

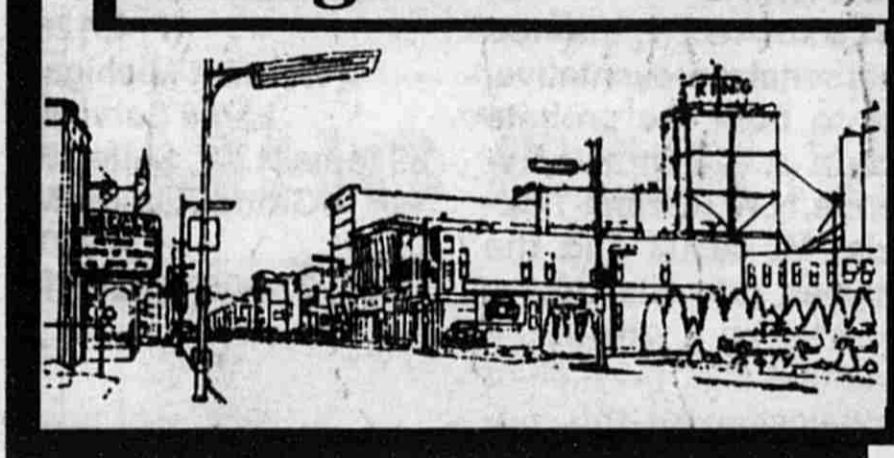
The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 44

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, August 8, 2001

Along Main Street



CORRECTION...

Chris Wolfe and Robert Stiles Jr., both of the Lowell area, were charged with unauthorized driving away of an automobile and with receiving and concealing stolen property.

In the Aug. 1 edition of the Lowell Ledger, the story titled "Stolen truck culprits easy tracking for state canine, 'Yago,'" Robert Stiles was incorrectly identified as one of the culprits charged with stealing a truck.

RIVERWALK GALLERY

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to present the photography of Lowell resident and artist, Todd Roy. The exhibit will be on display Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. through Aug. 17. Please call ahead for viewing 897-9161.

CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce will be closed the week of Aug. 13 and will reopen on Tuesday, Aug. 21.

TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR RIVERWALK PARADE

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking Riverwalk Parade applicants. Please call 897-9161 for more information.

LHS CLASS OF 1961 LOOKING FOR CLASSMATES

The LHS Class of 1961 is looking for addresses for the following: Elsie Backstrom Harrington, Carol Beckett Worden, James Bax, Maribeth Debakey Stapley, Sheran Flynn, Thomas Frieling, John Haraburda, Kay Hawk, Raymond Kelly, William Smith, Sherrie VanderWarf Onstwedder, Kenneth Witherall, Dennis Howe, Sandra Mosher Kroll, Rick Rickner, Tom Evans.
 Please call Linda at 897-9924 after 5 p.m.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS BUSINESS MEETING

The Athletic Boosters will hold their regular business meeting on Monday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Red Arrow stadium concession stand. Please come and help support our athletes.

FALLSBURG ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE

Free admission to the Fallsburg one-room schoolhouse on Covered Bridge Rd. between Fallsburg Park Drive and McPherson/Potters Road. Open Sundays 2 to 6 p.m. through Oct. 21.

DROP-IN ART SAMPLERS & CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Visit the Lowell Area Arts Council and check out the arts with hands-on workshops in watercolor, drawing, and creative writing:

- Watercolor Art Sampler with David Davis, Sunday, Aug. 12, 1-4 p.m.
- Creative Writing Workshop with Linda Nemece Foster, Sat., Aug. 25, 1-3 p.m.
- Drawing Art Sampler with Sandy Bartlett, Sunday, Aug. 26, 1-4 p.m.

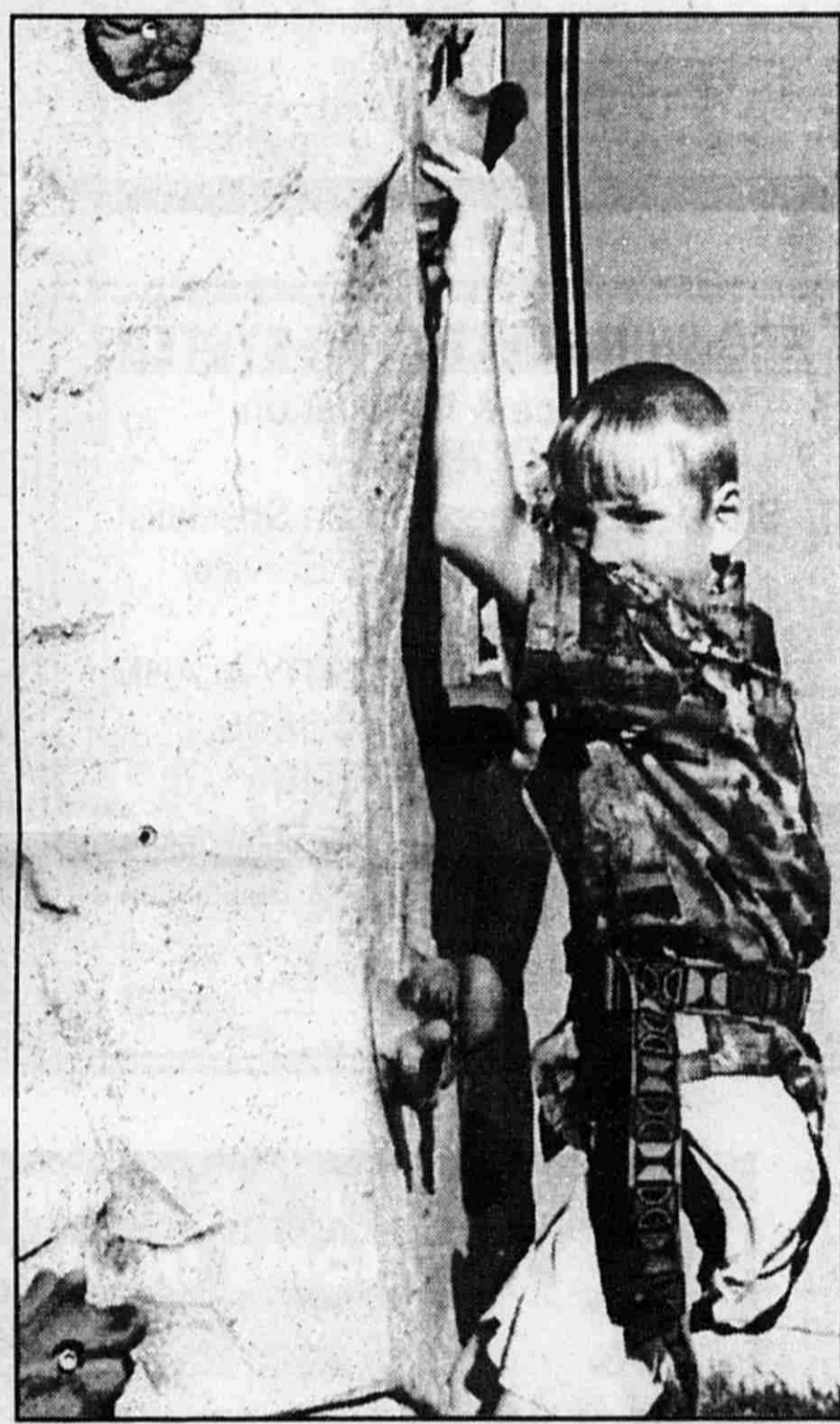
The workshops are free and open to all ages. For more information, call the arts council at 897-8545.

Main Street, cont'd. pg. 8



FAIR FRILLS

Rides of a whirling dervish nature, animals and wall climbing helped young fair-goers forget the heat at opening day of the 67th Annual Kent County Youth Fair on Monday. Other opening day attractions included the antique tractor pull, youth talent contest and the youth fashion extravaganza. The 4-H fair runs through Saturday.



Building and structure moving ordinance takes shape, public hearing next

By Thaddeus J. Kraus *Lowell Ledger Editor*

In July, the Lowell City Council had an opportunity to review a draft ordinance regulating the moving of buildings and structures.

Monday night, Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale shared with the council additional changes which would be reflected in the proposed ordinance regulating the moving of buildings and structures within the city.

The ordinance as proposed requires a moving permit, outlining necessary elements of the application.

Since the July meeting, the proposed ordinance has been reviewed by the council, the Lowell Planning Commission, and Tom Richards, general manager of Lowell Light and Power.

The following issues and comments were provided by the three entities.

The planning commission recommended amending Section 7.62 so that the description of the building and structure being moved include vertical, horizontal and total height with rigged dimensions. The commission also recommended the mover provide a \$2,000 cash deposit to the city for damages.

The council addressed the need for the mover to provide a 21 business day (rather than seven) notice of the move and that a 15 business day (rather than 24 hours) notice to utility users be given regarding interruption of power.

Richards suggested that Section 7.61 state "no person

shall move any building or structure... a height of greater than 14 feet ... without first obtaining a moving permit. He added that a submission of application shall be filed 21 business days rather than seven business days before the proposed moving date.

The ordinance, to be presented to the council at the Aug. 20 public hearing, will reflect these comments, according to Pasquale.

Following the public hearing on Aug. 20, the council will vote on its approval.

Inside The Ledger

Summer Concert Series Concludes, Pictures and Story Pages 14-15



Johnson/ Davidson

Dianna Lynn Johnson and Jesse Andrew Davidson, both of Lowell, are planning a September 15, 2001 wedding. The bride-to-be, a graduate of Lowell High School and Michigan State University, currently works for Ethridge Corp. in Grand Rapids. She is the daughter of Phillip and Charlene Johnson of Lowell. The future groom is also a graduate of Lowell High School and Michigan State University. He is attending Franklin University for his MBA and presently works for Ashland Chemical in Columbus, Ohio. He is the son of Steve and Nancy Hubbard.



Gregersen/ Fetterhoff

Ken and Elaine Gregersen of Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Holly to Jason Fetterhoff. The future groom is the son of Roger and Sandy Fetterhoff, also of Lowell. Holly and Jason are both graduates of Lowell High School. The future bride attended Grand Rapids Community College. A September 1, 2001 wedding is being planned.

I enjoy convalescence. It is the part that makes illness worthwhile.

George Bernard Shaw

Visitors' night at Veen

Starry, starry nights await visitors at the James C. Veen Observatory on visitors' night, Aug. 11th and 25th from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m.

Viewers will be able to see star clusters, nebulae, and planets through powerful telescopes while local astronomy experts explain. Admission is \$1 for children and \$2 for adults.

Call 897-7065 for directions to the observatory at 3308 Kissing Rock Rd. in Lowell, or visit the website at www.graaa.org.

AREA BIRTHS

Terry and Katie Brandt of Ada are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Justin Michael, born July 10, 2001 at Zeeland Community Hospital. He weighed 9 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 21 inches long.

Welcoming him home is big sister, Samantha. Proud grandparents are Ray and Gail Brandt of Lowell and Dave and Elaine Hogan of Jenison. Great-grandparents are Vance and Ardene Lackey of Lake Odessa and Pat and Ruth Hogan of Jenison.



Olsen and Abel exchange vows

Tanesha Lee Abel, daughter of Douglas and Terrie Abel of Saranac, and Jonathan Leonard Olsen, son of James and Marsha Olsen of Ionia, were united in marriage on Saturday, May 5, 2001 at the Saranac Community Church. Pastor Ed Noren performed the afternoon ceremony.

The bride wore a strapless two-piece gown of white organza with rhinestone accents on the bodice and carried a bouquet of white calla lilies and white roses.

Matron of honor was Heather Gribble, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Kristy Thomas, Phaedra DesJarden, Andrea Wood and Tara Rasmus, all friends of the bride. They each wore a strapless dress of black and champagne color along with a shawl cascading their shoulders. The girls carried a bouquet of fuchsia roses.

Jeffrey Olsen, brother of the groom, along with William Thomas, friend of the groom, served as the best men. Groomsmen were Travis Gribble, brother-in-law of the bride, Wayne Piercefield, Micheal Wood and Randy Schmid, all friends of the groom.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Kauai and presently reside in Ionia.

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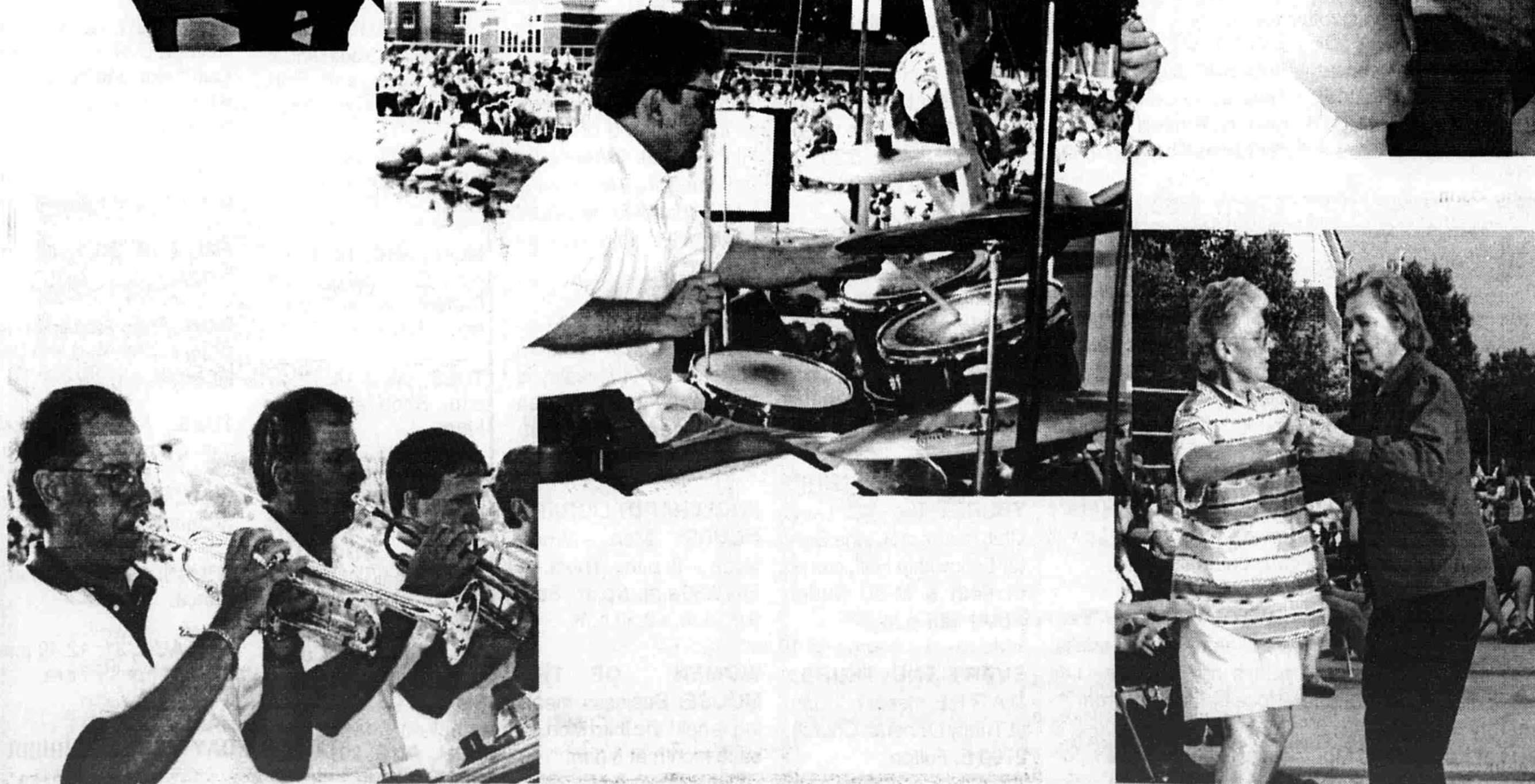
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BIG BAND, BIG CROWD CELEBRATE LOWELL SHOWBOAT SUMMER CONCERT SERIES SEASON CLOSEOUT



Concert series spawns enthusiasm and ideas for future

Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Those who took in one or all 10 weeks of the Lowell Showboat Summer Concert Series displayed an unquenchable thirst for music and felt a connection to tradition past.

"People are so pumped up about keeping the concert series going. Their enthusiasm is more than I anticipated," said Liz Baker, executive director of the Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. "The comments have been so positive. The reaction to this first year has far exceeded our expectations."

The cost of the first-year series was roughly \$17,000, all of which was covered through grants and donations.

The cooperative organizational effort of the Lowell Chamber of Commerce and Lowell Area Arts Council drew on an average of 400-500 people a week, according to Baker.

Sampling polls taken throughout the 10 weeks indicate that 40-50 percent of those who attended were from the Lowell area; 15 percent from the Alto, Ada and Saranac communities; and 35-45 percent from other areas.

Along with wanting the series to continue, many have strongly encouraged Loraine Smalligan, executive director of the Lowell Area Arts Council, and Baker to not only bring

back the calliope, but have it open each night (with a rendition of "Here Comes the Showboat.")

"The community's nostalgic ties to the past are strong," Baker said.

Other suggestions for year two include moving the starting time to 7 p.m. and waiting until school is out before starting the

series; improvements to the sound system; many musical requests (reggae, rhythm and blues, country/western and southern gospel); and provide a larger area for dancing.

Community members interested in becoming involved in the summer concert series can contact Liz at the Chamber office 897-9161 or Loraine at the LAAC 897-8545.

Landscaping amendment may not find books without enforcement strategy

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

A proposed amendment to a city zoning ordinance would call for "continuously maintained" landscaping.

Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale noted that the

Lowell Planning Commission is concerned over landscaping which is allowed to wither away and then never be replaced.

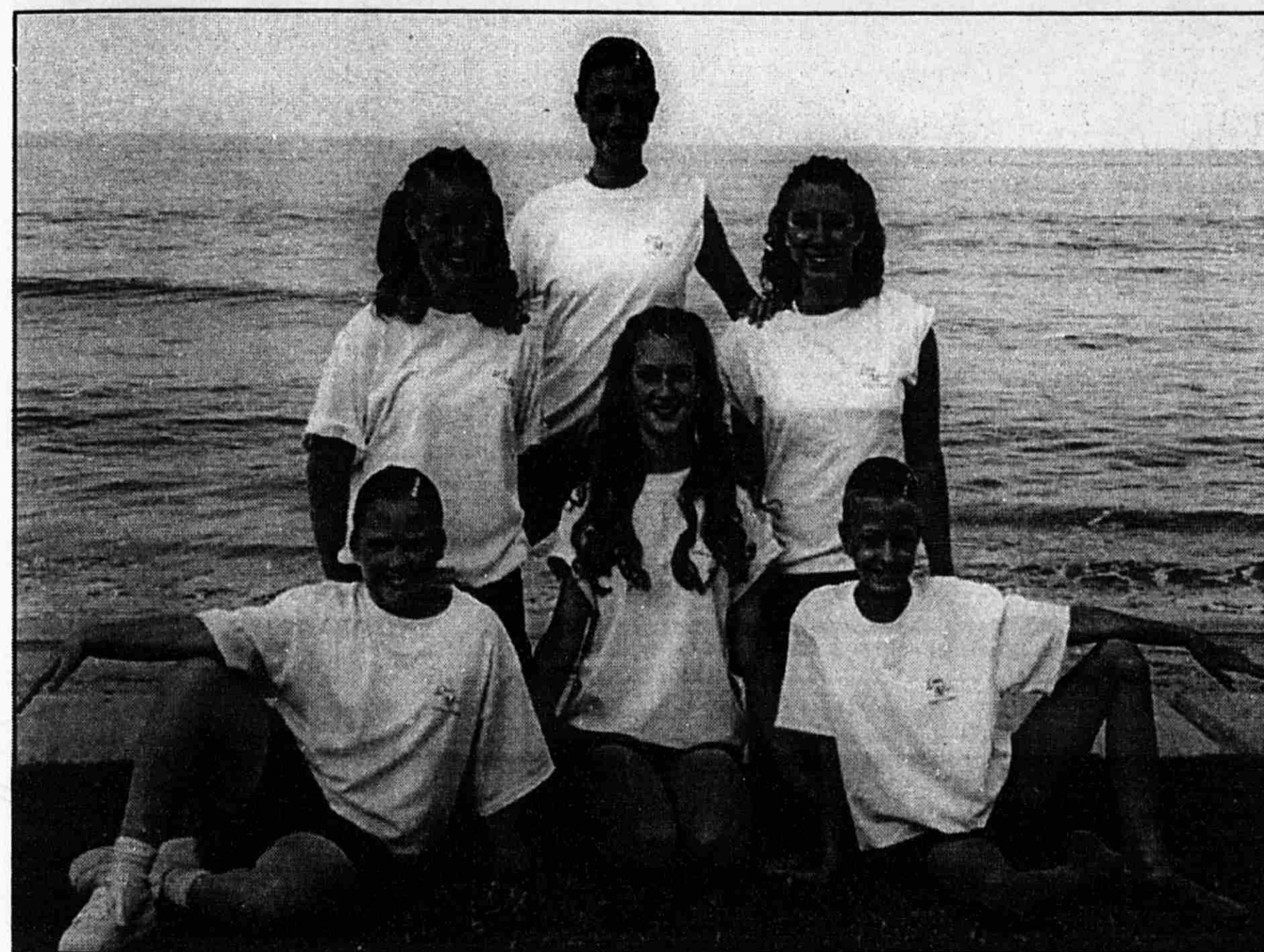
With the addition of the term "continuously maintained," shrubs and other

plantings would have to be replanted.

The proposed amended ordinance reads that the planning commission requires approved 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.

Landscaping has been a point of emphasis on city site Landscaping, cont'd, pg.16



Lowell dancers perform in Dance USA championship

Six Lowell girls, from the Linda Moon School of Dance, earned gold ribbons at the Dance USA Performing Arts Championship in Virginia Beach, VA.

Kaila Kurzhals, Julie Halbeisen, Rochelle Bieri, Lynda Horsley, Jenna Gillan and Malley Cahoon qualified for the national finals at the regional in Detroit.

The senior dance team of Horsley, Gillan and Halbeisen, competing against 14 other groups, performed to the musical selection "Ooh La La."

Cahoon, competing in the intermediate jazz division, danced to "All Night Dancing."

The junior jazz team of Kurzhals and Bieri, competing against eight other teams, danced to "Dance 'N Shout."

All of the Lowell dancers scored between 90-94 out of a possible 100 points, earning them a gold ribbon.

Syrjala, CMU grad, appointed principal of Grattan Academy

Darin Syrjala is the new principal of Grattan Academy, effective August 1, 2001. Syrjala comes to Grattan Academy from the Moreley-Stanwood School District where he was a middle school teacher and coach. Syrjala is completing his master's degree at Central Michigan University.

Syrjala is married with four children. The Syrjala family are members of Calvary Church in Greenville. They will relocate to the Grattan Academy attendance area.

Sidney L. Faucette, chief executive officer of Choice Schools Associates, said: "Darin Syrjala is an impressive, experienced educator who will lead Grattan Academy to achieve distinguished academic and citizenship results for all children. Darin joins an excellent faculty and staff and is blessed with great students and parents. I look forward to his leadership at the Academy."

Grattan Academy is a public school academy chartered by Saginaw Valley State University and is located in the Township of Grattan at 12047 Old Belding Road. The Academy offers kindergarten through eighth grade. Choice Schools Associates L.L.C. is the management company employed by the Grattan Academy Board of Directors to operate the Academy.

Cancer society event raises funds for breast cancer research

The American Cancer Society, the largest public health organization in the country, is hosting the largest community event benefiting breast cancer research in the country.

The fourth annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk is being held at the Calder Plaza in Grand Rapids on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Community members from West Michigan will create teams of family members, friends and co-workers, raise funds and walk the 3.5 mile route through downtown Grand Rapids. For more information please call (616) 364-6121.

SYNOPSIS Regular Meeting of the VERGENNES TOWNSHIP BOARD

JULY 16, 2001 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of June 18, 2001 Regular Meeting were accepted as Read

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Motion to Accept Treasurers Report/Invoices as presented
- Motion to Refund Special Use Permit Fee to Curt Warren of All Phase Exterior
- Motion to Accept Minor Amendments to Headwaters PUD, and Set Public Hearing for Final Development Plan Approval for August 20, 2001.
- Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2001-1, Amending FR District & Definitions; Ordinance 2001-2, Amending Industrial District; and Ordinance 2001-3, Amending Site Plan Review Provisions.
- Motion to Appoint Tom Medendorp to fill Vacancy on Planning Commission with a Term Ending in December, 2002.
- Motion to Adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting August 20, 2001.

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk.

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- Eric Grove
- Zachary Hofman
- Hayley Janes
- Jenni Lupton
- Jodi Lupton
- Mary Mendez
- Kimberly Noall
- Renn Osborne
- Jamie Phillips
- Sara Poelstra
- Stephanie Poelstra
- Megan Racine
- Wayne Racine, Jr.
- Tyler Roth
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