

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 41

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, July 18, 2001

## Resident seeks answers as to truck traffic on Foreman Road

By J.N. Boorsma  
 Contributing Writer

Garland Berry came before the Lowell City Council Monday hoping to get some answers about a long-term concern of residents on Foreman Road - truck traffic.

And this time around, where a petition didn't, Berry actually may have made a little progress.

"I'm just looking for some answers, a resolution or statement that says this is what is going to be," Berry said. "That way the residents can make a decision on what they want to do."

The result was the council agreed to look at the cost of an engineering study to determine the best way to direct the truck traffic in that area.

Berry suggested that the traffic be rerouted to take Gee Drive, where drivers could then get on M-21 or Alden Nash. However, City Manager David Pasquale said that Gee Drive is in no condition right now to handle truck traffic.

In fact, in the estimated \$800,000 of road repairs for Gee Drive, the improvements made would not be designed for industrial traffic, Pasquale said.

"If you do this, you would be moving truck traffic from residents in the Foreman area to residents in the Gee Drive area," he said. "Regardless of the ultimate decision, you want to make sure it is treated in a fair manner."

Berry, who resides at 407 Foreman Road at the northwest corner of Foreman and Hudson Street, came to the council to address the city staff's rudeness in dealing with him about repairs to the corner in front of his home and the truck traffic issue. Berry said he was told earlier this year that repairs to the sidewalk and curb would be

done in April or May.

"May came, June came, July came, and nothing happened," Berry said, adding that he was forced to make a phone call to find out what was going on. Public Works Director Dan DesJarden immediately apologized for not communicating to Berry and said that it was his fault for not getting back to him. Pasquale said as head of the city, he too needed to apologize and would try to resolve the repairs issue in a timely manner.

"Actually the city has a number of areas in need of small repairs to sidewalk and curb," DesJarden said. "I spoke with the contractor and they plan to complete the repairs on this corner by the end of the week."

As for the truck traffic, Pasquale said that is a much more complicated manner, which is why he suggested a traffic study by an engineer. Pasquale will report back the possible costs of that study to the council.

Pasquale said Foreman needs upgrading, however the Kent County Road Commission has no desire to upgrade the portion it owns. The city is currently working to secure funds to improve the portion of Foreman it owns, he said.

"It's a dilemma no matter which way you go," Pasquale said about upgrading Foreman or Gee Drive to accommodate truck traffic.

Berry said this is something that should have been resolved years ago, especially when residents petitioned the city to have something done. Now the situation has escalated into a very unsafe one with trucks moving into oncoming traffic to make turns.

"Something needs to be done," Berry said. "Keeping it status quo is not a solution."

*It's a dilemma no matter which way you go.*

**City Manager Dave Pasquale said about upgrading Foreman or Gee Drive to accommodate truck traffic.**

*Something needs to be done. Keeping it status quo is not a solution.*

**Garland Berry**

## State cuts in education will have a quarter of a million dollar impact on Lowell Schools

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Whatever distrust there was between educators and the state was strengthened last week when area educators learned that Gov. John Engler had cut funding for education after legislatures went on vacation without passing a budget.

Engler's action reduces school aid from \$6,500 per student in most districts to \$6,427 - and it will cost Lowell Schools roughly \$270,000.

"We based our budget on what we were told state aid would be," said Connie Gillette, assistant superintendent for finance and personnel. "We'll have to calculate the impact and then make decisions on what to do. There will have to be cuts... we won't budget to lose that much money."

Gillette said she was nervous from the

beginning about state aid and therefore not surprised by the governor's action. "My hope is the state will stick to its commitment and reinstate the money in the fall."

Engler said overall cuts of five percent will save the state \$175 million during the fiscal year which begins Oct. 1.

His action to balance the budget came after the House and Senate failed to agree on a tripped-down school aid budget that addressed falling state revenues.

The cuts come in the midst of contract negotiations between Lowell and the Lowell Education Association.

"It does affect our ability to provide a financial package to the staff," Gillette said. "We've been making great progress. We don't yet have a tentative agreement, but I hope that will come soon."



Lowell's Amy Zevenbergen's vehicle, right, was shoved off the the road and up against the tree when the driver of the other vehicle failed to stop at the intersection of Vergennes and Parnell.

## Mother and unborn child okay following frightening crash

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

An expectant mother of seven and a half months escaped serious injury in a two-car accident early Friday evening at the intersection of Vergennes and Parnell.

Amy Zevenbergen, of Lowell, was eastbound on Vergennes when the Grand Prix she was driving was struck on the driver's side by a vehicle driven by Kenneth Blain, also of Lowell.

Blain, northbound on Parnell, failed to stop at the intersection, ramming into Zevenbergen and driving her vehicle off the road and up-side a tree.

"He came up the street

and through the stop sign and smoked her, sending her vehicle sideways against the tree," said Jason VanRosMalen, a witness to

the accident. The Belding man, southbound on Parnell, was stopped at the intersection.

Blain was transported to Accident. cont'd pg.8

## Rockford's Warren accepts middle school principal position

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Linda Warren's most recent vacation in Orlando, FL, marked the 37th state she has visited.

"My goal is to visit all 50 states," she said. Her vacation in Florida, with three of her six sisters, was a most memorable one.

Warren interrupted her vacation to interview by phone for the Lowell Middle School principal position.

"My daughter called me and said Lowell wanted to interview me for the position



Linda Warren

- the first interview had to be done by phone. It must have gone pretty well. Lowell

asked me to call back for a second interview."

Warren has spent the last 17 years in the Rockford Public Schools. She began her tenure at Rockford as a social studies teacher; she leaves Rockford as the assistant principal of the Rockford Freshman Center. Prior to that, Warren served as an assistant principal at Rockford's Sheridan Trail Middle School.

"My background is in curriculum development and as a K-12 educational specialist. I am currently work-

Warren, cont'd pg. 8

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When Will Your Tax Rebate Be Mailed Out?  
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## The Lowell Ledger

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Roger K. Brown Thad Kraus

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## COLLEGE NEWS

Grand Valley State University announces the names of students who were placed on the dean's list for the winter 2001 semester. The list includes those students who have maintained a 3.5 grade point average and have been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.

From the Lowell area are: Madelen L. Boot, Anya A. Chamberlain, Kyle D. Hoffman, Tami L. Nelson, McKenzie E. Plummer, Jennifer K. Postema, Julie M. Postema, Heath L. Sabin, Bradley A. Simkins, Lucas E. Taylor, Hillary D. VanSpronsen and Carissa L. Yunker.

From the Alto area are: Matthew C. Bushman, Christina M. DeVormer, David J. Kowalski, Donna Meekhof, Monica A. Muuse

and Meghann J. Phillips.

James Platte of Ada graduated cum laude from the University of Michigan on April 28 with a bachelor of science and engineering degree in Nuclear Engineering.

He is working as an intern at the Westinghouse Energy Center in Pittsburgh, Pa. In the fall he will return to the University of Michigan to study for a master's degree in Nuclear Engineering. He has been named an Advanced Accelerator Application University fellow.

He is a 1997 graduate of Lowell High School and is the son of Dana and Gayle Platte of Ada.

Allison Leigh Klein, daughter of Ardelle (Stauffer)

Klein, formerly of Lowell, graduated with honors from Manzano High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 17, 2001.

One of three valedictorians, she had a 4.4 grade point average and graduated in a class of 445 students.

Klein plans to attend Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Ill., in August. She is the granddaughter of Jesuita Stauffer and the late Lester Stauffer of Lowell.



Allison Leigh Klein

## OBITUARIES

SCHULMEYER - June Miller Schulmeyer, aged 75, of Grand Rapids, died Wednesday, July 11, 2001. She was preceded in death by her brother Keith Miller. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Richard; her chil-

dren Anne Sutherlin of Seattle, Susan Sutherlin of Ada; grandchildren Brooke, Amanda and George Budnick, Charles and Bryan Bristol; brother David Miller of Indianapolis, IN; sister Jane (Robert) Anderson of NC; sister-in-law Pauline Miller of Indianapolis; also several nieces and nephews. Funeral services were Monday at O'Brien-Eggebeen-Gerst Chapel with Rev. Dick Host of St. Mary's Church officiating. Interment Graceland Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.



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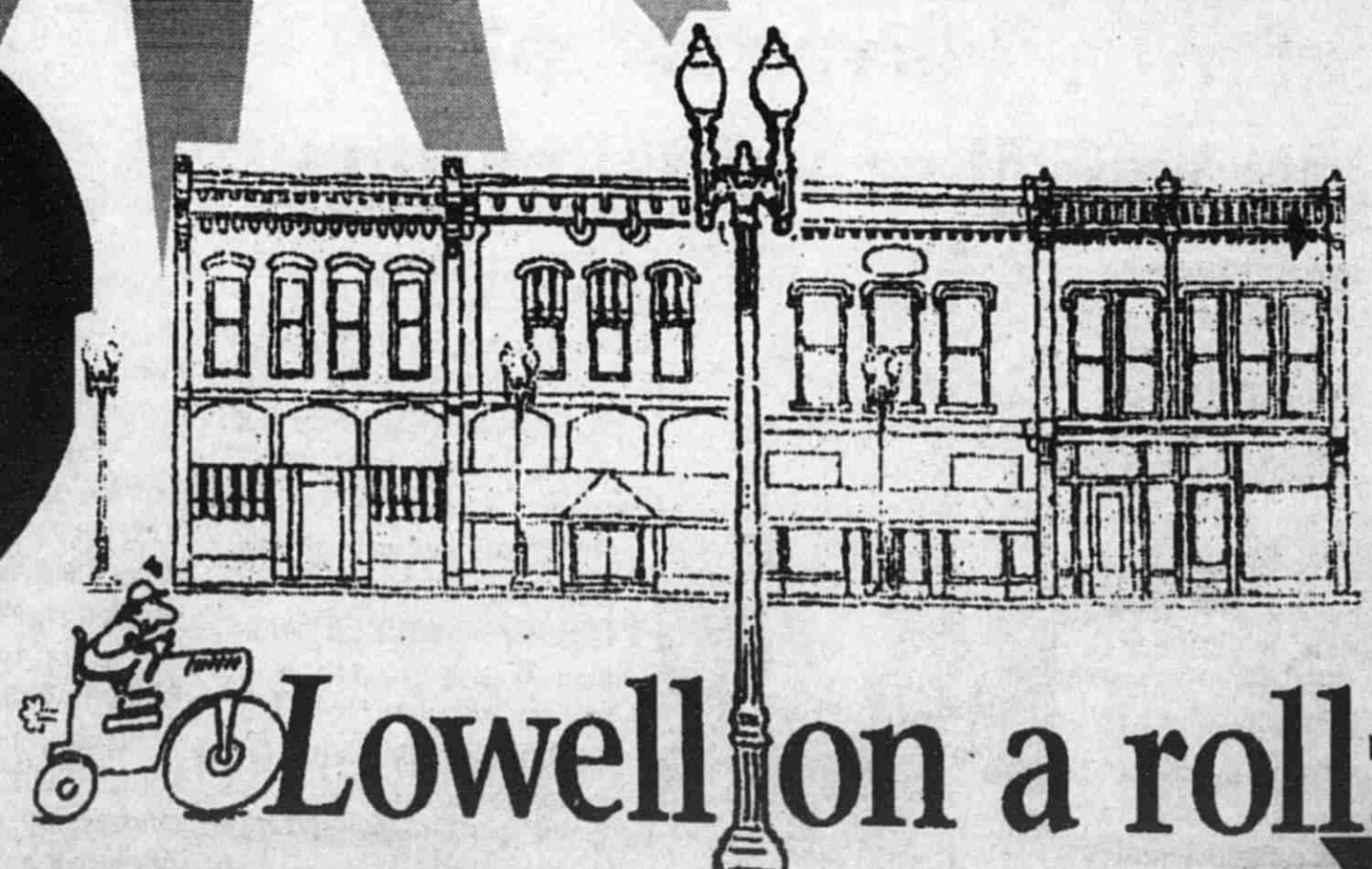
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| Dream Pieces                  | Riverbend East Salon      |
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| Gary's Meat Market            | Salon 206                 |
| Hahn Hardware                 | Sneakers                  |
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| Keiser's Kitchen              | State Farm Insurance      |
| Larkin's Restaurant           | The Pottery Palace        |
| Lowell Auto Body              | Touch of Country          |
| Lowell Beer Store             | Tummino & Tummino         |
| Lowell Granite Co.            | U.S. Post Office          |
| Lowell Ledger                 | VFW Post 8303             |
| Mika, Meyers, Beckett & Jones | W.J. Wheeler C.P.H.       |

Construction on the City Hall Parking Lot, Veteran Monument Parking Lot (Main St.), and the boat ramp relocation started on **Mon., July 2, and will run thru Sept. 25.** Downtown retailers, restaurants & merchants need your stop-in business now more than ever.

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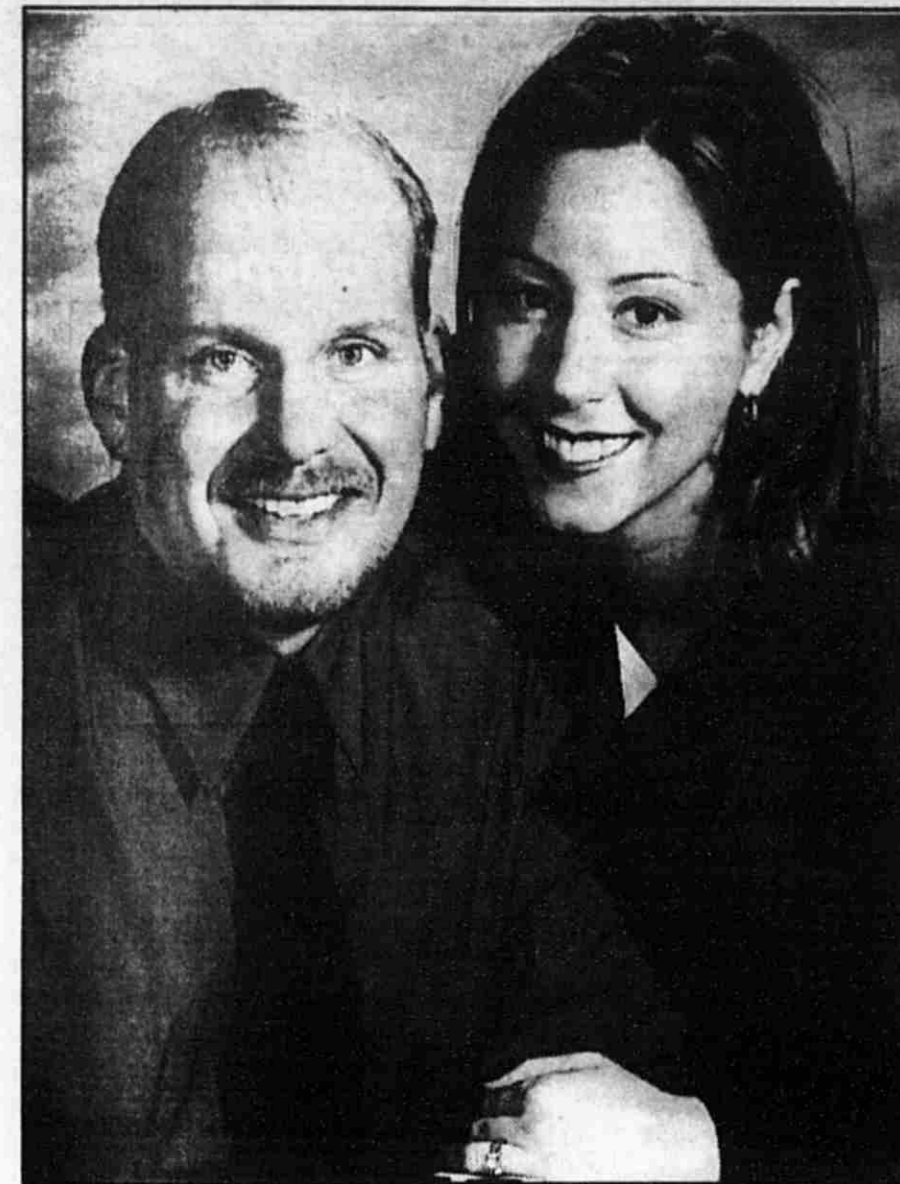
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Chadwick John Dykstra and Jennifer Lynn Berry

## Berry/Dykstra

Garland and Elizabeth Berry of Lowell are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Lynn to Chadwick John Dykstra, son of Richard and Karen Dykstra of Grand Rapids.

The future bride graduated from Lowell High School and attended Western Michigan University. The groom-elect graduated from Ottawa Hills High School and attended both Grand Rapids Community College and Grand Valley State University.

The couple, of Walker, are planning an August 21, 2001 wedding.

## Ritzemas celebrate 50th

Lloyd R. and Josephine (Reynolds) Ritzema of Lowell will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on July 21.

Their children are Mark V. Ritzema, Dirk Ritzema, Roseanne Grienke, Dion Ritzema, Ellen Ritzema, Angela Hemingsen, Evan Ritzema and Maria Ritzema-de-Silva. They have 12 grandchildren.

A family golf outing and dinner are planned at the couple's home.



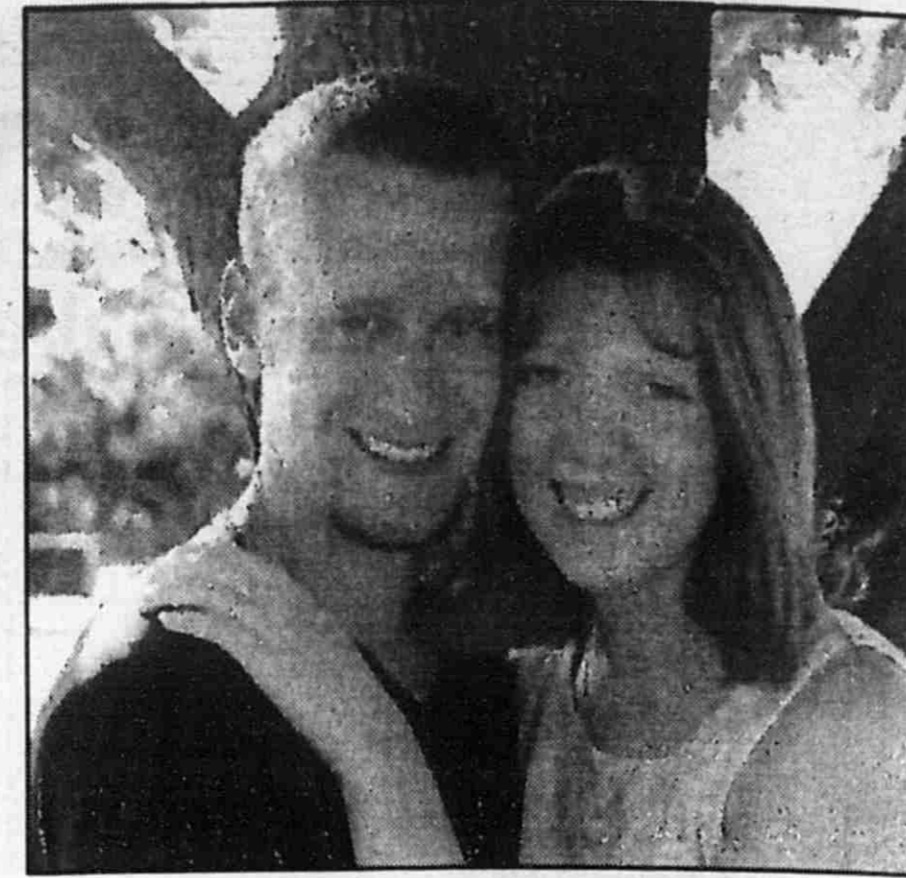
Beth Ellen Jipping and Dale Dean Johnson

## Jipping/Johnson

Beth Ellen Jipping of Wyoming and Brian Dean Johnson of Alto are engaged and planning an August 31, 2001 wedding.

The bride-elect graduated from Wyoming Park High School and has an associate's degree in culinary art from Grand Rapids Community College. Her parents are Larry and Karen Heydenburg.

The future groom is a Lowell High School graduate and has an associate's degree in business management from Davenport University. His parents are Lyle and Linda Johnson.



Casey Harper and Candi Olszewski

## Olszewski/Harper

Joe and Sharon Olszewski of Caledonia are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Candi Olszewski to Casey Harper, son of Tom and Caroll Harper of Engadine.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Caledonia High School and is attending Grand Valley State University.

The future groom is a graduate of Lowell High School and attending Grand Rapids Community College.

The couple is planning an August 4, 2001 wedding.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**JULY 19:** Bob Elzinga, Samantha Mooney, Danielle Rittersdorf.

**JULY 20:** Cara Thaler, David Thaler III, Maureen Pawloski, Beth Berry.

**JULY 21:** Dara Anchors, Stephanie Wade, Carolyn Mercer, Jeff Gurney, Kelly Tulecki.

**JULY 22:** Kelly Marie Roth, Laurie Fonger, Richard (Dick) Roth, Eric Shear, Noreen Myers.

**JULY 23:** Dave Fosburg, Nathan Swift, Heather Pretzel, Robert Jahnk.

**JULY 24:**

**JULY 25:** Ella Tuinstra, Wayne Thomas.



### AREA BIRTHS

Luke and Danielle Davidson are happy to announce the birth of their son, Andrew Michael, born on May 17, 2001 at 2:59 p.m. He weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz. and measured 19 inches.

Proud grandparents are Phil and Sherry Johnson and Steve and Nancy Hubbarth.

The largest fish is the whale shark. It weighs up to 15 short tons—more than twice as much as an African elephant.

# AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY



<p><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936</p> <p>Worship ..... 8:30 A.M. Coffee &amp; Fellowship Time ..... 9:30 A.M. Sunday School ..... 9:50 A.M. Worship ..... 11:00 A.M. Kid's Club (Wed.) ..... 3:30 P.M. Dinner (Wed.) ..... 5:30 P.M.</p> <p>REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery &amp; child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH</b> 10501 Settlementwood • PH. 897-7185</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 9:45 A.M. Morning Worship ..... 11 A.M. Evening Service ..... 6:00 P.M.</p> <p>Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M. GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110 STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894 ALL ARE WELCOME! (Barrier-Free)</p>	<p><b>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)</b> 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery</p> <p>Robert W. Holmes, Pastor Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor Jason Grear, Children &amp; Young Adults</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS:</b> Worship: 10:00 &amp; 6 p.m. <b>WEDNESDAYS:</b> Family Night: (for All Ages) 7 p.m. Generation Jacob Youth: 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell &amp; Saranac on M-21</p> <p>www.iserv.net/~goodshp Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Wednesday Evening ..... 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>
<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbcloowell.org</p> <p>Rev. Burland Margesson &amp; Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service: 9:30 A.M. &amp; 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour: 11:00 A.M. AWANA J.V. Wed. 6:15 &amp; 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>	<p><b>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH</b> Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES</p> <p>Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 241-1739 email: aplighthouse@yahoo.com</p>	<p><b>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 201 N. Washington • 897-8800</p> <p>Sunday School ..... 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship ..... 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening ..... 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry ..... 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR TIM DESHAU Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>	<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL</b> (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906</p> <p>Worship and Church School ..... 10:00 A.M. Dr. Roger LaWarre ..... Pastor Megan MacNaughton ..... Music Director Barrier-Free ..... Nursery Provided Come Join Us For Praise &amp; Worship</p>



# Viewpoint . . .



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

### 125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL JULY 19, 1876

This issue is missing. We substitute July 19, 1871.

A trial of 11 brands of reapers at Ionia in a difficult field of heavy grain, some down in the recent storm, results in the Johnson taking first place.

John Wilson's invention reduces the time to tighten the (iron) tires on a set of buggy wheels from half a day to a few minutes.

The week's Lowell news includes a shooting in self-defense, throwing a club at a customer over payment arguments and biting a piece out of an ear in an argument - all different men.

Jerome Duga of Grattan has put up a hop house with public hall upstairs, named "Grattan Hall." He will initiate it with a Harvest party next month.

The frame of T. W. Masqn's chair factory is up and being enclosed.

### 100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JULY 18, 1901

At the July 4 celebration, a paper wad from the cannon fired in the morning went through the wall of Mrs. Isabel Robinson's house. This also happened once before.

Postmaster Quick is reprimanded by the postal inspector for not getting payment in advance for all post office boxes. Pay up or he will be liable for the rent.

Pioneer settler John S. Hooker is interviewing old residents for the Ledger in a new weekly series of articles. Fist subjects are James and Amelia Christler, who finished a house started by Luther Lincoln where the Pullen Block now is, before 1838.

A load of hay can be set afire on a hot day by a wisp of hay being caught in the friction between the wheel and hayrack. Be careful.

Hoot Gibson will star in "The Saddle Hawk" Thursday; six reels, plus a two-reel comedy.

### 50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER JULY 19, 1951

During this dry spell the Ledger urges everybody to make sure the petunias along Main Street are well watered.

Many residents are loaning the Ledger pictures of past Showboat scenes for the planned exhibit during Showboat Week. Showboat displays are in most windows, even Herpolzheimer's in Grand Rapids.

Park & Clifford, the comedy acrobatic team that won at Amateur Night a few years ago, returns as a professional act this year.

300 Jackson fans came in six chartered buses last year; this year it will be 600 in 14 buses on Saturday night.

Mother Mallard duck has a following of 11 ducklings this year to patrol the river.

### 75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO JULY 15, 1926

The Homecoming Edition comes out this week, in preparation for the events of August 1-4. Over 130 places of business along Main and side streets are listed on page 1.

Two reasons for Homecomings: It warms the heart, and when the heart warms, it expands. It's great to see a hand stretched out for something besides your money.

The annual school meeting had the largest attendance ever, 301. Treasurer Grace Walker moved up to Secretary in five ballots, Frank Coons replaced R. E. Springett in two, amongst complaints that unauthorized electors voted.

There were 25 Agriculture students at Lowell who raised crops worth \$2,400 in the past year.

### 25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER JULY 15, 1976

The winner of the Bicentennial fire hydrant painting contest sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce are Norman Weemhoff, Sally Bieri and Vicky Roth.

The East Kent Community Center moves from the American Legion Hall to newly-purchased quarters at 508 West Main, the former Home Center.

Jim Cowles of Belding brings in the first load of a new, early wheat variety to King Milling, which is unloaded by the new 67-foot hoist that can lift semi-trailers.

A Muskegon man dies when, speeding into Fallasburg Park, he hits the stone archway. The archway collapses on the car, which also bursts into flames.

Lowell Showboat Garden Club sponsors the "Heritage '76 Flower Show" at Runciman Elementary School.

### Health

With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang & Kevin Miller

### HEAT RELATED ILLNESS

As August approaches, the risk for heat exhaustion and heat stroke rises. Heat related problems typically occur during prolonged periods of high heat and humidity. The elderly are at greatest risk for serious problems.

Heat cramps are strong, painful contractions of muscles that typically occur in young adults who are sweating heavily while exerting themselves. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include weakness, fatigue, headache, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. If treatment is not instituted, heat stroke can occur.

This is a very dangerous condition in which the body's core temperature becomes very high and mental status changes occur. This requires emergency care. Risk factors for heat stroke include advanced age, alcoholism, residence on upper level floors, and lack of air conditioning.

You can prevent heat exhaustion and heat stroke by spending time in air-conditioned buildings (malls, stores), decreasing strenuous activity, and increasing fluid intake. Do not take salt tablets as this can cause more harm.

### THE CHIROPRACTIC

DR. PAUL DR. ANTHONY

### BABY YOUR BACK

Lifting a baby high overhead draws shouts of delight from your child, but could also draw shouts of pain from your back. Dr. Paul Tuthill of Doctors Chiropractic in Lowell is a member of the Michigan Chiropractic Society and observes, "It is easy for people caring for children to injure their backs. But it is also easy to avoid those injuries."

The following tips are recommended to help avoid injury when caring for your children:

- Put one foot on a box or low shelf when you stand and change a diaper. This tilts your pelvis and reduces fatigue.
- Keep work surfaces at a comfortable height. Put something under the legs of a changing table, for example, if you are tall.
- Drop the crib side before you pick up a child. Squat with your back straight, hold the child close and use your leg muscles to rise.
- Make sure your feet touch the floor and your back is supported when you sit and hold a child. Keep your knees at the same height, or slightly higher, as your hips.
- Adjust stroller handles so you are not bending or stretching when you push.
- When putting a child in a car seat, sit sideways on the seat with your child on your lap. Rotate so you are facing the front, and then put the child in the seat.

• Make sure all equipment such as cribs, strollers, and car seats are all properly adjusted.

"Taken alone, any one aspect of child-care probably is not going to hurt your back. But consider how many times a newborn is placed in a crib each day for naps. Remember, as children grow, the job gets heavier every day," Dr. Tuthill reminds us.

According to Tuthill, "An important key to avoiding injury is to allow older and heavier children to do things on their own. For example, between two and three years old, most children learn to climb into a high chair or onto a booster seat without much help. When the meal is over, the child can climb back down with only a little support from an adult. Not only will this save your back, but will also help your child develop coordination and gross motor skills."

If you do experience back discomfort, performing between 10 and 20 repetitions of three exercises every morning and evening is recommended:

First, lie flat on your back with your knees bent and slightly apart. Pull your head up toward your knees, but stop short of doing a full sit-up. Only do enough to feel slight tension.

Then, stretch your legs out straight and lift each one individually. Hold it up for a couple of seconds.

Finally, push the small of your back into the mattress for a second.

"If you do suffer from back pain, your safest bet is to see a doctor of chiropractic first," says Tuthill, "particularly those of us who use the new computer assisted adjustment which never hurts or distresses the patient."

### LEGAL EASE

By Jonathan David

### LEGAL-EASE

**DEAR JONATHAN:** In one of your prior columns you explained how parents can legally appoint another person or persons to care for their children while they are out of town. My husband and I are going on vacation in a few weeks and we want to be able to do the same thing for our children. What is involved in this appointment?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** What you are referring to is a delegation of parental powers. What follows is a verbatim reproduction of Michigan's law regarding this issue: A parent, guardian of a minor, or guardian of a legally incapacitated person, by a

properly executed power of attorney, may delegate to another person for a period not exceeding 6 months, any of the parent's or guardian's powers regarding care, custody, or property of the minor child or ward, except the power to consent to marriage or adoption of a minor ward and the power to release a minor ward for adoption.

In order to comply with the statute, this delegation must be done through a properly executed power of attorney. Although it is not a complicated or difficult document to prepare, in order to make sure that it complies with Michigan law I recommend that you have a lawyer prepare it on your behalf. Have a nice trip.

**DEAR JONATHAN:** I am a widower and I only have one child, a son. I have a modest estate and I am thinking of leaving it to a friend of mine rather than my son. She is a widow and is struggling to make ends meet. My son is very well off and does not need anything from me. In fact, he has often said that he doesn't want anything from me. Is there any problem with me naming this friend of mine as my beneficiary or does my son have legal rights to my estate?

**JONATHAN SAYS:** You are not legally obligated to leave your son any part of your estate. Consequently, you are free to leave your estate to your widow friend. However,

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

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

For the Regular Meeting of **MONDAY, JULY 2, 2001.**

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

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Treasurer Suzanne Olin, Public Works Director Daniel DesJarden, Chief of Police James Valentine, Lowell Light and Power/Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards, Administrative Manager Mary Sawka, Marketing and Advertising Director Debbie Deane, Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Boardmembers Norm Borgerson and Charlie Doyle, Police Officer James Hinton and Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2001 regular meeting as written.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by GREEN to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2001 closed session meeting as written.

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

City Manager Pasquale noted the Accounts Payable consists of all pre-paid checks due to year-end close out.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued.

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

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (07/02/01)	
GENERAL FUND .....	\$76,971.98
MAJOR STREET FUND .....	1,214.61
LOCAL STREET FUND .....	1,186.73
DDA FUND .....	37,879.61
CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION FUND .....	9,935.00
AIRPORT FUND .....	4,299.67
WASTEWATER FUND .....	30,103.26
WATER FUND .....	2,650.72
DATA PROCESSING FUND .....	21.25
EQUIPMENT FUND .....	1,320.68

**Item #1. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
**A. 314 S. HUDSON - SENIOR NEIGHBORS CENTER - VARIANCE TO ALLOW A 32 SQUARE FOOT GROUND SIGN - PUBLIC HEARING.** Zoning Board Chairman Myers stated the Senior Neighbors Center wishes to install a 4' x 8' ground sign in its front yard. Since the Center is located in the R-3 Residential District, a ground sign may be no greater than 20 square feet. Thus, a variance had been requested. It was noted if the Senior Neighbors was in the Public Facilities District, the proposed sign would be allowed. At its June 25, 2001 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended the variance granted (vote 5 to 1) based on the application meeting the established criteria.

Representative of the Senior Neighbors, Marcia Roth was present.

Myers inquired if the lettering would be painted on the sign. Roth responded the sign would be similar to the sign at the thrift shop. She noted lights would shine on the sign. Shores was in favor of recognizing the Senior Neighbors Center with a sign.

IT WAS MOVED BY SHORES and seconded by BLOUGH to grant the variance request from the Senior Neighbors Center (314 S. Hudson) and allow a 32 square foot ground sign.

Zoning Member Green noted the request has met the established criteria needed for granting variances and is recommended by the Planning Commission.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #2. ATTWOOD CORPORATION (1016 N. MONROE) - APPLICATION FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE (P.A. 198) - SET PUBLIC HEARING (7/16).** Attwood Corporation applied for industrial tax abatement related to the purchase of machinery and equipment.

The company is planning to provide improvements to the facility which would amount to over 4.7 million dollars in machinery and equipment. Thirty-three (33) existing jobs will be retained and six new positions would be created within two years as a result of the project.

The application would merit 12 years of abatement and would be submitted to the State Tax Commission upon Council approval.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by MYERS to set a public hearing for July 16, 2001 to discuss the application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (P.A. 198) for Attwood Corporation of 1016 N. Monroe.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Myers inquired what the financial benefit would be for Attwood Corporation. Pasquale will have this information for the public hearing.

Mayor Blough also asked that a list of current exemption certificates be included in July 16, 2001 meeting package.

**Item #3. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PRESENTATION ON PLANT RE-RATING EVALUATION; PURCHASE OF NEW PORTABLE GENERATOR.** Earth Tech Engineer Lucy Pugh stated the re-rating evaluation study of the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been completed. The historical performance was reviewed and compared, including the performance of each process according to the State design criteria. The study indicated the plant has exceeded the design capacity on a hydraulic basis, yet there were no problems with the treatment.

Overall, it was recommended to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality that the plant loading capacity could be increased on a hydraulic basis by 10 percent and on an organic basis by 30 percent. On June 4, 2001, Earth Tech received a letter from the DEQ agreeing to the conclusions.

Earth Tech also provided a comparison between the City and Lowell Township in terms of loading capacity or allotment. The original capacity for hydraulic is 1.42 million gallons per day with an original organic capacity of 2570 pounds of BOD per day. Based on correspondence from a Lowell Township consultant in November, it was indicated the township wished to increase their loading to approximately 500,000 gallons per day. This would relate to a total hydraulic capacity of 1.67. Then on the organic side, it would rise to about 3,000. Based on the evaluation, it was shown the plant would still fall short on the hydraulic capacity side with the increase. Organic wise, there is adequate capacity.

Pugh noted before the City exceeds the 1.42 million gallons per day on an annual basis, the DEQ would require the discharge permit be reopened and reviewed.

Pasquale asked if an increase would require a new permit. Pugh responded yes.

Pasquale clarified their recommendation was not to pursue opening the permit at this point, but leave it as is. Since there will be the need for additional capacity, not only from the township but the City, discussion should begin between the two.

Pugh stated it is the City's decision at which point to have the permit opened. In correspondence, the possibility of an upgrade to the treatment plant was noted. This would automatically cause the permit to be reopened. If the City wants to have this capacity in an official way and be allowed to discharge over 1.42 million gallons per day, then the permit should be reopened.

Pasquale questioned if there would be an additional cost. Pugh responded paperwork just needs to be filed.

Blough asked how much the degradation study would be. Pugh was unsure. Pasquale believed there was an interest in determining the cost of such a study if this should be pursued.

Blough felt a subcommittee should be formed with the township to discuss if this should be pursued. This would help the City understand what some of the longer-range goals are.

Councilmember Myers offered to assist on the subcommittee. Councilmember Green suggested giving Vergennes Township one last chance in considering whether or not they wished to be involved in an expansion.

Blough wanted the City to host a workshop with the townships.

Councilmember Brubaker inquired what it would take to increase the hydraulic capacity. Pugh responded there are a couple of different approaches. One is to attack the collections system. There is always leakage of storm water into the system which impacts the peak flow. By eliminating some of the peak flows, this may achieve some increase in the overall capacity of the plant. The other approach is to increase the hydraulic capacity which would probably impact the wastewater lift station, which is currently limited at 4 MGD on a maximum basis, requiring upgrades.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by MYERS to accept the report from Earth Tech concerning the Wastewater Treatment Plant Re-Rating Evaluation.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Mark Mundt spoke to the Council concerning the purchase of a portable generator. Lowell Township is finalizing the construction installation of a new lift station by Cumberland Manor. It is a large lift station and the current portable generator is not large enough to power the facility. In checking on new generators, Mundt discovered the current generator is quickly becoming obsolete. If a specific part is needed, one will not be available.

For those reasons, Mundt has been investigating the cost of replacing the generator with one large enough to accommodate the new lift station.

After soliciting bids, a 60 KW portable generator at a cost of \$22,750 from Stand By Power was recommended. Mundt noted the suppliers are not interested in trade ins. However, it was indicated approximately \$5,000 could be received for the old generator.

After discussion with Lowell Township Supervisor John Timpson, it was agreed the township would pay for two-thirds and the City would provide for one-third of the cost.

Mundt stated he was requesting Council approval to spend one-third of the \$22,750 as the City's share to purchase a new portable generator. Pasquale noted this has already been provided for in the budget.

Councilmember Shores inquired if this would take care of all of the new development in the township. Mundt responded yes.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to approve the purchase of a new portable generator for \$22,750 providing stand by power for three lift stations with the understanding Lowell Township will pay two-thirds and the City's expense will be \$7,583 or one-third of the cost.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

**Item #4. LOWELL LIGHT AND POWER AND CABLE TV BUDGETS - REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION.** Light and Power and Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards stated the budgets were approved and adopted by the Boards of Light and Power and Cable TV on May 21, 2001. Each were advertised and a public hearing was held on June 6, 2001. Immediately following, each Councilmember was sent copies of the budgets.

### Light and Power Budget:

Richards anticipated there to be an increase in electric

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

demand from both the residential and commercial uses. He believed this would rise approximately nine percent over the previous fiscal year. This would directly reflect an increase of purchase power expense in the budget line.

Light and Power is considering the possibility of reducing distribution expenses. There is significant work which must be done. However, much will be system improvements, upgrades and extensions which can be capitalized and depreciated. Therefore, they will not be expensed during the 2001-2002 budget year, but rather expensed over the life of the project.

Customer accounting requirements must be followed from both internal and external expenses. Light and Power expects an increase of approximately five percent in this area.

There is also discussion about increasing programs to communicate with and inform our customers. This will bring the marketing and advertising expenses up accordingly.

Light and Power anticipates overall reductions in the administrative and general expenses as well as the office supply and maintenance expenses.

As in the last few years, there will also be another significant increase in medical, dental, and other employee expenses. Richards projected approximately 7 percent in the overall budget line containing those items.

With the change of the payment in lieu of tax structure and the increases in the value of the improved generation and distribution plant, it is anticipated there will be an increase in depreciation and 16 percent in the miscellaneous expenses category. Overall, it is anticipated there will be a nine percent rise in purchase power expense and approximately a 3.6 percent increase in all other expenses. This averages to a seven percent increase in expenses overall.

Based on the projected growth in commercial and residential customers, Light and Power is projecting a 13 percent growth in actual sale revenue from electric sales. Combining those expenses and revenue projections, it is estimated there will be a \$276,000 increase over the positive net income for the previous year totalling about \$506,000 in net revenue.

Mayor Blough questioned the significance of the rise in purchase power. Richards responded this is due mostly to the increase in usage. There are many new residential customers and one major new commercial customer.

Blough asked if the rate at which Light and Power has been purchasing power is increasing. Richards responded incrementally, but has not been significant. Most of the generation is coal fired and he did not anticipate any significant increase in the cost of coal.

Blough questioned an increase of \$22,500 in employee benefit expense. Richards responded most of it is in the Health Plan.

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by SHORES to approve the 2001-2002 operating budget for Lowell Light and Power as submitted.  
YEA: 5.  
NAY: 0.  
ABSENT: 0.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Cable TV:  
Richards noted the Cable TV budget was approved by the Board and a public hearing was held.

Significant changes or highlights in the expense projections include cost for engineering power, supply maintenance and installation costs. This is a \$6,000 increase in distribution. There will be some minor increases in customer accounting expenses. An additional \$1,300 or 2% of the projected \$66,000 total is anticipated. Sales of new accounts and upgrades are dependent upon the advertising and marketing to potential customers. For this, there will be a \$2,700 increase in marketing and advertising expense or approximately an 11 percent budget increase.

Administrative and general salaries are expected to reduce. This is largely due to nonrecurring accounting and billing software issues of approximately \$10,000.

It is anticipated accounting and legal expenses will rise. This will increase the office supply and legal category by

about nine percent from the prior fiscal year.

The program fees for the basic cable line will increase at a rate of approximately 6.5 percent over the next year. There will also be a 25 percent rise in digital programming. Richards explained this increase is not because the cost is escalating, but because more programming is being sold, therefore Cable TV's paying more. Pasquale asked how customers have responded to digital cable. Richards said the response was above the national average and well ahead of the conservative projections. Approximately 11 percent of the customers have the digital program.

Because of the increase in plant depreciation expense and the newly restructured compensation to Lowell Light and Power for use of its office facilities, this will increase the miscellaneous expense line by about 10 percent. Overall, it is anticipated there will be a projected increase of expenses averaging 6.7 percent for the coming year.

Richards stated there has been a significant net loss over the last two years. A significant increase in revenue is needed to bring the system out of a negative figure. From the projections in expenses, a three dollar increase (from \$23.80 to \$26.80 per month) in the basic cable rate per subscriber is needed to show a positive net income of approximately \$16,000.

Blough questioned when the increase in cable rates would take affect. Richards responded immediately with a 30-day notice.

Myers asked for a brief description of each category of advertisement. Richards responded the informational and instruction in advertising is primarily a labor expense. This involves the amount of time of providing those operations. The miscellaneous customer service and information expenses are categorized. Advertising expense primarily refers to outside media such as newspaper and printing. The majority of the other categories refer to the labor involved in the marketing and advertising.

Councilmember Brubaker questioned why basic programming has increased so much. Richards responded the increase is nationwide. Each cable network has contracts of five years or more with built in allowances for increases. Richards explained ESPN has raised their prices 20 percent each year for the last two years.

Myers asked if Richards had considered any increases in service revenues, such as late charges, reconnect and disconnect fees. Richards responded these rates are competitive at the current time.

Myers questioned if there have been any improprieties among the subscribers. Richards responded this is very rare. An audit was done pertaining to this approximately 10 years ago with very few illegal subscribers found.

Blough inquired if the budget included any increase of employees for Cable Television. Richards responded no.

Myers asked if the budget included expenses for school activities. Richards responded Cable TV is continuing to work with the school to help develop the video and television curriculum. Eventually, they hope to move over the origination of the public access channel to the school system. Richards noted there are not any significant expenses.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by GREEN to approve the Cable Television Budget as presented including the three dollar increase to the basic subscriber cost from \$23.80 to \$26.80 per month, effective after a 30 day public notice period.

Councilmember Shores asked if Richards was concerned about losing customers due to the increase. Richards responded this is always a danger. He noted there have been increases over the last couple of years. However, previously Cable TV went four years without one. Shores questioned if it would be wise to split the increase into two separate increases. Richards responded Lowell Cable has been bleeding in net losses for the last two years. The longer this continues, the weaker the system will be and not be able to respond to the demands of new services.

Blough inquired if the budget included video taping the Light and Power/Cable TV meetings for the public. Richards responded there has been very little interest from the public. However, he would not have a problem videotaping the meetings if this was the choice of the

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

**Item #5. CITIZEN COMMENTS.** Public Works Director Dan DesJarden stated the construction of the downtown parking lots and Bowes Road would begin on Monday, July 9, 2001.

Councilmember Brubaker questioned the amount of time it would take to reconstruct the downtown parking. DesJarden responded the parking lots and riverwalk reconstruction should be completed by the end of September.

City Manager Pasquale stated Mike Sprenger of Springrove Variety has been distributing a schedule for the construction. The new parking lot for City Hall is being cleared of trees (except an existing maple) and getting ready for grading.

Brubaker asked if the area around the Chamber of Commerce would be open for the Riverwalk Festival. DesJarden responded the parking lots have to be completed before the Riverwalk construction is started.

Pasquale noted the City Hall lot is scheduled to be done by August 8, 2001. The construction on the Chamber lot would then begin on August 9, 2001.

Mayor Blough asked if informational meetings would be held for the public. DesJarden responded monthly DDA meetings will be held where such updates and changes can be discussed. It was also noted residents directly involved would have information hand delivered to them. Construction updates could also be placed on the Cable TV channel.

Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards stated on June 19th, Lowell Light and Power assisted with the move of a house from Avery Street. It was anticipated there would be a brief and localized cable outage and very few individual interruptions of power. However, once the house move was under way, it became apparent the moving height of the house was higher than quoted. It was determined it could not be safely moved without de-energizing the circuit which would be crossed at three individual places. It was also determined to move forward and notify customers that an outage was necessary.

Richards stated there were customers who were understandably upset with the interruption of power and their hardship. As communicated with these customers, Light and Power is not satisfied either. Changes have been made to ensure a better job is done in the future.

Richards believed Light and Power fell short in three areas. First, they did not adequately scrutinize and question the information given by the person conducting the move. They underestimated the time it would actually take to move the house before the power could be restored. Also, they failed to have sufficiently strict requirements in place to ensure adequate protection in preparation and communication with the customers who would be affected.

Light and Power's success was they protected the safety of the movers and the crew involved. They also protected the customers equipment by disabling the system rather than the neutral or some other process which could have been done. This would have been dangerous and could have resulted in damage to the customers electrical equipment.

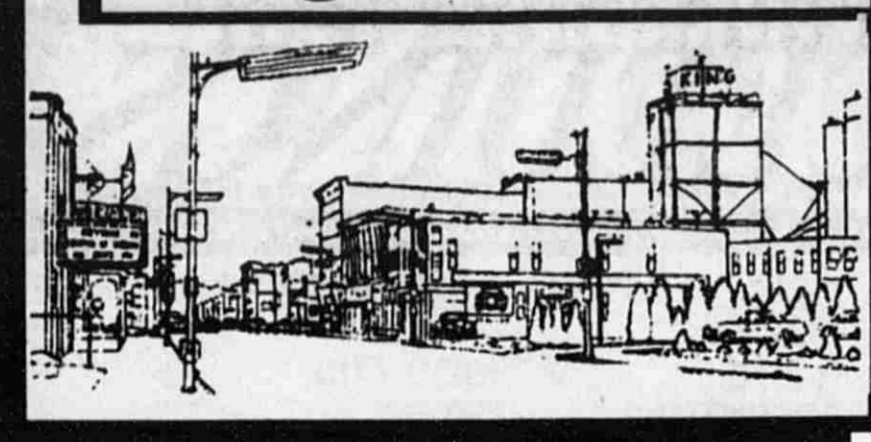
Blough did not believe there was anything in the ordinance which would refer to the movement of a home. He suggested this be placed on the next agenda and asked City staff to provide some suggestions for review.

Brubaker inquired if Light and Power had a written policy to follow when a home needs to be moved. Richards responded they follow a list of requirements from the person conducting the move.

Myers suggested placing a time restriction on when a home could be moved.

**Item #6. COUNCIL COMMENTS.** Councilmember Shores stated the new Public Works sign looks great. She also noted the new sidewalk along S. Hudson Street is much more attractive and usable.

## Along Main Street



### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES

Solid Ground will be on the Riverwalk this Thursday evening, July 19 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Stop by and enjoy this free evening of country rock entertainment.

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

ing on my doctorate degree in curriculum development," Warren explained.

She views her new role as middle school principal as an opportunity to grow professionally in an excellent school system.

"I love the small hometown atmosphere of Lowell... it

## Accident, cont'd ...

### From Page 1



Paramedics work on getting Amy Zevenbergen out of her car.

Butterworth Hospital by Aero Med. He suffered no major injuries, according to Kent County Deputy Sheriff, Tim Essig.

The deputy sheriff said Blain was cited with driving under the influence of alcohol.

The sheriff's department reported that Blain was involved in an accident moments earlier at Parnell and Foreman before fleeing the scene. According to the sheriff's report, Blain, after talking to the other driver, got back in his car and raced northbound on Parnell before crashing into Zevenbergen.

### LOWELL FIRE DEPT. BLOOD DRIVE

The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood Program on Wednesday, July 18 from 3-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station located at 315 S. Hudson.

### COMMODITY RECIPIENTS

Everyone must sign up again for commodities on Thursday, July 26. Bring your vital papers to Lowell Moose Recreation Hall on E. Fulton.

### STREET MARKET DAYS COMING SOON

Calling flea and farm marketers, crafters, people who just want to sell their treasures. The 4th annual Street Market Days, sponsored by Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and the Main Street Downtown merchants, will be July 27 and 28

(Friday & Saturday) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Historic Lowell. Call Linda at 897-1140 for information and an application form to rent space.

### VEEN OBSERVATORY VISITORS' NIGHT

See planets and galaxies through powerful telescopes on Saturday, July 28 from 9-11:30 p.m. at the James C. Veen Observatory, 3308 Kissing Rock Road in Lowell, if skies are clear. \$1-\$2 admission. For more information call 897-7065 or visit the web site at www.graa.org.

### 1930 LHS CLASS REUNION

Keiser's Kitchen will be the location for the Lowell High School class of 1930 reunion on Saturday, July 28 at noon. The classes of 1929 and 1931 are invited. Call 897-7218 for reservations.

reminds me of what Rockford was 20 years ago; and its school has an excellent reputation," Warren said.

The hiring of Warren, who replaces Mark Weber, completes a reshuffling of administrative leadership at the middle school.

Last week, Lowell hired Cindy Geiger to replace Jim Harden as assistant principal.

"This will be a team approach and not a delineated one," Warren said.

In defining what makes for a good middle school principal, Warren noted it means carrying out what are educational

practices and what's good for kids. "You also have to love kids, be a good listener, open to new ideas, and be flexible," she said.

Once she started working in the administrative area, becoming a principal was always Warren's goal.

The Cedar Springs' resident and her husband Ronald of 33 years have four children: Connie, Amy, Christopher and Daniel.

"I have felt comfortable with everyone I've spoken with in Lowell. Everyone is friendly and inviting," Warren concludes.

## DDA may have solution to Bowne Township's office dilemma

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Mold chased Bowne Township officials out of their office at 6059 Linfield and the threat of its return may keep them from coming back.

With no guarantees that mold won't return even if the current structure is razed and a new one is built, township officials are setting up an appointment to have the former Alto United Bank building tested for mold. The cost of the test is \$1,850. The Bowne Township Downtown Development Authority will vote in August on whether it will pay to have the test completed.

The DDA has also offered to provide the township with \$70,000 to remodel the former bank so it can be used for township offices. DDA chairman, Roger Harris said more money may be available if needed.

"The money would be available in the next budget year," Harris said. "There is not enough in the DDA budget this current year."

Bowne Township offices are temporarily being operated from the historic Bowne Township Hall at the corner of M-50 and 84th St. Because it is a historic site, it cannot be a permanent site for the township.

The former United Bank would only be a temporary solution. "Our growth dictates that it is just a short-term solution," said Bowne Township supervisor Pete Siler. "For now, it would provide us the township with an office, a small meeting room, a place to house the staff we need and to carry on the activities of the township."

Another option would be to build on the seven acres of land the township owns at 84th and Alden Nash (near historic Bowne Township Hall). The drawback with that option is the township doesn't have money to build. "The only thing going right now is the old bank," said Bowne Township clerk, Sandra Kowalczyk.

Siler said he is very serious about taking the DDA up on its offer of providing the township with \$70,000 toward renovation of the old bank. "I think it would be foolish for us not to use the gift presented by the DDA," Siler explained. "Anything that is done to appreciate the building, the DDA (owner of the building) will eventually get back."

As for the old township hall, the township could sell it as is (distressed building). "We've had some general interest in it," he said. "It is no longer viable for an office. It would be too expensive to overhaul and fix."

## Musical artists needed for Riverwalk and Fallasburg festivals

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

Artists looking to be selected to play in the refined air of the Riverwalk Festival or the Fallasburg Fall Festival are asked to submit their resumes and tapes.

All tapes and resumes must be submitted by Aug. 1. The selection process will then begin.

Musicians interested in playing at the Riverwalk Festival

Saturday, Sept. 1 may send their resume and tape to the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 224, Lowell, MI 49331.

Artists who want to play at the Fallasburg Fall Festival, Sept. 29 and 30, may send their resume and tape to the Lowell Area Arts Council, 149 S. Hudson St., Lowell, MI 49331.

"After the tapes have been received, it will be a fast-track selection process," said Gordon Gould, music coordinator for

both fall events. "It's a good opportunity for musical artists to showcase themselves."

Gould is hopeful of receiving a good pool of artists to choose from.

There will be music at the Riverwalk Festival from 11:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Music at the Fallasburg Fall Festival will be performed each day from 11:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

## Lowell Cable Company receives a strong performance rating

If you want to know about the service Lowell Cable Television provides, look at its performance.

CAT-V Engineering, Inc. FCC Proofs of Performance test for the local cable company showed that a high level of technical quality exists at Lowell Cable Television.

At the Head End, a total of 294 tests on 49 channels were completed and only four failures were found, giving Lowell Cable Television a compliance rating of 98.7 percent.

In addition, there were 252 tests performed at six different

locations on the cable distribution plant. Only two failures were found, giving the company a compliance rating of 99.2 percent.

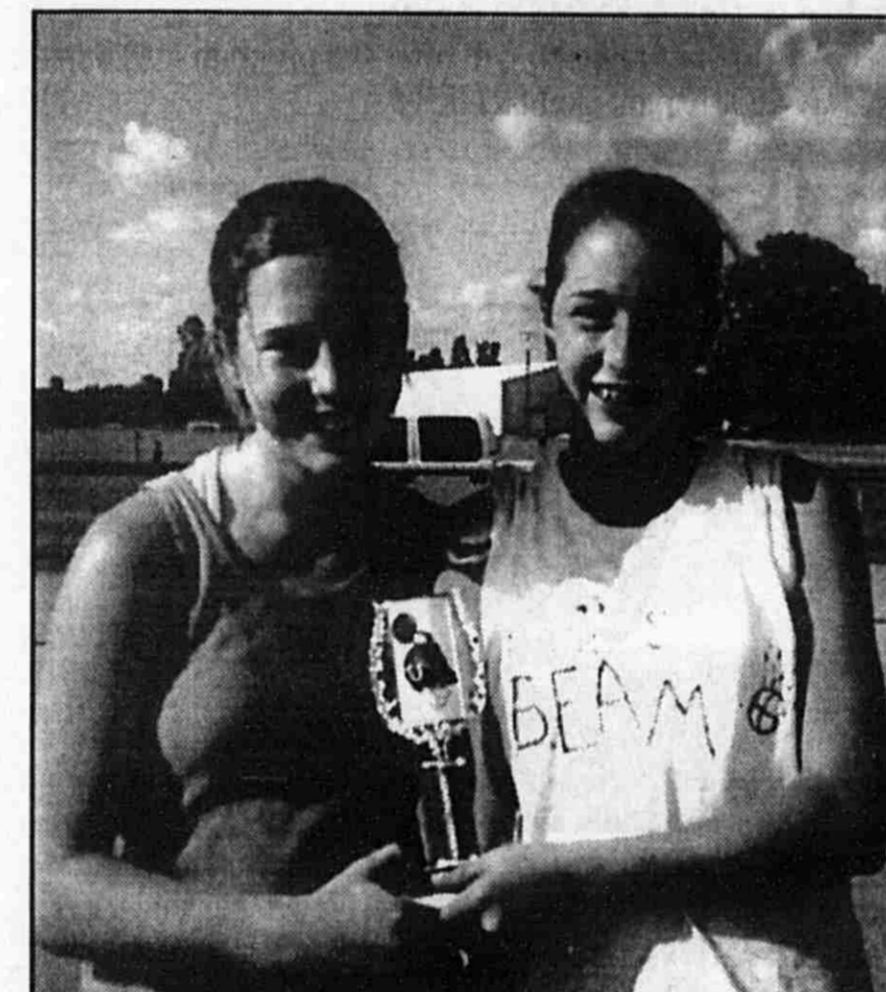
"I perform FCC Proofs of Performance semi-annually for

## KDL taking a road trip

Kent District Library is "Going on a Road Trip" as author, entertainer and singer Marian Nelson takes kids of all ages on a delightful journey across Michigan. Included in the program will be a song highlighting key destinations as well as a variety of travel activities and great summertime books from the author's traveling trunk.

The program will be offered at the Englehardt branch on Tuesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m.

For other times and locations, contact the Kent District Library at 784-2007.



**LONG SHOTS**  
Nicole Shepard and Brook VanEck of Lowell won the Lowell YMCA two-player, three-point shootout, in the 10-13-year-old division. They went 6-for-10.

## CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Lowell Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing at their regularly scheduled meeting of Monday, July 23, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

An ordinance amendment on Chapter 18 (Site Plan Review) Section 18.06.D. (Review Standards) "Removal or alteration of significant natural features shall be restricted to those areas, which are reasonably necessary to develop the site in accordance with the requirements of this ordinance. The planning commission may require that landscaping, buffers, and/or greenbelts be continuously maintained to ensure that proposed uses will be adequately buffered from one another and from surrounding public and private property."

Interested persons may submit written comments or appear in person at City Hall, 301 E. Main, Lowell, MI 49331.

Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk  
616-897-8457



## Flat River Outreach Ministries THRIFT STORE

is currently in need of volunteers, please call for hours.

We encourage you to bring donations during store hours.

Wednesday - Friday 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

519 E. Main St. (Corner of Jackson and E. Main St.) • 897-2037

Come See Our  
Daily Specials!

## GRATTAN TOWNSHIP

### NOTICE FOR TESTING OPTEC COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR AUGUST SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the OPTEC Program Testing for the August 7, 2001 Special Election will be conducted on Monday, July 30, 2001 at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI at 9:30 a.m.

Lana F. Green, Clerk

## NOTICE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Lowell Charter Township is seeking applications for the position of Zoning Enforcement officer. This is a part-time position and prior police experience is preferred. Please call the township office at 897-7600 for further information. Application forms may be obtained at the township office located at 2910 Alden Nash, Lowell, MI 49331.

John Timpson, Supervisor

## LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP REZONING HEARING

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED that the Lowell Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on:

Monday, July 23, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell.

The following changes of zoning will be considered:

Steven Hanson has requested rezoning of properties located at 2615 Alden Nash Avenue S.E. (PP# 40-20-11-376-008) and 12874 Grand River Drive S.E. (PP# 41-20-11-301-001) from the current zoning classification of Rural Low Density Residential (R-1) to Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the purpose of development as single family homesites.

The original application and the township zoning map may be examined at the Township office during regular office hours. Please call 897-7600 for further information.

Linda S. Regan, Clerk  
Lowell Charter Township

## THANK YOU

The Youth Involvement Committee of the Women of the Moose Chapter 1388 would like to thank all the sponsors for the Teen Karaoke Dance held on June 24.

Family Fare	Ada-Lowell 5
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Family Fun Ctr.	Subway
Wolf Doggies	Moonlight Video
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## CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Councilmember Myers acknowledged the receipt of a letter from Mark Weber, principal of the Lowell Middle School. The letter was complimenting Police Chief Valentine and staff for their mentoring program. This reminded Myers about another incident reported to him which had a very positive impact. A child was out riding his bike with several friends. A police officer stopped the boys and gave the one wearing a helmet two tickets to a WhiteCaps game.

Mayor Blough received a note from an individual thanking the City for the contribution of the Lowell City flag. It is now part of a large collection of City flags, which are on display in various parts of the nation.

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

A. The following meetings minutes were provided:

• Grand Valley Metro Council-Transportation Policy Com-

mittee meeting of May 16, 2001.

• Planning Commission meeting of May 16, 2001.  
• Downtown Development Authority meeting of June 14, 2001.

B. Because the Library Community Room has been previously scheduled, the City Council worksession reviewing the Construction Management options for the City Hall - Police Station project will be held on Monday, July 9th at 7 p.m. in the City Hall.

C. The Downtown Development Authority approved a contract with Cycon Enterprises of Grandville to carry out the downtown parking lots and Riverwalk extension work. A schedule has been provided by the contractor. The project will begin on Monday, July 2nd and is estimated to finish by September 30th.

D. The City offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th in observance of Independence Day. Remember, festivities for Independence Day including fireworks are sched-

uled for Friday, July 6th.

Item #8. APPOINTMENTS. The following appointment was made:

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN and seconded by BRUBAKER to appoint Jim Wood of 875 Hillside Ct. to the Board of Review for another term.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY GREEN to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, July 16, 2001

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

# Legal Ease, cont'd... From Page 5

before you do that, I suggest that you discuss your plans with your son so that he is fully aware of what you are doing and why you are doing it. By discussing this ahead of time, you will avoid your son being surprised at what you have done and you will also avoid any potential hurt feelings your son might have if you were to do this without informing him of your plans. Also, you might want to consider naming your son the beneficiary of at least your personal property which carries a sentimental value. Your friend would probably have no use for

these items of personal property and your son might greatly appreciate receiving them.  
Also, when you make out your will, you want to be very careful that you don't simply ignore your son. You want to identify him as your son and to the extent you are omitting him as a beneficiary, you want to make it clear in the will that you are not mindful of him, but that you are intentionally omitting him as a beneficiary. This will make it clear to all interested parties, including your son, that he was not omitted by accident and in fact he was intentionally excluded as a beneficiary. By doing this, you take away the potential argument (assuming he would want to make it) that he was omitted

as a beneficiary by accident. This is important because if he were able to prove this allegation, he would be entitled to receive your estate notwithstanding the fact that your will named your friend as the beneficiary.

I highly recommend that after discussing this matter with your son, you have an estate planning attorney draft the will on your behalf.

*The information contained in this column is not to be construed as legal advice or legal representation and should not be relied upon as such. If legal advice or legal representation is desired, please consult with an attorney.*

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## KDL program is for the birds

Bird lovers can learn all about "Attracting Birds to Your Garden" at Kent District Library branches this summer. Don Taylor of Wild Birds Unlimited will discuss birds' three basic needs for food, shelter and water as well as provide informational handouts and display types of food, feeders, houses and books.

The program, for both beginners and longtime birders, will be offered at the Alto branch on Thursday, July 26 at 7 p.m.

For other locations, contact the Kent District Library at 784-2007.

## Making glycerin soap a slippery undertaking

Professional soap maker, Leslie Sowers-Winkel, of Chestnut Farms in Kentwood, will teach teens how to make their own colorful glycerin soap in a hands-on workshop. Registration is required, and participation is limited to 12.

Alto branch will offer the program on Wednesday, July 25 at 1:30 p.m. Call 868-6038 to register.

The Englehardt branch will offer the program on Thursday, July 26 at 1 p.m. Call 897-9596.

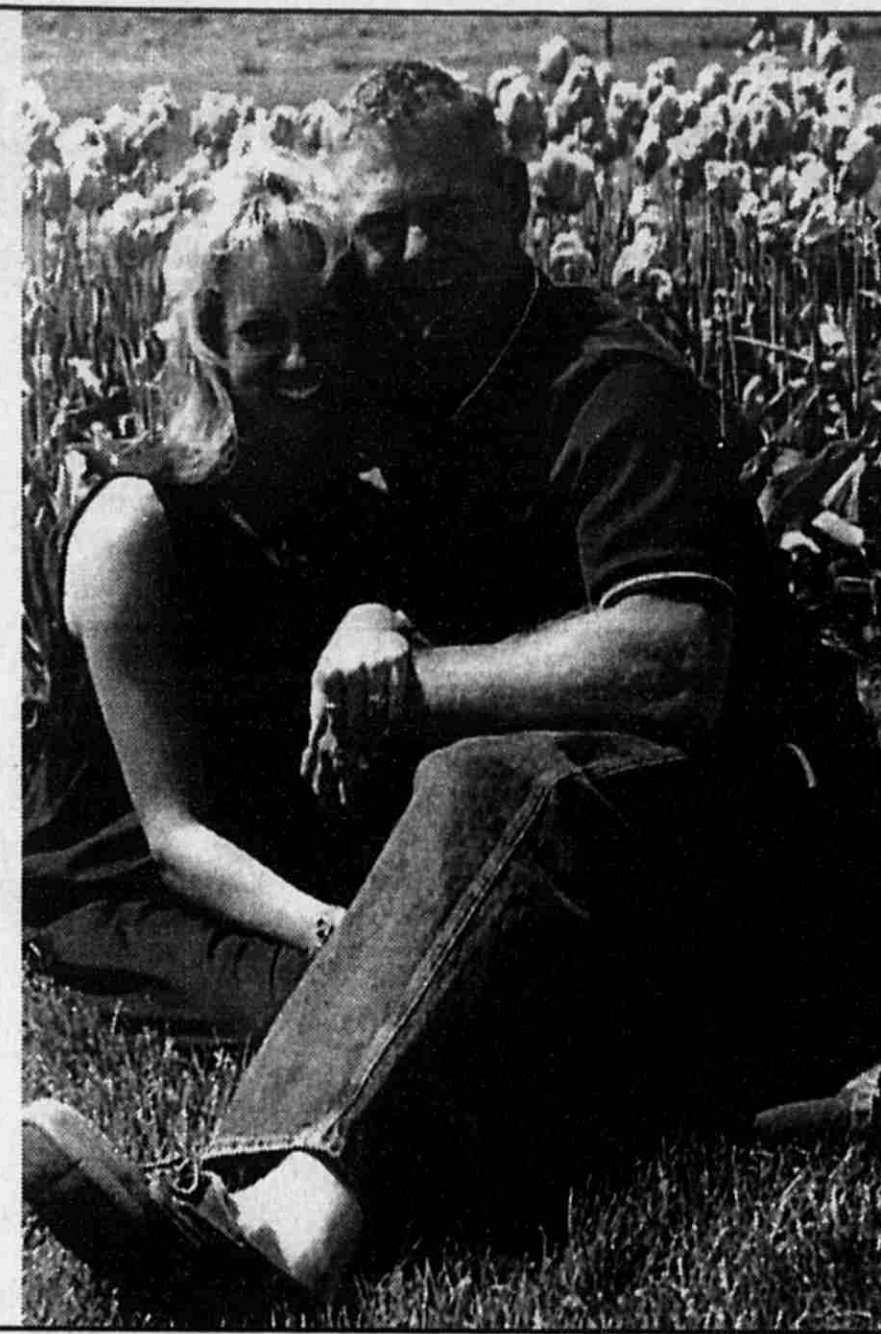
## Ayres/Phillips

Cammy Lou Phillips of Jenison and Richard Daniel Ayers of Lowell are engaged to be married.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Brian and Bona Beckley of Alma.

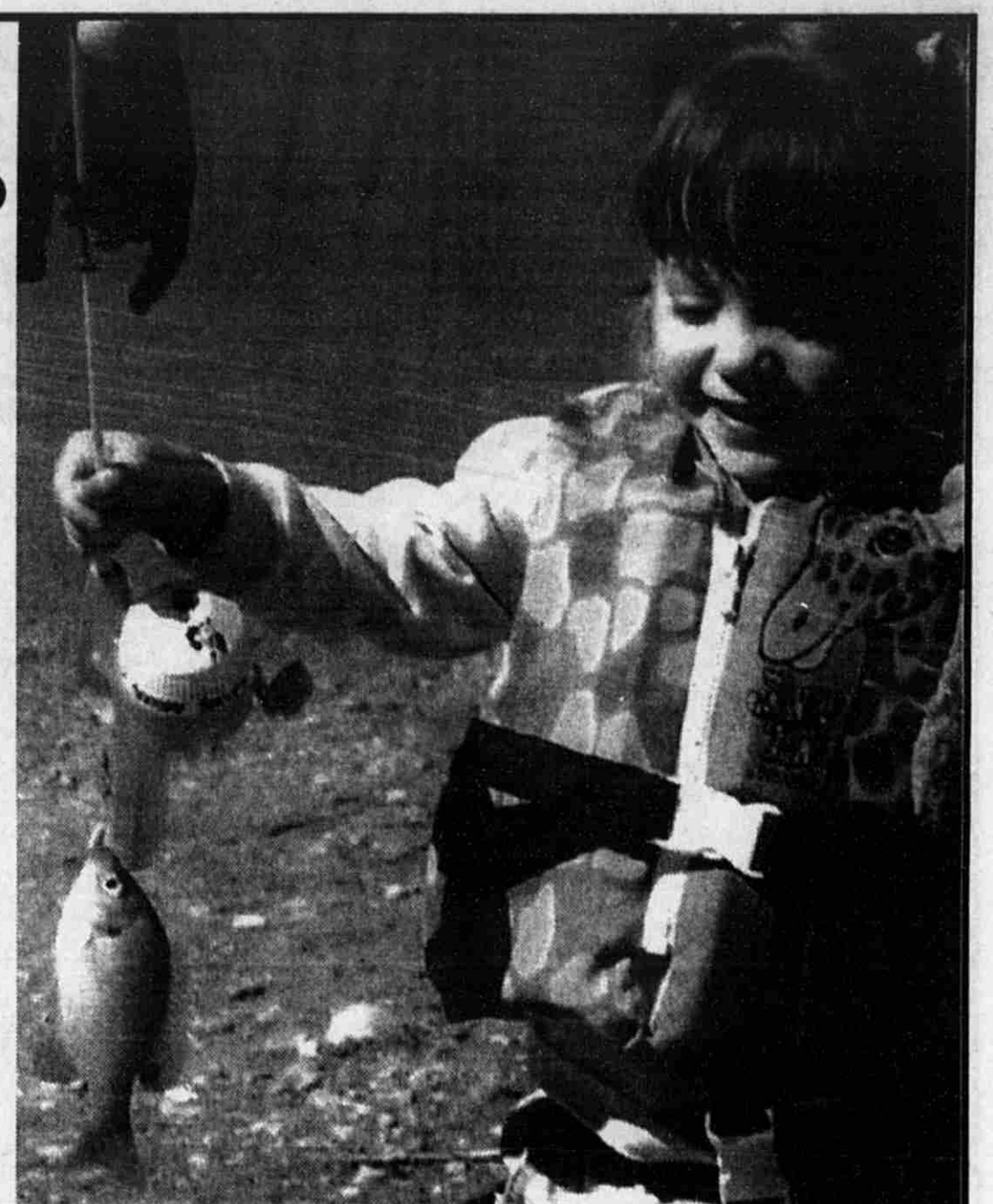
The future groom is the son of Bill and Jeri Ayers of Elkton, Maryland.

The couple is planning an August 17, 2001 wedding.



## WHO'S HOOKED Now?

Two-year-old Nicole Batey ... that's who. A day that combines catching your first fish and spending time with Grandpa (Lloyd Batey) can only be described as a "keeper." Batey is the daughter of Jeff and Amy Batey.



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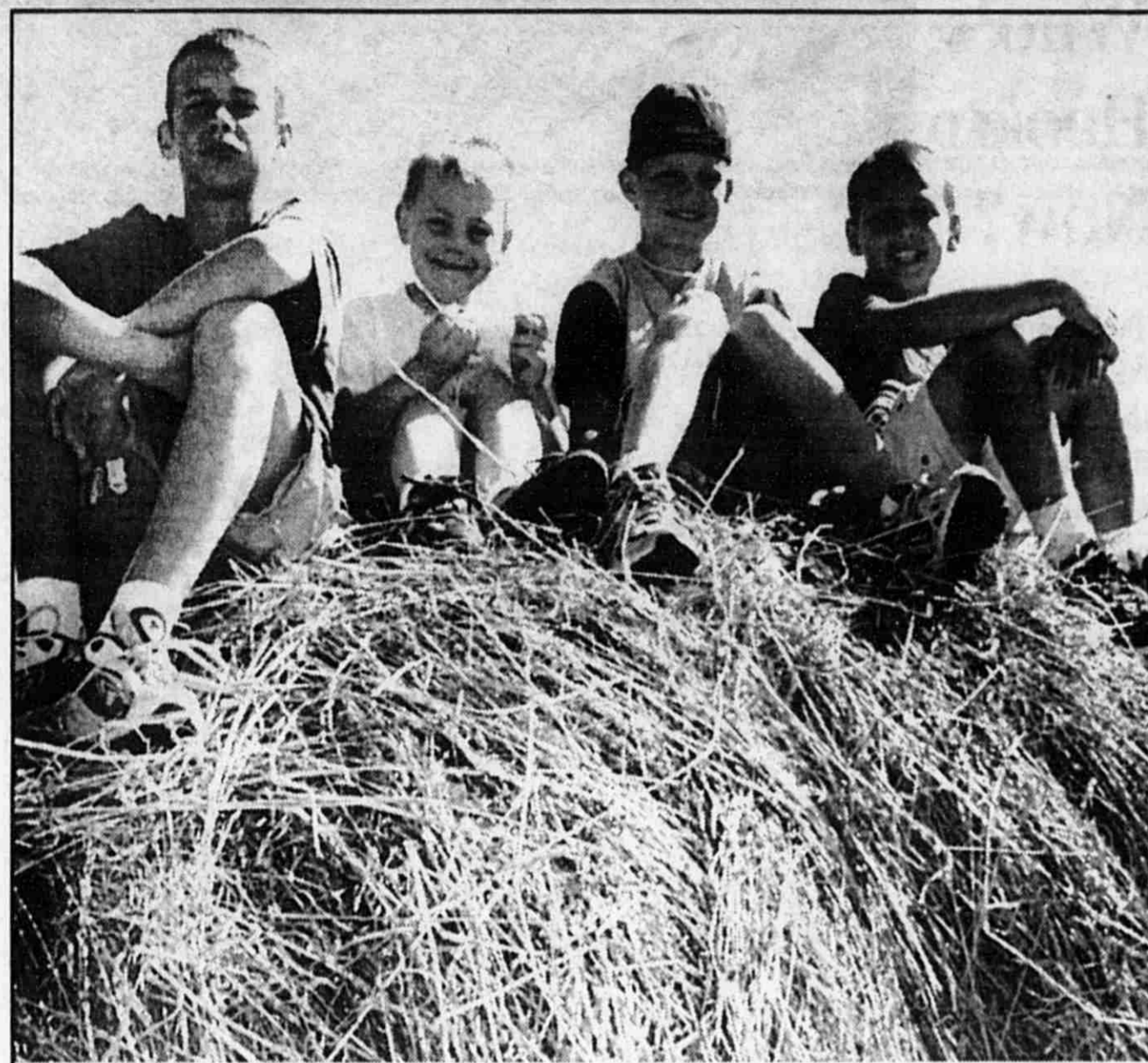
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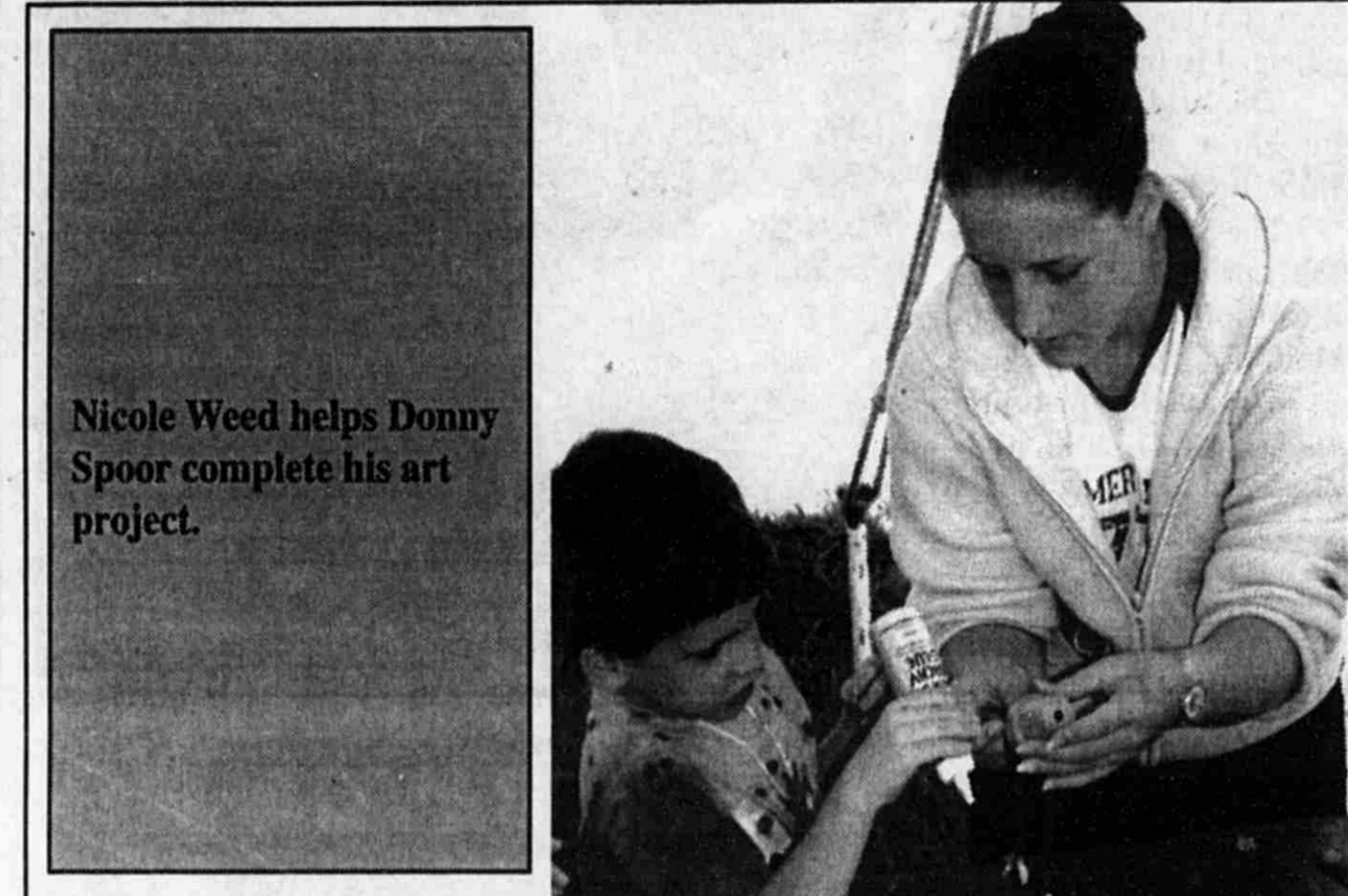
These hay bales provide an ideal place to look over the day's activities or to just reflect. Pictured above, from left to right, are: Josh Jesse, John Kerbyson, Timmy Weed and Levi Gerou.

## Values found in Bible School lesson

The third annual River-side Fellowship Church Vacation Bible School used the cartoon series "VeggieTales" as its theme in teaching kids values. Character traits such as obedience, respect and fairness were taught and dis-

played on video and through week-long activities. Kids' activities included games, crafts, art and a pet store. This year, 30 kids participated in the summer bible school, held on the property of Don and Carol Clay on Downes Road between McCabe and Parnell. Tents were erected outside and housed many of the activities.

The week concluded on Friday evening with kids presenting a program for the parents.



Nicole Weed helps Donny Spoor complete his art project.

Words not only affect us temporarily; they change us, they socialize or unsocialize us.

David Riesman

## GARAGE SALE PAGE



- HUGE 3 FAMILY GARAGE SALE**  
New side-by-side refrigerator, dryer, 3 wheel bike, lots of kids clothes, household items, misc. Low prices. For more info., call 897-4575. July 18 - July 21, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
435 Forstrom Dr., off Vergennes.
- YARD SALE**  
July 19, 20, 21, 9-5 p.m. Household misc., toys, puzzles, children's books, First Day Covers, and much more.  
1778 Rhoda, Key Heights.
- LOWELL'S ANNUAL RIVER BLUFF BARGAIN BONANZA**  
Multi family garage sale, Fri. and Sat., July 27 and July 28, 9-7 N. on Lincoln Lake, East on Burroughs.
- MOVING SALE**  
Sat., July 21, 9-3 p.m. 12151 36th St. E. of Alden Nash.
- GARAGE SALE**  
749 Hunt, Thurs. & Fri., 9-5 p.m. Little Tikes, toys, furniture, clothes, kids through adults, winter coats, bike, household items.
- SALE**  
July 19-21, 8-4 p.m. 317 N. Center. Center Court Apts. Lots of items, too many to mention.
- GARAGE SALE**  
2 family, July 20 & 21, 9-5 p.m. Infant-adult clothing, Little Tikes & Fisher Price toys, furniture & golf clubs.  
204 Jackson St., Saranac.
- GARAGE SALE**  
July 21, 8:30-1:00 p.m. Gee Dr. Furniture, queen bed, Tupperware, dishes, clothes, bike and misc. items.
- GARAGE SALE**  
Thurs. Fri. & Sat., July 19, 20, 21, 8-6 p.m. Porcelain dolls, left-handed bow, clothes, household items.  
2585 Gulliford.
- 3-FAMILY SALE**  
Thurs., 9-3 p.m.; Fri., 9-5 p.m. 1764 Rhoda, lot 216 in Key Heights. Professional hair products & accessories, teaching materials, furniture, baby items, clothing (infant-adult), household goods & more.
- MOVING SALE**  
July 20 & 21, Fri. & Sat., 9-5 p.m. 10925 Sconewood in Eastgate. Washer, dryer, dresser & much more.
- GARAGE SALE**  
Wed., July 18, 1-6 p.m., Thurs. July 19, 9-2 p.m. TV, guitar, keyboard, fireplace tools, lots of girls clothes, 707 Foreman Rd.

**GARAGE SALE**  
July 19- 21, 9 a.m. to ? 1297 Jane Ellen:

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Greenridge Realty announced that Pat Schaefer received Realtor of the Month in June. This award recognizes Pat for his outstanding success and achievements.



Pat Schaefer

A committee is a life form with six or more legs - and no brain.

Lazarus Long

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# 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.

**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 102, 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 & FOURTH TUES.:** Knights of Columbus #7719 meetings at St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

**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 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 WED.:** The "Peppers" group (senior adults) meets at Franciscan Life Process Center from 1-3:30 p.m. \$10 per week to cover expenses. Transportation is available. For more information, call Pat at the Center at 897-7842.

**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 FOURTH WED.:** Support group for Peripheral neuropathy meets at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 2560 Lake Michigan Dr. N.W., Grand Rapids. Call 897-9794.

**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.

**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 SECOND & LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH:** James C. Veen Observatory (3308 Kissing Rock Rd.) Visitors Night from 9-11:30 p.m. if the night is clear. \$2 adults; \$1 children to 18. For info. call Starwatch at 897-7065.

**SECOND SAT.:** Lowell Amateur Radio Club meets at the west end of Lowell High School. 9 AM social gathering; 10 AM meeting. LARC sponsors the 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

**EVERY FRI. & SAT.:** Averill Historical Museum of Ada at 7144 Headley is open from 1 to 4 p.m. Open other times by appointment. Call 676-9346.

**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 is held the 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.

**WED., JULY 18:** The Lowell Area Fire Dept. is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program from 3-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station located at 315 S. Hudson.

**SAT., JULY 21:** North/South Bell School Reunion, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Bring dish to pass, table setting, beverage & memories. Elmdale Church of the Nazarene, at Elmdale & Drew Rd.

**THURS., JULY 26:** All commodity recipients must sign up again at Lowell Moose Recreation Hall on E. Fulton. Bring your vital papers with you.

**FRI. & SAT., JULY 27 & 28:** 4th annual Street Market Days, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sponsored by Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Downtown Merchants. Call Linda at 897-1140 for info. or to pick up an application form.

**SAT., JULY 28:** 1930 Lowell High School class reunion at Keiser's Kitchen at 12 p.m. 1929 and 1931 classes are invited. Call 897-7218 for reservations.

**SAT., JULY 28:** James C. Veen Observatory Visitors Night from 9-11:30 p.m. weather permitting. \$1-\$2. Call 897-7065 for directions or visit the website at www.graaa.org.

**FRI. & SAT., AUG. 10 - 11:** 2 Workshops on Monotype and Gem Pen Calligraphy at Franciscan Life Process Center, 9-4 p.m. \$60. Call John at 897-7842 to register and receive a materials list.

**BEGINNING SEPT. 17:** 12 week class for parents experiencing frustration in dealing with their child's "acting out" behavior. Registration required. Call Beverly or Melissa at Franciscan Life Process Center 897-7842.

\*\*\*  
Before I got married, I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories.  
—John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester (1647-1680)

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

#### LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR 897-5949

**MON.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.  
**TUES.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall; 10:30 a.m. Armchair Exercise.  
**THURS.:** 9 a.m. Walk/Shop at the Malls; 9:30 a.m. Crafts; 1 p.m. Euchre.  
**FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.  
**WED.:** 12:30 p.m. Shop at Family Fare.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**WED., JULY 18:** 10 a.m. Advisory Council; 11 a.m. Nail Care; Noon Movie: 7 Brides for 7 Brothers.  
**THURS., JULY 26:** 9 a.m. Gilmore Car Museum, \$6 plus van; 6:30 p.m. Showboat Concert.  
**FRI., JULY 27:** 12:40 p.m. Bingo.  
**FRI., JULY 20:** 9:15 a.m. Sr. Neighbors Picnic at Johnson Park.  
**MON., JULY 30:** Tipton Hidden Gardens, \$3 plus van.  
**TUES., JULY 31:** 7:30 a.m. Edsel and Eleanor Ford Home Tour, \$19 (includes lunch) van, \$7.50.  
**TUES., JULY 24:** 4:30 p.m. Noel Restaurant, \$12.04 (includes tax, beverage and tip).



**Solid Ground**

## Solid Ground next up on Summer Concert Series docket

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

In January, West Michigan country band, Solid Ground returned to its old stomping grounds, Howl'n Moon Saloon after a three year absence.

Solid Ground will venture out from the familiar venue when it brings its cool, country rock sound to the Lowell Showboat Summer Concert series Thursday. Showtime starts at 6:30 p.m.

Solid Ground began playing the Grand Rapids' bar scene in 1993. Around 1995, the direction of the band started changing, with the addition of lead guitarist, Greg Miller. The band began developing original music and, in 1997, cut an independent label CD, featuring nine original songs by the band, which was composed of Kelly Trudell, lead vocals and acoustic guitar; Greg Miller, lead guitar and vocals; Eric Jon, bass and vocals; and Thom Postema on drums.

In 1998, the band was one of eight selected in the Jim Beam Talent Search to play in a final contest at the Wild Horse Saloon. Solid Ground won the contest and was given the opportunity to play for six advance and release representatives from major labels. "We were approached by one rep from Decca Records," Postema said. "We were excited until we learned they wanted our songs and not us."

It caused the band to break up, but after time to heal they began working together again, doing Country Fest and other festivals and shows.

## Financial Focus

With Christopher J. Bouma

Edward Jones

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Trading Stocks is Easy -  
Maybe Too Easy

You've probably seen all the ads touting the ease with which you can now trade stocks. And it is easy, especially over the Internet—a click of your mouse, and you've made a trade. But does the fact that you can trade stocks quickly and easily mean you should?

Actually, the effortlessness with which you can make trades may work against you. For one thing, frequent trading can be expensive. Even with a discount online brokerage, you still incur commissions. And it's deceptively easy to rack up a lot of these fees. When you're making trades through your computer, it may not "feel" like you're really spending money in the same way you would if you picked up a phone and placed an order with your broker. Just as Internet shopping has led many people to pile up credit card debt, Internet investing has caused many investors to accumulate more commission payments than they had envisioned.

The opportunity cost of online investing may be just as great as, if not more than, the financial cost. Even fundamentally strong, high-quality stocks need time to grow. If you're constantly cutting out of these stocks after even small gains, you're robbing yourself of potentially large gains in the future for small benefits today.

In fact, online investing can be hazardous to your portfolio's health. A recent study by a University of California-Davis finance professor compared the results for a group of investors before and after they started investing online. The study found

that the investors, once online, traded more actively, more speculatively and less profitably than they did before.

This study points to a key problem with online investing: It's not goal-oriented. You may be punching in a lot of trades, but are you doing it with a sense of purpose? Are all your trades helping you meet your long-term financial objectives? Do they fit with your goals, your investment personality and your time horizon? Are they contributing to a diversified portfolio?

If you're not sure of the answers to these questions, then you can be quite sure that online trading is not working toward your best interests. That's why you should consider working with an investment representative — someone who is trained to analyze your needs and determine the most appropriate investment strategies to meet your goals. Furthermore, once an investment representative gets to know you, he or she can watch out for good opportunities that are particularly well-suited for your needs. You can't get this type of proactive assistance from an online investing service.

There's no question that the Internet has brought tremen-

dous, positive changes to our lives. We can communicate to loved ones anywhere in the world — quickly, easily and inexpensively. We can find almost limitless information on virtually any subject—all at the touch of a button. But when it comes to making thoughtful investments for the future, you may want to think twice before heading out to cyberspace.

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## Some government rebate checks will be mailed as early as July 23; others will have to wait until September

**Editor's Note:** Lowell's H&R Block and Edward Jones Investment will host a 2001 tax rebate and tax changes seminar on Aug. 7 at 6 p.m. in the H&R Block office at 2050 W. Main St. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions and a chart indicating when you can expect to receive your rebate check from the government.

Q. What is it?

A. Congress enacted a new 10 percent tax bracket that ends at \$6,000 taxable income (SGL and MFS), \$10,000 (HH), and \$12,000 (MFJ and QW). This results in a maximum tax savings of \$300 (SGL and MFS), \$500 (HH), and \$600 (MFJ and QW). The savings is equal to five percent of the amount taxed in the 10 percent bracket (the difference between the 15 percent rate and the 10 percent rate).

In lieu of including the 10 percent bracket in the 2001 tax schedules, Congress has enacted a credit for the amount of the savings. In order to get the tax savings into taxpayers' hands more quickly, Congress has directed the U.S. Treasury to issue rebates (in the form of a check) for the expected tax savings. Direct deposit is not an option.

Q. Who is eligible to receive the rebate?

A. Individuals who had a 2000 tax liability, other than dependents and non-resident aliens.

Q. What are the procedures?

A. Taxpayers are not required to take any action. By mid-July, the IRS will send taxpayers a letter informing them of the amount they will receive. The IRS recommends that taxpayers save this letter. For taxpayers who filed timely returns, checks are expected to be issued according to the following schedule:

Taxpayers who timely filed and don't receive a check by October 5 should call 1-800-829-1040.

For taxpayers who filed after the due date, the IRS will continue to mail checks until late December.

Q. What data is used to compute the rebate?

Last Two Digits of SSN	Should Receive Check the Week of
00-09	July 23
10-19	July 30
20-29	Aug. 6
30-39	Aug. 13
40-49	Aug. 20
50-59	Aug. 27
60-69	Sept. 3
70-79	Sept. 10
80-89	Sept. 17
90-99	Sept. 24

\* On joint returns, the primary filer's Social Security Number is used to determine the mailing date.

A. The filing status, taxable income, and tax on the 2000 tax return.

Q. What effect will the rebate have on the 2001 tax return?

A. There will be a worksheet to compute a credit in the 2001 instruction booklets. The credit is figured in the same manner as the rebate, but using 2001 filing status and amounts. The credit will be reduced by the amount of the rebate check. The rebate will affect the 2001 return only if the allowable credit is larger than the rebate. If the amount of the credit exceeds the rebate, a credit for the excess will be claimed. If the credit equals the rebate, no entry will be made on the return. If the

rebate exceeds the credit, no repayment is required.

Q. Is the rebate subject to the refund offset provisions, such as those applicable to past-due child support?

A. Yes. In addition, taxpayers making payments under an installment agreement will not get a check; the payment will be applied to the balance due. These taxpayers should continue to make their normal monthly payments.

Q. Is the rebate taxable?  
A. No.

Q. How can the amount of the rebate be figured?  
A. Use the following worksheet.

1. 2000 taxable income.

2. Enter \$6,000 (single or married filed single), \$10,000 (head of household), or \$12,000 (married filed jointly or qualifying widow).

3. Enter the lesser of line one or line two.

4. Maximum rebate. Multiply line three by five percent (.05).

5. Enter the tax from line 51, 2000 Form 1040; line 33, Form 1040A; or line 10, Form 1040EZ.

6. Rebate. Enter the lesser of line four or line five.

## Inbody captures second international championship

Lowell's Andrew Inbody won his second consecutive United States Karate-Do Kie International Grand Championship in Peoria, Ill., July 6-8.

Inbody competed in the green belt black tip-3rd Kyu against roughly 20 other competitors from all over the world. "I did not compete against anyone from the U.S.," Inbody explains.

Inbody defeated competition from Ireland (5-2) and Peru (3-0) to reach the championship match. That's where he faced and defeated his Russian counterpart 3-1 to earn his international grand championship.

The bouts are played to five or for two minutes of actual fighting. If the fighters finish in a tie, then there is a sudden-death (first fighter to score wins).

## School Board appoints officers and sets meeting dates

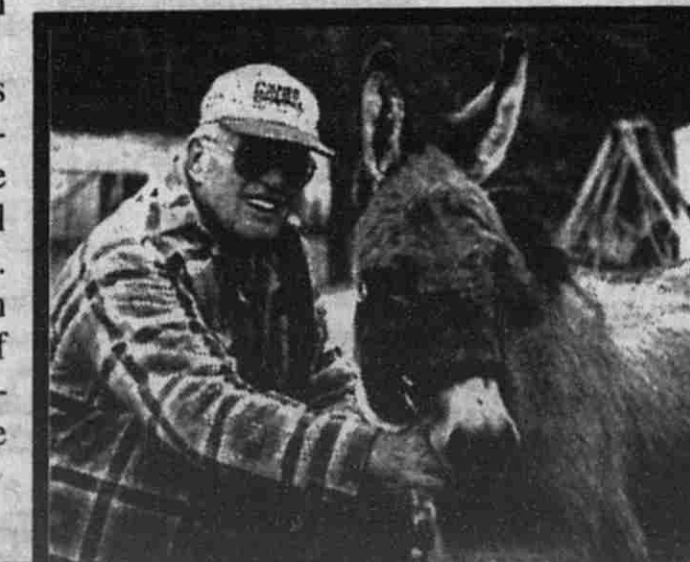
With the start of a new fiscal school year comes the election of board officers, schedule of meetings, and education committee assignments.

In an organizational meeting, the Lowell Board of Education elected Pete Gustafson as its president. He begins his 5th year at the helm of the school board.

Other officers serving with Gustafson are Nancy Hopkins, vice president; Pat Nugent, secretary; and Jim Reagan, treasurer.

The monthly meetings will be held the second Monday of every month with the exception of April, which will be held on the third Monday.

The board of education chose not to identify board of education committee assignments. Instead, the entire



Andrew Inbody with his United State Karate-Do Kie International Grand Championship trophy.

## Lowell youth's artwork published

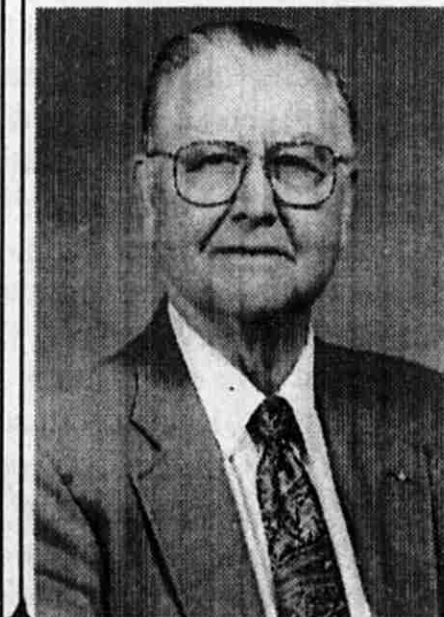
Artwork by Caleb Shores, son of Dan and Karla Shores of Lowell, has been published in the current issue of *Farm Collector Magazine*.

Shores drew a picture of a barn on the farm. The magazine focuses on antique farm equipment and machinery. Children are invited each month to submit relevant artwork for publication.

Shores is an 8th grade student at Lowell Middle School.

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## EQUINE TIMES JULY 2001

John Erickson, Lowell, MI, acquired Sophie and two other miniature donkeys as a retirement hobby. They have appeared at Palm Sunday church services, an Easter egg hunt and a Humane Society dinner.

Thank You Jeanne!  
- John & Lucille

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## City considers new ordinance regulating the move of buildings in reaction to the June 19th move of a home

By J.N. Boorsma  
Contributing Writer

Anyone planning to move a building in or through the city of Lowell will have a few more steps before getting permission.

In response to a move that took place June 19 where several businesses went without power for more than three hours, the Lowell City Council has decided to put in place an ordinance. The ordinance, which was put together by City Manager David Pasquale, requires potential moves to get a permit and regulates several items including when affected businesses and residents should be notified.

"When it comes to the moving of buildings we do not have an ordinance or policy in place," Pasquale said. "I contacted the Michigan League and requested ordinances regarding the moving of buildings. I received 38 pages."

Pasquale said he started looking at what type of ordinance the city should develop after the move of a building on June 19, that due to uncontrolled circumstances, forced Lowell Light and Power to cut power to primary lines because the house being moved was to close to those lines. Thirty-four local businesses were with out power for several hours during prime business time, causing these businesses to lose thousands of dollars.

"We decided that an ordinance would be better because it would allow for enforcement," Pasquale said.

The proposed ordinance, which will be reviewed by the Lowell Planning Commission at its regular Monday meeting, July 23, requires a person or persons to seek a permit from the city to move a building. The permit states specific rules such as a structure exceeding a floor area of 50 feet or a height of 15 feet must have a permit from the city to be moved on the city's roads.

It states that the Department of Public Works will determine if and when a build-

ing can be moved. Public Works Director Dan DesJarden said some of that determination comes from the county and the state depending on if the building is to travel down a road owned by those municipalities. In the case of the June 19 move, the movers did have to get permission from the state to use M-21.

The day before the move, the person or persons moving the building will need to provide the Department of Public Works written approvals and clearances from all applicable utilities such as electrical, telephone, gas, cable television, fiber optics, and sanitary sewer. The mover also will need to show that those utility users affected during the move have been notified at least seven business days before the move.

Lowell Light and Power Director Tom Richards said he believed this coincides with his organization's policy. Councilor Jeanne Shores asked that the city staff get a copy of the Lowell Light and Power policy, which Richards agreed to get, so that the ordinance would reflect the procedures followed by the electric company. Another change recommended by Richards and other city staff members including DesJarden and Police Chief Jim Valentine is that a person interested in moving a home or building must apply for the permit at least 21 days before the move.

Valentine, Richards, and DesJarden all agreed this would give enough time for all the notifications. Councilman Don Green said he would like to see a stipulation for liability insurance and wondered if anything could be done to assure that if businesses suffer a loss due to a move that the owners would be compensated.

Councilman Dan Brubaker, who is also an attorney, said the city would not be able to cover private losses, but could require liability insurance.

Pasquale said he would collect feedback from the council meeting, Monday night's Planning Commission, and the Lowell Light and Power policy and revise the proposed ordinance to reflect those comments. The ordinance is expected to come back to the council at its Aug. 6 meeting.

*I am not the editor of a newspaper. And I shall always try to do right and be good - so that God will not make me one.*

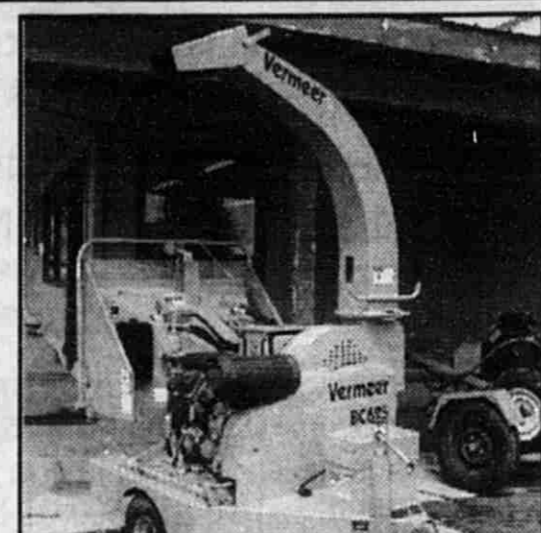
Mark Twain

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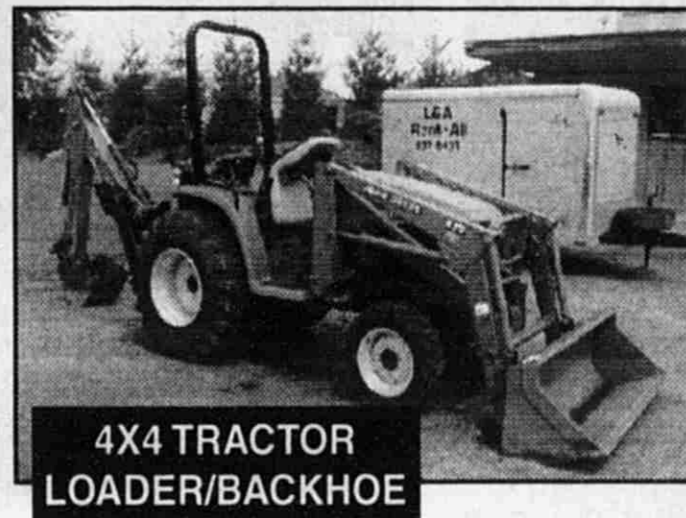
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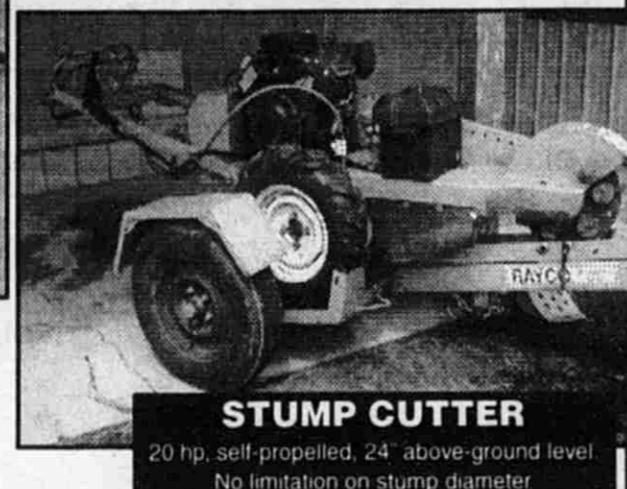
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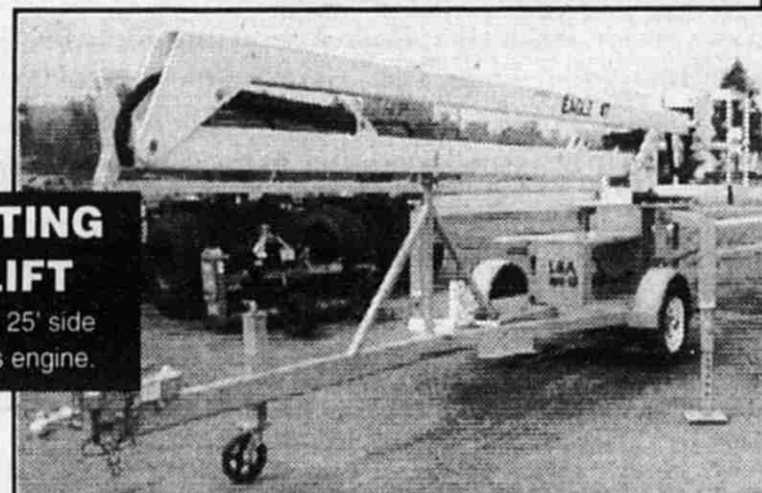
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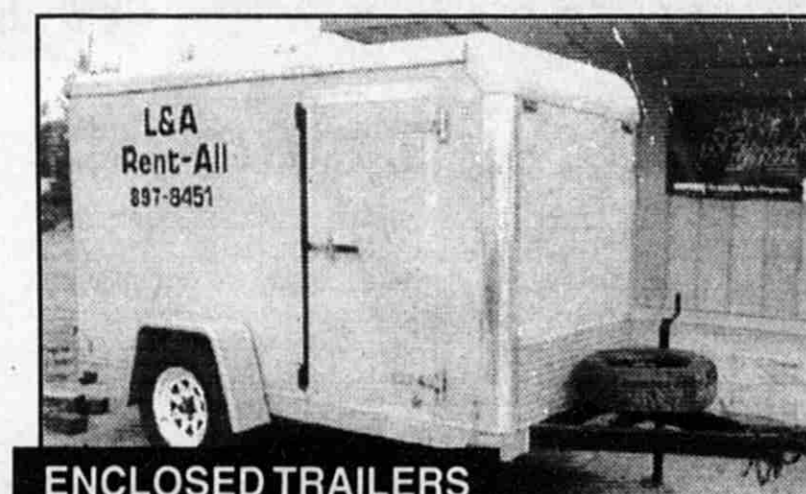
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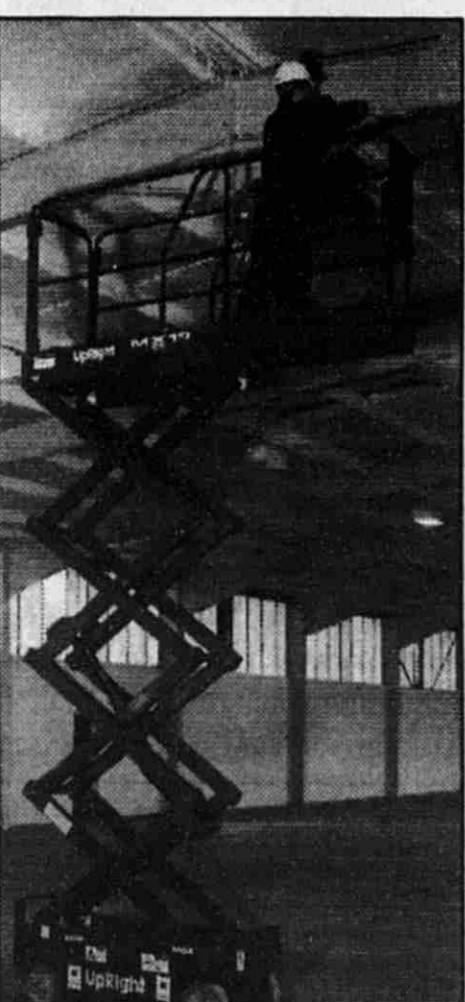
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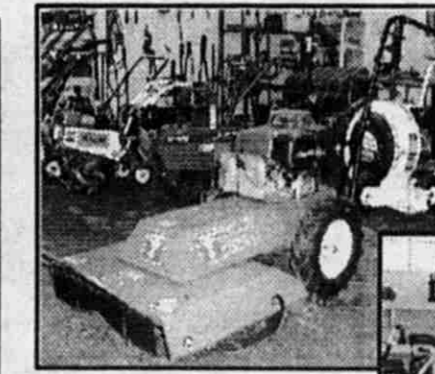
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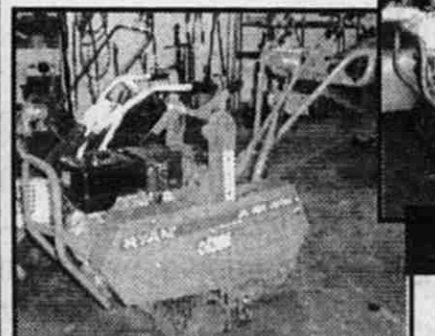
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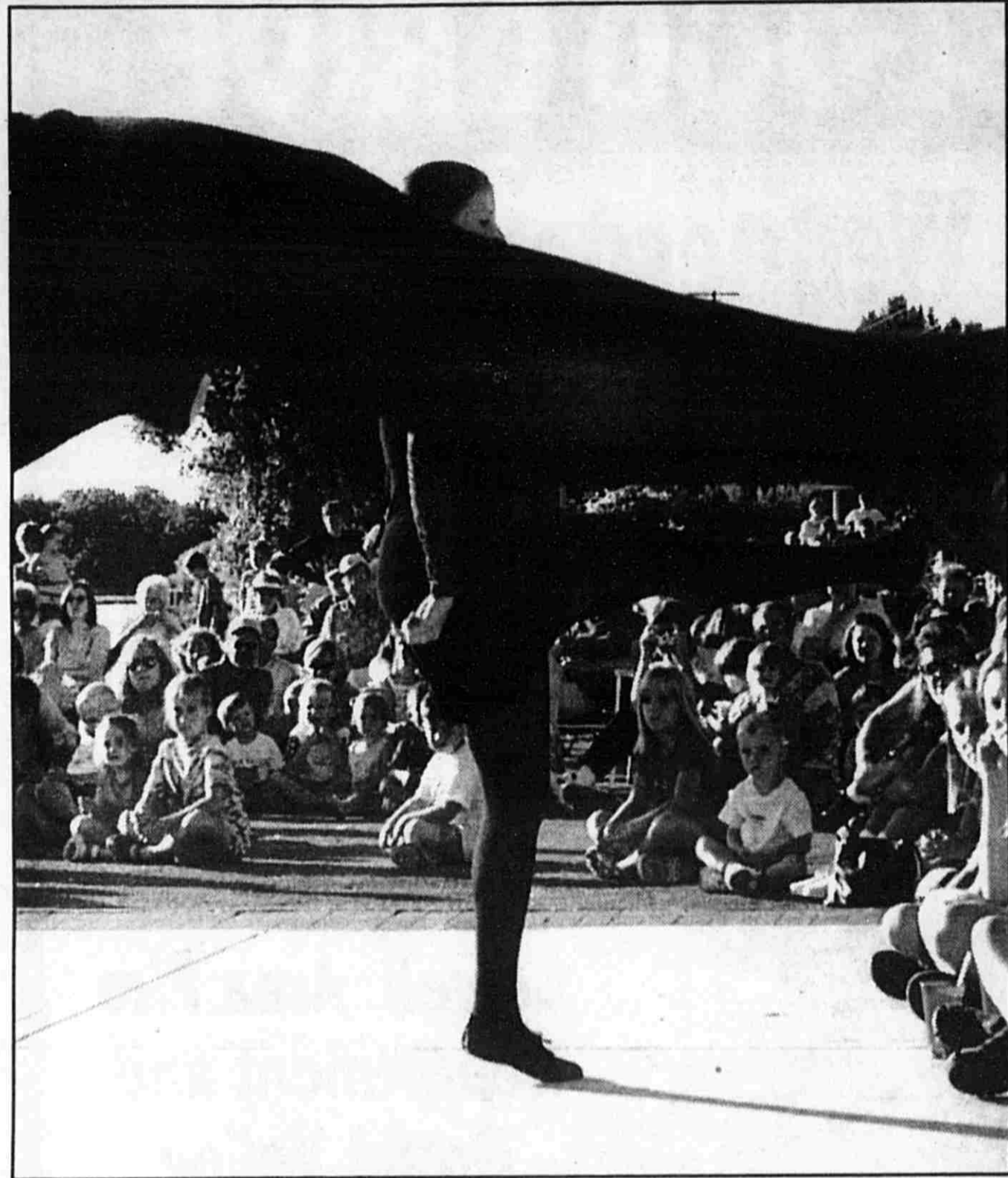
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### BUYERS GUIDE

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# Kwils kick up quite a response from concert crowd



## Attwood to make \$5 million in improvements to Lowell facility

By J.N. Boorsma  
Contributing Writer

\$103,200 seems a small price to pay for the continuing growth and development of one of the community's largest employers.

That is the amount of money the City of Lowell has agreed to abate for the next twelve years on almost \$5 million worth of improvements that Attwood Corporation, 10116 N. Monroe, plans to do.

The improvements, which amount to just over \$4.7 million, would result in the retaining of 33 jobs and the creation of six new positions within two years. This reflects

the current market, said Peter Zimmer, vice president of finances for Attwood.

The equipment and machinery that Attwood plans to purchase would allow the company to develop plastic molds for parts of chairs that Steelcase is in the process of developing, Zimmer said. Steelcase actually owns the company, which has approximately 400 employees.

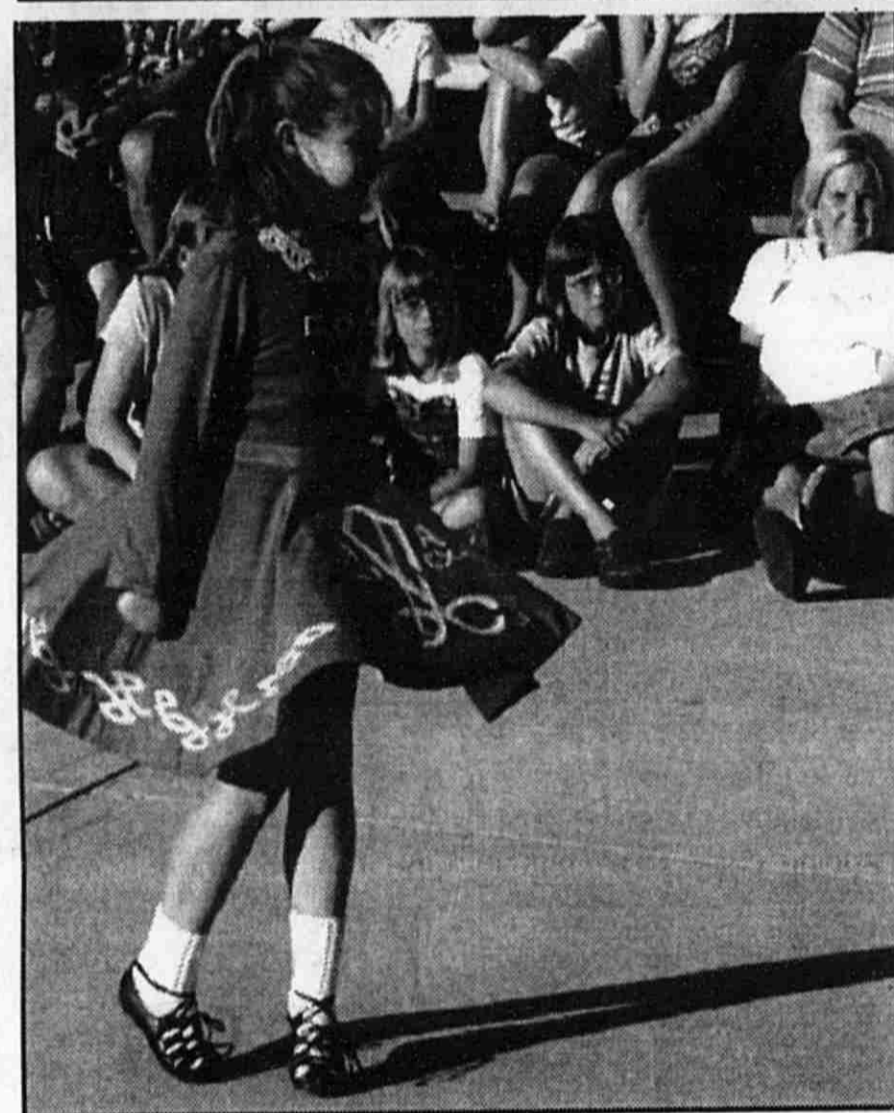
"When you look at the amount of money, \$103,200, is a small amount to pay for such improvements," said Councilor Dan Brubaker.

The net loss of \$103,200 to the city in taxes would be for the entire 12 years of the tax

abatement, provided that such factors as the millage rate would not change.

Tax abatements are designed to encourage businesses to expand and develop products by reducing the business tax for a certain period of time. City Manager David Pasquale said because the amount is for more than million dollars, the city allows the abatement to go for 12 years.

With the council's approval of the abatement, the proposal is forward to the State Tax Commission for final approval.



## Gruber and Brown earn all-state baseball honors

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
Lowell Ledger Editor

A third consecutive winning baseball season for Lowell High School helped bring about all-district honors for a handful of Red Arrows.

Lowell finished the year at 19-10 overall and third in the O-K White before losing to Catholic Central in the district final.

Earning all-district honors were Josh Brown, center fielder; Eric Gruber, catcher; Jake Baum, second baseman; Pete VanLaan, shortstop; and Brad Eldridge, pitcher.

"We had more players named to the all-district team than any other school in the district," said Lowell baseball coach, Tim Antel.

VanLaan also made the all-district academic team.

The honors didn't stop there as Brown and Gruber all received all regional hon-

ors and second team all-state kudos.

Gruber batted .432 with 31 runs batted in, just four strikeouts and 16 extra base hits. "Those are pretty good numbers. Above that, I believe he was one of the best catchers. Both Eric and Josh worked to achieve what they did."

Brown, team MVP, batted .368, drove in 42 runs, hit four home runs and collected 13 extra base hits.

"Their honors are deserved, they had big seasons," Antel said.

Andy Cooper was voted Lowell's most improved player.

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**QUICKBOOKS BOOKKEEPING SERVICE** - and advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.

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

**KOETJE HORSESHOEING** - Call Bill, certified farrier, 9 years exp. Call 616-374-3286.

**ADULTS** - I have an opening for male or female in my foster home. Extra lg. rooms & private room available. Excellent care & food since 1983. Call Pat 616-527-2606.

**FIRE YOUR LANDLORD** - Special financing for renters. We have the largest selection of new & repossessed mobile & modular homes with payments LOWER than your current rent. Call 1-888-317-4851.

**FREE!** - Consultation on QUICKBOOKS - save \$\$, Prepare your own entries, invoices, financial statements, etc. No need to pay a bookkeeper. Quickbooks Consulting, 897-3157 (Jan).

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DENIED?** - Let us help you fight for them! Call anytime, 1-800-305-2899.

## HELP WANTED

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

**CMM OPERATOR/QUALITY ASSURANCE** - Precise Engineering is seeking an experienced CMM Operator/Quality person to join our technological team. PC-DMIS software experience would be a plus. We have a Brown and Sharpe Chameleon multi-sensor scanning CMM in a crate to be set-up & run by the right knowledgeable person. Progressive company offers steady employment, competitive wages & excellent benefits. Apply or send resume to Precise Engineering, 683 Lincoln Lake Ave SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

**WORK FROM HOME!** - Growing company needs help! \$250-\$500+ per week. Fun! Easy! Will train! No experience needed. Set your own hours. Call 616-752-8346 RualLeader.com.

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

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

**CLEAN** - Office cleaning 3-5 evenings per week in southeast Grand Rapids. Call for more information 451-8004 (EOE).

**HOME BASED BUSINESS** - 10-15 hours per week around your schedule. \$500-\$7,000 PT/FT. Full training provided. 616-248-7733.

## HELP WANTED

**WORK FROM HOME!** - Growing company needs help! \$250-\$500+ per week. Fun! Easy! Will train! No experience needed. Set your own hours. Call 616-752-8346.

**DIE SHOP FOREMAN** - Growing Company looking for experienced supervisor with expertise in die tryout and press/feeder operations to oversee 1st shift. Excellent benefits, including bonus potential. Income based on knowledge and experience. Please send resume or apply at Precise Engineering, 683 Lincoln Lake Ave. SE, Lowell, MI 49331.

**FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST** - for weekends in elegant retirement community in Cascade. Hours are Fridays 4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., occasional Sundays 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., with possibility of additional fill-in hours. Duties include phones, copying, and security rounds. Apply in person at Sentinel Pointe Retirement Community, 2900 Thornhills Ave. SE, Cascade.

**HELP WANTED** - Framing carpenter for small construction company. 292-6826.

**OWN A COMPUTER?** - Put it to work! \$25-\$75/hr. PT/FT. www.wealthsoar.com, 888-658-1472.

**WORK FROM HOME** - Earn \$450-\$1,500/mon. PT; \$2,000-\$4,500/mon. FT. 1-800-961-6480.

## FOR SALE

**DOUBLEWIDE REPOSSESSION** - Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, huge master bedroom with glamour bath. Will move to your site. Credit problems OK. Call now 1-888-317-4851.

**QUEEN MATTRESS SETS** - Double shipped wholesale order. Prices starting at \$199. Still in factory plastic. Also fulls & kings. 293-7430 can deliver.

**FOR SALE** - Belding, early American on 4.9 acres. Remodeled, large kitchen/dining, 4 bedrooms. \$119,000. 5606 Bartonville. 616-794-2372.

**LAND** - 20 acres, all wooded, Alto/Lowell schools. Call 897-5957.

## FOR SALE

**FORD TAURUS** - 1999, green, wagon, 41,000 miles. Good condition. \$12,500 obo. 949-5619.

**BEDROOM SET** - real Cherry sleigh bed, dresser mirror, chest & night stand. Retail \$5,800, sacrifice \$2,250. Can deliver. 293-7430.

**FOUR BEDROOM DAYLIGHT RANCH ON CUL-DE-SAC** - 1 1/2 baths, 2-car garage. Oak floors, living room & family room. Mature trees, large deck & fenced yard. Newer roof, furnace, A/C. \$126,900. 1855 Gingerwood Dr., Lowell. Open Sunday, July 22, 2-5 p.m. or call 897-1181.

**FOR SALE** - Remote starter, keyless entry installed; also auto elect. problem solving mobile service. 642-9166.

**KING PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET** - Bought new, never used. Cost \$850, sacrifice, \$195/best. 517-227-0006.

**LINCOLN LAKE** - 2 bedroom year round lakefront home, awesome view. Walking distance to golf course, land contract terms, \$229,000. Call 616-754-4737.

**CHERRY SLEIGH BED** - Queen size w/hotel quality mattress set (2 mos. old) Cost \$800, sell \$275/best. 517-227-2986.

**SIBERIAN HUSKY PUPPY** - w/papers, 6 mos. old, black & white with blue eyes, very smart dog. \$400 includes dog house. Call Linda 299-9902.

**DINING SET** - Cherry table, 8 chairs, lighted china hutch & buffet. Never used. Retail, \$8,000. Sell \$2,250; sideboard server \$395. Must sell 293-7430.

**WOOD BOAT** - 1954 Wagemaker boat, motor & trailer, restored, runs great, excellent boat. Call 897-4388.

**QUEEN LOG BED** - Cedar post, Amish made, includes mattress (2 mos. old, never used), cost \$1,000, sell \$175. Call 517-626-7089.

**DIRECTV** - Mini-satellite dish. \$18.75 with free install. We beat all advertised prices. 1-800-459-7357, K-20.

## FOR SALE

**LAND & HOME PACKAGES** - Starting at \$750 per month. Easy terms. Call 1-888-317-4851.

## FOR RENT

**FOR RENT** - Duplex in Clarksville, new executive style small town setting, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer hookups, c/a, 2 car attached garage, \$800 plus utilities. Call 616-374-5381.

**FOR LEASE** - Downtown Lowell Area. 1200 square feet of storage space with 16 ft. ceiling and dock access. 132 S. Hudson Street. 897-8789.

## EVENTS

**LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN TEAM** - final registration due soon. Need info? Call 897-5722.

## WANTED

**WANTED** - Pottery wheels, kick or electric. Call 897-8893.

## LOST

**LOST** - Black male cat on 6/25/01, Valley Vista area. Goes by the name Blackie. Call 897-8151. Reward.

**EMALE HUSKY WAS TAKEN FROM MY HOME** - Orange & white w/gold eyes. 1 1/2 years old, 55 lbs. Dog belongs to a child that is physically & mentally handicapped. If you have seen her, please call 616-527-8566 or 616-527-4348. Call collect please.

**CLASSIFIEDS FOR AS LITTLE AS \$1?**

It's true! 15 words for \$1 and each additional word is only 10 cents! Call the Lowell Ledger to find out how! 897-9261!

# WE SHIP UPS

Just bring your pre-addressed & pre-taped packages & we'll ship them out!

## IMPORTANT

Please do not wrap your box in brown paper or Christmas paper.

**The Lowell Ledger**  
105 N. Broadway  
Lowell  
897-9261



# Lowell Youth Football, Flag Football, 78er's & Cheerleading SIGN UPS • CHERRY CREEK CAFETERIA

**July 24: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**July 28: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**August 2: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM** (Last 78er Sign-up)

**August 7: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM** (Last Sign-up)

## NO LATE Sign-ups

• If you have already signed up for youth football or 78ers,  
you need to come in to be fitted for equipment and weigh-in!

**EQUIPMENT IS FIRST COME - FIRST SERVE!**

If we run out of equipment and have to order equipment  
for you, it is not guaranteed that it will be

available by the first practice!

**ALL NEW SIGN-UPS MUST BRING**

**A COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE!**

## QUESTIONS?

## CALL 897-7896

### FLAG FOOTBALL

**Ages 5-7**

Must be 5-7 years old  
by Nov. 1

*Flag Football is a  
fun way to teach basic  
football fundamentals.*

*Games will be played  
on Tuesday nights  
at Burch Field*

**Cost: \$15  
T-shirt included**

### YOUTH & 78er FOOTBALL

Must be 8 years old  
by November  
1st - 8th grade

Registration Fee.....\$30

Helmet Rental: .....\$15

Shoulder Pad Rental.....\$15

Total Cost.....\$60

\*An additional charge  
of \$10 for 78er buses

\*\* Financial  
assistance is available

### YOUTH CHEERLEADING

Learn basic cheerleading

Must be 8 years old

by November

1st - 8th grade

Cost: \$30 • T-shirt included

*Cheerleaders will cheer for  
Youth Football games  
on Saturdays.*

*78er cheerleaders will cheer  
for 78er football games on  
Wednesday nights.*

We will try to match sibling cheerleaders  
to sibling football players.