

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 26

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

District decides on kindergarten schedule

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

After a number of years of tweaking the Lowell area kindergarten schedule, the district believes it may have come upon one it can stick with for a while.

"We hope this is how it is going to be," said Bushnell Elementary principal Karen Burd.

Beginning in the fall, both Bushnell and Alto kin-

dergarten students will attend school all day Monday and Wednesday and a half day on Friday, or all day Tuesday and Thursday and a half day on Friday.

Alto kindergarten students are using that schedule this year, but Bushnell students' half day is on Wednesday.

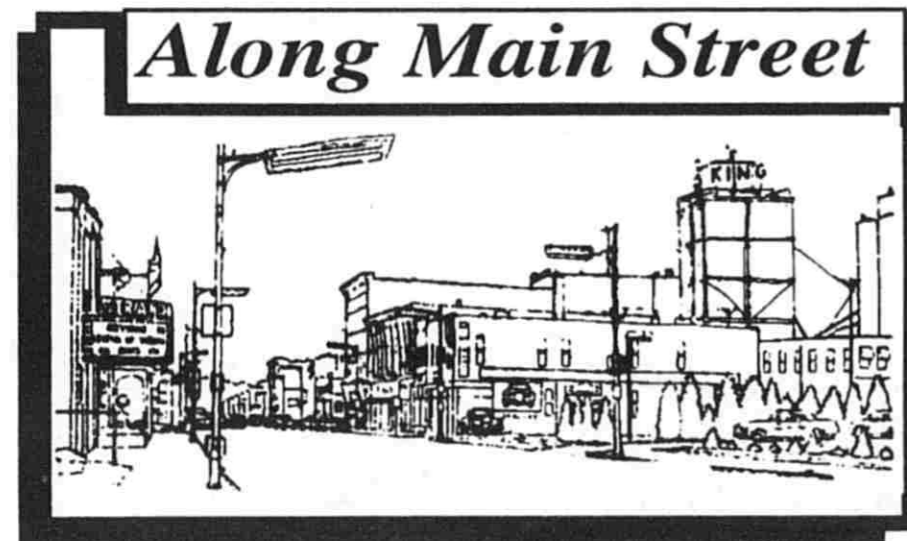
The district has tested three other schedules over the past three years.

In 1996-97, kindergarten students attended school all day every other day. This schedule had students alternating between two and three days a week.

Parents complained about the schedule's inconsistency.

In 1997-98, the school district changed the schedule to two full days plus some Fridays. This led to confusion about which Fridays.

"We did a survey of parents, and they overwhelmingly said they valued consistency in a schedule," Burd said. "We've learned a lot getting to this point. I think now we've got something that both teachers and parents like and that meets the needs of the children."



Along Main Street

JAZZ BAND CONCERT

The Lowell High School and middle school jazz bands will perform a concert on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend and admission is free.

"COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN" MEETING RESCHEDULED

The parent meeting and student visitation for Alto and Bushnell families will be held on Wed., April 21 or Sat., May 1. If you were unable to attend the parent meeting in March, please contact your child's school now - Alto (868-6111) or Bushnell (897-8471) to set up a time. Openings are filling up quickly.

LOWELL HOCKEY CLUB - JV TRYOUTS

On Thursday, April 15 the Lowell Hockey Club will hold an evaluation/tryout session at Michigan National Ice Center for anyone interested in playing on next years Lowell JV hockey team.

The evaluation is free of charge and open to anyone age 13 to 16 (birth dates 7/1/83 - 6/30/86). Players should arrive at the rink by 7:30 p.m. Full equipment is preferred but not required. For information contact Paul Jacobus 241-2447 or Jim Blair 897-6436.

FREE DEVELOPMENT SCREENING

Lowell Area Schools Tots on Track for School is offering a free developmental screening for preschoolers, 2-1/2 to 4-1/2 years old. If you think that your child is learning at a slower rate than other children the same age or you have concerns about speech development, please schedule your child's free screening appointment. Families who meet income guidelines for Head Start and Readiness Preschool should also make an appointment.

Please call Carol Briggs as soon as possible at 897-8415, between 7:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., to schedule a time. The screening will take place at the Administration Building at 300 High St., Lowell, on Friday, April 16, and Friday, April 23.

SENIOR ALL-NIGHT PARTY PAYMENTS DUE

A senior parent will be in the high school cafeteria on Thursday, April 15 and Friday, April 16 to take payments for the senior all-night party (May 27 & 28).

LHS CLASS OF 1989

The Lowell High School Class of 1989 10-year reunion has been set for Saturday, October 9, 1999 at the Hilton in Grand Rapids. For more info or to RSVP, call Barb Roth, 897-6954 or Debra Duiven, 897-6348.

City vehicle road time heightened by Hartman

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Tom Hartman, city mechanic, has never had any official schooling, yet there are plenty of cities which could be schooled by him.

Hartman, working in his 18th year of maintaining Lowell city vehicles, has single handedly saved the city money and, most importantly, increased the longevity of city vehicles.

His philosophy is simple: he prefers to spend time preventing and fixing, rather than chasing down, broken-down vehicles.

"At a one-day seminar in Shanty Creek, a mechanic from another city said he didn't have time to check vehicles as often as I do," Hartman explained. "I told him it is less expensive than chasing down broken vehicles."

Each of Lowell's seven patrol cars is brought in for routine checkups every 20 days. "Invariably, I'm able to prevent a flat tire from occurring by removing a nail or screw from a tire," Hartman said. "The key to healthy running vehicles is routine maintenance."

In an age of specialized mechanics, Hartman is the rare mechanical bird who sends work out only as a last resort.

Hartman, cont'd. pg. 8

Si'long'

Two silos built back in the 1930's were tipped into a 16-foot hole Saturday on the property of Travis Miller, 14203 52nd St. The silos stood 40-feet tall.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

With a little push/coaxing from Travis Miller, two 40-foot silos came crashing down to earth Saturday afternoon.

Miller, of 14203 52nd St., with the help of Ron Possehn, engineered a plan to ground the two 14-foot-in-diameter silos into a 50 by 30, 16 foot deep hole.

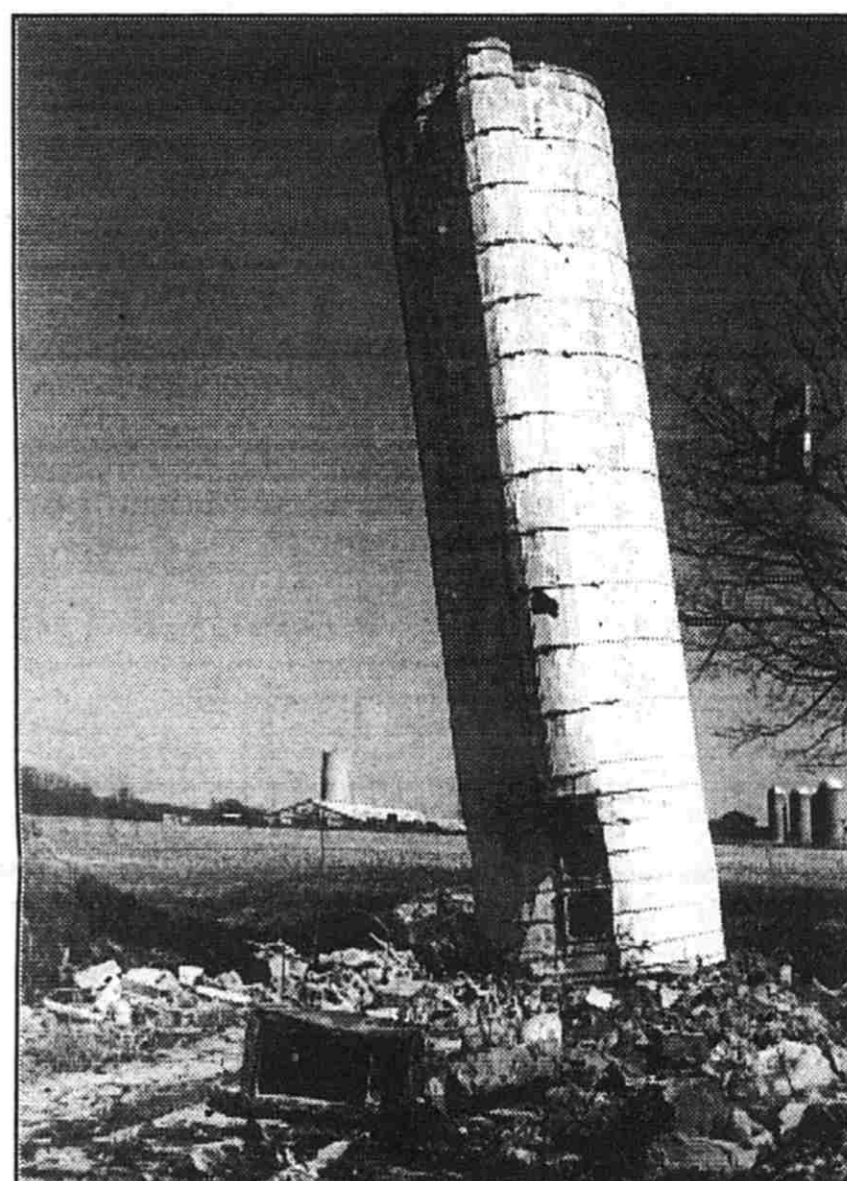
"I talked to a number of old farmers about taking silos down and everybody told me something a little different," Miller explained. "I took a little bit of information from everybody."

In the end, he credits Possehn (owner of Possehn Excavating) with the engineering plan.

"All I did was dig the hole the silos were supposed to fall into," Possehn said.

The silos were prepared

Silo, cont'd pg. 8



With a small push from a telescopic forklift, the second of two silos is making its way to earth.

Landrum brings classical acoustics to White Swan

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

The revitalization of the 60's coffeehouses in the 90's has created a fascinating sociological mix.

It has joined today's 18-25 year olds with the baby boomers (45-55 year olds). The uniting of these two generations has also given a venue for the classical acoustic guitarist.

"We're the Muzak of coffeehouses," says David Landrum, one of West Michigan's classical acoustic guitarists.

With the resurgence of coffeehouses over the last six-seven years, Landrum and others have discovered a birthplace in which to perform their music.

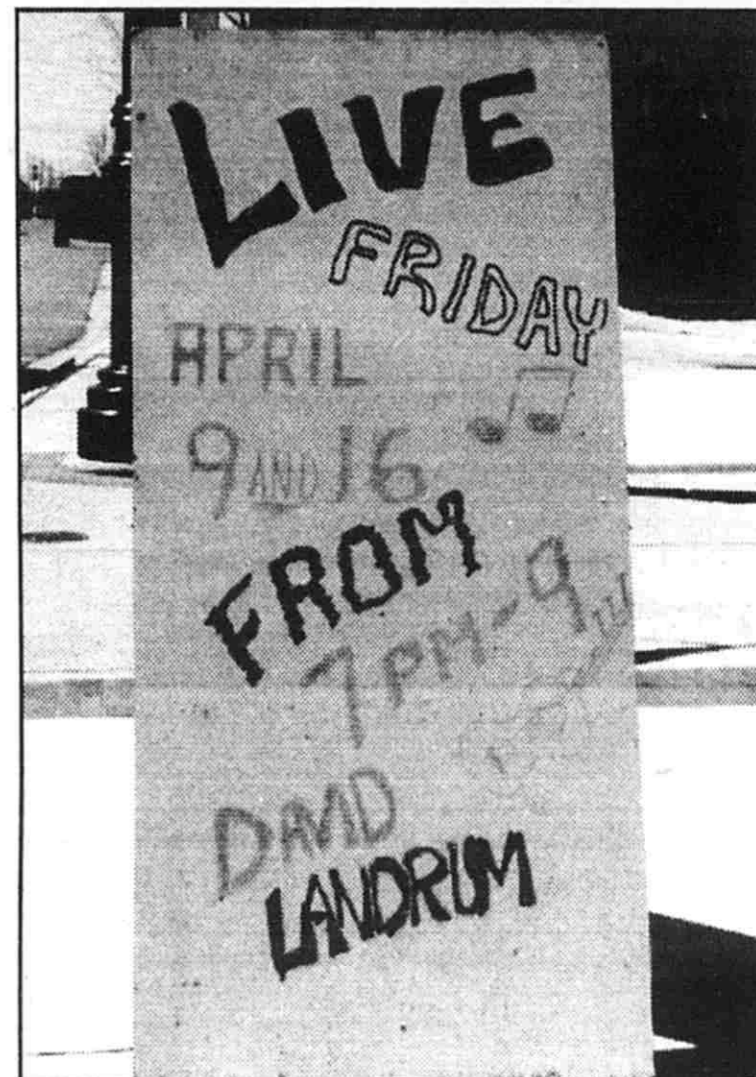
"For a long time acoustic and folk guitarists didn't have a place to play their music," Landrum said.

The advent of coffee houses has provided a forum.

Landrum, an English teacher at Cornerstone College by day, uses his coffeehouse performances as a discipline to pursue on the side... a way to get his mind off things.

He calls it a low level performance because, for two

Landrum, cont'd. pg. 8



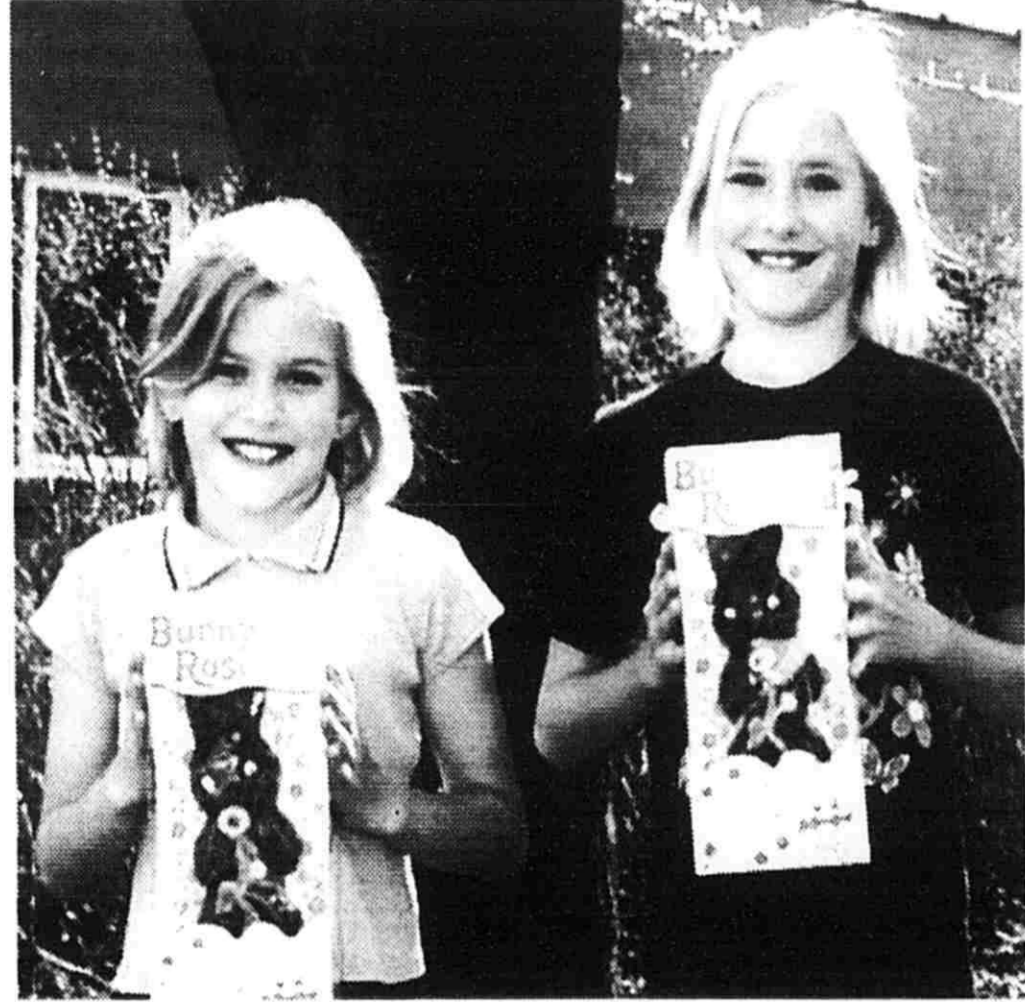
David Landrum plays at the White Swan Friday night from 7 until 9 p.m.

INSIDE THE LEDGER

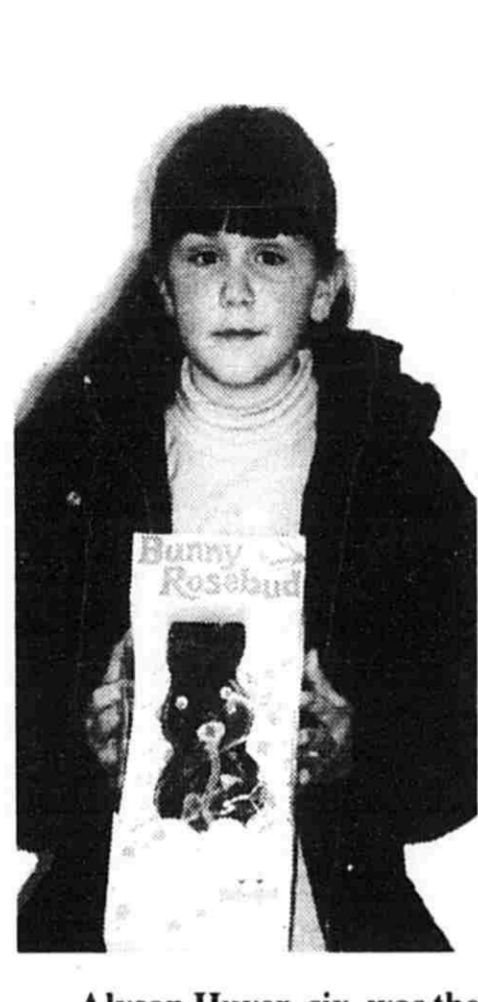
Volunteers needed for thrift shop

Page 21

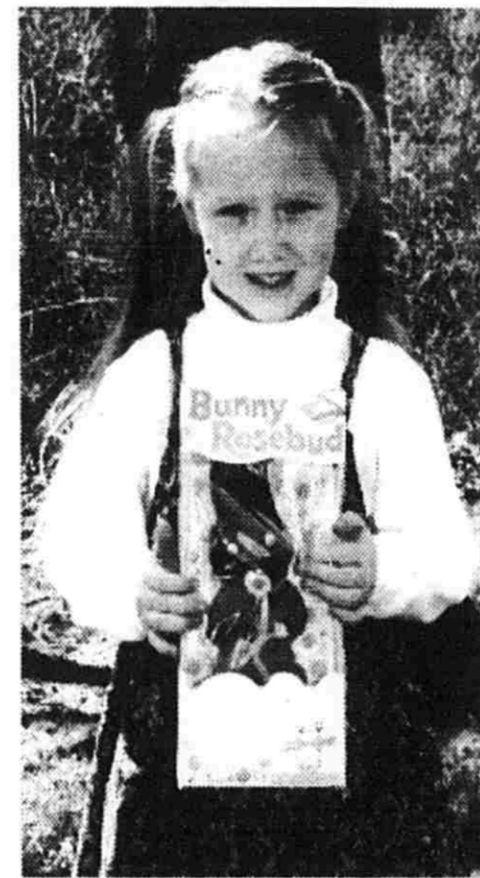
Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winners



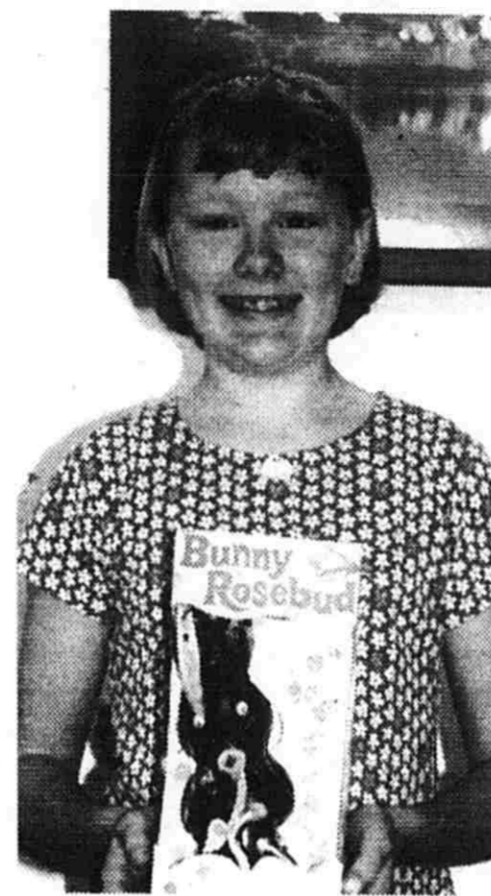
Rebecca Kempker, eight, left, was the Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winner in the seven-eight year old division. Stephanie Kempker, 10, right, was the Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winner in the nine-10 year old division.



Alyson Huver, six, was the Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winner in the five-six year old division.



Meghan Loser, four, was the Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winner in the four-year-old division.



Mallory Maschhoff, 11, was the Lowell Ledger Easter Coloring contest winner in the 11-12 year old division.

TOWN TALK

Based on the conditions in Yugoslavia, should NATO continue bombing, get out of there, continue to bomb and send in ground troops ?



Lori Oom
Get out of there. Otherwise I'm afraid we're going to be drafting kids to go over there.



Roger Kimble
Keep bombing and send in ground troops. That is the only way to get that man out of there.



Paula Wenger
I am not committed to ground troops yet. I'm not sure what we should be doing. However, we can't let the genocide continue.



Bob Sharrock
Get out of there. We have our nose in something we shouldn't be in anyway.



Mindy Husted
As long as we're there, send in the ground troops. History tells us you don't get anywhere with just air strikes.



Ron Pawloski
Get out of there. The Europeans don't seem to be getting too involved.



Lila Grummet
We've started something and I think we must complete it. We may end up sending ground troops, but we've pulled back too many times. It's time to go forward.



Kitri Walker
What's happening over there is terrible. It's hard to imagine doing nothing. I think there are deep rooted problems that we can't solve. I'm for ground troops because of the disgusting things going on over there.

Life would be infinitely happier if we could only be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen.

—Mark Twain

Love doesn't make the world go 'round. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.

—Franklin P Jones

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Tom Hartman has been maintaining and working on city vehicles since 1982.

Hartman, cont'd.... From Page 1

"If he can fix or rebuild something himself, he does," said Dan DesJarden, director of public works. "He is able to do this because throughout the years he has received training through specialized seminars."

Patrol cars are not the only vehicles Hartman maintains. He assures the smooth running of street sweepers, bobcats, backhoes, loaders and dump trucks. Hartman completes maintenance checkups every 150-200 hours on these vehicles. "Many departments replace instead of rebuild. I was brought up to rebuild generators, starters and alternators before replacing them if possible," Hartman explained. "The big advantage to this is I'm able to save the city a fantastic amount of money."

Since he first took over for Frank Baker in 1982, the amount of vehicles Hartman services has more than doubled. "I was working for Bud's Ambulance in Grand Rapids. Ray Quada was there one day and asked me if I wanted to work out here," Hartman said.

He's liked it so much he is going to stick around until he retires. "I hope to retire in two years," Hartman explains. His commitment and dedication have been second to none. For the last 10 years, Hartman has commuted from his home in Silver Lake. The commute is 145 miles round-trip. "The time on the road doesn't bother me, the gas price does occasionally," Hartman says with a smile.

Silo, cont'd.... From Page 1

much like a tree that is going to be cut down. Miller wedged one side of the silo and then, with a telescopic forklift, pushed the silos from the opposite side, each falling neatly into the hole.

"Using the forklift allowed us to get some height and leverage," Miller said. "It worked. It was very cool."

The telescopic forklift also allowed Miller to push on each of the silos from a distance. This gave him a little time to get out of the way in case the silo rocked back toward him.

After cleaning up the property, covering the hole and throwing down some top soil, Miller plans on constructing a barn/workshop.

The property was first purchased by Margaret Miller in 1919. Her son, John, farmed it following her death in 1936 until the start of the Korean War took him away.

The farm has been rented out over the years. Two years ago, Travis Miller purchased the land and house.

Correction....

The Lowell City Council approved the purchase of the property at 213 N. Monroe from Cy and Lorraine Floyd for \$82,000 and agreed to purchase the property through "condemnation" so that the Floyds could avoid paying capital gain taxes on the money.

Love truth, but pardon error.

—Voltaire

Riches and power are but gifts of blind fate,
whereas goodness is the result of one's own merits.

—Héloïse

Landrum, cont'd.... From Page 1

hours, the eyes of the audience are not fixed on him. That is not to say, however, there isn't interaction between Landrum and the audience.

"My music is in the background," Landrum says. "There is definitely a rapport with the audience. They are often amazed by the variety of music I know."

His acoustical music includes Celtic, folk, classical, rock, pop, blues and jazz.

"They like the familiar tunes, the standards like *Georgia on My Mind*, songs from Dire Straits, the Beatles and classics

like *Love is Blue*. Mason Williams' *Classical Gas* and James Taylor's *Sweet baby James*.

Through his coffeehouse performances Landrum has picked up a few favorites - cappuccino favorites like Almond Delight and Sugar Daddy.

He will be performing at Lowell's White Swan Friday night (April 16) from 7 until 9 p.m.

"Music and poetry have always been a part of coffeehouses dating back to the 60's," said White Swan owner, Sue Brander.

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Simply come to Lowell High School on April 22nd and/or April 29th to join workshops designed to fit your needs! (You may choose one session per night)

APRIL 22 • COMMUNICATION COMPETENCE • TEAM BUILDING • RECRUITING & TRAINING VOLUNTEERS

APRIL 29 • GRANT WRITING BASICS • EFFECTIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS • LEADING EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

Join us at 5:30 for snacks and beverages before participating in one of the three scheduled workshops. And the best part...it's affordable!

The cost is \$7 per person or \$25 per organization if you are sending more than three people!
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APRIL 22

COMMUNICATION COMPETENCE

Productive communication techniques have a profound effect on all types of interpersonal relationships. We will uncover strategies that will help you to become a positive and motivating interact. We will cover: Communication Competence, The Art of Listening and Conflict Management.
Presenter: Dave Weinandy - Aquinas College

TEAM BUILDING

Effective meetings, building consensus, and goal attainment are characteristics of effective teams. In this interactive workshop, the tools and techniques of Total Quality Management will be presented as creative efficient methods of making work teams successful. Some of the tools that participants will learn in include: Radar Charts, Affinity Diagrams, Nominal Group Technique and Grant Charting.
Presenter: Barb Barton - Hope Network

RECRUITING & TRAINING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer development can mean the difference between an efficiently run organization and chaos. This program will demonstrate how to integrate volunteers into the workforce and enhance the efficiency of the organization. Participants will be engaged in lively discussion and activities.
Presenter: Donna Fisher-Parker - Grand Rapids Children's Museum

APRIL 29

GRANT WRITING BASICS

This program is for individuals who would classify themselves as novice grant writers. This is a "nuts and bolts" session. Participants will learn the building blocks of successful grant writing as well as gain a perspective on organizational readiness for grant implementation and evaluation. Presenter: Sandi Frost Parrish - Monaghan Associates

EFFECTIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS

Building name recognition and public awareness is essential for any nonprofit organization. With limited budgets and resources, nonprofits need to find cost effective ways to communicate with and involve their various groups. First, they need to know who their publics are...Presenter: Bonnie Zimmerman - United Memorial Hospital

LEADING EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

This engaging session will help you identify and understand the essentials that help all who attend your meeting feel useful, engaged and productive.

Together we will explore:

- elements of a meeting agenda
 - the role of the meeting chairperson
 - helpful and harmful behaviors within groups
 - how to manage disruptive behaviors
- evaluating your meetings quality and success
Presenter: Dave Medema - Direction Center

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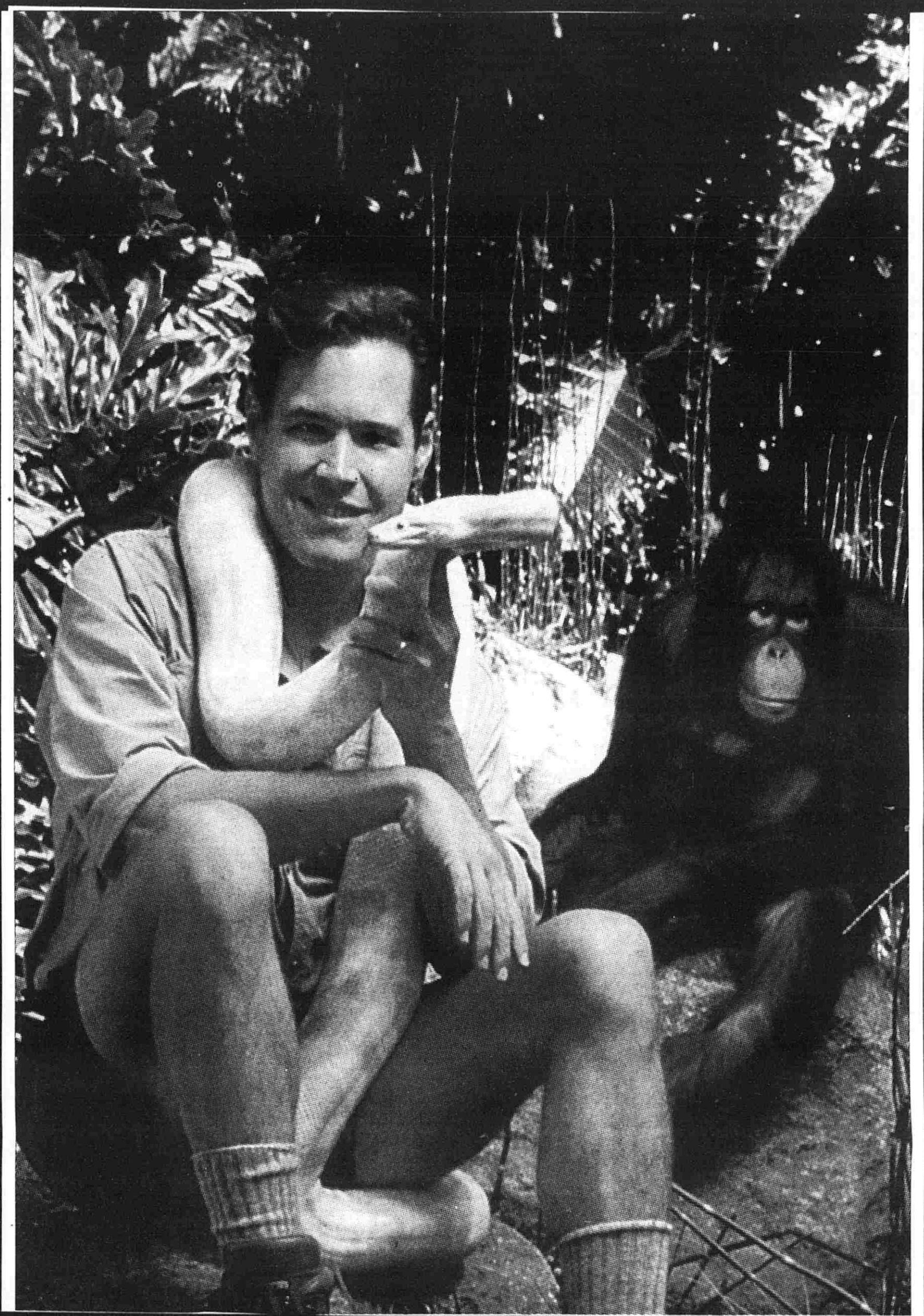
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The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5	FX
6	WGVS-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 APRIL 16 THRU APRIL 22

Jeff Corwin of the Disney Channel's educational nature series *Going Wild! With Jeff Corwin* spends time with some of his animal subjects. For Earth Day on Thursday, Disney offers a minimarathon of *Going Wild!* covering flora and fauna from Costa Rica to California.



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MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS APRIL 16, 1999 - APRIL 22, 1999. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels. Includes stations like WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WOOD, WLNS, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, WZPX.

FRIDAY EVENING APRIL 16, 1999. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels. Includes stations like WWTM, WOTV, WGVU, WOOD, WLNS, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, WZPX.

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MONDAY - FRIDAY LATENIGHT APRIL 16, 1999 - APRIL 22, 1999. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

SATURDAY MORNING APRIL 17, 1999. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS. SOCCER: English Premier League -- Teams to Be Announced. AUTO RACING: Drag Racing NHRA Pennzoil Nationals. TENNIS: ATP Monte Carlo Open -- Early Rounds.

SKATING: Rollerjam Florida Sundogs vs. Nevada Hot Dice. WINTER SPORTS: Snowboarding Freeride Tour. MISCELLANEOUS: National Aerobics Championship.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON APRIL 17, 1999. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON APRIL 17, 1999. Premium Channels.

SATURDAY EVENING / LATE NIGHT APRIL 17, 1999

Table of TV programs for Saturday Evening/Late Night, April 17, 1999. Columns include time slots (7:00-4:30) and channel numbers (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, April 17, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (A&E, AMC, CNN, etc.) and program titles.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, April 17, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (HBO, MAX, SHOW, etc.) and program titles.

SUNDAY MORNING APRIL 18, 1999

Table of TV programs for Sunday Morning, April 18, 1999. Columns include time slots (5:00-11:30) and channel numbers (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday Morning, April 18, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (A&E, AMC, CNN, etc.) and program titles.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday Morning, April 18, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (HBO, MAX, SHOW, etc.) and program titles.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON APRIL 18, 1999

Table of TV programs for Sunday Afternoon, April 18, 1999. Columns include time slots (12:00-6:30) and channel numbers (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday Afternoon, April 18, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (A&E, AMC, CNN, etc.) and program titles.

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday Afternoon, April 18, 1999. Columns include channel numbers (HBO, MAX, SHOW, etc.) and program titles.

Small Banana Boat \$2.25 and Large Banana Boat \$3.00 advertisement. Includes image of a banana boat and text: 'BALL'S SOFTEE CREME Premium Soft Serve Ice Cream 503 E. Main, Lowell'.

SUNDAY EVENING / LATENIGHT APRIL 18, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-4:30) and broadcast channels (WWMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS. Table listing various cable channels (A&E, AMC, CNN, etc.) and their corresponding program lineups.

PREMIUM CHANNELS. Table listing premium channels (HBO, MAX, SHOW, TMC) and their featured programs.

MONDAY EVENING APRIL 19, 1999. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and broadcast channels (WWMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS. Table listing various cable channels (A&E, AMC, CNN, etc.) and their corresponding program lineups.

PREMIUM CHANNELS. Table listing premium channels (HBO, MAX, SHOW, TMC) and their featured programs.

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TUESDAY EVENING APRIL 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 various channels (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, WZPX, CABLE CHANNELS, etc.).

WEDNESDAY EVENING APRIL 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 various channels (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, WXMI, WOOD, WLNS, WILX, WTLJ, WKAR, WZZM, WSYM, WZPX, CABLE CHANNELS, etc.).

APRIL 21st • SECRETARY'S DAY! Fresh flower arrangements for that special secretary! Order Early! 897-5767. Includes logo for Victorian Thymes Floral & Gift.

White Swan Coffeehouse & Gifts 201 East Main, on the Riverwalk presents David Landrum - Cornerstone Community College Acoustic Classical Guitarist. Deli Specialty Drinks. Includes logo for White Swan Coffeehouse & Gifts.

Don't Miss The Latest Neighborhood News!

- Weekly TV Listings
 - LHS Sports
 - Several Weekly Columns
 - Weddings
 - Engagements
 - Births
 - News Of Local College Students & Those In The Armed Forces
 - Church News
- And Much, Much More!*



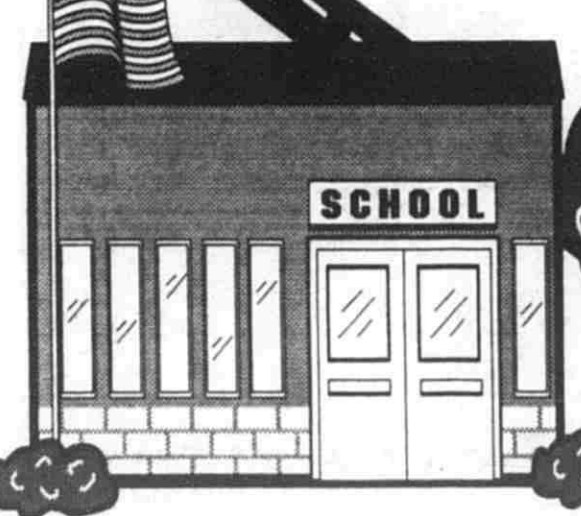
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COMING EVENTS

Notices in The Ledger's "Coming Events" are free of charge to any non-profit organization in the Lowell, Ada, Alto, and Saranac area. We prefer such notices to be kept brief and to be submitted by mail, but will accept notices by phone at 897-9261.

EVERY MONTH: The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd. Just east of Montcalm Ave. To check meeting dates and times please call, 897-5015 for a recorded message. Guests are welcome.

FIRST MONDAY: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at the High School during lunch periods in the cafeteria for updates on coming events and information.

EVERY SECOND MONDAY: Attention mothers of preschoolers. MOPS meetings are held at Saranac Community Church, 125 S. Bridge St. Cost is \$3 and meetings are from 9:45 a.m. - noon. Everyone is welcome. Come enjoy crafts, food, free child care and new friends. For information call Meghan at 616-642-6748 or Trisha at 616-527-1333.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building located in the former Runciman Elementary, 300 High Street.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: Golden Ages meet 6 p.m. at Hale House (Senior Neighbors, 314 S. Hudson): Potluck. All are welcome.

SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society will hold its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash. The meeting is at 7:30 p.m.

FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Lowell V.F.W. Hall, 307 E. Main St. at 8 p.m.

EVERY 1ST MONDAY: V.F.W. Post 8303 meets at the V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St. Lowell at 7:30 p.m.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5th-grade, will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end of North Washington Street. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For more information call 897-6405.

TUESDAYS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI#372 meets every Tuesday evening at Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Building, Weigh-ins at 5:45 p.m.

TUESDAYS: Flat River Woodcarvers are meeting at LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. New members welcome.

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

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

EVERY SECOND TUES.: Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. All Masons are welcome.

EVERY TUES.: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time. Calvary Christian Reformed Church across from Burger King. 10 to 11:15 a.m. For information call 897-6462 or 897-7555.

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

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Children with A.D.D./A.D.H.D Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4-Mile N.E. (at the intersection of 4-Mile and the East Beltline), at 7 p.m. For information call Linda at 874-5662.

EVERY 1ST TUES.: Adults with A.D.D. Issues Group meeting at Aquinas College in the classroom building (at the far end of the parking lot) on Woodward, just south of Fulton in room 109. For information call Ann at 949-8537.

WEDNESDAY: Rollaway Ltd. Senior Bowling, 1 p.m., 55 and over.

WEDNESDAYS: 8 p.m. ALANON meets at Lowell Congregational Church.

FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: Alzheimers Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. at Cumberland Retirement Village. Phone 897-9310 for information.

EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets at noon in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

SECOND WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: 2 to 3:30 p.m., Family Council for the Laurels of Kent Nursing Home. This is a volunteer group formed to enhance the quality of life for all the residents. Interested persons are welcome to meet in the Activity Room, Wing "C."

EVERY FOURTH WEDNESDAY: Elderly volunteers needed to participate in the Intergenerational Program with school age children from Lowell in many different seasonal activities. Two times available: 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. or 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, F.S.E. at the Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: DivorceCare meets at 7 p.m. at the Helping Hands Child Care Center, 1188 Lincoln Lake Rd. This support and recovery program is for all adults experiencing divorce or separation. For more information, call (616) 897-6890.

THURSDAYS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly: Tops MI, No. 333, Saranac, meets every Thursday evening at the Saranac Public Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

THURSDAYS: Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Lowell Congregational Church, 404 N. Hudson, at 7 p.m. Registration is a half hour before and after meetings. New members are invited to join at any time. Questions? Call 1-800-651-6000.

EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational-help for pregnant women and adolescents at the school. From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and on Mondays from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Phone 897-9393.

FIRST THURSDAY: 4H drama club meeting. The club examines theater related topics, creative and personal development skills. Meetings held once a month at Lowell Middle School choir room. For more information call 897-1502 evenings after 5 p.m.

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY: The Alto Lions Club meets at Dari's at 7 p.m.

EVERY 2ND THURS.: N.A.R.F.E. meets 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 E. Fulton.

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY: Lowell V.F.W. Auxiliary No. 8303 meets at 3:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post, 307 W. Main Street, Lowell.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY: Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children are welcome to attend. Our current location is a church in Ada. Call Janet 897-6845 or Laurie, 642-6195 for more information.

SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH: The Ada Historical Society meets at the Ada Township office at 7 p.m.

SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian athletes (FCA) meets in individual homes for huddle meetings for fellowship and devotions.

THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets in the high school cafeteria during seminar time for planning sessions for activities.

FOURTH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at 7 a.m. in high school teachers dining room for a light breakfast. For information concerning FCA call Kris Gallagher at 676-1355 or Linda Johnson at 897-4922.

THIRD THURS. OF EACH MONTH: West Mich. Parents of Murdered Children & Other Survivors of Homicide (POMC) at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1100 Lake Drive SE, Grand Rapids, 7 p.m., Discovery Rm. Contact Danni Smith, 897-2544.

EVERY FRIDAY: Respite day care for the elderly. Activities and respite for the aging person from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Sister Darlene Wessling, F.S.E. at the Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 10 a.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children are welcome to attend. Our current location is a church in Lowell. Call Janet 897-6845 or Rebecca 897-6734 for more information.

EVERY SAT. Lowell Amateur Radio Club sponsors the 145.270 - repeater which operates on a 24-hour basis. Also there is a Simplex Frequency 147.420 PL 186.2.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. & Wed., 1-8 p.m.; Tues. & Fri., 1-5 p.m.; Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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

SAT., APRIL 17: The Grattan Bridge Walk is being planned for this year. A meeting will be held in the Grattan Township Hall at 10 a.m. Many volunteers are needed to help organize the Bridge Walk events. Without new volunteers, the Bridge Walk may have to be scaled back or discontinued. All interested persons should attend the April 17 meeting or contact Pat Nugent at 691-8557.

THURS., APRIL 15: KeenAgers will meet at Vergennes Methodist Church at 10 a.m. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Bring a friend.

MON., APRIL 19: The Clark-Ellis American Legion Auxiliary will meet at 1 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Hostess is Pauline LaDue. Sponsor is Angeline Mulder.

TUES., APRIL 20: Lowell Charter Township will be hosting its annual community land use and ecology meeting from 6 to 9 p.m. at the township hall. Spouses and/or significant others of the township board members are also invited.

SAT., APRIL 24: The Boston-Saranac Historical Society is sponsoring a *Simply Old Fashion* cooking demonstration and fashion show at 1:30 p.m. in the Saranac High School cafeteria. Also a dessert buffet will be served. Deanna House, cookbook author, will present the cooking demonstration. Tickets are available at the door and from society members. \$10 for adults; \$5 for children 12 & under.

APRIL 22-24: The Michigan Historic Preservation Network Preservation Network presents its 19th Annual Statewide Conference "Doing It Right: Getting the results you want through good preservation," including the new full-day Construction Trades Symposium. Monroe, Michigan. (248) 625-8181.

MON., MAY 3: The Lowell United Methodist Church Mother-Daughter dessert tea at 6:30 p.m. with program following. Tickets: 12 years and up, \$2; 4 to 11 years, \$1; 3 years and under, free. For reservations by April 29, please call Phyllis Bieri at 897-8258 or Doris Ellis at 897-8870.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949	
MON.: 8:30 a.m. Walking, Woodland Mall.	THURS.: 9:00 a.m. Walk and shop - Woodland Mall; 9:30 a.m., Crafts; 1:00 p.m., Euchre.
TUES.: 8:30 a.m. Walking, Woodland Mall. 10:40 a.m., Exercise	FRI.: 8:30 a.m. Walking-Woodland Mall.
WED., APRIL 14: 12:15 p.m., Movie, Al Jolson Story.	WED., APRIL 21: 9:30 a.m., Advisory Council.
THURS., APRIL 15: 12:15 p.m., Dance, West Side Complex.	WED., APRIL 28: 8 a.m., Women's breakfast.
FRI., APRIL 16: 8:55 a.m., Tour of Grand Rapids churches.	THURS., APRIL 29: 3:30 p.m., Senior Neighbor's board meeting at Lowell.
MON., APRIL 19: 12:30 p.m., Shopping, Target.	

(Dinner reservations should be made 3 working days in advance)

Mammoth selection a signature for Moonlight Video

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Quality customer service and movie selection may make Lowell's latest video store a mammoth hit.

The Mammoth Video Corporation has moved Moonlight Video into the plaza at 1335 W. Main.

The corporation, which split into two entities (Mammoth and Moonlight) a year ago opened up its first Moonlight store in Lowell a little over a month ago.

Wasim Saif and his brother Sam operate six Mammoth videos in Michigan and three in Columbus, OH.

"We look at location and traffic flow," said Wasim Saif. "We pride ourselves on quality customer service and selection depth and variety."

Moonlight Video offers its customers a selection of approximately 10,000 videos and roughly 800-1,000 games.

"We also have all the accessories," Saif explains. "Popcorn, candy and pop, and there is a pizza place (Mancino's) right next door. It's a one-stop shopping location."

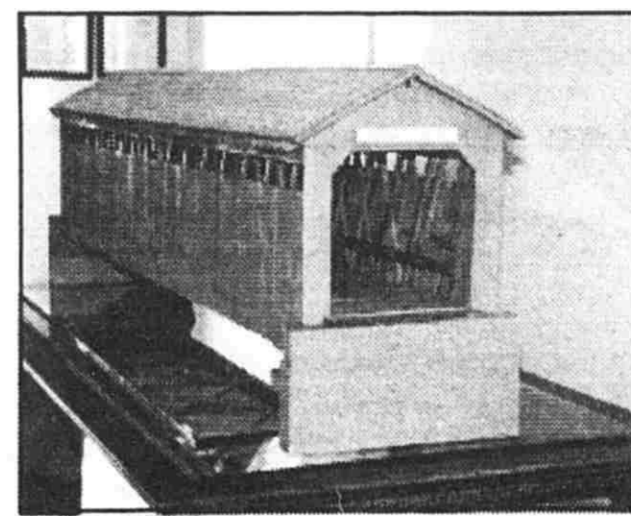
With Mammoth Video stores in Greenville and Ionia, Wasim Saif was looking for a location closer to Grand Rapids.

"Lowell doesn't have any video store of Blockbuster size," he explained.

Saif says his chain stores like to be very local. "We want our employees to greet customers on a first-name basis," he explains. "We want our customers to be greeted when they walk in and when they leave."

As part of its grand opening celebration, Moonlight gave away a DVD player and two mountain bikes.

Moonlight Video is open from 10 a.m. until 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 10 a.m. until midnight on Friday and Saturday.



Dwight Nash has pursued a lifelong interest of old covered bridges. Pictured above is Nash standing with his Fallsburg Covered Bridge model which the Kentwood resident completed in a 1/25th scale using red and white pine lumber he salvaged from an old house he tore down in Atlanta, MI, in 1972. The house was built in 1889. The roof shingles on his model are cut from white cedar boards. The bridge floor planks are cut from one of the white oak floor planks taken out of the Fallsburg Covered Bridge during the 1994 restoration. The floor was installed when the bridge was restored in 1945. Nash put in approximately 1,000 hours over a two-year period building the model bridge. He used over 3,500 individual pieces. Nash donated the model bridge to the Fallsburg Historical Association.

Nash's Bridge

Scholarship seekers beware!

Who's Who Among American High School Students launched a public awareness campaign today to educate students and parents about scholarship search services that exploit students by charging hefty fees; sometimes several hundred dollars. These services guarantee financial aid, yet deliver nothing more than information readily available for free from numerous, reputable sources. *Who's Who* is sending materials to guidance counselors at every high school in the country to warn students and families about these suspicious programs.

"Services like this have been around for years, but the new twist is that some of them are now trying to sound more legitimate by linking their names to respected education organizations, including well-known scholarship and recognition programs," said Paul Krouse, publisher of *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.

Who's Who was recently contacted by parents who were led to believe that the questionable companies were affiliated with or endorsed by *Who's Who*.

In the past two years, the Federal Trade Commission shut down eight companies that promised scholarships in exchange for an advance fee. These companies victimized 175,000 people, cheating them out of \$22 million. The FTC charged that most of the companies that guaranteed scholarships or grants attached conditions that made it impossible to get a refund if no scholarship was granted.

In addition to investing suspicious scholarship service

companies, the FTC launched an extensive public education campaign. *Who's Who* is joining that effort by sending copies of the FTC's publication "OUCH...Students Getting Stung Trying to Find \$\$\$ for College" in its warning mailing to 24,000 high schools nationwide. According to the FTC, the tip-off to a scholarship rip-off is: "This scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

The fact is, no one should have to pay money up front to find information about college grants or scholarships," said Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of *FinAid! The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid*, a free web site that provides comprehensive information about student financial aid. The web site includes a section dedicated to identifying and avoiding scams.

Summer sports camps offered

Lowell High School is once again offering summer sports camps to youth in seven different sports. Brochures have been distributed to elementary and middle school students in the Lowell schools.

If you would like a copy of the camp brochure, stop in at Alto, Cherry Creek, St. Patrick's, middle school or the high school office. Registration will take place on Saturday, April 24, from 9 to 11 a.m. in the high school.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Board of Education will be conducting an Educational Forum to review educational programs with school staff from Bushnell Elementary.

Monday, April 26, 1999 - 7:00 p.m.
Bushnell Elementary School
700 Elizabeth, Lowell

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the April Board meeting will be held on the 3rd Monday of the month due to Spring vacation. The date will be

Monday, April 19, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.
in the Administration office located at Runciman Administration Building,
300 High Street, Lowell, MI.

The length of life takes the leading place among inquiries about events following birth. —Ptolemy

CITY OF LOWELL

PUBLIC NOTICE RESCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

The Lowell City Council, acting as the Zoning Board of Appeals, will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 19, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Public Library, 200 N. Monroe, Lowell.

The purpose of said hearing will be to receive comments on the following variance request:

400 W. Main Street - Michael's Farm Market - had requested a lot coverage variance to construct an 1800 square foot retail building at the southwest corner of Main and Hudson for 80% of the lot (includes the building and all pavement) where under the Zoning Ordinance, lot coverage in the General Business District can not exceed 60%.

Interested persons may submit comments to City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, prior to the meeting or appear in person at the Englehardt Public Library.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

Spring Cleaning Classifieds

- HELP WANTED
- FOR SALE
- FOR SALE
- FOR RENT
- SERVICES
- CARD OF THANKS

HOME MAILERS NEEDED - Earn \$635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. 1-800-426-3689 Ext. 3300 24 hrs.

FOR SALE - 1996 Honda Goldwing Ascencade, 7,500 miles, \$12,000 o.b.o. Call 897-5180.

NOW HIRING - Stop in for application & interview, Lemmen Shell, 324 W. Main Lowell.

RETIRE 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.

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.

FULL/PART-TIME CARE - ages 2 1/2 + for a preschool experience. Call Erica 987-9324.

CARD OF THANKS - I would like to thank my son Bruce and his family and everybody who helped them make my 90th birthday one I'll never forget. Also thanks to everybody who came and for all the lovely cards, flowers and gifts I received. God Bless You All.
Esther Clemenz.

'93 FORD AEROSTAR - Extended minivan w/rear controls, \$6,000 obo; Gastron ski boat, \$2,500 obo; pop-up camper, sleeps 6, \$500. Call 868-6683.

1992 PONTIAC SUNBIRD SE COUPE - 5-speed manual, CD, sunroof, AC, 1 owner, 90,000 miles. \$4,000. Call 897-8259.

FOR SALE - Almost 2 years old, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 16x80 mobile home in Key Heights. All upgrades. Shed, central air, washer/dryer to stay. Asking \$34,000. Call between 4 & 8 p.m. 897-0536.

PIANO FOR SALE - Spinlet/console. Take on small monthly payments. Must have good credit. Can be seen locally. Call 1-800-346-1775.

CONSTRUCTION - Seeking MOTIVATED individual for interior & exterior construction work. Some weekends & long hours REQUIRED. Please mail resume with wage requirement & references to PO BOX 255, Lowell, MI 49331.

STEEL BUILDINGS - never put up. 40x30 was \$6,212, will sell for \$3,497; 50x86 was \$17,690, will sell \$8,970. Chuck 1-800-320-2340.

FOR SALE - 1993 Plymouth Sundance Duster, auto., air, 73,000 miles, \$3,900. Call 897-7728.

FOR SALE - 1990 Olds Custom Cruiser wagon, 8 passenger, 8 cyl., 101,000 miles, \$2,500 obo. Call 897-5894.

CAR FOR SALE - 1990 Olds Custom Cruiser wagon, 8 passenger, 8 cyl., 101,000 miles, \$2,500 obo. Call 897-5894.

BURN BARRELS - now available at Litehouse. No lids. \$3 ea. 897-5911.

FOR SALE - 2 story home, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, main floor laundry, nice neighborhood, corner lot, garage, Lowell schools. Immediate occupancy. 897-4250.

WABASIS LAKE - Gorgeous lake front home. \$56,900. Call 1-800-446-3666 and dial Ext. #53900 for more details! West Michigan Mobile Home Brokers, 534-2199.

FOR SALE - 1995 Kawasaki 750SS wave runner, excellent condition, less than 20 hours, \$3,000 o.b.o. Call Ken 897-9500.

FOR SALE - 1995 Kawasaki 750SS wave runner, excellent condition, less than 20 hours, \$3,000 o.b.o. Call Ken 897-9500.

1990 FORD F250 4x4 - V8, XLT Lariat, 5-speed manual, A/C, cassette, \$7,000. Call 897-8259.

FOR SALE - fiberglass cap, fits older style, short-box pickup, \$100. Call 868-7594.

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ALTO FIREMAN PANCAKE SUPPER

All-You-Can-Eat
SATURDAY, APRIL 17
5-8:30 PM
Alto Fire Department
Serving pancakes, eggs, sausage, pure maple syrup
Donation at the door

Big Award for "Petit Soldat"

By Roger Brown
Lowell Ledger Publisher

The French girls called him "Le Petit Soldat" (The Little Soldier). That was when the five foot, four inch Laurence Friend was serving with U.S. forces in France. No, he wasn't a G.I. in WWII. He was a Doughboy in WWI. The Great War. The War to end all wars. That was over 80 years ago. Friend turned 100 years of age last August.

The French government is now honoring the remain-

ing handful of Doughboys who served on French soil with their highest military and civilian award, the "Legion d'Honneur." The esteemed Legion of Honor was created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802.

To date, about 300 men qualifying for the award have been located. It is estimated that perhaps 3,000 are still living. No awards are to be given posthumously and each man is decorated personally

by a member of the French government.

Friend received his medal on March 19 when Deputy Consul Didier Samson of the French Consulate in Miami made the trip to Friend's home in Big Pine Key, Florida. The former soldier stood at erect attention as the deputy consul pinned the medal to his chest, shook his hand and kissed him on both cheeks in the French tradition.

Friend lives with his daughter Marilyn Powell.

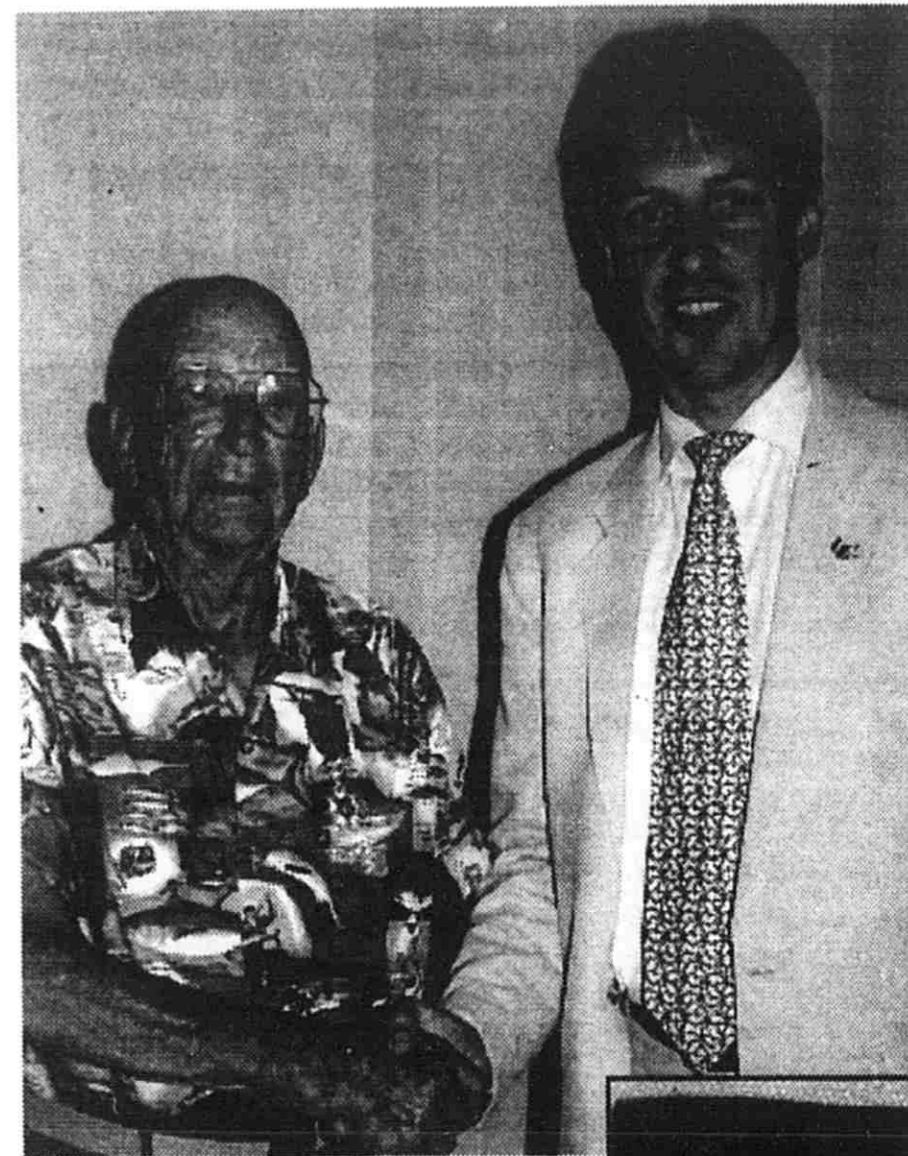
Powell heard of the award effort and notified the French Embassy about her dad. Powell was on hand for the ceremony as well as her daughter Chris Posthuma of Ada (known to many Lowellites as a former employee of Pfaller's Clothing); her son, Pat Powell of Grand Haven; another daughter, Terese Brown of Summerland Key, Florida, and her husband Roger of Lowell and Summerland Key. Another of Powell's daughters, Geri Smit of Lowell, was unable to attend. Following the award ceremony, the family treated Friend to his favorite lunch of fried oysters at a local seafood restaurant.

Friend was born and raised in Sebewa Township south of Ionia. The family farmed, and Friend grew up as an accomplished horseman in a time before the automobile had evolved. He remembers going on a cattle drive as a very young man. He and "some other fellas" drove about a hundred head from Sebewa up to Greenville. The 30- or 40- mile trip took them over a week and they camped along the way. Friend was still riding his granddaughters' horses well into his '80's.

When Friend first tried to "join up," he was told that at 5' 4" and 130 pounds, he was "to damned small". He persisted, and ended up with a unit formed mostly of boys from Texas and Oklahoma. They received their training in Florida and boarded ships for France.

In what was undoubtedly a stroke of luck, the diminutive soldier ended up as a truck driver in a commissary unit. Though Friend was not in the front line trenches, his duties often brought him under the veil of German artillery fire.

Besides transporting supplies, Friend's unit was responsible for guarding those commodities. At one point he was left to guard a quantity of supplies for three days. Thirty days later he was still on guard, out of food and swapping marmalade from the supply cache for fresh eggs offered by the local French women who had taken him under their collective wing. There is an unmistakable twinkle in the old soldier's eye when he relates that particular story. He still hates marmalade, but one suspects



La Legion d' Honneur, or The Legion of Honor, France's highest award, was instituted in 1802 by the French government under Napoleon Bonaparte. A plain white shirt would have served better to show off the beautiful Legion d'Honneur, but on the day of the award Laurence Friend wanted to wear a new fishing shirt he'd received as a Christmas gift. The shirt almost perfectly camouflages the medal. Le Petit Soldat, Laurence Friend, and French Deputy Consul Didier Samson shake hands for the camera following the presentation of Friend's Legion of Honor medal.



a lingering fondness for French women.

Having never been a health zealot, Friend's zest for life probably best explains his longevity. He smoked until age 62, just recently had to give up alcohol because it interferes with a medication he is taking, and still never turns down a big slab of pie when it is offered. He drove his own car and lived in a two-story home on Jones Street in Ionia until about five years ago. Friend gave neighbors and family several thrills when he frequently climbed his ladder to clean second story windows well into his nineties.

Friend lived most of his adult life in Ionia where he worked as a superintendent at a furniture factory. "The Reed" he calls it. He was working at the Chrysler Trim Plant in Lyons-Muir when he retired. Gertrude, his wife of 72 years, died in 1990 at age 92. Another daughter, June Seiler, resides in Ionia. With her four children, Friend has descendants totaling eight grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

After retiring, the Friends split their time between Ionia,


summers at a trailer on a lake in Northern Michigan and another trailer in Florida during the winters. More than anything, he loved taking a grandkid fishing.

Aided by a heart pacemaker implanted two years ago, Friend enjoys reasonable health for a man of his years. He walks with the aid of a cane. His hearing is moderate with his hearing aids in place. His eyesight is severely diminished, but he still enjoys big time wrestling on TV twice a week. He listens to western novels on tape. Most of all, he still enjoys fishing with his grandkids. The Browns get him out on the ocean every so often. About a year ago he had the first, biggest, and most fish of anyone onboard during a trip bottom-fishing for snapper. He won't let the other fishermen forget it either.

Friend told a reporter for the Key West Citizen that, "These days I'm not very interested in war. I don't want to see it. But, I'd go again if I had to." Le Petit Soldat might just be thinking he'd run across some French women again.

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