

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 14

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 19, 2000

## LAAC exhibit celebrates Lowell community's talent and artistic diversity

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Area Arts Council's "Celebrate Lowell," a six-week exhibit which opened Friday, inspired Lowell High School art teacher Bill Ingraham to make prints from some old negatives.

"I took the pictures when I was 20 and teaching at Albion," Ingraham explained.

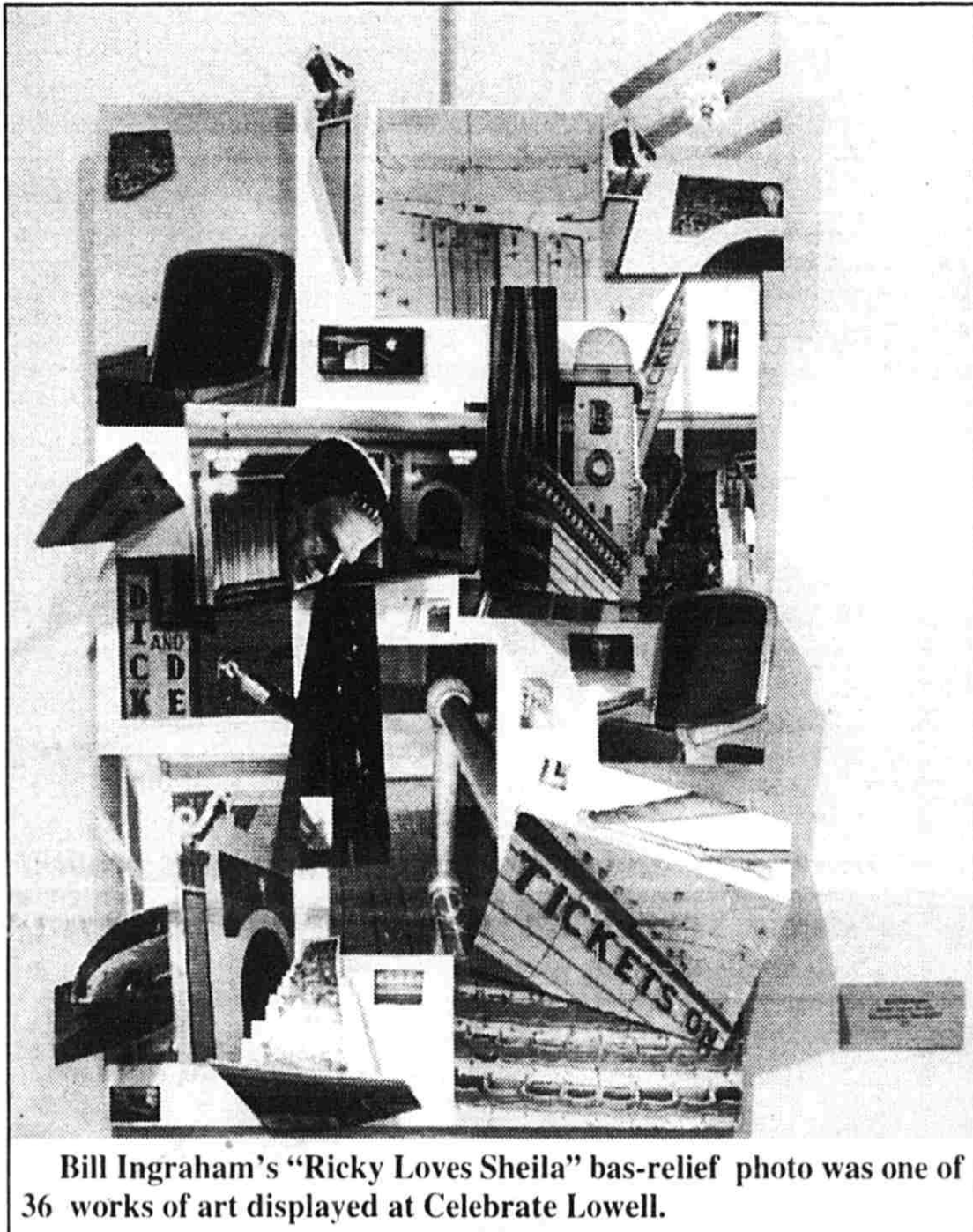
From those pictures, Ingraham created a bas-relief (three-dimensional photo montage) which is now one of 36 pieces which are shown at the "Celebrate Lowell."

The intent of the exhibit is to give gallery time to Lowell amateur and professional artists who may not otherwise have considered showing their work.

"I think this exhibit is an opportunity to compare and show off the talented arts and crafts of people in the Lowell community and the quality of their work," said freelance artist Gary Eldridge, who also has work exhibited in the show.

While Eldridge is a familiar name linked to the Lowell art community, many of the other artists, while familiar in name, are not necessarily associated with art.

The exhibit has changed that. Gary Dietzel is a prime



Bill Ingraham's "Ricky Loves Sheila" bas-relief photo was one of 36 works of art displayed at Celebrate Lowell.

The non-juried exhibit which includes sculpture, watercolors, photography, oils, and weaving runs through Feb. 29 at the gallery, 149 South Hudson.

"I don't always support the idea of competition," said Lowell Area Arts Council director Lorraine Smalligan. "I think it's important people be able to just show their work."

Smalligan said well over 100 art patrons viewed the show at its opening on Friday.

"I like the diversity of medium that is in this show. There is a wide range of art being created in the Lowell community," Smalligan concluded.

example. Five years ago, he began sculpting on a piece of walnut tree that he gathered up after the city of Lowell cut down a number of walnut trees at Oakwood Cemetery 13 years ago.

Dietzel completed half of the sculpture titled "Walnut Wail Remains." This exhibit energized him to complete it.

"I felt connected to the piece," Dietzel said. "The walnut trees were something Lowell felt strongly about."

The Lowell resident said he would probably not show any of his work again.

"First, in all, I've probably only done four or five pieces," Dietzel explained. "It's just not part of me."

## KCDL seeks township's support for February millage proposal

••• The proposal calls for the millage to increase from .6431 to .93.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

The Kent County District Library (KCDL) must feel like a bookmark being squeezed in the midst of a 1,000 page hardcover.

The \$1 rental fee for its headquarters is being pulled in favor of providing much needed space for the county extension program.

A federal grant which provides money for materials for the blind and physically handicapped is being pulled, leaving the funding responsibility to the KCDL.

"We can't meet our budget with the mills we're currently getting," said KCDL deputy director, Ruth McCrank, which is what brought her to the Lowell Charter Township meeting Monday night.

The deputy director and KCDL board member Carol Wieland asked the township board for its support in asking voters for an increase in millage on the Feb. 22 state presidential primary election ballot.

*We can't meet our budget with the mills we're currently getting.*

### KCDL deputy director, Ruth McCrank

The KCDL proposes an increase from .6431 mills to .93. For the owner of a \$100,000 home, that would mean an extra \$46.50 per year or 85 cents per week.

If the KCDL gets an increase in its county library millage, it proposes to:

- increase books and other materials
- add more hours
- rearrange open hours to make them more convenient ... including opening some libraries on Sunday
- increase support to provide programs for children and adults
- improve and maintain equipment and software for electronic access to information
- and provide additional funding to KCDL for the blind and physically handicapped.

In 1999, 2.7 million items were borrowed from the KCDL; over 350,000 reference questions were answered; 67,000 attended KCDL programs; and 1.8 million visited the libraries.

There were 63,000 visitors at the Englehardt Library and 16,000 at the Alto Library.

McCrank said the KCDL is seeking property in the county but not in the city limits for a new headquarters building.

KCDL, cont'd, pg. 8

## Unsolved Mystery

••• Lowell Middle School science teachers insist students know the material, and the dilemma may lie in understanding the probing questions found on the MEAP science test.

By J.N. Boorsma  
 Contributing Writer

Science question of the day: Why does the Lowell Middle School continue to get low science scores on standardized tests when the students know the information?

It is the question eight Lowell Middle School science teachers hope to unravel.

For the last four years, since the new Michigan Educational Assessment Program has administered its new science test, Lowell's eighth grade students have consistently scored low.

"We're simply not showing a lot of progress," said Jim White, assistant superintendent for instruction and curriculum.

In 1995/96, the first year the test was administered, 23.9 percent of the students met or exceeded the test requirements. In 1996/97, the score dropped to 20.5 percent and then jumped up to 32.4 percent in 1997/98. However, in 1998/99, that score dropped to 27.7 percent, meeting or exceeding the requirements.

"We are convinced that our students know this stuff, they just don't understand the questions," said sixth-grade science teacher Russ Bacon. "The questions the students are expected to ask are much more probing and involve more writing than the simple questions of true and false."

Students are tested in three areas on the MEAP science test: physical science, earth science, and general science.

"We are not talking about having to know a volume of facts to take these tests," said seventh-grade science teacher Dave Strejc. "This is taking what they do know and putting it together in a logical order to solve the problem."

With that in mind, the teachers have worked to align their curriculum more with what the state is expecting. This includes adopting the KC4 curriculum (the Kent County Cooperative Curriculum) along with following the state guidelines for goals in science education.

The middle school teachers also noted that there has been a move to teach the scientific method to students, something that districts and the state had been moving away from years

MEAP/Science, cont'd, pg. 8

### INSIDE THE LEDGER

Lowell Upends East Grand Rapids, 54-51, Story Page 26





# LHS students qualify for business competition in Minnesota

The Lowell chapter of Business Professionals of America (BPA) announces that several Lowell High School students have qualified for state business competitions following their success in the regional competition. The regional competition was held on Friday, Jan. 7 at Davenport College.

Over 600 students competed in several different categories. Lowell had 21 students participating in 23 different contests. Of these 21 students, Lowell had nine students placing in the top 10 in their competitions. Two of the students placed in the top 10 in both of the competitions in which they competed. The following

Lowell students placed: Computerized Accounting - Rachel Rice (3rd), Nicole DeVries (4th) and Nicki Deters (10th); Banking/Finance - Kelly Totch (8th); Financial Analyst Team - Amanda Stouten and Amy Osterhaven (2nd); Financial Math/Analysis - Nicki Deters (5th) and Rachel Rice (8th); Legal Concepts -

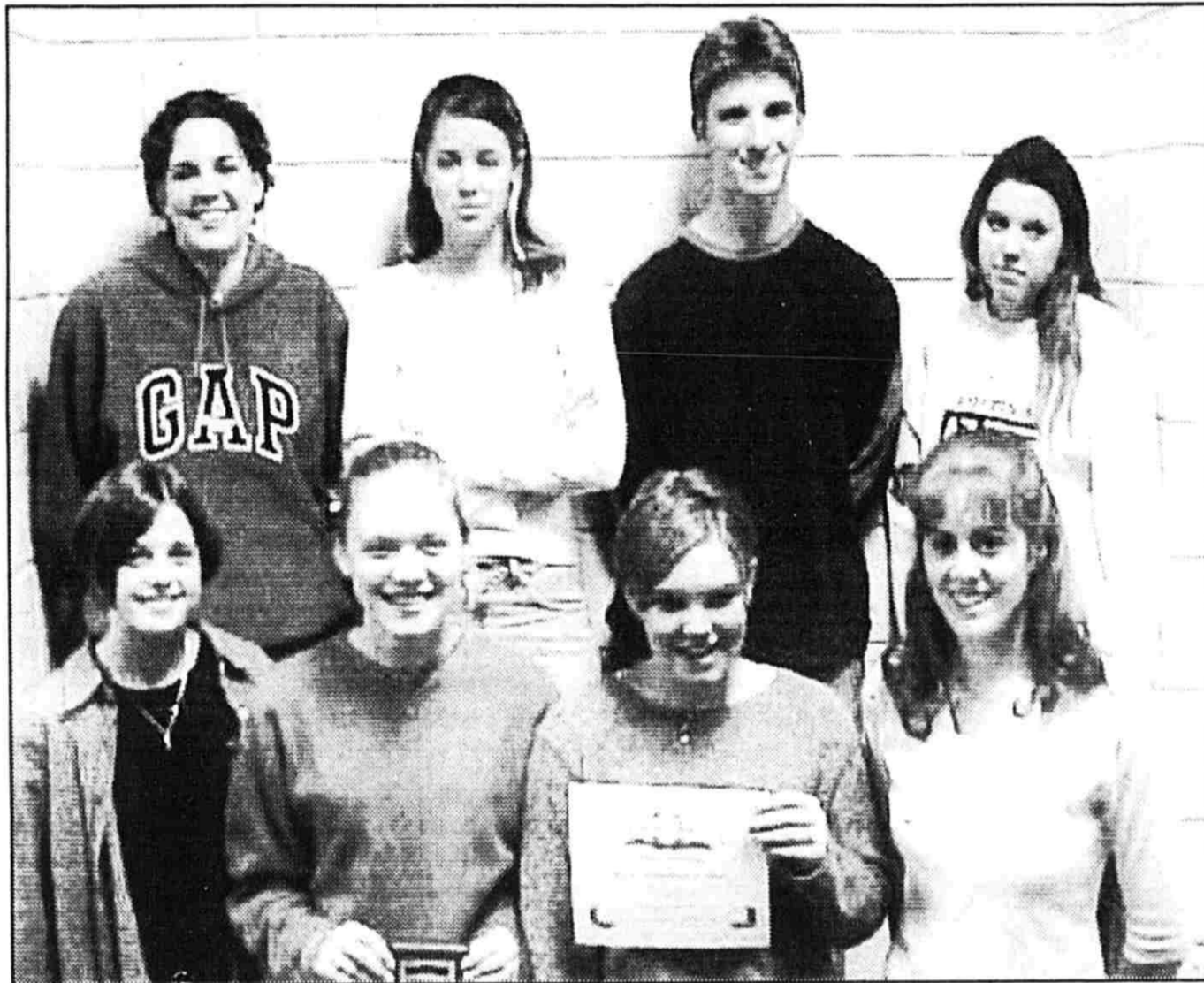
Felicia Eshragh (6th); Management Concepts - Molly Knooihuisen (2nd) and Brad Spoelman (6th). The top eight students from each category will be able to proceed to the state competition held March 17-19.

The state competition will be held in Detroit at the Renaissance Center. Any student that places in the state competition will proceed to the national

held April 28 through May 2 in Minneapolis.

"For the first year of organizing BPA and competing in our first competition, Mrs. Beachler and I were very pleased and excited about the success of our students," said Mrs. Dee Crowley, one of the BPA advisors. Lowell High School started their BPA chapter at the beginning of this school year. BPA has 23

students and two advisors. The purpose of this organization is to provide hands-on business opportunities to students who want to further their knowledge of business. Mrs. Christine Beachler states, "I am very proud of all the students. I am excited for those students who are going to state and wish them all the best of luck."



Pictured front row, left to right, are: Amanda Stouten, Nicki Deters, Nicole DeVries and Rachel Rice; back row, left to right, are: Amy Osterhaven, Molly Knooihuisen, Brad Spoelman and Kelly Totch.

## Health, continued...From Page 5

The diagnosis of patellofemoral pain syndrome is usually made by history and physical exam alone. Knee X-rays and MRI examinations are usually normal but they are often ordered to rule out other causes of knee pain.

If you are diagnosed to have patellofemoral pain syndrome, your doctor will usually recommend that you lay off from strenuous weight-bearing physical activity, for awhile. Non-impact exercise like swimming is an excellent alternative.

Regular quadriceps strengthening exercises are helpful in reducing pain in this condition. The simplest quadriceps exercise is to lay flat on your back and raise one leg six inches or so off the ground and

hold it for 10 seconds, then slowly lower it back to the ground. Do several repetitions of the exercise for two or three sets.

Ice applied to the knee after activity will relieve pain. Over the counter nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications like Motrin or Aleve may also be beneficial.

Unfortunately, there is no simple or rapid cure for patellofemoral pain syndrome. It may take six weeks or longer to see significant improvement. As your knee gets better, you can slowly return to your normal sports, like running or basketball.

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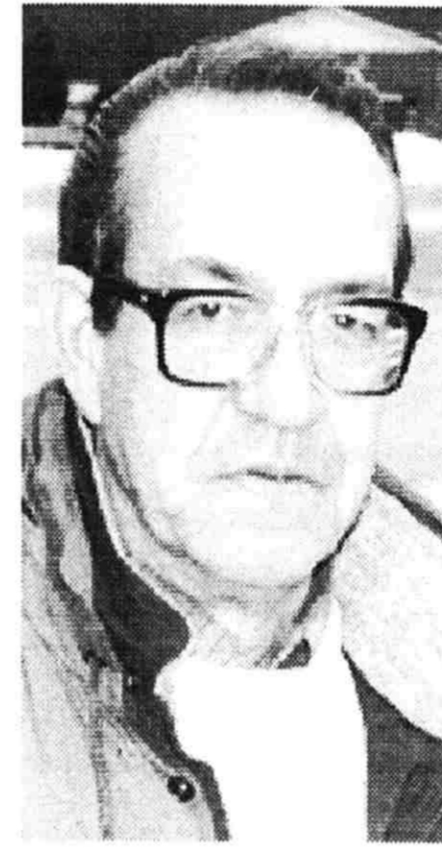
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# TOWN TALK — Will shutdown of the S-curve affect your travels?



**Cecil Chrisman**  
I don't think I've been on the S-curve in five years. I never used it.



**Fran Motsay**  
I work in Comstock Park but I've always taken the back road. It's more scenic.



**Jerry Tanis**  
It will have no effect on me.



**Jeff Beron**  
It will affect me somewhat. I do computer repair and whatever comes up is where I travel to.



**Cal Seese**  
No. I plan to just stay away.

**Chris Benson**  
I've got a graduate course at the Eberhard Center. I've always taken the side streets to get there, so there will be minimal effect in that there will be more traffic on those side streets.

**Beth Pfaller**  
It will affect me when I travel or go shopping. I will either find an alternate route or take the detour.

**Jim Eckelstafer**  
It won't affect me; I come on Plainfield.

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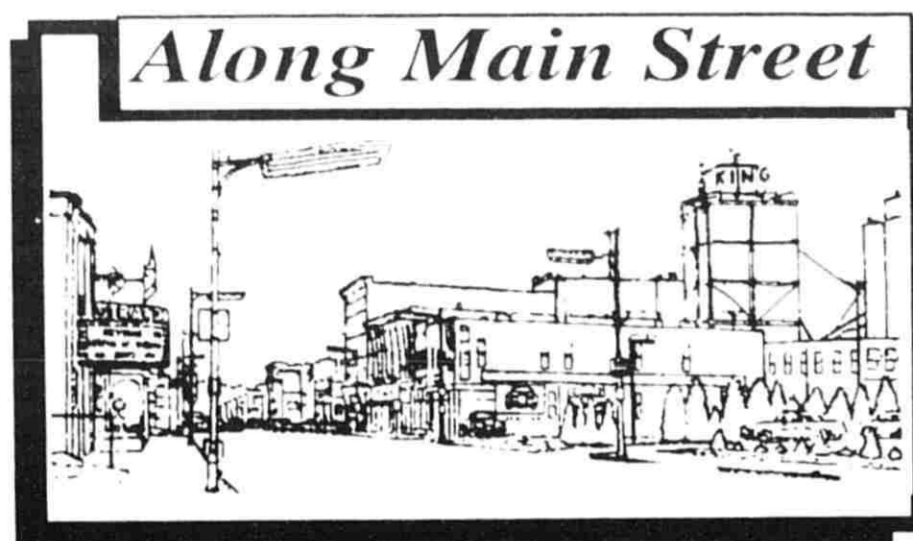
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**Along Main Street**

**HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING**  
*Native Americans- A Historical and Personal Perspective* is the title of a talk to be given by David Hartman at the Lowell Area Historical Association meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.  
 This talk will be held in the lower level of the Lowell Township Hall. Light refreshments will be served following the program.

**COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION**  
 Commodities will be distributed on Thursday, Jan. 27 at the

Moose Lodge, E. Main St., Lowell, starting at 8 a.m. Please bring your new benefit amount for 2000.

**SLIDE PRESENTATION OF TRIP TO ETHIOPIA**  
 A slide and video presentation will be shown on Monday, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center by Kate Dernocour who traveled to Ethiopia this past fall. It will benefit Lowell Area Youth Development. Refreshments will be served.

**LOWELL AREA CROP WALK SCHEDULED**  
 The Lowell Area CROP Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, May 7. The 2000 goal is to increase the number of

**CLASS OF 2000 ALL NIGHT PARTY**  
 Final payment for this year's May 25, 2000 party is due Feb. 25. If you have not paid your \$100 cost, you may do so during lunch hours on Jan. 27 & 28 and February 24 or 25. Payments may also be made at school to Diana Lyons or Marsha LaHaye. Scholarships are available - see Mr. Vashaw or Mr. Pearson.  
 Snapshots for the student video are due Jan. 31. You may mail or drop off pictures to the high school office.

**KCDL, cont'd.... From Page 1**

"The \$1 rental fee has allowed the KCDL to put money aside (\$800,000) for capital improvements," McCrank explained. It will also receive \$400,000 from the county toward a new headquarters.

The KCDL was formed in 1994 and has enjoyed a sizeable increase in growth and use, one which KCDL officials admit they did not anticipate.

**MEAP/Science, cont'd.... From Page 1**

earlier. The scientific method involves taking a problem and doing exactly what a scientist does to solve it.

Eighth-grade science teacher John Sterly said teachers are also working with students on how to answer a MEAP question. "Some teachers present it as the question of the day and work with

the students on how to solve the problem," he said. School officials, however, were quick to point out that they were not trying to inflate MEAP scores by giving students the answers.

"Our goal is not to get

higher scores on the MEAP test, but prepare kids for life," said Lowell School Board president, Pete Gustafson. "It just happens to be that the MEAP reflects this and it happens to be our score card."

Superintendent Bert Bleke added that the MEAP is not the most important thing for the district... it only helps to gauge how the district is doing in educating its children.

**Johnson receives national quality award**

Mark A. Johnson with Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan has recently been awarded the National Quality Award. The National Association of Life Underwriters (NALU), located in Washington, D.C., confers this award to promote and recog-

nize excellence in client and customer representation.

The National Quality Award was created in 1944 and recognizes an agent's ability to provide longstanding insurance products and service to clients.

Only 10 to 15 percent of

the nation's insurance agents receive one of these annual, prestigious NALU industry awards. The National Association of Life Underwriters was founded in 1890 and represents over 100,000 professionals in life, health, property/casualty insurance and other financial services. NALU is affiliated with the Grand Rapids Association of Life Underwriters.

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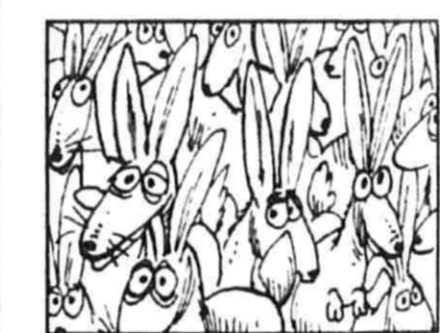
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**NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC TESTING OF OPTEC EQUIPMENT**

A public test of the Optec Voting Equipment to be used in the February 22, 2000 Presidential Primary Election in Vergennes Township will be held on Monday, January 24, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone  
 Vergennes Township Clerk

**The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE**

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
2	LOCAL
3	WWMT-3
4	WOTV-41
5	FX
6	WGVU-35
7	WXMI-17
8	WOOD-8
9	WLNS-6
10	WILX-10
11	WTLJ-54
12	WKAR-23
13	WZZM-13
14*	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 JANUARY 21 THRU JANUARY 27**

The so-called "normal" lives of teenagers get a blast of the absurd in *Brutally Normal*, the new sitcom premiering Monday on The WB Network. Filled with *Ally McBeal*-like fantasy sequences, the show stars Tangie Ambrose, Mike Damus, Eddie Kaye Thomas and Lea Moreno (clockwise from left).

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MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS JANUARY 21, 2000 - JANUARY 27, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Monday-Friday mornings, including categories like Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS JANUARY 21, 2000 - JANUARY 27, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Monday-Friday afternoons, including categories like Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

FRIDAY EVENING JANUARY 21, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Friday evening, including categories like Broadcast Channels and Premium Channels.

Springgrove Variety advertisement with logo and text: 'DOWNTOWN LOWELL Shop in an atmosphere of days gone by! Bulk candy, crafts, fabric, yarn, crochet thread, collectibles, 1/2 price greeting cards, toys, stationery, household & hardware items. Lots more, shop where the customer counts!'

MONDAY - FRIDAY LATENIGHT JANUARY 21, 2000 - JANUARY 27, 2000. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SATURDAY MORNING JANUARY 22, 2000. 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 Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

WINTER SPORTS

ESPN Fri. 7 p.m. World Cup Skiing Men's Super G. From Kitzbuehl, Austria. (Same-day Tape)
WOOD Sat. 2 p.m. Skiing Downhill Series. From Mammoth, Calif. (Taped)
WILX Sat. 2:30 p.m. Skiing Downhill Series. From Mammoth, Calif. (Taped)
WOOD Sat. 3 p.m.; WILX Sat. 3 p.m. Skiing Jonny Moseley Invitational. From Squaw Valley, Calif. (Taped)
ESPN Sat. 12 a.m. World Cup Skiing Men's Downhill. From Kitzbuehl, Austria. (Same-day Tape)
WOOD Sun. 4 p.m.; WILX Sun. 4 p.m. Snowboarding U.S. Grand Prix. From Breckenridge, Colo. (Taped)
ESPN Sun. 4:30 p.m. World Cup Skiing Men's Slalom. From Kitzbuehl, Austria. (Same-day Tape)

BOWLING

TNN Fri. 10 p.m. Bowling Rockin' Bowl. Collegiate bowling teams compete in traditional and offbeat bowling events. (Taped)
ESPN Sun. 12:30 p.m. PBA Bowling Las Vegas Open. From Las Vegas. (Taped)
TNN Tue. 8 p.m. Bowling Rockin' Bowl. Collegiate bowling teams compete in traditional and offbeat bowling events. (Taped)

BOXING

HBO Sat. 9:45 p.m. Boxing Boxing After Dark. Shane Mosley vs. Willy Wise in a scheduled 10-round welterweight fight; Vernon Forrest vs. Vince Phillips in a scheduled 12-round welterweight bout. From Las Vegas. (Live)
FOXDT Sun. 12 a.m. Boxing Sunday Night Fights. (Taped)

WRESTLING

TNT Mon. 8 p.m. WCW Monday Nitro (Live)

MISCELLANEOUS

FOXDT Sat. 12 p.m. Motorcycle Racing Arenacross. From Oklahoma City. (Taped)
WGN Sun. 10:40 p.m. Instant Replay (Live)

HOCKEY

FOXDT Fri. 7 p.m. College Hockey Michigan at Ohio State. (Live)
WWMW Fri. 7:30 p.m. IHL Hockey Orlando Solar Bears at Grand Rapids Griffins. (Live)
ESPN Fri. 8 p.m. NHL Hockey St. Louis Blues at Chicago Blackhawks. From the United Center in Chicago. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 7 p.m. NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Ottawa Senators. From the Corel Centre in Kanata, Ont. (Live)
ESPN Sun. 8 p.m. NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Pittsburgh Penguins. From Mellon Arena in Pittsburgh. (Live)
FOXDT Tue. 7:30 p.m. IHL Hockey Long Beach Ice Dogs at Detroit Vipers. (Live)
FOXDT Wed. 7:30 p.m. NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Detroit Red Wings. From the Joe Louis Sports Arena in Detroit. (Live)

RODEO

TNN Sun. 9 p.m. Championship Bull Riding Bud Light Cup Columbus -- Round One. From Columbus, Ga. (Taped)

SKATING

TNN Fri. 9 p.m. Rollerjam Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)

SOCCER

FOXDT Sun. 12 p.m. NPSL Soccer Kansas City Attack at Detroit Rockers. (Taped)
FOXDT Sun. 2 a.m. English Premier League Soccer Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)

BASKETBALL

TNT Fri. 8 p.m. NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Miami Heat. From American Airlines Arena in Miami. (Live)
WWMW Sat. 12 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 12 p.m. College Basketball Duke at Wake Forest. (Live)
WXMW Sat. 12 p.m.; WILX Sat. 12 p.m. College Basketball Northwestern at Michigan State. (Live)
ESPN Sat. 12 p.m. College Basketball Rhode Island at Massachusetts. (Live)
WOTV Sat. 1 p.m.; WZZM Sat. 1 p.m. College Basketball Regional Coverage -- Florida State at North Carolina or Kansas at Missouri. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 2 p.m. College Basketball Cleveland State at Detroit. (Live)
WWMW Sat. 2 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 2 p.m. College Basketball Indiana at Purdue. (Live)
WGN Sat. 3:30 p.m. NBA Basketball Detroit Pistons at Chicago Bulls. From the United Center in Chicago. (Live)
WWMW Sat. 4 p.m.; WLNS Sat. 4 p.m. College Basketball Ohio State at St. John's. (Live)
FOXDT Sat. 4 p.m. Women's College Basketball Southern California at Arizona. (Live)
WOOD Sat. 6 p.m. NBA Basketball Regional Coverage -- New York Knicks at San Antonio Spurs or Utah Jazz at Sacramento Kings. (Live) (Left in Progress)

Edward Jones advertisement featuring a photo of Christopher J. Bouma and text: '401(k) rollovers made easy', 'Call or stop by today', 'Investment Representative', '2050 W. Main, Suite D, Lowell, MI 49331', '987-9515', 'www.edwardjones.com'

IRA advertisement with text: 'Which IRA is right for you?', 'Focused on planning for retirement? A traditional IRA or Roth IRA, each offering unique tax advantages, can help you build your retirement nest egg.', 'Need to finance a college education? An Education IRA can help you save for higher education expenses.', 'I can help you choose the IRA that's right for you.'

SATURDAY AFTERNOON JANUARY 22, 2000. 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 Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SATURDAY EVENING / LATE NIGHT JANUARY 22, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, January 22, 2000. Columns include time slots (7:00-4:30) and channel names (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, January 22, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (5-49) and channel names (FX, FAM, MTV, etc.).

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, January 22, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (50-99) and channel names (SHOW, HBO, TMC, etc.).

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Saturday Evening/Late Night, January 22, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (100-149) and channel names (SHOW, HBO, TMC, etc.).

Advertisement for 'STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET' featuring a cartoon character and text: 'Money Tight? RUN 1 Ad - 4 WEEKS - For Only \$50!'.

SUNDAY MORNING JANUARY 23, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Sunday Morning, January 23, 2000. Columns include time slots (5:00-11:30) and channel names (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday Morning, January 23, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (5-49) and channel names (FX, FAM, MTV, etc.).

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday Morning, January 23, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (50-99) and channel names (SHOW, HBO, TMC, etc.).

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JANUARY 23, 2000

Table of broadcast channels for Sunday Afternoon, January 23, 2000. Columns include time slots (12:00-6:30) and channel names (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.).

CABLE CHANNELS

Table of cable channels for Sunday Afternoon, January 23, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (5-49) and channel names (FX, FAM, MTV, etc.).

PREMIUM CHANNELS

Table of premium channels for Sunday Afternoon, January 23, 2000. Columns include channel numbers (50-99) and channel names (SHOW, HBO, TMC, etc.).



Table with columns for time slots (7:00-4:30) and rows for various TV channels (WWTW, WOVT, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like 'Touched by an Angel', 'Fire Down Below', and 'The Sopranos'.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for various TV channels (WWTW, WOVT, WGVU, etc.) listing programs like 'Wheel of Fortune', 'Jeopardy!', 'King of Queens', and 'Antiques Roadshow'.

Lowell Water Works advertisement featuring a cartoon character, 'OPEN MON. THRU SAT. 8 A.M. - 7 P.M.', and 'WIN FREE CAR WASHES' offer.

Little Caesars advertisement featuring a cartoon character, 'Super Value of the Month!', and 'TWO MEDIUM PIZZAS With Unlimited Toppings And Flavored Crust' offer.











# Lowell's Sheppard seeks out learning opportunity as city council student representative

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

At a glance, Matthew Sheppard is just your average 14-year-old freshman in the Lowell School District.

A longer look reveals Sheppard is not even your average Lowell resident.

Sheppard attended the January city council meeting not because his parents were there seeking a zoning ordinance or because it was a school assignment.

No, Sheppard was at the January meeting as well as the November and December

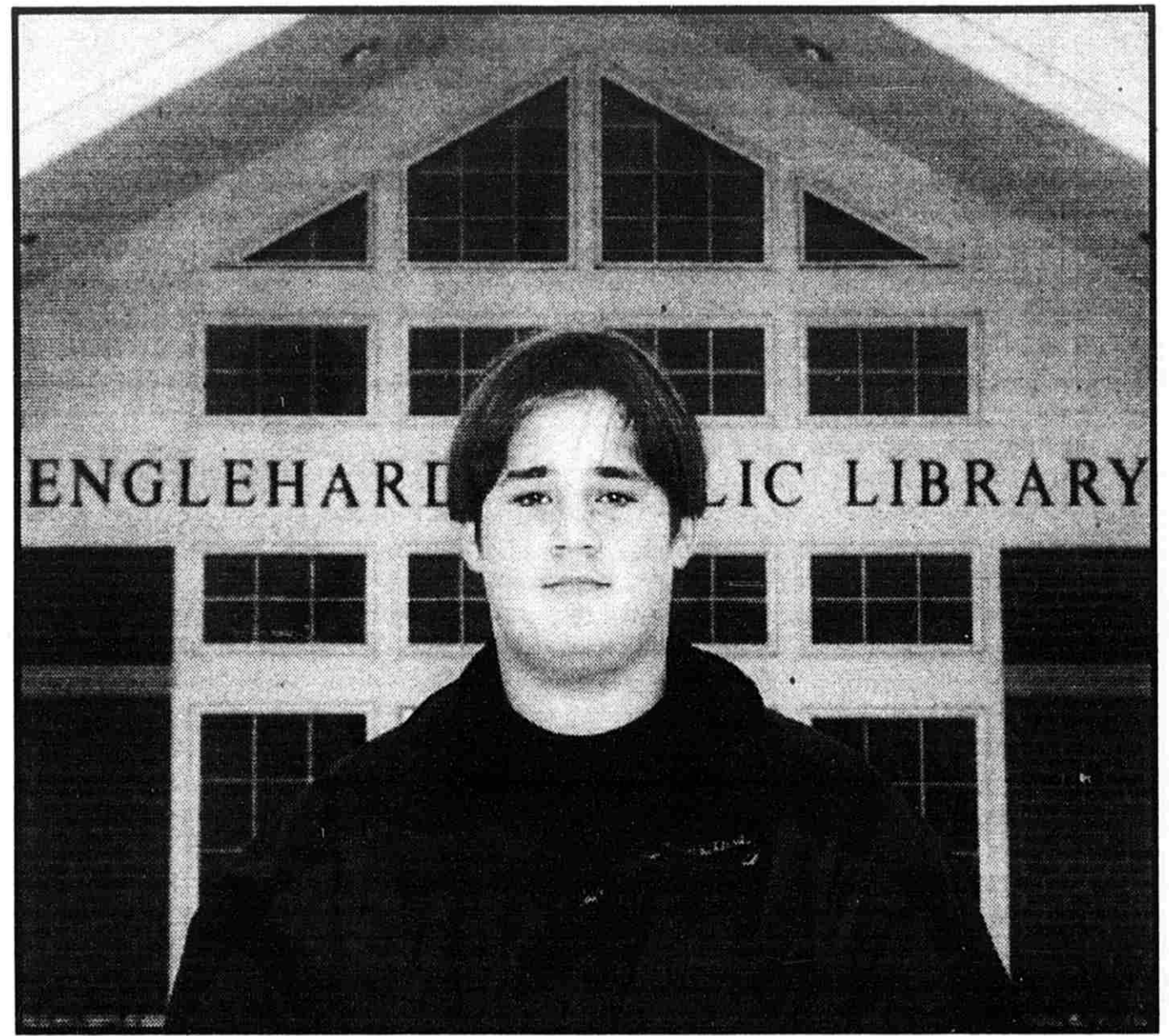
meetings because he has an interest in city government.

After expressing this interest to his school counselor, Sheppard drafted and sent a letter to Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale stating his interest in serving as a student representative on the city council.

"The main thing is this provides a learning opportunity and helps give him a sense of community service," Pasquale said.

Sheppard describes the meetings as interesting and fun. "I know a lot more about what's going on and what goes into decisions," he explains.

One of the more interesting issues Sheppard has listened to discusses whether the Spice channel should be a pay per view choice for cable subscribers. "I think the cable company should be able to offer what it wants and the subscribers should choose to buy it or not," said the student representative.



Matthew Sheppard, student representative, has been attending Lowell City Council meetings since November.

Through this opportunity as a representative, Sheppard has also been able to keep his mother (Edine Bronold) aware of what's happening.

"I think she's surprised that I was interested in city government," Sheppard said. "It's not something she

thought I'd ever get into."

Through a program sponsored through Kent County, student representative attendance at city meetings was described as a mixed bag - from spotty to rarely miss.

"Matthew has not missed a meeting and has shown a

real interest in learning about city government," Pasquale said. "He's learning about the city government process."

Sheppard's interest after high school includes law enforcement and becoming a fireman.

## SOCIAL WORK - RESIDENT ADVOCATE

Excellent opportunity for part-time Resident Advocates in an innovative treatment program specializing in providing services for adults who are mentally ill and/or developmentally disabled. This program is located in Lowell. Responsibilities include crisis intervention, development and implementation of treatment plans and much more. Gain valuable experience while making a difference in people's lives. Hourly rates begin at \$8.65 and increase to \$9.15 after training. Our PT team members enjoy a full range of benefits including health, dental, vision, and a generous vacation package.

If interested, send/fax a resume to or fill out an application at: Horizons of Michigan, West Lake location, 11652 Grand River Avenue, Lowell, MI 49331. Fax Number: (616) 897-5954. You may also call 897-5900, ext. 21 to schedule an interview. H/V/M/F, Affiliate of Hope Network.

## District organizes demographic forums

By J.N. Boorsma  
Contributing Writer

Residents will have a chance to voice their opinions about the Lowell Area School District's efforts to reduce crowding in its buildings.

Superintendent Bert Bleke said a demographics study committee and school officials are working to set up four community forums. At these forums, residents will be presented with various options in changing the

district's demographics.

"We do not want to surprise anyone," Bleke said at the Jan. 10 Board of Education meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to inform as many people as possible of the district's plans and to give everyone who wants an opportunity to ask questions and make comments about the options, he explained.

"We have tried to design the meeting so that it would be accommodating to everyone - first, second, third shift

people as well as those who work on Saturdays," he said.

The forums, all in February, have been set for Feb. 22 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Alto Elementary School; Feb. 26 at the Lowell Schools' administration offices (the board room) from 10 a.m. to noon; February 28 at Cherry Creek Elementary from 7 to 9 p.m.; and February 29 in the board room from 9 to 11 a.m.

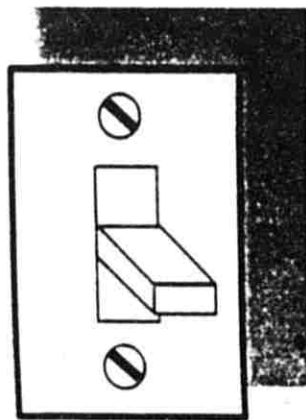
Bleke said the district plans to heavily advertise the

meetings so as to encourage as many people as possible to attend.

"Our plan is to present these options to the board in April with final approval at the May board meeting," Bleke said.

For the past couple of years the district, through the Demographics Study Committee, has been working to help solve the district's overcrowding problem.

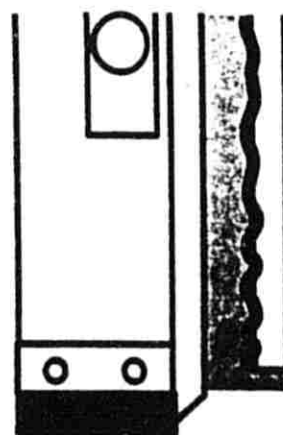
## Resolve to Be Energy-Wise and Save



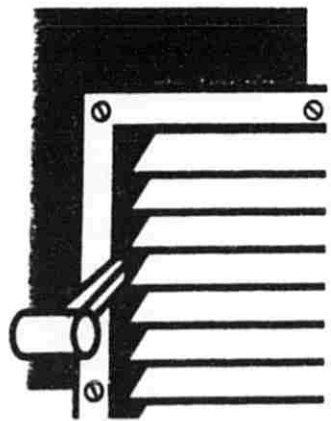
New Year's resolutions are a tradition. This year, resolve to become energy-wise.

You can save money on your electric bill each month by taking just a few simple steps:

- Turn off lights and appliances when not in use.
- Replace incandescent light bulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Check your home's level of insulation. (Call us to learn how much insulation your home should have.)

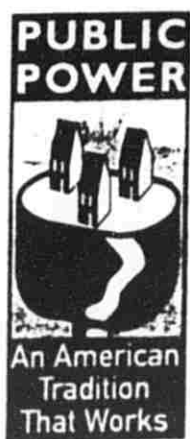


- Use caulk and weather-stripping to stop drafts around windows and doors.



- Direct warm air where you want it by closing heating vents in unoccupied rooms.

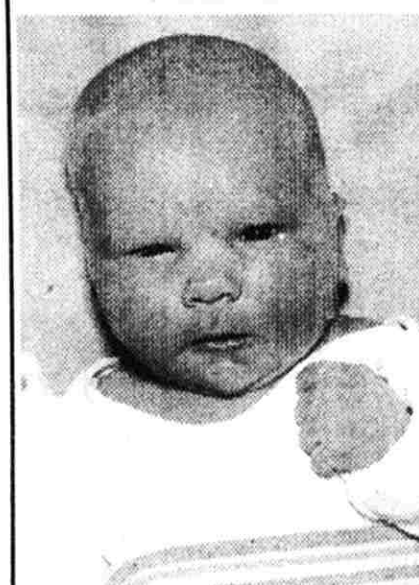
We're your hometown utility, resolved to help you use energy wisely.



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Lowell, MI 49331  
616-897-8402

## OH JOY, IT'S A BOY!



Nick & Mindy Tykocki have a new son!  
**ZACHARY NICHOLAS**

was born on December 21 weighing 8 lbs., 14 oz., measuring 21 3/4" long and they couldn't be happier!

Along with grandparents Dr. David & Carol Tykocki, Clifford & Frances Walling & great-grandmother Emily Tykocki. Also uncles, aunts & cousins: Dr. Chris, Kim, Evan & Alison Tykocki, Ed, Laura & Kelleigh Walling & Nathan Tykocki

## Free Review

If you would like a free review of your investments please call or stop by today.

Christopher J. Bouma  
Investment Representative  
2050 W. Main, Suite D  
Lowell, MI 49331  
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## Isiah Thomas to speak to Y directors

Isiah Thomas, formerly a point guard for the Detroit

Pistons and currently the Founder of the Isiah Thomas Foundation, an organization committed to promoting educational opportunities for Detroit inner-city youth, will be at the Ambassador Ballroom in the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel on Monday, Feb. 21 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

This is in conjunction with the annual meeting luncheon and program of the Grand Rapids Metropolitan YMCA. Reservations are needed and proceeds of the meeting will go to the YMCA summer teen adventure centers.

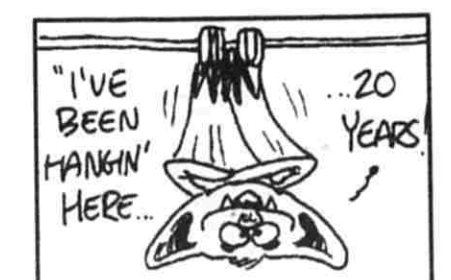
For reservation information, contact Dawn Thole at 222-9654.

## ADA-LOWELL 5

M-21 5 Minutes East of Amway H.Q. 897-1351  
**ONLY \$3.75** Matinees before 6 pm, Kids, Seniors, & Everyone all day Tuesday  
**\$4.50** with Student ID after 6pm  
**\$4.00** Late Shows Fri & Sat **DIGITAL STEREO**  
No passes or Tuesday discounts  
Unlimited Free Drink Refills & .25c Corn Refills

## MOVIE GUIDE

**ALL SEATS HIGH BACK ROCKERS ALL THEATERS DIGITAL STEREO SHOWS AND SHOWTIMES GOOD FOR**  
1/19, 1/20  
**STUART LITTLE (PG)**  
5:00, 7:10, 9:00  
**GALAXY QUEST (PG)**  
4:45, 7:30, 9:45  
**GREEN MILE (R)** 4:30, 8:00  
**DEUCE BIGELOW (R)**  
4:15, 7:20, 9:10  
**ANNA AND THE KING (PG-13)**  
6:30, 9:30  
-----COUPON-----  
**ONE FREE 46OZ POPCORN**  
(MEASURED IN VOLUME NOT WEIGHT)  
WITH THIS AD EXPIRES 01/21/00 LL  
**HIT OUR WEB @ www.gqtl.com**



Some species of bats live as long as 15 to 25 years.