

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 24

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, March 21, 2001

It's a Wonderful Wizard of Oz

••• The Lowell High School musical begins Thursday and runs through Saturday at the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

The production cost will be roughly \$15,000. Revenues will be garnered through a Lowell Music Boosters donation, ticket sales and a patron program.

"The goal of any school play is to break even. What I'd love to see is for us to pack this place for each of the three evening shows," Nyson said.

Kathryn Bredwell is the play's music director. Kim

Nyson and Laurie Summerfield are the choreographers and Debbie Duckworth is the accompanist.

The play will run Thursday, March 22; Friday, March 23; and Saturday, March 24 at the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$6 for students and senior citizens.

All three evening shows begin at 8 p.m.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

It is the biggest of the five musical productions Lowell High School has undertaken.

Wizard of Oz is also the most work, most challenging and most fun, according to Lowell Performing Arts director, Richard Graham. "The real reward, though, will come with the completion of that first show," Graham says.

The musical envelops 52 actors/actresses, a backstage crew of 12, a 20-member pit band, 92 handmade costumes made by two costume designers, and two-and-a-half months of practice.

"What separates the Wizard of Oz from the other musicals is its magnitude. Peter Pan had it, but it's even greater with the Wizard of Oz," said play/vocal director, Tod Nyson. "We have such a broad range of students who have come together for this production. We have a wrestler, basketball player, and a Top 10 student.

Dorothy Jennifer Adams
Scarecrow Troy Gillan
Tin Man Ben Vanderveen
Cowardly Lion Ben Vaught
Wicked Witch Megan Fleet
Glenda the Good Witch Laura Befus
Wizard of Oz Kyle Hines

"This is going to have flying monkeys, huge pyro techniques, and it's the Wizard of Oz, everybody grew up with it ... and we never get sick of it."

Tech illusionist, Rob Houillion was flown in from Las Vegas to teach stage hands how to run the flying machine.

The three elementary matinees will incorporate two kids from each elementary building into munchkin land.

For each of the three evening shows, two children will be selected from the audience to be part of the cast in the munchkin land scene.



Pictured above, during dress rehearsal on Thursday, are Dorothy (Jennifer Adams), Tin Man (Ben Vanderveen) and Troy Gillan (Scarecrow).

Bowne Township ponders where money will come from as it searches for answers to office dilemma

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Bowne Township trustee, Karen Hendrick's weekend ride into Garfield Township may have uncovered a solution to the township's office dilemma.

A report made to Bowne Township in February identified that its offices contained fungus, toxins and spores. The result was relocating its offices into the Historic Township Hall on the corner of 84th St. and M-50 or risk health problems.

Bowne Township supervisor, Pete Siler shared six options with the board Monday night. "None of the options presented to the township by Owen, Ames and Kimball are cheap which brings us back to square one ... how does the township pay for it."

The funding alternatives are to ask township residents to approve a bond issue; pursue funds through the Kent Municipal

Building Authority; or pursue funds through the Michigan Rural Development Corporation.

The latter is the only legal way for the township to get a loan. "Either way we decide to do it, it is going to require a \$35-\$50,000 payment per year," Siler said.

Hendrick took pictures of a new township hall built near an existing historic hall in Garfield Township. "They use the old hall for meetings and storage," Hendrick said. "The new hall is used for office space."

The cost for the 2,200 square foot building was \$150,000. "That is a lot more affordable than our other options," Hendrick explained. "The township said it would share their plans with us if we're interested."

Of the six options presented, the least expensive one was to rebuild on the

Township Office, cont'd pg. 8

Chamber's business EXPO, Saturday

One of the choice networking opportunities the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce offers businesses, churches, schools, municipalities and organizations is the annual Lowell Community Expo.

Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Lowell Area Schools and the event's exclusive business sponsor, Ionia County National Bank will present the 5th annual Lowell Community Expo on Saturday, March 24 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Lowell High School.

"The Expo provides opportunity for the community to increase its awareness of the products and services provided and/or manufactured in the Greater Lowell area," said Lowell Chamber of Commerce director, Liz Baker. "Exhibitors also gain

the opportunity to develop sales, sales' leads and customer contacts."

The Expo will spotlight over 90 booths. Gordon Gould, emcee, will reside over the stage area where entertainment will be provided by local school children. T.J.

McKay is providing a live remote from 2-4 p.m.

Vendor door prizes will be raffled off throughout the day.

For more information contact Baker at the Chamber of office at 897-9161.

Inside The Ledger

Batchelor Unveils Downtown's Newest Restoration, Story Page 12

OBITUARIES

DENOLF- Robert "Bob" DeNolf, aged 70, of Lowell, passed away March 15, 2001. He is survived by his wife Wendy; children Robert Jr. (Sue) DeNolf, Kathy (Gary) Rosemary, Dave (Nancy) DeNolf, Steve (MaryJo) DeNolf; sister Carol (Ron) Undieme; grandchildren Beau DeNolf, Jennifer Rosemary, Garret, Elliot, Austin, Austin and Mitchell DeNolf. He was a member of Lowell Lions Club.

PROBST - Frederick A. Probst II, aged 55, of Lowell, passed away March 14, 2001. He was preceded in death by his parents Frederick and Mary, brother James Probst. Mr. Probst is survived by his wife Sandra E.; children Frederick A. III (Ted) and

(Ann) Probst of Grand Rapids, Todd (Deb) Probst of Ada, Derek (Michelle) Mixon of Lowell; sister Sharon L. Probst of Battle Creek; mother-in-law Violet Hazen of Battle Creek; sister-in-law Kathy Probst of Battle Creek; eight grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. Funeral services were held at Roth-Gerst Chapel, Rev. Jeff Manion of Ada Bible Church officiating. Interment at Merriman Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society or Ada Bible Church.

Army seeks families of missing Korean War service members

In the last few months, the Army Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii has recovered what are believed to be the remains of 50 U.S. servicemembers who did not return from the Korean War. Since joint recovery operations began in 1994, a total of 92 remains have been repatriated. Five have been positively identified and many others are in the final stages of the forensic identification process. To help identify servicemembers' remains, the Army is trying to locate the families of the more than 6,000 unaccounted for soldiers. The Army needs information such as the name, relationship, address, and telephone number of the primary next of kin of soldiers who did not return from the Korean War. If you're a family member of such a servicemember or know someone who is, you can contact the Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center at 1-800-892-2490 or e-mail tapcper@hoffman.army.mil

One precedent creates another. They soon accumulate and constitute law. What yesterday was fact, today is doctrine.

—The Letters of Junius

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)

Published weekly for \$12⁹⁰ a year in Kent County, \$17⁹⁰ a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331
Roger K. Brown Publisher
Thad Kraus Editor
 (616) 897-9261
 Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
 Published every Wednesday
 POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
 P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331

LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM

will hold a
POP CAN DRIVE
SAT., MARCH 24TH
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Please help support the teams for Spring Training. Players will go door to door or bring your cans to the High School during the Expo.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Thurs. • March 22, 2001 • 6:31 p.m.

76 Acres Being Offered in Parcels

Ranging from 8.5 to 40 Acres
Darby & Brooks Roads • Clarksville, MI
 Campbell Township, Ionia County
 ★ Excellent building potential & some trees
 ★ Easy access to I-96 ★ Lakewood School District

Directions: From Grand Rapids: Go East on I-96 to Clarksville exit 59 (Nash Hwy.), the South 2.5 miles to Clarksville Rd. then East .5 mile to Darby Rd. then North .5 mile to property. From Lansing: Go West on I-96 to Lake Odessa exit 64 (Jordan Lake Rd.) then South 2.5 miles to Clarksville Rd., then West 4.5 miles to Darby Rd., then North .5 mile to property. Watch for Land Exchange signs.

Property Inspections:

Sun. March 11 - 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
 Tues. March 13 - 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Auction Site: VFW Building
 3600 W. Tupper Lake Rd.
 Lake Odessa, MI

Call today for a detailed information packet

LAND EXCHANGE GROUP

The Auction Company
DOYLE DINGMAN
 1760 Abbey Road
 East Lansing, MI 48823
877-633-1570

BUY NOW AND SAVE!!!

Air-conditioning Package
 Starting at \$1,250.00 (tax included).
 Completely installed to your existing ductwork and furnace

Come See Us At
The Expo Saturday, March 24

or
Furnace and Air-conditioning Package
 Starting at \$2,500.00 (tax included).
 Completely installed to your existing ductwork (liner not included, if needed) (while quantities last)



Arctic, Inc.
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
 1301 Bowes Rd., Lowell • (616) 897-4123
 VISIT US AT WWW.HEATINGCOOLINGONLINE.COM

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP LANDOWNERS

2001 OPEN SPACE/LAND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

The Open Space/Land Preservation Committee of Vergennes Township invites any interested resident or landowner to join us for our regular monthly meetings. To learn more about what you can do to help protect our rural character, please note the following meeting dates, which normally will fall on the last Wednesday of every month:

March 28	April 25
May 30	June 27
July 25	August 29
September 26	October 24
November 28	No meeting in December

Of special note, an educational session is planned for the evening of April 11th to be held at the Wittenbach Center across from the High School on Vergennes Road. Starting at 7:00 p.m., a workshop titled "How to Establish and Manage Wildlife Habitats" will be presented by experts in the topic from the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Agriculture. All are invited to attend.

Regular committee meetings are held at the township offices, located at 10381 Bailey Dr., at the intersection of Bailey and Parnell. For further information, you may contact Mari Stone, Township Clerk, at 897-5671, Marsha Wilcox at 897-8949, or Kate Dernocoeur at 682-9899.

WINTER CLEARANCE AT: FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Clothing and Household Thrift Shop
 Corner of Main and Jackson
 Hours: W-F Noon-6:00 p.m.
 Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Come in and fill up a grocery bag for just \$3.00 on winter clothing!
 Donations accepted—Wednesdays—4-7 p.m. at the store.

CITY OF LOWELL

SALE OF VEHICLES ADVERTISEMENT OF BID

The City of Lowell is accepting bids for the following described vehicles:

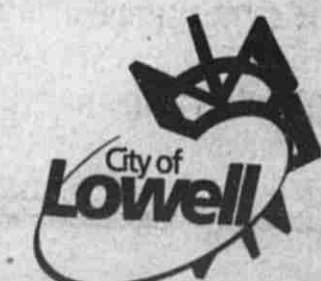
- (1) 1994 Chevrolet Caprice 4 door police car
- (1) 1995 Chevrolet Caprice 4 door police car

The vehicles and maintenance records are available for inspection at the Department of Public Works, 217 South Hudson St., Lowell, Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope. The outside of the envelope must state BID FOR POLICE CAR. Bids must be submitted to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main St., Lowell, MI 49331. There is no minimum bid amount. Bids must be received no later than Wednesday, March 28th at 1:30 p.m. at which time these will be publicly opened and read.

Once approved, the successful bidder will have seven (7) business days to complete the transaction. Payment will be in the form of a certified check or money order payable to the City of Lowell for the exact amount of the bid to complete the purchase.

The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The City may award conveyance to someone other than the highest monetary bidder. The City has the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the city.



ABC Seamless of Central MI
 Alto Solo
 Animal Hospital of Lowell
 Bernard's Ace Hardware & Rental Place
 BNI

Calvary Christian Reformed Church
 Christian Life Center
 City of Lowell

Consumer's Choice Mortgage
 CoverUP Enclosures/Borup Siding
 Creative Memories - Consultant
 Culligan of Greenville/Rockford
 Cumberland Retirement Village
 Curtis Cleaners

D & D Fabricating Heating & Cooling
 Darl's Deck Maintenance
 Dery Physical Therapy Services

Discovery Toys - Consultant
 Diversified Pressure Clean
 Fallsburg Historical Society
 Family Fare

Fireplaces Plus
 First Congregational Church of Lowell
 First United Methodist of Lowell
 Floors By Design, Inc.

Fuller Septic/Stoneybrook Sanitation
 Galaxy Signs & Awards
 Garage Doors & Openers of Central MI

Good Shepherd Lutheran
 Great Lakes Paving
 Greenridge Realty
 Harding Enterprises
 Herbalife

HomeWorks A-One
 Hooper Printing
 HRA East
 Huntington Bank

Independent Bank
 Ionia County National Bank
 JS Homestyle

James C. Veen Observatory
 J.B. Harrison Insurance Agency Inc.
 Kelly Services

Kent County Youth Fair
 Laurels of Kent
 Lipsense

Lowell Area Arts Council
 Lowell Area Chamber Of Commerce
 Lowell Area Crop Hunger Walk



LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO
MARCH 24, 2001
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL
11700 Vergennes Road

Come and see what's new in our community!

For more information call
 Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
897-9161

Live Remote with I-96!

Door Prizes!



Sponsored By: Ionia County National Bank
 • Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce & Lowell Area Schools

FREE ADMISSION!

Give-Aways!

Entertainment

FREE PARKING!

New Vendors!

- Lowell Area Schools
- Lowell Calvary Christian Reformed Church
- Lowell Charter Township
- Lowell Church Of The Nazarene
- Lowell City Directory
- Lowell Fire Department
- Lowell Jaycees
- Lowell Light & Power/Cable TV
- Lowell Police Department
- Lowell Rotary
- Lowell Senior Center - Senior Neighbors
- Lowell Soccer
- Lowell Wesleyan Church
- Lowell YMCA
- Lowell Youth Football
- Luscious Landscapes
- Manpower
- Martin E. Vredenburg, DDS
- Modern Photographics
- North Country Trails
- Old Kent Bank
- Parks Construction
- Paws with a Cause
- Pro-Health
- RE/MAX Country Hills
- Real Life Design/Artists in Residence
- Richland Homes-Overbeck Construction
- Risner Roofing
- River Bluff Creations
- Rockford Irrigation
- Roll Away Family Fun Center
- Root Lowell Mfg. Co.
- Seal Craft Sales/Tupperware
- SMAC
- Sparta Farm & Lawn
- Speerstra Insurance
- St. Mary Church & Pregnancy Center
- The Pampered Chef - Consultants
- Top Notch Auto Detailing
- Truly Treasures
- Verizon Wireless
- Veziro Unlimited
- VFW #8303
- Lowell Area Historical Museum

Reflections

Of Faith

Jason Aaron Leininger,
Wesleyan Church

Citizens of Heaven

The week of March 5 brought our country another spate of school shootings. It began in Santana High School when freshman, Charles Andrew Williams opened fire on his classmates, killing 2 and wounding 13 others. Then the copy cats began their performances. The Associated Press ran a story where they documented 16 cases of kids making similar threats or of bringing guns to school.

Fingers of blame are pointed everywhere: a result of our moral decay; its

by bullets. Jesus weeps with the parents of Charles Andrew Williams. Jesus weeps with Charles Andrew Williams. He weeps and He says, it need not be like this.

St. Paul writes an urging for us to be people of expectancy, people who live confidently in the hope of eternal life, people who know that our citizenship is in Heaven (Phil 3.20), who live with a great hope that Christ will transform our lowly bodies into the bodies of his glory.

We see a world around us that lacks a hope of heaven, that lacks the expectancy of a Savior, that lacks an underpinning purpose for life. Regrettably, many of us inside the Church lose and have lost this vision as well. Many of us have lost the vision that God created us for the purpose of union with Himself, to find eternal joy and happiness with the God of the universe, and eternal life in Him.

If we're to see a change in our world, such as a decline in peer to peer violence in schools, we need to see a change in the people who make up the Church; we need people who are enthralled with heaven, people who talk about heaven, people who live, breathe, and die for heaven.

C.S. Lewis said: "If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The Apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English Evangelicals who

abolished the Slave Trade, all left their mark on earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in; aim at earth and you'll get neither."

(Mere Christianity, Bk. 3, Ch. 10)

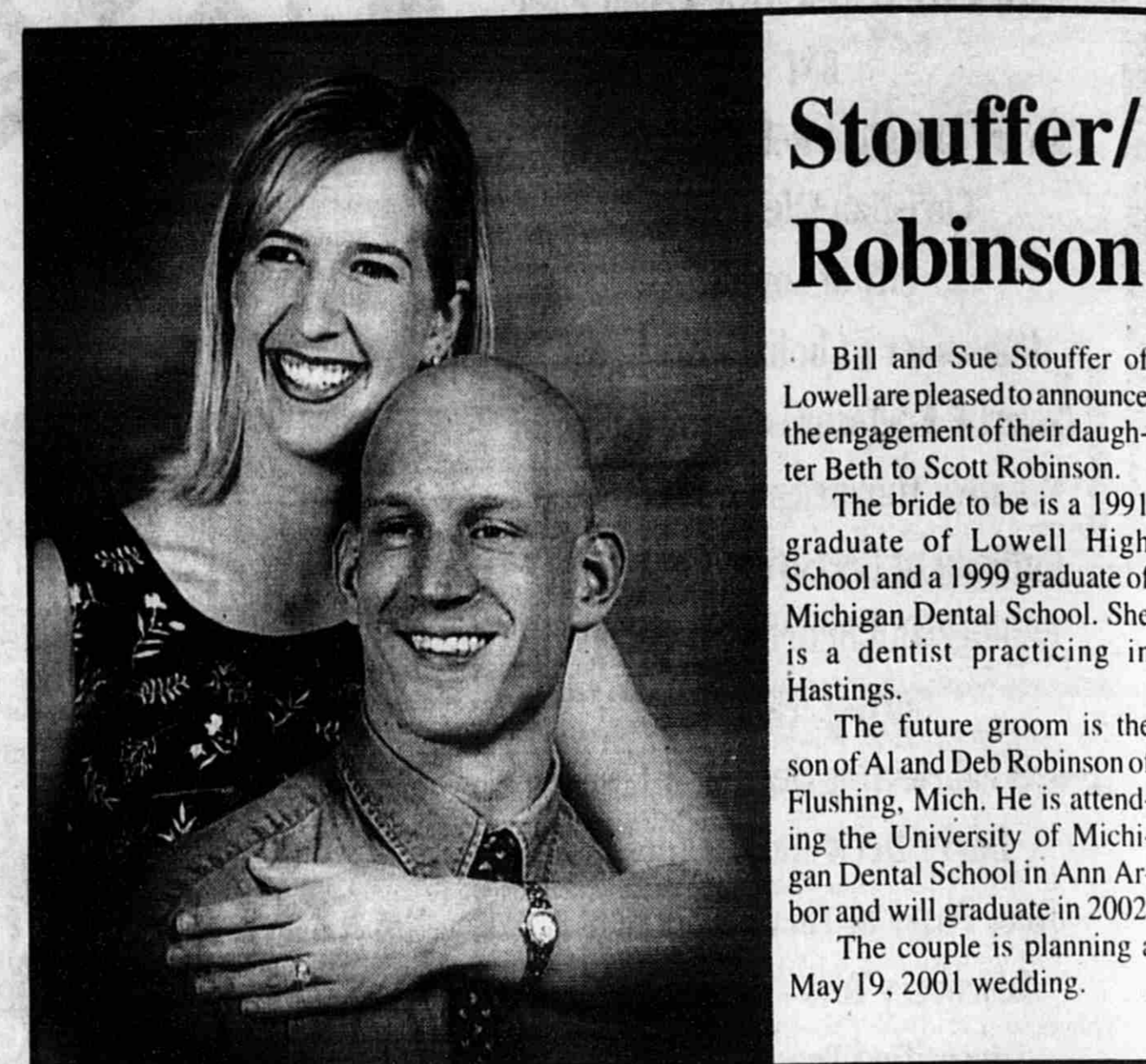
In the midst of the suffering of our world, let us hear Jesus' weeping with us and for us, but let us also be people who long for heaven, that we may give the gift of the hope of heaven to our world.

because they've taken God out of school; it's Hollywood's fault, the entertainment industry is to blame; it's the fault of the parents - lack of involvement in their child's life; it's the mean bullies at school...

To be sure, everything mentioned may be a contributing factor... everything from the makers of culture, to bullies, to a lack of parental involvement, to the choice of the person who acts out in anger and evil; the responsibility is shared by many.

We read in the Gospel of Luke (13.34-35) how Jesus wept over Jerusalem because instead of embracing the prophets who were sent to it to lead her to her freedom and liberation, she killed them and, likewise, will do the same to Him. Jesus stands and He weeps for Jerusalem because they have rejected what would bring them peace and salvation. Jerusalem knows of wars, of infighting, of injustice, of terror, of pain and suffering. Jesus weeps, for He knows that it need not be like this.

Before we go on a hunt to find answers to the question of why we have school shootings, let us grasp that Jesus weeps with us as well. He weeps with those who have lost their children; the parents of Randy Gordon and Bryan Zucker. Jesus weeps with those who were injured



Stouffer/Robinson

Bill and Sue Stouffer of Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Beth to Scott Robinson.

The bride to be is a 1991 graduate of Lowell High School and a 1999 graduate of Michigan Dental School. She is a dentist practicing in Hastings.

The future groom is the son of Al and Deb Robinson of Flushing, Mich. He is attending the University of Michigan Dental School in Ann Arbor and will graduate in 2002.

The couple is planning a May 19, 2001 wedding.

AREA BIRTHS

Proud parents Steven and Shannon Eickhoff, of Saranac, welcome home their pride and joy, Steven Michael Eickhoff. Steven entered the world on March 2, 2001 at Spectrum East at 6:49 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 1 oz. and measuring 21 inches long.

late Arnie Komar of Grand Rapids. Also welcoming Steven are his uncles Todd, Thom, Dale, Denny, Joel and J.L.; aunts Charla and Blanca, and cousin Christopher as well as many great-uncles, aunts and cousins. Godparents are Todd and Charla Jenks.



Week of 3/26 - 3/30

ELEMENTARY

*Chef's Salad & Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich are offered daily as lunch options.

*Lunch: \$1.35 *Milk: 30c

MON: Mini corn dogs or chicken nuggets, sweet bread & margarine, coleslaw, peaches.

TUES: Nachos w/meat, cheese & roll or chicken patty on bun, pears, green beans.

WED: Turkey gravy or baked ham, strawberry Jello, whipped potatoes, homemade biscuit square, trail mix w/M&M's.

THURS: Chicken rings or macaroni & cheese, dinner roll, fresh veggies & dip, apple raisin cobbler.

FRI: No school - Spring break begins.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS

*Chef's Salad & Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich are offered daily as lunch options.

MON: Grilled cheese sandwich w/tomato soup or footlong hot dog on bun, dried fruit, oven fries.

TUES: 2 turkey & cheese on buns or cook's choice, pears, green beans.

WED: Chicken nuggets or cook's choice, bread choice, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, peaches & cherries.

THURS: Lasagne w/choice of meat sauce or Alfredo sauce or cook's choice, vegetable choice, fruit choice.

FRI: No School - Spring Break begins.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

Join Us In Worship

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
621 E. Main Street • 897-5936

Worship.....8:30 A.M.
Coffee & Fellowship Time.....9:30 A.M.
Sunday School.....9:50 A.M.
Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Kids' Club (Wed.).....3:30 P.M.
Dinner (Wed.).....5:30 P.M.

REV. B. GORDON BARRY
Nursery & child care available at both services
Barrier - Free Entrance

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH
10501 Settlementwood • Ph. 897-7185

Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.

GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110
STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894
ALL ARE WELCOME!
(Barrier-Free)

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash St • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert W. Holmes, Pastor
Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor

SUNDAYS:
Worship Celebration : 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Alive: 6 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (for All Ages) 7 p.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.iserv.net/~goodshp
Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)
Wednesday Evening.....7:00 P.M.

Joseph Frémer, Pastor 897-8307
All facilities are wheelchair accessible

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
201 N. Washington • 897-8800

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.

TIMOTHY E. HARMON, Minister
Staffed Nursery Provided
Barrier-Free Entrance

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: http://www.1bclowell.org

Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor
Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor

Sun. Worship Service, 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA/JV.....Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Sunday Services 10:00 A.M.
at the Cherry Creek Elementary School
12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331
CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES

Pastor Robert L. Hubbard
Phone: (616) 241-1739
email: aplighthouse@yahoo.com

ALTON BIBLE CHURCH
Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road
897-5648

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
YOU ARE WELCOME!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL
(United Church of Christ)
404 North Hudson • 897-5906

Worship and Church School.....10:00 A.M.
Dr. Roger LaWarr.....Pastor
Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director
Shannon Haughton.....Interim C.E. Director
Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided

Come Join Us For Praise & Worship



Viewpoint...



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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
MARCH 22, 1876 *This issue is missing. We substitute March 22, 1871*
The Aurora Borealis was beautiful Friday night. Principal S.P. Hicks invites friends and patrons of the high school to be present at the student examinations next week. Fort's Western Medicine Manufacturing Company votes to buy a lot east of the Pullen Block. They plan to build a three-story building.
The *Phrenological Journal and Life Illustrated* is available for 30 cents an issue. \$3 per year.
The Grand River Nurseries wants 500 bundles of rye straw.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO MARCH 18, 1926
Superior Furniture is just about moved in and ready to start on orders for 7000 each chairs and tables. Hiring is being done, with a forecast of 75 employees at capacity.
Lowell loses the basketball Class C championship to Grandville, 18-19.
Edwin Fallas, 81, is passing time by doing his own contracting for constructing a large apartment house in the exclusive Wilshire section of Los Angeles. He left last fall and will be back here for summer.
A committee from the Board of Trade reports that the detention hospital and jail in Grand Rapids are old, inadequate buildings and should be replaced with a single new structure.
The four movies showing at the Strand Theatre this week will include actors William S. Hart, Harry Carey and Hoot Gibson: western and comedies (sometimes both at once).

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 22, 1951
The Moose Lodge gets permission from Village Council to move their liquor license from the second floor to the ground floor.
A diesel engine failed on a long train Sunday and kept both M-21 and M-91 blocked for an hour.
Village Council moves from trash pickup by the Street Department to fee-for-service pickup by two employees and a truck.
A picture and text describe the school Safety Patrol, eighth-graders with a few from ninth who keep street crossings safe for younger children.
Biennial spring election notices are published for April 2, for township offices and issues and a few state offices and issues.

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:
This letter is to publicly say congratulations to the West Michigan Home School Concert Band, for their excellent rating at the district band festival held at the Lowell High School Thursday, March 8.
We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Englehardt Library, and the Friends of the Library, for inviting us to sell cookies at the Used Book Sale on Saturday, March 3.
We are grateful for the many library patrons who purchased cookies, as well as downtown area merchants, for their participation. All of the money raised will go to assist an area family with their medical bills.
Again, a huge "thank you" to the Lowell community.

Sincerely, Shantell Ford, on behalf of L.I.N.K. (Lowell Interactive Network for Kids)

Letters, Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed one written page or one typed, double-spaced page.
"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331.
Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.
The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Sharing The Vision

BERT R. BLEKE
Lowell Schools Superintendent

It seems that sometimes when trying to do the right thing, we end up doing the wrong thing by over doing the right thing. Sounds confusing but examples of this human tendency towards over-correction can be seen in people's bingeing on exercise or diets that are designed to correct a problem but most often fail to produce good results over the long term.
I feel this same over-reaction is taking place in our nation's schools with an ever-increasing emphasis on simple tests to determine if a school or school system is deemed a success or failure. I use, for example, our state's MEAP test and the increasing demand for a national test in determining if schools are making the grade. It seems as if we are about to sink under a binge of tests.

This over-emphasis concerns me deeply, not because I am opposed to accountability or even opposed to tests such as the MEAP. I have always supported both. I am concerned because a single test fails to recognize that the end product of a healthy home or school is not just knowledge. When measuring success, we need to focus on issues of equal importance - namely what students are capable of doing (life skills) and perhaps most importantly, what students are like (their character).

We know what skills are necessary for our students to be successful after high school. Additionally, the Lowell community has long supported a series of character traits we feel important to the success of our students and community. I would argue for a more balanced assessment of our schools - an assessment that includes not only knowledge, but also life skills and character.

In thinking deeply about the following question, "What should our students know, be able to do, and be like," we are beginning to rethink how we should assess student success. We are at the beginning stages of re-examining our schools' vision and purpose. Over the coming months we will invite you to join this discussion as we look at a balanced assessment approach to student success.

Your comments about this concern or any issue would be greatly appreciated. Send to Bert Bleke, Lowell Area Schools, 300 High St., Lowell, MI 49331 or bbleke@remc8.k12.mi.us (check out our web page at www.lowell.k12.mi.us)

With Our Counsel

Donna Warber M.A., LL.P. Rev. Bob Baird M.S.W. Kathryn DenHoutter Ph. D.

CYBERSEX ADDICTIONS: WARNING SIGNS

It is estimated that 1 in 5 American Internet users are engaged in some form of on-line sexual activity (primarily viewing cyberporn and/or engaging in cybersex). For some it is mere curiosity; for others it is an addiction. Most partners of cybersex addicts do not realize what is wrong, except that something "just isn't right." Here are a few things to look for which might indicate a cybersex addiction:
Change in sleep patterns Online meeting places typically heat up in the wee hours, and cybersex compulsives often stay up later or may arise early for private computer time.
A demand for privacy An online sex addict may move the computer into a secluded area where the door can be locked and may react with anger or defensiveness if disturbed or interrupted while online.
Ignoring other responsibilities The cybersex addict may spend more time "at the office" at the expense of family time, or become so fixated on online sex that ordinary chores are ignored. In more than one case, parents have forgotten to pick up their children from school or an activity.
Evidence of lying An addict may hide credit card bills for online services or lie about the reasons for their extensive use of the Internet. Addicts may also promise their partners that they will quit or cut back their Internet use, but the effort is typically short-lived and frequently repeated.
Personality Changes A person is often surprised and confused to see how much their partner's moods and behaviors have changed since the Internet engulfed them. A once warm and sensitive wife becomes cold and withdrawn. A formerly jovial husband turns quiet and brooding. And if the cybersex abuser is questioned about the relationship between

these changes and the Internet activity, there is a tendency to shift the blame to the non offending partner.
Loss of interest in partner sex Many cybersex addicts have little or no interest in (or energy left) for more normal sexual outlets. Partners are often mystified by the demise of their sex lives and begin to wonder if they themselves have a problem. If they know about the online activity, they may despair of competing with idealized computer images.

Financial Focus

With Christopher J. Bouma

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NO TIME TO BE ON INVESTMENT "SIDELINES"

Disappointing investment results in 2000 may be sending some people out of the market and onto the "sidelines" - where they'll wait for things "to get better" before jumping back in. But is it a good idea to take a timeout from investing? Not really.
If you're investing for the long term, you always have to be looking into the future - far beyond today's headlines. And no matter what the market as a whole is doing, you can always find areas that offer strong potential for growth. Plus, when the market is down, you may be able to pick up high-quality stocks at good prices.
Furthermore, by staying invested, you won't miss out on any market upturns. Remember, the market can rise just as quickly as it can fall. If you're off to the side, just watching, you could be left behind quickly when the market takes off. And there's ample historical evidence that it could do just that: over long periods of time, stocks have typically trended up, overcoming the down years and bear markets.

Parents/students have fair amount of questions for colleges and universities

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

There were 17 West Michigan High Schools represented at the third annual Lowell College Fair Thursday night.



There were 41 colleges and universities represented at the Lowell High School College Fair.

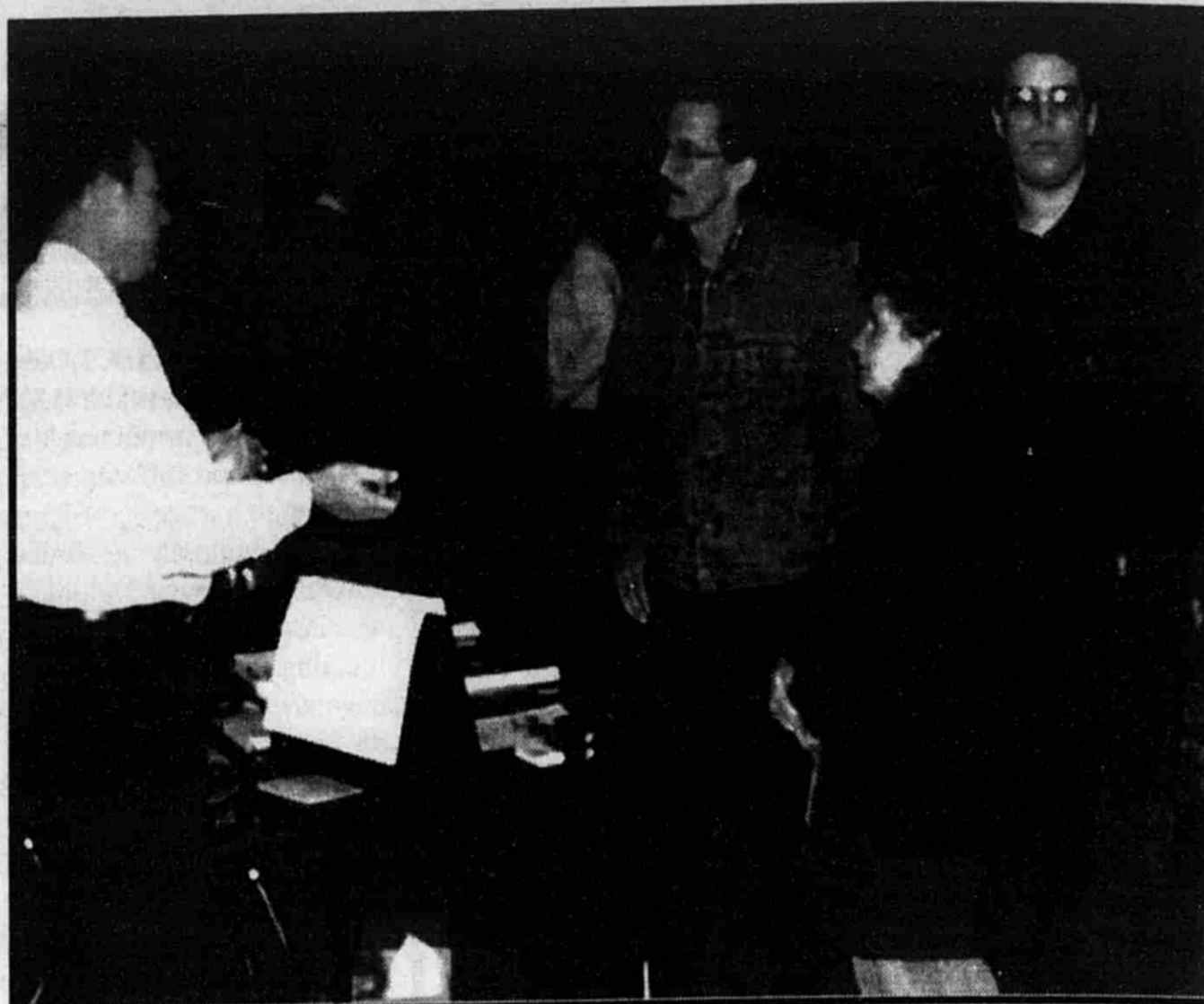
Students and parents had the opportunity to research and visit with 41 colleges, six military schools and one military academy.

The academic event was coordinated and organized by

the Lowell High School Student Services Center (Barb Pierce, Lisa Nauta, Nancy Biener, Bob VanBelois and Mary Moore).

Also available for questions and advice on making the transition from high school to college was a nine-member panel consisting of Mike and Marsha LaHaye, Pam Geer, Cathy Akers, Jim and Jane Bosserd, Keith Valentine (Aquinas College), Alana Valentine (Grand Valley State University) and Ryan Mix (Cornerstone College).

The college fair also offered sessions on financial aid, computer programs on colleges, and scholarship searches.



The college fair was open to students and parents from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday.

Two Destination Imagination teams earn tickets to state competition

Two Lowell Destination Imagination teams earned firsts at the regional in Grand Haven Saturday.

The high school and middle school teams will now advance to the state level in the creative problem solving competition in late April at Central Michigan University.

The Lowell High School team, managed by Sally McAlpine and assistant Shirley Oracz, took first place in the category of Incredible Technical Effects.

Judges were impressed by the team's production of a ghost story, complete with special effects, prop design and development. They also commended the team's acting ability, musical skills and overall team work. Members

of the team are Mark Hyzer, Erin Hollister, Amanda Oracz, Kelsay Myers, Anthony Pedley and Katie McAlpine.

The Lowell Middle School team, managed by Lori Ingraham, advanced to the state level Destination Imagination competition with a first-place ranking on the Triplixity problem.

The team of Tim Hollister, Adam Ingraham, Andrew Wilterink, Abbot Kastanek and Randy Fryer created a structure of balsa wood, paper and glue that withstood 125 pounds of pressure. In addition, they combined a performance skit complete with a rotating set to chronicle the life and career of a humble plumber. Judges

made special note of the team's creativity and set design.

Middle school and Cherry Creek Elementary second teams also competed in the Mystery Loves Company problem.

The middle school team, managed by Ginger Koning, presented a technical mystery involving the search for understanding the laws of conservative energy.

The elementary team, managed by Deb Rissi, presented a mystery about the disappearance of two pandas on loan from the Chinese government and the international embarrassment that followed until the mystery was solved by diligent detectives.

"It was a long day filled

with jitters and excitement. It was a culmination of many

months of hard work. The kids represented Lowell

well," said McAlpine.



Members of the Lowell High School Destination Imagination teams which qualified for the state competition, pictured left to right, are: Shirley Oracz/assistant manager, Mark Hyzer, Sally McAlpine/manager, Erin Hollister, Amanda Oracz, Kelsay Myers, Anthony Pedley and Katie McAlpine.

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CLASS OF 2001 PAYMENTS DUE
Senior overnigher final payments will be taken Thursday, March 22 and Friday, March 23 during all lunch hours. Very important to get your money in this week.

DRIVER TRAINING SIGN-UP
Lowell Area School District students may pick up application forms for this summer's driver training program at Lowell High School, Lowell Middle School or Unity High School. Cost is \$75 and includes Segment 2. Deadline Friday, March 30 with birth certificate. Call Al Eckman for further info. 897-4125.

DREAMCATCHERS PHOTO EXHIBITION
Photographs by Terry and Lori Huff of DreamCatchers will be displayed at Huntington National Bank, 414 E. Main St. now thru April 17 during regular business hours. For more information, contact Lorain Smaligan at the Lowell Area Arts Council at 897-8545.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BLOOD DRIVE
The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood

Lowell Area Schools warmly invites all parents of children who will be five years old by December 1st to join in our

COUNTDOWN TO KINDERGARTEN

Come, relax and learn about our kindergarten program from your child's principal, kindergarten staff and fellow parents

BUSHNELL ELEMENTARY APRIL 10, 2001*
ALTO ELEMENTARY APRIL 12, 2001*

*Sign-up for spring Student Visitation 6:00-6:30 p.m.
Parent Meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Convenient ways to receive Countdown to Kindergarten informational packet prior to this gathering. Visit our website to have a packet mailed to you. Our web address is www.lowell.k12.mi.us. Telephone either Alto (868-6111) or Bushnell (897-8471). A packet will be mailed to you. Mail provided postcard from local preschool or area business and a packet will be mailed to you. Stop in at Alto or Bushnell office and pick up information packet in person. or mail the form below to:

BUSHNELL ELEMENTARY 700 ELIZABETH ST., LOWELL, MI 49331

Student Name: _____
Home Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Birthdate _____
Parents Names _____
Attendance Area (Circle One) Alto Bushnell

We look forward to meeting you!

drive for the Grand Valley Blood program on Wednesday, March 21 from 3-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station located at 315 S. Hudson.

CONCERT CHORALE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
First Baptist Church will present a program of special music on Wednesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. with the Concert Chorale of Baptist Bible College of Clarks Summit, Pa. The public is invited to hear this 45-member chorale.

YOUTH SOCCER DEADLINE
The Lowell YMCA soccer deadline is Thursday, March 22 for ages 3 years old up to the eighth grade. For information, call 897-8445.

WITTENBACH CENTER ADOPT-A-STREAM
There will be an informational session on Adopt-A-Stream at the Wittenbach Center for all community members on Thursday, March 22 from 7-8:30 p.m. Discussion on how the quality of Lee (Cherry) Creek can be improved. Call Tammy at 987-1002 with questions.

LOWELL FIRE DEPT. PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Look Memorial Fire Station at 315 S. Hudson will hold a Lowell Area Fire Dept. pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 24 from 7-11 a.m. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee and milk will be served. Donations at the door. Proceeds go toward fire equipment.

WATERCOLOR AND GOUCHE PAINTING WORKSHOP
The Lowell Area Arts Council is offering a free workshop of watercolor and gouche painting with instructor David Davis on Sunday, March 25 from 1-4 p.m. at 149 S. Hudson. The workshop is open to the public.

Township Office, cont'd... From Page 1

existing site at 6059 Linfield SE. That cost is estimated to be a little over \$353,000.

Another option was to renovate the existing office. The

FALLSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING
Fallsburg Historical Society will have a potluck supper, annual meeting and board election on Monday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m. at Schneider Manor. Dr. Joseph Grubbs of Grand Valley State U. will speak on "Tips for Successful Association Boards." Visitors are welcome.

LOWELL HOCKEY OPEN HOUSE/TRYOUT
The Lowell hockey program will be hosting an open house and tryout for the 2001-2002 junior varsity hockey team on Tuesday, March 27 from 6:30 - 9 p.m. at Michigan National Ice Center. 7th thru 10th graders interested in playing hockey are invited to attend. Safety equipment is required for the skating session. Questions? Contact Jim Blair at 897-6436 or Paul Jacobus at 241-2447.

LAAC SEEKING YOUNG ACTORS
Auditions will take place at the Lowell Area Arts Council on April 9, 10 and 11 beginning at 7 p.m. for boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 12. Sue Bradford of the Thebes Players is seeking four boys and two girls for a science fiction fantasy, *Close Encounters with the Third Grade*. Performances will be at Lowell Middle School on June 1, 2 and 3. For information and to borrow a script, call 897-8545.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MEETING
The Lowell Area Schools Athletic Booster Club meeting will be held on Monday, April 9 at 7 p.m. following spring break. Please come and help support our athletes.

SPRING ARTS CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS
The Lowell Area Arts Council will be offering its spring visual art and theatre classes for children and adults from April 9 - June 4. To receive a listing of classes, call 897-8545.

estimated cost is \$363,535.
Other options being discussed are:
• Building behind the fire hall: \$422,450.
• Building adjacent to the historic hall: \$433,450.
• Building a new hall on 92nd St.: \$464,950;
• Purchasing Dari's Restaurant: \$551,700.
"There are no guarantees with anything that might be done to the current building," Siler said. To which treasurer Sally Johnson replied, "Then that would be like throwing good money on top of bad money."
Asked whether the township could sell its current township building, Siler said he doubted it could in its existing condition.
The only thing clear following discussions on the township hall is that board talk will continue.

Attn: Victorian Home Owners

Recently we had an influx of buyers interested in the Lowell area. But, we seem to be short on available properties for them to purchase!

In particular, I have a qualified buyer who would like to purchase a historic Victorian home. Maybe yours is perfect for them. Although their situation is time sensitive, if you have been tossing around the idea of selling, maybe this would be the perfect time!

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter, thank you for your time.

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CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2001.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Myers and the City Clerk called Roll. Present: Councilmembers Brubaker, Green, Shores and Mayor Pro Tem Myers. Absent: Mayor Blough. Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Police Chief Jim Valentine, Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Boardmembers Charles Doyle and Norm Borgerson, Lowell Light and Power Office Manager Mary Sawka, Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent George Regan, and Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER and seconded by GREEN to excuse the absence of Mayor Blough.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2001 regular meeting as written.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BRUBAKER that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (03/05/01)

GENERAL FUND	\$76,365.46
MAJOR STREET FUND	\$129.40
LOCAL STREET FUND	\$129.39
DDA FUND	\$14,203.81
AIRPORT FUND	\$65.68
WASTEWATER FUND	\$106.94
WATER FUND	\$1,919.55
DATA PROCESSING FUND	\$220.80
EQUIPMENT FUND	\$455.43
INVESTMENT FUND	\$20.00
CURRENT TAX FUND	\$799,092.56
LOOK FUND	\$750.00

Item #1. AUTHORIZATION OF 2001-2002 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AGREEMENT. As required by Kent County in order to comply with federal CDBG requirements, an agreement must be approved if funds are to be received. City Manager Pasquale recommended that the Council approve the agreement at this meeting authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the document.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve authorization of 2001-2002 Community Development Block Grant Program Agreement and authorize Mayor Michael Blough and City Clerk Betty Morlock to sign the document.

Mayor Pro Tem Myers questioned the revision of assets section of the agreement. He asked if the City had ever sold or transferred any property in the program. Pasquale responded no. For the most part, roads are paved and water mains are installed through the program. He noted there are strict requirements which must be followed.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. PRESENTATION OF THE LIGHT AND POWER AND CABLE TV 1999-2000 AUDITS. Virgil Biggs and Joe Turnes of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson presented their firm's findings on last year's accounts and records regarding Light and Power and Cable TV.

Turnes explained the Table of Contents from the report presented is divided into two sections. The detailed

information for the funds are located in the back of the report under "Supplemental". The "Consolidated" information is brought forward to the front of the report.

Turnes read from the Independent Auditors' Report and stated in their opinions, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Lowell - Light and Power and Cable Television Funds, as of June 30, 2000. He noted this was the same opinion given for the City last month. It is an unqualified or a clean opinion. This means they, as auditors, did not find any significant deficiencies in the financial statements.

Statement of Income Retained Earnings. The operating revenues of Lowell Light and Power for the year 2000 were \$4,169,444. This is an increase of \$312,000 over the previous year. The expenses for 2000 under Operation and Maintenance were \$3,603,754, with depreciation of \$303,635, and the payment in lieu of taxes of \$160,051 for a total operating expense for Lowell Light and Power of \$4,067,440. This is approximately a \$118,000 increase over the previous year. With an increase in revenue of \$312,000 and an increase and expenses of \$100,000, there should be an increase in operating income of approximately \$200,000. The operating income for 2000 is \$102,000, while there was a loss of \$91,649 for 1999. If added to the operating income, the non-operating revenues and expenses, interest income and the net increase in fair market value for a total net income in 2000 is \$254,108. For 1999, it was \$82,942. This is due mainly to a better-cost allocation of Light and Power allocating expenses to Cable. For example, the General Manager's salaries and fringe benefits in previous years was allocated as much as 80 percent to Light and Power with only 20 percent to Cable. This year, it was closer to 55 percent Light and Power and 45 percent Cable. This is why a decrease in expenses was seen in Light and Power and an increase in expenses for Cable TV. The bottom line net income for Light and Power was \$254,000.

Lowell Cable Television

The operating revenues for 2000 are \$773,838 compared to \$687,551 in 1999. This is approximately a 12% increase. It is mostly due to the rate increase, which took effect in November, 1999.

The operation and maintenance expenses for 2000 were \$802,860 versus \$637,342. This, again, is a significant increase over the previous year. It has been due to the increase in the program expenses, increases in the payroll expenses and the allocation from Light and Power providing a more precise allocation of their expenses to Cable.

There was a depreciation of \$94,000, with a total operating expense of \$897,492 for the year. Operating Income (Loss) is (\$123,654) versus (\$31,028) in 1999. If added to the operating revenues and expenses, the net loss for the year is (\$131,591) versus (\$31,263). This significant decrease in loss was due to allocating expenses more precisely.

Mayor Pro Tem Myers commented on the growth margin of subscriber costs. He understood there was a plan in place to increase rates to help differentiate the difference. Richards responded Lowell Cable TV is in the second year of the three year approved rate increase. This will bring revenues more in line with the expenses. There is also a 7 1/2 percent increase budgeted for October of this year.

Myers stated the subscriber counts seem to have marginally increased over time. Richards noted there has been a 5 percent increase over the last year. Pasquale noted it would appear the return earnings would be eroding if this is maintained.

Turnes referred to the retained earnings for 2000 of \$245,098. He stated if there are two more years of losses, it would wipe out the retained earnings and a deficit would appear.

Myers inquired if there was a solution to eliminate the losses. Richards stated this represents the 1999-2000 fiscal year. It is not believed there will be losses to the same extent in the current year or future years. There has also been some cost controls and additional marketing efforts implemented.

Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Boardmember Norm Borgerson explained the losses were projected when the rate increase was proposed a few years ago.

Turnes read from the "Comments and Recommendations" letter. He stated a question has arisen regarding whether the fixed office costs used by both departments should be shared, or alternatively be considered wholly by Light and Power with Cable Television leasing its share. The firm believed it would be appropriate for Cable Television to lease space from Light and Power as long as the rate is a reasonable amount.

Myers asked if there had been any accounting of revenue so far in terms of the space being divided between the two. Richards responded the Cable's portion of the office renovation was paid in cash. However, it was reversed when at the end of the year, it was realized what the negative cash flow would do to the Cable's retained earnings and available funds. At the time, opinions were received from Biggs, Hausserman and another CPA firm on whether it would be realistic to lease the space over time rather than to pay for the office renovation from cash. They now have opinions from both supporting the lease option. The Board will be considering this at the next meeting and then bring this to the Council depending on their decision.

Brubaker noted there has never been a definite conclusion on the issue of the legality of the lease between one City department to another. City Attorney Richard Wendt's preliminary opinion was one that he did not think this could be done. Wendt did not believe such a lease would be legal, but there was further discussion and a definitive conclusion has not been reached.

Virgil Biggs referred to the ordinance which established the Cable Television. It reviews the sharing of services. It does provide reference if there are shared services. An attempt should be made to charge an amount for providing the service. There seems to be precedence even in the ordinance which allows for the sharing of costs. Biggs thought rather than create a situation to determine which entity has legal title to a portion of a building and then the other has a percentage legal portion, it may be better to have one single entity the primary owner of the real-estate. Then, the use of those facilities could be leased to the other entity. He thought there must be a recognition of the uniqueness of enterprise funds. Enterprise funds are intended to be those which have a rate established to cover the reasonable cost of operation. This is why there is a little more allocating in cost when dealing with entities as these who have a rate structure which is intended to cover its costs. This charge goes directly to those who are benefiting from the service rather than citizenry as a whole.

Brubaker stated the legal issue stems from the fact that he did not believe Light and Power was the fee owner of the property. It is actually the City of Lowell.

Brubaker believed it would work as an accounting method. However, he wondered if there was another way to accomplish this without calling it a lease and actually entering into an agreement.

Turnes reviewed the MPPA Trust Monies. He stated during the past year, MPPA settled with Detroit Edison and was awarded monies, which were allocated amongst the members who participated in the Belle River Project. Lowell Light and Power elected to have their share remain in a trust (Municipal Competitive Trust) created by MPPA. This money can be used to offset future power costs, if needed. These funds have been recorded as an other asset of Light and Power and as deferred revenue (liability). This money will not be recognized as income until it is used for allowable purposes.

Turnes reviewed the Utility Reserve Fund. The Lowell Light and Power Department currently has restricted assets of \$600,000 for the utility reserve fund as provided by Section 16.11 of the City Charter. The amount of the reserve was last revised in November 1992. It was recommended the Board periodically consider the need to increase the reserve for equipment replacement in light of inflation and the minimum requirements established in the Charter. (Minimum of 10% of the current replacement value of Lowell Light and Power as determined by the Board of Light and Power.)

Pasquale questioned what 10% would be at this point. Turnes was unsure because the Board has not determined a current replacement cost. Biggs stated if just the original cost of the assets are considered, it is about 8 million dollars. But these are not current costs.

Turnes reviewed the combined comments for both Light and Power and Cable TV. The combined payroll costs are as follows:

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Combined payroll for Light and Power and Lowell Cable Television was \$810,758 for the year ending June 30, 2000, compared with \$589,293 for the year ended June 30, 1999. This increase of \$221,465 is comprised of the following:

Three new positions (Operations Manager, \$99,840 Office Assistant and Groundsman)

Overtime and rate increases over the previous year **\$121,625**
Total: **\$221,465**

Turnes noted much of the overtime was associated with the new accounting system.

BUDGETS

Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson believed it would be useful to prepare a detailed payroll summary as an attachment to the annual budget. This report would include pay rates and salaries of the various positions along with an estimation of the various fringe benefit costs associated with each position. This will allow the Boards and Management to identify the payroll costs within the department budgets.

The annual budget should also include anticipated capital spending for the current year and future years along with the proposed funding method.

The budget should be integrated into the General Ledger system to provide revenue/expense monitoring throughout the year.

ACCOUNTING RECORDS

With the exception of the new software problems, the accounting records provided to use were accurate and in good condition. Mary Sawka and the accounting department should be complimented for their efforts.

Councilmember Green recognized the great job done by Mary Sawka and the accounting department.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BRUBAKER to accept the Light and Power and Cable TV 1999-2000 audits as presented.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #3. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LIGHT AND POWER SUBSTATION SITE. Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards explained the critical stage with Light and Power in terms of being able to meet the growth of the electric demand. Several projects must be completed including bringing in the power reliably to the City by means of the transmission line and its inter-connection to the rest of the transmission in the State and where the generation assets are. These are fairly restricted presently because of the old ineffective substation. This is generally the heart of the system and it has to be able to grow and accommodate the continued growth of the system or there will be many serious and long-term effects otherwise. Recognizing these two will be major projects. Light and Power wanted to insure they do the very best job considering all the possible locations.

Light and Power turned to Peter Manlaney of URS Corporation. His company knows the system well and has done much work on it during the past 20 years. The company undertook the project to find the best location for the new substation.

Manlaney stated he was asked to review possible site locations and which would be easiest to maintain.

URS Corporation brought Consumers Energy into Lowell to review where their transmission line is. At this point, there were six locations to investigate. One recommended location was by the existing south substation along Bowes Road. It is the easiest location to hook up the transmission line. They also have to connect this output of the substation to the existing system. It should also be relatively close to where the majority of the growth is.

The other recommended site is on the east side of the Water Treatment Plant in Stoney Lakeside Park. The advantage to this site is the City already owns the property. Whereas the property on the west side of the plant is owned by Grand Rapids Gravel.

Pasquale noted the issue is if the new substation is off of Bowes Road, there would be an opportunity to eliminate the existing substation once the new one has been placed.

Manlaney did not believe anything would have to be done to the new substation for the next 30 to 40 years.

Myers inquired what the advantages were when changing over to Consumers Energy. Manlaney responded from Wolverine is a long radio line. It comes over from the Portland area and Lowell is on the end of it.

Richards also noted Light and Power pays Wolverine approximately \$13,000 a month for the line use. The Wolverine line was built 30 years ago to sustain the system for a projected period of 20 to 30 years. It no longer has the capacity to do this for the future and is also using 30-year-old volts.

Councilmember Green stated the Parks and Recreation Commission has recommended the Stoney Lakeside Park location as long as the substation is screened properly and meets the requirements of the Well Head Protection Plan for the Water Treatment Plant.

Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall noted the Planning Commission recommends the site owned by Grand Rapids Gravel.

Myers questioned if the two sites were comparable in cost. Richards responded the Stoney Lakeside Park location is owned by the City. The area owned by Grand Rapids Gravel would have to be purchased costing approximately \$70,000 to \$80,000.

Pasquale asked Water Treatment Plant Superintendent George Regan if there were concerns regarding the possibility of leakage. Regan was concerned about the possibility of an out of control vehicle crashing into the substation. He did not believe the City should take such a chance when there is the ability to install the substation down stream. Regan explained his job is to protect the well field. Regan believed \$70,000 was a small investment to protect the only well field for the entire town.

Public Works Director Dan DesJarden stated years ago there was a rule made concerning no gasoline motors should be allowed on the lake due to the Well Head Protection Plan.

DesJarden noted this is an expensive project and believed \$80,000 was just a small amount to pay in order to protect the City.

Regan asked how much land was needed. Richards responded the fenced area is 100 by 120 feet.

Green stated he was not fond of expanding this into the park.

Shores inquired if they anticipated any problems with the DEQ. Regan responded the DEQ does not recommend this site. However, the agency can not say anything further at this point.

Shores had concerns about installing the substation in the park where there are children.

Councilmember Brubaker inquired if the item could be tabled until further investigation is done. Richards responded the project was started last June at which time Consumers Energy did a study to determine the potential cost and complications of providing the City with a transmission tap into their system. Consumers has been waiting to begin the process of acquiring property rights and start building. If unable to complete this soon, updated studies will need to be done at the expense of Lowell Light and Power and its customers.

Police Chief Jim Valentine was surprised there was no reference to this site being a disadvantage in a park where children are playing and at times unsupervised.

Brubaker did not want to decide without having all the variables. He was inclined to narrow it down, but could not select a location until all the information was in front of him.

Myers asked to pause for a moment and recognize the Boy Scouts from Troop 102. It was noted this is a requirement for First class badge.

It was also noted the Troop has a ten-year lease with the City for the cabin located on North Washington Street

and appreciated the City's support.

The Council returned back to the substation issue.

Green was not against approving the Grand Rapids Gravel site. He believed it was a good idea to have the substation located downstream.

Richards suggested the Council approve both sites and give the Board of Light and Power the option of working on negotiations with the approval in mind.

Pasquale did not have a problem with his suggestion as long as the Grand Rapids Gravel site is brought before the Council for review.

IT WAS MOVED GREEN to strongly recommend the Grand Rapids Gravel site and to proceed with negotiations up to the budget amount. If a problem occurs where it is not feasible, the issue could be brought before the Council under a closed session review at the next meeting.

Motion died due to lack of support.

Shores did not believe there was enough information to make a decision. She did not want it in the park. Shores also wanted a better estimate of how much it would cost to purchase the site from Grand Rapids Gravel.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to table the substation location issue for two weeks to allow Light and Power to work on negotiations with property acquisition at which time it will be brought back to the Council during a closed session.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #4. APPROVAL OF GAMING LICENSE BY THE MICHIGAN LOTTERY TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION. A request has been submitted by the Rotary Foundation to conduct a fund raising raffle (a boat, motor and trailer donated by Attwood Corporation) in support of a Habitat for Humanity project. The drawing is scheduled for Friday, April 20.

Council approval is petitioned so that a gaming license may be secured.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER and seconded by SHORES to approve the request for the gaming license to the Michigan Lottery for Rotary Foundation.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #5. CITIZEN COMMENTS. Paula Wilbur from West Michigan Chapter of the North Country Trail Association was present. Temporary blazes have been placed on five lampposts throughout the downtown area in order to give Downtown Historic District Commission Chairman Steve Doyle a chance to review. After consulting with Commission members Greg Canfield and Dan Pipe, it was in their opinion to approve these.

Wilbur thanked the Council for the time spent.

Pasquale read the acceptance letter into record:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the markets that will be placed in the Historic District by the North Country Trail Association. The Historic District Commission has approved a 2" X 6" solid blue marking for five of the black cast iron light poles. The five light poles are all on the north side of Main Street and stretch between Hudson Street and the Riverwalk Plaza. The blue marker will be painted on each light pole 72" above grade level. Each of the five light poles will have two markers, one on the east side, and one on the west side.

The markers are unobtrusive and should not be a distraction from the Historic District. We wish all the success to the North Country Trail Association. Again, thank you for the opportunity in assisting the council on this matter.

Sincerely,
Stephen R. Doyle

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve the blue blazes on the five black light posts on Main Street in the downtown.

YEA: 4.

Lowell High School March Students of the Month



Students of the month, left to right, are: Vanessa Beddows, Becky Trierweiler, Kristen Lee and Ryan Hoffman.

March Students of the Month have been selected at Lowell High School. This honor is afforded students who are being recognized for their outstanding efforts in a particular area.

Kristen Lee, the daughter of John and Carol Lee of Lowell, is a freshman and was chosen by the Agriscience Department. She is active at LHS in marching band, FFA, the all-school musical, YMCA Leaders Club, track and is co-captain of the freshman basketball team. She also was a winner in his willing-ness to put in extra hours on his own time to learn to use the equipment and is also willing to teach other students

Vanessa Beddows, a junior, was selected by the Technology Department. She is the daughter of Tom and Carmen Beddows of

Ada. Her extracurricular activities include Model UN and National Honor Society. She is also a member of the YMCA Leaders Club. Beddows' teacher nominator says her excellent work makes her deserving of the honor.

Ryan Hoffman, a senior, was selected by the English Society, the SADD Advisory Board and YMCA Leaders Club. He is the son of Doug Hoffman and the late Jackie Hoffman. At LHS Hoffman participates in Science Olympiad and is a member of the Lowell Performing Arts Center crew. His teacher nominator says he was chosen because of his willingness to put in extra hours on his own time to learn to use the equipment and is also willing to teach other students

what he has learned. Hoffman plans to join the Air Force after graduation.

Becky Trierweiler, the daughter of Tom and Cindy Trierweiler of Lowell, is being honored by the Science Department. She is active at LHS with varsity cheerleading, National Honor Society, the SADD Advisory Board and YMCA Leaders Club. She is also employed by the Southeast YMCA. Her teacher nominator says she has been a role model in her physics class with her hard work in the lab and her desire for excellence. Trierweiler plans to attend Michigan Technological University next year, majoring in mechanical engineering.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The residents of Vergennes Township will hold an Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 31, 2001, at 1:00 p.m. There will be opportunity for residents to comment on any issue regarding the state of the township. The 2001-02 budget will also be reviewed.

The annual meeting will be held at the township offices located at the intersection of Bailey Drive and Parnell Road, address of 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

Financial Focus, continued...From Page 5

Still, there's no question that the market's performance in 2000 was shaky enough to give even experienced investors a case of the jitters. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 6.2 percent for the year—its worst year since 1981 and its first losing year since 1990. But the Dow's slide was dwarfed by the drop in the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index, which tumbled 39.3 percent for the year—its worst year ever.

If you do want to stay in the market, but you don't want to be unnecessarily victimized by drops of these magnitudes, what can you do? Your most important defense is diversification—the distribution of your investment dollars over a variety of asset classes, including income, growth, growth-and-income, aggressive growth, cash and cash equivalents. Diversification can help protect you against downturns affecting just one or two market sectors. And, because you're exposed to a wide range of investments, you'll increase the likelihood that, at any given time, some parts of your portfolio will do well.

Your individual asset allocation mix will depend on several factors, including your risk tolerance, age, objectives and financial resources. A qualified financial professional can help you determine the combination of investments that's right for your situation. Once you've established the asset allocation mix for your portfolio, you'll need to monitor it, and make adjustments as you encounter changes in your life. For instance, as you move closer to retirement, and you've achieved some of your important goals—college for your kids, a paid-off house, etc.—then you may want to alter your asset allocation mix somewhat, possibly moving a certain percentage of your portfolio out of the "growth" area and into "income."

Even with a carefully prepared asset allocation plan, there's no guarantee that you will avoid losses, especially in the short term. But if you've chosen high-quality investments, and you have the patience to stick with them over the long term, you should do a lot better in the market than out of it.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Pete Odland wishes to establish a 10 K walk in Lowell as a fundraising event. Proceeds would go toward the fight against Cystic Fibrosis. He indicated his four-year-old son has the disease. The walk would take place on Saturday, May 19, 2001. The home base would be at Calvary Christian Reformed Church and would be very similar to the Crop walk. Rest stops would be located at Creekside and Richards Parks.

Councilmember Shores suggested a rest stop be located at the Riverwalk.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to support the Cystic Fibrosis 10 K walk to be held on Saturday, May 19, 2001.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Valentine appreciated the Council reviewing the substation location further. He believed Regan had a legitimate concern. Valentine was surprised the current substation location had never been run into. It could be a potential disaster. Valentine suggested the substation be located away from the park.

Jim Hall reminded the Council Lowell Cable TV would be receiving approximately \$1,000 a month from the cell tower rental.

Item #6. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Brubaker reported the Chamber of Commerce presented a plan which is interesting and wanted the Council to receive a copy at some point in the future. Pasquale noted the Downtown Development Authority had a goal

setting session in light of this plan. There are a number of items they were charged with and coming together with projects which would directly support the plan.

Myers invited the Councilmembers to the Kent District Library Service Center on March 29, 2001 at the new service center.

Myers also shared a report from the Lowell Youth Football League. This is the 2000 end of season report. He mentioned it because he requested an accounting record concerning Burch Field. Their expenses have been about \$25,500, leaving approximately \$1500 to carry forward for next year. The report indicates the underground sprinkling system, which has improved the field. There was also reference to some improving some of the City assets which include the concession stand, announcer's booth, a curb surrounding the field and fresh coat of paint and flowers, as well as a new sound system.

Pasquale noted the Lowell Youth Football League was giving this a one-year agreement and is interested in extending it to five years.

Councilmember Green suggested Pasquale work with the President of the League and present an agreement at the next meeting.

Item #7. MANAGER'S REPORT. City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

1. Copies of the January 22, 2001 Planning Commission meeting minutes were provided.
2. The Board of Review will meet: Wednesday, March 7 at 9 a.m. to receive and review the various Assessment rolls; Wednesday, March 14 to hear appeals 9 a.m.- 12 noon & 1:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.
3. Mark Batchelor announced an open house for his newly renovated building at 219 East Main Street. It will

be held on Friday, March 16th from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

The building has improved greatly. Batchelor and the community have much to be proud of.

4. Additionally the Lowell Area Community Fund has approved the School Resource Officer funding for \$22,670. This will be adding a full time police presence to the Lowell Area Schools.

Police Chief Jim Valentine stated they are meeting with school officials and hope to have the program up and running very soon.

Item #8. APPOINTMENTS. Mayor Pro Tem Myers noted the five vacancies for Local Officers Compensation Commission. He questioned how the positions are filled. City Manager Pasquale stated the Commission usually meets toward the latter part of an odd numbered year with rates. The Boards charge is to review compensation of the Council.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to adjourn to closed session at 9:10 p.m. pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to return to open session at 9:19 p.m.

YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.
IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, March 19, 2001
Michael K. Blough, Mayor
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk

Batchelor's work brings together historical past with new opportunity

••• The newly renovated historical Robert Graham-designed building at 219 E. Main was unveiled to the public on Friday. North Country Trail Association moved into its new national headquarters on Sunday ... bringing together Lowell's historic past and its exciting and promising future.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

City and business dignitaries gathered to celebrate the preservation and renovation of a historic building on Friday, which was architecturally designed in 1870 by Robert Graham.

Since then, the building has been many things to many people, most notably a hardware store (Western Auto) and grocery stores owned by Bob Hahn and Carl Monroe. Two years ago it looked like a building ready to be razed/demolished and then, "It was like someone dropped a mason from the sky," said Jim Doyle, president of the Lowell Area Historic District in reference to Mark Batchelor, Lowell Township resident and planning commissioner.

Batchelor wasn't just a mason - he was a mason with an appreciation for the

building's architectural history and significance.

After a lot of blood, sweat and capital to fund such a renovation project, Batchelor "has brought together the historical past and new opportunity," said Lowell mayor, Michael Blough. "His effort, I think, exemplifies what this community has begun to embrace - a commitment to growth but without the removal of historical buildings."

The Lowell Township resident admits it wasn't until after he got into the project that the historical aspect became of greater significance to him.

"The real reason I took on this project was I knew if I didn't, someone else was going to," Batchelor explained. "It would have killed me to drive by the building, knowing that I had passed on the opportunity."

It's been an opportunity he's shared with his children Matthew and Brittney.

"They've been here for a lot of it. They know what is closed up inside these walls," Batchelor explains.

They will be able to share that with their children. "I plan on keeping this building for a long time," Batchelor said.

Lowell planning commission chairman, Jim Hall called the newly renovated building a marvelous addition to the city. "It has great architectural significance. Mark did an excellent job with the renovation. It was a huge investment on his part."

That's good, because North Country Trail Association, a lessee of the building at 219 E. Main, is like the Appalachian Trail ... only twice as long. When completed, it will be a premier hiking and backpacking trail, extending more than 4,000 miles across seven states - New York, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, North Dakota, Pennsylvania and Minnesota. "About a third of the trail has been completed," said Bob Papp, the North Country Trail National Association's executive director.

There are currently 21 North Country Trail chapters across the seven states.

As the permanent home of the national headquarters of the North Country Trail, Lowell will become a "point on the map" for a growing community of hikers.

"As the North Country Trail develops around Lowell, more and more trail users will make a point of visiting the town and the national headquarters," explained Papp. "Residents of the Lowell area who are interested in volunteering with us will have the satisfaction of knowing that they are not only helping the community, but also contributing to a significant national resource."

On Sunday, the first group of volunteers stepped forward as 12 members of the Lowell varsity football team and its head coach Noel Dean helped the association move into its new digs.

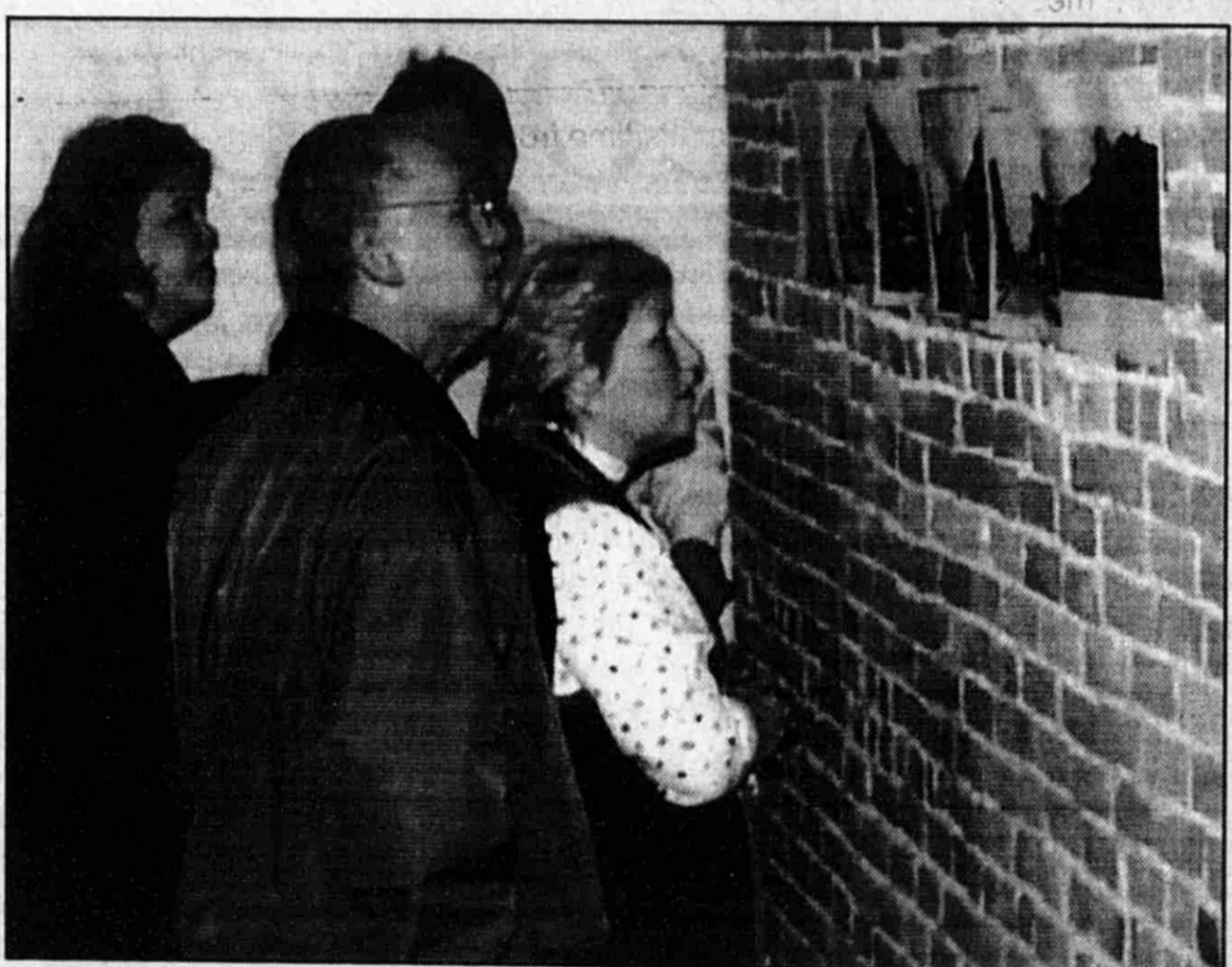
"It took us (staff and volunteers) five hours to load up the two trucks from our Grand Rapids' location. The football players had both trucks unloaded in roughly 40 minutes," Papp said. "We are grateful for their help."

Papp, staff and volunteers opened the doors to their office on Monday.

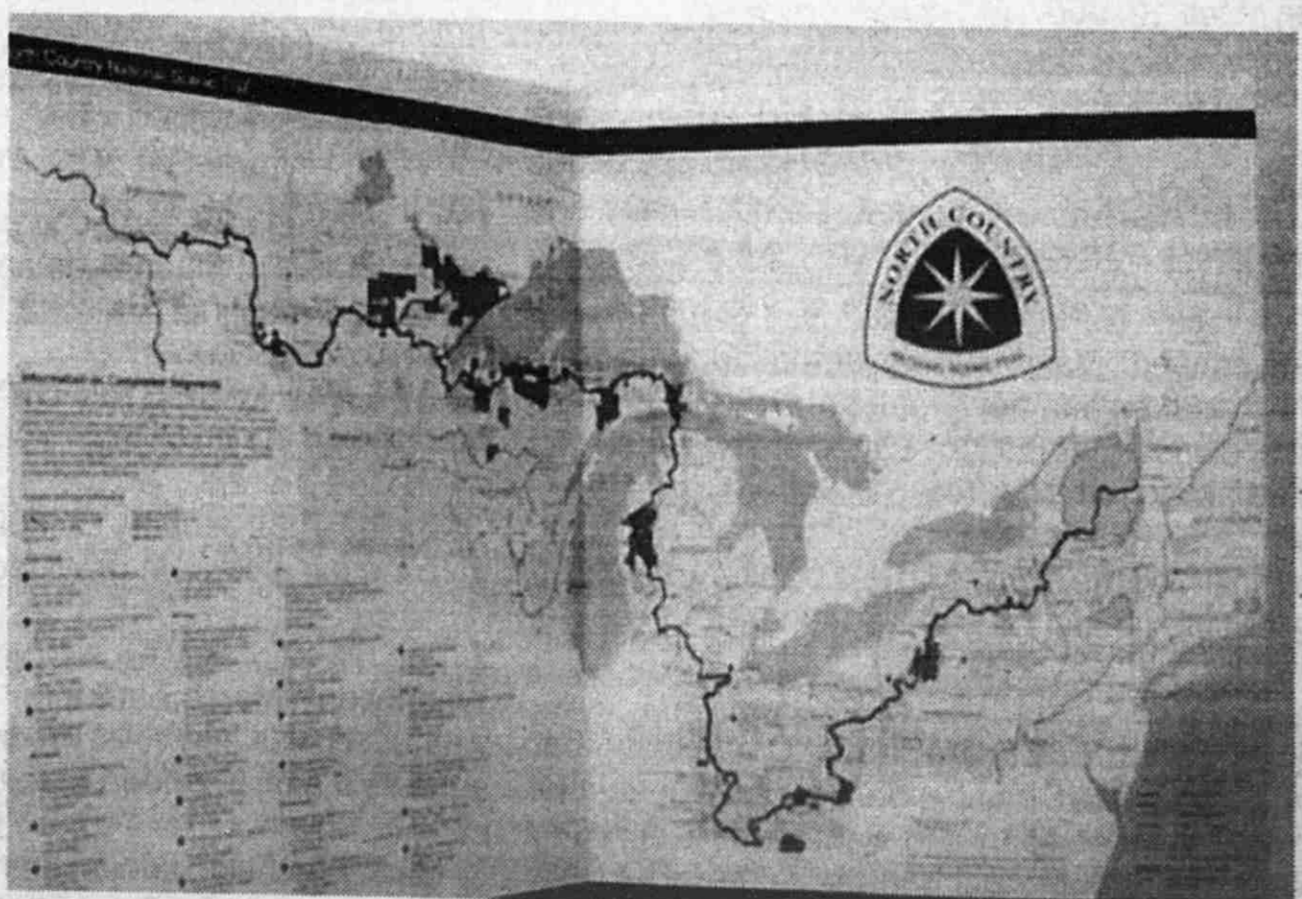
"This is awesome. We have about triple the floor space. I'm very impressed with the work Mark has done to this building. We've known for six months that we would be moving here. We're thankful to be here," said association staff work, Margie Kindel.



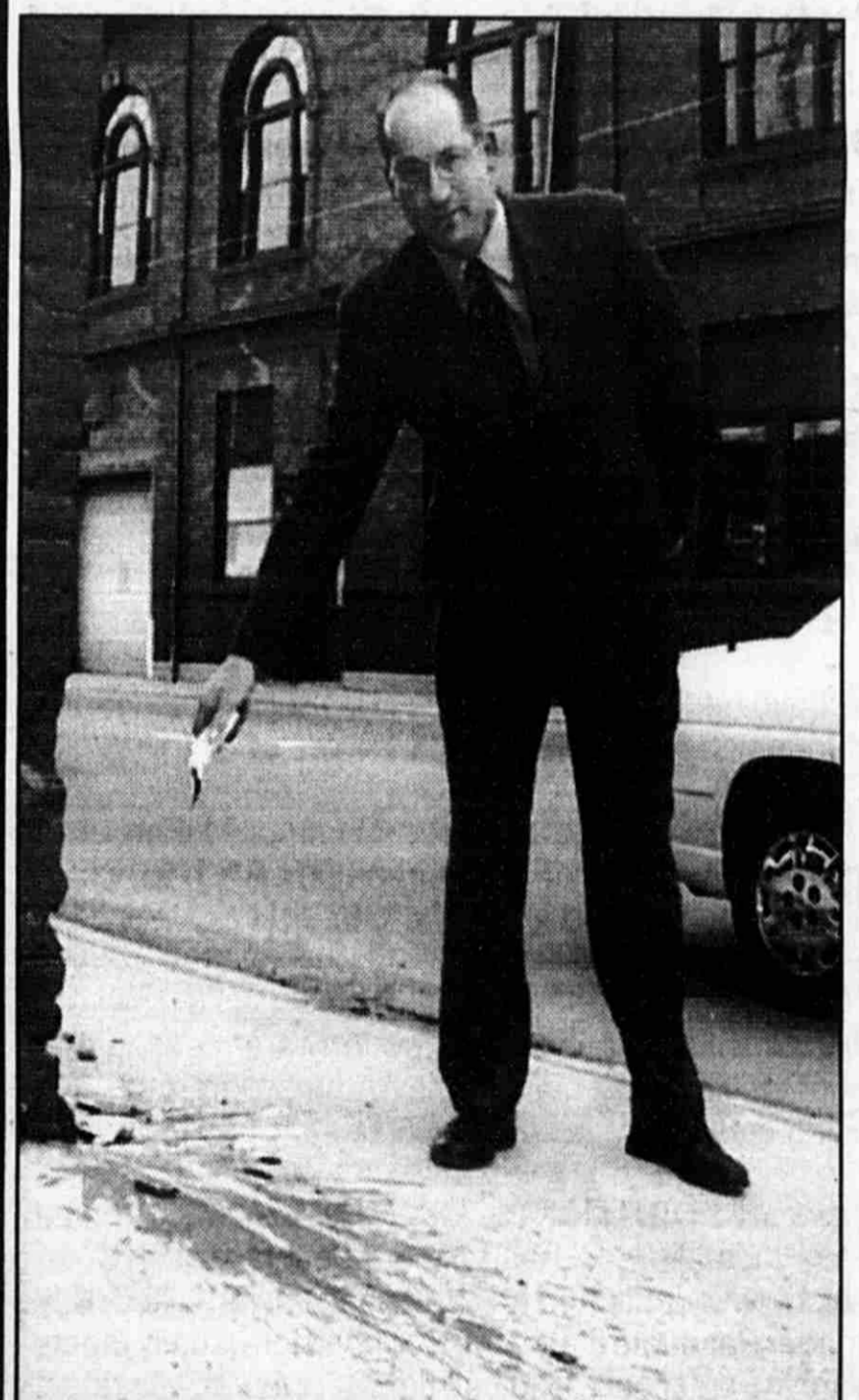
Mark Batchelor's restoration of what used to be (below) compared to how the 1870 building stands now (above) is quite remarkable.



Residents who attended the open house got to refresh their memory of how the building looked in years past.



The North Country Trail will cover seven states and over 4,000 miles.



Mark Batchelor christened the newly restored building with a bottle of champagne.



Following a brief ceremony, a little over 80 residents toured the newly renovated building.

COMING EVENTS

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

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

SECOND SUN. 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 residents. Interested persons meet in the Activity Room, Wing "C."

EVERY MON.: Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. See poster in high school cafeteria or call 676-1355 for details.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallsburg Historical Society holds its monthly board meeting in the meeting room of Englehardt Library at 7 p.m. Public invited.

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

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Bowne Township Historical Society holds its regular meetings at the Historical Museum at 84th and Alden Nash, 7:30 p.m.

MON. OR TUES.: Cub Scouts for boys in 1st - 5th grades, in Alto or in Lowell. Contact Terry Amidon at 897-8751 for more information.

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

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

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 10210, for boys 11 & up or completing the 5th-grade, meet 7 to 8:30 p.m. during the school year in the Scout Cabin at the end

of N. Washington St. Enjoy activities like hiking and camping and learn skills that can last a lifetime. For info call Terry Cavanaugh, 868-6481.

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

TUES.: Flat River Woodcarvers meet at LAAC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. New members welcome.

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. No cost. All welcome. For info, call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

1ST TUES.: WINGS Parent Group meetings from 7:30 to 9 p.m., usually in Board Room at 300 High St. Business meetings are on odd months & program meetings on even months. Open to any interested parents.

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

EVERY TUES.: Women's Community Bible study. Free nursery and preschool story hour/crafts time from 10 to 11:15 a.m. & women only at 7:30 p.m. Calvary Chr. Ref. Church across from Burger King. For information call 897-7060 or 897-7555.

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

EVERY 3RD TUES.: Parents of children with AD/HD Issues Group meeting at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 32156 4 Mile NE (& E. Beltline) at 7 p.m. For info., call Linda at 874-5662. For teen group info., call Sarah 281-6588.

EVERY 1ST 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 - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

EVERY WED.: Pioneer Clubs 6:30-8 p.m. Evergreen Missionary Church, 10501 Settlewood Dr. Children ages 4 thru 7th grade. Call 897-5894 for details.

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

EVERY WED.: Rotary meets at noon at Lowell Masonic Temple.

EVERY SECOND WED.: G.F.W.C. Lowell Women's Club meets at 12 p.m. 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 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.

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

THURS.: Weight Watchers meets at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 7 p.m. Registration is 1/2 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 adolescents at the school. From 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; on Mondays from 5:30 - 8 p.m. Phone 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club examines theater-related topics, creative and personal development skills. Meetings held at Lowell Middle School choir room. For information call 897-1502 after 5 p.m.

FIRST AND THIRD THURS.: The Alto Lions Club meets at Bowne Center Fellowship Hall, corner of 84th & M-50 (Alden Nash) at 7 p.m.

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

EVERY SECOND THURS.: Lowell V.F.W.

Auxiliary #8303 meets at 3:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post, 307 W. Main St., Lowell.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents is a support group at Franciscan Life Process Center offering a variety of topics and discussion geared to parents of children all ages. Call 897-7842 for time.

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; 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 light breakfast. For information, 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 Simplex Frequency 147.420 PL 186.2.

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

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. - Wed., Noon - 8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri., 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting held third Mon. 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.

THURS., MARCH 22: Wittenbach Center will be hosting an Adopt-A-Stream info. session for all community members from 7-8:30 p.m. Discussion on the health of Lee (Cherry) Creek. Direct ?s to Tammy at 987-1002.

THURS. & FRI., MARCH 22 & 23: Class of 2001 Senior overnigher final payment due during all lunch hours. Please get your money in - very important.

SAT. MARCH 24: Men's Retreat 8:30 - 4 p.m., Franciscan Life Process Center. Lunch provided, fee by donation. Call Sister Colleen Ann Nagle, 897-7842.

SUN., MARCH 25: St. Mary Pregnancy Center, 402 Amity, is hosting an open house from 3-5 p.m.

FRI., MARCH 30: "S.C.A.M.M. FOLLIES," 7 p.m. at Saranac High School. Tickets: \$5 adults/ \$3 seniors; available at Hometown Hardware or at the door.

FRI. & SAT., APRIL 27 & 28: Workshop on translating banner design into fabric art at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9-4 p.m. Cost is \$55; includes fabric. Call John at 897-7842 for info.

FRI. & SAT., APRIL 27 & 28: Workshop on translating banner design into fabric art at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9-4 p.m. Cost is \$55; includes fabric. Call John at 897-7842 for info.

MON. - FRI.: 1 hour guided educational farm tours offered at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9-5 p.m. \$2 per person. Call Kathleen Rahe at 897-7842.

THURS., APRIL 5: Vergennes Cooperative Club at Schneider Manor at 1 p.m. Program: Andy Retberg, Community Development director Lowell YMCA. Also collecting food items for Access 6. Dues are payable at this time. Hostesses: Julia Hurley, Aileen McCabe, Norann DeLoof. Sponsor: Phyllis Bieri.

THURS., MARCH 22: 11 a.m. Explanation of RSV; 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Target & Dollar Stores.

FRI., MARCH 23: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Meijer.

TUES., MARCH 27: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Sam's Club.

SAT., MARCH 31: Chinese calligraphy class with artist Xixiang He from 9 - 4 p.m. Cost \$60, includes materials. At Franciscan Life Process Center. Call John at 897-7842 for info.

MON. - FRI.: 1 hour guided educational farm tours offered at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9-5 p.m. \$2 per person. Call Kathleen Rahe at 897-7842.

THURS., APRIL 5: Vergennes Cooperative Club at Schneider Manor at 1 p.m. Program: Andy Retberg, Community Development director Lowell YMCA. Also collecting food items for Access 6. Dues are payable at this time. Hostesses: Julia Hurley, Aileen McCabe, Norann DeLoof. Sponsor: Phyllis Bieri.

THURS., APRIL 12: Rave seminar at LHS Performing Arts Center, 7:30-9 p.m. Rave Drugs - Things to look for. Open to the public.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

MON.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall. **THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk/shop at the malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1 p.m. Euchre.

TUES.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall. **FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

WED.: 12:30 p.m. Shop at Family Fare.

SPECIAL EVENTS

THURS., MARCH 22: 11 a.m. Explanation of RSV; 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Target & Dollar Stores.

THURS., MARCH 29: 12:40 p.m. Dance, West Side Complex.

FRI., MARCH 23: 12:40 p.m. Shopping at Meijer.

FRI., MARCH 30: 12:40 p.m. Bingo.

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City sells property to only bidder: Lowell Wesleyan Church

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

The Lowell Wesleyan Church got what it wanted - a small piece of city-owned property located on N. Hudson, at what some might consider quite the deal. The property, appraised

at \$1,300 by city assessor, Jim Marfia, was sold to the church for \$500.

"I think it is a great opportunity for us to put this property back on the tax rolls," said councilmember Don Green, who made the motion to sell the land to the church.

Actually, the church approached the city about the parcel, which is about 135 feet. Church members' goal was to add the piece to the land it already owned adjacent to the property. This would allow the church to sell its land and, hopefully, pay

off some existing debt.

At Monday night's meeting, Pastor Jason Aaron Leininger said the church had an interested buyer who planned to split the entire parcel into two lots for two residential homes - providing the city was willing to sell.

"I believe this is a win-win situation for both the church and the city," said city manager, David Pasquale, who echoed his own sentiments from the February meeting when the church approached the city about the property. Pasquale said he still felt the property should be sold to the church, which was the only bidder.

since the city had no plans for it. Also he added that homes on the property would bring in more revenue to the city.

In its bid for the property, the church cited several reasons for the \$500 bid including looking up similar property for auction by the state, which was going for \$100 or less. In the bid document, members also cited the fact that Lowell Wesleyan Church had been contributing to the community for the past 30 years, providing many services as well as the added value of homes to the community.

The church-owned parcel is just short of the 14,039

square feet, which is about 2,400 square feet below the required 16,400 square feet needed to construct two single-family homes on the parcel. With the city's lot, which totals about 4,841 square feet, the property would be about 18,881 square feet. This would put the parcel within city guidelines for two residential homes.

When church leaders approached the city about the sale, they indicated that due to financial constraints, the city might have to wait for its money. Leininger said, however, with the pending sale, the city would be getting its money much quicker.

When the unanimous vote went through, Leininger only had one question: "Who do I need to contact about this?" He is hoping to move things along, he said.

The church met with the city after deciding it had no plans for its section along N. Hudson and wanted to sell it. After researching records, city staff determined the land was left over from when the road ended at Eastman. Later it was put through with Lincoln Lake connecting to N. Hudson. The property, which divides the church parcel, was just left behind there, before it was put through as Lincoln Lake.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
17TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION
POSTING AND
NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE NO. 00-12355-DM

Hall of Justice, 333 Monroe N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49503

ANGELA DENISE
PHILLIPS

vs.

REGINALD
DONNEL PHILLIPS
911 Griggs S.E.
Grand Rapids,
Michigan 49507

KATHLEEN M. ALLEN
(P-48129)
LEGAL AID OF
WESTERN MICHIGAN
89 Ionia N.W., Suite 400
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 774-0672 ext. 112

TO: REGINALD
DONNEL PHILLIPS

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in this court for COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 21 days after publication of this matter for 3 consecutive weeks, April 9, 2001. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be

entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint filed in this case.

2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331 for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

4. A copy of this order shall be sent to REGINALD DONNEL PHILLIPS at the last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of the last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court, should Mr. Phillips accept the registered mail.

March 5, 2001

KATHLEEN A. FEENEY
Judge

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LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

Meeting of March 12, 2001

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Matt Trierweiler, Student Council President and Representative to the Board, reported that the Student Council sponsored blood drive was a success. The junior class is progressing with the plans for the Prom.

REPORT - FFA - John Schut along with students, James Bossard, Bill Zook, Courtney Baker, and Jana Young explained the recent awards received at the State competition and updated the Board on their activities during the school year.

REPORT - TOTS Program - Kathy Cole reported on the TOTS (Tots on Track for Success) Program made available for Lowell area families with children birth to five years through a grant from the Lowell Area Community Fund. The TOTS Program offers opportunities for parents to meet other preschool families, obtain parenting information, and enjoy fun and educational activities.

ACTION ITEMS -

Accepted the following gifts:
• A Terry Kropf donation of computer equipment valued at \$400 to be used by the TOTS (Tots on Track for Success)

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved were:

- The minutes for the February 12, 2001 Regular Meeting, the March 1, 2001 Special Meeting
- The following payment of bills:
GENERAL FUND \$786,144.63
1990 DEBT FUND \$15.00
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund \$57,736.89
B. Athletic Fund \$9,703.98
2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND \$211,993.47
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND \$24,956.82

BOND FOLLOW-UP - Jim White reported that the high school cad lab is almost set. Bids were approved for the Alto, Middle School and Unity projects. Vergennes

Township Planning Commission has given their okay for the location of the new elementary school and now this item will go before the Vergennes Township Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Bert Bleke introduced Carol Uhlman who will be the interim director of the Educational Support Services Department during Pam Thomas' leave. The school musical "The Wizard of Oz" performances will be held on March 22, 23 and 24 at the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center. Bert Bleke commended the many high school students involved in the FFA, Model United Nations, Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Swimming, Wrestling, LHS Bands, Science Olympiad, Meandering Minds and Art.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- Regular Board Meeting - Monday, April 16, 2001 • 7:30 p.m.
- Runciman Administration Building - Board Room
- Visit our web page at www.lowell.k12.mi.us
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Lowell Youth Football and the city agree to five-year term on operation of Burch Field concession stand

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

The Lowell Youth Football program has a home for at least the next five years.

Following a unanimous vote, the Lowell City Council at its Monday night meeting agreed to allow the Lowell Youth Football program to continue operating and controlling the concession stand and Burch Field facilities.

"We are hoping to add some picnic areas," said Mike Meppelink, president of Lowell Youth Football. "Over by the old pool building, we are hoping to clean that up and have a picnic area."

Meppelink said the program has been doing well, with the organization operating eight to nine football games on Saturdays. Every year, the group has been able to add about 60 children to its rosters. Also, the organization has worked with other local groups which have wanted to use the field, including the fair and YMCA.

"My kid plays soccer on the field and we are getting some of the benefits that you are doing," said councilmember, Dan Brubaker.

What really impressed the council was the group's excellent performance record over the first year - considered a trial period by the council.

"They have one of the most comprehensive year-end reports ever presented by such a group to the council," said city manager, David Pasquale. Meppelink gave credit to his wife Lois for putting it all together.

Councilmember Don Green, who sits on the Parks and Recreation Commission, said that while the commission hadn't had a chance to meet and make a recommendation on the Lowell Youth Football request, informally the group was in favor of it. He also pointed out that the group informally supported reducing the required liability insurance from \$2 million to \$1 million.

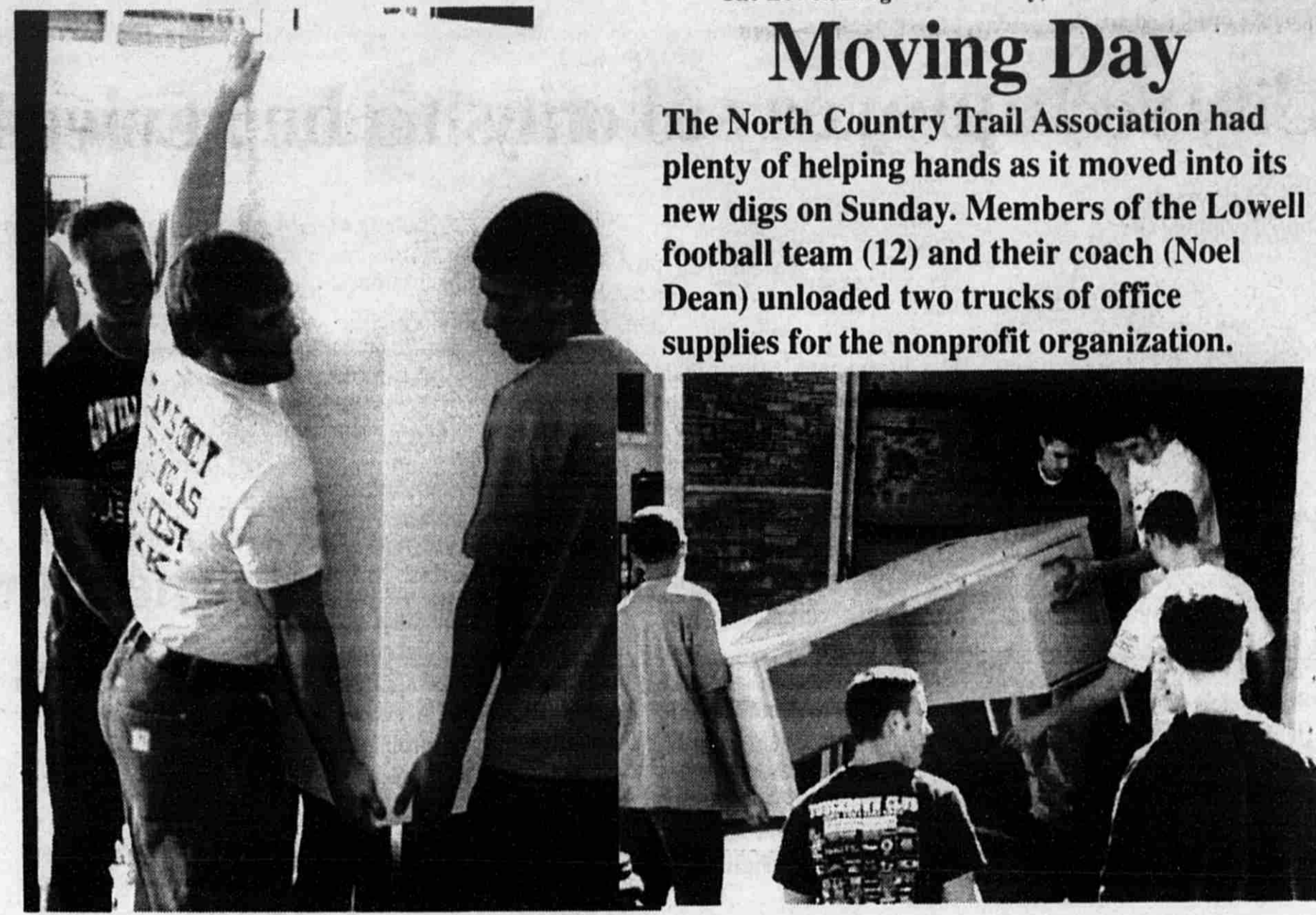
Pasquale said he did investigate that request and found from the city's insurance agent that \$2 million is the ideal, but that \$1 million was acceptable for nonprofit groups such as the Lowell Youth Football. He said reducing the amount also saves the group money on carrying such a policy.

In the agreement, the council did ask for a yearly update and proof of insurance. The new agreement would go through Dec. 31, 2006.

We are hoping to add some picnic areas. Over by the old pool building, we are hoping to clean that up and have a picnic area.

Mike Meppelink

President of Lowell Youth Football on its future plans for the Burch Field site.



Moving Day

The North Country Trail Association had plenty of helping hands as it moved into its new digs on Sunday. Members of the Lowell football team (12) and their coach (Noel Dean) unloaded two trucks of office supplies for the nonprofit organization.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Wide Area Network - Fiber Cable Plant

Lowell Area Schools will be accepting bids from qualified companies to design and install a fiber optic cable system which will provide the district with a private Metropolitan Area Network. Specifications may be picked up after March 15 at the Board of Education office at 300 High St. Lowell, or at Optimal Solutions, 3101 Prairie S.W. in Grandville, MI. Bids are due by 2:00 p.m. on April 12, 2001, and will be publicly opened in the administration building at that time. A bidders conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on March 27, 2001 at the district office. All bid envelopes must be labeled as follows: Attn: Fiber Network Bid Lowell Area Schools 300 High St. Lowell, MI 49331. Questions regarding this project should be addressed to Mr. Jeff Ingle, Optimal Solutions, at (616) 281-6040.

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO.
01-171, 203 DE

Estate of MARY
WYBRANOWSKI
SS# 386-10-7443

TO ALL CREDITORS:
JOHN D. MITUS
(P-31244)
410 Bridge Street N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 774-4001

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, MARY WYBRANOWSKI, who lived at 916 California, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan died 02/13/01. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred

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City employee salaries to be reviewed through study

By J.N. Boorsma
Contributing Writer

The city of Lowell employees will finally get their study on city employee salaries - a study that Lowell City Council wants all employee salaries considered.

At its Monday night meeting, city manager David Pasquale presented a report and fees for the Michigan Municipal League to conduct a study on employee classification and compensation. Pasquale noted that the city had not done this since 1993 and had added several job classifications.

"This is something I would like to get done,"

Pasquale said, adding that the employees have requested the city find out what the market will bare.

City Council, however, was disappointed to learn that the proposed study, which came in at \$7,500 plus \$600 in out-of-pocket expenses, would not include employees at the Lowell Light and Power and Cable Company. The reason, Pasquale said, is because the companies had already had a similar study done recently.

"This should include all city employees," said Lowell mayor, Mike Blough. "We are one city, one organization with departments underneath that include light and

power, the cable company as well as water and sewer."

After some discussion, it was decided to make a change on the motion so that Pasquale could go back and get a quote from Michigan Municipal League to incorporate the study for Lowell Light and Power and the Cable Company into this study. Pasquale said he believed that information would be available.

"Of course, the other issue would be costs," Pasquale said, adding that Lowell Light and Power, which oversees the Cable Company, probably would not be interested in paying out on something it has already done.

Councilmember, Charles

Myers said he would like to see that when such studies come up, the departments would talk to each other. "It is obvious that money could have been saved if one study had been done for all employees versus the Lowell Light and Power doing one and the city turning around and doing another."

Bowne Township Board approves wage hikes for elected officials

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Time spent on the job was justification enough for the Bowne Township Board to vote elected officials' wage increases for the first time in three years.

"This increase makes the township wages more equitable with other townships," said Bowne Township supervisor, Pete Siler. "There are no working deputies or staff in the Bowne Township offices. The work falls on the backs of our clerk and treasurer."

Bowne Township's board, by a vote of 4-1, approved an annual \$2,000 increase in the supervisor, clerk and treasurer's salaries. The increase will push Siler's (supervisor) salary to \$16,530.92.

Township clerk, Sandra Kowalczyk's salary will rise to \$22,898.40. Sally Johnson, treasurer, will see her salary increase to \$20,797.40.

"In most townships, elected officials get a base amount; anything done above or beyond that is a

carte," Kowalczyk explained. "In Bowne Township the salary we get is it ... and then it's time to do the work. There hasn't been an increase in three years and the work goes on."

Voting yes on the salary increase were Siler, Johnson, Kowalczyk and Karen Hendrick. The only descending vote came from David Fuss.

Siler noted that the \$60,000 increase the township will receive in revenue sharing is due to the results of the recent census, which will help pay for the wage increases.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
17TH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

ORDER FOR SERVICE
BY PUBLICATION
POSTING AND
NOTICE OF ACTION

CASE NO. 00-12356-DM

Hall of Justice, 333
Monroe N.W., Grand
Rapids, MI 49503

MARY ANN SPAAK

vs.

EDWARD SPAAK, Jr.
1536 4th Street N.W.
Grand Rapids, Michigan

KATHLEEN M. ALLEN

(P-48129)
LEGAL AID OF
WESTERN MICHIGAN
89 Ionia N.W., Suite 400
Grand Rapids, MI
49503
(616) 774-0672 ext. 112

TO: EDWARD SPAAK,
JR.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. You are being sued by plaintiff in this court for COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court at the court address above on or before 21 days after publication of this matter for 3 consecutive weeks, April 9, 2001. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in

the complaint filed in this case.

2. A copy of this order shall be published once each week in Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, Lowell, MI 49331 for three consecutive weeks, and proof of publication shall be filed in this court.

4. A copy of this order shall be sent to EDWARD SPAAK, JR. at the last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested, before the date of last publication, and the affidavit of mailing shall be filed with this court; should Mr. Spaak accept the registered mail.

March 5, 2001

KATHLEEN A. FEENEY
Judge

Baseball donation a "hit" with Powerlifters

Lowell varsity baseball coach, Tim Antel and an active group of parents and players have worked diligently to improve the baseball program in Lowell. Money, equipment and many work hours have been donated to ensure a quality year for the baseball program. Pictured to the right is Bill "Drew" Brown, baseball parent, presenting a donation of \$250 to the Lowell powerlifting club, in recognition of its effort to improving athletics at Lowell High School. Receiving the check on behalf of the powerlifting team is John "Bucky" Curtis. A new batting cage, swing and field trainers, and improvements to the baseball diamond have also been a product of their work. This year fans will benefit from new P.A. equipment at both the baseball and softball fields. Lowell Little League will enjoy the use of 20 new batting tees.



Powerlifters second to Plainwell at state finals

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's three state titles at the ninth annual Michigan High School Powerlifting state finals matched the total number it has gained over the past five years.

"How you do in the fifth year is kind of a measuring stick for how a program has developed," said powerlifting coach, Noel Dean. "We're pleased with our success this year. If football and powerlifting are an indicator, then we're doing things well."

Winning state titles for Lowell were Chris Curtis, 155 pounds, combined (squat, bench and deadlift) lift of

1,105 pounds; Brad Eldridge, 181, 1,250 pounds; Travis DeVoid, 242, 1,350 pounds.

Lowell (88 points) finished second to Plainwell (94 points) at the state finals on Saturday.

"The credit goes to the kids. They are the ones who want it and go out and do the work. Credit also goes to the coaches who are there with them during open weight room hours," Dean said.

Lowell had 18 powerlifters place in the top 10 in their respective weight classes.

In year one of the powerlifting program, just one

powerlifter had a combined lift of 1,000 or more pounds. This year, 34 powerlifters have reached that plateau. Leading up to the state finals, Lowell won the tournament at Burton Bendle, and swept the Muskegon and Comstock tournaments.

Lowell will compete next in the nationals at Fort Hood, Texas, in two weeks. Both of Lowell's junior varsity and girls teams placed second at their respective state meets. Heather Sterzick won a state title for the Lowell girls team.

Other Lowell powerlifters to place in the

top 10 are: Dustin Osborne, 5th, 114 pounds; Alan Nugent, seventh, 123; Cory Craig, 10th, 132; Dan Palasek, sixth, 132; Cory Perdaris, second, 132; Matt Tschaen, sixth, 145; Pat Kauffman, fifth, 155; Mark Catlin, fifth, 165; Neil Reimbold, third, 165; Dustin VanLoon, fourth, 181; Ken Palcowski, third, 198; Brandon Biggs, sixth, 220; Eric Stormzand, third, 220; Jason Craig, eighth, 242; and Mike DeVries, sixth, 242.

Alan Metternick just missed the top 10, placing 11th in the 275-pound division.

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GREAT VALUE \$139,900

EXTRA
NEWS TODAY TOMORROW

When you place your ad in the Buyers Guide classifieds... Add it to the Ledger! For as little as \$1 more, they are inexpensive & effective! 897-9555

ROOT-LOWELL MANUFACTURING CO.

Come visit our booth at the Lowell Community Expo!
March 24, 2001
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
at the Lowell High School

We will be selling sprayers at close out prices!!!
Quantities are limited so hurry on down!!!

- 1 Gallon NO PUMPING Sprayer..... \$16.00
- 2-Gallon DECK sprayer..... \$15.00
- 3 Gallon OPTIMUM Sprayer..... \$8.00

Great value for the money!!

We also are accepting applications for assembly workers on our night shift.

Visit us during regular business hours at our plant or see us at our booth for an application.

Manufacturer of RL Flo-Master Products
"Working Best Under Pressure"
1000 Foreman Road
Lowell, Michigan 49331

Lowell FFA members earn state honors

Three members of the Lowell FFA - James Bosserd, Courtney Perkins, and Jana Young - represented the Lowell chapter in the Marketing Plan Competition at the State FFA Convention in East Lansing.

The members investigated marketing strategies, wrote a marketing plan for the Wittenbach Agriscience Center and Wege Natural Area, and presented the plan to a group of marketing professionals from Biggs-Gilmore Communications in Kalamazoo. The team will compete at the national competition held in Louisville in October along with another national contestant, freshman Kristen Lee, who was the state winner in the Greenhand Public Speaking contest. Her topic was "Farmland Conservation and Urban Sprawl" and she was one of 12 state finalists out of 110 contestants in the state.

The Parliamentary Procedure team of Bryan Posthumus, James Bosserd, Jana Young, Danielle Nebelung, Megan Nyson, Courtney Baker, Kayla Rittenburgh and Joe Wisner was one of 12 state finalists from 150 teams in the state. Sophomore Katie

Clements was second runner-up in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking contest behind two seniors. Her topic of "Global Positioning Systems and Their Impact of the World Food Situation" was drawn 30 minutes before she presented it to a panel of judges. Many parents and alumni who represent the Lowell Agricultural Supporters coach the Lowell FFA.

Matt Oesch was selected as one of three finalists for the Michigan Star in Agribusiness Award. He was selected from a group of 300 state degree recipients for the award which is the highest award the state association bestows. He was joined at a special awards session by his parents, advisors and school administrators for the award session.

Four members received a gold state proficiency award for their work in a specific area of agriculture. Matt Oesch was recognized in the area of Dairy Production for his work at Swiss Lane Farms; Brothers Kevin and Brian Rasch were recognized for their work in the area of Fruit and Vegetable Production at Rasch Fruit Farms. Heather Canfield was recognized in the area of Agricultural Sales for her



Heather Canfield (Agricultural Sales), Brian Rasch (Vegetable Production), Kevin Rasch (Fruit Production) and Matt Oesch (Dairy Production) were recognized with state proficiency awards for their work in their respective areas. Oesch was a finalist for the Michigan Star in Agribusiness Award, the highest award the state FFA can bestow on a member.

placement at the Freeport Elevator and Lake Odessa Livestock Auction.

Thirteen members received the state FFA degree: Rachelle Becker, James

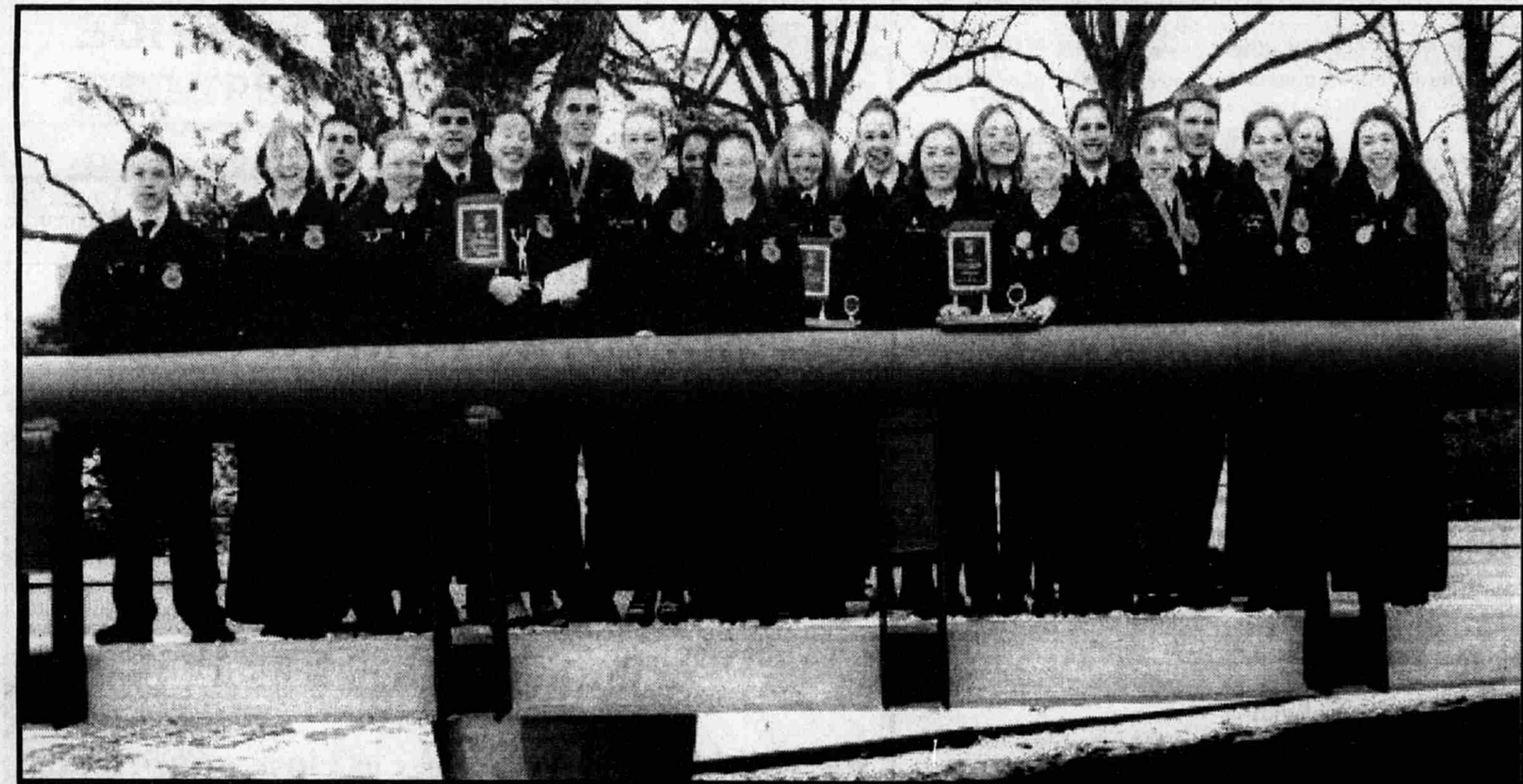
Bossard, Ryan Dorough, Heather Posthumus, Courtney Baker, Joe Wisner, Heather

Canfield, Jana Young, Gina Blough, Matt Oesch, Bill Zook, Kevin Rasch, and Kate Gunberg.

Six juniors received the Outstanding Junior Award: Jeff Harrel, Lisa Marker, Brian Rasch, Brian Zook, Courtney Perkins, and Teresa Leasure.

Nine seniors were recognized for academic achievement: Rachelle Becker, James Bossard, Ryan Dorough, Heather Posthumus, Jana Young, Gina Blough, Abby Goff, Nichole Straub, and Kate Gunberg. Lowell had the most seniors receive this award in the state.

Members Kristen Lee and Renee Catlin played in the Michigan FFA Band, and Lee was selected for the National Band. Voting delegates for the Lowell FFA were Kriste Warren, Cassie Wheat, Holly Plattner and Natalie Kent.



Over 60 students, parents, school administrators and alumni attended the Michigan FFA Convention at MSU. The Lowell FFA continued its tradition of excellence with over 40 chapter and individual awards. The chapter was also recognized as one of Michigan's top five chapters.

Lowell Cable TV & FX delivers NASCAR racing weekend schedules

This year, Lowell Cable TV and FX will deliver to Lowell residents a schedule of races featuring three NASCAR Winston Cup Series and 12 Busch Grand National Series races, Feb. 10 - July 1. During the season, the cable network FX will provide live television coverage of the NASCAR races on Saturdays. NASCAR legend, Darrell Waltrip and veteran crew chief, Larry Reynolds will cover the heats and provide an in-depth look at not only the old guards, but also the rising stars of the sport.

To wave the flag for its inaugural season of FX's

eight-year commitment to air NASCAR, FX will sponsor the NASCAR "Ultimate Speedway Getaway Sweepstakes," seen on Lowell Cable TV's channel 5. Local subscribers will have the chance to win three all-expense paid NASCAR racing weekends including the Daytona 500, and races at the Talladega Superspeedway and Fontana's California Speedway. Plus, the NASCAR on FX "Ultimate Speedway Getaway" promises to reward one first prize winner a day at an upcoming Busch Series race.

"We are thrilled to participate with FX to bring our customers and exciting promotion and a chance to win three unforgettable racing weekends," said Tom Richards, general manager, Lowell Cable TV. "NASCAR is America's #1 spectator sport and has a tremendously loyal following in Lowell. Entry forms may be found at the following local retailers: Bernard's ACE Hardware, NAPA Auto and Lowell Cable TV. One lucky winner in Lowell is guaranteed a NASCAR on FX toolbox with everything needed to go under the hood (a \$150 value). The

drawing will be conducted by Lowell Cable TV at 127 N. Broadway on Friday, June 29 at 3 p.m. FX is a branded general entertainment basic cable network geared toward viewers with a young, savvy mindset. The diverse schedule includes a growing roster of fearlessly original programs, daring acquired series, provocative event films, plus marquee sports. The network launched in June of 1994 and is currently in more than 60 million homes nationwide. For more information go online at www.fxnetworks.com.

The summer schedule is as follows: First session: June 11 - June 29 and second session: July 9 - 27. Two separate classes are held each session: 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The older students (by birthdate) will have priority in their choice of session and class time.

If you have any questions, you can call Al Eckman at Lowell High School at 897-4125.

Lowell Area Schools driver training sign-ups

Lowell Area Schools has announced that district students may pick up application forms for this summer's driver training program at Lowell High School, Lowell Middle School and Unity High School. To be eligible to take driver training, a student must have been born before Nov. 9, 1986.

The cost of driver training is \$75 which includes the cost of Segment 2. Applications and fees must be turned in before Friday, March 30. A birth certificate must be shown when the application and fees are turned in.

The summer schedule is as follows: First session: June 11 - June 29 and second session: July 9 - 27. Two separate classes are held each session: 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The older students (by birthdate) will have priority in their choice of session and class time.

If you have any questions, you can call Al Eckman at Lowell High School at 897-4125.

Spring is Here! Clean out your closets - place an ad in the Classifieds

- SERVICES
- HELP WANTED
- HELP WANTED
- FOR RENT
- FOR SALE
- FOR SALE

DOG & CAT GROOMING - Located in Fallasburg Park. Full service, small or large dogs & cats. Evening appointments available. Call anytime. Pickup available for shut ins. Senior discount 15%. Call 794-9614.

WE DO INSTALLED SALES - Doors, windows, roofing, siding, etc. Contact Erb Lumber, Inc. 616-243-7444 Bill Carmean, Installed Sales Manager.

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

DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED? - Don't get sucked into \$100-\$300 evaluation fees...I NEVER charge for your record evaluation & consultation! Driver's license RESTORATION: \$900 incl. all filing fees AND FREE consultation & evaluation of your case. Have a question? Call Attorney Martin Mead (616) 235-0330 (Prices increase 4/1/01.)

BED & BREAKFAST - McGee Homestead. Gracious accommodations for your out-of-town guests. Call 616-897-8142 or www.iserv.net/~mcgeebb.

TOO BUSY TO DO HOUSE CLEANING? - I'm here for your convenience. Call Cheryl at 897-5049.

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.

MAKE SURE YOUR TRAIL HORSE - is ready for the trail! Training and boarding available. Reasonable rates. Private facility with acres of trails and miles of country roads. Call cell # 616-558-1063.

TRY A CLASSIFIED! 897-9261

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 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.

HOME MAILERS NEEDED - Earn \$635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. Call 1-888-517-2362 Ext 3625 24 Hrs.

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT - Motivated and hard-working individuals sought for mowing, landscaping, and pruning crews. Seasonal and full-time positions available, offering excellent job satisfaction, wages and benefits. Call David at Hilbrands Landscape Management (616)942-9591.

ASSEMBLY - Great 1st & 2nd shift opportunities with local manufacturer. Qualified candidates will possess the following skills: dependability, punctual, have some assembly experience, and a willingness to learn. Call Jessica or Cindy at 293-9839 for details. Kelly Services, Inc. An equal opportunity employer. Never an applicant fee.

HOUSE/DOG SITTER NEEDED - for 2 Labs & 2 cats in the Vergennes Twp. area. Only need occasionally throughout the year. Mostly weekends, sometimes longer. Must be honest, reliable & have references. Call 897-7404 if you're interested.

WORK FROM HOME - Mail Order \$500 - \$7,000 PT/FT Training provided. RUALeader.com. (616) 752-8346.

COMPUTER, INTERNET PEOPLE WANTED TO WORK ONLINE - \$125-\$175 hr. Full training, vacations, bonuses & incentives. Bilinguals also needed. 49 countries. Ecash2Day.com.

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

VICTIM OF CAREER ADJUSTMENT! - Want a flexible lifestyle with opportunity to earn a good income? Think about real estate. Call Doretha Ardoin at Westdale's Cascade Office 616-942-2300, ext. 550.

ATTN: MOTHERS & OTHERS - Work from home, \$500-\$1,500 PT; \$2,000-\$7,000 FT. Full training provided. w/w w. Family1stBiz.com or call 493-7280.

LANDSCAPE & IRRIGATION FOREMANS UNDESERVED! - fast-paced outdoor work, mechanical aptitude a plus! \$7.50-\$15.50 available. 676-2537.

NOTICE - I am in need of a daycare for my busy boy! He needs lots of attention, patience & love. Only the best will do. Need ASAP. Crystal at 897-2322 before 3:30 or 897-5742 after 4.

HELP WANTED - Experienced truck driver to drive lead for small excavating company. Phone 868-6271 or 293-2237.

LOWELL SCHOOLS - Walkout sites, 2.2 and 2.9 acres, \$39,900.00 cash or conventional. 3695 & 3665 Heron Hollow Pvt. Rd., off of 4 Mile, approx. 2 miles east of Lincoln Lake. Real Estate Broker Tom Deane 942-1689, 942-6716 or 291-4668.

AMISH LOG BEDROOM - 8 piece set, includes Queen Sealy mattresses (1 month old) new, \$4,200, sell \$1,950. Call 517-626-7089.

'96 CHEVY S10 PICKUP - \$3,500; '91 Ford dump, \$7,800; '89 Dodge bus/camper, \$4,850. Ph. 868-1614 or 246-6028.

STORAGE - Pristine, state-of-the-art facility. New, dry, secure, 50 sq. ft. - 300 sq. ft. Residential and commercial. Move in special with ad. Ada - Lowell Self Storage. 897-1000.

OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE - Perfect for contractor. Call 897-4123.

WATERFRONT VACATION RENTAL - Long Lake, weekly, great swim, fishing, quiet. Half hour away 897-5441.

FOR SALE - ACREAGE LOTS - Ranging in size from 3.81 acres to 18 acres. Several wooded lots. Perked. Land contracts available. West of Ionia. M-21 to Bellamy Road - N. on Bellamy to sign. Corner of Bellamy & Bradford Roads. For further information, please call eves, ask for Phil, 616-367-4900.

FOR SALE - 4 POSTER BED - King, solid wood head, rear board. Includes pillowtop mattress set. (Bought new, never used.) New \$1100, sell \$375/best. 517-227-0006.

FOR SALE - 1959 Rock-Ola GP 160 Juke Box, holds 160 old records including Elvis Presley, good shape, sounds great, came from restaurant in Sunfield, \$800. Call 897-6967.

DIRECT TV - Mini-satellite dish. \$49.99 with free install. We beat all advertised prices. 1-800-459-7357, K-20.

ALL STEEL BUILDINGS - liquidation, 40X64 was \$11,706 sell \$6,980. 50X125 was \$24,565 sell \$14,980. Never put up. 800-204-7199 in Michigan.

MUST SELL - Sheep, llamas, goats & chickens. Call 897-7738.

ALFALFA TIMOTHY HAY FOR SALE - 1st & 3rd cuttings. No rain. Square bales only. 868-0432.

1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM Se II - loaded, except leather, 21,100 miles. Ext. warranty until 2005. \$14,900. Call 361-0871.

FOR SALE - 1992 Ford Tempo. Recent brakes, tires, clutch. Good condition \$1,100.00 o.b.o. Call 897-5426.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - Commercial/residential 4-bedroom house, located in the city of Lowell. Completely updated, including new furnace w/central air, newer appliances, new carpet, paint, etc....2 stall garage. \$129,900. Call 897-6615.

QUEEN BRASS BED - Firm mattress set included. 2 mos. old. Still in plastic. New \$800, sell \$225. 517-227-2986.

BEAUTIFUL OAK FIREPLACE MANTEL - Never used, \$500. 616-299-9902.

1993 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED - Black, 4x4, V8, loaded, leather, 144,000 miles. Towing pkg. Runs & looks excellent. New tires. \$8,600. Call 897-6875.

FOR SALE - White fiberglass truck topper, off Ford. \$190. Call 897-0620.

MUSTANG 1998 - V6, 5 spd., red, CD, spoiler, stored winters, 25k miles. \$10,500. Call 616-691-7543.

FOR SALE - Hot tub, 1 1/2 years old, cover & chemicals. \$1,750. Call 897-5559.

OPEN HOUSE - Sunday, March 25, 2-5 p.m. 2 story walkout, built in 1997. 4 bed., 2 1/2 bath, 2 plus acres. \$244,000. 10550 Oak Trails (Fulton to Settlemood, N. on Parnell 1/2 mile to private rd.) Call 897-5955.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to advertise daycare or babysitting, the State requires a license number on file at the newspaper. If you do not have a daycare license, we cannot place an ad for you. If you are a teenager willing to do babysitting, you can run an ad, but must state you are a teenager.

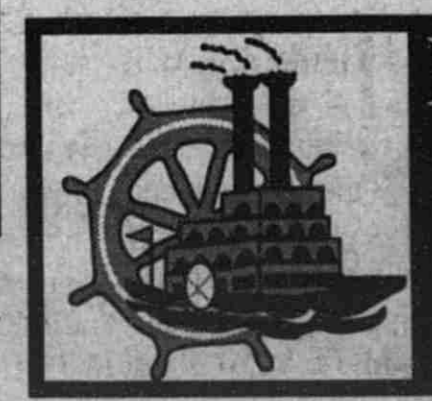
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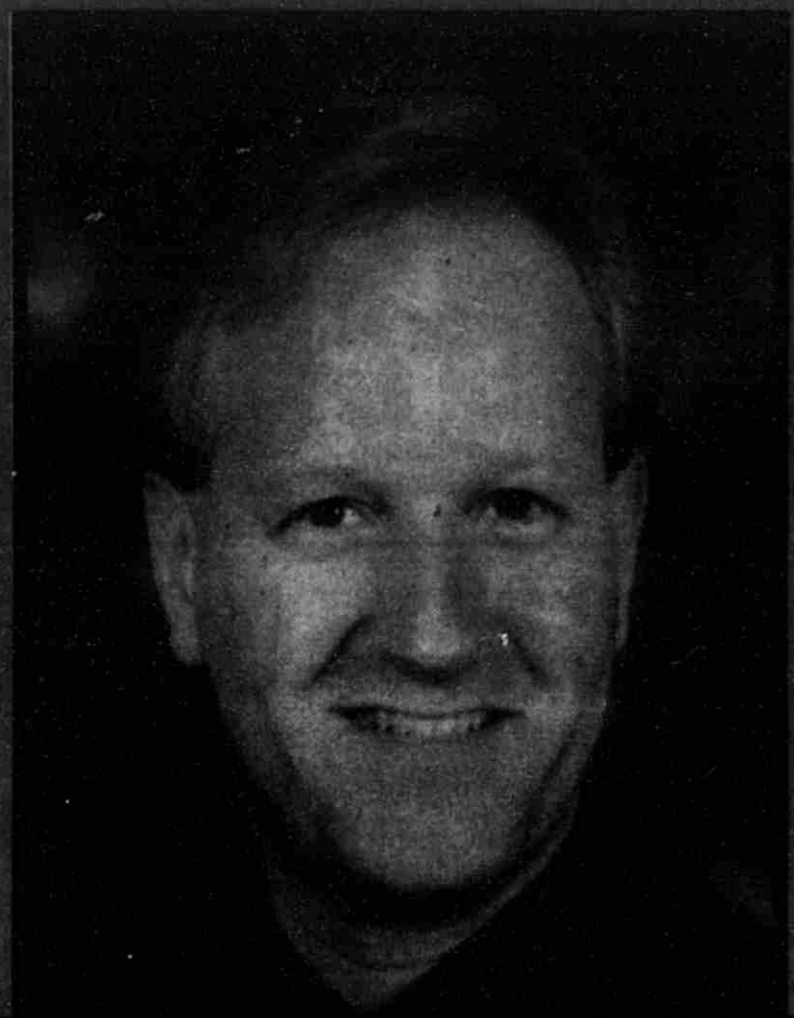
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Lowell City Directories

Pick up your copy of the 2001 Directory at the Lowell Community Expo! Look for your free copy to be delivered with the Buyers Guide in the next couple of weeks.





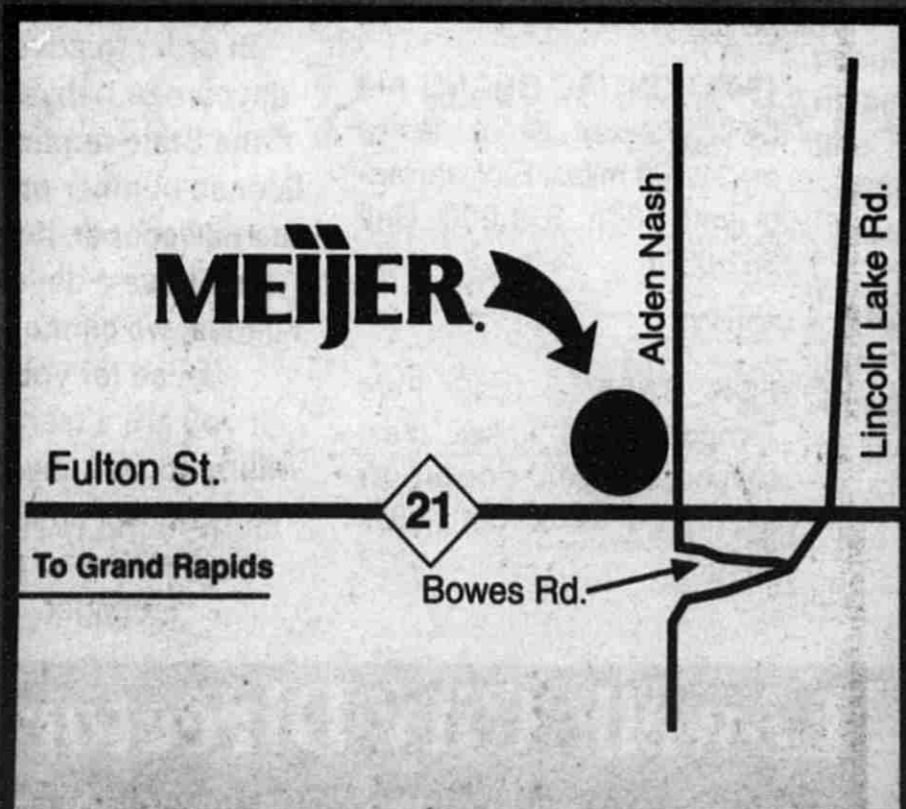
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Meijer Store Director
Lowell, Michigan

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Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.



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Website: Meijer.com

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- Paid Time Off
- Educational Leave
- 12% Team Member Discount (every day)
- Flexible Schedules
- Health Coverage (full- and part-time)
- Paid Training
- Job Diversity
- Retirement Plan/401(k) Plan
- Opportunities for Promotion
- Weekly Paycheck

Current positions:

- Cashiers/Baggers
- Marking/Receiving/Layaway
- Grocery Stockers
- General Merchandise Clerks
- Deli Clerks
- Produce Clerks
- Bakery Clerks
- Meat/Seafood Clerks
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Cosmetics/Jewelry Clerks
- Fashion Area Clerks
- Building Services/Floor Maintenance
- Gas Station/C-Stop
- Cash Office
- * Management opportunities are also available!

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