

# The Lowell Ledger

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Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 9, 2000

## THE PRIMARY TRIUMPHANT



Pete Siler



Jean Hoffman



Mari Stone



Vern Nauta



Al Baird



Al Fletcher



Paula Blumm



Richard Huver



Carlton Blough

## Siler wins Bowne supervisor position; primary belongs to Vergennes incumbents; three of four incumbents win Lowell Township trustee seats

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

**Pete Siler**, less than two months after retiring from the Lowell School District, earned himself a four-year term as Bowne Township supervisor in Tuesday night's primary.

Siler ended **Chris Wenger's** eight-year reign as Bowne Township supervisor by 61 votes Tuesday night.

Siler tallied 229 votes to Wenger's 168. There were 522 Bowne Township residents who voted.

He served on the Bowne Township Planning Commission from 1975-78; Zoning Board of Appeals from 1978-81; and the ZBA from 1999 to present.

Siler identified growth and development as the biggest issues facing the township. "The challenge is to allow growth according to the master plan and ordinances of the township."

In June of this year, Siler retired from the Lowell School District after spending 26 years as the district's agriscience teacher and FFA advisor.

"I am very pleased. I think the people of Bowne Township were ready for a change. I am ready to help the township move forward and grow. I look forward to serving the people of Bowne for the next four years," Siler said.

**Kim Culbertson** also challenged for the supervisor position. She fell short of the mark, garnering just 53 votes.

**Jean Hoffman**, heading into Tuesday's primary, had served on a Vergennes Township Board for 16 consecutive years. The final vote tally for township treasurer indicates she will serve another four.

Hoffman, 345 Cumberland Ave. NE, garnered 657 votes compared to challenger **Errolyn Weeks'** 380.

Her vision for Vergennes Township is to protect the environment and rural character by guiding development and preserving its natural beauty.

The only candidate to have served more years on the township board than

Hoffman is **Al Baird**. The Vergennes' resident last served as a trustee from 1978 to 1996.

In his second time around, Baird, 13738 Three Mile Rd. NE, said he wants the community to expand while maintaining its rural character. "I am concerned about protecting our personal property rights," he said.

He will have a chance to do that as his 584 votes earned him one of the two open trustee seats.

**Vern Nauta**, 2901 Parnell Ave. NE, garnered 615 votes in grabbing the other trustee seat.

"I'm concerned about the need for visionary planning to accommodate growth in our township," he said.

There were 286 write-in votes. It was unclear, at press time, as to how many of those were tallied for write-in candidate **Ken Ewing**.

**Mari Stone**, 14024 Thompson Drive NE, survived a challenge from **Susan Hessler** for the clerk's role she has filled for the past six years.

Stone identified managing growth, increasing traffic safety on roads, retaining permanent open space in lieu of land being purchased, and maintaining Vergennes' rural character and integrity as issues facing the township over the next two-five years.

Stone out-pollled Hessler 598-444 votes in a hotly contested race.

Hessler, 1320 Alden Nash Ave. NE, served the last four years as a board trustee. She vacated her role to challenge Stone for the clerk's position.

"I'm pleased to have won. The election got personal sometimes and that makes it difficult. When it's a race among neighbors, that can be painful. I'm glad it is over," Stone said.

**Tim Wittenbach**, who was elected Vergennes Township supervisor two years ago, went unchallenged in the primary. He collected 825 votes. There were 29 write-in votes.

A total of 1147 residents voted.

The sometimes heated primary in

Vote, cont'd. pg. 20



FAIR WEEK IS HERE

The Kent County Youth Fair opened to a large crowd Monday night. An expanded carnival was highlighted by the addition of a ferris wheel. Other opening day activities included a youth talent contest; an antique tractor pull; horse judging and Life's A Stage 4-H Club theatre exhibition. More Ride pictures page 20.

## Township board promised a referendum with passing of home-based business proposal

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell Charter Township Board's approval of a proposal that will allow home-based businesses up to three outside employees may be challenged through a referendum.

Gerald Persha, 12246 Grand River Dr., opposed the board's decision, stating that mixing use in AG-2 zoning is wrong.

"It opens AG-2 to the threat of commercialization," Persha explained. "The change in the ordinance is poorly written and it allows leeway for those who are persistent."

Persha made it clear that his next step, following the board's approval, will be a referendum. Once a letter of intent is filed, Persha will have

30 days to get 173 signatures on a petition. If successful, the home-based business ordinance will be shelved until it can be put on a ballot for a vote of the people.

The proposal passed 6-1.

The only descending vote was cast by trustee Herb Vanderbilt. "I voted no because with every meeting, there has been a change in the

Ordinance, cont'd. pg. 8

## Inside The Ledger

Market Days  
A Success,  
Page 6



## OBITUARIES

**ALBRECHT** - Barbara L. Albrecht, aged 62, of Grand Rapids, passed away Thursday, August 3, 2000, after a lingering illness. Surviving are her sons Gary and Deborah Albrecht of Kentwood, Kurt Patrick, Kevin and Eric Albrecht all of Grand Rapids; her grandchildren Russell, Alex, Zachary, Shaun, Rachel, Travis and Austin; her sisters Mary and Roger Robinson of Mesa, AZ, Patricia and Ralph Green of Lowell, Kathleen Kamp of Hesperia, MI, Lila and Dick Cohee of Freeland, MI; several nieces and nephews that she loved very much. A rosary and funeral service was held Sunday at the Reyers North Valley Chapel. Interment was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Hemlock.



He was born in Battle Creek to George and Etha (Uhl) Conant in 1912. He was raised in Bedford and moved to East Leroy in 1929. He received his varsity letter for playing soccer at Battle Creek High School where he graduated in 1932. Gerald worked at Michigan Carton Co. as a cutting pressman for 37 1/2 years where he retired at the age of 57. He was treasurer of the Pressman's unions 489 for five years. He farmed in Leroy Township for most of his life.

**CONANT** - Gerald D. Conant, aged 87, of East Leroy, Michigan, passed away Monday, July 31, 2000.

where he was a member of the Farm Bureau. He was school board director of the Old Red School for three years, enjoyed traveling, gardening, fishing, dancing and calling square dances at Pine Creek. In the spring of 2000 he moved to Bedford Manor in Urbandale. Gerald Conant and Gladys J. Lowther were married in Byron, OH, in 1938 and attended the East Leroy Methodist Church for several years. They wintered in central Florida for 30 years and were together 54 years until she passed away in 1992. In addition to his wife he was preceded in death by his brother Russell. He is survived by his children Donald (Carol) Conant of Lowell and Shirley (Jerry) Drake of East Leroy; grandson Jason Conant of Lowell; sister Margaret Miller of Battle Creek; sister-in-law Marguerite Conant of Athens; brother Elwood (Carol) Conant of Lakeland, FL; and many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at the Henry Funeral Home in Battle Creek.

**HURLEY** - Gerald "Jerry" M. Hurley, aged 77, of Parnell, formerly of Pharr, TX, passed away August 2, 2000. He was preceded in death by brothers Kenneth, Charles and Harold. Mr. Hurley is survived by his brothers Robert Hurley and John Hurley of Parnell; sister Julia Hurley of Parnell, sister-in-law Ella Hurley of Lowell; several nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday at 1 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church, Parnell. Rev. Ronald Hutchinson Celebrant. Interment St. Patrick's Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick's Church, 4351 Parnell, Ada, MI 49301.

**WELLER** - Jacob H. Weller, aged 80, passed away on Friday, August 4, 2000. He was born on April 22, 1920 in

Ross Corners, MI, the son of Jacob and Phoebe (Kenyon) Weller. He worked for General Motors for 22 1/2 years as a mechanic and farmed all of his life. He also loved to work in his garden and hunt. He was a Veteran of WWII serving in the United States Army and a lifetime member of the Portland V.F.W. Post #4090. Mr. Weller was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus Council #2168. He was preceded in death by his first wife Lorene A. Esterline; children Kay Marie and Frederick

James; two sisters Ruth and Gertrude. Surviving are his wife Kate of Belding; eight children Jacob William (Patricia) Michael Earl (Toots), and Gerald Mark (Ellen) all of Sunfield, Patrick John (Anita) of Portland, Daniel Kevin (Kathy) of Sunfield, Terence Alan (Lynne) of Portland, Loren Donald (Cynthia) of Ionia and Teresa Ann (Mark) Brenner of Portland; step children Phillip Possehn and Deborah Possehn, both of Lake Odessa; 32 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother Joseph (Emma)

Weller of Alto; several nieces and nephews; special friends from the round table at the Cross Roads Cafe in Stanton. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by the Rev. Peter Vu, Associate Pastor at St. Patrick's Catholic Church with Rite of Committal following at Portland Cemetery. Military Graveside Honors were provided by the Portland V.F.W. Post #4090. Memorial contributions may be made to the Father Flohe Foundation or the Sunfield Fund in memory of Jacob H. Weller.

## Most successful domestic government program turns 65

The year was 1935 and America was going through a depression that people thought would last forever. Bread lines were overflowing, soup kitchens were overflowing, children were suffering, and the elderly were pleading for help. The unmet needs of America demanded a solution.

On August 14, 1935, this nation launched a program that would benefit every American. Social Security started with the hopes that it would secure the future for working families.

Sixty-five years later, Social Security has grown to become the world's most successful domestic government program ever, affecting every American directly or indirectly. This is because the program has met its promise, as stated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt upon signing the Act, "...a law that will take care of human needs and at the same time provide the United States an economic structure of vastly greater soundness."

The following figures tell the story: Today's family is protected against three of the greatest risks to family income: retirement, disability and death of the breadwinner. One out of six Ameri-

cans are currently receiving a retirement, disability, or survivors Social Security benefit.

• This year, 95 percent of people age 65 or older are receiving retirement benefits.

• Four out of five workers can count on receiving benefits if they become disabled.

• About 98 percent of children under 18 can count on benefits if a working parent dies.

The effect of these benefits on the quality of life of American families has been dramatic.

Consider the following:

• Social Security keeps 1.1 million children out of poverty.

• Without Social Security, 47 percent of all its beneficiaries would fall below the poverty line.



### Durkee named MOA V.P.

Dr. David G. Durkee of Lowell has been elected vice president of the Michigan Optometric Association. The election came during the association's 104th annual convention at the Shanty Creek Resort, Bellaire, MI.

Dr. Durkee, a 1981 graduate of the Michigan College of Optometry, Ferris State University, Big Rapids, previously served as secretary-treasurer and trustee of the 950 member association. As vice president, he will be in charge of the association's State Affairs Division which includes committees on legislation, political action and interprofessional relations.

Dr. Durkee is a prior winner of the association's Keyperson Award for significant contributions to the association and profession of optometry as well as the Emil Arnold Award for article contributions to *The Michigan Optometrist*, the association's monthly magazine.

Dr. Durkee practices optometry at 2186 W. Main St., Lowell.

## Lowell students go to Leaders Training School to learn; return to serve

Heather Posthumus wins a position on the Leaders Advisory Board. The Lowell senior was one of three chosen by her peers to help in the planning process for next year's event.

Great Lakes Leaders Training School in Alliance, OH, was home to Lowell YMCA Leaders Club kids for one week.

While there (July 22-29) Leaders Club teens took part in group classes that taught leadership skills and charac-

teristics. A variety of classes were also offered: creative devotions, coaching and instructing sports, kids & crafts, and drama.

Heather Posthumus, with the help of campaign manager Dave Rozema, won a position on the Leaders Advi-

sory Board. The Lowell senior was one of three chosen by her peers to help in the planning process for next year's event. Those selected displayed the characteristics and qualities of a leader.

There were 27 Lowell students who attended the week-

long training session and over 300 students in all from Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Kentucky.

"I think our students identify with the need to help oth-

ers and give back to the community," said Andy Retberg, Lowell YMCA's community development director. "The training also gives them an opportunity to bring back

what they have learned and implement in the community."

The theme of this year's school was "Come to Learn, Return to Serve."

*I think our students identify with the need to help others and give back to the community. The training also gives them an opportunity to bring back what they have learned and implement in the community.*

Andy Retberg

Lowell YMCA Community Development Director



Kristy Akers, Karrie Akers, Vanessa Beddows, Katie Blough, James Bosserd, Becky Bosserd, Kelsey Capps, Sophia D'Agostino, Heather Delamar, Ryan Dorrough, Evan Dorrough, Brady Foster, Matt Foster, Jenell Gemmell, Jeremy Goff, Mike Kinney, Elizabeth Koopman, Katie Lum, Tom Oesch, Ryan Phillips, Heather Posthumus, Bryan Posthumus, David Rozema, Kelsey Scheider, Shelby Tomczak, Erin Weber and Jack Whitman.

## Show Us Your Smile!

### JULY SMILE OF THE MONTH:

NAME:.....Adam Jones

AGE:.....7 years old

BIRTHDAY ..... 11/4/93

HOBBIES ..... Adam enjoys reading, playing on the computer, coloring and building with Legos.

*He receives a prize for his great checkup.*



## July "No Cavities" Club Members

Bobbie Botsford	Bradley Baker	Maggie Lancaster
Ashley McFaden	Andrew Oesch	Kelsey Mankel
Lindsey Rolfe	Andrew Wirth	Melissa Slater
Tonya Baker	Brianna Stevens	Catlin Baker
Bob Wernet	Evan Rooney	Katherine Wirth
Brittini Parker	Brook Fosburg	Anna Rooney
Kierstin Parker	Doug Nordman	Christian Stevens
Kyliegh Newman	Mattie Newman	Keley Malcolm
Heather Burnett		Krista Byrne

### FAMILY DENTISTRY

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# Reflections

Of Faith

By Bob Roush  
Pastor Friendship Country Chapel

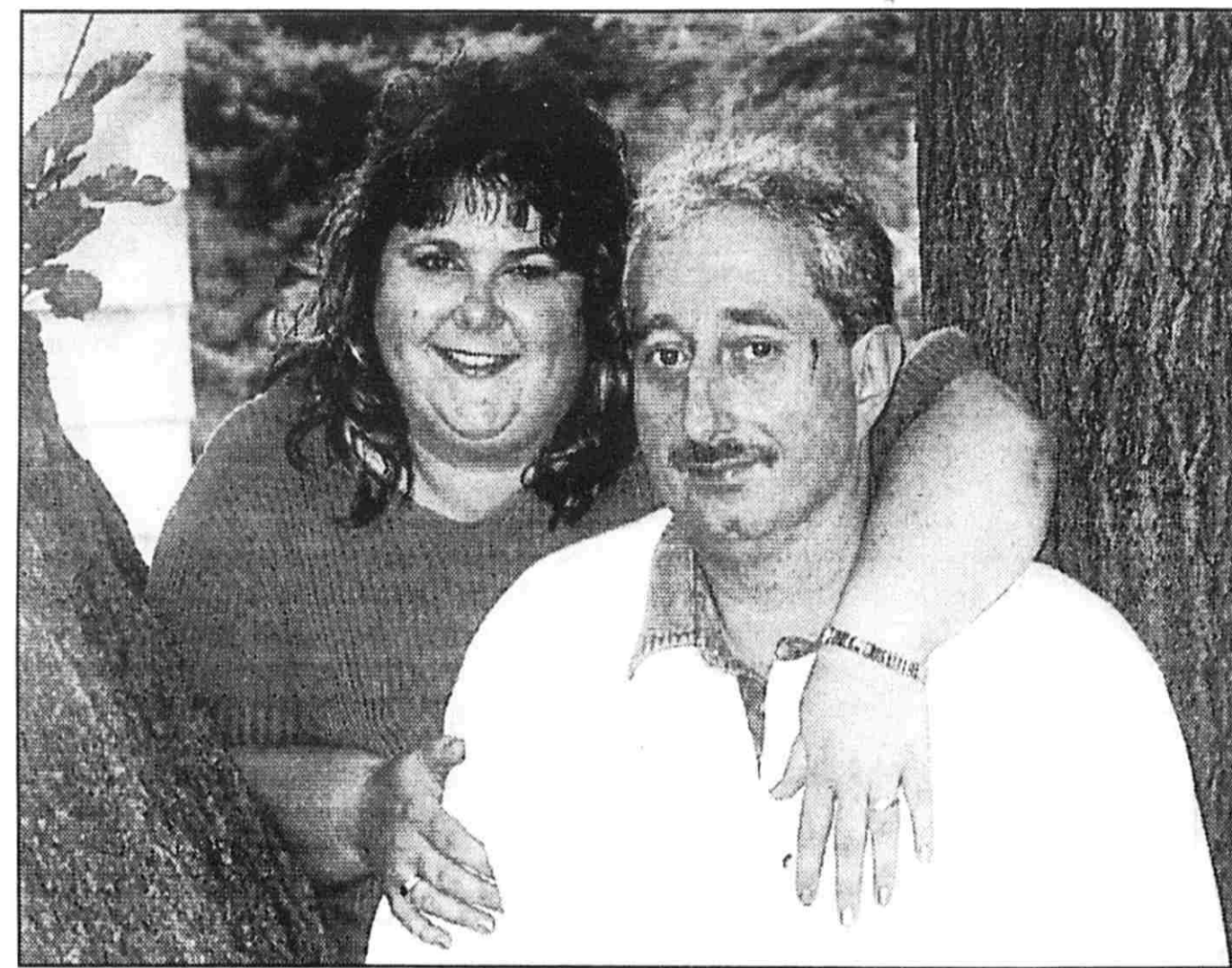
One evening a few years ago I was sitting on my deck and I heard an awful noise banging against my aluminum siding. I turned the deck light on to investigate. What I found was a big June bug in the corner flying aimlessly about with no particular flight plan in mind. I thought to myself how awful he must feel when he goes home after a night of banging into things. I can imagine that if a June bug's got a wife and kids how grumpy he must be with a head banging headache. I imagine the wife saying to the kids go downstairs and practice banging into things; your father isn't feeling well.

You know, a lot of people in the world today are just like that June bug. They seem to fly aimlessly around banging into this thing and then that. They really seem to have no sense of direction whatsoever. I was sort of like that but I found that when I became a Christian, life began to make a whole lot of sense, and for the first time I had some meaning and purpose for what life was all about. In my profession I get to talk to a lot of people who are just like that June bug with hearts that are aching from crashing into dead end roads. From my experiences I am able to share with others that the road to

eternal life is the only road that isn't dead end, for it goes straight on into eternity.

I'm reminded of Matt, 6:24-34 where Jesus talked with his disciples. In that conversation He told them not to worry about what they would eat or what they would wear. He reminded them that life was more important than food and raiment. Then He told them to consider the lilies, that although they did not labor yet, God had adorned them with more glory than even Solomon, who was the richest man in the world. In a "clothes make the man" and "you owe it to yourself" world, we all tend to put more emphasis on looks and things than on what's really important. That's why Jesus went on in that little discourse and said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

In other words what Jesus is telling us is to set as the apex of our lives the King and His kingdom and everything else will shingle into place behind that. Presently in my life I am trying to put this into practice with all my heart, soul and mind, and I'm learning to place much more emphasis on the kingdom of heaven and less on the kingdom of Bob. I hope you'll be worrying less, trusting more and flying straight on.



## Brown/Tetzlaff

Brooke M. Brown and Scott W. Tetzlaff are planning to be married on Saturday, September 23, 2000.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Barbara J. Brown and the late Graydon W. Brown. She is a graduate of both Lowell High School and Central Michigan University.

The future groom is the son of Alfred and Lurlie Tetzlaff of Grand Rapids. He is a graduate of Grand Rapids Central High School and Northern Michigan University.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**AUGUST 11:** Mike Wilczewski, Jordan Warren.  
**AUGUST 12:** Robin Briggs, Linda Uzarski, Betty Powell, Steve Martin, Sr., Gaylord Heaston.  
**AUGUST 13:** Patricia Smith, Scott Kooistra, Robert Hewitt, Ryan Christenson, Ryan Roe, Mike Roth.  
**AUGUST 14:** Adam Billingsley, Aaron Christenson, Betsey Brenk, Bob Wilczewski.  
**AUGUST 15:** Ben Raymor, Lila Thaler, Vada Kline, Bill Barber, Dena Baylis, Vivian Johnson, Donnie Shaffer, Barb Callihan, Kim Tubergen.  
**AUGUST 16:** Helen Vezino, Don Gasper, Trent Raab, Mike Mooney, Ryan Aksamitowski.

## AREA BIRTHS

Richard and Judy Rozell of Ada are proud to introduce their son, Roman Charles, born June 13, 2000 at 8:40 p.m. He weighed 10 lbs. 7 oz. and measured 22 inches long.

Grandparents are Henry and Linda Thorson of Stanwood and Dick and Debby Rozell of Nashville. Also welcoming him home are big brothers Casey and Alex and big sister Paige.

## Thrift shop puts a hold on offerings

As of Aug. 16, the Flat River Outreach Ministries Thrift Shop can no longer accept the generous offerings which the community has brought to the McQueen building.

When construction of the Thrift Shop is completed, officials will give notification as to when donated items will again be accepted.

The Thrift Shop, which offers bargain prices on good

clothing, is open Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.

A faithful group of volunteers make sure the Thrift Shop is properly staffed on a weekly basis.

On Monday morning from 10 a.m. until noon, volunteers sort clothing items.

"Volunteers are at the heart of this organization," said Ann Dimmick, Thrift Shop director.

## Book sale at Englehardt, Sept. 2

The Friends of the Englehardt Library, a branch of Kent District Library, will hold its biggest and best used book sale of the year during the Lowell Riverwalk Festival, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 2. The sale will take place under a yellow and white striped tent along the Riverwalk in Lowell. The library will be closed on Sept. 2 for the festival.

The book sale includes fiction, non-fiction, children's, self-help and inspirational books, texts and more. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Englehardt Library.

If you have any questions about the sale, please call the Englehardt Library at 897-9596.

Let early education be a sort of amusement, you will then be better able to find out the natural bent.

—Plato

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Join Us In Worship**

<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship ..... 8:30 A.M. Coffee &amp; Fellowship Time ..... 9:30 A.M. Worship ..... 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>DAY BIBLE CHAPEL</b> 9051 Centerline Rd. Sunday Morning Service 10 to 11 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 to 12:00</p> <p><i>But in your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1 Peter 3:16</i></p>	<p><b>CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship ..... 10:00 A.M. Sunday School ..... 11:20 A.M. Evening Worship ..... 6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Robert W. Holmes, Pastor Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> Worship Celebration : 8:30 &amp; 11 a.m. School of the Bible: 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night: (for All Ages) 7 p.m.</p>
<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Sun. Worship Service: 9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour ..... 11:00 A.M. AWANA/JV ..... Wed. 6:15 &amp; 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free A Family Friendly Fellowship</p>	<p><b>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH</b> 10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-7185</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 9:45 A.M. Morning Worship ..... 11 A.M. Evening Service ..... 6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 <b>ALL ARE WELCOME!</b> (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21 www.iserv.net/~goodshep Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Wednesday Evening ..... 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship ..... 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry ..... 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>TIMOTHY E. HARMON, Minister Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>
<p><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b> Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 <b>CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES</b> Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 241-1739 email: aplighthouse@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH</b> Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship ..... 11:00 A.M. Evening Praise ..... 6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA ..... 7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study ..... 7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 <b>YOU ARE WELCOME!</b></p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>First Service ..... 8:45 a.m. Worship and Church School ..... 10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWare ..... Pastor Cindy Talcott ..... Christian Ed Director Megan Culver ..... Music Director Barrier-Free ..... Nursery Provided</p>	

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- HOLLOW MAN (R) 11:50, 2:05, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20
- SPACE COWBOYS (PG-13) 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
- MUTTY PROFESSOR 2: THE KLUMPS (PG-13) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
- POKEMON 2000 (G) 11:40, 1:50, 4:00, 6:50
- LOSER (PG-13) 9:00

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# Viewpoint . . .



## cozy corner by Roger Brown

I hate to do this. I really hate to do this. For the second time in a month, I'm going to carp about the airlines. I shouldn't say airlines. There is no plural here. I'm talkin' one airline. I'm not sure I should mention their name, but I will say this, they fly dark blue and gray airplanes, their big hub is Pittsburgh and United Airlines is trying to buy them. Not enough info? Well then, their initials are U. S. Airways. That's all you get. You'll have to guess what U.S. stands for. (Hint... they say it's not Unbelievably Stupid).

The last episode involved frozen fish traveling back to Michigan with me. That fiasco actually ended positively because of a ticket agent in Lansing going the extra mile for me. The lowest person in the pecking order saved the company from a black eye. Come to think of it, that's pretty much how my company works. The employees are always saving my bacon.

This particular airline got my dander up again, just a couple of weeks after the fish fiasco. When my wife's grandfather died, the funeral interrupted my travel plans. Long story short, I simply wanted to not fly the first leg of a ticket I had booked, then drive back with my wife after the funeral. I'd then fly back to Michigan on the second half of the ticket. No dice.

One-way tickets are more expensive than round trip, so they made me re-book. Several hundred dollars later, I had a one-way ticket to get me back to Michigan. Because of the bereavement factor they did waive the \$75 cancellation charge on my original ticket. To that I had to stifle a big "Whoopee!" I ended up with half the service (one way) for more than twice the money. I don't care how many times they try to explain that to me, it still seems like highway robbery.

My most recent airline-induced blood pressure spike came last Wednesday. My wife was flying in for a special event we had planned. She was due in to Lansing at 7:18 p.m. She called from Pittsburgh to report that her flight was on schedule, so I left for the airport around 6:00. I arrived on time, no thanks to some "road rage" idiot who may be the subject of a future column. The "arrivals" screen showed the flight delayed a half an hour. No big deal... I got a coffee and tried to ignore the premonition I was getting about this turning into a long evening.

The premonition began turning into a reality when a second delay was posted. A few minutes later a public address announcement informed us that the flight had returned to Pittsburgh. At the ticket counter we were informed that a line of thunderstorms along the east side of the state had turned the flight back. They were on the ground in Pittsburgh and would try (that's the key word) to get through the weather later. The ticket counter people could only give us their phone number and tell us to call for updates.

It's a two-hour round trip for me, so I wasn't going back to Lowell to wait. It's times like these I sometimes wish I hadn't quit drinking. A few hours in a bar made pretty good sense about that time. I ended up killing time at a mall, shopping for some slacks and underwear. For anyone who knows me, spending time in a mall is an indication that I'm pretty close to going over the edge.

About 9:30 I called the airline from the mall. It was Meridian Mall, way over on the east side of Lansing. They told me my wife had been booked on a flight to Kalamazoo scheduled to arrive at 10:22. Check a state map. Dale Earnhart isn't going to make Kalamazoo from Okemos in 48 minutes! Before I ran for the car with my bag of undies, I asked what they meant by "Your wife is booked on a flight to Kalamazoo." I'd like to trust this airline, but right now I'd have to say, "I don't trust this airline."

I was told she had an assigned seat on the plane, but it was overbooked. They said it was against airline policy to tell me if she had actually boarded the airplane. I don't understand that policy any more than a one-way ticket costing twice as much as a round trip. All of this meant she might have opted to spend the night in Pittsburgh since she had no way to get ahold of me

and make sure I'd pick her up in Kalamazoo. Flying low in my Jeep, I took off for Kalamazoo anyway.

I rushed up to the arrival area of the Kalamazoo Airport at about 11:00. The flight was delayed because of weather. The time posted was 11:50. Pretty soon an announcement told us the plane was still on the ground in Pittsburgh, but was still planning to leave when the weather cleared. Now a bar sounded really good!

The plane finally arrived around 1:00 a.m. Much to my surprise, considering how the evening had gone so far, my long lost wife was on it. Unfortunately, her bags weren't. Up until this point I was in sympathy with the airline. They can't control the weather.

However, the lost luggage was beyond the point of ridiculous. She'd only been on the ground in Pittsburgh most of the night; it seems like they could have gotten her bags on the same airplane she was strapped into. I don't know, maybe I expect too much.

We were told that the bags would show up in Lansing the next day and could be sent out to Lowell. It was about 3:00 a.m. when we got to bed. The fact I'd scored some new underwear was little consolation.

My wife kept calling about her lost bags. We were leaving at about 6:00 p.m. on Thursday for the event she'd made this special trip for. Her bags didn't come on the 11:00 flight out of Pittsburgh. They did show up on the 2:00, but the airline couldn't guarantee delivery to Lowell by the time we had to leave. I made another low level flight in my Jeep.

At the Lansing ticket counter I took a couple minutes to recount the ordeal we'd been put through. I noted that I have preferred status with their airline because of my frequent travel. The poor ticket agent, the low end of the pecking order at Unbelievably Stupid Airways, said he could give me a voucher for \$25.00 toward my next ticket purchase. I told him to keep his voucher... it wouldn't even buy my gas. I added that the voucher wouldn't do me any good, as I don't anticipate buying another ticket on their airline.

It's baseball season. Three strikes and you're out Unbelievably Stupid Airways!

**Health** With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Kevin Miller

**SEBORRHEA**

Most of the patients seen in the physician's office for ear complaints are the result of infection. Some infections are directly in the ear behind the ear drum or tympanic membrane. Other infections have a secondary effect on the ear by closing the eustachian tube which allows us to equalize ambient air pressure with the pressure in the inner ear, this is usually the result of sinusitis or perhaps even a sore throat.

The common symptom with both of these scenarios is ear pain, as well, pain is produced by infection of the ear canal. Drainage from the ear is usually experienced when infection is of this sort. However, occasionally a patient will present with an ear that is not painful, but instead itches.

James L. Allen loses a horse to a rattlesnake bite. It was bitten near the eye while grazing.

**100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 9, 1900**

The county Democratic convention elects Chris Bergin of Lowell for treasurer.

Russians Japanese, British and Americans are involved in war with China. It may be that the enemy is not the Chinese government as assumed, but a large militant group called Boxers.

There is much talk of building an electric railroad from Grand Rapids through Lowell to Ionia.

"It will surprise you to experience the benefit obtained by using the dainty and famous little pills known as DeWitt's Little Early Risers," Taft & Co.

The oil explorers are exhibiting a sample of the surface oil they found within five miles of Lowell.

**Ledger Entries**  
of 125, 100, 75, 50 & 25 Years Ago

By Priscilla Lussmyer

**50 YEARS LOWELL LEDGER AUGUST 10, 1950**

The annual Lowell Community Picnic will be next Thursday at Fallsburg Park, with free ice cream and beverage, games and contests, and a free Beano game and dance.

Inadequate sewers up Washington Street and plans to build a sewer in the river bottom for the Main Street stores occupy the Common Council.

Concrete monument markers have been placed on the shores of Lakes Michigan and Superior at the state lines between Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, says the Michigan College of Mining and Technology.

Allen Lasby, age 18, has purchased the station at 536 East Main to be called Allen's Friendly Service.

A new Michigan map features all roadside parks along with their mileages and special features.

**75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO AUGUST 6, 1925**

Superintendent of Schools and Agriculture teacher R.J. McVean is elected president of the Michigan Association of Agriculture Teachers.

Residents are asked to consider boarding a high school student from outside town. There was a shortage of boarding houses last year.

With attendance of more than 1500 at Thursday night's program, the four-day Chautauqua is declared a success and the Board of Trade contracts for next year's programs, plus a larger tent.

President Harding pushes for another canal across Central America, in view of the tremendous traffic in the Panama Canal.

**125 YEARS THE WEEKLY LEDGER AUGUST 11, 1875; THIS ISSUE IS MISSING; WE SUBSTITUTE AUGUST 9, 1871**

John Delaney of Vergennes harvested 383 bushels of wheat from 10 acres this season.

The planing mill is now Avery and Huggins: Mr. Johnson was bought out.

Teacher examinations will be held in Lowell Sept. 8. Teachers should review all subjects they expect to teach and be prepared to write near perfect examinations, says County Supt. Henry B. Fallass.

The new framework for the upper bridge was blown down in Monday night's storm.



Approximately 40 booths took part in the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's Market Days. The two-day event gave downtown merchants an opportunity to display their wares.



# Beanies, Beauty & Browsing

## Market Days grow from days when there were just three

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Linda Todd, owner of Lowell Waterbeds, reflected

back on the days when she was on the short list of businesses who participated in Lowell Area Chamber of

Commerce's Market Days. "For many years it was just Cousin's, Springrove Variety and us," Todd ex-

plained. "It's grown quite a bit since then." The two-day event (Friday and Saturday) provided a

venue for 40 participants (vendors, businesses and food booths). "The weather was good.

The response from the vendors and patrons was positive," Todd said. Market Days, cont'd, pg.14



## BOOK REVIEW

By Joan Wittenbach

The last time I mentioned a series of books that was added to my collection of "Favorites" was The Mitford Series by Jan Karon. Unforgettable!

A couple of months ago, another series made its way into my life, and like "Mitford," the characters in these books became as real. Oddly enough, I read nearly half of the book before I noticed that it was the third volume instead of number one. By then I was hooked on the book and the author's insight and sensitivity. It is also the first time that I have read a series backwards. I stand in awe that it all made sense that way. Michael Phillips is the author of this series called *The Secrets of Heathersleigh Hall*. I had tried to read a couple of Phillips other books, but I just couldn't get into them, so I thought that he just wasn't one of my kind of authors. I was too hasty in that assumption.

The introduction to the series states: At the heart of the story is Amanda Rutherford, the fiercely independent and rebellious daughter of the duke of Heathersleigh. Rejecting her

parents' growing faith, Amanda strikes out on her own, determined to make her mark on the world at any cost. But with the shadow of war falling over England, and dangerous forces conspiring against her, will Amanda ever be able to return to her beloved home?

Volume One: *Mystery Weaves an Intriguing Path Through the Lives of the Rutherfords of Devonshire, England.*

Volume Two: *England Stands on the Brink of War, and the Lives of the Rutherfords of Devonshire Are Swept into the Fray.*

Volume Three: *Trapped in War-Torn Europe. What Chance Does Amanda Rutherford Have of Escaping Her Sinister Pursuers?*

This series takes place in the years from 1894-1915. It is the story of faith. Prodigal child, family devotion; decision upon decision. Actually, it is a love story between God and a family. The fourth and final book is due out this fall.

## TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ledger,

To be fair, it was not the "Star Spangled Banner" I heard at the Lowell Township Board meeting last night. What came from the dais, specifically Supervisor Timpson, was "Nothing Could Be Finer Than to Have Laissez-Faire in the Mornin'". It is a song that falls easily on the ears: the appeal to freedom, the forbearance of neighbors, even a little common law nuisance theory, all around good stuff.

However, this philosophy was also coming from the chief enforcement officer in a public hearing about the revised "home business ordinance, so called. For those who can translate the talking in code, it was at "variance" with the law

of zoning in the state. I do not doubt that the principal reason the chairman of our planning commission recently resigned without notice was because of the board's duplicity.

What I wanted to hear, to rise in applause with the first round on me, would require simple honesty. (Huh? Honesty? This is politics.) What would clear the air for debate would be a simple declaration from the supervisor and a couple of fellow travelers that they do not want zoning.

For a scholarly critique of land use controls, see Dennis J. Coyle, *Property Rights and the Constitution* (1993) in the excellent Calvin Library. It is interesting who donated the book.

G.M. Ross

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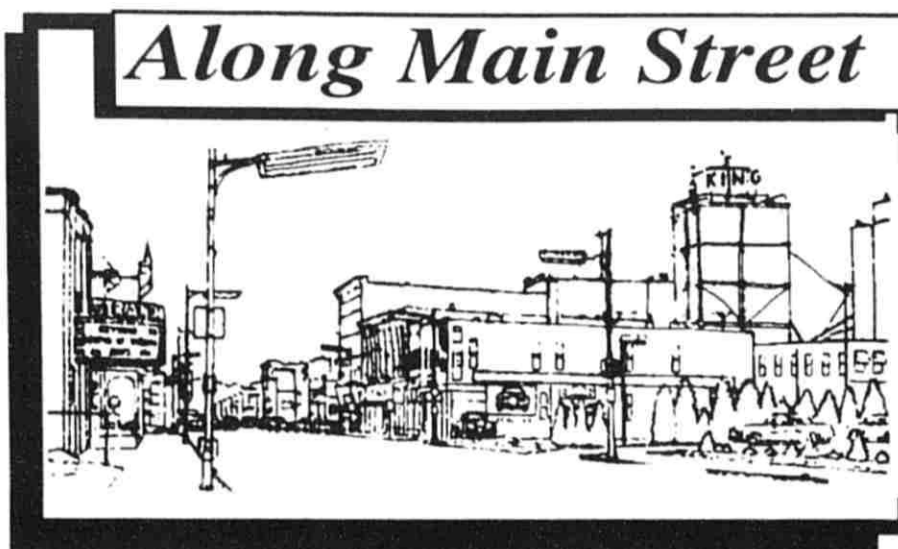
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## Along Main Street

### FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES UPDATE

As of Wednesday, Aug. 16, the Thrift Shop, corner of Main and Jackson streets) can no longer accept the generous offerings which this community has been bringing to the McQueen building.

When construction of the Thrift Shop is completed, notice will be given that donated items will again be accepted.

### LAAC AUDITIONS FOR HARVEY

The Lowell Area Arts Council is accepting auditions for "Harvey," a three-act comedy by Mary Chase. The play requires six women ages 25-60 and six men ages 30-60. Auditions are at the LAAC, 149 S. Hudson St., on Aug. 9 and Aug. 15 and 16 at 7 p.m.

Performance dates for the play are Oct. 19-21 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School. For more information call 897-8545.

### WITTENBACH SCIENCE CENTER IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are needed at the new Wittenbach Science Center to clear trails and hang signs on Sat., Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. to noon. Please contact April Scholz at the Land Conservancy of West Michigan 451-9476.

## Display to give Farm Fest patrons sneak peek at quilt

The Franciscan Life Process Center will display a handmade quilt, at various locations in the area, prior to its raffle at the 12th annual Franciscan Farm Fest on Saturday, Sept. 16 at 9 p.m.

The queen size bed quilt, "Millennium Harvest," was specially designed by Beverly Anderson for the Fest.

It is a kaleidoscope celebration of nature's bounty set



This year's quilt is called "Millennium Harvest."

against a background of special eggplant color millennium fabric. A large border of three dimensional sunflowers, peppers, eggplants and berries complete the piece of art.

The Franciscan Farm Fest and the quilt raffle are efforts to raise revenue for a scholarship fund, which allows the center to provide a sliding scale to individuals and groups who are not able to fully pay for needed services of counseling, music therapy, preschool and educational experiences.

Tickets are available now through Sept. 16 at Huntington Bank, the Franciscan Life Process Center and the Chamber of Commerce, and at Betsy Ratzsch Gallery and the Franciscan Rhythms Music Studio in Ada.

Tickets can also be purchased at Grand Quilt Company and Attic Windows Quilt Shop on Alpine and at Smith-Owen Sewing Center on Plainfield Ave.

The quilt will be on display at the following locations: Grand Quilt Company, through Friday Aug. 11. Smith-Owen Sewing Center, Saturday, Aug. 12 through Friday, Aug. 18.

Attic Windows Quilt Shop, Saturday, Aug. 19 through Friday, Aug. 25.

Huntington Bank (Lowell), Saturday, Aug. 26 through Friday, Sept. 1.

Lowell Riverwalk Festival, Saturday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m. til 5 p.m.

The quilt was sewn together by Dode Dey, Betty Kropf, Pat McClellan and Sister Theo Thane Wurzer F.S.E., the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist.

## Ordinance, continued.... From Page 1

proposal. I just feel uncomfortable with it." Township supervisor John Timpson dismissed charges that the proposal came about because of outside pressure. "That would be a wrong assumption," he said.

The decision was made with an understanding of a person's right to do what he/she wants with their property as long as it doesn't adversely affect the environment of his/her neighbors.

A home-based business, with up to three outside employees, is permitted as a special use in township areas zoned rural/agricultural.

Up to now township officials said businesses would have to move.

The issue surfaced last year when officials determined a lawn sprinkling service did not fit the home-based business specifications because it employed people who did not live in the house.

Businesses will be reviewed annually. Any business not meeting the specifications of the ordinance will have their permit suspended.

David Doran, 1909 Parnell, opposed the ordinance. "It

allows a minority of home-based businesses who are now in violation, relief and the ability to expand its existing business within the AG-2 district," he said. "This will bring about the re-zoning of commercialization."

Timpson noted that the new ordinance will keep workers who report to a place at a minimum.

Paula Blumm, 3152 Kissing Rock Ave., called the ordinance unnecessary and a disservice to the township.

Russ Herbal said he disagreed that it will open room to large scale commercialization. "The scale it governs is so small," he said.

Planning commissioner John Cornish said the ordinance will limit what comes into the township and control what is bigger than a home-based business.

This will be done through a natural way. "It brings activities that will take place in the township through the board and planning commission," Cornish said. "We're property owners too. We're not interested in commercialization either."

Kim Brock said the ordinance has subjective judgments which will make it difficult to enforce.

## Dick Bryan resigns from chairman post

◆◆◆ Dennis Sanford will replace Bryan as Lowell Charter Planning Commission chairman.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

took the role of chairman in 1998.

Richard Bryan made it clear months ago that his tenure of service as chairman of Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission was nearing its conclusion.

Bryan acted on that promise recently as he officially resigned from the post. He began serving on the planning commission in 1994. He

had little to say about his years of service or his decision to resign. "I've enjoyed my time spent on the planning commission. I found it to be a rewarding experience," Bryan said.

Having had lead time to find a replacement, Lowell Charter Township supervisor

John Timpson will recommend Dennis Sanford be appointed as Bryan's replacement.

During his tenure Bryan was involved in updates of the township Master Land-use Plan, which guides future zoning decisions.

He also was a leader in drafting the township's ordinance governing cellular telephone towers.

Bryan and the commission also spent a great deal of time in directing guidelines for commercial growth (e.g., Meijer).

"Dick has been a very

good chairman. He is a forward thinker, and deals well with people," Timpson said. "His knowledge of land value has been very helpful on the board of review."

Sanford, a design engineer for Fleis & VandenBrink, has lived in Lowell Township since 1970.

"I've been politically active, but I'm pretty much new to the board thing," Sanford said.

His interest and desire to serve were harvested by area growth, discussions on home-based business and changing road standards.

## Local young lady competes for Miss Pre-Teen Grand Rapids

Emily Anne Martinez of Alto was recently selected to participate in Nationals' 2000 Miss Pre-Teen Grand Rapids Pageant competition that will take place on Aug. 20. She is 12 years old and the daughter of Chris and Pam Cavanaugh of Alto and Greg Martinez of Lowell.

Martinez will be competing for her share of over \$20,000 in scholarships, prizes and specialty gifts that will be distributed to contestants. She will be competing in the Miss Pre-Teen division, one of five divisions that



Emily Anne Martinez

will have young ladies between the ages of seven and 23 competing in modeling routines which include casual and formal wear. Most importantly, she will display her personality and interviewing skills with this year's Grand Rapids judging panel.

In her spare time Martinez enjoys reading, biking, swimming and spending time with her family and friends. She also participates in the Kent County Youth Fair as a member of East Kent Beef. She also attends a modeling and Barbizon acting school and

will graduate this month.

Her sponsors include her family, Winnie Cavanaugh, Contempo Salon, Pagano's Restaurant, Mullers Paint N' Paper, Swierenga Jewelers, Copper Kettle Cafe, Caledonia Travel, Byron Center Real Estate, Joel Pounders and Buist Electric, Grand Rapids Bureau Insurance, Mark Johnson, Dr. Dennis Hode, D.D.S., P.C., Dr. Ron Olszewski, D.D.S., Fashion Bug, D & D Printing and Kim Kriner's Bridal & Alteration Shop.

## Coffey, a finalist in Pre-Teen Scholarship and Recognition Program

Andrea Mae Coffey has been selected as a finalist in the Pre-Teen Michigan Scholarship and Recognition Program to be held Aug. 13-15 at the Holiday Inn South convention center in Lansing.

Coffey's parents are Bob and Tamara Coffey of Lowell. She is being sponsored by Bob and Tammy Coffey, Frank and Pat Clingan, Bob Coffey Sr. and Michael and Cindy Ashton.

Pre-Teen Michigan is a by-invitation only Scholarship and Recognition event involving young ladies seven to 12 years of age based on their school academic records, awards and honors won and/or their participation in outside activities. Additionally,



Andrea Mae Coffey

young ladies are invited who have been recognized publicly for their outstanding personal achievements, volunteer services, school involvement, leadership abilities or creative talents.

# COMING EVENTS

NOTICES IN THE LEDGER'S "COMING EVENTS" ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO ANY NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION IN THE LOWELL, ADA, ALTO, AND SARANAC AREA. WE PREFER SUCH NOTICES TO BE KEPT BRIEF AND TO BE SUBMITTED BY MAIL, BUT WILL ACCEPT NOTICES BY PHONE AT 897-9261.

**EVERY 1ST MON.:** 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 10210, 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. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For more information call Terry Cavanaugh, 868-6481.

**EVERY SUN.:** Misner House and Fallasburg Schoolhouse museums open from 2-6 p.m. in Fallasburg Historic Village, across the Covered Bridge from Fallasburg Park.

**EVERY MON. OF EACH MONTH:** 3:15 to 4:30 p.m., Family Council for the Laurels of Kent Nursing Home. This is a volunteer group formed to enhance the quality of life for all the residents. Interested persons are welcome to meet in the Activity Room, Wing "C."

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

**EVERY TUES.:** Summer play group for 3-year old/preschool age children. They meet weekly in the mornings and rotate houses. Also field trips. Interested in some summer fun with your little one? Call Kim 897-5257. Space limited - call soon.

**EVERY 1ST MON.:** Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meets at the High School during lunch periods in the cafeteria for updates on coming events and information.

**EVERY 2ND MON. OF EACH MONTH:** Fallasburg Historical Society will hold its monthly board meeting, to which the public is invited, in the meeting room of Englehardt Library at 7 p.m.

**EVERY 2ND MON. OF EACH MONTH:** The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building located in the former Runciman Elementary, 300 High Street.

**EVERY 3RD TUES.:** Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Lukes Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (at 4 Mile and East Beltline) at 7 p.m. For info., call Linda at 874-5662. Forteen group info, call Sarah 281-6588.

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

**EVERY 3RD TUES.:** Adults with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at Calvin College Rm. 206 of the Commons bldg. For information call Connie 942-6887.

**EVERY OTHER WED.:** 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club at Calvary Christian Reformed Church.

Girls ages 8-13 are welcome. Call 897-8694.

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

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

**EVERY WED.:** Rotary meets at noon at the Masonic Temple. Programs for July include: Pam Nation, exec. director Habitat for Humanity; Clarence Underwood, athletic director for MSU & A Michigan Outdoors program. Members plan on attending & bring a guest.

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

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

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

**EVERY 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. Call 897-8694 for information.

**EVERY WED.:** Overeaters Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. at Forest Hills Presbyterian Church, 7495 Cascade Rd. (at 36th St.) No fees, no dues, no weigh-ins.

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

**THURS.:** Weight Watchers meets in Lowell at the Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m. Registration is a half hour before meetings. New members are invited to join at any time. Questions? Call 1-800-651-6000.

**EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational-help for pregnant women and ado-**

lescents at the school. From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and on Mondays from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Phone 897-9393.

**THURS., FRI., SAT. & SUN.:** Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley is open from 1 to 4 p.m.

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

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

**LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL:** Open Tues., Wed. & Fri. noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs., noon - 7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson.

**STARTING NOW - St. Patrick School registration for 2000/2001 school**

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

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

**EVERY THIRD THURS.:** LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell meets at 6:30 p.m. for socializing with meeting at 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children are welcome to attend. Our current location is a church in Ada. Please call 752-7524 for more information.

**SECOND THURS. OF EVERY MONTH:** The Ada Historical Society meets at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley at 7 p.m.

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

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

**EVERY SAT.:** Lowell Amateur Radio Club sponsors the 145.270 - repeater which operates on a 24-hour basis. Also there is a

**RNs, LPNs, CENAs/HHAs** needed for home care cases in Ionia and Greenville, to work with persons with mild brain injuries, spinal cord injuries.

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### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

**MON.:** 8:30 a.m., Walking, Woodland Mall.  
**TUES.:** 8:30 a.m. Walking, Woodland Mall.  
**WED.:** 12:45 p.m. Shopping assistance.

### Special Events

**THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk and shop Woodland Mall; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.  
**FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walking-Woodland Mall.  
**WED., AUG. 9:** Noon Movie "Oh You Beautiful Doll."  
**THURS., AUG. 10:** 1:15 p.m. Tour Lowell Arts Council.  
**FRI., AUG. 11:** 12:40 p.m. Tour McGee Homestead.  
**MON., AUG. 14:** 12:40 p.m., Shop Meijer.  
**WED., AUG. 16:** 10 a.m. Advisory Council.  
**THURS., AUG. 17:** Noon, Dance-Westside Complex.  
**THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk and shop Woodland Mall; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1:00 p.m. Euchre.  
**FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walking-Woodland Mall.  
**MON., AUG. 21:** 12:40 p.m. Sam's Club.  
**WED., AUG. 23:** 9:15 a.m., Grand Princess Cruise/lunch Lansing.  
**FRI., AUG. 25:** 12:40 p.m., Gerontology Network.  
**MON., AUG. 28:** Noon, Back to school potluck.  
**WED., AUG. 30:** 8 a.m., Women's breakfast.

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

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# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, JULY 17, 2000.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Blough and the Clerk called Roll.  
Present: Councilmembers Green, Myers, Quada, Shores and Mayor Blough.  
Absent: Councilmember None.  
Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Police Chief James Valentine, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV employee Ron vanOverbeek, Planning Commissioners John VanderWilp, Trudy Cahoon and Jim Hall, Historic District Chairman Stephen Doyle and Airport Manager James Sowle.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by QUADA to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2000 regular meeting as corrected.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by QUADA to approve the closed session minutes of the July 5, 2000 meeting as written.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

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

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (07/17/00)	
GENERAL FUND .....	\$144,123.16
DDA FUND .....	9.64
AIRPORT FUND .....	2,807.77
WASTEWATER FUND .....	26,332.44
WATER FUND .....	8,313.65
DATA PROCESSING FUND .....	3,043.64
EQUIPMENT FUND .....	2,652.78
LOOK FUND .....	5,000.00

**Item #1. PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT PROVIDING FOR COMMERCIAL WIRELESS COMMUNICATION TOWERS - PUBLIC HEARING.**  
Over the past several months, the Planning Commission has had the opportunity to review the Zoning Ordinance and how the City regulates commercial wireless communication towers. A worksession was held, in addition to a meeting with City Attorney Richard Wendt to review a proposed ordinance regulating these types of towers. The Planning Commission scheduled a public hearing on June 26, 2000 to review and receive public comments.

The key elements of the ordinance are as follows:

- Allow such towers in the SR (Suburban-Residential), IL (Light Industrial), I (Industrial) and PF (Public Facilities) districts by special land use permit. A special land use permit requires a public hearing and a site plan review before the Planning Commission
- Provide specific standards for the towers such as a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet, a monopole design, setbacks equal to one half the tower height and an 8 foot high security fence
- The Airport Board shall review such tower requests in terms of State and Federal aeronautics regulations
- Communication antennas and related equipment may be mounted on existing towers or structures regardless of the zoning district if the regulations are met. If not, a site plan review before the Planning Commission is needed

During the discussion, the Commission discussed the issue of whether SR districts are appropriate for towers. Those in favor believed such districts are usually in hill areas of the community with many trees which provide camouflage. Commissioners against the request did not feel a residential district should be considered. By a vote of 5 to 3, the SR district was retained.

The Planning Commission recommended the proposed text of this ordinance by a vote of 7-1. After receiving public comments, the City Council may consider the adoption of the ordinance.

Planning Commissioner Trudy Cahoon opposed the ordinance as proposed. She indicated many citizens who attended the public hearing were against a tower being placed in a Suburban Residential district.

Planning Commissioner John VanderWilp understood the point presented by Cahoon. However, he felt there may be some personal issues. He also stated it was difficult keeping the discussion to the ordinance, rather than where the tower would be placed.

VanderWilp noted he resides in an SR district and did not have an issue with the recommendation. Most of the Commissioners felt there was a need for this type of service in the community as the technology age continues to grow.

Commissioner Hall understood the residents' point of view, but felt the larger lots, with many trees, help to obscure the appearance of the proposed antenna. He said if the City were to exclude the SR district, it would leave out a major portion of the hill districts, which are ideal for tower installations.

Tracy Loughlin of 2435 Gee Dr. noted she had submitted a letter to the Planning Commission. Her greatest concern dealt with health issues, but felt it was a mute point due to the federal government. Several comments were received from the Planning Commissioners who also believed this was not the issue. Loughlin stated AT&T provided information to her, but did not answer any of her questions. She commented on the sufficient camouflage and stated yes, there are more trees in the SR district, but taxes are higher. Loughlin noted there are no leaves on the trees during the winter months, which in turn makes the water tower visible from their house.

Loughlin noted she visited the tower on Quiggle Road and was able to hear the air conditioner running.

Loughlin did not believe there was adequate notice given for this meeting and felt if given the chance, the Council would find most individuals who reside in the SR district do not want a tower in the area.

Jim Sowle of 770 Lincoln Lake read the following into record:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have been a member of a township board and Planning Commission. I am aware of the problems inherent in crafting documents that are fair to all concerned. But this issue is not about fairness. It is about the values of your citizens and their homes and the commercial interest of a cell phone company. This is not just another technical issue to be resolved by an ordinance. This is one of the most important issues to come before the council in quite some time. What is more important than preserving the homes and values of our citizens? I am also aware there is no such thing as too much information, therefore I offer you the following comments.

I find fault with the proposed ordinance and some passages therein. The language is clearly designed to benefit the desires of one company. There have been other requests for towers but no other company has asked to put towers in a residential zone. Because of this, any such ordinance will ultimately be flawed. Please do not think I am opposed to towers. I complain forcefully and frequently about the poor coverage in this area. This does not mean I would sacrifice our neighborhoods for better coverage. There are better solutions.

I understand the need for towers and the technical problems regarding tower distance requirements.

I do not understand, however, the overwhelming need in this instance to place a tower in a residential zone.

I believe this is purely a money issue. Putting the tower in another area would require a taller tower, and taller towers cost more money.

Tower providers determine the placement of towers based on COST TO THEM as well as service in the area. I feel sure that if it cost \$1,000,000 to erect the tower off Gee St., or if it were a protected wetland and the inherent costs to build, the need to put it exactly there would be greatly diminished.

There are many places within the city's commercial,

general business and industrial zones where this tower can be built albeit at a little more expense to the company. The total dollar amount is a drop in the bucket to their bottom line. Lowell homeowners are left with an eyesore and diminished property values. Is there really any question about whether that would be true? Look other places where commercial and residential are intermixed and see the result.

Many of the citizens of this great country choose to live in big cities. Some choose small cities and towns and some even choose to live in suburbs of small communities. These areas represent many cherished values we have for ourselves and our children. We make large investments and sacrifices to preserve these values. All neighborhoods get older. Some do so with grace, dignity and the preservation of their value. Others get rundown, lose value and people leave or give up caring. I suggest that placing commercial enterprises amongst their homes contributes to the latter. Are you really prepared to tell your constituents that you can clearly see the overwhelming need to dismiss their values and neighborhoods for the benefit of a commercial company, which could reasonably go elsewhere? And truly they could go elsewhere or why would two other cell companies with the same needs and transmission problems ask to be on the cable company tower downtown?

I understand the planning commission has authority to put many constraints on these towers, however, in the final analysis, the tower would still be located in a residential area. Companies would have a "use by right". They could sue in court to put their tower in a suburban residential area. If they felt the restrictions placed on them by the planning commission were onerous, they would sue to overturn them. The city might win and then again, you might lose. Many cities do, you know. The cell company's dollar power is awesome. Clearly you would spend a lot of city money in court. It is an oxymoron to say these towers are a non essential service in one part of the ordinance and in another part of the ordinance say they are important enough to be placed where they compromise the integrity of a neighborhood.

If you were being asked to spot zone a commercial half-acre, roughly the proposed 20,000 sq. feet minimum, in the middle of a residential zone, the problem might be more clear. You would very likely not do it. No one can build a house on that size lot or that close together. Spot zoning is not welcome in very many places. Spot zoning and special use zoning are simply two shades of the same problem. The fact that we have a water tower co-located at the proposed site doesn't alter the fact the new ordinance covers all city residential areas.

It should be remembered that while the community struggles with the problems, the companies stay quiet and away and unaffected. When all is said and done, the companies walk away with what they want and the community is left with rifts, tears, bad feelings and eyesores.

There is no doubt it would be in the best interests of our city to resolve these problems beforehand by not allowing towers in a residential zone and limit them to commercial, general business and industrial zones where they belong. That would make our residential areas safe from such exploitation.

In a different vein, I also find section 8 confusing. Section 4.21 therein deals with commercial wireless towers under amateur radio tower language. This ambiguity needs to be cleared up.

There is no provision for limiting the height of these towers. Could we have a 1000-ft. tower in downtown Lowell or perhaps on Gee Dr.? We already have a request by Nextel to place a tower on top of the cable company tower. CenturyTel is also proposing a tower in the same place.

These are height problems already at your doorstep which are not addressed by the proposed ordinance.

Section 7 should also state that any new additions could not exceed the current height of the tower. Adding to the side of a tower is one thing. Going up is something else again. The current proposals from Nextel and Century Tel are to go on top of the cable company tower.

Your proposed ordinance would allow a tower within a 1/2 mile radius from this proposed tower. That is only 2640 feet or about 800 places. This means you might be asked to have another tower within this same Suburban Residential area. You might also be asked to have one in the Suburban Residential area on the east side of the city. In

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

fact, you might also be asked, and any company would have an enforceable "use by right", under this ordinance, to have more than ten towers inside our city limits. We would have an antenna field for communication companies who have no other interest in our city.

It might be of interest to know there is an Amateur radio tower located at the SW corner of the high school, which might prohibit the proposed tower under this ordinance. I have not measured this exactly but would if the ordinance passed.

The reason for this new ordinance is to attempt to address predictable problems. I feel I have addressed enough foreseeable and predictable problems and raised relevant questions to warrant further study. I apologize for any additional trouble I might be causing the planning commission but I would be remiss to not bring my concerns to your attention.

The adaptation of this ordinance, as written, is antithetical to responsible governance, which is after all, the concern for the welfare of its citizens and I urge you to send the proposal back to the planning commission for removal of Section 3, removal of ambiguous language, and removal of any language therein which references "any zone district" which language encompasses all areas of the city.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Gary Ayres of 12329 Gee Dr. was present on behalf of former Mayor Robert Christensen's family, Dr. Orval McKay's family and residents of Gee Drive. He stated the tower is not wanted in the district.

Planning Commissioner John VanderWilp stated the ordinance being reviewed would allow towers in the SR district. He believed it would be wrong to condemn the entire ordinance as proposed because of one tower's location.

Sowle believed the City Council would be well within its reason to approve the ordinance, provided Section 3 is deleted. A tower limit could be set to ensure the concerns are addressed.

Pat Hoag of 2309 Gee Dr. noted he was opposed to the placement of the tower.

Mary Ellis of 2177 Gee Dr. was also opposed to the tower.

Commissioner Hall noted the tower would be located in the Public Facilities (PF) rather than the SR district.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve the proposed ordinance on the commercial wireless communication towers for the purpose of discussion.

Shores believed the Council should be sensitive to the residents. She fully understood their point of view and did not feel the SR district was the proper location for a communication tower.

Councilmember Quada was concerned with the inclusion of allowing towers in the SR district and stated if this was allowed there should be no reason why it wouldn't be allowed in the R1 Residential.

Quada said Sowle's remarks sum up the situation. He noted spot zoning is prohibited. Quada was opposed to an ordinance which would allow towers in either the Residential (R) or PF district and stated such structures should be placed in either a Commercial (C) or Industrial (I) district.

Councilmember Myers agreed with Quada and felt the SR district should be excluded.

Councilmember Green wanted height and distance restrictions established. He said no matter where the towers are placed, these will not be attractive. However, he was not opposed to such towers in the SR or PF district.

Mayor Blough suggested referring the issue back to the Planning Commission for further evaluation. At this point, Blough was against the amendment adoption.

Green questioned if the City had to provide space for the towers and if the City had any rights while managing the towers. Pasquale was unsure.

Shores noted the letters received from individuals who were opposed to the tower. She has also received a few

phone calls from residents on Gee Drive who were opposed to the tower.

Blough noted Councilmember Shores was referring to the letters received from Kurt and Donna Holzhueter from 1705 Gee Drive and Kent McKay of 1775 Gee Drive.

Green noted his opposition to the issue was strictly on the need for height and distance restrictions.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by GREEN to refer the issue back to the Planning Commission for additional limitations and adjustments regarding commercial wireless communication towers.

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

**Item #2. PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO PERMIT BED AND BREAKFAST ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE R-2 AND R-3 DISTRICTS - PUBLIC HEARING.** The Planning Commission received a request at its May 22, 2000 meeting from Kim Hofman to establish a bed and breakfast at 203 N. Hudson (north-east corner of N. Hudson and Chatham). But, such establishments are allowed as special land uses in the SR and R-1 districts. Since the proposed site is in the R-3 district, a bed and breakfast would not be allowed.

The Planning Commission decided it would be more appropriate to review extending bed and breakfast establishments to the R-2 and R-3 districts by special land use permit.

At its June 26, 2000 meeting, the Commission held a public hearing and unanimously recommended adoption of the ordinance. The Council may adopt this ordinance at the meeting.

Stephen Doyle of 706 Riverside Drive requested an explanation of R-2 and R-3 districts. City Manager Pasquale stated R-2 is primarily a one and two family residential district. It covers a large portion of the community. The R-3 is a multiple family residential district, which also allows single and two family residential districts in addition to apartments.

Doyle questioned the number of cars which could be parked. Pasquale stated the ordinance indicates parking should be located to minimize negative impacts on adjacent properties. A site plan shall be submitted to the Planning Commission with a public hearing.

Planning Commissioner John VanderWilp noted the concerns presented by Doyle have been reviewed.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by QUADA to accept the amendment to permit bed and breakfast establishments in the R-2 and R-3 districts by special land use permit.

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

Blough noted the Planning Commission has done a very credible job and it is appreciated.

## Item #3. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

**A. 609 Ottawa - Hugh Young - lot split - public hearing**  
Hugh Young wishes to split his lot into two parcels. Since the property is zoned Industrial, each parcel must have a 20,000 square feet minimum. This has 36,212 square feet and thus a variance has been sought.

At its June 26, 2000 meeting, the Planning Commission voted to recommend the variance by a vote of 4 to 3 based on the six criteria noted in the Zoning Ordinance.

City Manager Pasquale noted Joice Smith of Remax Realty was present to represent the owner.

Planning Commissioner Trudy Cahoon mentioned her recommendation for the variance.

Planning Commissioner John VanderWilp agreed with Cahoon. He indicated there would not be much of a physical change to the property and believed it would be an overall improvement.

Planning Commissioner Jim Hall stated he was against the lot split and did not believe the property would be improved. He noted the sketch of the property did not indicate where the lines would fall.

Joice Smith noted there are two buildings located on the property. One building is being used for storage and the other has been leased to another business. She stated the use of the property would not change at this time.

Smith also noted the surrounding area includes a creek which runs through one side of the property, while railroad tracks cross the other side. A deserted part of Amity Street lies between the property in question and the Bieri property to the east which could possibly be acquired.

Hall stated these conditions existed prior to the purchase of the property.

Pasquale noted the Planning Commission reviewed all six of the criteria. When voted upon, four believed all of the required criteria had been met. Three of the Commissioners felt at least one requirement had not been met.

Cahoon stated the Commission is having a difficult time understanding the six criteria.

Blough questioned if Young wanted to sell the remaining 20,000 square feet. Smith responded no.

Green questioned the amount of square footage on Amity Street and asked if the City intended on using any part of it. He also inquired if the street was vacated, would it provide adequate square footage. Pasquale believed the problem dealt with the location of the buildings on the property and said this would be difficult.

Green asked if the property owners to the east would have to be asked for a special use of Amity or a vacation.

Quada was opposed to approving the split at this time. He requested the Council be given a map indicating exactly how the parcel would be split.

Shores also wanted to know exactly how the parcel would be split.

Blough held some opposition toward the split due to the Planning Commission's difficulty reviewing the six criteria. He wanted the Commission to evaluate the issue again.

Green agreed with Quada concerning a specific drawing be submitted. He also wanted to find out regarding the vacation of Amity and if this can be done without a variance. Green was not opposed to the variance, but wanted additional information before a decision is made.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by GREEN to not accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission concerning the lot split for Hugh Young at 609 Ottawa.

Quada was unsure of the motion. He explained the majority of the Commissioners arrived at the conclusion the six criteria had been met. Quada sensed at least one Commissioner had some difficulty with the fact a detailed map was not presented.

Quada instead offered a substitute motion to simply refer the variance request back to the Planning Commission and allow the applicant the opportunity to provide additional information.

Blough felt at least one of the six criteria had not been met. He stated this was not forced on the property owner. He also had a problem with trying to circumvent the variance request by vacating streets.

Blough stated there is nothing which says if the ZBA adopts the variance that once it is split, the applicant would reapply for the process of a zoning amendment and may then provide some way to meet the criteria. It is significant to note that there has been an indication by the Planning Commission through this vote. Therefore, if the owner wanted to proceed with the particular survey, some additional information may be given as input on it. But the applicant may choose not to do this. Blough said at this point, as he knows the six criteria, he would not support the variance request.

Quada withdrew his substitute motion.



# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

VOTE ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION:  
YEA: 2. (Green and Blough)  
NAY: 3. (Myers, Quada and Shores)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION DENIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by SHORES to refer back to the property owner Hugh Young regarding the property split variance at 609 Ottawa for further consideration and return to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a survey of the proposed split.

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

Smith understood the ZBA wanted a survey of the split. However, she was concerned Blough did not believe the property should be split. Smith questioned if she should advise the client to spend the money for the survey, if it would be considered for a split. Blough responded with the information presented to him, he could not determine all six criteria had been met according to the ordinance. Smith questioned what could be done. Blough suggested a specific split survey be submitted. Some logic should be placed behind the six criteria as to why the ZBA should support the evaluation.

Quada explained he has not suggested he would vote in favor of the split.  
No further action was taken.

**Item #4. REQUEST TO HOLD A COMMUNITY TENT REVIVAL AT THE LOWELL CITY AIRPORT LOWELL WESLEYAN CHURCH.** The Airport Board was approached by the Lowell Wesleyan Church to sponsor a Community Tent Revival on September 22, 23 and 24 near the front entrance of the airport off Lincoln Lake Road. Committee Chairman Don Schneider was present for discussion.

Schneider explained the church has been pursuing the revival for its 30th anniversary. The members wish to involve the community and suggested the airport for the event.

Schneider stated the Airport Board was concerned the music may bother the neighbors who live near the entrance. After petitioning the neighbors, Schneider found only one person who raised concerns, but stated if the speakers were pointed away from his home, he would not have a problem with the event being held.

City Manager Pasquale spoke with City Attorney Richard Wendt regarding a Christian event being held on city property. Wendt referred to the event the same way as having church services in public schools. Pasquale stated the City is not endorsing the event, but simply allowing it.

Pasquale noted the Airport Board has also requested the lawn be restored after the event.

Quada asked if Vergennes Township had been notified. Schneider stated the church wanted permission from the City Council before presenting this to Vergennes Township.

Councilmember Shores had liability concerns. Schneider responded the commercial insurance held with the church would cover the event.

Myers requested the liability limits be provided.

Quada stated the insurance should be similar to what is required from other organizations when utilizing the parks.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to support the Community Tent Revival meeting at the Lowell City Airport by the Lowell Wesleyan Church contingent upon the provision of a two million dollar liability insurance with the City named as an additional insured.

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

**Item #5. KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY - PRESENTATION ON MILLAGE VOTE AND REQUEST TO CLOSE BATHROOMS AT THE LIBRARY ON SEPTEMBER 2.** Claudya Muller, Director of the Kent District Library, was present for discussion. She stated the millage vote was lost in February. The District Library took two weeks in April and sought input from the 26 communities they serve.

Muller thanked City Manager Pasquale for being present during one of the meetings and stated he spent many hours with the Board. She explained advice was sought on how to structure the questions placed on the ballot.

The Board commissioned a survey to the residents. From the survey, it was learned 82 percent support the .77 mills and a 47 percent level for the second question (.11 mills) on the ballot. The .77 mills will renew the expiring millage and .11 mills to allow the services to be continued.

Muller noted this would be the last opportunity to come before the voters.

Muller explained the proposed millage provides 70 percent of their revenue. Without this the district could not operate the 18 facilities and each library would be closed by the end of the year.

Councilmember Myers stated there are some municipalities who have formally supported the millage request.

City Manager Pasquale questioned how .11 mills would have an effect on Lowell's library. Muller responded this would allow the library to remain open for an additional 8 hours per week. It has been suggested the facility could open earlier Monday through Saturday and remain open later on Tuesday night.

Pasquale asked if this would include the addition of a youth librarian. Muller responded a youth librarian position has been placed in this year's budget. If the millage passes, the Board would post the position.

Muller also thanked the County Commission and Council for appointing Councilmember Myers to the District Library Board.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by QUADA that the Council fully support both portions of the millage request for the Kent District Library based on a significant investment in the Englehardt Public Library building which occurred through the support of the Lowell community.

Councilmember Green had a problem providing a formal endorsement. This could lead to the school asking for endorsements during their next campaign.

Quada did not have a problem supporting the endorsement. He believed most cities own and operate the libraries themselves. If the City did not have the Kent District Library Board, the Council would have to handle the issue themselves.

Blough did not have a problem with the endorsement either. He did not think the City could do it as cost effective as it is currently being done.

Blough noted the City uses the facility for its community room.

Muller noted the 1999 numbers stating the Kent District Library spent \$227,937 operating the Lowell facility, while local taxes came to approximately \$53,000 from the City of Lowell. They also allocated 35 percent of the taxes from Grattan Township and all of Lowell Townships tax dollars and 70 percent of the Vergennes Township tax dollars toward the support of the building simply because this is the percentage of their residents which use this building.

Pasquale explained if the City used the \$227,000 budget which the district library is utilizing for operating this building, approximately 3 mills would need to be levied.

Green explained he supported the millage, he simply could not support the Council endorsing this.  
YEA: 4  
NAY: 1. (Green)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Jane Aronson requested the library bathrooms be closed during the Riverwalk Festival on Saturday, September 2, 2000. She explained problems have occurred with the bathrooms during the festival noting five of the six toilets were backed up and overflowing. The drinking fountain also caused a puddle of water from condensation created due to overuse.

Muller noted other public libraries have been closed when such a festival is being held in the community.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by SHORES

to close the library and bathrooms on Saturday, September 2, 2000.

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

**Item #6. PRESENTATION OF THE STREETS AND SIDEWALKS MASTER PLAN.** Dan Hula of Rowe Engineering was present to discuss the final presentation of the Streets and Sidewalks Master Plan.

A revised report was presented. The revisions were minor and primarily dealt with sidewalks where there are residential streets which are far removed from pedestrian destination. The criteria was changed stating sidewalks must be on one side of the street only.

City Manager Pasquale commented on the report. He stated the report indicates it will cost approximately 7.6 million dollars for all of the streets and 2.4 million dollars for the sidewalks.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by MYERS that the Streets and Sidewalks Master Plan be received and accepted as prepared by Rowe Engineering.

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

**Item #7. OVERNIGHT ON - STREET PARKING PROHIBITION.** As recommended by the Planning Commission at its June 26, 2000 meeting, the proposal of limiting on street parking prohibition (from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.) to the winter months was raised. The recommendation narrows the prohibition from November to April because of snow removal. The Commission questioned the necessity beyond these months.

Both Police Chief Valentine and DPW Director DesJarden have recommended the restriction of overnight on street parking from November to April and having an ordinance amendment prepared.

Myers questioned if there was any consideration to areas that may pose more of a traffic hazard than others. Valentine responded there are safety concerns. He noted some cities have a year around prohibition on overnight parking.

Councilmember Quada felt the ability for emergency vehicles to move freely up and down the street was important. He believed 85 to 90 percent of the people in the community abide by what is currently in place. He said there is a unique process in which individuals can get street parking permits for a period of time.

Quada noted he was opposed to the recommendation.

Myers felt it may also be a place for a non-operating vehicle to rest if such a restriction was not in place.

IT WAS MOVED BY QUADA and seconded by MYERS to deny the overnight on street parking request as proposed.

Valentine stated there are specific statues where abandoned vehicles are tagged and removed within 48 hours. Also, a vehicle can not remain parked on the street for a period longer than 24 hours.

Pat Hoag of Gee Dr. had concerns with the on street parking request and questioned if there could be no parking signs placed in some areas.

Blough stated one reason for not allowing parked cars on the streets is to provide for efficient plowing during the winter months. The request is to review the ordinance and present a recommendation back to the Council regarding the limitations.

Councilmember Shores questioned if many overnight-parking requests had been received. Valentine responded whenever there is a waive of overnight parking enforcement, a good percentage of those people will come in with a hardship request. The department is somewhat liberal with those permits, but are restricted on the time periods.

YEA: 3. (Myers, Shores and Quada)  
NAY: 2. (Blough and Green)  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #8. MONTHLY REPORTS.** No comments were received.

# Township board approves rezoning for Brown and Whispering Hills

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Neighbors asked for protection from a 185-home development and they got it.

Lowell Charter Township approved the rezoning of approximately six acres from R-1 to R-2 which represents a strip of land that runs

from Cumberland Avenue to the east.

This decision was based on the determination that the density in the western portion of this parcel was limited.

Developer Ron DeVries has no objection to rezoning a portion of the 14-acre parcel to R-2 as long as it does not

adversely affect the development.

The remaining eight acres of this 14-acre parcel of land were rezoned from R-1 to R-3.

Another 31 acres of the Whispering Hills development was also rezoned from

R-1 to R-3. This property is located behind properties at Cumberland and M-21.

With the zoning, lots as small as 14,000 square feet would be allowed if public utilities are available.

In a second rezoning matter, a request to rezone a parcel from AG-2 to general com-

mmercial was approved by the township board.

Tammy Brown in her presentation to the planning commission explained that the parcel was surrounded by general commercial zoning and she was asking that her property be rezoned to general com-

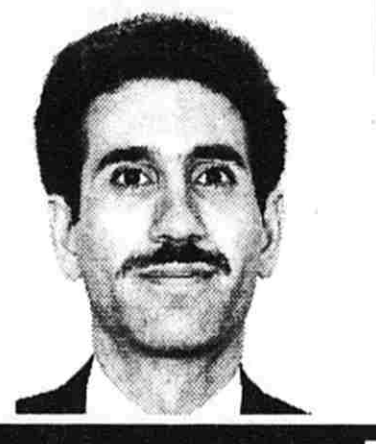
mercial to fit in the area.

The planning commission determined that the zoning request was in conformance with plans for the area.

Based on its recommendation, the township board approved the rezoning request.

## LEGAL EASE

By  
Jonathan David



**DEAR JONATHAN:** In a couple of recent columns you set forth portions of a new Michigan law which indicates what happens to a person's estate if they die without leaving a Will. I believe one of the columns dealt with a question from a person who was single with no children. I am in a little different situation. I am married, and although we have no children yet, my wife is pregnant. Since I have quite a large estate in my name alone, I would be interested in knowing what would happen if I die before making a will prior to having children, as well as after having children. Could you please elaborate?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** I'll be glad to. The easiest way to address your question is to reproduce the sections of the new law you referred to in your question, which is known as the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC), which became effective as of April 1, 2000. The first section (section 2102) sets forth what share a surviving spouse is entitled to in certain situations if a person dies without a will. The second section (section 2103) deals with what shares certain individuals, other than the surviving spouse, are entitled to receive under different situations if a person dies without a will.

Section 2102 - Share of Spouse. (1) The intestate share of

a decedent's surviving spouse is one of the following:

(a) The entire intestate estate if no descendant or parent of the decedent survives the decedent.

(b) The first \$ 150,000, plus 1/2 of any balance of the intestate estate, if all of the decedent's surviving descendants are also descendants of the surviving spouse and there is no other descendant of the surviving spouse who survives the decedent.

(c) The first \$ 150,000, plus 3/4 of any balance of the intestate estate, if no descendant of the decedent survives the decedent, but a parent of the decedent survives the decedent.

(d) The first \$ 150,000, plus 1/2 of any balance of the intestate estate, if all of the decedent's surviving descendants are also descendants of the surviving spouse and the surviving spouse has one or more surviving descendants who are not descendants of the decedent.

(e) The first \$150,000, plus 1/2 of any balance of the intestate estate, if one or more, but not all, of the decedent's surviving descendants are not descendants of the surviving spouse.

(f) The first \$100,000, plus 1/2 of any balance of the intestate estate, if none of the decedent's surviving descendants of the surviving spouse.

(2) Each dollar amount listed in subsection (1) shall be adjusted as provided in Section 1210 - this is a cost of living adjustment.

Section 2103 - Share of Heirs Other than Surviving Spouse.

Any part of the intestate estate that does not pass to the decedent's surviving spouse under section 2102, or the entire intestate estate if there is no surviving spouse, passes in the following order to the following individuals who survive the decedent:

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

**Item #9. CITIZEN COMMENTS.** Stephen Doyle of 706 Riverside requested clarification concerning the vote of on street overnight parking. Mayor Blough explained there was a recommendation by City staff to prepare an ordinance exploring a change to the on-street parking ordinance. The motion made was not to accept the recommendation.

Pat Hoag of Gee Dr. requested a copy of the street and sidewalk master plan.

City Manager Pasquale noted Gee Drive is considered a top priority. The problem with reconstructing Gee Drive is that it will cost approximately \$800,000.

Jim Sowle thanked Chief Valentine for showing up at the car wash at 3:00 in the morning. He also thanked DPW Director DesJarden and his crew for having the airport road into a 3/4 passable condition. It is a great improvement.

Stephen Doyle stated there is no curb cuts along Main Street from City Hall to Springgrove Variety.

He also noted crosswalks need to be repainted at Spring and Hudson and Hudson and Main.

**Item #10. COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Quada questioned the process the Planning Commission takes when reviewing the six criteria regarding variances. Pasquale responded the Planning Commission has requested extra training for reviewing variance requests. It has been suggested the Zoning Board of Appeals join them in a joint session in which a planner could be present to discuss variance issues.

Pasquale stated information is provided to the Planning Commission regarding the variance request. City Staff does not provide any recommendations. Each Commissioner has the opportunity to review each individual criteria.

Councilmember Myers commented on the RAVE parties being held in the community. He stated these parties start at 11:00 p.m. and last through the night. The parties draw young people from 100 miles away. Such parties

have been conducted at the old Rite-Aid building and more recently Roll Away Family Fun Center.

Valentine stated Roll Away Family Fun Center owner Bob Van Noller has held two parties at his facility. Van Noller has requested police presence at each which Valentine indicated the department will not participate in again.

Myers said these parties last all night. At one of the parties there were approximately 800 individuals who attended. The parking lots of the Methodist Church, Keiser's and along the streets were filled with cars. Myers mentioned, although, there is no alcohol or marijuana and was concerned with single doses of drugs being present. He also had concerns these facilities were over capacitated.

Valentine stated such a party should be moved to another community. There is no benefit for such a party in this community.

Blough requested a report be given by city staff from time to time to determine if such parties are continuing to take place in the City.

Blough thanked Chief Valentine for the letter received regarding the contact made with Kent County Road Commission regarding some traffic control devices at Riverside and Hunt Street.

**Item #11. MANAGER'S REPORT.** City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

1. The following meetings minutes were presented:

- Airport Board meeting of June 6
- Chamber of Commerce meeting of June 14

2. As requested, City Assessor Jim Marfia has provided a report on the estimated City property tax impact for the 12-year abatement recently given to Michigan Wire. An estimate of \$36,350 in loss revenue would be realized over the 12 years.

3. Pasquale and DPW Director Dan DesJarden attended a Grade Inspection meeting involving the South Hudson

street construction project. The following information was provided:

- Final plans complete - by mid-September
- Bid letting - November 3 or December 1 (through MDOT)
- Light and Power to move poles for road widening by this winter
- Construction start - March to April dependent on weather completion by mid-July (King Milling wheat trucks will have access by July 1)

4. Enclosed was a summary report from the County Department of Public Works regarding the recent hazardous waste pick up day.

Councilmember Green wanted the Chamber of Commerce made aware of the Council decision regarding the library bathrooms closure during the Riverwalk.

**Item #12. APPOINTMENTS.** The following appointments were considered:

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by QUADA to reappoint Michael Harding, Trudy Cahoon and Elizabeth Thompson to the Planning Commission with a term expiring on June 30, 2003.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by QUADA to adjourn to Closed Session at 9:55 p.m. for property acquisition pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to return to open session at 10:35 p.m.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 10:36 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, August 7, 2000

Michael K. Blough, Mayor  
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk



# Market Days, cont'd.

## ... From Page 6

The chairperson said there is a need for more food booths and craft-like booths. "We'd like to see it grow. That may mean going other places (outside of Lowell) and pulling people in."

The booths were concentrated in the downtown area, something Mike Sprenger, of Springrove Variety, would like to change.

"We'd really like to see Market Days grow more into the west side," Sprenger said. "We still have gaps to fill." He suggested that some of those gaps be filled with fun things for patrons to do and a farmer's market.

\*\*\*

If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything.

—Mark Twain

\*\*\*

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- Assist in developing and implementing Treatment Plans
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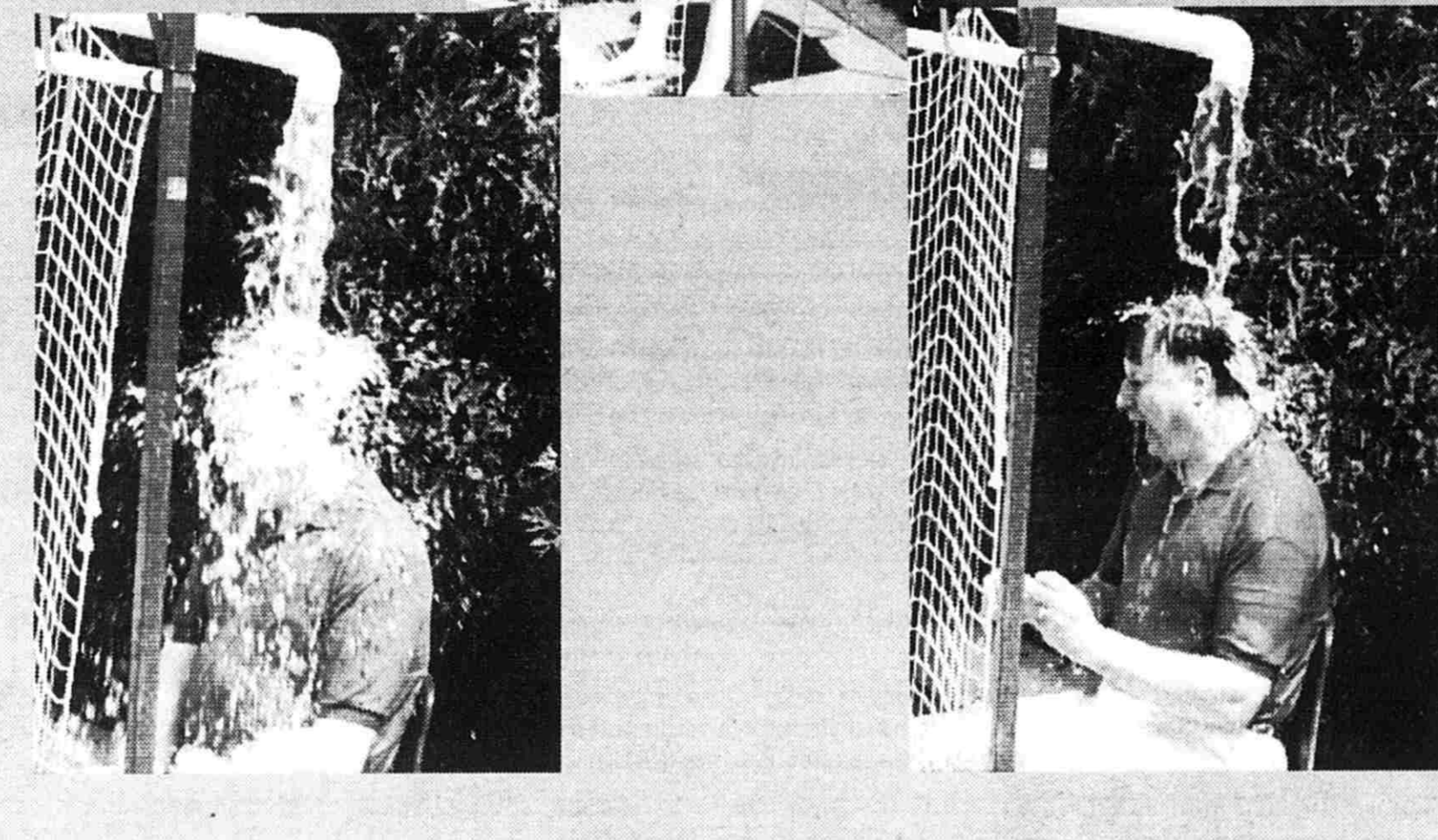
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# STONE COLD & WET



Lowell City Manager Dave Pasquale may have been a little hot that his wife Anne was throwing tennis balls at him Saturday during Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce's Market Days. However, he soon cooled to the occasion. Anne not only does excellent work at the Englehardt Library, but she's also a good shot (3-for-3).

## School district accepts gifts

**YOU ALWAYS PROTECT THE ONES YOU LOVE**

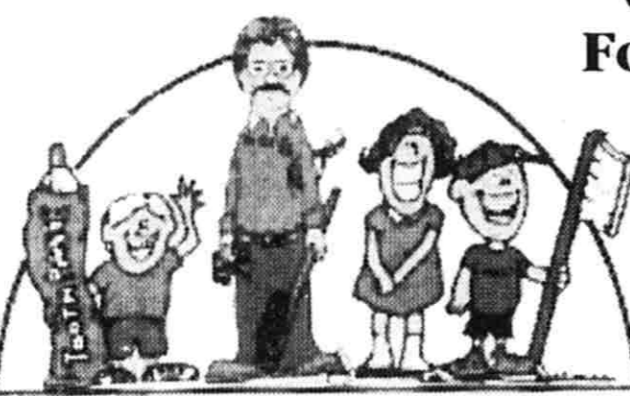
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NOT A SPECIALIST

Lowell's school board graciously accepted gifts into the district valued at \$725.

Dan Wood donated a Macintosh Perfora 465 computer, monitor, color inkjet printer, miscellaneous accessories, cables and many children's software titles on disc and CD-ROMs. The gift is valued at \$500.

Robert and Kathleen Gingerich donated preschool toys (Fisher Price: Little People Garage, School Bus, Learning School House, Learning Farmhouse, Learning Fire Truck, Little Tikes Workshop and accessories, stuffed Big Bird, and a flannel board set. The gift is valued at \$175.

Don and Judie Silvis donated an Epson Stylus Color II inkjet printer valued at \$50.

For once, you get to probe the physician.

physician finder @ [www.MetrolHEALTH.net](http://www.MetrolHEALTH.net)

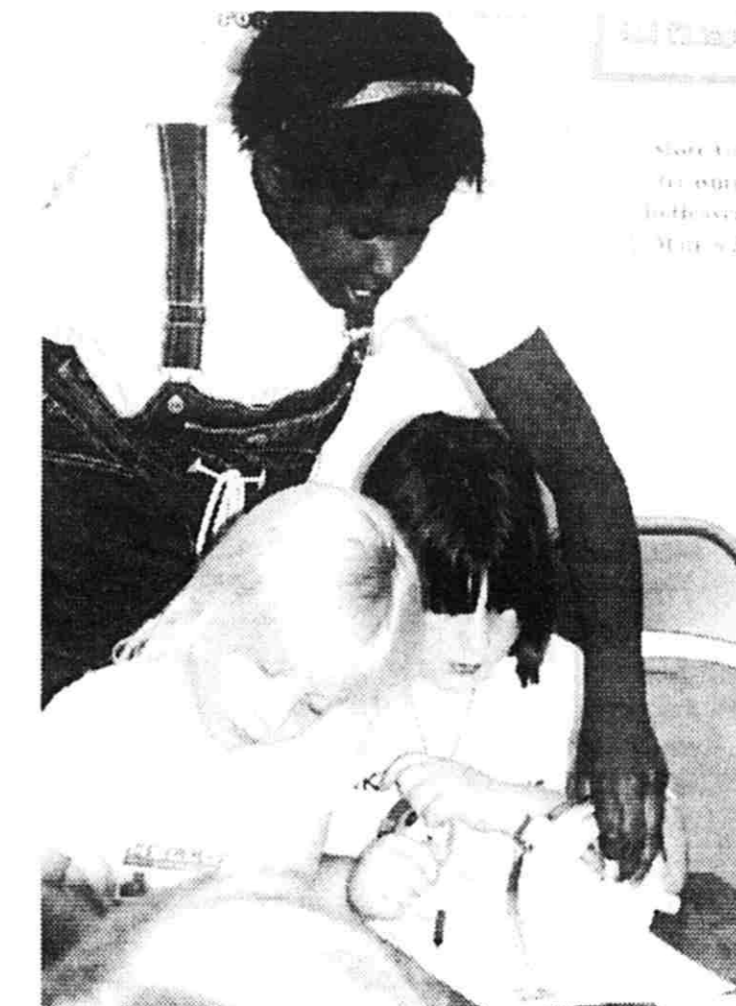
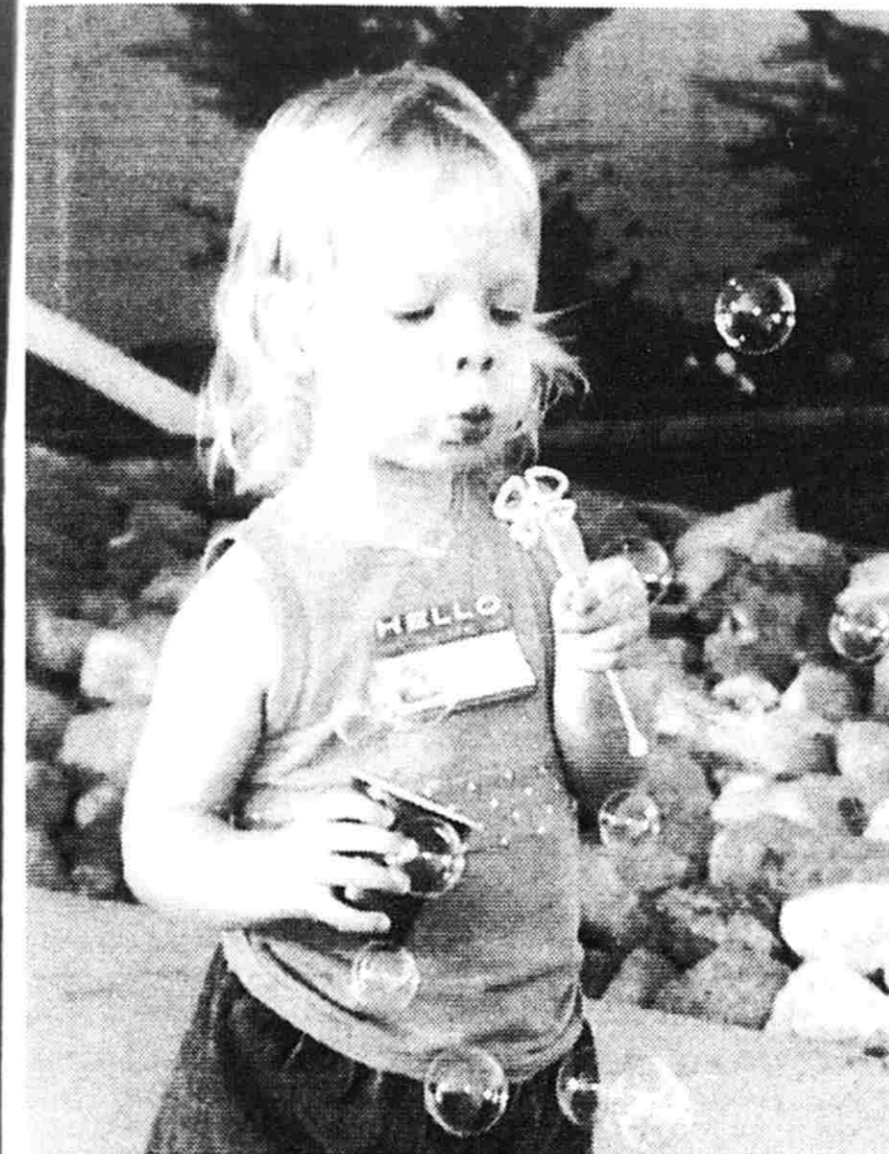
# Lesson of Caring

Children (ages three-12) of the Elmdale Church of the Nazarene, 11830 Drew, concluded a week of Vacation Bible School with a program for parents Sunday.

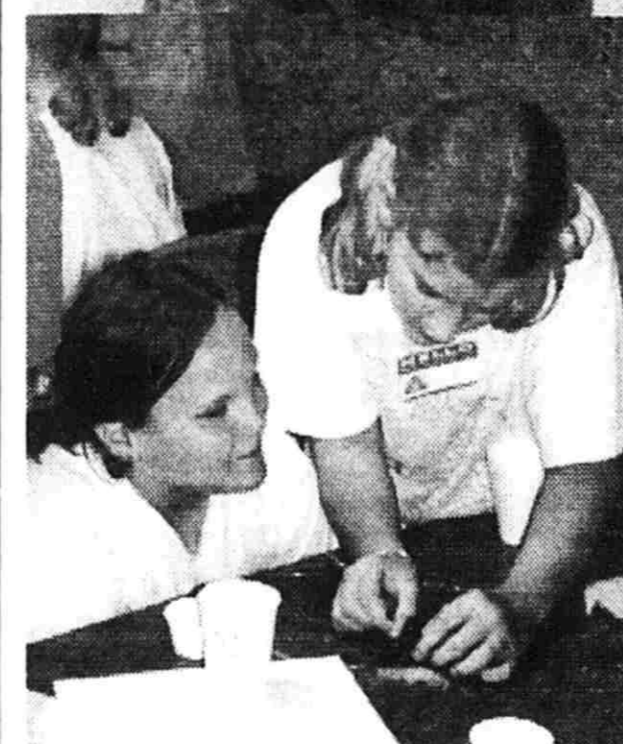
The week-long theme was FROG (Fully Relying on God).

Children learned not only how God cares for frogs, but how he cares for them as well as provides for their every need.

"Flippy the Frog" (puppet) helped in teaching children Bible verses, new songs (e.g., Bullfrogs and Butterflies) and frog crafts. Craft classes were led by local teens.



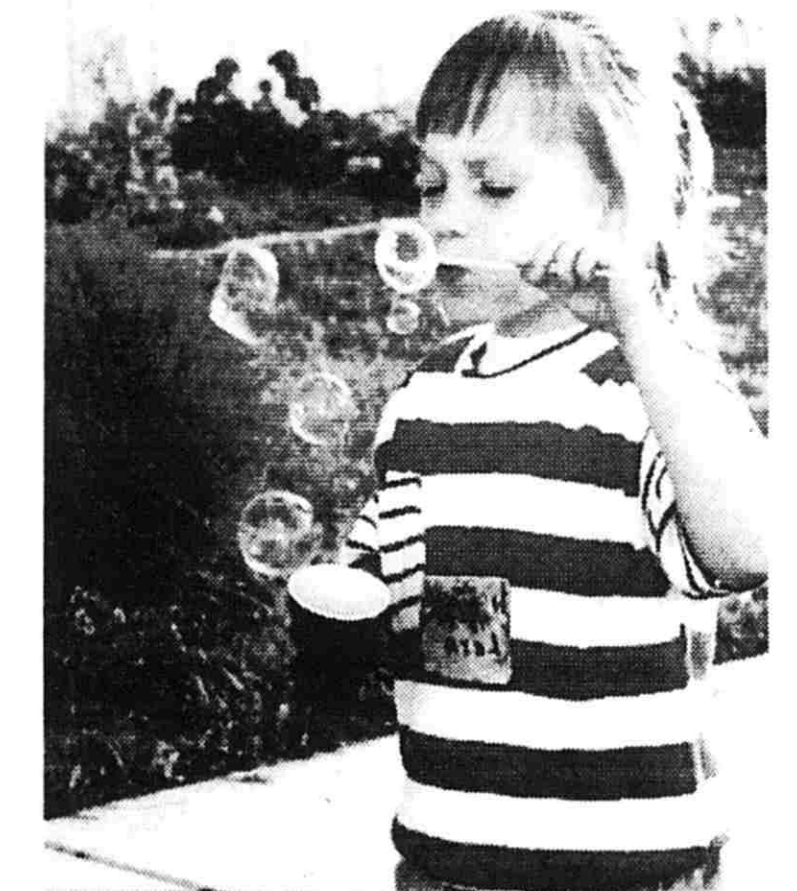
Pictured above, Dree Higby (standing) helps Katy Ohler (left) and Kayla Teft with their mirror messages.



Chelsea Freed, above, spends a few moments of her time blowing bubbles.



Pictured are Gabrielle Tremblay and Ocean Moore.



Katie Wilder also enjoyed her bubble-making time.

**LOWELL ATHLETIC BOOSTERS**

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

**Saturday, September 16, 2000**  
**8 A.M. Shotgun Start**  
**Quail Ridge Golf Club • 8375 36th Street, Ada**

**Player fees are \$75 per person, which includes:**

- 18 Holes Of Golf
- Cash Prizes For 1st, 2nd, 3rd Places
- Cart • Dinner • Golf Memento
- Longest Drive & Closest To Pin Contests

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**CUT & MAIL TO:**  
**Michael LaHaye**  
(616) 897-7190  
**Lowell Athletic Boosters**  
672 Birchwood Ct. • Lowell, MI 49331

**TEAM MEMBERS:**

Member One: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Three: \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Two: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Four: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide name of team captain in case of any changes  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrance fee of \$75 per team member is due September 1. Make checks payable to: Lowell Athletic Boosters. \$300 per foursome.

## ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF LOWELL

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**IN THE SERVICE**

April L. Caillouet has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Pro-

gram. The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year. The enlistment gives the

**LEGAL NOTICES**

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 00-169,939

Estate of DOROTHY ANTHONY, Deceased.  
Date of birth: 01/09/1917

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, DOROTHY ANTHONY, who lived at Breton Manor, Grand Rapids, Michigan died 04/05/1999. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

forever barred unless presented to JEANETTE C. HAMILTON, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 320 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 8/1/00  
SUSAN M. POTYRAJ  
410 Bridge St. N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
616-454-4119

JEANETTE C. HAMILTON  
441 Union Ave. S.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic military training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career job specialty.

Caillouet, a 2000 graduate of Saranac High School, will report for basic training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., on August 18. Her parents are Daniel H.

and Denise L. Caillouet of Lowell.

Master Sergeant Norman L. Dawson is the Chief Initial Communications Package for the 48th Communications Squadron, RAF Lakenheath, England. Sgt. Dawson was born March 27, 1951, in Ionia. He graduated from Saranac High School in 1969 and enlisted in the Air Force in 1971. Upon completing Ground Radio Communication



time he re-enlisted on active duty and was later assigned to the 485th tactical missile squadron in Belgium. He also was senior maintenance technician in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm.

He has provided humanitarian service to the Home-stead A. F. B. community after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and to the people of Somalia during Operation Restore Hope in Egypt in 1993.

In 1996, he was reassigned as a quality assurance evaluator for the sensitive/non-sensitive communications area in Greenland.

Sgt. Dawson and his wife Donna are the parents of four children and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Dawson of Clarksville.

Equipment Repairman School at Keesler Air Force Base in Mississippi, he was assigned to the 752 Radar Squadron at Empire AFB in Michigan.

In 1975 he transferred to the Air Force Reserve as an air cargo specialist and served until 1983. At that

**LEGAL NOTICES**

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE 00-168,865-IE

Estate of MARIAN SPRITE, Date of birth: November 8, 1908

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, MARIAN SPRITE, who lived at 4369 41st St., S.W., Grandville, Michigan, 49418, died November 19, 1999.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be

forever barred unless presented to LARRY SPRITE, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 320 Ottawa Ave. N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

August 4, 2000  
CRAIG A. BRUGGINK (P29358)  
429 Turner N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
(616) 456-5048

LARRY SPRITE  
16087 Suffolk Drive  
Spring Lake, MI 49546  
(616) 842-6572

**Volunteers needed for trail clearing**

Volunteers are being sought to clear trails and hang signs at the new Wittenbach Science Center on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. until noon. For further information contact April Scholtz at the Land Conservancy of West Michigan (451-9476).

\*\*\*  
The law must be stable, but it must not stand still.  
—Roscoe Pound  
\*\*\*

**CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE**

City of Lowell residents that use Pitsch Company for disposal of garbage please be sure to place it at the curbside by 6:00 a.m. on the day of your pickup.

If there are any questions, please contact Pitsch Company (1-200-748-2448) or City Hall (897-8457).

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

WED., AUGUST 16, 2000 AT 7:30 P.M.  
Grattan Township Hall  
12050 Old Belding Rd.  
AT WHICH TIME AND PLACE THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WILL BE HEARD

Ray L. Baker - 12575 7 Mile Road, Belding, MI 48809 requests a variance to place an accessory building rear yard setback @ 12' - 0" in lieu of the required 50' - 0". The owner is requiring a decrease in setback of 38'-0". 3.01 and 6/03C. Property located at 12575 7 Mile Road, Belding, MI. Parcel #41-12-15-400-012.

Dennis Dudley - 7462 Hallridge, Belding, MI 48809 requests a variance from article 7, section 7.03C. Owner needs a variance from required 20' - 0" minimum rear yard setback to 11' - 0" setback or variance of 9' - 0". Property located at 7462 Hallridge Belding, MI 48809. Parcel #41-12-10-127-006.

Written comments concerning these issues 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.

**Ice Cream Caboose stopping traffic in its tracks**

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Tammi Wingeier already has a caring husband and four

lovely daughters, but there were still a few things missing in her life. A caboose and an ice

cream shop? Yes. "Tammi's always wanted to own a caboose and an ice cream shop,"

her husband Bruce Wingeier explains.

She woke up one morning and asked her husband what he thought about buying a caboose and turning it into an ice cream shop.

From there, the Alto couple went in search of a caboose. They found an original B&O, Chessie System, 1980, 32-ton caboose at the CSX repair yard.

"They didn't want to give it to me, because it wasn't that old and it was in pretty good shape," Tammi Wingeier said. "But I kept bothering them and eventually they gave in."

Bruce Wingeier notes that the cost of the caboose was less than what it cost to have it hauled to their property at 6300 Alden Nash.

Refurbishing the caboose, getting permits and the power in order took some time. "Actually it took longer for the permits and power than it did to renovate the caboose," Bruce Wingeier explained.



Bruce and Tammi Wingeier opened Ice Cream Caboose in July. The event fulfilled two of Tammi Wingeier's life wishes - to own a caboose and an ice cream shop.

\*\*\*  
As sheer casual reading matter, I still find the English dictionary the most interesting book in our language.  
—Albert Jay Nock  
\*\*\*

**Lowell gymnasts to hold fundraiser toward purchase of new equipment**

Lowell spectators flipped over the success of the Lowell High School gymnastics team last season.

In fact, due to the limited seating capacity at Runciman, some watched meets from the hallway.

Led by Lowell gymnastics coach Michele DeHaan, gymnasts will hold a Flip-a-Thon in an effort to raise \$5,300 to ward the purchase of new equipment.

New equipment is needed so that the existing equipment doesn't have to be moved from Runciman (practice site) to the high school every time

there is a home meet.

The Flip-a-Thon will be held at Lowell High School on Saturday, Aug. 19 in the main gym.

High school and YMCA gymnasts are getting sponsors for each flip they can do in an hour (with a maximum of 100).

Paul Hagan, owner of Aerials and Baranis Gymnastics Center, is bringing gymnasts from his gym to do a

demonstration at noon.

Any Lowell gymnast raising \$50 or more will receive a T-shirt.

Businesses who would like to make a minimum donation of \$25 will have their name listed on the back of the T-shirt.

Businesses interested are asked to contact DeHaan through the high school at 897-4442.

**Volunteers needed to clear trails**

Volunteers are being sought to clear trails and hang signs at the new Wittenbach Science Center on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 9 a.m. until noon. For further information contact April Scholtz at the Land Conservancy of West Michigan (451-9476).

\*\*\*  
Tomorrow is the most important thing in life. It comes into us at midnight very clean. It's perfect when it arrives and it puts itself in our hands. It hopes we've learned something from yesterday.  
—John Wayne  
\*\*\*

**Retiring? Changing Jobs?**



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888-642-9423

Financial Advisors

American Express Financial Advisors, Inc.

The Wingeier family opened Ice Cream Caboose on July 15. When it isn't training, business is doing well.

Ice Cream Caboose is open Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. until 10 p.m.

Patrons can choose between hand-dipped and soft ice cream. Hamburgers, hot dogs and chili dogs are served for lunch and dinner.

**FULL-TIME POSITION**

MANAGE & OPERATE RENTAL AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS. Including the maintenance of equipment, scheduling deliveries, repairing screens & windows, etc.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

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**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR BITUMINOUS PAVING OF GRAND RIVER PARK TOWNSHIP OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Sealed bids will be received by the Township of Lowell in the Township Hall 2910 Alden Nash, S.E., Lowell, MI 49331, until 10:00 a.m., local time, August 16, 2000. Bids will be opened and read publicly that same day.

Major items of work shall include:  
1700 TONS BITUMINOUS PAVING

Contract start date is estimated to be on or about September 05, 2000. All work shall be completed by September 15, 2000. Total contract time shall be 11 calendar days. Liquidated damages shall be \$100.00 dollars each calendar day that the total contract time and/or final completion date is exceeded. Stop and start orders will be given for required delays due to weather as approved by the engineer.

Bidding documents may be obtained at Gove Associates, Inc., 821 E. Kalamazoo Street, Suite E. Lansing, MI 48912. (517) 485-0555. A non-refundable fee of \$25.00 will be charged for plans and specifications.

Bidding documents may be examined at the following locations: Gove Associates, Inc., 821 E., Kalamazoo Street, Suite E. Lansing, MI 48912; Builders Exchange, Lansing. Grand Rapids; Dodge Reports, Lansing, Grand Rapids; and Lowell Township Hall.

Partial funding for this project will be provided by the State of Michigan Grant Program. All relevant State of Michigan requirements shall apply including all Equal Opportunity Regulations. Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check or Bid Bond by a recognized surety in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bidder's maximum Bid price. The Township of Lowell reserves the right to accept any bid, reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and make the award in any manner deemed in the best interest of Township of Lowell.

Gove Associates, Inc.  
Anton Raykovich, Project Engineer.  
Agent for: Township of Lowell

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2000  
IONIA STATE RECREATION AREA

**RIDE-A-THON**

22nd ANNUAL BENEFIT FOR THE KENT SPECIAL RIDING PROGRAM

- \* MINIMUM PLEDGE \$25.00
- \* SPECIALLY DESIGNED COLLECTOR TEE SHIRT
- \* LUNCH \* ENTERTAINMENT BY AMADAUN
- \* OVER 100 DOOR PRIZES
- \* 10 HIGH PLEDGE AWARD AGE CATEGORIES
- \* MANY SPECIALTY AWARDS:

- > HIGH PLEDGE 4-H CLUB
- > HIGH PLEDGE NON 4-H CLUB
- > HIGH PLEDGE BUSINESS
- > HIGH PLEDGE FAMILY
- > YOUNGEST RIDER
- > OLDEST RIDER
- > MANY, MANY OTHERS!

GRAND PRIZE  
A \$500.00 SHOPPING SPREE!

EACH \$50.00 IN PLEDGES = ONE TICKET IN THE GRAND PRIZE DRAWING. MANY OTHER PRIZES IN DRAWING!  
FOR MORE INFORMATION: (616) 336-3265 OR 642-2315

**KID'S CORNER DAY CARE**  
529 AVERY STREET, LOWELL, MI 49331

- \* planned daily activities
- \* nutritious meals provided
- \* loving Christian environment
- \* child development education
- \* member 4C's child care assoc.
- \* CPR/first-aid certified
- \* openings for full-time ages 2 & up
- \* large indoor play area

CARRIE CURTIS (616) 897-6386

**Where Will You Work When Summer Ends?**

If you act quickly enough, you can have the perfect job when the kids go back to school. Work full or part-time from 3 to 5 days per week. You can start after the kids are off to school and be home before they are. You can have all weekends off, all school breaks off and even the entire summer off. Up to \$7.00 per hour to start, plus profit sharing, meal discounts and free work uniforms. Join the fun team at McDonald's Express in Ada.

Apply now to reserve your position for when school starts.  
(Ada Dr. across from Bank One)  
Did somebody say, "McDonald's...the perfect job?"

Second Annual  
LOWELL BRANCH YMCA  
and the  
LOWELL MASONIC LODGE

**GOLF OUTING**  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22  
DEER RUN GOLF COURSE

\$60 per person/\$240 team of four  
\$200 for tee or green sponsorship (add \$150 for a team of four)

PRESENTED BY THE  
**LAURELS**  
OF KENT

Our Co-sponsors:  
River City Fire Protection, Inc.  
Progressive Heating, Cooling, & Refrigeration, Inc.

Great Prizes & Golf Challenges!  
Call 897-8445 to register today!

All proceeds benefit youth programs in the Lowell community.



Money doesn't grow on trees - but you could find some in your closets! Place Your Ad in The....

# Classifieds

**HELP WANTED** **HELP WANTED** **HELP WANTED** **HELP WANTED** **HELP WANTED** **FOR RENT**

**SECURITY OFFICERS NEEDED FOR THE LOWELL/ALTO AREA** - High school diploma, clean driving record, no criminal history, military experience preferred \$8.75 plus benefits to start. Please call Nationwide Security at 616-942-8300 for more information.

**A CAREER IN REAL ESTATE WITH THE MARKET LEADER IN WEST MICHIGAN** - Imagine yourself as a professional with a new career & total control over your annual income & your work schedule. Imagine being with the market leader in West Michigan. Imagine being selected to fill a full-time position with Greenridge Realty, Inc. in a positive, high energy environment! We are interviewing now & provide complete, top quality training from licensing through career development. Call for an interview today! Call Rick Seese at 974-4250.

**RN** - Immediate PRN positions available for all shifts. No Medicare charting. Come join Heather Hills Care Center, a private pay nursing facility, and become a part of our growing team. Please contact Geri Young at (616) 974-5342. Or send your resume to Heather Hills Care Center, 1157 Medical Park Drive, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

**NOW HIRING** - responsible dependable people with good attendance history. Fully paid vacation, fully paid medical insurance and incentive plan after meeting set requirements. Apply in person, 8 am to 3 pm., Saranac Brand Foods, 60 South Bridge Street, Saranac.

**ELEMENTARY ART TEACHER** - Needed for Lowell Area Schools, Bushnell Elementary. Full time position. Must possess a valid Michigan Teaching Certificate in Art. Send application to: Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331.

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

**WANTED** - Hairstylists & nail techs in our busy salon. Commission & benefits. Please call 897-7131. Apply at Brenda's Hair Designs, 1002 W. Main St., Lowell, MI 49331.

**MUSIC TEACHER ONE DAY PER WEEK** - Needed for St. Patrick School and Lowell Area Schools shared time program. Must possess a valid Michigan Teaching Certificate in Music. Send application to: Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331.

**CHILD CARE/NANNY** - We are looking for a responsible, caring, non-smoking individual to come into our Lowell home beginning Aug. 28 & care for our children ages 5,3 & newborn. Hours range from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M-F but may vary. Responsibilities include preparing breakfast & lunch, light cleaning, playing & reading, arts & crafts, daily outside play & taking our 5-year-old to & from the bus. You must have your own transportation to & from our home. Please send resume with experience & references to 2345 Bowes Rd., Lowell, MI 49331. No phone calls will be accepted.

**DRIVER** - CDLB drivers needed. Looking for dependable, customer service oriented person w/chauffer's CDLB, or CDLA license, full time and part time. Benefits (full time), good working environment, also hiring nights and weekends. Call 248-7729.

**LPN** - Immediate PRN positions available for all shifts. No Medicare charting. Come join Heather Hills Care Center, a private pay nursing facility, and become a part of our growing team. Please contact Geri Young at (616) 974-5342. Or send your resume to Heather Hills Care Center, 1157 Medical Park Drive, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

**CARD OF THANKS**

**LETTER OF THANKS**  
Our family would like to thank all of our wonderful, caring neighbors and friends as well as the terrific police officers from Kent and Ionia counties and AeroMed who came to search for our four-year-old grandson on Tuesday, 8/1/00. It was a horrible afternoon that had a happy ending. Stephen was found tired and frightened but otherwise fine after a 3-hour search. We thank you with our whole hearts. God Bless you all. Roxanne & Stephen Knott - parents; Ryan Knott - brother & Doug & Lynn Hiser - grandparents.

**THANK YOU**  
With love, appreciation and gratitude, I want to thank my children, friends and neighbors who prayed, sent flowers, cards, telephoned, visited and gave me much support to my family during my recent illness. Thank you Father Fekete, Rev. and Mrs. Renkema for their visits, prayers and words of encouragement. Thanks to Irene and family and Jan, who are always there when I need them. To Peggy K. for her special acts of kindness, my doctors and visiting nurses. Thanks to all of you.  
Faire Tate.

**GENERAL WORK** - No layoffs, paid weekly. No experience necessary. Local outlet for large Michigan Mfg. Co. has immediate openings, 30 workers needed. 90-day promotions available. Full time help starts at over \$500/week. All questions are answered in a one-on-one interview. For appt. call 243-9131.

**HIRING FOR DAY SHIFT** - Samuel Mancino's Italian Eatery of Lowell is now hiring additional individuals available to work between the flexible hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., daily Monday - Friday. Qualifications desired include: dependability, previous restaurant/ food service experience, good communication skills, self-motivated, customer friendly & multiple task oriented. Starting rate of pay is \$8 plus per hour. Applications and interviews immediately available.

**GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE** - Golf Club at Thornapple Pointe. Free golf. Call Jack, 554-1489.

**MUSIC TEACHER ONE DAY PER WEEK** - Needed for St. Patrick School & Lowell Area Schools shared time program. Must possess a valid Michigan Teaching Certificate in Music. Send application to: Lowell Area Schools, 300 High Street, Lowell MI 49331.

**MUSIC TEACHER ONE DAY PER WEEK** - Needed for Lowell Area Schools, Cherry Creek Elementary. Must possess a valid Michigan Teaching Certificate in Music. Send application to: Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331.

**HELP WANTED** - Customer Service. If you like people & can count cash, we need you to join our team! Send resume to: Teller Supervisor, Amway Employees Credit Union, PO Box 493, Ada, MI 49301.

**RECEPTIONIST** - Part-time, 30 hours/week. Visible front desk position in a quiet setting, position would greet guests, answer multi-line phone, & provide a wide variety of support duties. Previous experience required & familiarity with Microsoft applications highly preferred. DOMINICAN CENTER AT MARYWOOD. Call 616-643-0114 for more information or complete application by 8/16/00 at: 2025 E. Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

**HARDING ENTERPRISES** - is currently looking for Full-time, hard working, motivated individuals for general labor positions. We also have (1) opening for someone with a CDL license. Dependability is a must, experience preferred but not required. Wages vary depending on experience. We offer excellent benefits including insurance, paid vacations and retirement funds. If interested, please contact us for an application or send resume to: HARDING ENTERPRISES, 617 West Main St., Lowell, MI 49331, (616) 897-6820 or FAX (616) 897-6886.

**NOW HIRING** - All shifts. Rapidly expanding local food manufacturer accepting applications for packaging & warehouse 1st, 2nd & 3rd shift. Benefit packages currently include 401 (K) & health insurance. Send resume or apply at Litehouse, 1400 Foreman, Lowell, MI 49331. EOE.

**NEED A CAREER ADJUSTMENT?** - Looking for motivated, service-oriented individuals who want to help people and have a professional career opportunity with unlimited income potential. Call Craig at Westdale Better Homes & Gardens 942-2300.

**DEMONSTRATORS** - to hand out samples/coupons for in store promotions. \$8.00 to \$9.00 per hour. Call 616-684-3356.

**HELP WANTED** - Daycare assistant for a group home in Lowell. Competitive wage w/lots of fun filled days. Position open immediately. Please call 897-8508, ask for Tammy.

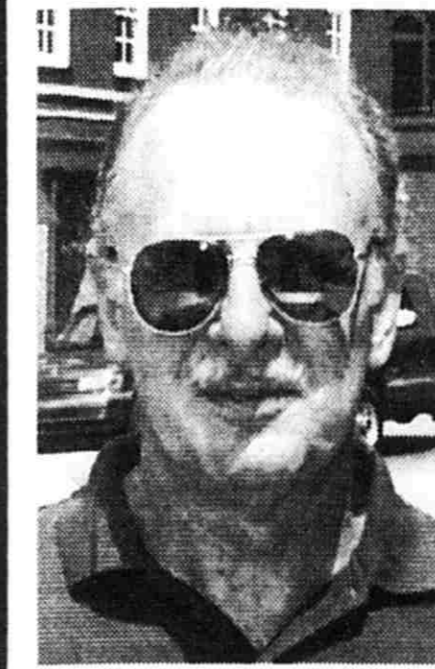
**NOW HIRING** - responsible dependable people with good attendance history. Fully paid vacation, fully paid medical insurance and incentive plan after meeting set requirements. Apply in person, 8 am to 3 pm., Saranac Brand Foods, 60 South Bridge Street, Saranac.

**HOME BASED BUSINESS**  
10-15 hrs. per week, around your schedule. \$500-\$7,000 PT/FT. Full training provided. www.keypeople.cjb.net. 752-8346.

**COMPUTER TEACHER ONE HALF DAY PER WEEK** - Needed for St. Patrick School & Lowell Area Schools shared time program. Must possess a valid Michigan Teaching Certificate. Send application to: Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331

# TOWN TALK

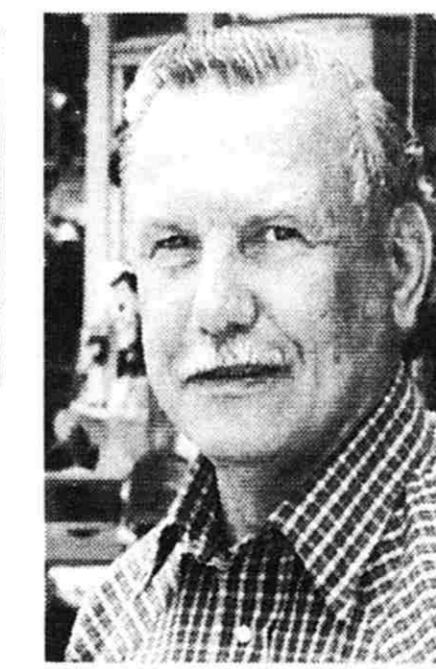
## What did you think of George W. Bush's acceptance speech at the Republican Convention in Philadelphia?



**Walt Nickless**  
He did well. George W. Bush will make a good next president. I also like his choice of Cheney.



**Don Schneider**  
It was very well done. It fired people up. It left me with a much more favorable impression than I had of him a couple of months ago.



**Jim Decker**  
It was a heck of a speech, but it is supposed to be. I listened for what he didn't say. He didn't change my mind any. There's more to electing a president than one good speech.



**Deb Kelly**  
I like what he represents. You never know, though, if all it is is some real good public relations. His speech reinforced my lean toward Bush.

**Bonnie Keller**  
I liked it. Some of it was repetitive but I was pleased with him and the entire platform. I also like who (Dick Cheney) he chose for a vice president.

**Pat Eckert**  
It strengthened my opinion of him. I liked what he and the others had to say.

**Kathy Clark**  
I was impressed. I like him and the speech strengthened that.

**Louise Clark**  
I like what was said, but I don't like the messenger.

# Classifieds

CONTINUED.....

**WANTED**

**WANTED** - Portable clothes dryer, 110 current. Call before 8 p.m. If no answer, leave message. 897-6467.

**FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE** - 10" radial saw. \$100. Call 897-8724.

**FOR SALE** - 1985 blk. Pontiac Fiero GT, new clutch & wheels, runs excellent; deer damage, \$800 obo. Call 897-0242.

**FOR SALE** - Roseville vase Thistle pattern. 897-4929.

**FOR SALE** - Over 100 men's ties for quilt, pillow or skirt making, etc. 897-4929.

**FOR SALE** - 17 ft. boat w/trailer, blown motor. Asking \$600 obo. Call 897-0172.

**FOR SALE** - 1995 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - Limited, loaded! Very clean. 54,000 miles. \$15,900. Phone 616-765-5497 or eves. 616-765-3145.

**FOR SALE** - Refrigerator 17.5 cu. ft., Amana, w/ice maker, white, \$75. Call 897-6973.

**FOR SALE**

**FOR SALE** - GMC - 1994 Jimmy S-10, 4x4, 4 door, all power, air, 95,000 miles. Excellent condition, must sell; below value at \$6,700, make offer. Call 940-8383.

**FOR SALE** - 1995 CHEVY 1/2 TON EXT. CAB PICKUP - Silverado Z71, 4x4, loaded! Topper, 56,000 miles, \$16,900. Phone 616-765-5497 or eves. 616-765-3145.

**FOR SALE** - 1995 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - Limited, loaded! Very clean. 54,000 miles. \$15,900. Phone 616-765-5497 or eves. 616-765-3145.

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**SERVICES**

**PLUMBING REPAIR & SERVICE** - Water heaters, toilets, etc. installed. Licensed & insured master plumber. 897-7292.

**BED & BREAKFAST** - McGee Homestead. Gracious accommodations for your out-of-town guests. (616) 897-8142 or

**QUALITY COLLISION REPAIRS** - Let Bob's Body Shop repair your vehicle to factory specifications, using their new electronic measuring machine along with expert paint matching. Rental cars available while yours is being fixed. Call 897-9040 for details.

**BLACK BEAR HUNTS** - in Ontario, Sept 10-30. www.bigbrooktrout.com or call 868-0042

**BUTTONS & BOWS DAYCARE** - has 1 full-time opening on 1st shift & 4 for 2nd shift. Meals & snacks provided. Hourly & flat rates available. Infants welcome. Call Cindy at 868-7315.

**LICENSED DAYCARE** - in my Eastgate home. Days only. 17 years experience. Call 897-8398.

**SERVICES**

**ALL-PHASE CONCRETE** - construction & excavating, poured walls & flat work. Licensed & bonded, 28 years experience. Owner operated, commercial/residential; guaranteed response in 24 hours. Call 616-696-3880.

**DLX EXCAVATING** - Excavating, septic systems, gravel, topsoil, sand.

**KOETJE HORSESHOEING** - Call Bill, certified farrier, 8 years experience. 616-374-3286.

**HILL'S FAMILY SHOE STORE** - 8-10 a.m., Mon thru Sat./appt. 897-0290/897-8134.

**BACKHOE/TRENCHING** - 7 in. & 18 in. buckets, affordable. No job too small. Call 616-822-8647.

**SERVICES**

**CHILD CARE & PRE-SCHOOL OPENINGS** - for 3-6 year-olds at Big Steps Little Feet Christian Child Care in Ada. 682-8300.

**TOWING** - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker. Tire changes. Jump starts. Lock outs. 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 897-9040.

**PIANO LESSONS** - experienced certified teacher, new to Murray Lake area. Call 897-0694.

**DAVIS ELECTRIC** - Quality • Service Dependability RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL LIGHT INDUSTRIAL Ph. 676-9574





Lowell Senior Neighbor Crafters, pictured from left to right, are: Ann McQueen, Arlene Fansher, Alice Baut, Pauline LaDue, Marge Potter and Dorothy Teesdale.

## Warmth from the heart wrapped up in afghans

••• Lowell Senior Neighbor crafters have completed over 400 afghans since 1997. They are distributed throughout West Michigan as part of the Warm Up America organization.

In 1991, Evie Rosen, founder of Warm Up America, Wausau, WI, convinced some of her customers and a local business women's group to take up their needles in support of her idea.

Nine years later, Rosen's idea has captured the hearts of crafters statewide... and nationwide.

Warm Up America is a not-for-profit organization that has inspired hundreds of thousands of volunteer knitters, crocheters, and assemblers to make more than 20,000 of the 49-square gift blankets.

The inspiration, derived from the program, traveled across Lake Michigan and captured the hearts of the Lowell Senior Neighbor crafters.

The local group formed in 1997; to date it has completed 405 afghans.

The Lowell Senior Neighbor crafters

assemble 7-by-9 inch crocheted or knitted blocks, assembled by crafters at the Grandview Retirement Center in Grand Rapids, to make afghans or lap robes. They also knit and crochet blocks.

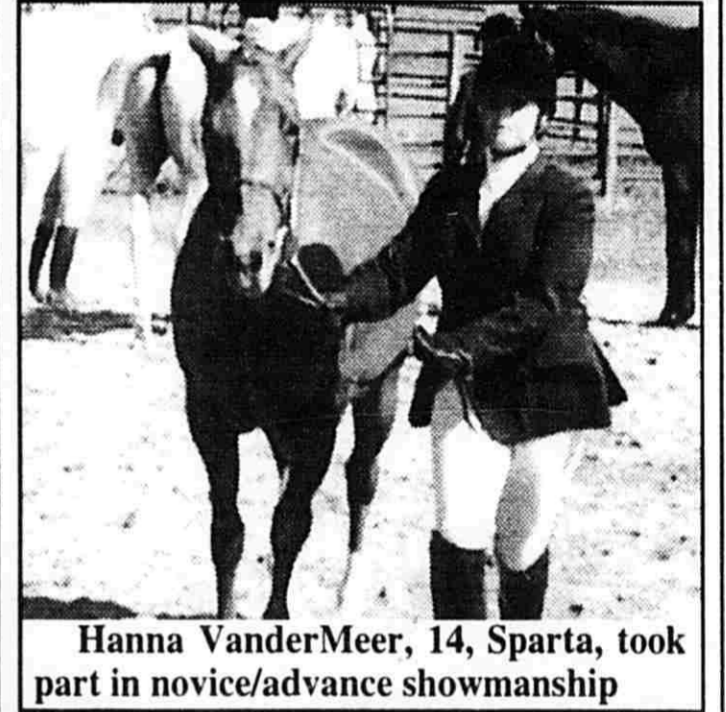
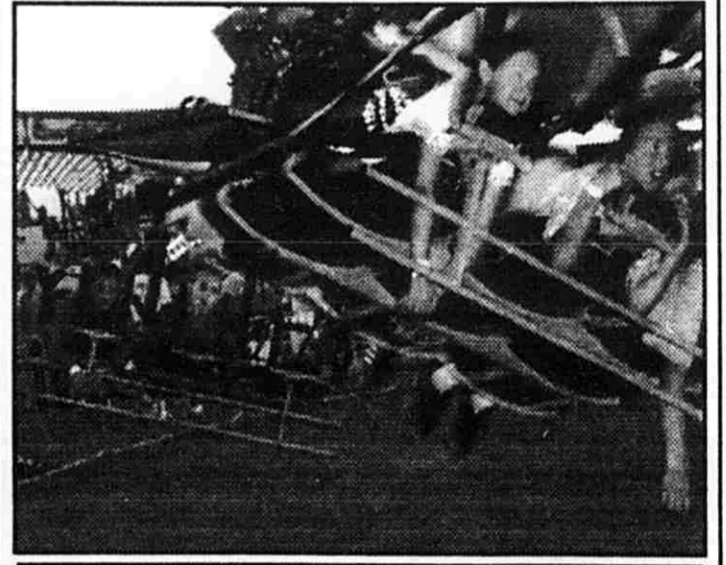
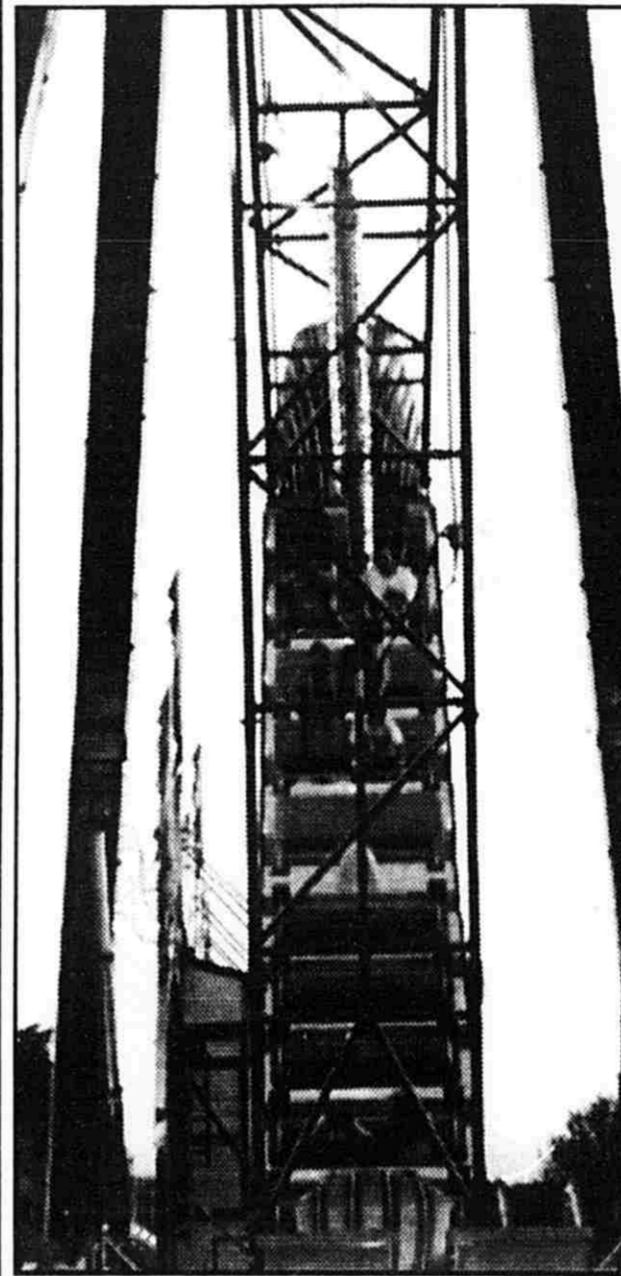
Yarn is donated by individuals within the Lowell community.

The Lowell crafters distribute afghans and lap robes to Cumberland Manor, Laurels of Kent, the American Red Cross Disaster Service, Grand Rapids, Dwelling Place, My Sister's House and the Order of Saint Benedict Monastery in Lexington, KY.

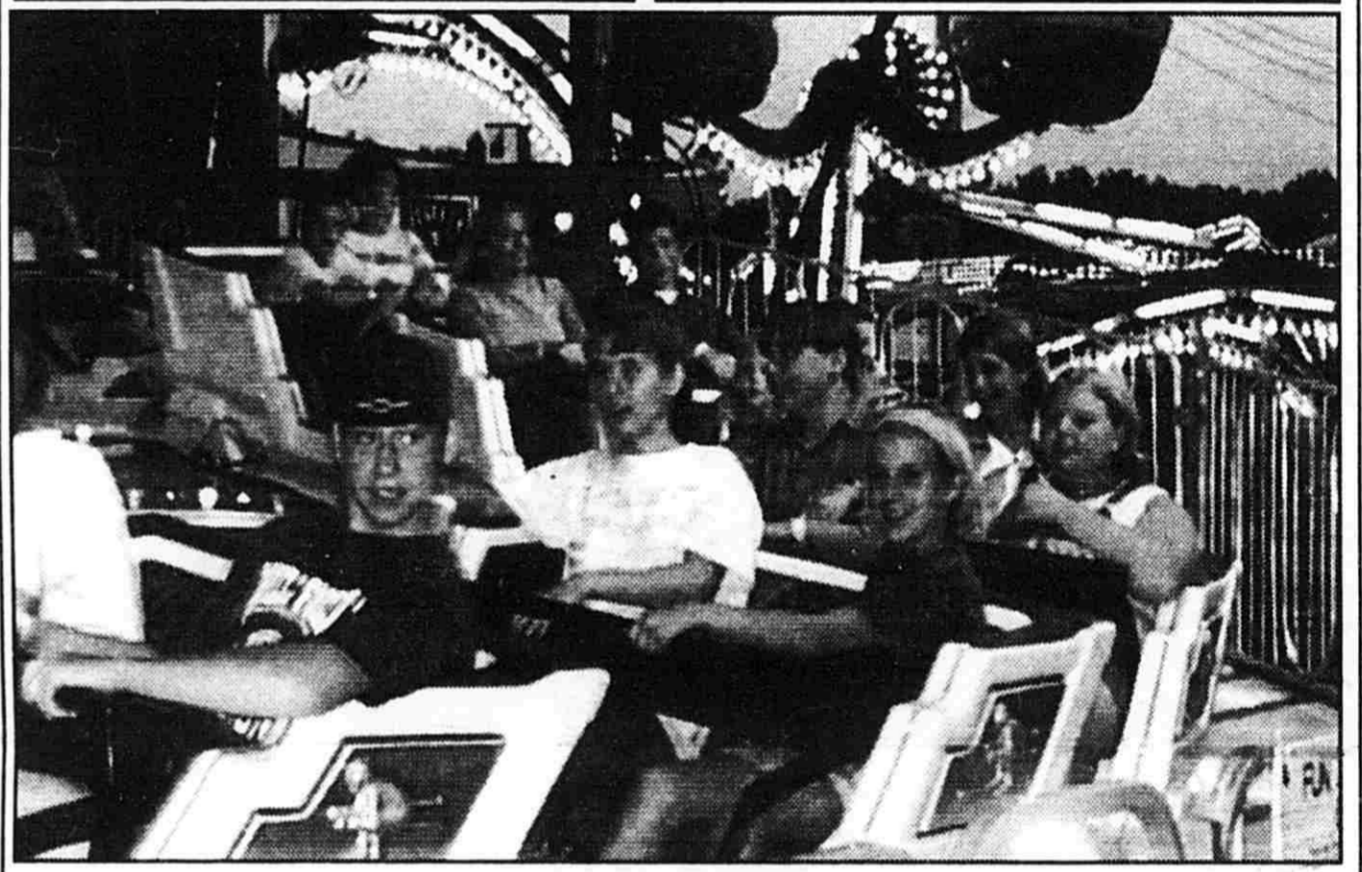
Lowell volunteer crafters are Pauline LaDue, Marge Potter, Arlene Fansher, Ann McQueen, Alice Baut, Evelyn Briggs and Kathy Beadle.

Lowell Senior crafters meet every Thursday for two hours.

## RIDES OF ALL SHAPES & SIZES



Hanna VanderMeer, 14, Sparta, took part in novice/advance showmanship



## Jelsma family cooks up a fair amount of firsts

••• Lowell's Cody Ayars also earned top honors in the Hormel Chili Fast & Fabulous contest.

The results are in ... and it's a family affair!

A family tradition at the Ionia Free Fair has spurred a blue and red ribbon for one family in the Land O' Lakes Margarine "Sweet Treat Team Championship."

The competition at the fair awarded \$350 in cash prizes.

Karen Jelsma took first place with her daughter Emily and the "Fruited Fish" cookies they created.

Jelsma's mother Juanita Sprague and niece Kate Hotchkiss finished second with their Cherry Almond Toffee Bars. They won \$100.

Jelsma and her daughter won \$200, plus will advance to the national competition for a chance to win \$500 and a year's supply of dairy products.

Jelsma won a second blue ribbon at the Ionia County Fair in the Pillsbury Refrigerated Pie Crust Championship with her "Double Cherry Almond Pie."

For her efforts, Jelsma earned \$125.

The Lowell resident finished second in the national Best Spam Recipe competition with her Sweet & Sour Spam Kabob. For her efforts she won \$50.

Lowell's Cody Ayars took top honors in the Hormel Chili Fast & Fabulous recipe, the



Karen Jelsma and daughter Emily took first in the Sweet Treat Team Championship with their "Fruited Fish" cookies.

food division's largest cash prize (\$500). Ayars won with a Chili Crab & Cheese Ball.

\*\*\*

The historian, essentially, wants more documents than he can really use; the dramatist only wants more liberties than he can really take.

—Henry James

\*\*\*

## Vote, cont'd .... From Page 1

Vergennes didn't go without some controversy Tuesday. Complaints were levied with the state about how election officials did not assist voters with write-ins.

"The direction I received from the county and state was to be no assistance as to giving out names or where they are running," Stone explained.

All four trustee seats were up for election in Lowell Charter Township. The four incumbents were challenged by Paula Blumm.

The challenger's 331 votes gained her one of the four seats. She identified growth as a key issue facing the township. "We're changing from a rural to a rural residential and suburban township. The challenge is to keep the best of the rural lifestyle in-tact," Blumm explained.

The other three seats were won by Richard Huver, Carlton Blough and Alyn

Fletcher.

Fletcher earned 314 votes. He is completing his eighth year on the township board and also served three years on the planning commission.

Richard Huver, the dean of all area trustees, won his seventh, four-year term on the Lowell Charter Township Board. He has served the township at the board capacity for the past 26 years. Huver garnered 332 votes.

Incumbent Carlton Blough served the past four years as a township trustee.

He tallied 361 votes, the most by any Lowell Township candidate in Tuesday's primary.

"I think the ordinances are in place to deal with land use and growth. In time, changes and updates will be necessary," he said.

With his 296 votes, VanderBilt failed to secure a fourth term on the board.

A total of 674 township residents voted.

Both library issues passed in Lowell Charter Township; the numbers, however, weren't available at press time.



### NEW LOOK

Furniture Restoration

*Specializing In Wood Refinishing*

**RUTHANN BARBER**

10860 WARE RD.      PHONE  
LOWELL, MI 49331      (616) 897-8893