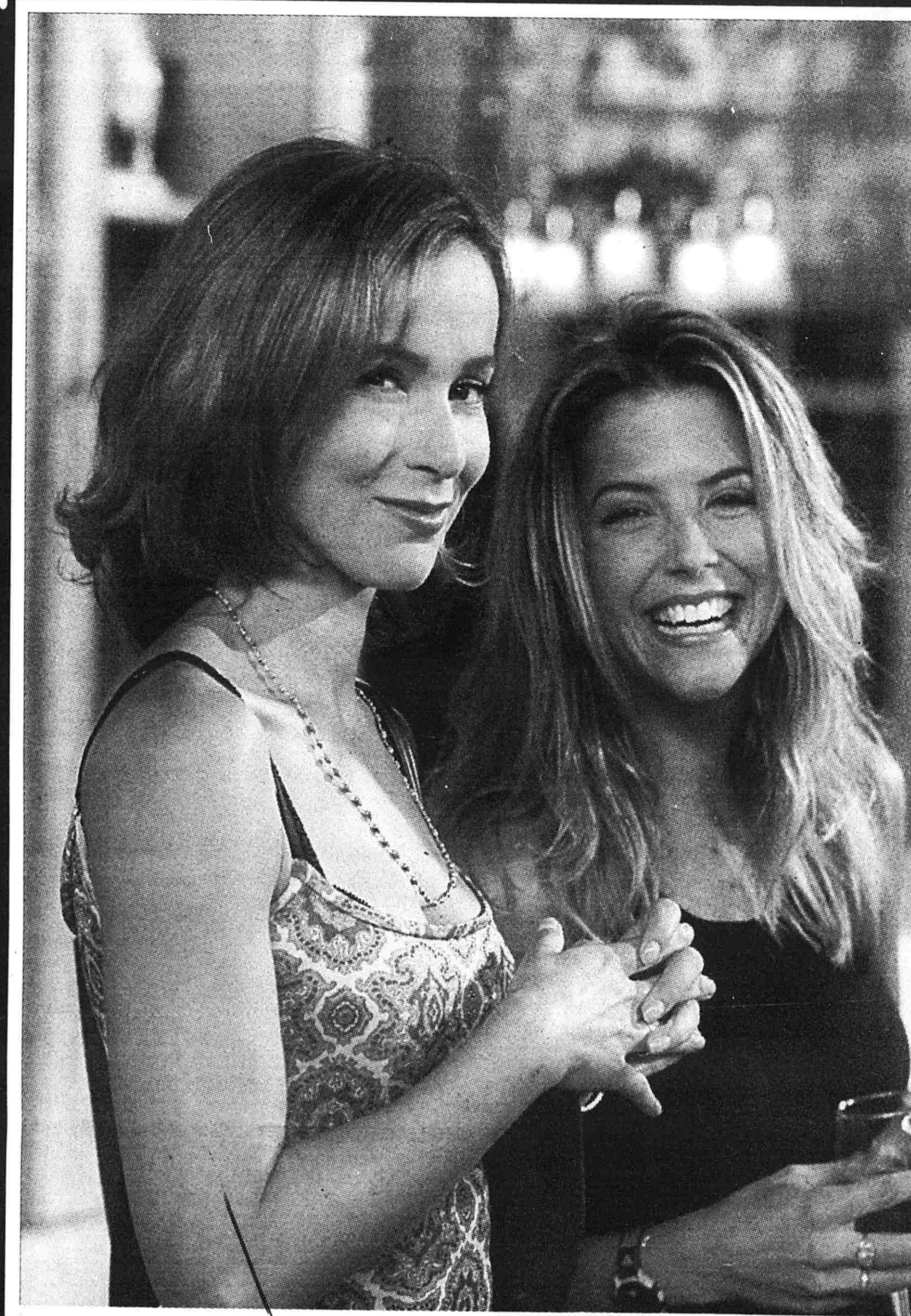


CRUEL INTENTIONS
(R) WED/TH 5:10 7:40 9:45
THE OTHER SISTER
(PG13) W/TH 4:30 7:00 9:30
ANALYZE THIS
(R) WED/TH 4:40 7:20 9:25
HE CORRUPTOR
(R) WED/TH 4:50 7:10 9:15
DEEP END OF THE OCEAN (PG13)
WED/TH 5:00 7:30 9:40
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2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5	FX
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	SHOWTIME
15	WSYM-47
16	HBO
17	THE MOVIE CHANNEL
18	C-MAX
19	FAM
20	LOCAL PROG/WEATHER
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	TBS
34	DISNEY
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
48	C-SPAN
49	EWTV

* Denotes Premium Channels



FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19 THRU MARCH 25

The new ABC sitcom *It's Like, You Know ...* stars Jennifer Grey (*Dirty Dancing*), complete with a new nose, as herself and A.J. Langer (right) as Lauren Woods, a masseuse and process server. *It's Like, You Know ...* and *The Norm Show*, a new series starring comic Norm Macdonald, premiere Wednesday.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!
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Back: Jean, Becky, Carrie & Jim
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FRIDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 19, 1999 BROADCAST STATIONS 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

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

SATURDAY MORNING MARCH 20, 1999 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

FRIDAY EVENING MARCH 19, 1999 BROADCAST STATIONS 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

SATURDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 20, 1999 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 MARCH 20, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 21, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 20, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

SUNDAY EVENING MARCH 21, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

SUNDAY MORNING MARCH 21, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 21, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for broadcast stations (WVMT, WOVU, WGVU, WXXM, WOOD, WZZM, WGN, MAX, FAM, USA, DISC, WGN, ESPN, CNN, NICK, A&E, FSD, TNT, TBS, DISN, NASH, TLC, SCIFI, COM, HIST, AMC, H&G, LIFE, HBO).

MONDAY EVENING MARCH 22, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

MONDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 22, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 23, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 23, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

WEDNESDAY EVENING MARCH 23, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT MARCH 23, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (12:00-4:30) and broadcast stations (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

Basketball season ends with loss to Forest Hills Northern

The Lowell basketball season came to an end last Thursday as the Red Arrows lost to the Huskies from Forest Hills Northern in a district match up. Lowell, despite playing without three starters, put forth a valiant effort but came up just short.

The Red Arrows utilized a "triangle and two" defensive scheme in an effort to slow down the powerful scoring duo of Scott Drolema (20 points per game) and Travis Gessner (15 points per game).

The strategy proved to be successful for the Arrows as they held Drolema and Gessner to a combined 23 points for the game. Little did the Arrows know that Dave Burggraf would step up and score 11 points for the Huskies, none of which came in the fourth quarter.

"I give Burggraf credit, he stepped up and hit some big shots in the fourth quarter. Our goal was to make someone other than Gessner and Drolema beat us. We executed

our game plan perfectly, but Burggraf played a big part in their win," said Lowell coach Pete Bush.

The first half was tight the entire way. Lowell's Ryan Mix hit a two-point basket to come within two of the Huskies, 32-30, with nine seconds left in the half. The Huskie's Gessner hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to put the Huskies up 35-30 at the half.

Northern stretched the lead to 11 early in the fourth

quarter, but the Red Arrows pulled to within five with just over five minutes to go in the game. The Arrows would get no closer. "I'm proud of the way we played. Our guys played hard. Northern just hit some big shots," said Bush.

Lowell was led by Mix (20 points and eight rebounds), Shane Teelander (nine points, six assists, five steals) and Steve Adams (11 points and six rebounds). Northern was paced by Gessner (13 points),

Burggraf (11 points) and Drolema (10 points).

The Arrows end their season with a record of 6-15.

Northern (15-7) advanced and defeated Rockford in the district championship final.

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Altoft finishes first season at Albion

Albion College freshman Jeff Altoft completed his first season as a member of the Briton football team in 1998. He was recognized for his participation at the annual team banquet held January 23 in Baldwin Hall on the Albion campus.

A graduate of Lowell High School, Altoft helped the team to an 8-2 overall record and a 6-0 finish in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association standings. In addition to winning Albion's eighth MIAA title in the 1990's and 30th overall, Albion also earned its fifth bid to the NCAA playoffs in the 1990's.

Albion lost the first round playoff game to the eventual champion Mount Union, 21-19.

Healing is a matter of time, but it is sometimes also a matter of opportunity.
-Hippocrates

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1999 Lowell Community Expo

When: Saturday, March 27th 10am to 4pm.
Where: Lowell High School 11700 Vergennes Road

The Community Expo features area businesses, school groups, church groups and service organizations that make up our home community. Come and see what's new in Lowell!

YOUR BUSINESS

Stouffer wins state wrestling title

Bill Stouffer ended a 21-year drought by becoming Lowell's first wrestling state champion since his uncle, Tom Oesch Sr., won the state title in 1978.

Stouffer, just a junior, pinned Phil Nowell of Niles

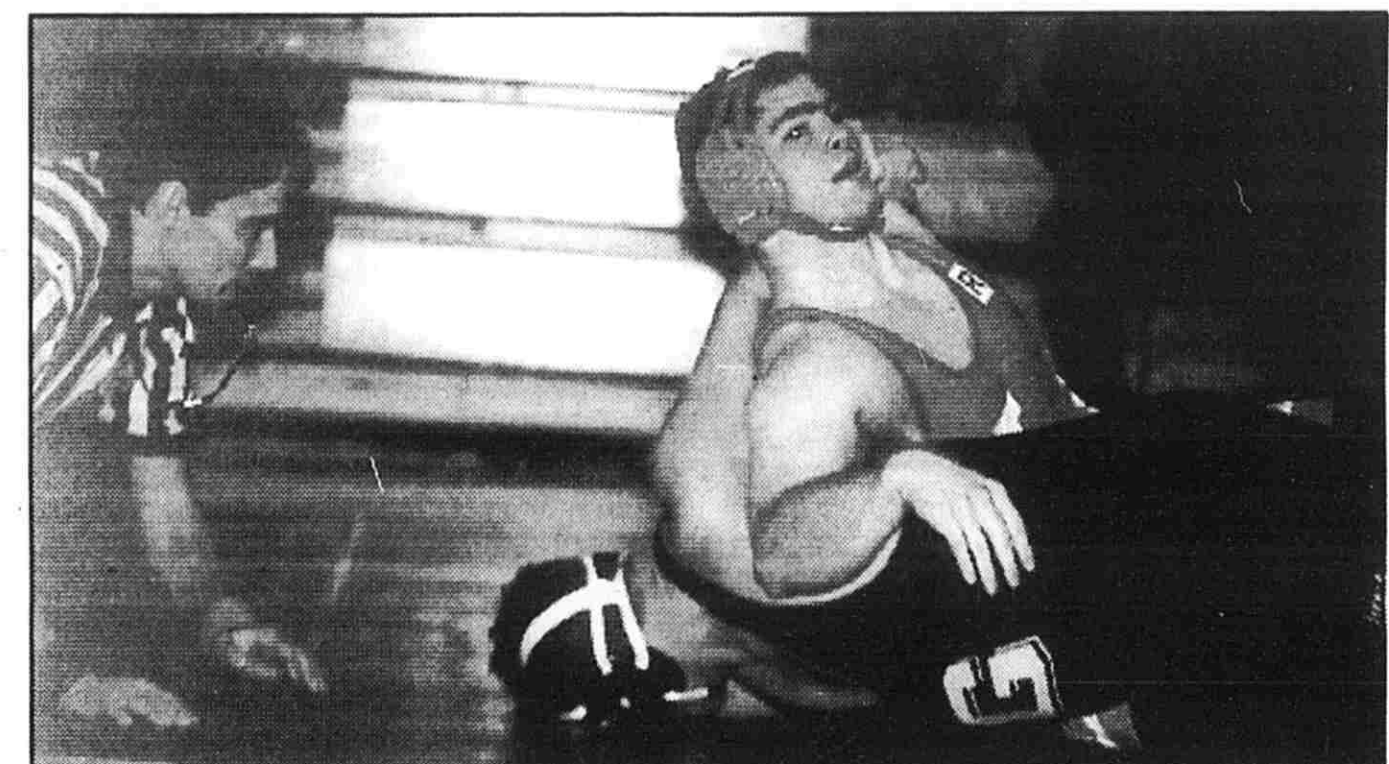
in 3 minutes 16 seconds of the finals. In fact, he pinned all four of his state tournament opponents, making his accomplishment even more remarkable. Stouffer finished the season with a near perfect 54-1 record.

This victory brought back many warm memories of Gary Rivers, whom many wished could have been here to share in the celebration. Coach Rivers had coached Stouffer since he was a child in the freestyle wrestling club, and even said of Stouffer when he was in fifth grade, "That's my next state champion."

"This victory is dedicated to coach Rivers," Stouffer added.

Other state placers earning All-State honors for Lowell were Caleb O'Boyle and Tom Oesch. O'Boyle went 3-2 during the three-day tournament, winning by major decision over Jaden Harman of Coldwater with a score of 8-0 in his finals match to finish seventh. Only a sophomore, this is the second straight year O'Boyle reached All-State status.

Oesch, a junior, went 4-2 for the tournament on the way to his fifth-place finish. Two memorable matches included a spirited 6-0 loss to Mount Morris' Harold Eastman.



Bill Stouffer wrestling in a match earlier this month.

Eastman entered this year's state tournament sporting a 57-0 record. After being beaten in the semifinals, Eastman faced a motivated Oesch who had upset on his mind, and gave the formerly undefeated wrestler everything he wanted. Oesch continued his reign of terror by shutting out East Grand Rapid's Mike Phelan 12-0 in the finals, avenging two losses from earlier this season. Oesch

has already committed himself to the type of training needed to join his father (Tom Sr.) and cousin Bill Stouffer, among the ranks of State Champions.

Other Lowell wrestlers showing great efforts, although falling just short of All-State honors, were Denny Snuffer, a senior, and John Mendez, a sophomore.

Snuffer pinned Plainwell's Bart Rizzo in his signature grasshopper roll in just 47 seconds during the first round of competition, but fell in two subsequent matches to go 2-1 for the tournament.

Mendez also went 2-1 during the competition though he suffered a set of cracked ribs during his second round match in which he pinned Lapeer West's Jason

Fellows in 4 minutes 43 seconds. Mendez then lost by fall in his next match to Hartland's Josh Kowal, cutting short his All-State run. This was the first time Mendez had been pinned all season.

The one remaining wrestler to represent Lowell at the individual state meet, Dan Rottier, a junior, never even got a chance to get out on the mat. Rottier suffered a fractured rib during last week's team state tournament. As the two-time returning state placer sat in the stands, it was easy to see the agony in his eyes at having to watch the opening round of competition, knowing that it would go on without him. He also has redoubled his resolve to train in the off-season and reclaim his spot atop the awards podium.

CITY OF LOWELL
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of

Mon., March 22, 1999 at 7:00 p.m.

at the Lowell City Hall to consider a special use permit request from Alliant Engineering, Inc. to construct a 2136 square foot Taco Bell restaurant with a drive thru window on the north side of West Main Street between the Admiral station and Lowell Water Works.

Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

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JV Red Arrow hockey team wraps up the season

The Lowell JV hockey team finished out their season this past week with a final regular season game and year end tournament in the West Michigan Junior Varsity Hockey League.

The regular season came to a close for Lowell when they lost their last regular season game to West Ottawa 4-1. As a result of the loss, Lowell wound up in third place in their five-team division only two points behind

West Ottawa and eight points behind division winner Forest Hills Northern. The Red Arrows trailed West Ottawa for most of the game until Ryan Hopkins scored the lone goal for the Red Arrows with help from Eric Austin and Ben Sevald with only 1:43 remaining in the game. The Red Arrows finished the regular season with a divisional record of 8-5-3 and an overall record of 12-11-5.

In the WMJV year-end

tournament, the Red Arrows once again placed third...only this time they shared the position with Grand Rapids Christian.

In the first game of the tournament, Lowell lost to Forest Hills Northern 5-3 in a tough and rugged battle that had the two teams tied until late in the third period when Forest Hills finally forged ahead. The spotlight for the Red Arrows fell on Austin who contributed a goal and

an assist in the losing effort.

In their next game, Lowell found themselves facing Grand Rapids Christian. Despite jumping out to a quick two-goal lead, the Red Arrows could not hold on and were eventually defeated by a score of 4-2. In their third match up of the tourney, Lowell defeated South Christian 6-2. The Red Arrows were led to victory by Sevald with

two goals while Hopkins, Austin, Bobby Oliver and Adam Dabaja also contributed to the Red Arrow cause.

The win against South Christian was enough to earn Lowell a rematch against Grand Rapids Christian to determine the third and fourth spots in the tournament. In the final game, Lowell once again took an early lead but Chris-

tian fought back taking a 2-1 lead into the third period. Early in the third, Red Arrow defenseman Mike Hoonhorst let loose a slap shot from the blue line that found the top of the Christian net to tie the score 2-2. The score would remain unchanged until the final buzzer sounded bringing the Red Arrows' season to a close.

now be the sole owner of the property because you survived your father.

On the other hand, if the deed conveys the property to your father and you as "tenants in common" or is silent as to the type of title, then you only own a one-half interest in the property and your father's estate is the owner of the other one-half interest. If your father left a will, then his estate's one-half interest in the property will pass pursuant to the terms of the will. If your father did not leave a will, then his estate's one-half interest in the property will be distributed to his heirs, of which you are one, pursuant to Michigan law.

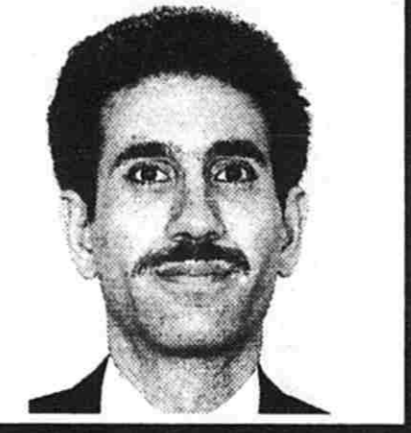
DEAR JONATHAN: I own some property in Florida. Should I put that property in a trust?

JONATHAN SAYS: I cannot give you a good answer without having more specific information. One reason, however, that you may want to put this property in trust is to avoid having the property probated at your death. If you die owning that Florida property in your own name, then in addition to any Michigan probate your estate may be subject to, your Florida property will need to be probated under Florida law. I recommend that you meet with an estate planning attorney who can review with you whether a trust makes sense given all of your circumstances and your objectives. Good luck.

The information contained in this column is not to be construed as legal advice or legal representation and should not be relied upon as such. If legal advice or legal representation is desired, please consult with an attorney.

LEGAL EASE

By Jonathan David



DEAR JONATHAN: Going through my late father's papers, I found a deed to his house which shows the title in both his name and my name. Now that he is deceased, does this mean that I own the house outright?

JONATHAN SAYS: It depends. If the deed indicates that the title to the property is in your name and your father's name as "joint tenants," as "joint tenants and not as tenant in common," or as "joint tenants with full rights of survivorship," then you would

SYNOPSIS GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING March 8, 1999

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Motion to approve the Agenda with change under Old Business, #2 Sewer Ordinance moved to April meeting.
- Motion to approve Budget Amendments
- Motion to approve Consent Agenda with Changes
- Motion to add #4, Resolution for Tax Payments under New Business
- Motion to accept a Resolution to approve Ballot Proposals for Renewal of Fire Protection Millage and for New Millage Levy Devoted to the Acquisition of Fire Department Equipment.
- Motion to Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Colleen O'Brien, Transcriber

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LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 8, 1999

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Erin Umlauf, Student Council President and Representative to the Board of Education, reported that a blood drive is being held on Friday and students are being encouraged to donate. Several students will be attending the "Gift of Giving" seminar to be held at the VanAndel arena and students will continue to help the Flat River Outreach Ministries as their service project.

BENJAMIN MORSE SOCIETY PRESENTATION

Jack Misner brought the executive student board from the Benjamin Morse Society to present plaques to the winners of the Benjamin Morse Society Writing Contest. Runners Up were Robbie Bender, Leslie Koehn, Rebecca Batt, and Karis Prill. The winner was Katie Clements and she won a trip to Gettysburg.

SPECIAL EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Mechanics, Leo Bowen and Duane Hamilton, were recognized for their high achievement in receiving no citations on the recent State bus inspection.

ACTION ITEMS

Accepted the following gifts:
• William and Dottie Roth donation of a computer valued at \$100 to be used by Cherry Creek Elementary School.

• Mr. and Mrs. Charles Straub donation of a set of Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedias valued at \$600 to be used by the Cherry Creek Elementary School library.

Approved to maintain the current driver education and athletic fee structure for the 1999-2000 school year.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approved/Accepted were:

- February 8, 1999 Regular Meeting Minutes
- The following payment of bills:
GENERAL FUND \$592,095.09
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund \$35,354.21
B. Athletic Fund \$11,198.00
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$35,486.30
- Personal Property Taxes Stricken
- Resolution calling for annual election to be held on Monday, June 14, 1999.
- Resignation from Carroll Harper effective at the end of the 1998-99 school year.

SCHOOL TO CAREER PROGRAM - Scott Vashaw explained the School to Career program and the 6 strategies that the committee is working on during the school year.

KINDERGARTEN UPDATE - Mary Ann Schramm and

Karen Burd explained the countdown to kindergarteners and shared brochures which parents will receive at orientation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Bert Bleke announced that those people interested in running for the Board of Education have until Monday, April 12 at 4:00 p.m. to turn in nominating petitions. Bert congratulated the wrestling team and coach Dave Strejc, for coming in 2nd in State competition. He also congratulated Pete Gustafson's son, Mike, for breaking a conference record in swimming.

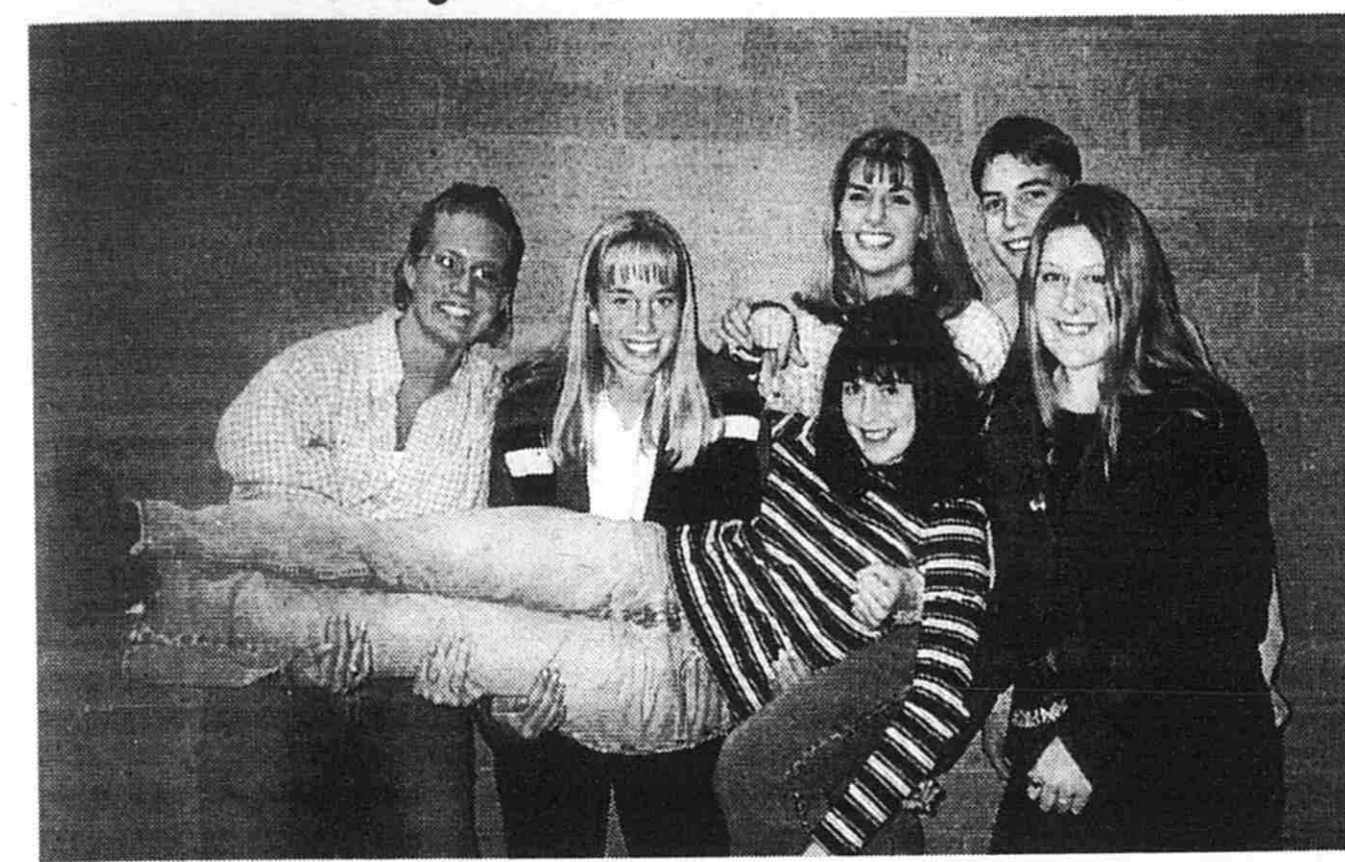
UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Board Workshop
March 22, 1999 - 5:30 p.m.
Runciman Admin. Building - Board Room
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee
March 25, 1999 - 7 a.m.
Runciman Admin. Building - S. Conference Room
- Board Curriculum/Policy Committee
March 25, 1999 - 5 p.m.
Runciman Admin. Building - S. Conference Room
- Regular Board Meeting
April 19, 1999 - 7:30 p.m.
Runciman Admin. Building - Board Room

WE VALUE

Responsibility • Integrity • Compassion • Honesty • Respect

February Students of the Month



February students for the month are: back row, left to right: Laura LaHaye, Lynn Boersma, Meghan Geer, Mike Eteo and Rachael Fredline.

It's time to meet the February Students of the Month at Lowell High School. Each month several departments at the high school choose students who have excelled in a particular area and are deserving of special recognition.

The Students of the Month for February are: Lynn Boersma, Business; Jeanie Dunn, Social Studies; Mike

Eteo, Foreign Language; and Laura LaHaye, Rachael Fredline and Meghan Geer, English.

Boersma, a senior, is active a L.H.S. as a member of the varsity basketball team and a Youth Ambassador. Her teacher nominator says that she has done an outstanding job in all of her business classes. She plans to attend

Davenport College next year and is currently taking a marketing class there. She is the daughter of Tom and Jo Boersma of Lowell.

Dunn, a freshman, participates in Leaders Club, Model U.N., golf and the equestrian team at L.H.S. Her teacher nominator says that she is an outstanding social studies student and always

goes above and beyond what is expected of her in class. She is the daughter of Rick and Kathy Dunn of Ada.

Eteo, a senior, has focused on the Leadership Club at L.H.S. His leadership abilities have won him a scholarship to Aquinas College for next year. His teacher nominator says that he continuously improves his Spanish through hard work. He is the son of Dave and Mary Eteo of Ada.

LaHaye, a senior, has been active at LHS in National Honor Society, S.A.D.D., peer resistance, Women's Club and playing basketball, volleyball and golf. She is in the top 10 of the senior class and plans to attend Western Michigan University next year. She is the daughter of Mike and Marsha LaHaye of Lowell.

Fredline, a senior, has participated in Student Council, National Honor Society, S.A.D.D., and played basketball and softball. She is in the top 10 of the graduating class and plans to attend Michigan

FREE THINGS TO SEND FOR

Newspapers, magazines, books, newsletters and the Internet are all good sources of information on personal finance. A free brochure and prospectus on mutual funds is available from TIAA-CREF by calling 1-800-223-1200, or visit www.tiaa-cref.org on the Web.

To get a free copy of a brochure, "Creative Ideas and Tips for Decorating and Organizing," write to Command Adhesive Decorating Tips, Montage, 2982 Cleveland Avenue N., Roseville, MN 55113 or call 1-800-577-8778, Ext. 70.

Planning commission looks at possibility of establishing a farmers' market in Lowell

By J.N. Boersma
Contributing Writer

Will Lowell establish a farmers' market or won't it?

It is still the question that the Lowell Planning Commission needs to answer. And the group hopes that by establishing a subcommittee to look into the matter, they might have an answer soon.

"There are many issues: location, size, who will run the market, what type of products—although I believe we are talking actual farm produce," said planning commission chair Daniel Brubaker.

The subcommittee is made up of Brubaker and commissioners Gordie Barry and Dan Pipe. The three will spend the next couple of months looking into the farmers' market issue and seeing whether it would be a good fit for Lowell.

"I have heard, for the most part, (citizens) would love to have a farmers' market in Lowell," Brubaker said. "The key is getting in the right place so it will be a benefit to Lowell."

Also, when it comes to location, the group has to consider the amount of foot traffic that would be generated. "The last thing you want is to open a farmers' market and not have any farmers show up," he said.

The issue of the farmers' market came up during discussions over the elimination of the city's transient merchant ordinance, which allowed farmers and other people to come in and sell their products or produce for short periods of time.

Some of the city officials thought creating a farmers' market would be a good trade-off.

The idea also has come under some fire with several business owners warning the city to consider what it is getting into before establishing such a venture.

Brubaker said the committee will talk to residents and business owners to get their feel for the establishment of a farmers' market. He said the committee also plans to talk to various cities

around the state that have farmers' markets in operation, such as Grand Rapids, which has the Fulton Street Farmers' Market. Whether the city does establish a market or not, one thing is certain: there will not be an answer, and probably not a farmers' market, by this summer.

"I think it is going to be extremely difficult to get anything together by this summer," Brubaker concluded.

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

In April of 1998, the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals set four meetings to be held at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI. The purpose of these meetings is to hear any requests for variances to the Home Business Ordinance, adopted March 30, 1998, and to conduct other business as may come before the Zoning Board. There is no fee to be charged for hearing requests for variances to the Home Business Ordinance at these meetings.

There is one remaining date:

Meeting Date	Request & Application Due
April 13, 1999	March 31, 1999

In the event there are no requests for this date by the application deadline, the meeting will be canceled.

Tim Howard
Chair

TOWNSHIP OF VERGENNES NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on March 22, 1999 at 6:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell.

John Otis, owner of property zoned Lake Residential (RL) and located at 11591 Lally St., NE, in the NW 1/4 of Section 4, is requesting a variance to reduce side line setback for construction of a new structure from the required 10 feet to 5 feet 2 inches.

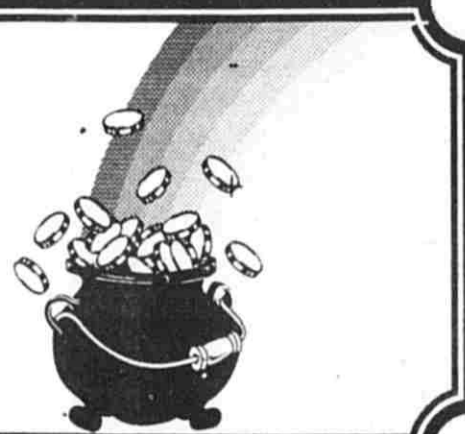
The complete application can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the township office prior to 6 p.m. on March 22, 1999.

Tim Howard, Chair

Find your pot of gold in the Lowell Ledger

Classifieds



HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - looking for motivated individuals for full-time/part-time wait staff: Flexible hours, full benefits, \$8-\$11 an hour. Apply at Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Part-time careprovider for adult foster care home. 897-0799.

HELP WANTED - Local plumbing, sanitation & excavating company is looking for someone to fill the positions of CDL licensed drivers, service technicians, laborers & sales & marketing person. We offer excellent benefits, including good pay, health insurance, 401K & vacation pay. Please apply in person at 2051 Bowes Rd, Lowell.

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FOR SALE

FLORAL LOVESEAT FOR SALE - \$75 or best offer. Call 365-9385.

ANONYMOUS CONSUMER RESEARCHERS NEEDED - \$7-\$12 per job. Apply on the internet - www.ecom.ca

FULL OR PART-TIME DATA RESEARCHER - looking for a job to work around your schedule? We have it! Days, evenings, weekends available. No selling! Minimum typing skills required. Apply today! Call Shannon 616-363-7643.

WANTED - experienced fiberglass technicians. Wages to compensate experience. Full package of benefits available. Call 897-7719.

PART-TIME RURAL MAIL DELIVERY - 1 day per week guaranteed \$11.55 per hour. Must have reliable vehicle & good driving record. Call 676-1088 between 9 a.m. & 5 p.m.

FOR SALE - MTX Thunder 27S amp., \$200; JL #1 lowo speakers, \$150. Call Mike 897-7879.

HONDA GENERATOR - EB5000, 30 amp., 220 like new, \$2,250 o.b.o. Enclosed trailer, 12 x 6 x 8, \$1,650 o.b.o. Call 897-8512.

RETIRED BEANIE BABIES FOR SALE - Blackie, Blizzard, Bones, Curly, Daisy, Echo, Gracie, Jolly, Quackers, Seaweed, Twigs, Valentino, Waves, Wise, \$14 each; Acrylic display cubes 4x4x8, \$1.95 each or \$40 per case of 25; Tag protectors, \$12 per 100. Call (616) 897-1355.

10+ ACRES/LOWELL - 4 acres w/existing newer steel barn, road frontage on 36th St. E. of Alden Nash, \$60,000. 6.8 additional acres available, same location. 897-0476 or 630-739-8653.

BURN BARRELS - Now available at Litehouse. No lids. \$3 each. Call 897-5911.

FOR SALE - Lowell 4 bedroom older home. Large rooms. New electric furnace, plumbing & water heater. Large lot & deck. \$82,000. Call 897-9357.

AIRLINE TICKETS - at farewar prices. Any city-no fee. Call Carol for details. 957-8964.

PRIMESTAR - Mini-satellite system, no equipment to purchase, \$49 installation, lowest price ever. 1-800-459-7357.

1992 FORD TEMPO - air, power brakes, windows & locks. New struts & brakes. \$2,800. Call 897-1349.

FOR SALE - 5 HP, 4 stroke, horizontal shaft, Craftsman motor, \$50. Call 897-5056.

HOUSE FOR SALE - 254 Cloverlane, Saranac. 2 1/2 acres in town! 4 bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, large living room, large family room, large toy room/den, garage, Garter pool, 2-story barn, much more. Close to all schools. 642-9926.

FOR SALE - Queen size waterbed, excellent condition, Free flow, \$100. 868-0243.

EVENTS

LAS VEGAS NIGHT - at St. Patrick's School. Sat., March 20, 7-midnight. 4333 Parnell NE, Corner of Parnell & 5 Mile. Black Jack, Roulette, Dice, 50/50 Raffles, Free Munchies, Soda, Beer & Wine Available. \$2 charge. You must be 18. License #M30108.

FOR RENT

STORAGE UNITS - 5 x 5 to 20 x 40, heated units available, household goods, boats, cars...you name it! Rates from \$15 per month. LANDMAN STORAGE CO. 897-8451.

WANTED

NEED BABYSITTER - for 8 mos. old boy, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Please call Missy 897-8237.

SALES

MOVING SALE - March 20 & 21, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. 5855 Hotchkiss Rd., Lowell. Watch for signs.

FREE

FREE - Oil tank, 250 gal. w/gauge; 3 industrial steel frame windows, 46"x82". Call 949-3202.

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING - & wood finishing. Spray, brush or roll. New construction, remodels, additions or repainting. For quality work at reasonable rates call Buck DeRuischer at RITE-WAY PAINTING, for free estimate, 897-8206. Insured.

BACK ALLEY BAIT - Licenses, hunting supplies, ice fishing bait, yard ornaments. 216 E. Main. 987-9219

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED? - Driver's license RESTORATION \$700 inc. all filing fees. FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead, (616) 235-0330, 9-5 Mon-Fri.

WE BUY HOUSES - Any condition, any location considered. Also acreage wanted! 942-2517.

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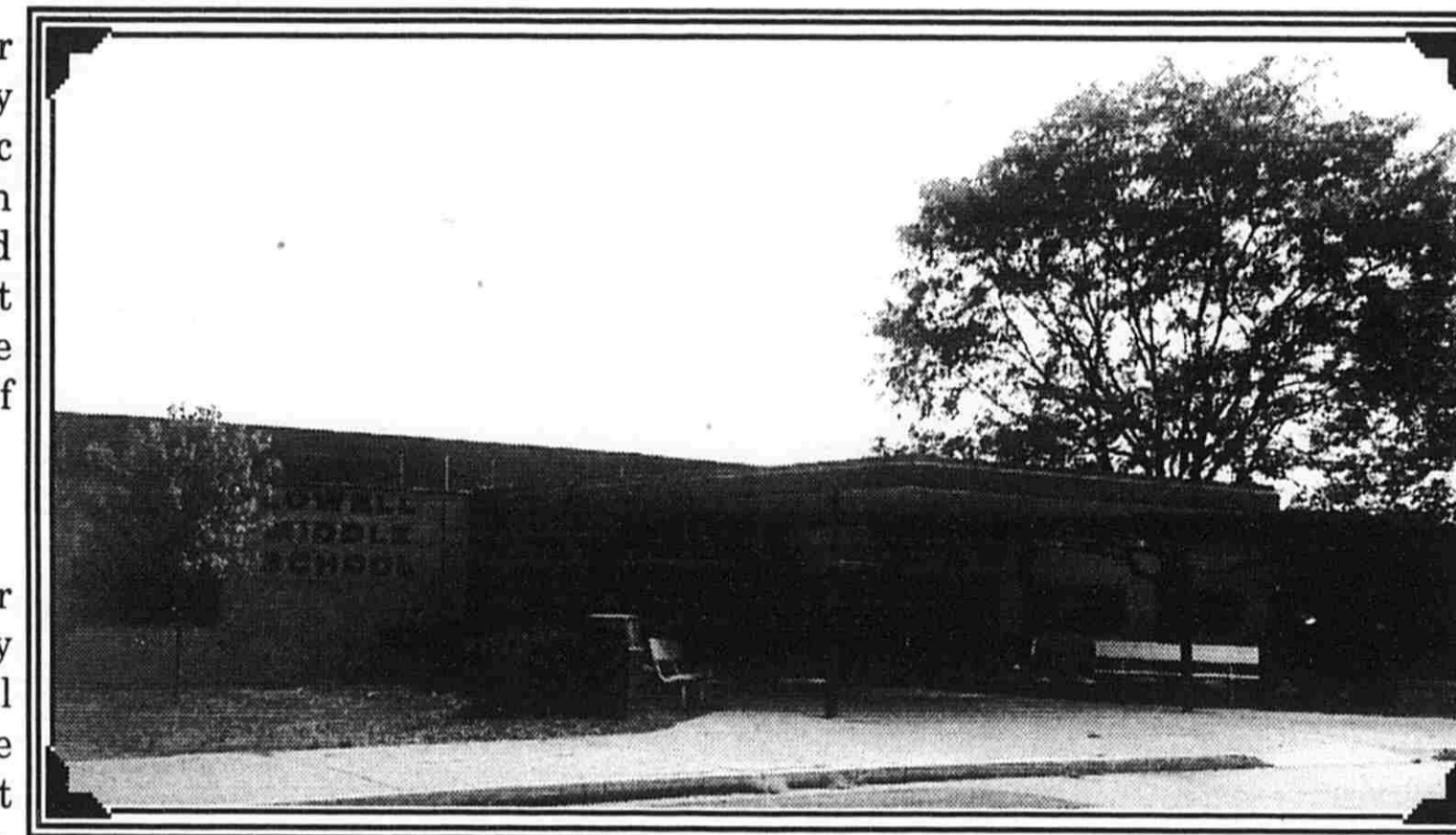
CARD OF THANKS
I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my family and freinds for all their kindness and concern during my recent illnesses. The cards, letters, gifts, calls and especially your prayers have been overwhelming and have helped me as much as any medication ever could. I don't have a lot of answers about my medical conditions but I do know I am truly blessed with a very loving family and wonderful friends who have been there for me thru all the bad times. You are the people who keep me going. There are so many special people who have gone way beyond the norm to help me and Ma, I could never list you all for fear of forgetting someone. Just know you have our unlimited gratitude and love for all you do. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.
Tony Myers
"Thanks a Million"
Doris Canfield,
1406 N. Butler Ave.,
Jefferson City, TN 37760.

CARD OF THANKS
The family of Walter Wittenbach would like to express their thanks to relatives and friends for their prayers, flowers and memorial contributions. To Pastor Don White for his words of comfort and the Ashley Church Ladies for the lunch served after the funeral. To Roth-Gerst Funeral Home for their kindness and assistance to us. Your support and expressions of sympathy were greatly appreciated.
The Wittenbach families:
Bertha Lamoreaux;
Mark and Jeanne Byrne.

CARD OF THANKS
Thank you to everyone for the birthday cards, well wishes and visits for my 100th birthday party. A special thanks to Roger LaWarre and the young people of the Congregational Church.
Goldie Clark.

FOCUS ON OUR SCHOOL

Lowell Middle School, housing 6th-8th graders, is our focus with this issue. Middle school students not only receive interactive lessons in all of their academic classes, they are given the opportunity to participate in the arts and many extra-curricular clubs and competitions. Read on for a glimpse of the great offerings given to our middle school students. For more information, or to schedule a first-hand look at any of these groups, please call the office at 897-9222.



★ BAND PROGRAM ★

With close to 375 members (over one-third of their entire student body), the middle school is very proud of its three programs which offer a wonderful beginning for a student interested in music. There are 126 members in the 6th grade band, who in this first year discover which instrument they would like to play. They learn to read music, play together as a group, and follow the director's lead, demonstrating what they've learned at their Spring concert (this year on May 20th). The 7th grade band, with its 131 members and the 8th grade band, with its 115 members, continue learning and refining their playing skills, marching in parades and competing in the District Band Festival. This year Lowell hosted the festival at the Performing Arts Center in March.

★ ACADEMIC TRACK ★

There are 90 7th and 8th grade students involved in this after-school enrichment activity. Involving a competition on a variety of academic subjects (U.S. History, science, math, etc.) and performance areas (instrumental and vocal music, drama and art), students compete with others from around the county. Their next meet will be March 15th at Rockford Middle School, with the performance events from 4:30p.m. to 6:30p.m.

★ ODYSSEY OF THE MIND ★

Five middle school students are part of the district-wide "OM" team, which works to develop creative problem solving solutions for a problem assigned to their group in the Fall. The group has practice weekly for their March 13th competition at East Kentwood Pinewood Middle School. Students present solutions to their assigned problems, and are also given a spontaneous problem to solve during the competition.

★ SCIENCE OLYMPIAD ★

Another five students from our middle school are participating in creating successful experiments in a competitive atmosphere. On March 20th there will be a regional science competition among students from all over West Michigan.

★ WRITERS' WORKSHOP ★

This after-school group is open to all 6th-8th graders and meets every Monday. The only criteria is a love of writing and a dedication and commitment to practicing individual writing skills.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS SEVERE WEATHER POLICY

The Board of Education, being deeply concerned for the safety of our students, realizes the importance of pre-planning to ensure the protection of its students and staff when potential violent weather exists. Therefore, the following procedures are in effect:

- 1) Tornado Watch when school is in session - students will remain in school until regular dismissal time
- 2) Tornado Warning when school is in session -
 - Students will be escorted to pre-defined areas of safety within each building and remain there until the warning is lifted.
 - Students will not be dismissed to parents during a tornado warning, even if it means holding students beyond the normal dismissal time. If students are retained 30 minutes or longer beyond their normal dismissal time due to a warning, elementary students will be bussed home after the warning is lifted. Secondary students will need to be picked up by parents or guardians.
- 3) The school district will not begin school during a tornado watch or warning, including afternoon and evening functions.
- 4) All after-school activities will be canceled during a tornado watch or warning. Generally, after-school activities will resume if such activities begin two hours after a tornado watch or warning has been lifted. When a warning is issued, activities underway will immediately cease and participants and spectators will be instructed to take cover.
- 5) Parents must assume responsibility for making certain their children understand where they are to go in the event school is canceled for any emergency.
- 6) Any provision of the above policy may be waived, if in the opinion of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, special measures are necessary to ensure the safety of students.

TOTS (Tots on Track for School) 1st ANNUAL PRESCHOOL SALE/EXCHANGE PLANNED

Do you have clothing hanging in a closet that your child has outgrown? Are you looking for good, used books and toys? Plan on being part of the TOTS used clothing, book, toy, and baby essentials sale and exchange:
Saturday, April 24th • Set-Up: 8a.m. - 9a.m. Sale: 9a.m.-2p.m. • At Runciman Gymnasium
Lowell area families are invited to bring their used items for children birth to five years old to sell or exchange. There is no cost to participate, but reserve your spot by calling Kathy Cole, at 897-8415. Supply your own card tables or boxes and handle your own sales. Items not sold or exchanged may be donated to the Flat River Ministries, soon to be opened in Lowell or Lowell Area Schools' Early Childhood programs.
Area families are invited to attend this sale/exchange and also to bring in your own donations if you wish not to sell your items that day.



Community Education

There's still time to sign up for a leisure-time class through our Lowell Community Education Office, 897-8235 (Mon.-Fri. between 8a.m. and 4 p.m.).

- | | |
|---|---|
| EAST COAST SWING
W/March 31 (6 wks.) - \$50 Couple | CREATING A SHADE GARDEN
Tu/April 20 - \$5 |
| BEGINNING CLOGGING
M/March 22 (8 wks.) - \$40 | NATIVE HABITAT GARDEN
Tu/April 27 - \$5 |
| BASIC CLOGGING
M/March 22 (8 wks.) - \$40 | PUPPY AND DOG 101
Basic Obedience Class
W/April 14 (6 wks.) - \$70 |
| INTERMEDIATE CLOGGING
M/March 22 (8 wks.) - \$40 | ADULT DOG 202
Prerequisite - #101
M/April 14 (6 wks.) - \$70 |
| HUNTER SAFETY
M, W/beginning April 12 (3 wks.)
\$5 - Pre-registration required | |

Lowell Area Schools DIRECTIONS

A MONTHLY COMMUNICATION PUBLICATION TO PARENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

March 1999

CHARACTER COUNTS!

Our character traits in action....

"Compassion Slips" were presented at Cherry Creek to:

Ryan and Elena for respecting their entire class as they prepared for subject changes.

Ashley for assisting her teacher at recess.

Laura for cleaning up a mess in the art room.

Andrew for staying late to help after school.

WE value

Responsibility....Integrity....Compassion....Honesty....

Respect.....making a RICH community for our students and families.

SCHOOLS OF CHOICE PLAN

A choice of school location is available within the Lowell Area Schools system at the elementary level. If you have reason to attend another elementary building/school than is normal for your resident address, you may make application to do so. Please contact Kay Jones, in the Superintendent's Office, at 897-8415 by June 10, 1999 to apply.

Questions regarding this process may also be directed to Kay. It may be necessary to limit approval of choice requests according to space within our buildings.

PARENT-TO-PARENT

At the February school board meeting, our superintendent and principals discussed the values programs they run in each school, which teach our children the character traits adopted by our school and community. The Parent-to-Parent group, offered through each of our elementaries, is a great example of our district's values in action. Mentors from this group accept *responsibility* to call and welcome a new member to the community. They listen with *compassion* to the questions newcomers have and answer their inquiries with simple *honesty*. Mentors regularly practice *integrity* by returning phone calls as promised, and they recognize and *respect* the gifts each new family brings into our community. As this program continues reaching to new families, the bonds of our growing community will become even stronger.

If you would like to help put our district's character traits into action and help a new member of our community feel welcomed, please consider becoming a Parent-to-Parent mentor. Call one of these coordinators to get started: Nancy Hopkins (897-0056)/Cherry Creek; Nancy Underwood (868-7186)/Alto; or Marcia Bieber (897-6908)/Bushnell.

Lowell Area Schools Proudly Sponsors



Saturday, March 27th • 10am to 4pm • Lowell High School

Come and See What's New in Our Schools!

Pre-School
Kindergarten
Adult Education
Computer Education
Sports & Activities
Transportation Issues
Community Education
Summer School 1999
Educational Support Services

The Community Expo features area businesses, school groups and service organizations that make up our home community.

Sponsored by Ionia County National Bank, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and Lowell Area Schools

Crash, mascot of the White Caps, will be at Expo between 11:00a.m. and 12:00 noon.

ACADEMIC FOCUS - TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

One of our school's high priorities is making certain technological opportunities are offered to our students of all ages. Below are some examples of how students learn technology at Lowell Area Schools.

Alto Elementary's 1st through 4th grades are offered after-school computer lab time to provide enrichment instruction about desktop publishing. Students as young as 1st grade use a database to create a master copy for memo pads. They learn to insert pictures and text into the database layout, creating four pads per sheet. Our district Copy Center duplicates the pages, cuts them, gums the back, resulting in personalized, inexpensive memo pads for the children.

Grades 2nd through 5th at both Alto Elementary and Cherry Creek Elementary have combined pictures, music and text into a multimedia presentation during their computer lab times. Using the subjects of poems and autobiographies, some presentations are available to view on the computers, while others are transferred onto video tape and shown on television. Students also develop their computer skills through the creation of graphs, using the art drawing program, and Internet access as they develop a web page. Writing skills on the computer have been practiced by sending messages to the President, Vice-President and First Lady with replies received from each!

At Unity High School, in our Riverside Building, computer class is a comprehensive learning experience. Students have made logos for local businesses, as well as letterhead for simulated companies they have created and a slide presentation using PowerPoint. After touring a local monument company, the students designed their own monuments and a brochure describing a simulated company's products and services. Budget spreadsheets are taught, applying computer skills during the analysis and planning of personal resources. A recent project found the students creating a T.V. guide, with hours, channels and program descriptions highlighted using various computer techniques.

The computer skills taught to our students today will provide them the knowledge and skills for their endeavors tomorrow.

A TRANSPORTATION MESSAGE TO ALL DISTRICT PARENTS OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

There are times when mechanical problems with buses, weather situations or other circumstances arise, beyond a driver's control, that make it impossible to stay on schedule. We apologize for any inconvenience these situations may cause when they occur.

As a rule of thumb, please contact the Bus Garage at 897-9353 if your child's bus is 15 minutes or more late. The Bus Garage can radio the driver and then inform you on what is causing the delay. Remember, your child's safety is our first and foremost concern.

Thank you,

Larry Mikulski, Transportation Supervisor



ALTO SPELLING BEE WINNERS

Brad Amidon (right) spelling bee winner, and Rebecca Underwood (left) runner up, standing with Mrs. Schramm, Alto Elementary Principal.



DIRECTIONS, continued on page 23