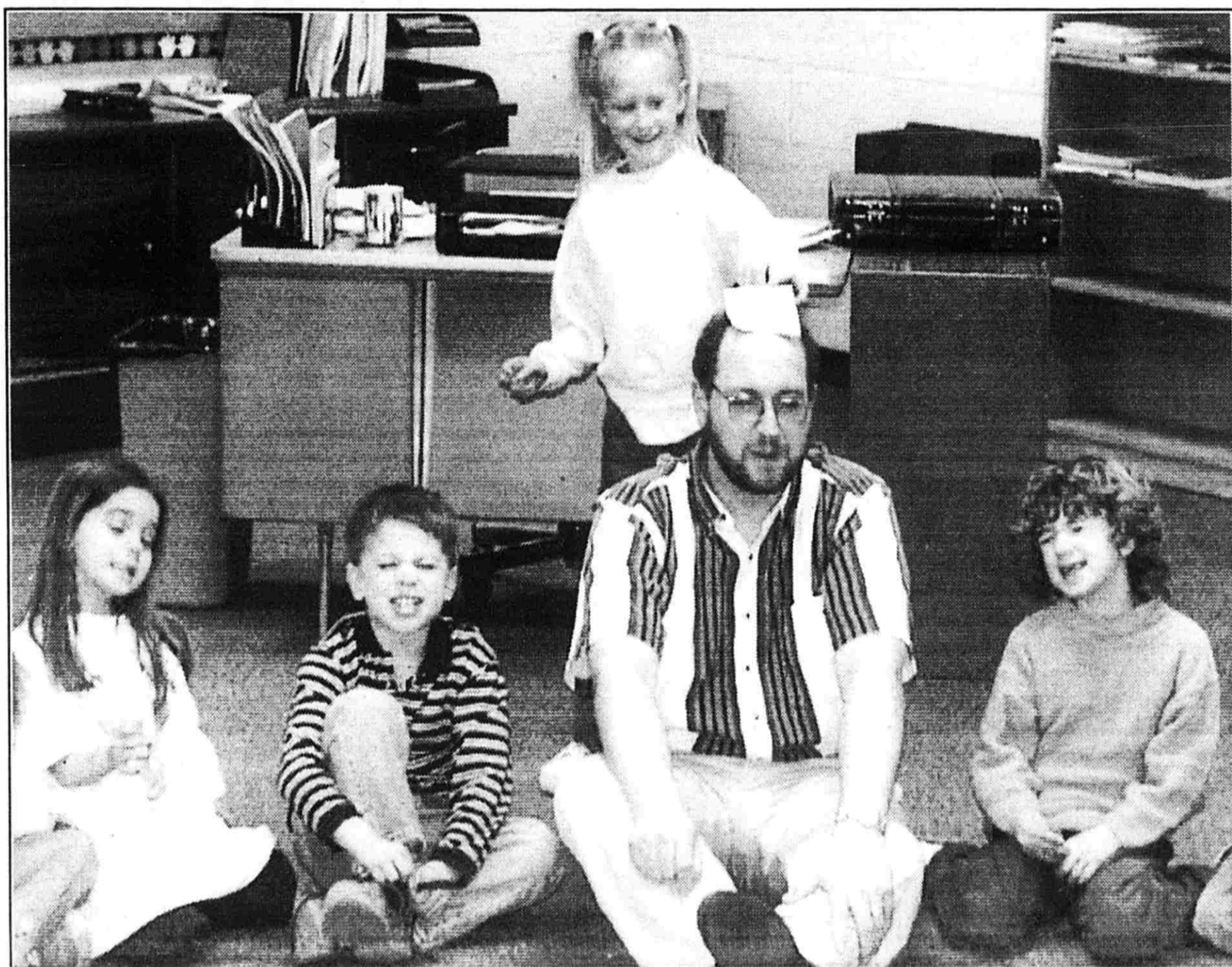


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 21

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 8, 2000



Bushnell Elementary music teacher Tom Rhein joins students in a game of "I Wrote a Letter."

Education Through Music not symbolic of old approach

By Thaddeus J. Kraus *Lowell Ledger* Editor

The California based Richard's Institute of Education and Research is the sponsor of a program titled "Education Through Music."

The theory behind the program is that if a child can produce a sound, he/she can hear a sound; if he/she can hear a sound they can put a symbol to it.

The Institute looks at music developmentally, modeling music learning after language learning.

"For years we've tried to teach elementary students symbols before they have any or little singing experience," said Lowell elementary music teacher Tom Rhein. "Kids speak the English language five-six years before we try to teach them the symbols that go with the language. This program takes the same approach with music."

Rhein is presenting music and song to his kindergarten-second-grade students, helping them distinguish melodic patterns (e.g., Do Re Me). Children who can't distinguish sound have a difficult time symbolizing it.

The music teacher says the approach brings about a better quality of singing. "It's much more natural and there

Education Through Music, cont'd pg. 8

KDL begins march toward authoring next proposal

••• If the millage is not approved in August or November, the KDL will face cutting hours, materials and possibly even branch closings.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus *Lowell Ledger* Editor

The cost to operate the Kent District Library has steadily increased over the last five years.

If it is to continue to oper-

ate at its current level, it will need an increase in the number of "yes" votes come August or November.

The millage increase was

turned down by Kent County voters in February. The proposal, which called for the millage to increase from .6431 to .93 mills, was defeated by voters 32,034 (51 percent) to 31,764 (49.79 percent) or 270 votes.

KDL receives 75 percent of its operating funds from the millage. According to John VanValkenburg, KDL public relations manager, it cannot maintain the current level of services at its current millage level. To operate the 18 branches in 1999 at .6431 mills, the KDL had to draw from its reserve fund.

The February proposal was to cover expected costs of more staff and materials at nine of the district's 18 branch libraries and headquarters

over the next five years.

If the millage is not approved in August or November, the KDL will face cutting hours, materials and possibly even branch closings.

"We can't continue to offer the same services without more money," said Claudya Muller, KDL director.

The KDL has a \$1.3 million materials budget. Of that, \$34,044 (\$6,444 for electronic reference data base) is dedicated to the Englehardt Library.

Any donations for materials through an individual, business, organization or foundation earmarked for the Englehardt Library are not included in that figure.

The material budget for each branch is based on the

size of the library and community, and the number of hours it is open.

The proposal for 2000 is to increase the Englehardt material budget to \$34,504.

In 1998, the KDL budgeted \$189,908 or 2.44 percent of its total expenditures for the Englehardt Library and \$127,827 (1.64 percent) for the Alto Library. These expenditures do not include maintenance.

The Englehardt Library is considered one of the larger small libraries in the KDL system. "With one being the smallest and five the largest, the Englehardt Library is a two," VanValkenburg explained.

The KDL administration and board have not yet determined what it will ask voters for on the August or November ballot. "We'll spend March putting a plan to-

gether," VanValkenburg said.

They have identified several possible reasons why the millage proposal was defeated. They include an unexpected high election turnout and no publicity committee.

The KDL millage proposal passed in nine communities, but was defeated in 17.

In the city of Lowell it passed 279-211. It was defeated in Vergennes Township 340-259; Lowell Charter Township 469-444; and Bowne Township 243-133.

Based on items circulated in 1999, the Kent District Library (2.7 million items) was the largest in the state of Michigan. It circulated a million more items than the Detroit Public Library.

"Our strength is in numbers," VanValkenburg explains. "We have enjoyed a six percent increase in circulation over the last four years."

Along Main Street



SPRING'S ON THE WAY

Edith Hendrick has reported seeing a robin at 4:05 p.m. last Friday in Key Heights. Harry Vaughan of Beckwith Dr. saw a bluebird several weeks ago.

LOWELL AREA 6TH ANNUAL CROP WALK RALLY

The CROP Walk Rally will be held Thursday, March 9 at the Lowell First United Methodist Church, 621 E. Main at 7 p.m. If your group or organization would like to participate either by walking or sponsoring a group at the May 7 walk, please send a representative to this rally or call 897-5936.

GARDEN FRIENDS MEETING

The Lowell Showboat Garden Club meeting will be held Monday, March 13 at 7 p.m. at the Nazarene Hall. The speaker will be Merry Kim Meyers, a landscape architect. Bring a friend.

COMMUNITY EXPO 2000

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is planning the Lowell Community Expo 2000 for Saturday, March 25 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. If you would like to spotlight your business, church or organization, call Liz at 897-9161.

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Wrestlers
Just Miss,
Page 31



OBITUARIES

ALBERTS (nee Stinson) - Mrs. Lois K. Alberts, aged 84, of Roswell, GA, and Belding, formerly of Grand Rapids, passed away unexpectedly Monday, February 28, 2000. Surviving are three children: Fred and Maureen Alberts of Belding, Joan and John Gervase of Roswell, GA. Tom and Julie Alberts of Lowell; 15 grandchildren; 12

great-grandchildren; one brother Jack and Marie Stinson of Wyoming; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Joseph in 1997. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Friday at the Basilica of St. Adalbert, Interment St. Mary's Cemetery, Miriam, MI. Memorial contributions to the American Diabetes Association will be appreciated.

COLLINS - Vivian Joyce Collins, aged 80, of Lowell, passed away March 2, 2000. She was preceded in death by her brothers Junior Lee Shear and Ivan Shear. She is survived by her husband Ernest Collins; children: Dean (Carol) Collins of Rock Hill, SC, Nancy Kunard of Lowell, Kirk (Ann) Collins of Lowell, Durene (Dave) Hendrix of Trion, GA; grandchildren: Stacey Collins, Dana Smith, Dianna Collins, Brian Kunard, Brenda Owen, Aric Hendrix, Amanda Hendrix, Samantha Collins, Kathryn Collins, James

Collins; eight great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Jean Shear of Battle Creek, Gayle Shear of Grand Rapids. She was a receptionist at Roth-Gerst Chapel for many years. Funeral services were held Saturday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Vance M. Dimmick Jr., officiating, Interment Oakwood Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Holland Home Hospice.

GLESS - Elizabeth Ann (Bette) Gless, aged 70, of Alto, passed away Saturday, March 4, 2000. She was preceded in death by her husband Emmett. Survived by her children Barbara (Adrian) Heys, Tom Gless, Terri (Paul) Whaley, Nick (Amy) Gless, Lisa (Tom Houlihan) Gless, and Gina Gless; brothers James (Louise) Paffausen, Ronald (Lillian) Paffausen, and Pat (Patti) Paffausen; sisters Lorraine (Leroy) Thompson, Carolyn (Fred) Blakeslee, and Ruth (Elmer) Collar; and 13 grandchildren. Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Roth-Gerst Chapel, Lowell, Fr. George Fekete officiating.

HILL - Charles A. Hill, aged 77, of Grand Rapids, passed away Friday, March 3, 2000, with his family by his side. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Anna Mae; children Maureen (Tom) Herman, Bob (Cheryl) Hill, Jane (Dan) Lennon, Jim (Jackie) Hill, Nancy (Michael) Hagan; 14 grandchildren; brothers Gordon (Donna) Hill, Joe (Beulah) Hill; sisters Helen (Elmer) Layer, Clara Rewa; brother-in-law Giles Hefferan; many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was offered Monday at Blessed Sacrament Church, Rev. Stephen S. Dudek presiding, Interment St. Patrick Cemetery, Parnell. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Blessed Sacrament Building Fund, 2275 Diamond Ave. N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505-4313, Cannon Township Historical Society or Grattan Township Historical Society.

LHS honors February students-of-the-month

For the month of February, Lowell High School is honoring six students-of-the-month. These students were chosen by the various departments because they have demonstrated exceptional ability and interest in a particular area.

Jennifer Wisner was selected by the English department. She is a senior and the daughter of Jerry and Kay Wisner of Lowell. As a student at L.H.S., Wisner has been parliamentarian and secretary of F.F.A. and drum major for the marching band. Her plans for next year are to attend Central Michigan University, majoring in education. Her teacher nominator says she is a fantastic public speaker and also has wonderful insights into the literature she reads.

Betsy Eldridge is being honored by the English department. She is a senior and the daughter of Greg and Karen Eldridge of Lowell. Eldridge's extracurricular activities include Teacher Practicum, PALS, National Honor Society, jazz band, SADD, vice president of International Club and Teens Against Tobacco Use. Next year she plans to attend GRCC or Cornerstone University to pursue a degree in education, music and missions. Her teacher nominator says she is always positive and willing to work.

Mike Armstrong was also chosen by the English department. He is a senior and the son of Mike and Lynn Armstrong of Lowell. At L.H.S. he is active in cross country, track, Amnesty International, SADD, International Club, National Honor Society, Model U.N., Freshman Academy, Student Council and bowling club. Armstrong plans to study astrophysics or aeronautical engineering. His teacher nominator says he is kind and willing to learn new things.

Rachel Rice was the choice of the Business department. She is a senior and the daughter of Bob and Robin Rice of Lowell. Her extracurricular activities include National Honor Society, LINC, Freshman Academy, flagline captain and B.P.A. co-secretary and co-parliamentarian. Her teacher nominator says she is a very dedicated hardworking student and has succeeded in all of her high school business courses.



February students-of-the-month, front row, left to right, are: Betsy Eldridge, Erin Weber and Rachel Rice. Back row, left to right, are: Katie Fleet, Mike Armstrong and Jennifer Wisner.

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TWO POSITIONS OPEN FOR LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

There are two four-year Board of Education positions to be filled at the annual school election which will be held on Monday, June 12, 2000. These positions are for four-year terms ending June 30, 2004.

Residents interested in running for a board seat must first file nominating petitions and affidavits of identity. Candidates must be 18 years of age, a resident of Michigan for at least 30 days, and a resident of the Lowell Area School District for at least 30 days before the election.

Nominating petitions and affidavit forms may be obtained by any candidate from the Board of Education office located at 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The petitions must contain at least 20 signatures of registered school electors of the district. It is recommended that a reasonable number of signatures over the minimum be obtained to protect against invalid signatures.

Petition circulators need not be a registered school elector, individual petitions must be taken for each township and city in which signatures are obtained, and ELECTORS CAN SIGN AS MANY PETITIONS AS THERE ARE PERSONS TO BE ELECTED.

If you are interested in running, please note the following dates:
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2000 - 4:00 p.m. last day for filing nominating petitions;
THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2000 - 4:00 p.m. last day for a candidate to withdraw his/her name;
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2000 - Annual School Election

For more information contact Sonja or Kay at 897-8415.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review of Bowne Township will meet in the township offices at 6059 Linfield S.E., Alto on

MONDAY, MARCH 13
between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Evening 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. by appointment only.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16
between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims. You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

- 1). by letter addressed to the Bowne Township Supervisor and received by him prior to March 13th
- 2). appearing in person on one of the dates the Board of Review meets.

The Tentative Real Property assessment and assessment multiplier required by PA 165 of 1971 are:

Ratio - 50% Multiplier - 1.00

Dennis McKelvey - Assessor
Christian Wenger - Supervisor
Bowne Township

BOWNE TOWNSHIP
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS HEARING
THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2000
7:00 P.M.

BOWNE TOWNSHIP OFFICE
6059 Linfield S.E.

Request from Joel Macomber, 7452 Morse Lake S.E. for a variance of Article 3.02. To add an attached garage closer to side property line than allowed by the ordinance.

Peter Siler
Chairman, ZBA

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP
NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF VERGENNES TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP HALL
10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331 on

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2000
between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.; also on

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2000
between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. and from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

- 1) By letter addressed to the Vergennes Township Assessor and received prior to March 10 or
- 2) By phoning the Township Hall (897-5671) for an appointment to appear in person.

The tentative Real Property assessment ratio and assessment multiplier required by P.A. 165 of 1971 are:

Ratio - 50% Multiplier - 1.00

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

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CITY OF LOWELL
PUBLIC NOTICE

The city of Lowell Water Treatment Filtration Plant will not be softening the water from March 9th through April 30th due to major plant maintenance.

Any questions, please contact George Regan, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent at 897-5234 or City Hall at 897-8457.

Betty R. Morlock
Deputy City Clerk

Happy St. Patrick's Day!
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BOOK REVIEW
By Joan Wittenbach

the adventure, ask for help by telling others what kind of books you are looking for. Perhaps they've read something themselves that is just the answer to your particular need.

Not long ago, I had a group of women over and we were discussing how people can make a difference in our lives. I got so excited, grabbed my newest find in children's books, and read them the inspiring story. *The Gardener* by Sarah Stewart and David Small (her artist husband).

This is a growing book, for adults and children. Read alone or together. *The Gardener* leaves its imprint on your life. Lydia Grace Finch has to leave home and go to the city to live with her Uncle Jim. It is 1935, a time called the Depression years. There was little work, sometimes not even any. Lydia Grace's family was facing this dilemma, and the best solution for them was to send Lydia to Uncle Jim. He owned a bakery and she could help him, which she did. But Lydia Grace's first love was not baking; it was growing flowers. Her grandmother

To The Editor, continued...From Page 5

to establish values than any form of moratorium.

As for other Lowell assets let me say, I am also paying a lot more for electric that has power surges all the time. I could go

on and on about the things I miss about Lowell (even the water!). But I won't. I too am not crazy about Meijer coming to Lowell. However, I think we must all remember when things like our school system changes for the positive (thank you Bert Bleke), it will draw more people.

More people means more businesses, developments, etc. I wouldn't turn the clock back to the small town of even five years ago. We all have to take the good with the bad. Hopefully the bad can be managed to keep Lowell's charm alive & well.

Tonia North

To the Editor,
Dear Mayor and Special Committee to Evaluate Cable TV Provided by Local Government:
Gentlemen and Ladies of the City of Lowell, I appreciate the dilemma posed before you regarding the subject of entertainment. I want to share my personal position on this for your consideration in the resolution of the problem.

1. Government should provide services not otherwise available commercially without coordinated efforts or control. Government orchestrated telephones (frequencies, etc.) railroads (gauge standards), and electric power (voltage & amps),

2. Government should not be in the entertainment business.
3. Government should not be in the selection and pricing structure of what is available commercially.
4. Government should be in the process of enabling the community in growth and prosperity in their chosen directions by being less intrusive and controlling.

I hope this may provide some direction in your evaluation process. I can't quote the sources of my position point paper without more research into how I got to this point in my life. Please consider these elements in your evaluation of the future for the community entertainment issue for Lowell governmental affairs.

It is a phase that had to happen in the repositioning for Big Brother in our lives as opened to our visions by George Orwell's "1984."

Sincerely yours,
Chris Nielsen

Area Brownies deliver cookies/handkerchiefs to Veterans



Alto School Brownie Troop 392 and Daisy Troop 002 visited the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans before Valentine's Day. The residents were pleased to receive Valentine cookies and handkerchiefs that the girls decorated. Pictured, from left to right, are: Samantha Moody, Kendra Merriman, Elizabeth Mol, Kristen Reid, DeeAnne Merriman, KayLee Westerhuis, Paige Rash, Laura Droog and Brand Krueger.

Melissa Luyk has been placed on the dean's list at Michigan State University. She is a junior studying environmental applications.

Her parents are Dan and Kris Luyk of Belding.

COLLEGE NEWS

Cornerstone University is proud to recognize **Christie Johnson** for her inclusion on the dean's list for the fall semester of 1999. This distinction is reserved for those who achieve a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Johnson, a former student at Lowell High School, is the daughter of Victor and Linda Johnson of Mt. Pleasant.



Franciscans offer parent training program

The Franciscan Life Process Center is offering a Parent Training Program for parents desiring to improve management skills with children's behavioral problems, improve parent-child relationships and increase child compliance and self-esteem.

This training program is based on Dr. Russell A. Barkley's model of *Training Parents to Manage Defiant Children* and will be offered by staff from the Franciscan Life Process Center who have been trained by Dr. Barkley. If interested, please contact Bev or Melissa at the center 897-7842.

Marie Cariano and Paul A. Pelon IV of Lowell, and Stephen K. DeVries of Alto, who received degrees from Western Michigan University in December at the end of the fall session of the 1999-2000 school year. Among them are: Anna Kay Bryce, Ann Marie Cariano, and Paul A. Pelon IV of Lowell, and Stephen K. DeVries of Alto.

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Education Through Music, cont'd.... From Page 1

is more of a playfulness in it," Rhein explains. "It builds a habit of singing which makes it as natural as walking down the street."

Rhein says this approach is now represented in a large percentage of school districts. "It just took a long time to convince people that there is a better way," he explains. Rhein did his undergraduate work at Calvin College and is completing his graduate work in child development at Michigan State University.

"Music is not just about performance. It's about aesthetic quality and expression," Rhein concludes.

Lowell Middle School bands earn perfect scores at festival

The Lowell Middle School seventh and eighth grade bands came in with perfect scores at MSBOA District 10 band festival on Saturday, March 4 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. All four judges awarded both bands with Division One ratings in performance and sight reading. This means that the bands qualify and will participate in the state band festival on either May 5 or 6.

Only bands that score first division ratings participate in the state festival. The seventh grade band, under the direction of Dale Latva and Kathryn Bredwell, played selections titled "The Liberty March," "Abington Ridge Overture," and "Thun-

der Drum." The eighth grade band, under the direction of Dale Latva, played "Winchester March," "Joyance," and "Eagle Rock Overture." The division one rating in both performances of the three selections and in sight reading is based on five areas of evaluation: rhythm, intonation, interpretation, tone and technique.

The students and directors are to be credited for all the hard work and practice that goes into such an accomplishment. This year a lot about Lowell bands, the students and parents involved, and the support they get from the Music Boosters and the administration.

City and Lowell Youth Football reach agreement

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The agreement worked so well the first time, the city of Lowell and Lowell Youth Football decided to renew their agreement.

The renewal is for 10 years. It enables Lowell Youth Football to operate and control the Burch Field concession stand and its facilities.

"Lowell Youth Football has provided many improvements to the field, including a new irrigation system and

keeping the field in great condition," Lowell city manager Dave Pasquale said. "There has also been a cooperative effort between it and the Kent County Youth Fair and the YMCA."

Mayor Mike Blough said he was unsure if the city should enter into a 10-year agreement without the option of being able to re-examine it at some point.

Don Green, councilman and chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, commended Lowell Youth

Football for the excellent job it has done with the field and the time and money it has invested.

"A lease agreement like this is common. The Boy Scouts have a 10-year agreement with the Boy Scout cabin on North Washington Street," Green explained.

Councilman Chuck Myers stated he felt a condition should come with the agreement. "I believe Lowell Youth Football should provide us with data on what it does, who it benefits, activities, volunteer hours and a budget," he said.

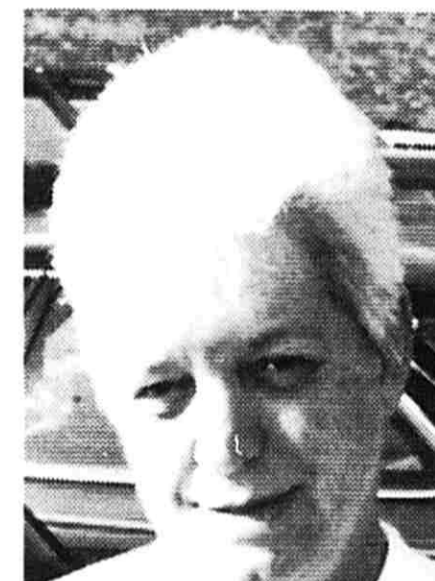
Lowell Youth Football director Michael Meppelink and its board obliged. "It was an excellent report and well done," Myers stated.

The Parks and Recreation Commission made the following amendment recommendations:

- Vendors will keep the concession stand open to the public during all youth football events.
- Vendors will provide a schedule to the Department of Public Works a week in advance of when facilities will be open.
- A revoke clause for non-compliance and an escape clause for either party are to be included.

TOWN TALK

Should there be a statute of limitations on trying someone for rape?



Shirley Peckham
No. If they commit a crime, they should pay for it.



Cindy Smith
No. There should not be a statute on serious crimes like rape.



Robin McCannless
Time shouldn't make a difference. If rape is committed, a person should be tried.



Kellie Warners
There shouldn't be a statute. If a person commits a crime and is caught, he should be tried.



Steve Breen
No. Why? You can't take away what's been done and that lasts longer than seven years.



Katie Harrington
With the DNA technology now available I don't think there should be a statute.



Tanda Kramer
No. If there is enough evidence, a person should be tried no matter the time frame.

Bruce Johnson

I think there should be a statute. Seven years is a long time - a person should be tried right away.

Smyrna St. Patrick Celebration

Sat., March 11, 2000
ROAST BEEF DINNER
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
DONATIONS: Adults...\$6.00
Children...\$3.00 • Under 5...FREE
HOT BEEF SUPPER
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Adults...\$4.50
Children...\$2.00

EUCHRE TOURNAMENTS

1:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
\$3.00 To Play • Cash Prizes
CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA AVAILABLE
CASH BAR
EVERYONE WELCOME

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review of Lowell Charter Township will meet at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, S.E. on

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. to review the tax roll

The Board of Review will also meet for appointments:

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2000 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

and on TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2000 between the hours of 3:00 - 9:00 p.m.

You may appeal your assessed valuation one of two ways:

1) By letter addressed to the Lowell Charter Township Supervisor and received by him prior to March 13, 2000; or

2) By phoning the township hall (897-7600) for an appointment to appear in person.

The tentative real property assessment ratio and assessment multiplier required by P.A. 165 of 1971 are

RATIO - 50% MULTIPLIER - 1.00
Carol L. Wells, Clerk

YOU'RE IN LUCK...

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT
\$415 per mo.
\$14,230 Gross Annual Income

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT \$17,000 Gross Annual Income
\$445 per mo.

COULD MOVE IN BY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!!!

Birchwood Garden Apartments
LOWELL • 897-8049
TDD #1-800-649-3777
Professionally Managed by...
Medallion Management, Inc.

GOING TO THE DENTIST DOESN'T HAVE TO HURT ANYMORE!

COMPLETE FAMILY DENTAL CARE

Accepting New Patients

"Gentle & Painless Dentistry Is Our Goal"

COMPLETE SERVICES:

- ✓ Gentle Dentistry for Children & Adults
- ✓ Immediate Emergency Treatment
- ✓ Cosmetic Dentistry, Teeth Whitening
- ✓ Preventive Care
- ✓ Extractions/Broken Tooth Repaired
- ✓ Dentures (Same Day Repair)
- ✓ Insurance Plans Accepted
- ✓ Day & Evening Hours:

Monday.....1 to 8 p.m.
Tuesday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday.....8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday.....9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Judd T. Carroll, D.M.D.
103 East Main • Lowell, Michigan
(616) 897-7595

BRANSON SHOW TRIP

May 17-21, 2000 5 Days & 4 Nights
After Mother's Day - The Wonderful World of Branson ... by bus

\$599
Per Person Dbl. Occ. Single Add \$104

INCLUDES 10 GREAT SHOWS ...
Frederick & the Waltzing Waters ... Bobby Vinton's Variety Show ... Spirit of the Dance from Dublin Ireland
Breakfast with the Classics Show ... The Platters Lunch & Show ... The Lawrence Welk Show ... Buck Trent Breakfast Show ... Danny Davis Lunch Show
The Jimmy Rodgers Show ... Dinner with DI Show.

Includes (5) Show Meals and (2) Deluxe Continental Breakfast.

An Outstanding Selection of Musical Entertainment Guaranteed to Bring Happiness to Your New Year!

GENERAL INFORMATION
\$110 Per Person Deposit with Reservation • (3) Payments of \$163. Each in January, February and March. Payment in Full due March 7th, 2000
Phone or write today for complete fact sheet!

Shrine Tours 1163 E. Fulton Street
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Call 616-451-9839 or 1-800-613-0022

LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO

LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO
March 25, 2000
10 AM to 4 PM
LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL
11700 VERGENNES ROAD

Come and see what's new in our community!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
897-9161

SPONSORED BY
IONIA COUNTY NATIONAL BANK,
LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
&
LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

3 FOR SHOE 1

BUY 1 GET 2 FREE!

SALE STARTS MARCH 10TH

PICK OUT THREE PAIR OF SHOES OR BOOTS FROM THE RACKS - MIX OR MATCH FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN...PAY FOR THE MOST EXPENSIVE
GET OTHER 2 FREE
WE JUST ADDED 2,000 MORE PAIRS FOR THIS SALE!

- Dexter
- Nike
- Carolina
- Truffles
- Bare Trap
- & More!

BUY 1 GET 2 FREE!

Mon.-Fri. 9-5:30;
Sat. 9-5;
Sun. March 12, 19 & 26 Noon-5

O'CONNOR'S

Quality Footwear
213 S. Lafayette • Downtown Greenville
(616) 754-4583
LAYAWAY AVAILABLE

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL

149 South Hudson, Lowell

14th Annual West Michigan Regional Competition

OPENING RECEPTION
March 12th 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Exhibition runs through April 12

Thank you to the following Underwriters

- Ionia County National Bank
- Service Reproduction Comp.
- Old Kent Bank
- Douma's Art Supplies
- Lowell Auto Dealers
- Hooper Printing
- Superior Furniture
- Root-Lowell Manufacturing
- Shoreboat Automotive Supply
- Roth-Gerst Funeral Home
- Shorebird Gallery & Gifts
- JB Harrison Insurance
- Speerstra Insurance
- Lowell Ledger
- Manpower of Lowell

Gustafson, Weir and Rangers leave records in their wake

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

There were seven pool and three conference records set at the OK White/Rainbow I Conference meet Saturday in Zeeland.

The Forest Hills/Lowell swim team was responsible for four pool records and three conference records, enroute to a fourth place finish.

Zeeland won the meet with 270 points. The Chix were followed by Hudsonville 258; Forest Hills/Northern 220; Forest Hills/Lowell 189; East Grand Rapids 165; and Northview 161.

The Rangers' medley relay team of Brett Goldberg, Andrew Klipa, Mike Gustafson and Scott Weir set a pool and conference record

with a time of 1:39.32.

Gustafson set a pool record in the 200 individual medley posting a first-place time of 1:58.46. The Red Arrow also won the 100 breaststroke, stopping the clock 1:01.66.

Weir followed with a pool record of 21.60 in the 50 freestyle.

In the 100 freestyle, Weir

set a pool and conference record with a time of 47.46.

Tapering is meant to allow swimmers to give peak performances at season's end.

Andrew Klipa began demonstrating that theory in Forest Hills/Lowell's 108-78 loss to Northview.

"Andrew is turning it on at the end of the season," said Ranger swimming coach Heather Heritage. "He swam fantastically against Northview."

Klipa placed second in the 50 freestyle, stopping the clock in 23.96. He was third in the 100 freestyle with a personal best time of 52.91.

The junior also had a leg in the winning medley relay and the 200 freestyle relay.

The team of Klipa, Brett Goldberg, Mike Gustafson

and Scott Weir turned in a winning time of 1:42.89 in the medley relay.

The same foursome took top honors in the 200 freestyle with a time of 4:32.78.

Junior Mike Gustafson was a half-second off the school record in the 100 breaststroke. The Ranger won the event in 1:01.56, just missing Danny Ledrick's 1990 mark of 1:01.14.

Matt Trierweiler turned in a personal best time of 1:20.84.

Gustafson won the 100 butterfly in a time of 54.26 - his best mark in the event so far this season.

Weir did the unthinkable: the Ranger swam in back-to-back-to-back events.

The junior followed up his leg in the medley relay with a first place showing in the 200 freestyle. He stopped

the clock in 1:55.06.

He then lined up for the 200 IM where he also took a first, coming home in 2:02.55.

Goldberg was second in the 100 backstroke. He recorded a personal best time of 1:01.94.

Jacob Billingsley placed fourth in a time of 1:07.64.

In the diving exercise, Andrew Sargent was second in 191.40 and teammates Mac Russell and Jacob Baker were third and fourth respectively.

Personal best times were handed in by Philip Wegert in the 100 freestyle, 54.48; Eric Sherba, 500 freestyle, 5:43.63; Scott Sprenger, 500 freestyle, 6:56.02; Mike Denters, 500 freestyle, 7:52.48; Goldberg, 50 freestyle, 24.31; and Trierweiler, 50 freestyle, 28.15.

ADA-LOWELL 5

Movies 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 Concessions

MOVIE GUIDE

ALL SEATS HIGH BACK ROCKERS ALL THEATERS DIGITAL STEREO SHOWS AND SHOWTIMES GOOD FOR 3/8 & 3/9

HANGING UP (PG-13)
12:15, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15

DROWNING MONA (PG-13)
12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:30, 9:20

REINDEER GAMES (R)
11:45, 2:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30

WHOLE NINE YARDS (R)
12:45, 2:45, 4:45, 7:45, 9:40

THE TIGER MOVIE (G)
12:30, 2:30, 4:15, 6:15

THE BEACH (R) 7:45, 9:55

Coupon

ONE FREE 46OZ POPCORN (MEASURED IN VOLUME NOT WEIGHT) WITH THIS AD. LL

HIT OUR WEB @ www.gqti.com

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Independent Probate

FILE NO. 00-169-090-IE

Estate of BERNICE K. MURRAY, deceased
SSN: 396-12-6075

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:
The decedent, whose last known address was 414 Hoover NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505 died 12/26/99.
Creditors of the deceased are notified that

all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, WANDA L. PREVIE, 629 JESSE NE, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49505, or to both the independent personal representative and the Kent County Probate Court, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Schoen running to fight cancer

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Nate Schoen's search on-line for a marathon to run in will take him to a far away place.

He came upon the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society Marathon which is intended to help get people in shape and to raise awareness and funds in the fight against the deadly cancer.

The race is scheduled for Sunday, June 18 at 8 a.m. in Anchorage, AL.

"It's definitely a bonus to be running the race some place I haven't been or may not otherwise get to," Schoen said.

Schoen is a second-year student at the University of Michigan where he is studying chemical engineering.

The 1998 Lowell graduate says he had been running four-eight miles a day a couple times a week.

Since making the decision to run in the marathon,

CRAIG AVERY (P10311)
3875 West River Drive
Comstock Park, MI 49321
(616) 784-5080

The Ledger TV LISTING MAGAZINE

CHANNEL	SYMBOL
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	EWTN

* Denotes Premium Channels



FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 10 THRU MARCH 16

Christine Elise and Jack Wagner star in *Nowhere to Land* Sunday on TBS. Wagner plays Capt. John Prescott, a pilot who learns that his 747 is carrying a deadly nerve gas device planted by a demented bomber.

Show Us Your Smile!

FEBRUARY SMILE OF THE MONTH:

NAME:.....KANON DEAN

AGE:.....5 years old

BIRTHDAY4/5/95

HOBBIESLoves football, building blocks, swimming & likes bikes
Kanon receives a prize for his great checkup.

February "No Cavities" Club Members

Emma Duvernay	Molly Clarke	Justin Hewitt
Brittany Shellenbarger	David Santiago	Audry Frank
Rebekah Conklin	Rose Smith	Neil Frank
Micheal Roth	Allison Roth	Kanon Dean
Matthew Roth	Casey Gross	Lucas Heacock
Shelly Wernet	Ashley White	Alex Nurmikko
James Bryant	Maggie Nurmikko	Nathan Bower
Sam Young	Brian Miller	

FAMILY DENTISTRY
Ann Wilson, D.D.S.
New Patients Welcome!
505 W. Main St. • Suite E, Lowell, MI 49331
897-4835

fpreviews
FREE PREVIEW WEEKEND
MARCH 10, 11, 12!

SHOWTIME
CHANNEL 14

the movie channel
CHANNEL 17

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

Lowell Cable Television

©2000 Showtime Networks Inc. All rights reserved. SHOWTIME, The Movie Channel and related marks are trademarks of Showtime Networks Inc., a Viacom Company. "Snake Eyes" & Copyright ©1998 by Paramount Pictures. All rights reserved. "The Inspectors 2" ©1999 Hallmark Entertainment Distribution Company. All rights reserved. Programming subject to change. Free Previews available to basic subscribers in participating systems only. All services not available in all areas. Restrictions may apply. Basic charges and applicable taxes may vary. Contact G, PG, PG-13, and R programming. If you do not wish to receive the Free Previews in your home, please contact your service provider.

Get MORE MUSIC FROM CABLE

NOW GET THE MUSIC YOU'VE BEEN ASKING FOR, including:

- MUCH MUSIC
- MTV 2
- VH1 COUNTRY
- VH1 CLASSIC ROCK
- DIGITAL MUSIC EXPRESS 30 CHANNELS OF CD QUALITY MUSIC
- PAY-PER-VIEW

MORE MUSIC, JUST ONE PART OF THE 80 NEW CHANNELS AND CONVENIENCE FEATURES AVAILABLE TO YOU NOW WITH CHOICES PLUS.

Choices Plus
From \$12.95 per month

Lowell Cable Television

CALL TODAY TO SUBSCRIBE! 897-8405

MOVIES • KIDS • FAMILY • EDUCATION • SPECIAL INTEREST • PAY-PER-VIEW • DIGITAL MUSIC EXPRESS • INTERACTIVE PROGRAM GUIDE

MONDAY - FRIDAY MORNINGS MARCH 10, 2000 - MARCH 16, 2000. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

MONDAY - FRIDAY AFTERNOONS MARCH 10, 2000 - MARCH 16, 2000. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

FRIDAY EVENING MARCH 10, 2000. Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, Premium Channels.

Where coffee IS dessert! COFFEES • Cappuccino • Latte • Espresso • Herbal Teas too! SWEETS: Featuring Cinnamon Rolls • Muffins & Cookies from Jimmy's Grill! Visit the new coffee shop at Rupert's Drop. HOURS: TUESDAY - FRIDAY 7 AM to 8 PM • SATURDAY: 9 AM to 5 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM to 5 PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY LATENIGHT MARCH 10, 2000 - MARCH 16, 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) and rows for Broadcast Channels, Cable Channels, and Premium Channels.

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

HOCKEY: FOXDT Fri. 8 p.m. NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Nashville Predators. BOWLING: TNN Tue. 8 p.m. Bowling Rockin' Bowl. BOXING: HBO Sat. 10:30 p.m. Boxing WCB Doubleheader. BASEBALL: FOXDT Sat. 7 p.m. College Hockey CCHA Quarterfinal.

RUGBY: FOXDT Wed. 1 p.m. Rugby Six Nations -- France vs. Scotland. SKATING: LIFE Fri. 7 a.m. Figure Skating U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships. AUTO RACING: WOTV Sat. 1 p.m.; WZZM Sat. 1 p.m. Auto Racing NASCAR Grand National. SOCCER: FOXDT Sun. 5 p.m. English Premier League Soccer. SOFTBALL: WOOD Sat. 2 p.m.; WILX Sat. 2 p.m. Softball All-Star Game. TENNIS: FOXDT Sat. 2 p.m. ATP Tennis Franklin Templeton Classic.

401(k) rollovers made easy Edward Jones. Serving Individual Investors Since 1871. Call or stop by today Christopher J. Bouma Investment Representative 2050 W. Main, Suite D Lowell, MI 49531 987-9195 www.edwardjones.com

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 MORNING MARCH 11, 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.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON MARCH 11, 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 / LATENIGHT MARCH 11, 2000. Table with columns for time slots (7:00-4:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing broadcast programs.

WILITENBACH advertisement for LUBE, OIL CHANGE, FILTER. Includes price \$17.95 and contact information for Aurora - Olds - Pontiac - GMC.

SUNDAY MORNING MARCH 12, 2000. Table with columns for time slots (5:00-11:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOTV, WGVU, etc.) listing broadcast programs.

WILITENBACH advertisement for LUBE, OIL CHANGE, FILTER. Includes price \$17.95 and contact information for Aurora - Olds - Pontiac - GMC.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-4:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

Table with columns for time slots (7:00-11:30) and rows for various channels (WVMT, WOV, WGVU, etc.) listing programs and their descriptions.

Lowell Water Works advertisement featuring a cartoon character and text: 'We have all new state of the art equipment and cleaning products to clean, protect & dry your vehicle.' Includes phone number and address.

Money Tight? advertisement featuring a cartoon character and text: 'WIN FREE CAR WASHES! Bring in this coupon when you get your next wash & ENTER THE DRAWING FOR 1 YEAR OF FREE CAR WASHES!' Includes phone number and address.

STRETCH advertisement featuring a cartoon character and text: 'STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET In The Ledger TV Section RUN 1 Ad - 4 WEEKS - For Only \$50!' Includes phone number and address.

TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 14, 2000. Table listing broadcast channels (WWMT, WOV, WGUV, etc.) and cable channels (FX, MTV, USA, etc.) with their respective programs and times.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MARCH 15, 2000. Table listing broadcast channels (WWMT, WOV, WGUV, etc.) and cable channels (FX, MTV, USA, etc.) with their respective programs and times.

Table of premium channels including SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX, listing various programs like 'A Night at the Roxbury', 'Practical Magic', and 'The Negotiator'.

Table of premium channels including SHOW, HBO, TMC, and MAX, listing various programs like 'The Cowboy Way', 'Turner & Hooch', and 'Fast Getaway'.

SPRINGGROVE VARIETY 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!'

STRETCH YOUR ADVERTISING BUDGET! RUN 1 AD IN THIS SPACE - 4 WEEKS Only \$50! Includes illustrations of people and a money bag.

Table with columns for Broadcast Channels (7:00-11:30) and Premium Channels, listing various TV programs and their descriptions.

COMING EVENTS

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 1023, 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 N. Washington Street.

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

EVERY SECOND THURSDAY: Lowell V.F.W. Auxiliary No. 8303 meets at 6:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post, 307 W. Main Street, Lowell.

EVERY 3RD 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 4TH THURSDAY: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m.

EVERY 5TH THURSDAY: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at the High School during lunch periods in the cafeteria for updates on coming events and information.

EVERY 6TH THURSDAY: 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.

EVERY 7TH THURSDAY: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time. Calvary Christian Reformed Church across from Burger King.

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

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY: The Alto Lions Club meets at Bowne Center Fellowship Hall, corner of 84th & M-50 (Alden Nash) 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 3RD THURS.: Women's Club meets at noon in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY 4TH THURS.: Elderly volunteers needed to participate in the Intergenerational Program with school age children from Lowell in many different seasonal activities.

EVERY 5TH THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m.

EVERY 6TH THURS.: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets in the high school cafeteria during seminar time for planning sessions for activities.

EVERY 7TH THURS.: Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m.

EVERY 8TH THURS.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m.

Advertisement for Thomet Chevrolet Buick, featuring the company logo, contact information (1250 W. Main, Lowell, 897-9294), and a list of GM vehicles from Buick, Chevrolet, and GMC.

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

EVERY MONTH: The Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse at 11841 Potters Rd. Just east of Montcalm Ave.

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SUNDAYS - Beginning Feb. 13 (13 weeks) DivorceCare, 6 - 7:15 p.m. at Lowell Wesleyan Church, 1188 Lincoln Lake.

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.

EVERY SECOND MONDAY: Lowell Masonic Lodge regular meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell.

EVERY SECOND TUES.: Ladies Coffee Break Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time. Calvary Christian Reformed Church across from Burger King.

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45 - 8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club at Calvary Christian Reformed Church. All Girls ages 8 to 13 are welcome.

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

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

FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH: Alzheimer's Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. at Cumberland Retirement Village.

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

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

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Alto Senior citizens meet at Alto Elementary School. Please call 868-6111 for luncheon reservations.

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

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EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Alto Senior citizens meet at Alto Elementary School. Please call 868-6111 for luncheon reservations.

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

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m.

676-1355 or Linda Johnson at 897-4922.

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY: The Alto Lions Club meets at Bowne Center Fellowship Hall, corner of 84th & M-50 (Alden Nash) 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 3RD THURS.: Women's Club meets at noon in the community room at Schneider Manor, 725 Bowes Rd.

EVERY 4TH THURS.: Elderly volunteers needed to participate in the Intergenerational Program with school age children from Lowell in many different seasonal activities.

EVERY 5TH THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m.

EVERY 6TH THURS.: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets in the high school cafeteria during seminar time for planning sessions for activities.

EVERY 7TH THURS.: Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m.

EVERY 8TH THURS.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m.

group if you would like to walk or sponsor a group in the May 7th walk.

SAT., MARCH 11: Smyrna St. Patrick Celebration. Roast beef dinner 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Adults \$6; children \$3; under 5 free. Hot beef supper 5-8 p.m. Adults \$4.50; children \$2.

2ND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH: The Ada Historical Society meets in the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley at 1 p.m.

MARCH 12 - APRIL 12: The 14th annual LAAC West Michigan Regional Competition will be on exhibit at the LAAC Gallery located at 149 S. Hudson.

THURS., MARCH 16: Beef stew & turkey stew dinner Saranac High School cafeteria. Serving 5-7 p.m. Adults \$6, children \$3.

FRI., MARCH 17: Grand Valley blood drive from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Lowell High School in the small gym. Call Heather Kohtz at 897-4125 ext. 440 for an appointment or more information.

THURS., MARCH 9: Lowell Area 6th annual CROP walk rally held at 1st United Methodist Church at 7 p.m. Please call 897-5936 or send a representative from your

Advertisement for 600 & 500 WIBC SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT by LWBA, March 18 - 12:30 PM, Lowell Lanes. Entry forms available at desk, prize money paid same day, door prize drawing every hour, entry deadline is March 12th!

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE ANNUAL MEETING THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2000 AT 7:30 P.M. In the Bowne Township Hall 8240 Alden Nash SE, Alto, Michigan. A budget that will be submitted for consideration. Citizens attending the hearing have the right to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the entire budget. Sandra L. Kowalczyk Bowne Township Clerk

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CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2000.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Blough and Clerk called Roll.
Present: Councilmembers Green, Myers, Shores, Quada and Mayor Blough
Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, Deputy Clerk Betty Morlock, Police Chief James Valentine, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent George Regan, Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV General Manager Ronald Holcomb, Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV Programming and Marketing Manager Tom Richards, Light and Power/Cable TV Boardmembers Norman Borgerson, Charles Doyle and Barbara Brown and Planning Commissioners James Hall, Elizabeth Thompson and Gordon Barry.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by SHORES that the minutes of the February 7, 2000 regular and closed session meetings be approved as submitted.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (02/21/00)

GENERAL FUND	\$73,656.12
MAJOR STREET FUND	9.38
LOCAL STREET FUND	9.37
DDA FUND	16,964.01
BUILDING & SITE FUND	118,067.50
AIRPORT FUND	115.00
WASTEWATER FUND	26,797.02
WATER FUND	4,915.97
EQUIPMENT FUND	15,205.53
CURRENT TAX FUND	79,463.53
LEE FUND	1,100.00
LOOK FUND	40,000.00

Item #1. LITEHOUSE, INC. (1400 FOREMAN) - APPLICATION FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE (P.A. 198) - PUBLIC HEARING. Litehouse, Inc. applied for an industrial facilities exemption certificate in connection with the purchase of equipment. It was noted the cost of the improvements would be \$2,121,000 in machinery and equipment. This would qualify the company for twelve years of abatement under the point system adopted by the Council. Eighty-seven (87) existing jobs would be retained and five new positions would be created within two years.

Litehouse, Inc. Representatives Greg Hollman and Nelson Vanderliff were present to answer any questions.

Councilmember Quada asked the representatives if they would agree to cut the abatement in half if the new jobs were not created within the next two years. Hollman responded the economic conditions can not be forecasted. Quada noted the procedure the State follows through the tax abatement process. City Manager Pasquale was unsure if this contingency could be made, considering the State grants the abatements.

Councilmember Myers questioned if the State or City monitored the company regarding the abatement. Pasquale responded the State. He noted every community has concerns when granting tax abatements.

Hollman said Litehouse, Inc. enjoys conducting business in the City and is looking forward to many more years.

Pasquale noted Litehouse, Inc. has followed through on all other tax abatements, which have been granted.

Mayor Blough questioned the current number of employees at the facility. Hollman responded there were 87 employees at the time of the application. However, the numbers have increased since the first of the year.

Gordon Hill of 12365 Bailey Dr. questioned what type of equipment the company would be bringing in. Hollman responded additional packaging lines, made of steel.

Myers stated many efforts have been undertaken to ensure the downtown district is successful. He believed it would be appropriate to consider the health and financial livelihood of the industrial area as well. Myers inquired how this abatement would affect the community financially over the next 12 years in lost tax revenues and conversely providing financial benefit to Litehouse.

Quada noted Litehouse, Inc. has brought much benefit to the community.

Blough said while serving on the Planning Commission, this particular facility was mentioned several times. He believed the company has provided one of the best landscape plans ever and has taken much effort to project a positive business image.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by QUADA to recommend approval of the application submitted by Litehouse, Inc. (1400 Foreman) for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (P.A. 198 related to improvements in personal property of \$2,121,000 providing twelve years of abatement to the State Tax Commission.

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

Item #2. AUTHORIZATION OF 2000-2001 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT. Annually, the City is required by Kent County to approve an agreement in order to comply with federal CDBG requirements. Pasquale recommended the Council approve the agreement at this meeting authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the document.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve the authorization of 2000-2001 Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement with the County of Kent and authorize Mayor Michael Blough and City Clerk David Pasquale to sign the document.

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

Item #3. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL ROUTE THROUGH THE CITY. At its February 12, 2000 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission had the opportunity to review route options for North Country Trail through the City.

North Country Trail Association Lowell Area Trail Coordinator Paula Wilbur stated the trail, currently marked with blue ribbons, begins at the fairgrounds and continues along Grand and Flat Rivers. It then proceeds behind the Waste Water Treatment Plant, fairgrounds, football field to Recreation Park before advancing to Broadway. The trail continues from Ottawa to the Hudson street light and then Main Street, to the Riverwalk, Monroe to High Street, Jackson, Grindle, and finally into the State Game Area.

Councilmember Green stated the Parks and Recreation Commission has reviewed and accepted the proposed route. He noted the discussion from Planning Commissioner Jim Hall who wanted to utilize the area from Division, under the railroad tracks and continuing along the east side of the Grand and Flat Rivers. Green said at this point, there is no development in this area and suggested the route be considered at a future date. He mentioned the Parks and Recreation Commission is asking for an endorsement from the City Council. They would not request for certification of the trail until it is petitioned by the North Country Trail Association. Wilbur explained certification requires inspection from the National Park Service.

Councilmember Myers questioned if there would be any sponsored events bringing a significant amount of foot traffic through the area. Wilbur stated the last few years there has been a "National Trail Day" event held at Fallsburg Park. She was hopeful to have the event held within the City of Lowell next year.

Mayor Blough inquired in what organization is Wilbur participating. Wilbur stated she is a Lowell Area Trail Coordinator for North Country Trail Association. Blough questioned how the chapter would support future coordinators assigned to the area. Wilbur responded the pro-

gram is staffed by volunteers only. She said her job is to establish groups to care and adopt portions of the trail.

Blough asked what would happen if she moved out of the area and questioned what security the City would have so the contract with this organization would not be lost. Wilbur responded there is the National Headquarters, which is located in Grand Rapids and the National Park System, overseeing the National Country Trail.

Blough questioned who the City would contact, if there were questions or problems with the trail. Wilbur responded the City would first contact her, then the National Headquarters. She noted the trail system also works with the local police departments.

Myers inquired if the Association would be asking for financial support in the future. Wilbur responded no.

Myers asked if directional markers would be placed on the trail. Wilbur responded yes. North Country Trail emblems would be located throughout the trail. She also was hoping to have a trailhead located near the fairgrounds to provide directions for the entire trail. Myers questioned if these markers would be placed throughout the residential area. Wilbur responded yes.

Councilmember Quada asked if any of the markers would be placed on trees. Wilbur responded no.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to approve the proposed North Country Trail route throughout the City of Lowell.

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

Item #4. RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND LOWELL YOUTH FOOTBALL FOR THE OPERATION AND CONTROL OF CONCESSION STAND AND THE BURCH FIELD FACILITIES - TABLED FROM THE JANUARY 18, 2000 MEETING. As directed by Council, the proposed agreement between the City and Lowell Youth Football was reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission at its February 12, 2000 meeting. There were several amendments made to the agreement. City Manager Pasquale had City Attorney Richard Wendt review the document, which was then forwarded to Youth Football President Michael Meppelink. There were still a few items to resolve and Pasquale suggested the item be tabled until March 6, 2000.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by GREEN to table the renewal of agreement between the City and Lowell Youth Football until the March 6, 2000 meeting.
YEA: 5.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 0.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #5. REQUEST FROM LOWELL SHOWBOAT BOARD - FUNDING INSURANCE POLICY AND BANK LOAN PAYMENTS. Karen Hample, President of the Lowell Showboat Board, was present to request funding from the City to provide the last two insurance payments as well as bank loan payments. She noted the board has no revenue or money coming in for these payments. Hample said each insurance payment is \$192.77 and a bank payment amounts to \$150.00 per month. Pasquale noted the two insurance payments add up to \$385.54 and the two loan payments would be \$300.00 totalling \$685.54. Hample responded this was correct.

Councilmember Quada believed the boat was an important and integral part of the community. At the time the boat was constructed, it was stated there would never be one person who owns the boat. Quada mentioned the efforts being made to clear the Showboat of any debt and to place this within the community. He added he would be in support of making these payments.

Mayor Blough asked Hample if the problems could be resolved within the next 30 days. Hample was hopeful.

Councilmember Shores stated she had attended the February 9, 2000 Chamber of Commerce meeting where this was discussed. She said the Showboat Board has a problem and was hopeful some solution could be undertaken in the future regarding ownership of the boat.

Hample noted the Board is categorized as a 501 C3. She thought after the debt was paid off, the boat could be given to another nonprofit organization, such as the Chamber of Commerce. Hample stated Attorney Dan

Families march in to celebrate reading

Cherry Creek and Bushnell elementary students celebrated the birthday of Theodore Geisel (alias Dr. Seuss) with families Thursday night.

The evening was filled with activities included for children and their parents. There were six stations along

children then measured and recorded their distances.

The media center station titled "Who Said That" challenged students to match the Dr. Seuss character with the quote.

At the phone book look station, children were asked to use a phone book and count

how many listings for Geisel they could find.

The sixth and final station was the family resource center (end of the trail) where they enjoyed a snack and read a book or two.

Cherry Creek second-grade teachers Kim Lum and Jackie Tousley organized the event.

"We were prepared for 100 families. After the first



the way for children and parents to visit.

They were asked to read Dr. Seuss' biography page and answer questions at the computer lab/search the web station.

In the art room, students were invited to leave their mark (hand print) on banners to indicate they helped "Read Across America."

In the cafeteria, students tested how far they could "Hop on Pop" by standing at the starting line and jumping onto bubble wrap. Chil-



hour, we were scrambling to accommodate the second 100 families," Lum explained.

The idea behind the "Read Across America" event was to incorporate reading at every station and

to make it so those who aren't yet able to read could also participate.

"The family resource center was wall-to-wall people enjoying a snack, reading and having fun together," Tousley concluded.

"Y" closing in on its Invest In Youth goal

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

While winding up its annual Invest In Youth campaign, the Lowell YMCA branch is also edging closer to its 2000 goal of raising \$47,000.

There are still a number of pledges out. If all who pledged last year repeat their pledge, Invest In Youth chairman Rick Seese says the 2000 campaign will be very close to its goal.

Huntington Banks, a long-time supporter of the program, is representative of many Lowell businesses which help make Lowell's Invest In Youth campaign so successful.

"The YMCA is a great way to support local communities, kids and education," said James Bosserd,

Huntington's private financial group region manager.

Bosserd and other area businessmen see the value in their donation through the growing number of programs offered and through increased youth participation.

What stands out for Bosserd is the growth of YMCA's child care program. "For people who work, it provides a safe place for their kids," he said. "There is also a growing number of participants in the youth programs."

Seese stresses that the success of the Invest In Youth program helps to keep program costs down and provides financial assistance to families who may not otherwise be able to afford it.

"Not only does it allow kids to enjoy Y programs, it also enables them to participate in social activities which help kids of all ages grow," Seese said.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

WED., MARCH 15, 2000 AT 7:30 P.M.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP HALL 12050 OLD BELDING ROAD AT WHICH TIME THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT WILL BE HEARD:

Greg Kuldaneck - 13350 7 Mile Rd., Belding, MI 48809 requests: 1. A variance to construct an accessory building that exceeds the maximum height of 16' - 0" as stipulated by article 7, sec. 7.3 owner wants a variance to construct an accessory building to a height of 24' - 0" a difference of 8' - 0". 2. Owner has existing accessory building between house and street. Article 3.01 B(1) allows for only one accessory building between house and street. Only one is permitted and owner wants to keep existing up until new one is constructed. Property located at 13350 7 Mile Rd., Belding, MI 48809. Parcel 41-12-23-201-017.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Al Berry, Grattan Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 12050 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP HEARING OF THE PUBLIC GRATTAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A Public Hearing before the Grattan Zoning Board of Appeals will be held at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2000 AT 7:30 P.M.

at which time and place the following requests will be heard:

Mark Counterman of 8297 Cowan Lake Drive has made application for variance from the Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance Article 3, Section 3.01 (B) 3c and Section 7.04 (B) defining setbacks for an accessory building.

Tom DeBoer of 8257 Cowan Lake has requested a variance from the lot width to depth ratio and to place an accessory building on a lot without a dwelling.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Al Berry, Grattan Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI 48809.

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF GRATTAN TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP HALL, 12050 OLD BELDING ROAD, BELDING, MICHIGAN ON

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2000

between the hours of 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2000

between the hours of 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax roll and hearing all claims.

You may appeal your assessed valuation in person or by letter addressed to Frank Buckley, Grattan Township Assessor, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, Michigan, 48809. Written appeals must be received by March 10, 2000. Those wishing to appeal in person should call the Township offices between March 6 and March 9 to prearrange an appointment at 691-8450.

Frank Buckley
Assessor, Grattan Township