

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 16

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, January 24, 2001

Landman may appeal planning commission's approval of Bowes Road wireless communication tower

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

Impact on the surrounding area was the final determination on which a wireless communication tower would be the first in the city of Lowell.

At its Monday night meeting, the Lowell Planning Commission denied a special use request for the property at 2401 W. Main, owned by Todd Landman in a 6-2 vote. The planning commission approved a special use request for a wireless communication tower at 2051 Bowes Road, where Fuller Septic is located. The vote again was 6-2, with planning commission chairman James Hall and commissioner Clark Jahnke being the minority votes on both issues.

"We need to find the very best answer for the city and the residents," Hall said to Landman after Landman asked if there was any way he could appeal the decision.

Landman can go before the Zoning Board of Appeals and request that the group review his proposal and the planning commission's decision.

If Landman should decide to do this, he would appear on

Feb. 5 before the Lowell City Council, which acts as the ZBA.

Lowell city manager, David Pasquale said the ZBA could set a public hearing at its next meeting on Feb. 20.

"Personally I am not satisfied with either site," Hall said during the discussion of the two proposals. "I am sorry to hear that the water treatment site was not available, because it is an out of the way location."

Stephen Childers, who represented American Towers, took a look at the water treatment site. He submitted for the record a letter from his construction manager stating the site was unsuitable for such a project because of the water tables on the property.

"I believe when they put a fence up, they only went a few feet and hit water," Childers said, adding that the foundation of a tower goes down in the ground a ways making it difficult to put one in that location.

American Towers is the company proposing to construct a 250-foot monopole tower on the Fuller Septic site. The company meets all of the requirements which include being located in an industrial zone, meeting the minimum requirements of lot size (20,000 square feet), having an eight-foot barbed wire fence, and being one-half the tower height from the property setbacks.

AT&T, which was proposing a tower on the Landman property, also meets all of those requirements. It had changed its pole from a latch structure to a monopole and would be able to carry five communication carriers as would American Towers' pole. The issue of whether the pole would affect construction of a new landing strip at the airport had also been resolved.

"My opinion is that I don't want it there," said Sharon Potter, who indicated she lived near the proposed tower. "That is it. I just don't want it there."

Potter said the landscaping proposed would not block her view of the tower since she lives on a hill. She also cited

concerns over the lighting of the tower and the fact that it would be greeting people as they came into the city.

The planning commission determined that both towers would be about 600 feet from Main Street and in view of anyone driving up and down the street.

However, a big factor in their decision was the residents' comments.

Chris Wendt, manager of Valley Vista Park, a manufactured home park located near the American Towers' site, said she had discussed the tower with her residents and admitted at first there was some concern.

"Once they learned it was going to be monopole, people seemed to get really excited about it," she said. "I have not received any opposition since."

Because of the citizens' comments and concerns that the Landman site would have a greater impact on its surrounding area, commissioner Jim Pfaller proposed that the special use permit be denied for the Landman site. Because the American Towers' site would have less of an impact on its surrounding area and because of the comments from Valley Vista, the commission approved that special use permit.

It's not quite over yet. The planning commission did have a preliminary view of the site plan for the American Towers' proposal. The company will be back at the Feb. 26 planning commission meeting for final site plan approval. The city is in contact with attorney, Richard Wendt looking for the proper course of appeal.

Childers said his company did at one time consider the Landman site.

In the original proposal of the wireless communication towers, however, it was suggested that the setback would be the entire length of the tower, making the Landman site unsuitable for American Towers' proposal, he said.

During the review process, it was decided setbacks would be one-half of the tower height.



Along Main Street

COMMODITIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED

The Lowell Recreation Building at 1320 E. Main will distribute commodities on Thursday, Jan. 25 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.; also on Friday, Jan. 26 from noon to 3 p.m. Commodities include apricots - cans, black eyed peas, corn syrup, cranapple juice, milk - instant, rice and tomato soup.

ATHLETIC POLICY REVIEW MEETING

An athletic policy review meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. in room A202 to look at current policies and practices. Topics to be discussed include athletic code, title IX, fundraising, academic eligibility & character expectations. All persons with a concern or interest are welcome to attend.

HOMAGE - TRIBUTE TO LORETTA SAILORS

The Lowell Area Arts Council will present a student exhibition as a tribute to watercolor instructor, Loretta Sailors. The display is at Huntington Bank, 414 E. Main St. thru Feb. 6 during business hours.

PARENT WORKSHOP

A parent workshop will be held on Monday, Feb. 5 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Lowell Board of Education meeting room at the administration offices, 300 High St. Randy Flood, a clinical psychologist from Grand Rapids, will be speaking on "Emotional Intelligence in Children: K-8th." To register, call 897-8415, ext. 214 or ext. 216. This workshop will help parents better understand that having a high emotional quotient is a better predictor of success than having a high intelligent quotient.

USED PHONE BOOK DROP-OFF CENTER

Lowell First United Methodist Church is collecting used phone books for production of insulation for Habitat For Humanity. The trailer is located in the parking lot behind the church at Division and E. Main. Deadline is Feb. 15. Only phone books please.

Confession reveals conspiracy in Subway robbery

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Matthew Brown, 20, who was arraigned on armed robbery charges in connection with the Dec. 25 Subway robbery, talked to authorities prior to his preliminary hearing on Jan. 16.

What Brown had to say changed things. According to Lowell Police Department investigator Chris Hurst, Brown told officials he did not work alone. In fact, Brown confessed that he and three friends conspired to steal money from Subway.

City receives clean bill from auditor

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

The city of Lowell received a clean bill of health from its auditors for its financial year of 1999-2000.

Joe Tunes, from the auditing firm of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson, and Dickinson, presented the firm's findings to the city at the council's Tuesday night meeting.

"We found the city's financial records to be in fair condition," Tunes said, adding that Sue Olin, city treasurer, and Char McNab, assistant financial director/in-

vestment officer should be commended for their work in keeping the financial statements.

"The city switched to a new CMI software program and even with that change, we didn't see any problems," Tunes said. Normally, when an institution switches software, it can be a difficult time for the auditors.

The 87-page report reviewed the city's financial records for the 1999-2000 period, which started on July 1, 1999 and ended June 30, 2000. The auditing firm ac-

Auditor, cont'd pg. 14

Two of Brown's friends were working at Subway and the fourth drove the getaway vehicle.

Brandon Pinney, 20, and Jennifer Pinney, 19, have been charged with conspiring to embezzle and making a false felony police report.

Pinneys' preliminary hearing is scheduled for Jan. 30. They were arraigned on Jan. 19.

Josh Young, 19, the driver, has been charged with a misdemeanor conspiring to embezzle.

Brown is expected to be charged with a felony. As to what felony, that is currently being negotiated with his attorney, according to Hurst.

Brown, Pinneys and Young conspired to take \$286.25 from Subway.

Through Pinneys' description, the Subway's surveillance cameras, and a subsequent investigation which turned up the knife not far from the Subway building, authorities were able to arrest Brown roughly seven hours after he fled the restaurant.

Inside The Ledger

City to Contribute
Toward New Water
Rescue Vehicle,
Page 15

OBITUARIES

BENEDICT - Charles Earl Benedict, aged 39, of Saranac, passed away January 21, 2001 in Greenville. He was born October 17, 1961, the son of Earl R. and Carolyn (Warner) Benedict. He attended Shiloh Community Church and graduated from Saranac High School in 1980 where he was on football and wrestling teams. He was also active in 4-H. He is survived by his

Church with Rev. David Fligel and Rev. Ken Harger officiating. Anyone wishing may make memorial contributions to Berlin Center Methodist Church. Envelopes available at Lake Funeral Home in Ionia www.lakefuneralhomes.com.

LENTZ - George E. Lentz, aged 93, formerly of Alto, passed away Sunday, January 21, 2001 in Hillman, MI, after an extended illness. George was born to John and Elizabeth (Johnson) Lentz in Irving Township, Barry County, MI on Feb. 24, 1907. He spent his working years as a farmer in the Alto area. George was an active member of Jesus the Good Shepherd Church of Atlanta, MI, since retiring to Atlanta 13 years ago. Mr. Lentz was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers Will, Harry, Carl, Luther; two sisters Clara (Stanley) Malcolm and Lucille (Neil) Jones; four half sisters and one half brother. He is survived by a nephew Ken (Judy) Jones of Lachine and several nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered Thursday at 11 a.m. at Holy Family Church, Rev. Michael A. Danner, presiding. Interment

PINCKNEY - Michelle Maureen Pinckney, aged 41, passed away January 22, 2001. She is survived by her husband Tildon Pinckney; children Jessica Cadwallader, Brian Wolfe, Raychael Wolfe; parents Thomas and Helen Stanley of Zeeland; brothers Ed White of Wichita, KS, Eric Stanley of Whittier, CA; sister Kim Koltak of Howard City; granddaughter Alyssia. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.

RANGER - Howard L. Ranger, aged 72, of Lyons, passed away January 19, 2001 in Carson City. He was born August 12, 1928 in Lyons, Mich., the son of Howard C. and Margaret (Peckins) Ranger. He went on to marry Ann Burns on Feb. 15, 1955 in Boston. He is a member of Lyons V.F.W. and Cooties. He is survived by his wife Ann Ranger of Lyons; sons

Daniel Ranger of Lyons and Howard B. Ranger of CO; daughters Mary and Chris White of Muir, Patricia and Charlie Parker of New York, Kathleen and Brent Cross of CO and Margaret Swift of Portland; brother Francis and Betty Joe Ranger of MO; sister Betty and Richard Walsh of OH; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, two grandchildren and one sister. Funeral services were held Friday, January 19, 2001, at South Ensley United Methodist Church with Rev. Richard Fairbrother officiating. Interment Solon Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions to the Alzheimers Association have been suggested.

SCOTT - Joseph H. Scott, aged 63, of Middleville, passed away Wednesday, January 17, 2001 at home. Survived by his wife of 43 years, Virginia M. Scott; one son Dale R. Scott of Alaska, MI; two daughters, Deborah J. (Brad) Sigler of Middleville, Cynthia L. (Dan) Sheeran of Grand Rapids; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters Kathleen (Jack) VandyBogurt of Marshall, Dorothy (Andy) DeVenney of Texas; mother-in-law Lillian Wert of AL; several nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of friends. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial service was held at the family home on Sunday.

WOLSCHLAGER - Mary Jane Wolschlagler passed away January 21, 2001. Born Feb. 25, 1935, she was preceded in death by her son Timothy, grandson Jason, sister Wilma and brother Eugene. Mrs. Wolschlagler is survived by her husband Elgin; daughters Eljean (David) Kizer, Susan (Rex) Hart; sons Ted and Andy (Andrew) Wolschlagler; seven grandchildren; sisters JoAnn (John) Stout, Sharon (Tim) Harder; brothers Gerald and Kenneth Karolinski; daughter-in-law Amy Wolschlagler; brother-in-law Charles Wolschlagler. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Parnell. The family has requested no flowers. Memorials may be made to the family of Mary Jane c/o Elgin Wolschlagler, 305 N. Hudson, Lowell, MI 49331.

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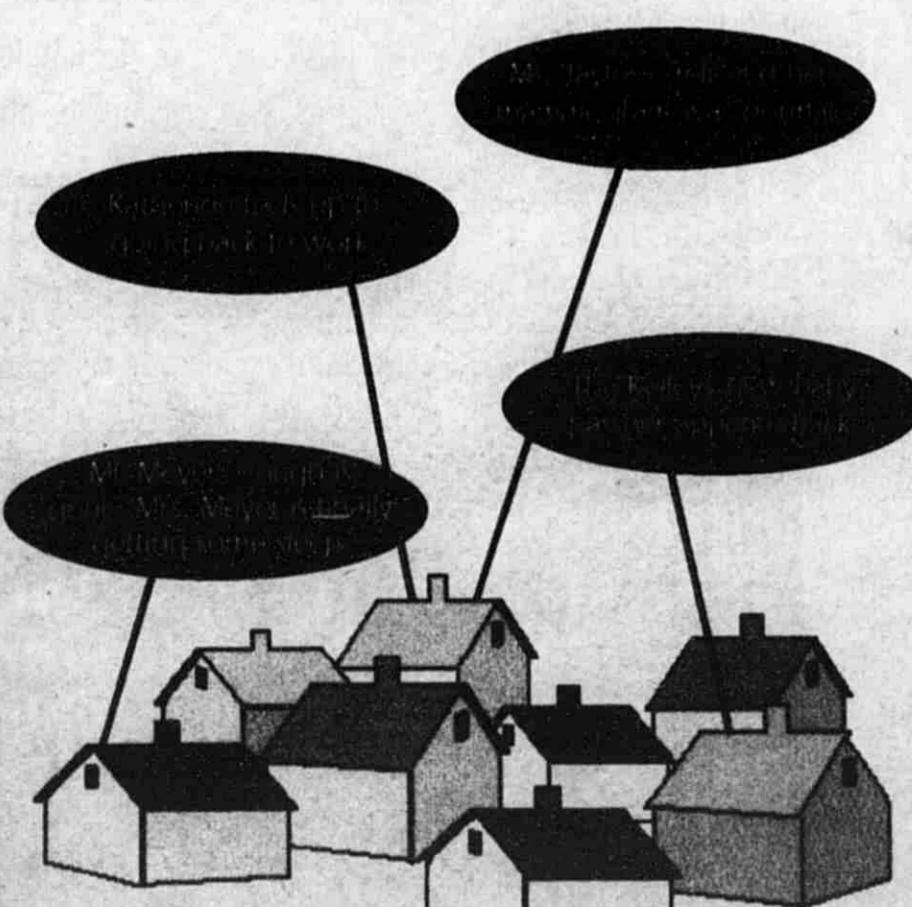
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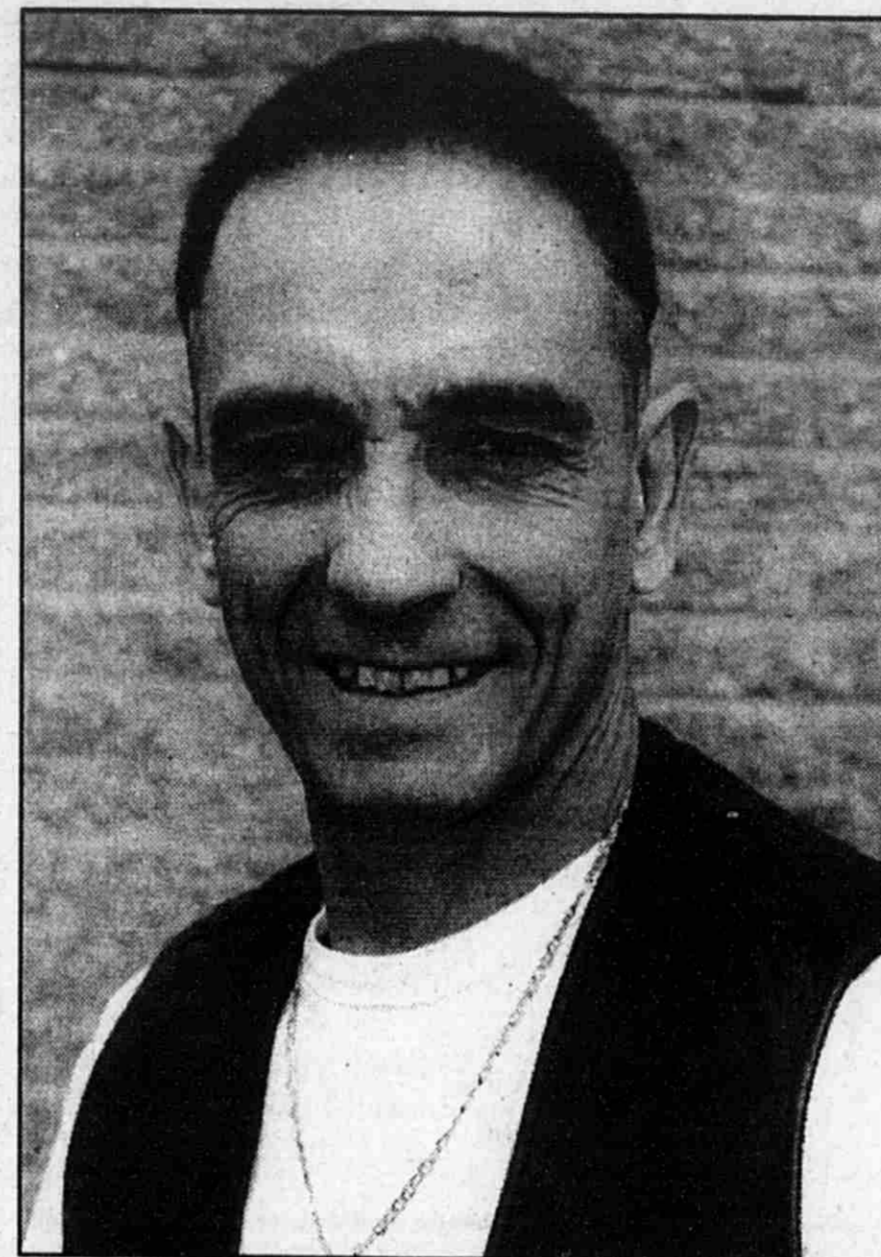
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FAMILY MAN (PG-13)
 1:30, 4:00, 6:40, 9:10
WHAT WOMEN WANT (PG-13)
 1:35, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
MISS CONGENIALITY (PG-13)
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Billy Schneider is scheduled to speak to LHS students and staff on Monday, Jan. 29.

Literacy council in search of volunteers

The Kent County Literacy Council has scheduled an information session on Wednesday, Jan. 31 for prospective volunteer tutors. This session is held at 6:30 p.m. and lasts one hour. It allows persons interested in becoming volunteer tutors to find out more about the council and its literacy programs. At the end of the session, there will be an opportunity to sign up for tutor training. The information session will be held at the Cascade Library - 2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE. To register, call 245-7962. The Kent County Literacy Council is a nonprofit, United Way agency devoted to reducing illiteracy in our community.

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Schneider to share ills of alcohol, drug abuse and sex with Lowell youth

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Billy Schneider made a number of bad choices as a youth; today he lives and suffers from the consequences of those choices. The New York City native now spends much of his time traveling the country talking to students about his errant ways. He discusses the ills of teen suicide, alcohol, sex and drug abuse. He does not want students to suffer similar consequences he himself faces - AIDS, cancer, a missing son, and the death of his childhood sweetheart and wife from drug abuse. Schneider started experimenting with drugs at the age of 12 and quit school by the seventh-grade. In 1977, addicted to cocaine and heroin, he climbed New York's George Washington Bridge in a dramatic attempt to be heard, stalling rush hour traffic. Five hours later, Schneider was convinced to come down, only to be shipped to the Bellevue Psychiatric unit. Three days later he was released... to the same lifestyle and no help. Schneider will speak to

an assembly of LHS students and staff at 9:15 and 10:26 on Monday (Jan. 29). He will also speak to classes of Unity High School students at 1:30 p.m. Schneider will return to Lowell High School on Monday evening to share the rest of his story in an event not sponsored by the school. Joining him will be the Epiphany Band and Silent Light. Schneider will give testimony on how God's power has changed him from a hopeless drug addict to a productive citizen. Jayne Mathews, a mem-

Den Houter, psychologist, has office at Metro Health Lowell Plaza

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor



Kathryn Den Houter

Kathryn Den Houter, the resident, has resided in Lowell for roughly 21 years. Now, so does Den Houter, the practicing psychologist. Den Houter, employed by Metro Health, has an office at the new Metro Health Lowell Plaza, 2550 W. Main. Counselors Donna Warber and Robert Baird also work from the same office. The three offer treatment in the areas of individual

therapy, family and marital therapy, cognitive therapy, treatment for anxiety and depression, parenting issues, and psychoeducational and neuropsychological assessments. "My husband Len and I have found Lowell to be a good choice for a place to live," Den Houter said. Den Houter has four children; two have graduated from Lowell Area Schools. Den Houter taught for 20 years prior to becoming a therapist, and has practiced psychology for 12 years. Her office hours are Wednesday from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Appointments may be made by calling the main office in Grand Rapids at 458-0692. Warber (M.A. LLP) is in the Lowell office on Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Baird's (M.Div., M.S.W.) hours are Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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Council decides to dedicate block grant funds to three projects

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

Sidewalk along Bowes Road, the North Kent Transit program, and the Graham Building.

Building will be recipients of money from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The city, which is ex-

pected to receive about \$25,000 for the 2001 year, has moved forward to borrow an additional \$15,000 from its 2002 funds so it can help with the improvements of the Graham Building.

"The Lowell Township has come forward with monies to help with the handicap accessibility of the building," said Jim Doyle, who is on the Lowell Historical Museum committee. The committee is working to convert the Graham Building into a museum.

"There are a number of items other than the handicap bathrooms and ramp that need to be done," Doyle said. "It is our hope that we could use this funding for other items."

The Graham Building, which is listed on the national

register for historic sites, actually received \$8,000 from each township, Vergennes and Lowell. With that money, the committee will be able to do a lot of work on the building, including adding a ramp to the back of the facility for handicap accessibility.

"Actually, when the dock was built on the back of the building, it was originally with the idea that a ramp would be built," said Lowell city manager, David Pasquale.

After some debate, it was decided by the council to remove the requirement that the funds be used for handicap accessibility, so that the committee could put the money toward other projects for the building.

"This way monies are set aside for the museum," Pasquale said.

The money for the Graham Building is actually coming out of the 2002 CDBG requests. Pasquale said he was told the city could borrow against future funding, which is what the council decided to do.

The 2001 Community Development Block monies have been designated for the sidewalk along Bowes Road (\$21,000) with the remainder, \$4,000, given to the North Kent Transit program.

"The Bowes Road project would complete sidewalk running from South Hudson to

Valley Vista," Pasquale said, adding that there were a couple of other projects in the works which would help to complete the sidewalk as well.

The CDBG monies would be used to specifically complete 1,180 lineal feet of sidewalk from S. Hudson to Pleasant. The total cost of the project is \$24,750 with \$3,750 having been allocated from the city's sidewalks' budget.

The North Kent Transit program provides transportation assistance for senior citizen- and handicapped riders. The city has been providing funding with CDBG monies to the program for a number of years

Area Students receive awards in regional art competition

More than 160 middle, junior high and senior high school students from 37 West Michigan schools were honored at the 2001 Scholastic Art Awards ceremony on Sunday, Jan. 21 at Kendall College of Art and Design.

Student award winners from Lowell High School were Travis Gillan for mixed media and Jake Schulte for drawing. Both received honorable mention.

The Scholastic Art Awards are an annual juried competition open to students from grades seven through twelve in the U.S., Canada and the U.S. Territories. The awards provide recognition for young artists in their own communities at regional competitions.

"We are thrilled to once again sponsor the regional Scholastic Art Awards competition and are very impressed with the quality of work submitted by these many talented students," said Oliver Evans, president of Kendall College of Art and Design. "The level of talent and skill demonstrated over these past 10 years certainly speaks well for the students and their teachers."

More than 800 entries were submitted to this year's competition.

Kendall College of Art & Design was founded in 1928. An accredited four-year institution, it offers bachelor of fine arts degrees in six areas: fine arts, furniture design, illustration, industrial design, interior design, and visual communications as well as a bachelor of science degree in art history.

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Financial Focus, continued...From Page 5

fied mix of stocks, bonds, government securities and cash. This type of fund has historically offered a better chance of achieving stable returns. If you make systematic withdrawals from a stock fund, you may have to deal with returns that fluctuate strongly from year to year. And a bond fund may not provide the level of growth you need.

There's no rule that you have to take systematic withdrawals from just one fund, either. You could decide to take smaller withdrawals from several different funds. Because you're not taking large withdrawals from any of the funds, they all still have the potential for significant growth.

As with all other income, your mutual fund withdrawals will generate taxes. However, some of it should be in the form of capital gains, which are typically taxed at lower levels than earned income. As long as you've held your mutual fund shares for at least one year, you'll get the most favorable capital gains rate, currently 20 percent for most tax brackets.

So, that's the story on systematic withdrawals. Keep in mind that this strategy is not appropriate for everyone. But if you use it wisely, it can give you some of the income you may need for now—and some of the growth you may need for the future.

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

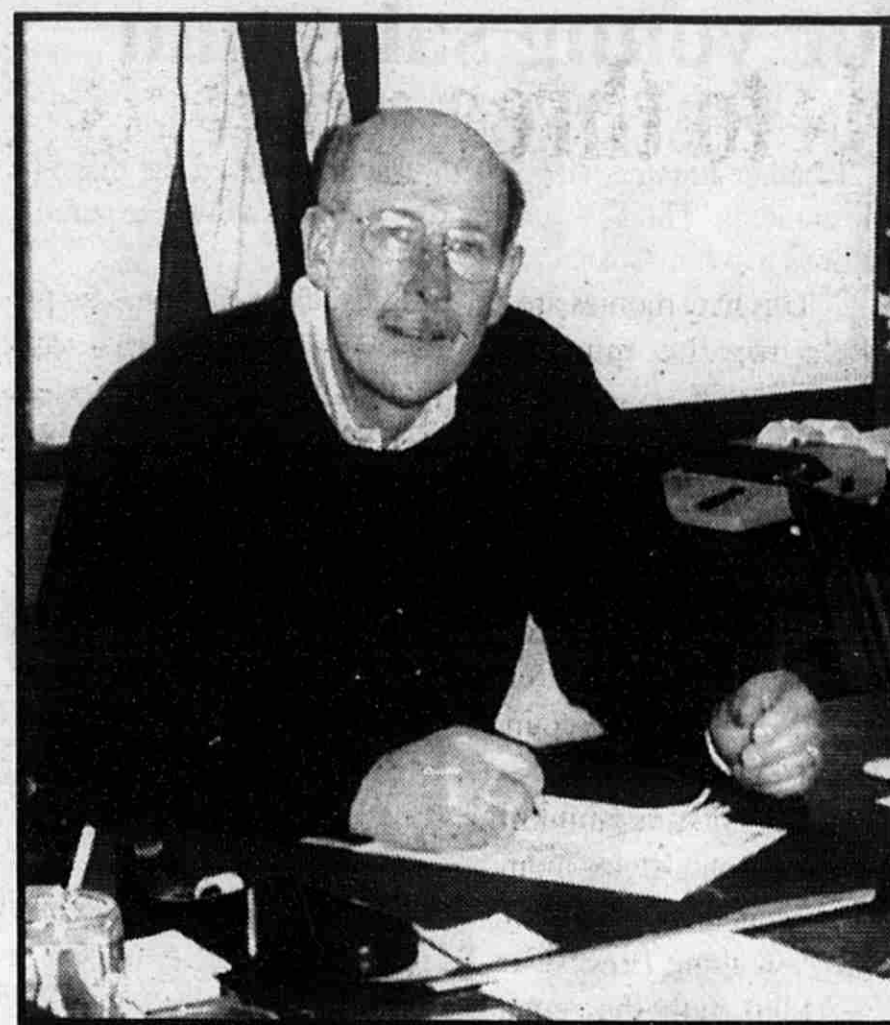
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
8:00 P.M. AT CHERRY CREEK ELEMENTARY
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QUESTIONS?
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Gil Brown began his new role as Lowell postmaster on Jan. 13.

Brown replaces Taylor as Postmaster

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Gil Brown requested that he be transferred to a smaller community.

"A smaller community enables me to be more involved with the customers," Brown explained.

Brown got what he wished for when he was named the new Lowell postmaster.

He entered his request upon hearing the Lowell postmaster position was available. It opened up when former Lowell postmaster, Sylvia Taylor was named Grand Rapids' Postal Service operations manager.

Prior to joining the Lowell branch on Jan. 13, Brown served as the Grand Rapids Postal Service customer service

manager for seven years and as a city letter carrier for 13 years.

"The role of postmaster will allow me to be more involved with the actual issuing of stamps and responsive to the financial aspect," Brown explained.

Prior to working for the postal service in 1981, Brown worked two years for the department of agriculture as a soil conservationist.

He has a bachelor's of science degree from Michigan Technological University, and a master's degree in management from Aquinas College.

Brown also spent two years in the Army and one year in Vietnam, a combat infantryman in Cambodia.

He and his wife Shirley have been married for 20 years. They have three children: Richard, Erin and Samuel.

His hobbies include golf, fishing and hunting.

MacNaughton to perform at LPAC, Feb. 17

Roger MacNaughton and friends will perform a tasteful blend of adult contemporary jazz, pop and new age music at the Lowell Performing Arts Center (located at Lowell High School) on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. MacNaughton will be

Franciscans offer Winter Day Camp

The Franciscan Life Process Center is offering its annual Winter Day Camp on Saturday, Feb. 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for children 7-12 years old.

The day is designed to offer children a closer look at the beauty and mystery of the winter season. Cooking, art, nature and music experiences will be incorporated into the day.

For more information and a registration form, please contact the Franciscan Life Process Center at 897-7842.

February book discussions at Englehardt

Kent District Library invites adult readers to get together at the library for a friendly, informal discussion of some great books, as several KDL branches hold book discussions in February. Copies of the featured title are available at each library's checkout desk.

The book discussions are scheduled for the Englehardt branch on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 10 a.m. *The God of Small Things* by Roy Arundhati will be discussed.

For more information or other locations and times, please call Kent District Library at 336-3250.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE

A Public Hearing for a Special Exception Use Permit Application will be held at a special scheduled meeting of the Vergennes Township Board on Monday, January 29, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr., Lowell, Michigan 49331 (616-897-5671) for the purpose of receiving comment from the public.

Great Lakes Paving, to be located in the O.E. Bieri Industrial Park, unit #5, 830 O.E. Bieri Industrial Drive, Lowell, Michigan in the SW 1/4 of Section 34, is requesting a Special Exception Use Permit to construct an office and vehicle shop/storage building. The business uses equipment for paving, but does not process or store asphalt.

The complete application and site plan is available for public inspection at the Township offices on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Written comments will be considered if received by the Township Clerk or Planning Coordinator before 3:00 p.m. on January 29, 2001. Written comments can be mailed to the Vergennes Township offices, P.O. Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331, or dropped in the mail slot in the door or faxed to 616-897-5674.

Vergennes Township Board

COLLEGE NEWS

Meaghan L. Geer and Tyler J. Southwell, both of Lowell, were named to the dean's list for the first semester of the 2000-01 school year at Hope College. To be named to the dean's list, a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Hope College is a four-year, coeducational, liberal arts college in Holland with an enrollment of 3,015 men and women and is affiliated with the Reformed Church in America

Calvin College has announced its fall 2000 dean's list. To earn a spot on the dean's list at Calvin requires that a student maintain a 3.5 grade point average for the semester and has a 3.3 cumulative grade point average at one of the country's top Christian, liberal-arts colleges.

Those students from the Lowell area include Michael E. Befus (junior); Seth D. Renkema (sophomore); and Helen M. Stroo (senior). From the Alto area are Katherine L. Sikma (freshman) and Nathan A. Ter Beek (junior).

This past fall Calvin was honored by *U.S. News & World Report* as not only one of the best regional universities in the Midwest (the only Michigan school so honored), but also one of the top buys in the Midwest.

Calvin also has been honored in the past by such prestigious sources as the *New York Times*, the Templeton Honor Roll for Character-Building Colleges and Peterson's Guide to Colleges and Universities. Established in 1876 in Grand Rapids, Calvin has a 2000-2001 enrollment of 4,314 students. Only about 25 percent of that student body achieved dean's list status during the fall semester.

A man's manners are a mirror in which he shows his portrait.

—Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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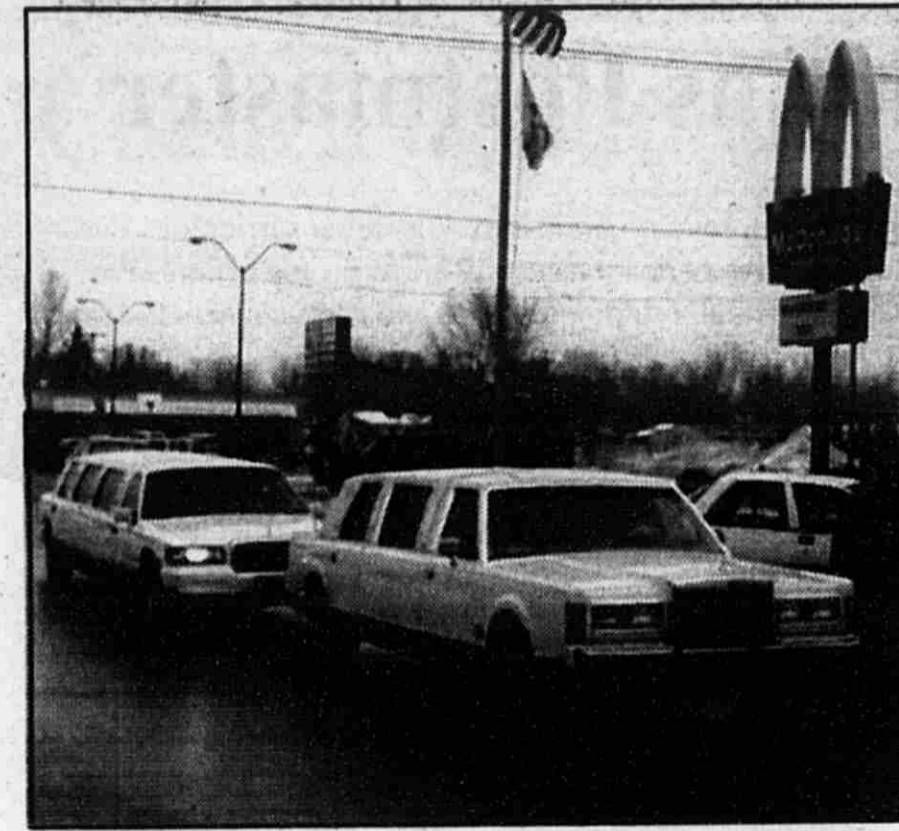
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Alto Elementary students who sold 15 or more items for the Alto PTO fall fundraiser were treated to a limousine ride and lunch at McDonald's.

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Flat River Outreach Ministries Thrift Store is now accepting donations of gently used clothing and small household goods.
Donations accepted on Wednesdays only from 4:00-7:00 p.m. We will have a special staff on hand for donations.
Drop off at the Main Street entrance. Look for signs.
If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact the Thrift Store at 897-2037.
Store hours are Wed.-Fri., Noon-6 pm; Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm
519 E. Main (Located on the corner of Jackson and Main)

"Squishy Seat" a perk for young salesman

••• Alto Elementary students raised approximately \$8,000 for use toward field trips, assemblies camps and other student activities.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Alto Elementary School's annual PTO fall fundraiser turned into a January feast for 51 students.

The K-5 students at Alto, through the sale of candy and gift wrap, raised approximately \$8,000 over a 10-day period. Students sold roughly \$17,000 worth of merchandise from the Morley Candy Makers Company out of Clinton Township.

The revenues from the fundraiser are used for field trips, assemblies, fifth-grade camp and other student activities which are not covered in the school budget.

All students who sold 15 items or more had their name put in a drawing - 54 names were then pulled out. Those students (three were absent) were treated to a limousine ride to McDonald's for lunch, which was covered by the restaurant.

The student with the highest number of sales was second-grader Amanda Smit. She sold 49 items. "My mom took it to work," Smit replied when asked about her sales success. "I also sold to my family and friends."

Second to Smit was kindergartner, Zach Huver. He sold 43 items. Huver, like his peers, enjoyed the limousine ride. "I liked the seats. They were squishy." He ordered a cheeseburger, fries and coke for lunch.

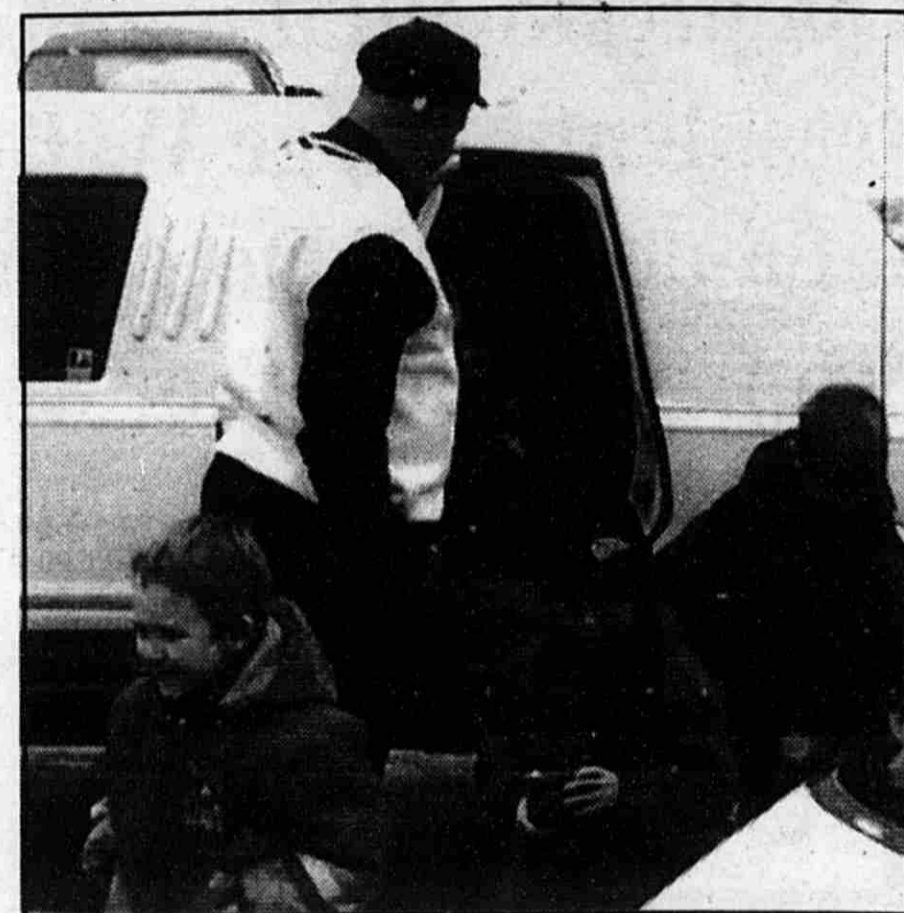
It was fifth grader, Elizabeth Schlosser's first ride in a limousine. "I saw one pass me on the expressway," Schlosser said.

Heather Jousma, also a fifth grader, enjoyed the disposable cameras. The T.V. and candy were also a favorite part of the limo trip for Jousma.

The limo drivers also handed out suckers and blow pops to the students.

The 51 students were taken in three runs.

Lowell's John Krebill was the sales representative for the Morley Candy Company.



Alto Elementary students arrive in a limousine at McDonald's on Wednesday.

Elementary art exhibit takes "Y" tots on magical ride

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The excitement for the art created by students at Bushnell, Cherry Creek, and Alto elementaries as well as St. Patrick's for the Lowell Area Schools Elementary Student Art Exhibition was magical.

That's just an oral reflection from YMCA preschoolers.

Linda Neme Foster spent 45 minutes with 15 YMCA preschoolers recording the oral reflection of what they thought of the artwork.

As a way to complete fabric art, a number of students' art pieces were woven mats. "One young preschooler looked at the work and said he saw a magic carpet which flies everywhere," Foster said.

Approximately 500 people from all over the district attended the reception for



Linda Neme Foster encourages discussion on artworks viewed by YMCA tots.

the annual elementary school exhibit at the Lowell Area Arts Council gallery.

Foster was one of 10 poets/writers throughout the state to receive a creative artist grant through ART SER VEMichigan.

One of two major jobs Foster must complete before September is a major book of poems inspired by visual arts. In order to accomplish this, Foster garnered the sponsorship of four art organizations which would allow her to offer workshops. Those four were the Lowell Area Arts Council, Grand Rapids Art Museum, Urban Institute for Contemporary Art and Artworks.

Workshops will include participants' drafting personal poems by assuming the voice of something or someone in an art piece, using texture and color from paintings to inspire the imagery of language in a poem, or observing form and metaphor in a visual art as a springboard to begin writing poetry.

Foster's first workshop included students from Laurie Kuna's ninth-grade Lowell High School English class. Students wrote poems that incorporated the visual and emotion impressions they received from the welded steel and metal sculptures created by Steven Peters.

The elementary student exhibit at the local gallery is a way for the LAAC to support the art programs at Lowell High School.

"Supporting student art exhibitions is the reason we exist," said the council's executive director, Lorain Smalligan. "It's fun watching the excitement of the young artists."

The following is a reflection shared by Foster: "I had a little boy who said nothing throughout my workshop. Toward the end he was just staring at a drawing of a tree.

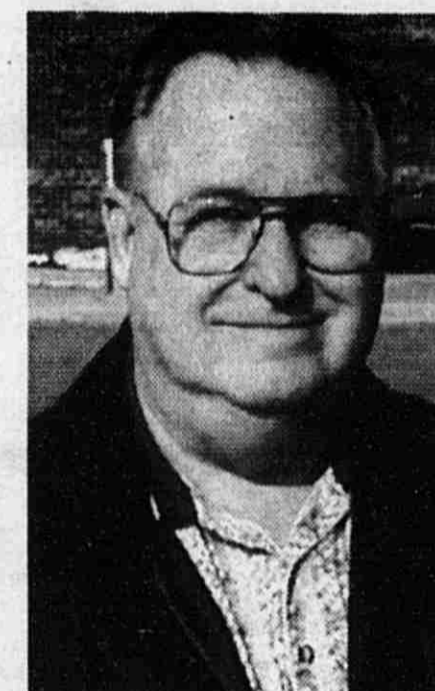
Art, cont'd. pg. 14

TOWN TALK

The presidential inaugural was Saturday - did you watch? President George W. Bush's campaign theme was "I'm a uniter, not a divider." Do you think he will be successful in bringing the two parties together to work toward the common good of the people? Also, how long of a honeymoon do you think the new President will be allotted?



George VanOeveren
No, I did not watch it. Yes, based on what he did in Texas, I think he can bring the parties together. I think the honeymoon will last a month.



John DeJong
Yes, I watched the inauguration. I think President Bush will do as well as anyone else could. If it was a Kennedy, the honeymoon would already be over. I think President Bush's honeymoon will be longer.



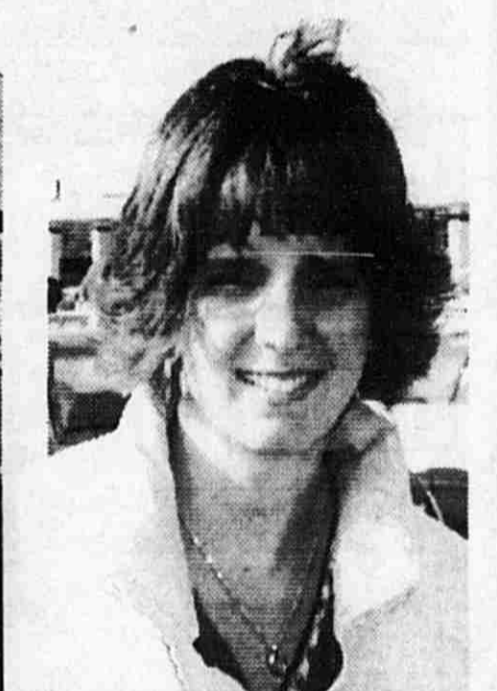
Andy Ball
All I watched was President Bush's speech. If he does what he said, he will be successful. If he does half of that, he will be pretty good. The honeymoon will last about a month or until he starts trying to push things through.



Kerry Tap
No, I did not watch the inauguration. I don't think President Bush will do more than talk. The other party won't let it happen. The Democrats are still snarling from the election. They will be on his every move from square one.



Kathi Neitzel
Yes, I watched the inauguration. Hopefully, he will be able to bring people together. The honeymoon won't be any longer than a week.



Angie Blough
I saw part of the inauguration. I sure hope he can. There won't be a honeymoon. They will start right in on him.

Mary Long
No, I didn't watch it. I don't think there will be much of a difference in the way the two parties work together. It will be a short honeymoon.

Jim Abram
Yes, I watched the inauguration. I sure hope he can bring people together. I wish he would have taken Gov. John Engler with him. He got that other guy out of here. We'd all be better off had he taken Engler too.

Brenda Schaefer
Yes, I watched the inauguration. His success depends on how close a relationship he has with God. The honeymoon is already over.

CORRECTION...

In last week's Town Talk, The Lowell Ledger asked kids and adults what they thought of the YMCA's teen center and fitness center. Tara Ormiston's answer was inadvertently switched with Brenda Nobis.

Brenda Nobis
It's nice and new. I haven't gone to a gym since my college days. It's also convenient - five minutes from home.



Tara Ormiston
I was invited to come with a friend. I like it because it's quieter and a better environment to work out in.

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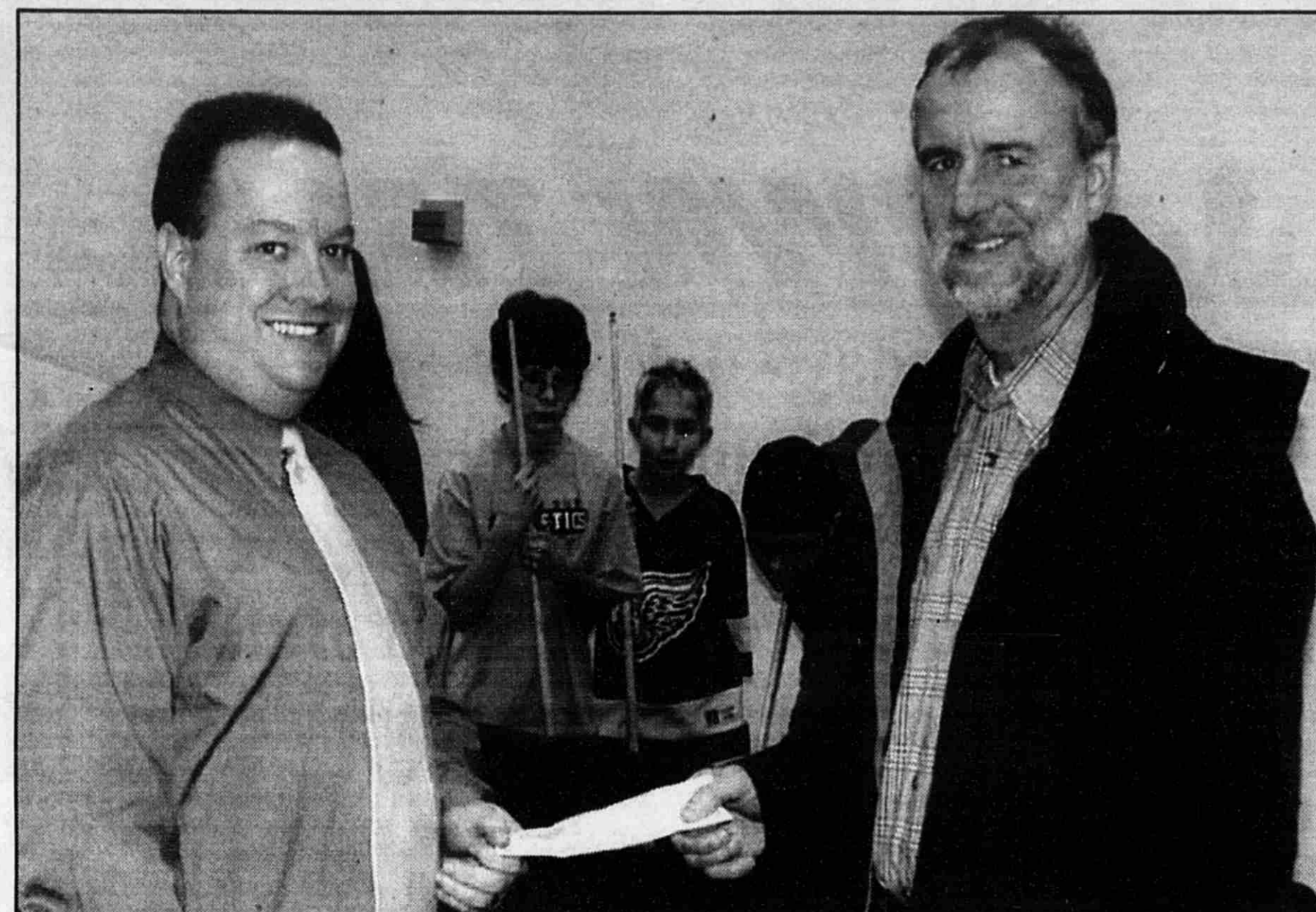
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Banking On It!

Rev. Gordie Barry, pastor at Lowell First United Methodist Church, presents Will Welsh, Lowell YMCA executive director, with a check for \$2,500. The money was raised through the church's Christmas Eve offering. It is part of the Lowell Ministerium's \$30,000 pledge toward the YMCA's teen/wellness centers. Welsh said the money will be used to offset budget costs. Pictured behind Welsh and Barry, playing pool at the teen center, are: Andy Gordon, Troy Abel and Bryan Bristol.

DOCK BUILDING

Volunteers from the Lowell Masonic Lodge #90 built a 12' by 24' handicapped accessible floating dock designed so that all students can use it and have the opportunity to collect water and ecological samplings at the Cherry Creek pond. Construction of the dock was made possible through a NEST award given to Cherry Creek Elementary by the Department of Natural Resources. Pictured, left to right, are: Roger Roberts, Bob Perry, Ralph Roth, Dave Caswell and Fred Cahoon.



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BOWNE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NO. 2000-4

NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO SECURE AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN BY REGULATION OF NOISE WITHIN SAID TOWNSHIP, TO DEFINE PROHIBITED CONDUCT AND EXCEPTIONS; TO PRESCRIBE CIVIL FINES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

THE TOWNSHIP OF BOWNE, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ORDAINS:

Section 1.0 Title. This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Noise Control Ordinance."

Section 2.0 Unlawful Noise Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity to create, assist in creating, permit, continue, or permit the continuance of any excessive, unnecessary, or unusually loud noise, or any noise which either annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivities or injuries, or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, or safety of others within the Township. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, injurious, and unnecessary and unlawful noises in violation of this Section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive. Each such act which either continues or is repeated more than one-half (1/2) hour beyond its inception shall be considered and may be prosecuted as a separate violation.

2.1 Horns and Signal Devices. The sounding of any horn or signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, train, or other vehicle while not in motion, except as a danger signal or to give warning of intent to get into motion, or, if in motion, only as a signal response to an imminent danger and implemented as an immediate safety measure; the creation by means of such signal devices of any unreasonably loud or harsh sounds; and the sounding of any signal device for any unreasonable or unnecessary period of time;

2.2 Radio, Phonograph, Musical Instruments. The playing of any radio, phonograph, television set, amplified or unamplified musical instrument, loudspeaker, tape recorder, compact disc player, or other such electronic sound-producing devices, in such a manner or with volume, at any time or place, so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office or in any dwelling, hotel, hospital, or other type of residence, or of any persons in the vicinity;

(a) The operation of any such musical instrument or electronic sound producing device in such a manner as to be plainly audible on a property or in a dwelling unit other than that in which it is located, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this Section;

(b) The operation of any such electronic sound producing device in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of fifty (50) feet from the vehicle in which it is located shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this Section;

2.3 Shouting and Whistling. Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, singing, or the making of any other loud noises on the public streets, between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., or the making of any such noise

at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel, hospital, or other type of residence, or in any office or of any persons in the vicinity;

2.4 Loud Vehicles. The operation of any automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle so out of repair or so loaded or constructed as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other unreasonable noise, including the noise resulting from exhaust, which is clearly audible from nearby properties and unreasonably disturbing to the quiet, comfort or repose of other persons. The modification or elimination of any noise abatement device on any motor vehicle or engine or the failure to maintain same so that the noise emitted by such vehicle or engine is increased above that emitted by such vehicle as originally manufactured shall be in violation of this Section;

2.5 Race Track; etc. The operation or use of any race track, proving ground, testing area, or obstacle course for motor vehicles, motorcycles, boats, racers, automobiles or vehicles of any kind or nature in any of the Township where the noise emanating therefrom would be unreasonably disturbing and upsetting to other persons in the vicinity. Under no circumstances shall any racetrack, proving ground, testing area, or obstacle course operate after 10:00 p.m.;

2.6 Hawking. The hawking of goods, merchandise, or services in a loud or disturbing manner;

2.7 Whistle or Siren. The blowing of any whistles or sirens, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire, or danger;

2.8 Engine Exhaust. The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any steam engine, or stationary internal combustion engine, except through a muffler or other device, which effectively prevents loud or explosive noises therefrom;

2.9 Construction Noises. The construction (including excavation therefor), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building and the excavation of streets and highways on Sundays, and other days, except between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., unless a permit therefor be first obtained from the Township Supervisor.

2.10 Devices to Attract Attention. The use of any drum, loud speaker, amplifier, or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention for any purpose.

Section 3.0 Exceptions. None of the terms or prohibitions of Section 2.0 shall apply or be enforced against:

3.1 Emergency Vehicles. Any police, fire, or emergency medical vehicle while engaged upon necessary emergency activities;

3.2 Highways and Utility Maintenance and Construction. Necessary excavations in or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways, or any public utility installation by or on behalf of the Township, County Road Commission, or any public utility or any agency of the State of Michigan, during the night or on Sunday, when the public safety, welfare, and convenience necessitates the performance of the work at such time;

3.3 Public Address. The reasonable use of stationary amplifiers or loud speakers for public addresses which are noncommercial in character, or for business or commercial purposes so long as they do not unreasonably disturb persons on adjacent noncommercial property;

3.4 Agricultural Operations. Noise created by agricultural operations which is permitted by the Right to Farm Act, being Public Act 1981, No. 93 as amended;

3.5 Township Approved Activities. Township approved or sponsored parades, festivals, fairs, or events.

Section 4. Violations; Municipal Civil Infractions.

4.1 Any person, firm, corporation, or other entity who violates any provision of this Ordinance or who uses or permits the use of any property in violation of this Ordinance, is responsible for a municipal civil infraction, and is subject to payment of a civil fine of not less than \$50, plus costs and other sanctions, for each violation, as authorized by Bowne Township Ordinance No. 2000-2 (as may be amended from time to time) and other applicable laws.

4.2 Repeat offenses shall be subject to increased civil fines. For purposes of this Ordinance, "repeat offenses" means a second (or subsequent) violation of this Ordinance committed by a person within any six (6) month period and for which the person admits responsibility or is determined to be responsible. The increased fine for a repeat offense under this Ordinance shall be as follows:

(a) The civil fine for a violation that is a first repeat offense shall be not less than \$250, plus costs.

(b) The civil fine for a violation that is a second repeat offense or a subsequent repeat offense shall be not less than \$500, plus costs.

4.3 Each day on which a violation of this Ordinance continues constitutes a separate offense and shall be subject to civil fines and sanctions as a separate violation.

Section 5.0 Validity. The several provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be separate and if a court of competent jurisdiction shall hold that any section or provisions thereof is invalid, such holding shall not affect or impair the validity of any other section or provision of this Ordinance.

Section 6.0 Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication in a newspaper in general circulation within the Township.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF KENT)

I, Sandra L. Kowalczyk, Clerk of the Township of Bowne of said County of Kent, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the Bowne Township Ordinance No. 2000-4 as approved and adopted by the Bowne Township Board on the 15th day of January, 2001, and becoming effective 30 days as of the 23rd day of February, 2001. The ordinance in its entirety was published in the issue of the Lowell Ledger dated the 24th day of January, 2001. Said ordinance was recorded in the office of the Clerk of Bowne Township on the 15th day of January, 2001.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereto set my hand for the Township of Bowne, in said County, this 17th day of January, 2001.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk - Clerk

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FOR SALE

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CARD OF THANKS Dear Family, Friends & Neighbors - we would like to thank you for all the prayers, visits, calls, cards, flowers, food and support you have all shared with us at this difficult time, the death of Andy Crawford. Thank you for the services provided by Gerst Funeral Home, Dr. John Mogor, Laurels of Kent, Visiting Nurses Association, Holland Home, ICMA Home Care and Lowell Ambulance. A very special thank you to Rev. Kenneth Ford for the comforting funeral service and to Alton Bible Church and the wonderful meal they provided. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Alton Church Kitchen Fund. Bill & Mary Condon & Children.

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