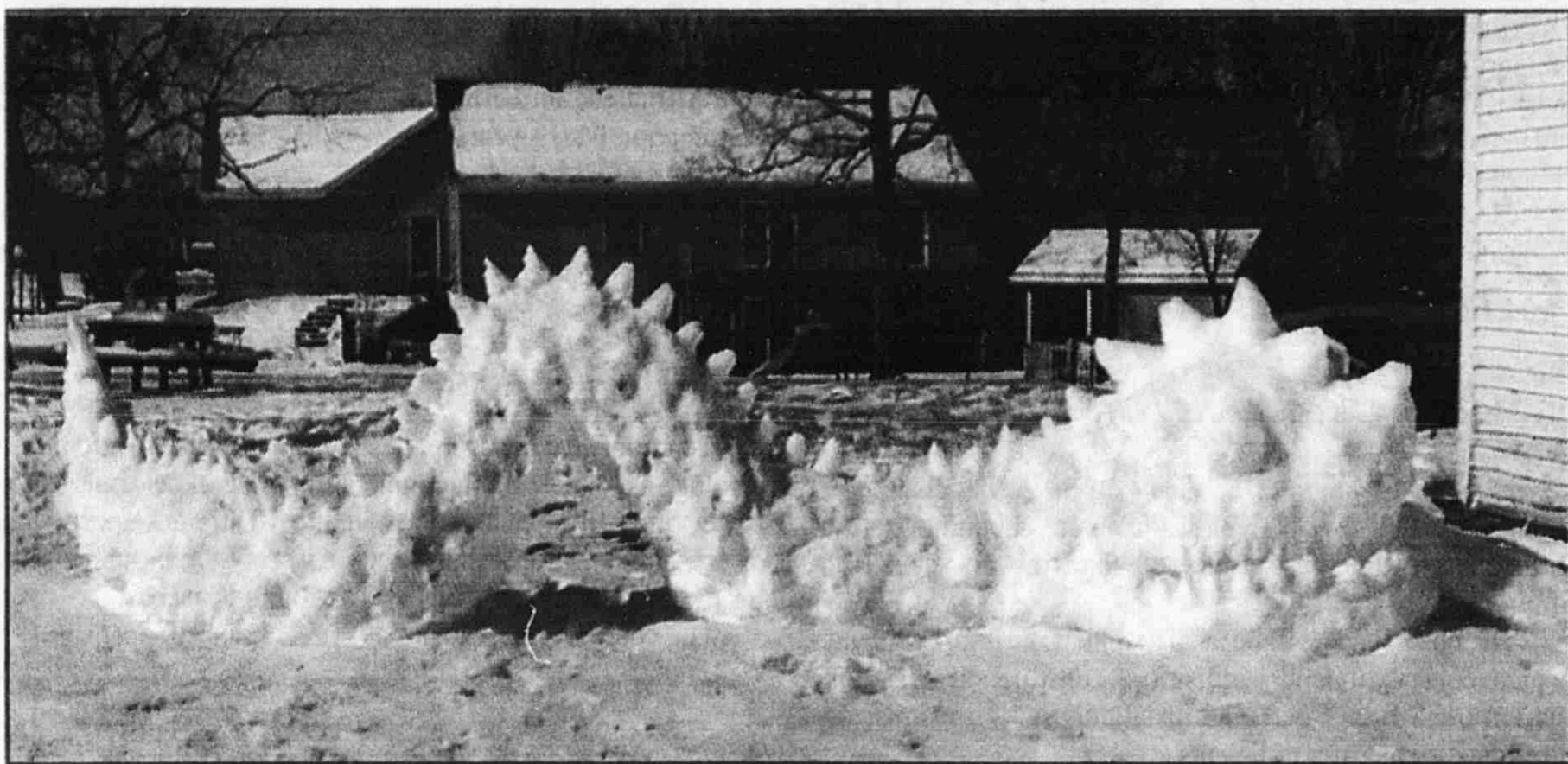


The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 19

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 6, 2002



Monster of Love & Peace has Heart of Cold

Living in unsettling times, Mark Shellenbarger and his daughters, Megan and Brittney decided they'd do something about it.

They created their own alien snow monster - one of peace and love.

"With Valentine's Day coming, our daughter, Brittney thought it was important that the monster have a heart," said Shellenbarger's wife, Tara. It has a big heart popping from its chest.

The creation of the snow monster began on Sunday afternoon. The snow monster was completed in 90 minutes.

"Mark can be creative and artistic. When they first started, it was going to be an alien, but by the time they finished, it was the monster of peace and love," Tara said. "I watched and provided them with lunch."

The snow monster had to be introduced to Shellenbarger's dragon which came to light during a three-hour stretch on Wednesday. This snow creature was devised by Shellenbarger and some of the neighboring children. It's 20-30 feet long and its weight fluctuates from day to day and sometimes from hour to hour.

"Mark and the kids were just in the mood to play in the snow," Tara concluded.



Increasing number of students earn college funds through merit award program

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's increase in the number of students qualifying for Michigan Merit Awards is reflective of a statewide trend.

Of the 258 high school students who graduated in 2001, and took the test, 56 percent or 144 met or exceeded Michigan standards in the four disciplines (math, reading, science, writing).

The number of high school students throughout the state qualifying for Michigan Merit Awards increased substantially in 2001, according to State treasurer, Douglas Roberts.

Students earned Merit Award Scholarships of \$2,500. The money can be used at any approved post-secondary educational institution.

In all, 48,760 Michigan students earned merit awards, up from 43,068 for the graduating class of 2000.

More importantly, 53 percent of the public school students who took all four required tests qualified this year. Last year, 45 percent of all public school students who took the tests qualified.

Because the high school tests are used for transcript endorsements and serve as the primary means to qualify for the Michigan Merit Awards, students have at least two opportunities to retest - in the fall and again in the spring of the senior year.

Of this year's graduating class, 68.5 percent exceeded or met Michigan standards in writing; 60 percent met or ex-

Merit Awards, cont'd. pg. 8

SCHOOL DISTRICTS	MERIT AWARD WINNERS	
	2001	2000
East Grand Rapids	177	129
Forest Hills	433	330
Caledonia	144	76
Grandville	257	185
Rockford	290	186
Thornapple Kellogg	166	77
Northview	115	159
LOWELL	144	133
Byron Center	73	69
Sparta	89	68
Kenowa Hills	112	87
Wyoming	154	118
Kent City	32	42
Cedar Springs	81	50
Comstock Park	62	70
Kelloggsville	40	43
Godwin Heights	30	36

Funds in line for park's phase II

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

With the promise and approval of a \$100,000 matching grant from the Department of Natural Resources, Lowell Charter Township supervisor, John Timpson is ready to move ahead this spring with the second phase of the Grand River Riverfront Park project.

The grant money alone is not enough to cover the total cost (\$359,000) of phase II, therefore the township will use approximately \$100,000 out of excess revenues from its general fund.

The township has also put in for another grant from the Englehardt Lowell Area Community Fund, which

would be used for the third and final phase. Thus far, the park project has received two grants from the fund totaling \$200,000.

The work to be completed in phase II includes a playground, electrical services, lawn restoration, picnic shel-

ter/restroom, septic system, water supply system, and a mile long, 10-foot wide bituminous path.

If enough funds are received, phase III (\$138, 110) could also be started. This would include an overlook, storage building, 25-space

parking lot near the shelter, a board walk so that park patrons can cross the streams, timber steps to the shelter, and a 12" PE culvert.

The work was bid out to Shaler Excavating in Saranac.

The total for both phases is \$487,769.

Commission continues work on lot line and storage ordinances

By J.N. Boorsma Contributing Writer

Lowell residents with homes on a corner lot may soon find some relief in the ordinances while those owning recreational vehicles may have to wait a little longer.

The Lowell Planning Commission has been working on two ordinances: one dealing with the front yard lot lines for corner lots in residential areas; the other on the storage of recreational vehicles on a homeowner's property.

Planning commissioner Clarke Jahnke has a popular saying about variances: "When the commission starts getting a lot focused on a particular issue, it might be time for the group to look at the city's ordinance." Such was the case with front yard lot lines for corner lots.

Ordinances, cont'd. pg. 8

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Longtime Lowell Resident
 Bruce Walter dies,
 Page 8

OBITUARIES

PHILLIPS - Florence Grace Phillips, aged 72, of Cascade, passed away January 29, 2002. She was preceded in death by her husband Robert and brother Richard Ryskamp. Mrs. Phillips is survived by her children Marjorie (Perry) Railer of Lake George, Patricia (Dale) Reed of Lowell, Russell (Teresa) Phillips of Lowell, Phyllis (Jim) Ewing of Lowell, Gordon (Shelly) Phillips of Alto, Frank (Debbie) Phillips of Lowell, David (Carissa) Phillips of Wayland; brothers Jack (Dorothy)

Ryskamp of LeRoy, Fredrick (Jean) Ryskamp of Dor; sisters Gloria Wahmhoff of Fennville, Frances Schneider of Grand Rapids; sister-in-law Dorothy Ryskamp of Grand Rapids; 18 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held Friday at First Baptist Church of Lowell, Pastor Burland Margesson and Pastor Lee Taylor, officiating. Interment Cascade Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Visiting Nurse Foundation, Hospice.

TOBIN - Danie Tobin, aged 18, of Alto, passed away of accidental injuries Friday, February 1, 2002. Dan was a spiritual soul trying to find his place in the world. He loved animals and as a result was a dedicated vegetarian. He was a senior at Caledonia High School and enjoyed reading and writing, and was a Thespian. He is survived by his parents David and Mary Tobin of Alto, Billie Lyons and Robert Super of Grand Ledge; his brothers and sisters William Lyons, Bernie Tobin, Sarah Kidwell, Jesse Kidwell, Alyssa Super, Alex Super; his grandparents, Edward Tobin of Walker and Jean Lyons of Grand Rapids; many aunts, uncles and cousins.

WALTER - Bruce C. Walter, aged 89, of Lowell, died Wednesday, January 30, 2002. He was preceded in death by his wife Anita and his daughter Lee Cansfield. Mr. Walter is survived by his six sons Chad (Perry), Jon (Judy), Gene (Judy), Craig (Carol), Robin (Lisa) and Peter; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. Bruce was born and raised on his family farm in the Saranac area. He attended Grand Rap-

ids Junior College where he met his wife Anita during which time he was a member of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra. After earning his degree from the University of Michigan School of Music, he settled in Lowell teaching music until purchasing a lumberyard in 1939. After serving as a Navy officer during WWII, he returned to his retail lumber business for the next 30 years. Bruce remained active in music, directing the Lowell Showboat choir and the Methodist Church choir for several years. He was executive vice president of Progressive Affiliated Lumberman's Association for 15 years, retiring in 1977, after which he spent much of his time on the family farm, in his garden, or on the golf course. He was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church and Lowell Rotary as well as Lowell Garden Club, serving to plant many trees about the town. Funeral services were held Saturday at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell with Pastor Gene Walter officiating. Interment Oakwood Cemetery. The family wishes to express their deep appreciation to Hospice of Holland Home - Grand Rapids. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lowell Rotary Scholarship Fund, Box 223 Lowell, MI 49331.

Council approves bond for LL&P improvements

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

In order to provide the electric service necessary for future growth, Lowell Light & Power sought authorization from the city for the issuance of bonds not to exceed \$6 million.

The bond funds will be used to undertake improvements which consist of land acquisition, construction of a sub station off Bowes Road, and installation of a transmission line and related improvements.

Lowell Light & Power and Cable TV general manager, Tom Richards said the new transmission line will cost approximately \$2.1 million and the Bowes Road sub station will cost \$3.2 million.

"The improvements will help bring standard electric distribution throughout the city of Lowell," Richards said.

To initiate Richards' request, the council had to adopt the resolution authorizing the publication of a notice of intent to issue bonds, filing of a notice with the Michigan Department of Treasury and declaring the city's intent to reimburse itself for the costs of improvements from bond proceeds.

The council gave Richards its unanimous support.

There is never a better measure of what a person is than what he does when he's absolutely free to choose.

William M. Bulger

Television has a real problem.

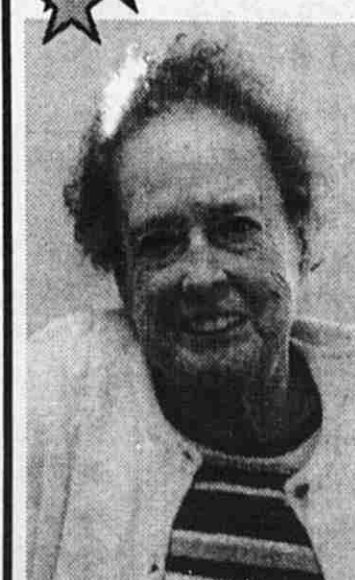
They have no page two.

Art Buchwald

The Lowell Ledger (USPS 453-830)

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LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Lowell Charter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2002

at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash, S.E.

Andrew Lawrence of 12740 52nd Street S.E. (PP# 41-20-34-200-006) has made application for a variance from Section 4.1.1 to waive the number of houses per quarter section which are currently allowed in Ag1, Prime Agriculture, to allow for an additional house, and Section 4.1.2. to change the minimum road frontage requirement on the existing house.

Written comments should be received by Tuesday, February 12, 2002 and can be mailed to: Lowell Charter Township, Attn: Zoning Board of Appeals, 2910 Alden Nash S.E., Lowell, MI 49331.

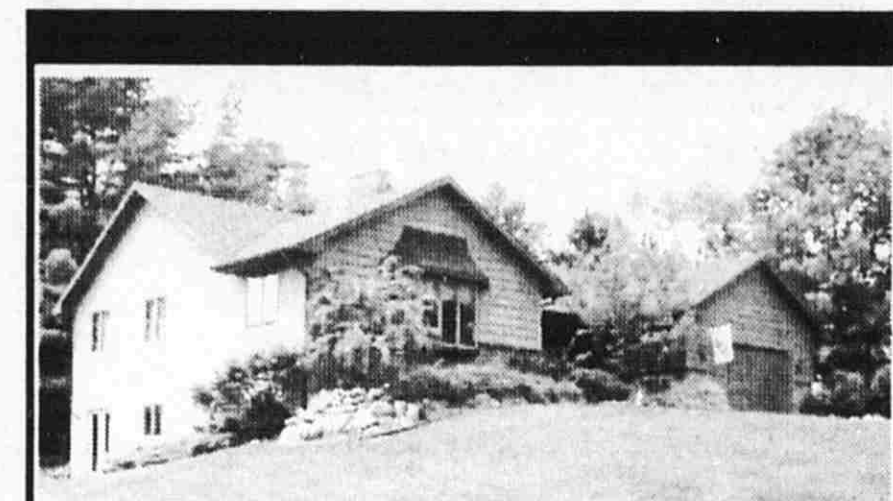
Linda S. Regan, Clerk

STATE FARM INSURANCE • Chapman Agency RECOGNIZES THIS SEMESTER'S HONOR ROLL STUDENTS

Lowell Middle School Honor Roll 2nd MARKING PERIOD

SIXTH GRADE	Nicole Keeler	Amber Waldron	Kelsey Koewers	Kathryn Barnes	Ryan Lane
Nicholas Abdo	Stephanie Kehoe	Heather Walendzik	Kaylyn Koza	Matthew Batchelor	Jon Latva
Cory Baerwalde	Rebecca Kempker	Laura Walsh	Gwynnd Lammas	Erin Beddows	Paula Lawrence
Kyle Baker	Kimberly Kline	Lindsey Welsh	Samantha Lancaster	Lynn Ann Bell	Amy Leikert
Nicole Baker	Brittany Komarcec	Timothy Wernet	Anna Lane	Collette Benmark	Sarah Lessens
Tanya Baker	Katie Kruse	Zachary Will	Vincent Larkin	Austin Blough	Rachelle Livingston
Kyle Bardwell	Andrew Kuhn	Lauren Wisniewski	Brittany Lyman	Melissa Blough	Michael Long
Tyler Barkacs	Andrea Kulhawik	April Wolf	Andrew Manion	Alice Blumm	Jennifer Lupton
Zachary Baum	Matthew Kurtz	Andrew Wright	Marek Mikeseil	Anna Boeve	Jodi Lupton
Travis Bergy	Drew Kyllonen	John Wright	Leslie Morrison	Lisa Boomers	Laura Maki
Andrew Bewell	Elvis Lane, Jr.	William Zigmont	Eric Mundt	Sarah Boomers	Seth Mayhew
Rochelle Bieri	Brittany Litchfield	Melissa Zuiderveen	Tasha Nauta	Holly Borth	Kristen McAlpine
Lauren Blattner	Ian Lowande		Jessica Nelson	Kelsey Brenk	Megan Meade
Justin Boss	Gabrielle MacDonald		Keith Nichol	Elizabeth Brooke	Kimberly Meeuwesen
Bobbi Botsford	Megan Majestic		Michael Nichols	Kaitlyn Brower	Ashleigh Menter
Christine Bottrall	Alex Manion		Bradley Nordman	Lisa Brown	Nikita Miles
Eric Bouwhuis	Katlin Manszewski		Andrew Nozal	Zachary Burger	Angela Miller
Logan Brenk	Meghan Mathews		Andrew Oesch	Alex Carpenter	Jeanette Miller
Alexander Brock	Frances Maycroft		Morgan Olin	Kimberly Carrier	Randi Millering
Kyle Brubaker	Brett McMahon		Karri Ort	Kelly Carson	Samantha Mol
Breanna Bueche	Jane McNaughton		Ryan Padgett	Rose Chambers	William Moore
Alyssa Buikema	Christopher Miller		Suraj Patel	Edith Chittenden	Elizabeth Mosher
Kelsey Callihan	Jayson Miller		Bethany Penninga	Nathaniel Clements	Amy Mundwiler
Cody Chambers	Jensen Miller		Lance Perkins	Samantha Collins	Megan Murphy
Drake Chittenden	Zachary Mis		Cassandra Phillips	Ashley Colon	Rachel Murray
Joyce Cinco	Jaelyn Moerdyke		Jamie Phillips	Bradley Corlett	Autumn Nethercott
Donald Clark III	Ellen Mork		Margaret Pratt	Laura Crimmins	Cassandra Oracz
Kathryn Collins	Nathaniel Morrison		Kelsey Quain	Rebecca DeLiefde	Amber Osborne
Kayleigh Cook	Zachary Mundwiler		Culver Redd	Richard Deshaw	Rebecca Plummer
Cody James Dalton	Kyle Murray		Kathleen Rissi	Brittany Dietz	April Polaski
Corbin Debiak	Kristin Nagy		Christopher Ritz	Elizabeth Drain	Lisa Rasch
Devin DeCator	Ashley Nawrocki		Michael Roth	Chad Drenth	Molly Richard
Allison DeVries	Lauren Nelson		Justin Rottier	Jamie Dryer	Jonathan Riddle
Krysta DeVries	Casie Pedley		Kathryn Rottier	Danielle Duprey	Christopher Roelofs
Tyler Dewey	Marylou Priesel		Jacob Scheller	Amanda Durkee	Nicole Rottier
Crystal Dietz	Kelsea Phillips		Kara Schloop	Jacob Eldridge	Cory Ruesink
Samantha Dilling	Bradley Plaatt		Taryn Schumacher	Amanda Ezinga	Amanda Schneider
Ethan Drain	Sara Poelstra		Jacob Seaman	Shannon Fitzpatrick	Patrick Schneider
Anthony Dubbink	Katie Polaski		Raymond Seese	Trevor Foss	Andrew Schultz
Ian Duiven	Jeffery Pratt		Amanda SeEVERS	Chelsea Freed	Leannah Seese
Ian Durkee	Kevin Reeser		Timothy Sinen	Randall Frye	Nicole Shepard
James Dyer	Sherman Ricards		Caitlin Sirowatka	Nathan Galbreath	Kirby Siek
Tyler Dykhouse	Katie Riddle		Ashleigh Smit	Julie Geelhoed	Ashley Slater
Brent Eggebeen	Cody Riemersma		Luke Smith	Benjamin Geldersma	Chelsea Smit
Justin Elliott	Jaime Ritenburgh		Erin Soules	Alexander Getz	Crystal Smith
Brandon Everitt	Melanie Rogers		Heather Spratt	William Gill	Lori Smith
Justin Faulkner	Lyndsy Rolfe		Kory Stevens	Jenna Gillan	Ashley Spencer
Rebecca Finnie	Brittany Rose		Terrah Tawney	Joshua Gilliard	Jared Spencer
Hannah Fleet	Maranda Ruegsegger		Derek Thebo	Katie Goldner	Ashley Spicer
Anthony Freeburg	David Rumley		Chloe Thrall	Brock Graham	Blake Spoelman
Andrew Gerig	Nicholas Ruse		Lindsey Trierweiler	Nicole Green	Joshua Tapia
Alexandra Gibbs	Eric Saenz		Stacey Underwood	Brandon Grochowalski	Micah Tawney
Jeanette Griner	Elizabeth Schlosser		Austin VandenHout	Benjamin Hanson	Melissa Telman
Cory Grzyb	Adam Schollaart		Michael VanderHart	August Harper	Emily Timpon
Cory Hagerman	Katrina Schollaart		Lauren VanderMark	Heather Harrigan	Alisha Trebian
Robert Hanks	Megan Schuivens		Ashley VanSpronsen	Angela Harvey	Sarah Troyer
Alexander Harrington	Michael Schumm		Bailey VanVeldhuizen	Joshua Hettaing	Nicholas Truskowski
Chelsea Harrison	Peter Scudder		Holly Vaught	Brett Hobria	Rebecca Underwood
Mikhaila Hart	Molly Seese		Amanda Vezino	Andrew Hopkins	Andrew VanderKlok
Emily Hauschild	Spencer Sellner		Jennifer Visser	Nicholas Huizinga	Adam VanderPols
Melissa Hawks	Kimberly Senneker		Kevin Vuong	Greg Huyser	Ashley VanderWal
Kenneth Hayes	Paige Senters		Kelly Walker	Adam Ingraham	Brook VanEck
Anthony Herrera	Andrew Silverman		Coleton Webber	Kayla Irwin	Lauren VanEns
Carla Heshner	Katherine Slatten		Trevor Wernet	Kristin Johnson	David VanKeulen
Tarin Hippey	Joshua Smith		Tiffany Whittington	Christopher Jones	Megan Vaught
Trevor Hoard	Thomas Stewart		Nathan Willemstein	Cory Jones	Sarah Waldorf
Joshua Hobria	Jordan Strah		Sara Williamson	Ryder Jones	Amanda Weaver
Jason Hoekstra	Alexis Strouse		Sarah Willits	Amy Junewick	Alicia Weeber
Jasmine Holliman	Jacob Swift		Kaylee Yonker	Abbot Kastanek	Eva Wilcox
Danielle Honeysette	Tricia Thuston		Edward Zandbergen	Jennifer Kettel	Cassandra Wildey
Catherine Howard	Travis Tol		Megan Zinke	Hannah Kinney	Andrew Wilterink
Jennifer Humphries	Travis Trapp			Andrew Kleeves	Janice Wisniewski
Kyle Ingebretson	Gabrielle Tremblay			Hannah Knudstrup	Jessica Wright
Brandon Jahnke	Justin VanAcker			Andrea Koster	Melissa Wright
Leah Jelsma	Ashley VanderHeide			Devin Kyllonen	Tara Zamarron
Rex Jerngian	Andrew Vandiver			Angela Lachniet	Jennifer Zoodsma
Tracey Johnson	Amy VanEls			Steven LaFave	Audrey Zook
Heather Jousma	Monica Vigil			Austin Lancaster	Katelynn Zuiderveen
Ashley Kapteyn					

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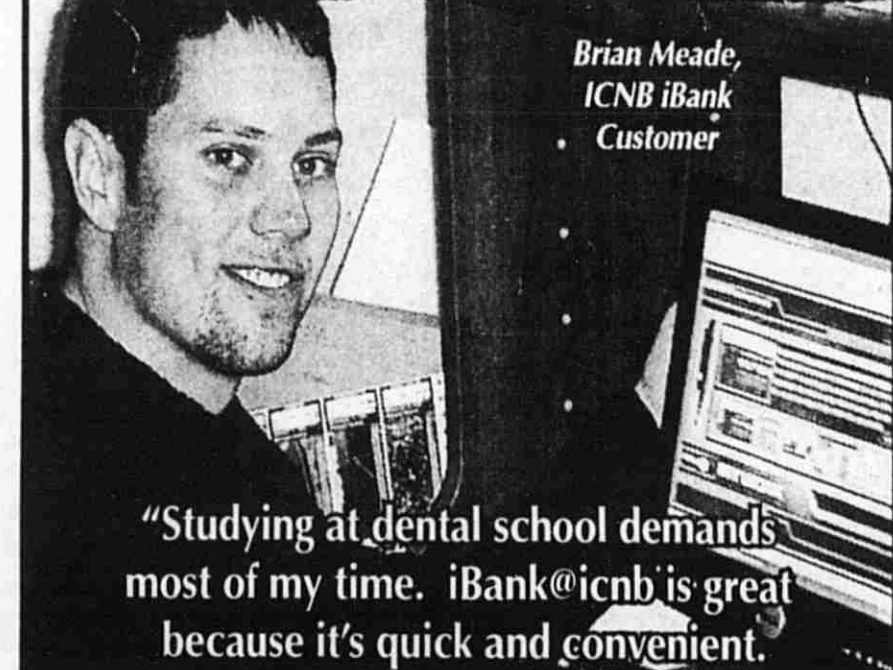


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Reflections Of Faith

Pastor Joe Fremer
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

One thing I enjoy looking at in the Ledger is the "Ledger Entries" from yesterday. I'm always fascinated to see what was considered newsworthy a hundred years ago. I don't have any memories that go that far back. I have memories of visiting museum displays of those times, in Grand Rapids and in Chicago, but that's not the same, is it? It's one thing to sit on a 1904 trolley car in a museum; it's quite another to remember what it was like to ride one to work every day.

The Bible is a collection of historical documents, but it is far more than just history. The narratives of what happened to Abraham and Sarah, to Ruth, to Paul, take place in far distant lands, in a very different culture. Beyond the interesting details of local place and time, God gives us a peek at Himself working the loom of history, and helps us see the overall pattern of the weaving. In spite of the great distances of time, place, language, and custom, I recognize a familiar set of threads. Can it really be that I am connected to what happened to Abraham, to Moses, to Peter? Yes, it can... for the God who worked in their lives still works today. Those

threads are all gathered into one figure who dominates the center of the tapestry: Jesus, the Son of God.

The Bible tells us about events that happened in the past, but it also tells us about the future. God's grand design is still a work in progress, and we get some hints of how it will unfold, but the end is revealed for us clearly enough. In the end, there will be no power or authority except that which has yielded to Jesus; and He in turn will lay it at the feet of His Father. The people He brings back to His Father will be a richly textured panel in the tapestry of joyful reconciliation.

If I were to write a tell-all book about life in Lowell, I bet I could make you read it! I would simply say, "Oh, by the way, you're in it." You would dash off to the library or to Amazon.com and get your hands on one and read it cover to cover, waiting to see what I had said about you. Well, guess what about the Bible? You're in it. Your name may not appear as such, but when John 3:16 says "God so loved the world," you can bet that "the world" includes you. God's plan for you is there in black and white, and when you put your trust in Jesus, your story becomes linked with His story. And that's better than history!

Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.
—William Shakespeare,
All's Well That Ends Well



Week of 2/11 - 1/15

ELEMENTARY

Lunch: \$1.45
Milk \$3.30
Peanut butter & jelly sandwich & chef's salad are also available daily as lunch options.

MON: Pizza dippers w/sauce or turkey & cheese sub sandwich, tater tots, fresh fruit choice.

TUES: World's best burger on bun, ham & scalloped potatoes w/biscuit, apple-sauce, corn, olympic bookmark.

WED: Cheesy crusty pizza or sloppy joe on bun, pears, garden salad.

THURS: Chicken taco or dino pasta & franks, corn-bread, peaches, baked beans, rice krispies treat.

FRI: Turkey & gravy with roll or ham, egg & cheese on English muffin, whipped potatoes, mixed fruit, pudding.



White/Bickel

Heidi Lynn Bickel and Ryan James White were married in a celebration of holy union on August 11, 2001 at Rush Creek Bible Church in Byron Center.

The bride is the daughter of Pastor R. Wayne Bickel and Vicki Bickel, currently of Bothell, Wash., formerly of Muskegon.

The groom is the son of Jim and Bobbie White of Lowell.

Both bride and groom are graduates of Grace Bible College.

Maid of honor was Sarah Bickel, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Mary Anne White, sister-in-law of the groom. Best man was Jason White, brother of the groom. Groomsman was David Bickel, brother of the bride. Ushers were the newlyweds' fathers, Jim White and Wayne Bickel. Mistress and master of ceremonies were special friends and neighbors, Kathy and Dave Mersman.

Officiating the service were Pastor Jason Anderson and Pastor R. Wayne Bickel. Worship was led by musicians from Vineyard North including Laura Befus, Curt Hines, Brian Huff, Sandie Abrahamson and Michael Befus.

The couple honeymooned on a house boat on Lake Cumberland in Corbin, Ky., and now reside in Pasadena, Calif., where Ryan is a graduate student at Fuller Theological Seminary.



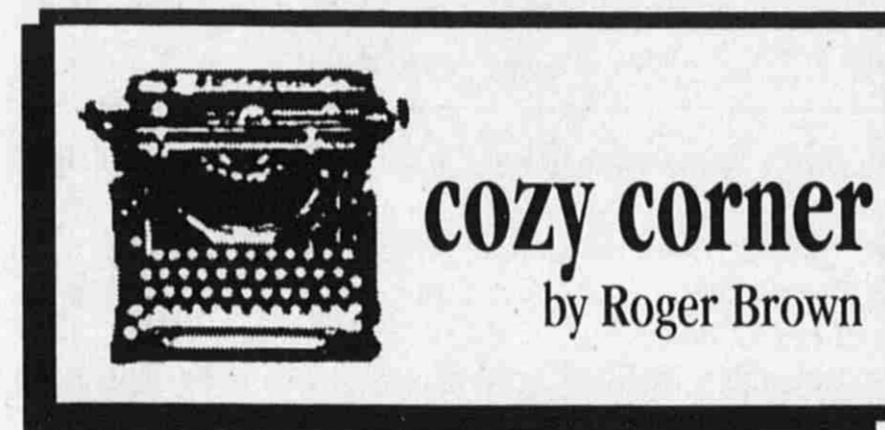
Potter/Miller

Announcing their engagement and plans for a September 7, 2002 wedding are Kristin Potter and Kevin Miller.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Lowell High School and the daughter of Kelvin and Mindy Potter of Lowell.

The groom-to-be is a graduate of Lakewood High School. He is the son of Dale and Daisy Miller of Clarksville.

Viewpoint . . .



cozy corner
by Roger Brown

In last week's column I took off on the myriad of catalogs that show up in our mailbox. I only scratched the surface. I mostly covered the catalogs aimed at the man of the house... perhaps ten percent. The rest are women's clothing, home decorating, gardening, etc. These catalogs represent the bulk of the trees sacrificed to produce the paper, to print the catalogs to ensure the Brown household has respectable contribution to the weekly recycle pickup at our curb.

Just to give you a glimpse of what shows up here, I brought a big stack of these things up by the computer. Let's see what's in there.

"Waterfront Living" is devoted entirely to hoo-hah for the cottage. The catalog contains essentials such as a wall plaque that proclaims the profound, "Welcome to the Lake." Another plaque states, "The cost was outrageous, the taxes alarming. A small price to pay for a view that's so charming." In other words... "Smell us."

Another theme-specific catalog is "French Country Living." A quick thumb through left me with the impression that if there is a rooster on it, it's French country. A good example is a chalkboard for memos. The border is decorated with a rooster. You can tell it is French-country style because someone has written, "Pick up ingredients for crepes... eggs, butter and Cointreau." Another note reminds, "French lesson after school today." Now that's oh-so-French.

Here's a catalog titled "Country Curtains." You can immediately tell the stuff is regular country because of all the gingham, checkers, plaids, florals, lace, etc. There are very few roosters so they are definitely not French country curtains.

"Plow and Hearth" has nothing to do with farming that I can see. The hearth aspect is represented by a lot of fireplace and wood stove stuff. The catalog is devoted mostly to décor for the cabin. If it doesn't have a bear, moose or Labrador retriever on it, it ain't in the catalog. No roosters.

Here's one, "The Lighthouse Depot"... seriously. This is a 72 page glossy color catalog with nothing but lighthouse stuff in it. There is clothing adorned with lighthouses. There are pictures, plaques, statues, wind chimes, lamps, pottery, doormats, bedding, purses, cookie jars, jewelry, pajamas, etc.!

Okay, okay, some people are into lighthouses, but this is lost on me. The catalog featured regulation baseballs adorned with a picture of a historic lighthouse on one side and info about it on the other. I don't get it. Baseballs painted with lighthouses? Baseballs painted with roosters, sure, but lighthouses??? Who knows, maybe these lighthouse baseballs are the next Beanie-Babies.

Another one is "Of Ships & Sea." More nautical stuff. More of the same items, just decorated or shaped like nautical geedunk instead of bears, moose, lighthouses and, of course, roosters.

"Shades of Light" is exactly what the name implies... lampshades. If you are the type who gets drunk at the office party and needs a stylish lampshade for headwear, this is the catalog for you. There are lampshades of every size, shape and description. Yup, there are even a few with roosters if you are feeling a little French.

"The Wooden Soldier" threw me a curve. I wasn't sure what to expect from the title. The catalog is nothing but very expensive dress-up clothes for little kids. The marketers are clever. I'm not sure how they knew we are grandparents, but this stuff is most definitely aimed at grandparents. I was a parent once myself, and I know for a fact parents can't afford this stuff. Lots of ladybugs, bunnies, fishies and flowers. No roosters.

I could go on, and on, and on with this catalog stuff. Really folks, I have only described seven catalogs out of a stack of fifty or more. And that fifty are only the few that, for some reason or another, captured my wife's attention and have been temporarily spared a trip to the curb in the recycle bin. I'm tellin' ya... trees are being wantonly sacrificed to push rooster-adorned junk off us. Of course, trees are being wantonly sacrificed each week to bring you my mindless rants. "Cock-a-doodle-doo!"

P.S. This whole catalog thing started with my receipt of a, I'm only guessing at this spelling, "Hammacher and Schemmle" or something close to that, catalog. The catalog is full of high priced gadgets and gizmos. The cover featured a personal hovercraft that the rider stands on like a scooter and zooms along to work. It was several thousand dollars if I remember correctly. There were lots of really trick items like prism glasses that allow you to read while flat in bed with a book propped on your belly. I figured they'd work great at a party with lots of low-cut cocktail dresses.

This week's column was going to be all about the great stuff in that catalog. It went out in yesterday's recycle. Yes, the French country rooster catalog is still here. My wife and I obviously do not share the same priorities when it comes to catalogs.



Ledger Entries

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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
FEBRUARY 7, 1877

The Editor titles his front-page news items, "Jottings and Jimcrax."

"The old cry, 'Fishladders for Grand Rapids' is renewed. Fish can't scale those dams without ladders, that's certain." Manistee has no money in the treasury, no city officials and the fire department closed up.

The Lowell Cornet Band is doing very well under the direction of school principal and professor, S.P. Hicks. The Fire Department has donated new music books to the band.

Various plaster (lime) companies are in a bidding war for the business of Grange farmers.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEB. 7, 1902; This issue is missing, as well as every issue until May, 1902; we substitute columns from the first year Ledger Entries was published, 1987-8. *114 years February 10, 1888.*

Free trade vs. tariffs is the political hot spot. Republicans want protective tariffs, their opponents, "a crowd of cranks and mugwumps" (Democrats) want free trade.

Steighrides to weekly dinner dances at the Ada Hotel are popular with the young people of Lowell.

The new Methodist Episcopal parsonage is complete and a housewarming will be held Monday evening, A.M. Gould is the pastor.

The Detroit Grand Haven & Milwaukee Railway has its depot on one side of the track and boarding platform on the other side. The town board is taking steps against the dangerous situation.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO FEBRUARY 10, 1927

The state-of-the-art electric incubators are working, and the new Foreman hatchery has orders from most states east of the Rockies and three Canadian provinces.

The old Hotel Waverly has been reconditioned and is now open as the Hotel Lowell, says proprietor Harry Holland.

It is illegal to shoot muskrats but they may be trapped at least six feet away from their house.

There were 25 chickens found tied in bags in a shed near a ditched car. The car owners are in custody, as are the chickens, at the sheriff's until ownership is established.

A hit-run accident injures three telegraph linemen walking from town to their boarding car at the railroad, one seriously. The culprits have not been identified.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER FEB. 7, 1952

The International Harvester Co. Family Party at City Hall, and sponsored by Wittenbach Sales & Service, was attended by 800 persons Tuesday evening.

The dog law (license, kept on premises) is being enforced all over Michigan. Officers got nine dogs in two days last week in Lowell.

Michigan's share of the national debt exceeds the total real estate valuation of the entire state, says Sen. Charles Feenstra.

The Wilbur Burras farm on 36th Street is featured this week. The aerial photo was shown last week, one of a series. A new scout troop, Explorer Scouts, has been organized for boys 14 years old. Scoutmaster is Gould Rivette.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER FEBRUARY 10, 1977

A Wednesday-to-Saturday blizzard with high winds and sub-zero temps closed every school in Kent County Friday.

A barn fire destroying barn and animals, and accidents on snow-filled roads with low visibility, are reported in the Saranac area.

New York and Pennsylvania are declared national disaster areas. Even Miami has experienced freezing temperatures.

Legislation requiring that utility users and welfare agencies be notified of pending utility shutoffs is introduced by Sen. Otterbacher of Grand Rapids, to prevent possible tragedies if heat is shut off.

To The Editor

Dear Editor,
Two articles in last week's Ledger prompted me to write this. First, in discussing the City Hall project, a commissioner stated he wanted a buffer to the east property line because when he drives into the new facility, he doesn't want to see those cars "over there" at Lowell Auto Body. Well sir, you are in a new parking lot and the city has also built another parking lot to the north so don't look that way either.

I assume you don't want to see wrecked or damaged cars. That I understand. However, due east of your new parking lot from the alley north to Avery St. is my company, L.A. Trim. I am not a body shop or affiliated with any body shop, so you shouldn't be seeing wrecked cars on my corner. I have been located here for over 21 years. My work consists of reupholstering and restoring interiors of vehicles. Many of these cars are show quality, some

have been featured in magazines, but you'll have to come inside to see them because we don't leave them outside very often.

Also I wonder if you realize how many tall evergreens and hardwoods have been removed to make room for new parking lots. Now in the morning when I pull into my back lot and look west over the trees I have planted, I will see more bricks and mortar. I'm sure there will be shrubs and bushes planted around the new facility but it will take a lifetime to grow back to the size of the ones removed.

In another article concerning the Grindle development, a planning commissioner stated, "You are in the city. If you want trees, then perhaps you should consider moving outside of the city limits." If this is accurate, this is one of the most irresponsible and ridiculous statements a commissioner could make. I believe every site plan that goes before the city is required to have landscaping included. When the city completed the downtown renovations, it lined Main Street with trees. I'm sure most "city dwellers" or "country dwellers" would agree that trees are very important - no matter where you live.

Respectfully,
Dale Dawson

Sharing The Vision

By Patrick Nugent
For the past two years, the state of Michigan has contracted with the well-known firm of Standard & Poor's to statistically analyze and evaluate the state's public schools. Lowell Area Schools has been consistently recognized for achieving above-average results. These great results are even more impressive when they are linked with the fact that Lowell is at the state's minimum funding level and therefore can spend less money per student than many other districts.

What explains Lowell's success in the area of student achievement? Individuals definitely have a major impact. Many people in the community know that our district is blessed with many

excellent and dedicated administrators, teachers and support staff members. Individual parents, the first and most important teachers, dedicate many hours in the schools and at home. Most of all, the students deserve credit for their achievements. These children do remarkable things on a daily basis which most of us are hardly aware of.

Lowell Area Schools has all of these praiseworthy individual efforts, but so do many other districts. I am convinced that what makes Lowell Area Schools successful is not individual effort, but community effort. The key ingredient in the success of the American public school system is the public. Lowell Area Schools is and should be a direct reflection of the Lowell area.

For well over 100 years, the Lowell community has provided a quality educational system for its children. From Bowne to Grattan and all points in between, from many ethnic backgrounds and religions, from city and country, citizens have come together with shared values and expectations to guide our schools. Although there are individual differences, there has been consistent agreement over the years regarding the direction our schools should take.

As all area residents are aware, Lowell is changing. For better or for worse, the Lowell of 2002 is not the same as it was when I graduated from LHS and definitely not the same as it was when

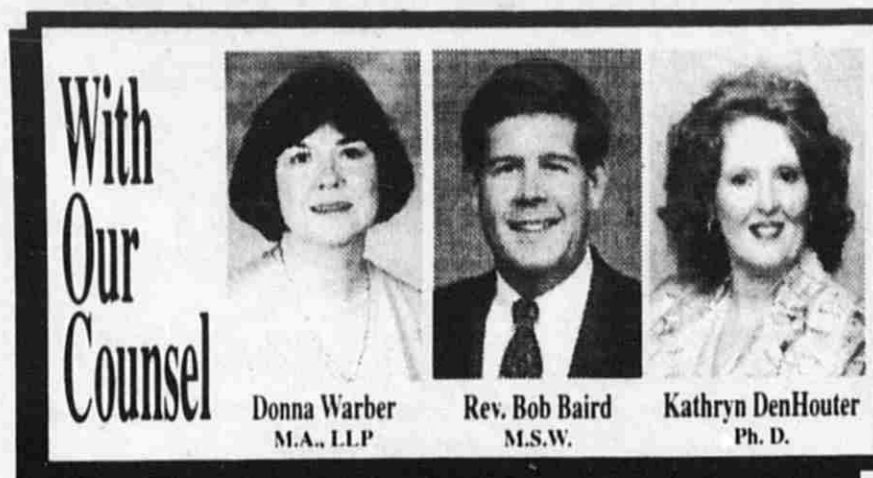
Sharing The Vision, cont'd., pg. 6

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY



<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 621 E. Main Street • 897-5936 Worship Sundays..... 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Coffee Hour..... 9:30 A.M. Sunday School..... 10:00 A.M. 9:50 A.M.</p> <p>REV. B. GORDON BARRY Nursery & child care available at both services Barrier - Free Entrance</p>		<p>EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH 10501 Settlemore • Ph. 897-7185 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>CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God) 3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery Rev. William J. Renkema • 897-7060 1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI Morning Worship..... 10:00 A.M. Sunday School..... 11:20 A.M. Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M. Nursery available at both services Barrier-Free</p>		<p>ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. George J. Fokete 402 Amity St. • 897-9820 www.stmary-lowell.com Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM, SUN. 9:30 AM Weekday Masses: 7:45 AM Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM Saturday confessions: 10-10:30 AM Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:15 AM - 9 PM Religious Education, children to adults - call Brenda Berding 897-9393 See Lowell Cable Ch. 49, EWTN for 24 hr. Catholic broadcasting</p>					
<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod) Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21 www.iserv.net/~goodshp Sunday School..... 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship..... 10:00 A.M. (Nursery available) Joseph Fremer, Pastor 897-8307 All facilities are wheelchair accessible</p>		<p>APOSTOLIC LIGHTHOUSE UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH Sunday Services 10:00 A.M. at the Cherry Creek Elementary School 12675 Foreman Road, Lowell, MI 49331 CALL FOR FREE HOME BIBLE STUDIES Pastor Robert L. Hubbard Phone: (616) 897-1267 website www.aplighthouse.com</p>		<p>LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 201 N. Washington • 897-8800 Sunday School..... 9:30 A.M. Morning Worship..... 10:50 A.M. Sunday Evening..... 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Family Ministry..... 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>PASTOR TIM DESHAW Staffed Nursery Provided Barrier-Free Entrance</p>		<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL 2275 West Main Street • 897-7168 Internet: http://www.fbclowell.org Rev. Burland Margesson & Rev. W. Lee Taylor Wayne Haines, Youth Pastor Sun. Worship Service, 9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M. Sunday School Hour..... 11:00 A.M. AWANA/JV..... Wed. 6:15 & 7 P.M. Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times Nursery Provided • Barrier Free</p>		<p>ALTON BIBLE CHURCH Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road 897-5648 Sunday School..... 10:00 A.M. Morning Worship..... 11:00 A.M. Evening Praise..... 6:00 P.M. Wednesday AWANA..... 7:00 P.M. (Sept. - April) Prayer and Bible Study..... 7:00 P.M. Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418 YOU ARE WELCOME!</p>		<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL (United Church of Christ) 404 North Hudson • 897-5906 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 & Worship</p>	





POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

Being a parent today is not an easy task. How we interact with our children impacts the way our children respond to us. If children feel they are being respected, they are more likely to comply with our requests. When speaking to children about their behaviors, it is more effective to be calm and to use a low voice level. A neutral tone communicates to your child that you are not ruffled. A calm demeanor can be contagious. When our emotions are normal we are able to think better than if we are upset.

When talking with our children, it is important to be decisive. We need to be clear about our requests and state them in such a way that our child knows our request is not an option. If the child detects hesitancy or uncertainty on our part, this is translated by the child as bargaining power. If we give in to the child's requests, the child gets the message that if persistent enough, he/she may get what he/she wants. By giving in we are setting ourselves up for future arguments.

If at all possible, it is better to avoid negativity. It is better to praise positive behavior. If a child constantly hears, "no, no, no," he begins to tune it out. Instead of saying, "no yelling", say, "Please use a quiet voice." The idea of "no" can also be communicated by use of facial expression. The word "no" can be reserved for when you mean "absolutely not." Make sure your child knows there will be no wavering.

Try to present choices to your child: Saying, "Would you like to eat breakfast first or get dressed first?" creates a win-win situation. Offering a choice allows the child to make decisions and to assume responsibility for actions.

Tell your child what to do rather than invite a "no" response to a question. "It is time for dinner" is more effective than, "Are you hungry?"

Frequently, children are motivated by rewards. Rewards tend to work much better than threats. "When your room is cleaned, then we can go for ice cream," works better than, "If you don't clean your room, no ice cream."

Oftentimes, children are very creative problem-solvers. Invite them to come up with solutions for problems: "We have a problem; what can we do to solve it?"

When a child does something wrong, it is important that the child understand what was wrong. Explain to the child in clear terms at the time of the event what was wrong. After the child has made amends, drop it. The child does not need to

have the situation brought up constantly.

It is important to respond to noncompliance by the child. If we do not respond when the child ignores our requests, the child learns that this is an acceptable response and will be likely to try it again and again. When making requests of our children, it is more effective to make only one request at a time. Young children become forgetful or confused if given too many things to do at once.

When giving feedback to our children it is important to be specific. As parents, most of us have a tendency to use too many words. Remember: "Brief is best."

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



PEPTIC ULCERS

Approximately 1 in 10 Americans will develop an ulcer in his/her lifetime. A peptic ulcer is a sore in the lining of the GI tract - usually occurring in the stomach or duodenum. Ulcers occur when the protective lining of the GI tract is eroded. This exposes the underlying tissues to the harmful effects of stomach acid.

Several factors play a role in ulcer formation. An infection with Helicobacter pylori, a bacteria, seems to be a consistent agent in many cases. Excessive acid production may also play a role. Over-the-counter medications like aspirin or ibuprofen increase the risk of peptic ulcer formation by blocking the production of the protective stomach lining. Smoking increases acid production. Contrary to popular belief, spicy foods do not cause ulcers but they can increase the symptoms in patients suffering from ulcers.

Symptoms of a peptic ulcer include burning in the upper

stomach between the breast bone and navel. This burning may be relieved with food only to return a few hours later. Often these symptoms are worse in the middle of the night. Other symptoms include nausea, vomiting, bloating, belching and black or tarry stools.

Medical therapy is very effective in the treatment of peptic ulcers and includes medications that markedly decrease acid production and often include antibiotics if Helicobacter pylori infection is involved. If symptoms do not improve rapidly after therapy is started, your doctor may recommend esophago-gastric-duodenoscopy (EGD) which involves insertion of a lighted scope into the esophagus for direct visualization of the upper GI tract.

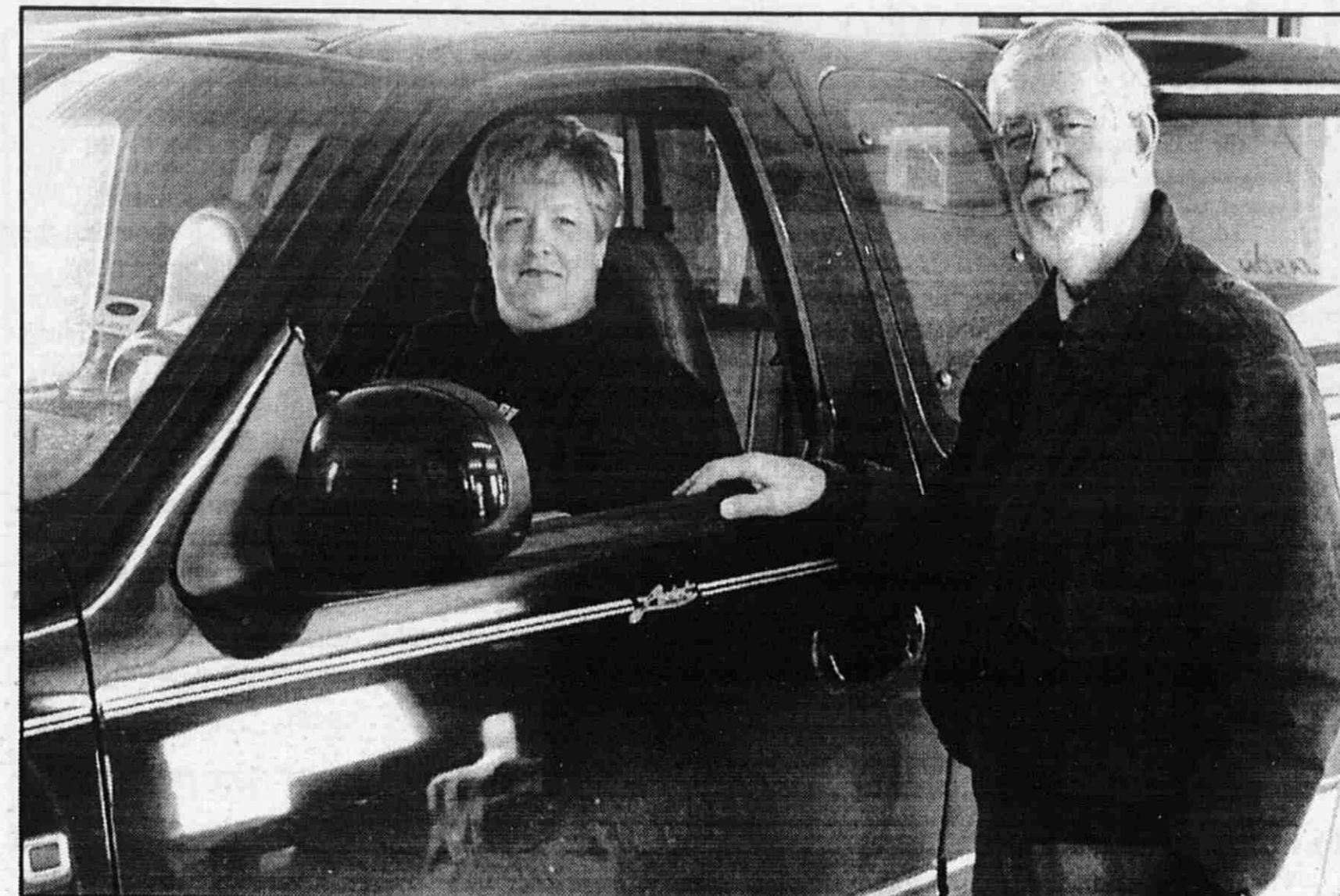
Sharing The Vision, continued...From Page 5

my father graduated. More changes are undoubtedly in store for the area. How will Lowell remain successful in the face of this change?

As I state above, to maintain a successful public school, we must maintain a successful public - a community of shared values and expectations confident in its identity. Lowell should not desire to be another East Grand Rapids, Forest Hills or Rockford. Lowell should be Lowell. Whether a family has lived in the Lowell area for many years or one year, each resident has a stake in embracing the community's values and perpetuating them. As more people move into Lowell and as the world of education changes, it will be up to the community as a whole to give the school direction. If we constantly work together to maintain and strengthen our community, the schools will reflect the community's strength.

Tegg wins recent car wash giveaway

Nancy Tegg prepares her car for the first of many free car washes at Lowell Water Works. Tegg's name was recently picked for six months of free car washes. Standing next to Tegg is Lowell Water Works owner, Jim Sowle. Tegg is a big fan and weekly customer of Lowell Water Works.



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Walter, ice skating rink advocate, passes away at 89

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Bruce Walter, on a great number of occasions, would wander off, and then a certain distinct whistle in the distance told him it was time to return.

"His wife, Anita (died in 1999) had a way of whistling to get Bruce to return," explained close friends, Roger and Rose Roberts.

Walter, 89, a longtime Lowell resident, died Wednesday (Jan.30)

"He was just a very kind man and a joy to be around,"

said Rose Roberts. "He loved to travel and meet people. Wherever Bruce went he'd strike up acquaintances."

Along with his love of travel, he enjoyed gardening, golf, music, card playing (euchre and poker) and fishing.

"He was a great fisherman," recalls Roger Roberts. "We fished quite a bit together, even through ice until it began to bother us too much."

Walter, born and raised on a farm in Saranac, never lost touch or forgot the simple pleasures he enjoyed as a youth and he was determined



Bruce Walter

that the youth of Lowell should be able to enjoy some of the same recreational pastimes.

Over the last three -four years, Walter was a steadfast voice encouraging, prodding and promoting a permanent skating facility in Lowell.

"Bruce was a very determined man. He attended every parks and recreation meeting, making sure an ice skating facility was part of our recreational plan. He was determined to make sure that would happen," said Lowell

Parks and Recreation chairman, Perry Beachum. "He didn't want a multi-million dollar facility but he did want a permanent family recreational ice skating facility."

After earning his degree from the University of Michigan School of Music, he settled in Lowell teaching music until purchasing a lumberyard in 1939.

He served as a Navy officer during WWII. After returning from his tour of duty he continued with his retail lumber business.

Walter remained active in music, directing the Lowell Showboat choir and the Methodist Church choir.

He was a lifelong member of Lowell Rotary, United Methodist Church and Lowell Showboat Garden Club, assisting with the planting of many trees about town.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Lowell Rotary Scholarship Fund, Box 223, Lowell, MI 49331 and/or the Hospice of Holland Home in Grand Rapids.

at 7 p.m. in room A202 at Lowell High School for anyone interested in helping with the class of 1992 reunion. Call Jen Dougherty (Wieland) at 868-0439 with questions.

KINDERMUSIK ON THE FARM

The Franciscan Life Process Center will offer Kindermusik classes to children newborn - 7 years beginning Feb. 20. If interested, contact the center at 897-7842, ext. 380.

LOCAL ARTISTS' EXHIBITION COMING SOON

"A Breath of Spring" will be on display at Huntington National Bank in downtown historic Lowell from Feb. 21 - April 2 during regular business hours. The exhibit includes professional adult artists as well as young artists, ages 5-7, who created collage paintings from a class offered at Lowell Area Arts Council.

MUSICIANS NEEDED FOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Lowell Showboat summer concert series, starting June 13, needs musicians: Blues, Rapp, Rock, Country & Western, Jazz and Christian music, to name a few. Forward your CD/cassette, a brief bio and group photo by Feb. 28 to Lowell Area Arts Council, P.O. Box 53, Lowell 49331. Call 897-8545 (LAAC) or 897-9161 (Chamber) with questions.

LOWELL COMMUNITY EXPO

The annual Community Expo will be held at Lowell High School on Saturday, March 23 from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. If you would like to spotlight your business, church or organization, or would like to provide a demo or entertainment, contact Liz at the Chamber at 897-9161. Admission is free and door prizes awarded.

Along Main Street

ACADEMIC TRACK SIGN-UPS

Attention 7th and 8th graders and parents: Sign-up now for students and coaches for this year's Academic Track: a competition between middle schools in academic, art, vocal, instrumental and dramatic areas. Call LMS or Carol Drenth at 897-8785 for information.

ATTENTION LOWELL SENIOR PARENTS

Payments for the Senior class trip May 23 will be taken during lunches Feb. 7 and 8 plus each Friday in February. \$100 per student: Entire amount or by installments. Or mail to treasurer, Carol Drenth, 10200 Bennett, Lowell 49331.

FAMILY LINKS SCHOOL CARNIVAL

Families are invited to join in for games, food and fun at Cherry Creek Elementary on Saturday, Feb. 9 from noon - 3 p.m.

CALL FOR DEMOS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking demos and entertainment for the Lowell Community Expo on Saturday, March 23. Call Liz at 897-9161.

KDL IN-SERVICE STAFF TRAINING

The Englehardt and Alto branches of the Kent District Library as well as the other branches will be closed on Monday, Feb. 18 so that staff may attend an in-service training day. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Feb. 19.

LOWELL AREA COMMUNITY FUND WORKSHOP

There will be a workshop on utilizing & understanding the Lowell Area Community Fund on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Chamber office on Riverwalk Plaza. RSVP by Feb. 15 by calling 897-9161 or info@lowellchamber.org

EARLY SETTLER ACTIVITIES WORKSHOP

The Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Wittenbach Center will host an early settler activities workshop for 8-12 year olds on March 2 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cost is \$5 which includes lunch. To register call Judy at 897-7688 or Tammy at 987-1002. Deadline to register is Feb. 15.

STUDENT/STAFF VARIETY SHOW

The annual student/staff variety show will be held Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Lowell Performing Arts Center. Proceeds to benefit girls track team and Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets: \$3.

LHS CLASS OF 1992 REUNION PLANNING MEETING

There will be a planning meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 20

Merit Awards, cont't... From Page 1

ceeded state standards in science; 68.4 percent met or exceeded state standards in mathematics; and 74 percent met or exceeded state standards in reading.

Student performance also improved in social studies, the

only test not considered in the Merit Awards. Of the students taking the test, 26 percent met or exceeded state standards. In 2000, the percentage was 24.1.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

CIRCUIT COURT -
FAMILY DIVISION

PUBLICATION
OF NOTICE

FILE NO. 01-172437 DE

In the matter of
Estate of
MARGARET ROBERTS,
Deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED
PERSONS including:
All creditors whose address (es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, MARGARET ROBERTS, who lived at 1033 Heritage SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan died on September 16, 2001. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Personal Representative RICHARD ROBERTS, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa, NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

JOHN R. JACKSON (P-45183)
3501 Lake Eastbrook Blvd., Ste. 114
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

(616) 956-5008

1/28/02

RICHARD ROBERTS
2232 Horton, SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 01-172 471-DE

Estate of
ANTONIO RAFAEL
FIGUEROA
Deceased

Date of Birth: 07-31-50

TO ALL CREDITORS:

1-28-02

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, ANTONIO RAFAEL FIGUEROA, who lived at 239 Lane S.W. Grand Rapids, Michigan died 01-09-01.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to JAMES J. OWENS, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa, N.W., Suite 2500, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

CRAIG A. BRUGGINK
P.L.C.
(P-29358)
429 Turner N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 456-5048

JAMES J. OWENS
448 Leonard, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 774-0531

Ordinances, cont'd.. From Page 1

Several variance requests came before the commission - the result being the commission is looking at amending the city ordinance to allow corner lots to have a principal front lot line and a secondary lot line.

According to the proposed ordinance, the principal front lot line would be the shorter of the two front yard lot lines. Where the lot lines are of equal length, and/or the principal front lot line is not evident, then the zoning administrator will determine which shall be the principal and the secondary. The secondary lot line will be one half of the principal front lot line.

So if a property has a principal front lot line of 30 feet, the secondary will be 15 feet, said city manager, David Pasquale.

"This would relieve some hardship on those with corner lots," Pasquale said.

A public hearing on the ordinance change has been set for the planning commission's next meeting on Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. at the City Hall.

Also on the agenda will be continuing discussions on amending the city's current regulations of recreational vehicle storage at a person's residence.

Several residents came out in complaint of the current ordinance wording, adopted in 1995, which doesn't allow for recreational vehicles to be stored for any length of time in the front yard of a person's home. This outcry came after the city hired a group to enforce its current ordinances. Not being allowed to have a vehicle on one's property creates difficulties in planning for trips or other events, and preparing such vehicles for those travels, according to residents.

At the recommendation of the planning commission, a group of residents came forward and put together a proposed amendment change. The commission, however, decided to table the matter until it had a chance to review the city ordinances predating 1995. Pasquale said the commission wants to see how the city dealt with these issues before the current ordinance.

Human Resource Manager

We are seeking a Human Resource Manager to direct the human resources activities within our center including training, benefits, safety, updating center staff on company personnel policies, procedures and regulations, monitoring and evaluating human resources systems. Bachelor's degree in human resources, employee development or related field, and experience in a health care or long-term care setting preferred.

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be conducting their regular scheduled meeting and holding public hearings on **Monday March 4, 2002 at 7:00 PM at the Lowell High School Auditorium, 11700 Vergennes, Lowell Michigan 49331**, to accept public comment on the following applications:

An application from Pete Faber of Ada MI has been submitted for Phase II of Carlson Farms PUD Site Condominium development located at Lally and Alden Nash in the SE quarter of section 4. This application is for the purpose of constructing a private road, final PUD and site condominium review approval and to construct one model home.

A rezoning application from Landon Holding Inc of Bloomfield Hills MI has been submitted to amend the zoning ordinance map to rezone the following described property from Rural Agriculture (R-A) to Special Residential (R-3): The property consists of about 99 acres in an L-shape with frontage on Vergennes and Alden Nash in the NW quarter of section 34. The application is for the purpose of developing the property for a manufactured home community.

The Planning Commission proposes a text amendment to the zoning ordinance for Article IV General and Special Regulations Section 201.434 to add a height exception section for church spires up to 85 feet tall.

The application for the proposed zoning map and text ordinance amendments and private road PUD application is on file at the Vergennes Township Hall and may be inspected during regular office hours between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays. Public comment will be accepted at the public hearing and written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received prior to 6:00 PM on March 4, 2002. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

Storm plays havoc with power and cable

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The rebalancing of power supplies in the system to prevent overload was the resolution to Lowell Cable Television's transmission problems.

The winter storm that came through Lowell Wednesday night, early Thursday morning, dropped eight-10 inches of snow and a thin layer of ice to gloss things over.

The result was residents' cable flickering on and off throughout much of the day, and city Lowell Light &

Power customers being without power for roughly 45 minutes late Thursday morning.

"The cable backup came briefly around noon, but was not reliable. It worked again for a three-four hour stretch in the afternoon before going out again," said Lowell Light & Power/Lowell Cable general manager, Tom Richards. "We did a lot of trouble shooting and testing, but were unable to determine the cause."

After rebalancing the power supplies, the system was restored in full around 7 p.m.

The restoration of power

in the city was quicker and smoother. "The power was restored within 30 minutes, but we brought the other circuits up slowly to make sure everything was working correctly," Richards said.

The problem stemmed from a tripped circuit breaker which took down a Wolverine transmission line that feeds Lowell. It was located between Burnips and Allegan County.

Council votes "yes" on reliability study; drops mapping tag-on

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The last time the city had a water reliability study performed was 1988.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality recommends it be carried out every five years.

Monday night, the Lowell City Council approved spending \$7,500 for Williams & Works to complete a study which would include reviewing present and projected water and fire suppression demands, capacity of water treatment plant and wells - noting any deficiencies.

At the request of Lowell Department of Public

Works, Bob Robertson, Williams & Works also included the preparation of a computer-based water distribution map.

The mapping would cost the city \$2,500. Williams & Works would expand the scope of the map to show valve and hydrant labels and service line locations through field measurements provided by the city or as-built drawings.

Councilman Mike Blough said with the tight budget year ahead, he could only support the \$7,500 for the reliability study. "It covers the requirement of the DEQ and it is the lowest bid received," he explained.

Councilman Dan Brubaker said he wasn't necessarily opposed to the mapping, but would need some justification from Robertson before he could consider it.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FEBRUARY 7: Gordie Barry, Peggy Covert, Margaret Peckham.

FEBRUARY 8: Clare Krebs, Laurie Chambers, Maya Newhouse, Steve Estes.

FEBRUARY 9: Tom Covell, Alan Ryder, Inga Weeks, Noah Newhouse, Allee Brenk, David Potter, "AJ" Alvin Davis Brenk II, Adrian Sterzick, Brady Foster.

FEBRUARY 10: Richard Korb, Eric Kimble.

FEBRUARY 11: Gladys Thorne, Terry Nugent.

FEBRUARY 12: Peg Stanford, Kurt Roubush, Travis Bergy.

FEBRUARY 13: Deb Heydenburg, Emily Gerard.

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—Henry David Thoreau

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CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of **MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2002.**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Shores and the City Clerk called Roll.

Present: Councilmembers Brubaker, Myers, Pfaller and Mayor Shores.

Absent: Councilmember Blough.

Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Public Works Director Dan DesJarden, Police Sergeant Steve Junewick, Police Officer James Hinton, Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall, City Treasurer Suzanne Olin, Financial Services Officer Charlene McNab, Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV General Manager Tom Richards, Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Office Manager Mary Sawka, Lowell Light and Power and Cable TV Boardmembers Norm Borgerson, Charlie Doyle and Dave Austin.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by MYERS that the minutes of the January 7, 2002 meeting be approved as corrected.

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

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to excuse the absence of Councilmember Blough.

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

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

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

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (01/21/02)

GENERAL FUND	\$122,360.67
MAJOR STREET FUND	13,048.38
LOCAL STREET FUND	4.50
DDA FUND	448.06
CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION FUND	315.77
AIRPORT FUND	229.95
WASTEWATER FUND	180,515.37
WATER FUND	2,131.14
DATA PROCESSING FUND	947.49
EQUIPMENT FUND	1,559.57
CURRENT TAX FUND	97,589.76

Item #1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - 2002-2003 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS - PUBLIC HEARING. Kent County has informed the City that an estimated \$30,384.78 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds is available for various community projects beginning July 1, 2002. City Manager Pasquale recommended these funds be distributed as follows:

- North Hudson Street Sidewalk westside from West Main to North City Limits, replacing inadequate walk (474 lineal feet) and installing new sidewalk (765 lineal feet).
CDBG - \$30,000
- North Kent Transit assistance for senior citizen and handicapped riders.
CDBG - \$4,000
- Graham Building - assistance for new roof, total estimated cost \$40,000 encourage Lowell and Vergennes Townships Block Grant contributions.
CDBG - \$10,000

In consulting with Tom Tilma of the Kent County Community Development Department, the City may borrow ahead in next year's allocations to meet these established needs.

After receiving public comments, the Council may con-

sider allocation of these funds.

Evelyn Roudabush of 961 N. Hudson Street stated she had to pay for the sidewalk in front of their home years ago. Robin and Greg Briggs of 1004 Riverside Dr. were also present for the same reason.

Mark Baughman of 410 James Street inquired if there were other areas in need of sidewalks. Pasquale explained this area was determined after examining the Sidewalk Master Plan. There is only a limited amount available from the Block Grant funds.

Mayor Shores noted the sidewalk would be installed on the west side of the street only. Councilmember Pfaller sympathized with the residents noting he also had to pay for sidewalk installation in front of his home. However, he believed this came with residing in the City limits.

Pfaller stated he was concerned about the City using next year's money for this year. He did not want to spend into the future. Pasquale explained this is Block Grant monies rather than General Fund monies. Pfaller understood this. Councilmember Brubaker inquired if the City has borrowed against the upcoming year before. Pasquale responded yes. The City has done this the last few years. Brubaker inquired if there was a fee to borrowing ahead. Pasquale responded no.

Councilmember Myers asked if the City would save money by doing more sidewalks at one time. Pasquale responded yes, explaining the larger the project, the better the bids received.

Brubaker questioned if the City had heard from Lowell or Vergennes townships regarding Block Grant contributions. Judy Straub from the Lowell Historical Museum stated this is not a museum project. The Historic District Commission is involved.

Brubaker inquired if the money was allocated and for some reason these jurisdictions didn't participate, would the project still move forward? Pasquale was unsure. Straub noted the HDC applied for a grant, but did not know the amount. Councilmember Myers inquired if the recent sidewalk project had been completed without applying the formula for residents and City participation. Pasquale responded this was carried out along Bowes Road last year.

Pfaller asked if Block Grant monies could be used for a project such as the Wellhead Protection program. Pasquale was unsure.

Myers wanted the City to use a formula for the sidewalk project, which involved the property owners paying a portion. Pasquale explained if the residents were assessed, the City would have to interview every one of them to determine who would be considered low income. Pasquale noted the Block Grant would not have any individual special assessed who has a low or moderate income. Myers believed the City should remain consistent. Brubaker asked if there were any other situations when an individual was required to install a new sidewalk. Pasquale stated when there is new construction.

Brubaker inquired if the ordinance states if a sidewalk becomes in such a state of disrepair, the City can make residents install new sidewalks. Pasquale stated as of yet, this has not been required. Pfaller requested Pasquale make contact with individuals in the area to see what kind of resistance the City would receive from a special assessment district. Pasquale stated letters would have to be sent. Pasquale noted the funds could also be placed toward the street program.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by BRUBAKER to move forward with the North Kent Transit assistance program and the Graham Building roofing project with the remaining Community Development Block Grant fund monies being allocated for the North Division - Valley Vista streets project.

Myers felt like this would be placing the streets ahead of public safety. He did not believe this was the intent. The sidewalks are for children and believed these should be completed.

Roudabush clarified she does wish to see sidewalks. However, it should be done fairly.
YEA: 2. (Councilmembers Pfaller and Mayor Shores)
NAY: 2. (Councilmembers Brubaker and Myers)

ABSENT: 1. (Councilmember Blough)
TIE VOTE. MOTION DENIED.

Councilmember Brubaker explained he changed his mind and believed Myers had a good point. The sidewalks are in very bad shape and used by many.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve the Community Development Block Grant Fund proposals as presented for the North Hudson - Foreman sidewalk, North Kent Transit and Graham Building projects.

YEA: 3. (Councilmembers Brubaker, Myers and Mayor Shores)
NAY: 1. (Councilmember Pfaller)
ABSENT: 1. (Councilmember Blough)
MOTION CARRIED.

Pfaller noted he was against the motion simply because he did not want to spend into the future.

Item #2. 2000-2001 CITY, LIGHT AND POWER AND CABLE TELEVISION AUDIT PRESENTATION. Steve Thompson and Joe Turnes of Biggs, Hausserman, Thompson and Dickinson presented their firm's findings on last year's accounts and records.

On behalf of Steve Thompson and himself, Joe Turnes thanked the Council for allowing them to serve as auditors for the City.

Turnes noted the City Council should have two separate financial statements: One for Cable and Light and Power and one for the City of Lowell.

Turnes noted the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the City of Lowell - Light and Power and Cable Television Funds, as of June 30, 2001. This is considered an unqualified opinion. Essentially, this is a clean opinion. No significant deficiencies were found in performing the audit. This is the highest opinion auditors can give.

Light and Power
Turnes referred to the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings for Light and Power. The total operating revenues for 2001 was \$4,217,168. This is a \$47,000 increase from the previous year or about 1.1%.

The Total Operating Expenses of Light and Power for 2001 was \$4,188,000. Last year, it totalled \$4,067,000 or an increase of approximately \$121,000 or 3%. The total operating income was \$28,405. To this, the total interest income is added, the increase or decrease in fair market value of investments and the gain or loss on disposition of assets for a net income of \$192,000 in 2001. While the figure for 2000 was \$254,000 indicating a decrease of \$61,000, Light and Power still had a good year.

Lowell Cable TV
Turnes referred to the Statement of Income and Retained Earning for Lowell Cable TV. The total operating revenues for 2001 are \$860,000 while the previous year was \$773,000. This provided for approximately an \$87,000 increase.

The total operating expenses were \$925,000. This was a \$28,000 increase over the previous year. The operating loss was \$65,000. With the investment income and interest expense, along with the gain or loss on disposition of assets, it gives a total net income loss of \$80,591. Last year this amount was a negative \$131,591.

Turnes referred to the Comments and Recommendations letter. He pointed out the estimate of cash flows for the last three years for Cable TV. There are some substantial negative cash flow numbers. These amounts mirror the increase in the amount due to Light and Power and the decrease in cash of Cable TV over these three years. Obviously, this trend cannot continue. Effective July 2001, there was a \$3 basic Cable TV rate increase, which should increase revenues next year by approximately \$85,000.

Turnes believed there needs to be monitoring of the expenses of Cable TV for the year.

Councilmember Myers questioned Page 26 of the Cable TV statement. In the top 25% of the General Administration, there is a \$7,307 expense which is labeled bad debt expense. In the year 2000, this expense was \$20. Sawka explained the bad debt was not written off in the year 2000, but this was done in 2001.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Councilmember Brubaker questioned the Operating Expense from Light and Power. The expenses for Administrative and General went from \$49,997 to \$112,174. Sawka responded many of the expenses in the year 2000 were capitalized because of the software project.

City of Lowell
Turnes referred to the Table of Contents of the City's financial statements. The combined statement of revenues summarizes all the funds of the City and provides a good overview of how the City did as a whole. The details of all the individual funds of the City is shown in the back of the report.

Turnes referred to the Independent Auditor's Report. He noted it states the financial statement is the responsibility of the City of Lowell's management. The audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Turnes explained the City was given an unqualified or a clean opinion for the City. The financial statements are compliant with both Federal and State guidelines. A copy of the report would be submitted to the State.

General Fund
The General Fund represents the day to day operation of the City. The total revenue for 2001 was \$1,933,722. This was close to the amount from 2000, which amounted to \$1,933,229.

The total expenditures for 2001 were \$1,968,127 compared to \$2,000,922 for 2000. This had been a decrease in expenditures over the previous year.

The excess of revenues over expenditures shows the amount for 2001 to be \$921 compared to a loss of \$92,000 for 2000. This shows a substantial improvement in the General Fund. Also, when comparing the amount of \$921 with the budgeted loss of \$76,000, there was a good improvement over what the City was forecasting.

Turnes mentioned the records from the City, Light and Power and Cable TV speak very well for the City. Sue Olin, Char McNab and Mary Sawka do a tremendous job and should be recognized for their efforts. Steve Thompson referred to the GASB Statement #34 Implementation. This will change the format of the financial statement slightly. He explained the statement as being another layer on top of what is already provided. It will show an accrual basis accounting for the City as a whole. Currently, it is on modified accrual.

Presently, the Enterprise Funds depreciate the fixed assets. However, when GASB 34 is implemented, all the assets will be depreciated. The City as a whole will be presented more like a business. The way the accounting records are done will not change much. Each fund and budgets will still be examined individually. Thompson stated the City is in Phase Three of the implementation stage, meaning the City will be the last to convert. This will allow one to learn from others and see the process when the city is converted. Plus, cities in Phase Three do not have to go back and accumulate all the infrastructure which currently exists.

A management letter written by the City will be included in the GASB #34 statement. The City will have a management discussion and analysis letter included with the audit report. The letter should state what the City accomplished during the year. Thompson noted his firm would have input on the letter.

The State may allow some to not implement fully.

A capitalization policy does need to be in place. It is recommended the City establish a capitalization policy of \$1,000 - \$1,500. This will eliminate the need to account for and depreciate items costing less than the approved amount.

Thompson noted GASB stands for Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Brubaker inquired if this would apply to Light and Power and Cable TV as well. Thompson responded yes, because the departments are part of the City. But, it will not affect these Enterprise Funds due to already being fixed assets.

Myers questioned the purpose of switching over to GASB #34. Thompson explained the intent is to have the governmental accounting to be more like business accounting. With the depreciation, the intent is to deter-

mine what condition of infrastructure the City has. Further, there needs to be a determination of what kind of investments cities are providing in their infrastructure. Thompson noted this may or may not affect the bond ratings.

Mayor Shores thanked Olin, McNab and Sawka for all their hard and good work done throughout the year.

Item #3. STRIKING OF DELINQUENT PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES. City Treasurer Sue Olin has requested that two business' 1996 personal property taxes in part be stricken. As noted in Olin's memo, efforts which included contacting the business by phone calls, past due notices and personal calls have failed to produce results, even when turned to a collection agency

The City's portion lost is \$324.90. City Manager Pasquale recommended the City strike these taxes.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by MYERS to strike two business' 1996 non-collectible personal property taxes from the tax roll amount to \$324.90.

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

Pasquale noted Olin's collection efforts have been excellent on personal property taxes. This is a very small amount compared to what is actually collected.

Item #4. 201 EAST MAIN - GILMORE ENTERPRISES - REQUEST TO PURCHASE AND LEASE CITY RIVERWALK PROPERTY - RECOMMENDATION FROM DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. Councilmember Brubaker and Councilmember Pfaller noted they would have to abstain from discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Gregory Gilmore stated he met with the DDA last week. His request for property included three parts. The first was to have a small parcel sold to him. He received support from all members of the DDA with the exception of two. The second request was to have a portion of the Riverwalk leased to him or an easement given. Again, all but two approved of this. After much vocal opposition to each of these, Gilmore agreed he could have a one-year lease with a trial run. All DDA members agreed to this. Once he gave his suggestion more consideration, he began to have second thoughts. He explained he is looking for security. Gilmore wished to buy the small portion of property in order to always have outdoor seating, along with ADA handicapped access to his property on the side rather than in the front of the building.

Gilmore questioned if the City of Lowell had a policy regarding sidewalk easements for sidewalk cafes. Pasquale responded no. This is a new concept for the City of Lowell, but is one that is very well received in major cities. Pasquale noted everyone he has spoken with is in favor of outdoor dining, particularly along the Riverwalk. Pasquale explained the DDA has no problem with the idea of outdoor dining. There was just a concern about outright selling of property, due to the unlikely event of Gilmore not having his business in the future. Pasquale believed the business would help the downtown area. Myers inquired about the outdoor seating at the Antique Mall. He was sure this was in the City right of way. Pasquale stated this has been there for many years.

Myers questioned the handicapped access. Gilmore explained currently there is a ramp to the side door. This is all City property. He believed the ramp and railing are on City property and the property line went directly across.

Gilmore said he wanted to place the request back on the table to purchase the small sliver of property. He suggested having the architect lay out the property on a scale drawing exactly what he would wish to do. He also proposed the idea of laying out the actual property and then proceeding from there. Gilmore noted the City of East Grand Rapids and the City of Grand Haven have \$15 to \$25 permit fees annually for their sidewalk cafes. It is an amenity and is controlled by an ordinance. Such a permit is applied for on an annual basis.

By general consensus, the issue was tabled until the February 4, 2002 meeting.

Item #5. CITY HALL - POLICE STATION PROJECT - CURRENT REVIEW OF PROGRESS, PRESENT COST ESTIMATE, REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGE-

MENT FEE AND CONTRACT, FINANCING FORMULA AND CONSIDERATION AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO FISHBECK PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT. Architect Tom Smith from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber (FTC&H) updated the Council on the status of the project.

For the last several months, the firm has been working on the design and development phase in which the drawings were completed. Last fall Fishbeck examined further to decide what should be done on the outside of the building as well as the interior plans. Smith noted FTC&H has worked extensively with both Steve Doyle from the Historic District Commission (HDC) and City staff.

At this point, Smith had completed the design development and has finished all the City has authorized him to do.

Smith stated the estimate for construction last fall was approximately at \$5,250,000. This was much higher than previous estimates. Therefore, FTC&H has been working with staff to reduce the project costs. He noted Councilmember Blough, Public Works Director Dan DesJarden and City Manager Pasquale were very helpful in doing so. The overall construction cost of the project has now been reduced to \$4,373,496. The main changes include eliminating the ambulance area off the back of the police station, slightly decreasing the size of the common area, and delaying the construction of the second floor. There were also many items taken out of the building. This not only reduced the cost of the building, but also reduced FTC&H's design fees as well as the proposed construction management fees.

The last major phase of work to complete is the detailed drawings of the building. This needs to be done in order to seek bids in mid-May.

The second contract amendment provided for the design fees for the balance of the work. This included the detailed drawings, the bid process and then moving into the construction phase. The Construction Management Contract also needs to be considered. Smith noted City Attorney Richard Wendt has reviewed the contract and all of his comments have been incorporated into the contract.

Mayor Shores asked if anything was eliminated from the Police Station plans. Smith responded some areas have been made smaller. However, most of the space was taken out of the common lobby between the Police Station and the City Hall. Shores asked if the clock tower would remain. Smith responded yes.

City Manager Pasquale explained the detailed cost estimate to the Council. It included architectural fees, construction management fees and a number of allowances for furniture, totaling \$100,000. There is the possibility of encountering an underground storage tank near the Police Station site which would cost approximately \$10,000 and the possibility of having to remove asbestos, costing \$30,000.

Pasquale also provided a listing of other costs which involved primarily property acquisition. A total of \$704,625.14 in these costs has been calculated. A \$500,000 Building Authority bond issued in September, 1999 will cover part of these costs. The remaining amount will be reimbursed through the second bond.

A letter from Doug Crowley of FTC&H stated the construction management fee is 5% of the cost of work. Based on the current construction estimate of \$3,219,236, the fee is \$160,997.

City Attorney Richard Wendt reviewed the construction management contract and prepared a resolution for the Council to consider.

On Tuesday, January 15, Councilmember Pfaller, Public Works Director DesJarden and Pasquale had the opportunity to interview Rick Davis, who is proposed to be the Construction Manager. Davis has over twenty years experience in the field and was involved with the Englehardt Library project. Those present felt confident in his ability to perform well.

Several financing scenarios were run by Fahnestock and Co., Inc. (formerly First of Michigan). First, calculations were provided keeping the same 30-year bond proceeds of \$4.7 million. This was calculated at current rates and slightly higher (25 basis points or 1/4%), if the market changes. Under each, the millage stayed at 3.5 mills or

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

lower, except for the first few years. If desired, a General Fund contribution could reduce these to lower millage levies. The calculations were run in light of current fund deposit needs of \$4,577,121. Again, there were a few years where 3.5 mills had been exceeded, but General Fund contribution could be provided.

At its January 17, 2002 meeting, the Downtown Development Authority was approached regarding contributions. The Board decided to provide the equivalent of one mill reduction for the first year. Then, the issue would be reviewed on a yearly basis. This will mean reducing the millage levy to 2.5 for the first year.

With the contribution, the DDA would still have \$100,000 budgeted for capital improvements. Smith noted their estimate includes a 10 percent contingency in the budget for unknowns which may be encountered.

Consideration needs to be made on Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement. As discussed at the last meeting, this amendment to Fishbeck sets the fee for the balance of the design work, including the construction documents, bidding and contract administration. Brubaker asked to review the Construction Management agreement.

Pfaller inquired if the DDA indicated why they only wanted to contribute funds for one year. Pasquale responded the DDA is conservative with their dollars. Pfaller asked what the DDA's master plan consisted of for the future. Pasquale responded the Board may wish to extend lighting along West Main Street. There is also consideration of participating with the Showboat amphitheater upgrade.

Brubaker questioned the letter from Wendt which raised a couple of points with respect to the contract. One of which under Section 3.10 of the agreement identifies additional services for which the construction manager can charge over and above the construction manager's fee. Wendt recommends the City review these items.

Brubaker questioned the additional services noting there are 20 identified, which the City needs to pay over and above the construction manager's fee in order to procure those services. Crowley explained most of these are survey site evaluations. He noted nothing could be done without Council's authorization.

Brubaker inquired if these services were already provided for in the budget. Crowley responded the company does not anticipate the City would need such services. This is just to protect both the City and FTC&H. Brubaker stated Wendt also mentioned the City should check with the insurance carrier to confirm insurance coverage has been identified in exhibit 2A and 2B and is adequate. Pasquale noted this could be a contingency.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by PFALLER to accept the Construction Management agreement with Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber as prepared. YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr and Huber, Inc. YEA: 4. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #6. TRANSPORTATION BOND ISSUE. At its January 14, 2002 worksession, the Council reviewed several alternatives for reconstructing North Division Street with Dave Austin of Williams and Works. By consensus, the Councilmembers chose a 24 foot wide pavement with curb and gutter section from Grindle to 160 feet north of Avery called Option D. The road would be realigned north of High Street to correct the right of way encroachment at Grindle, but not centered. From Main Street north approximately 160 feet from Avery would be milled and resurfaced. The cost is estimated to be \$256,000.

The Valley Vista reconstruction project had been estimated at \$290,000. The engineering of the two projects is approximately \$75,000, giving a current total of \$621,000.

Several bonding scenarios were drawn.

City Manager Pasquale explained there was a bonding resolution, which authorized \$600,000 several months ago. At the worksession meeting, various scenarios were reviewed regarding N. Division Street. Pasquale recognized the concern about holding the line on construction cost. He did not feel comfortable about going to \$700,000. Presently, Pasquale recommended \$625,000. But, obviously since no bids are received, there's always the possibility of higher costs.

After the first year, annual debt service will be approximately \$57,000. The City is considering a transportation bond issue of 15 years. Allocations are proposed from the Local Street Fund and the General Fund for those debt service payments.

Pasquale stated if the Council wishes to move ahead with \$625,000 another resolution is needed. It was noted this would need to be advertised.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER and seconded by MYERS to approve a Transportation Bond Issue to \$625,000, and advertise the bonds for this amount with the knowledge that if the construction costs are actually less than that level, those funds would not be allocated. YEA: 4. NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED. By general consensus, the Council agreed to allow Williams & Works to move ahead with Option D for North Division Street.

Item #7. PROPOSED MAYORAL AND MAYOR PRO-TEM ELECTION PROCESS AS SUBMITTED BY COUNCILMEMBER PFALLER. Councilmember Pfaller stated after the initial meeting on January 7, 2002, he felt there was some Council division in positioning for Mayor. This would be eliminated and would let the voters of Lowell choose the Mayor as opposed to the board choosing the Mayor.

City Manager Pasquale stated he spoke with City Attorney Richard Wendt. Such a change would require a Charter amendment. This would initially have to be drawn by Wendt and then forwarded to the Attorney General's office for review. If the proper wording is then approved, the issue would be placed for an election.

Councilmember Myers believed the intent of the process used in the past is to rely upon the experience of the existing Council. Thus, the Councilmembers rely on the expertise and experience to pick a leader in which the Council can move forward toward the next two years.

Myers stated this would take the decision away from the Council and would mandate simply whoever received the most votes. While the process, at times, has been uncomfortable, he believed it is the best way.

Shores explained Pfaller's proposal, stating the elected Councilmember who receives the most votes will serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the first two years of his/her four-year term. The elected Councilmember who receives the most votes will serve as Mayor for the last two years of their four-year term. Shores felt maybe the only other alternative would be term limits, but she was unsure if this would be the way to go either.

Brubaker understood both sides of the issue. It is unpleasant when Councilmembers have to choose amongst themselves. He was unsure if the procedure should be based upon who received the most votes.

However, he did believe the proposal had some merit. Brubaker suggested making the second paragraph of the proposal more clear. He questioned what would happen if the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem resign after one year.

Brubaker wanted to receive input from the entire Council. Myers questioned the cost of a charter change. City Clerk Morlock stated if it were placed on the ballot for the upcoming election, it would be very costly. She explained when a local issue is placed on a regular election ballot, the City must then pay the cost of the election.

Whereas, by waiting until next year, it is strictly a Council election. Brubaker wanted to review the wording. Shores suggested the issue be tabled until the February 19, 2002 meeting.

Item #8. MONTHLY REPORTS. No comments were

received.

Item #9. CITIZEN COMMENTS. Robin Briggs was in favor of sidewalks being placed throughout Lowell. However, she found it troubling that she had to pay \$1,000 in 1990 for the installation of sidewalks. If she had waited until now, it would be paid for in full by the City.

Laurie Summerfield from 802 Shepard Drive inquired what the process was in order to receive a building permit in the City limits. City Manager Pasquale stated assuming no variances are needed, a building permit would be applied for through the building inspector. During the process, a check is undertaken to ensure there are adequate setbacks, appropriate lot size and proper ownership is shown. The Department of Public Works becomes involved with water and sewer availability. The issue of sidewalks is also reviewed. If a building permit is being sought in a multi-family, commercial and industrial district, a site plan review before the Planning Commission is necessary.

Summerfield did not believe such construction should begin without the notification to nearby residents.

Item #10. COUNCIL COMMENTS. No comments were received.

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

A. The following meeting minutes were provided:

- Airport Board meeting of December 4, 2001
- Chamber of Commerce meeting of December 12, 2001
- Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of December 8, 2001
- Downtown Development Authority meeting of December 13, 2001
- Walking Trails meeting of January 2, 2002

B. Judy Straub submitted a letter to the Council updating the activities of the Lowell Area Historical Museum. Councilmember Brubaker inquired if school children have gone through the museum. Straub responded the first tour with children from the schools would take place on January 22, 2002. She noted all of the Principals from each of the schools have been taken on a private tour. There have been some tours taken by the Cub Scouts and Senior Citizens.

It was noted Many donations of artifacts have been received.

C. Shepard Drive residents and representatives of Holwerda Builders will meet this Thursday to discuss issues related to the housing development. A report will be provided at the February 4 meeting.

Item #12. APPOINTMENTS. Mayor Shores stated Councilmember Jim Pfaller has offered to be the Council's representative to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Council agreed.

The following appointments were made:
Construction Board of Appeals: Ray Zandra, Dan DesJarden and Greg Canfield, reappointment to a term expiring January 1, 2004.
Building Authority: James Maatman, reappointment to a term expiring January 1, 2005.
Downtown Development Authority: Bob Ford reappointment to a term expiring January 1, 2006.
Downtown Historic District Commission: Greg Canfield and Robert Reagan reappointment to a term expiring January 1, 2005.

Shores noted she also received a phone call from Mayor Pro Tem Myers concerning the Zoning Board of Appeals. Shores appointed Dan Brubaker as Chairman. City Manager Pasquale noted Margaret Hoats does have an interest in being reappointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Shores reappointed her with an expiration date of January 1, 2005.

Shores noted a couple of letters have been received from individuals interested in serving on the Planning Commission. However, an adj just went into the Lowell Ledger and she wanted to give individuals a little more time to submit letters.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS to adjourn at 9:42 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, February 4, 2002

C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor
Betty R. Morlock, Clerk

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 (11841 Potters Rd.) east of Montcalm Ave. For dates and times call 897-5015. Guests are welcome.

1ST SUN. OF EACH MON.: Family Council of Laurels of Kent volunteer group meets at 3 p.m. to discuss enhancing the lives of residents & staff, promoting more pleasant living and working environment. Public invited.

TUES: Walking-exercise program at 9 a.m. in Grattan Twp. Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. No charge. Call Lana 691-8450 for info.

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

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

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Needlecraft Day at Grattan Twp. Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd., 1 p.m. following senior meal. Come knit & crochet or learn the craft. Get to know your neighbors. Call Lana at 691-8450 for info.

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 7:00 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 (both men & women) meets at V.F.W. Clubroom, 307 E. Main St., Lowell, 7:00 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: Walking-exercise program at 9 a.m. in Grattan Twp. Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. No charge. Call Lana 691-8450 for info.

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 meets 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. 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" (senior adults) meets at Franciscan Life Process Center from 1-3:30 p.m. \$10 per week. Transportation available. Call Pat at 897-7842.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Kent County Youth Fair Board meets at 7:30 p.m. at King Memorial Youth Center at the Fairgrounds. Call 897-6050.

EVERY SECOND WED.: Grand Rapids Machine Knitters Club meets at Kentwood Library, 4799 Kalamazoo Ave. - 1 p.m. Sara Coates 365-1247 or Bette Frieswyk 949-8655.

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

EVERY FOURTH WED.: Elderly volunteers needed for Intergenerational program with school-age children from Lowell in activities. Times: 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 THURS.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops MI No. 333, Saranac, meets at Saranac Library. Weigh-ins at 6:45 p.m.

THURS.: Weight Watchers meets at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, at 5:30 and 7 p.m. Registration begins 1/2 hour before meetings. New members invited to join. 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: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30 - 8 p.m. 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club examines theater-related topics, creative and personal development skills. Meetings at Lowell Middle School choir room. Info.: 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 THURS.: Saranac Community and Area MusicMakers at Saranac High School. Choir: 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.; Band: 7:30 - 8:15 p.m. Call Kathy at 642-6316/897-5981 for info.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents-support group at Franciscan Life Process Center offers topics and discussion for 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. Located at a church in Ada. Please call 752-8300 for more information.

FRI: Walking-exercise program at 9 a.m. in Grattan Twp. Hall, 12050 Old Belding Rd. No charge. Call Lana 691-8450 for info.

SECOND SAT. OF EVERY MONTH: The Ada Historical Society meets at the Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley at 1 p.m.

SECOND THURS. OF EACH MONTH: Genealogy - Alto Family Tree Club at Alto Library 6:30 - 8 p.m.

SECOND SAT.: Lowell Amateur Radio Club @ Lowell High School 9 a.m. social gathering; 10 a.m. meeting. LARC sponsors the 145.27 MHz area radio repeater system.

EVERY FRI. & SAT.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley open 1 to 4 p.m. Open other times by appt. Call 676-9346.

LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOURS: - Tues., Sat. & Sun.: 1-4 p.m.; Thurs., 1-8 p.m. Families: \$10; individuals \$3; ages 5-17 \$1.50; members are free.

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed., Thurs. & Fri.: 12-6 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 897-2037.

ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. - Wed., 12-8 p.m.; Thurs. & Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE MOOSE: Business meeting held the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

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

THURS., FEB. 7: Wrestling freestyle sign-ups at Cherry Creek from 6-8 p.m. Bring your birth certificate.

THURS. & FRI., FEB. 7 & 8: Lowell Senior Parents: Class trip May 23, 2002 - Payments for the senior party will be taken during lunch periods; also each Friday in Feb. thereafter. Cost is \$100 in full or by installments or send check to treasurer, Carol Drenth at 10200 Bennett, Lowell, Mich. 49331.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 02-172 911-DA

Estate of EVELYN J. SLUPE Date of Birth: 06-20-40

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, EVELYN J. SLUPE, who lived at 838 Diamond N.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan died Nov. 19, 2001.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to AARON SLUPE,

1050 Sargent Ave. S.E., Ada, MI 49301, named personal representative, or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa, N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

SCOTT B. MARTIN (P-49829) 5859 Castle Brook S.E. Kentwood, MI 49508 (616) 281-4566

Aaron Russell Slupe 1050 Sargent Ave. S.E. Ada, MI 49301 (616) 676-1243

Do I contradict myself? Very well then, I contradict myself. -Walt Whitman

Seminar course has students all wrapped up in sports medicine

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

As aspiring doctors, Rachel Bender and Eric Hasso view their introduction to sports medicine as a precursory course for college.

"I want to be a doctor and this is the closest I can get to it in high school," said Hasso, a Lowell High School sophomore.

Both students have been surprised and heartened by the amount of hands-on educational training they've received.

"I really thought there would be more lecture and less hands-on training," Bender explained. "I've seen and helped with a lot of interesting injuries (e.g., sprained ankles, knees, shoulder injuries, and twisted arms)."

The pass-fail course is designed to peak the curiosity of students in sports medicine.

The 15 students who signed up for the course offered during seminar are required to put in a minimum of 65 hours. This includes lectures, labs and volunteering their time after school and/or assisting Lowell sports trainer, Patty Sellner at sporting events.

"Fifteen is a great number, considering I've had probably only five kids show an interest over the previous five years," Sellner explained.

The class instructs students about the anatomy and how it works; about muscles and bones and injuries related to them; how to tape ankles and reasons for taping; exercises for strengthening the ankle, and rehabilitation and treatments.

The course is team-taught by Sellner and Lowell physical education teacher, Bob Rodenhouse. "I think initially many people thought it would be a blow-off class during seminar. Instead it is a very wise use of time for students. If a student is serious about medicine or sports medicine, this is a great class to learn a little before moving on to college," he said.

Senior Colleen Myers, who is considering studying physical therapy in college, says the course has been an opportunity for her to experience a little bit of what she may be studying in the fall.

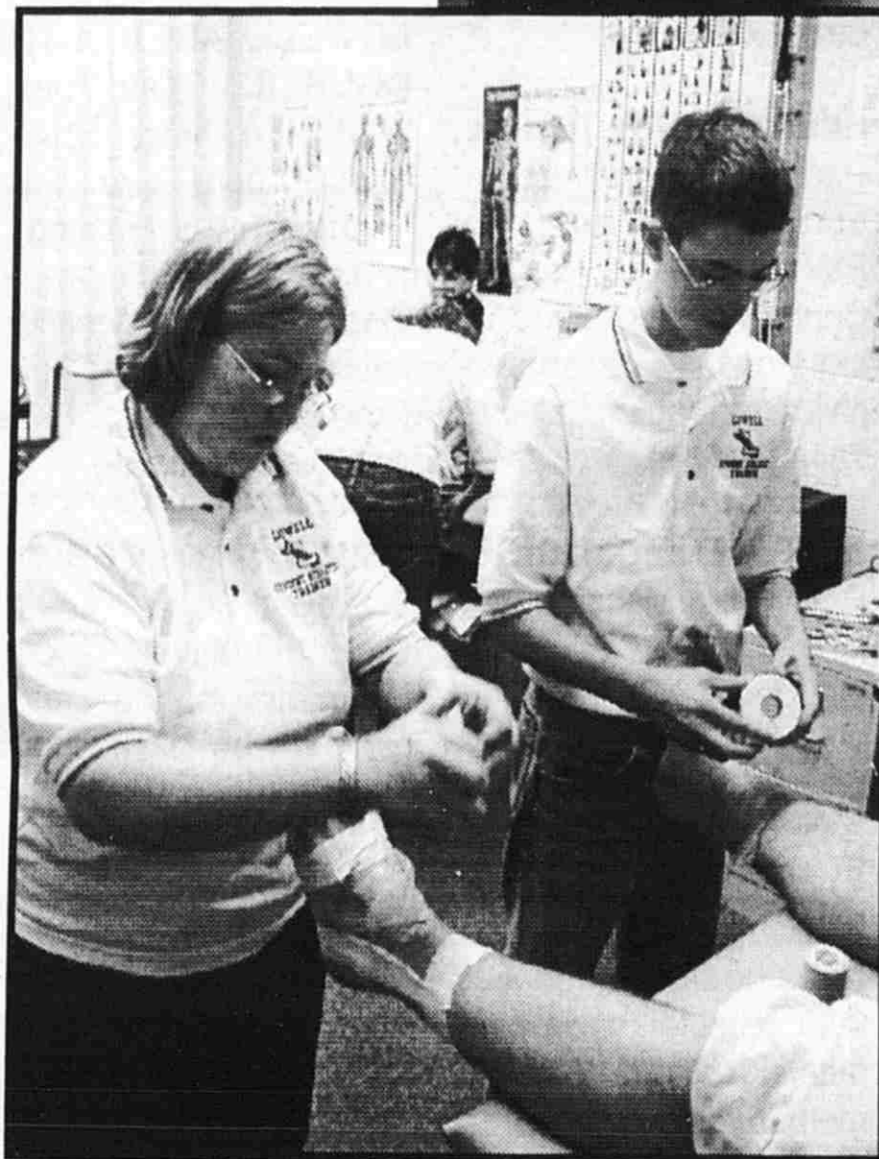
"The hands-on opportunity has been great. This has not been a blow-off class," Myers says.

Myers' attitude about the class is similar to that of her classmates. "It's a class they took on through their own choice and they like being here," Sellner said.



Lowell High School athletic trainer, Patty Sellner, standing third from the right, co-teaches an introduction to sports medicine with LHS physical education teacher, Bob Rodenhouse. The class is taught during seminar; 15 students signed up for the course.

Apart from information dispensed by Sellner and Rodenhouse and the hands-on experience, a shared respect has been fostered between the students and the athletes. "I think the students in the class have a greater respect for the athletes and I think the athletes gain a mutual respect for the student trainers and what they are able to do for them," Sellner explains. Students of the sports medicine class learn, see and then are able to apply what they've learned in a hands-on situation. "That process has added to the learning curve significantly," Sellner concludes.



Rachel Bender and Marc Wernet, students in Patty Sellner's sports medicine class, wrap the ankles of Lowell wrestler, Ben Fleet.

Red Arrow gymnasts third at Kenowa Hills Invitational

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

If Saturday's Kenowa Hills Invitational is any indication, the dual meet Wednesday between Lowell and Rockford gymnasts should be a dandy.

The two teams' scores have been within a couple of points of one another all season, with Rockford holding the slight edge.

"It's going to be a pretty good meet," said Lowell gymnastics coach Michele DeHaan. "It's going to be close."

As was the two teams battle for second place at Kenowa Hills on Saturday.

Forest Hills Central won the invitational with 140.975 points. The Rams were second with 136.6, followed by Lowell's 134.275. Catholic Central/West Catholic followed with 134 and Cadillac was fifth in the 10 team field with 132.8 points.

The individual all around battle was also close with Rams' Danielle Couturier edging Red Arrow Holly Plattner 35.65 points to 35.6.

Lowell's Melissa Neubecker was seventh overall at 33.5.

Plattner placed in the top four in all four exercises. The Red Arrow earned top honors on the vault with a score of 9.3. She was second in the floor exercise to Couturier (9.4) with a 9.35 and tallied an 8.8 (third) and 8.15 (fourth) on the balance beam and uneven bars respectively.

As a team, Lowell followed Plattner's lead as they shined brightly on the beam and in their floor routines.

"We had an excellent day in both events," DeHaan said. "Their floor routines are really coming together and between our top four gymnasts on the beam, there was only one fall."

Neubecker was seventh overall with a mark of 8.65 on the balance beam. She was followed by Krystal White 8.5 and Jenna Dickerman 8.15.

"Our beam scores were excellent. I was very happy with the girls' performance," DeHaan said.

It marked the first time since White's ankle injury that she has competed in all four events. With the exception of senior, Katie Blough (out for the season with a knee injury), all Red Arrow gymnasts are healthy again.

Neubecker was eighth overall in the floor exercise with an 8.8. White scored an 8.65 and Carmen Datema finished with an 8.55.

On the uneven bars, Neubecker came off with a 7.825, White recorded a 7.425 and Dickerman finished up with a 7.275.

Lowell's coach repeated her call for more difficulty. "We have to add some difficulty to improve our bar scores," DeHaan said.

On the vault, White tallied an 8.4 followed by Neubecker's 8.3 and Datema's 8.1.

Lowell travels to Rockford on Wednesday (Feb. 6). The Red Arrows will make up their meet against East Grand Rapids on Monday, Feb. 11. The meet was cancelled on Wednesday due to the death of Jimmy Gerkin, a longtime resident of East Grand Rapids.

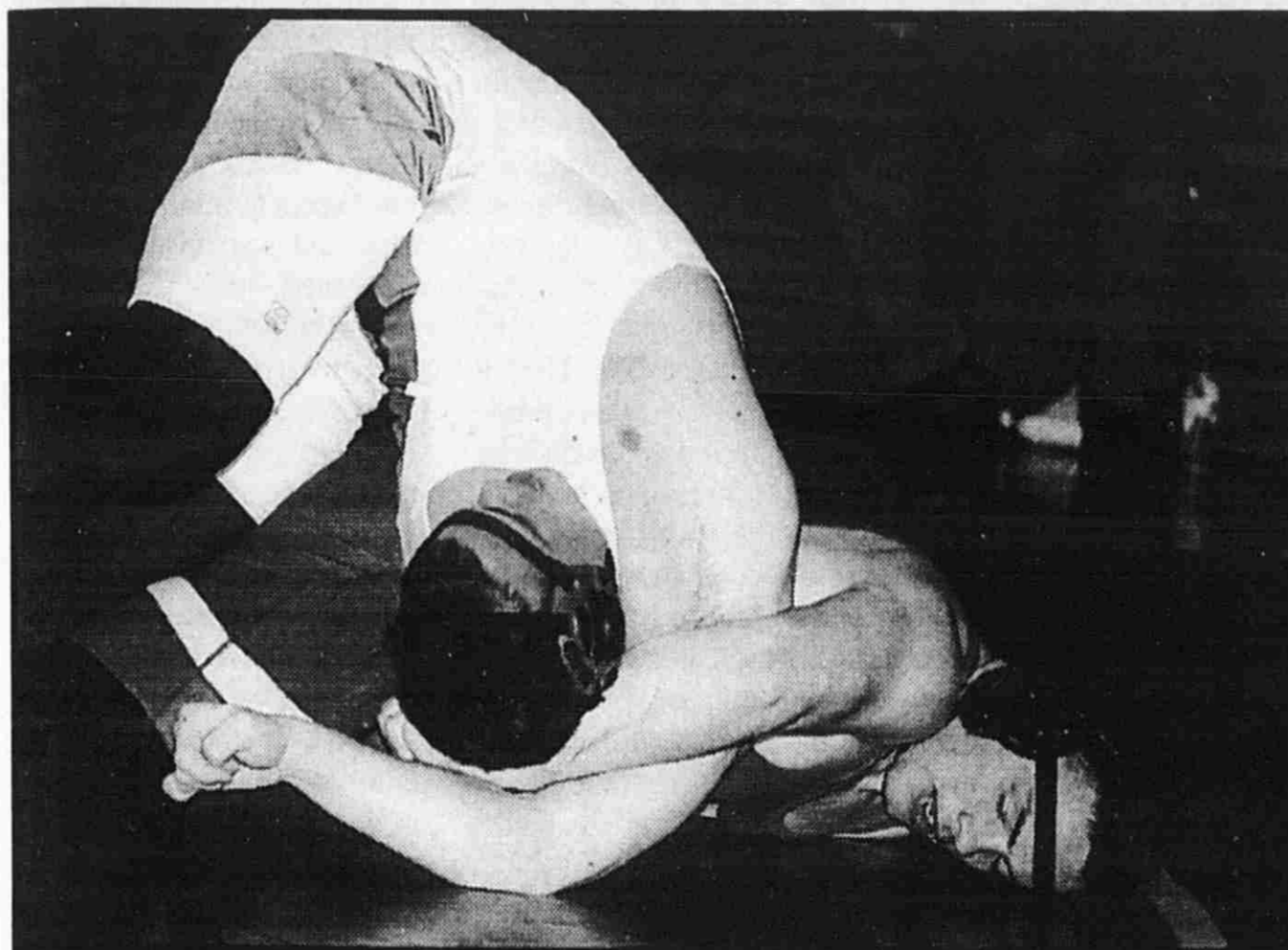
Lowell MYWA Folkstyle Wrestling

Lowell Invitational Tournament

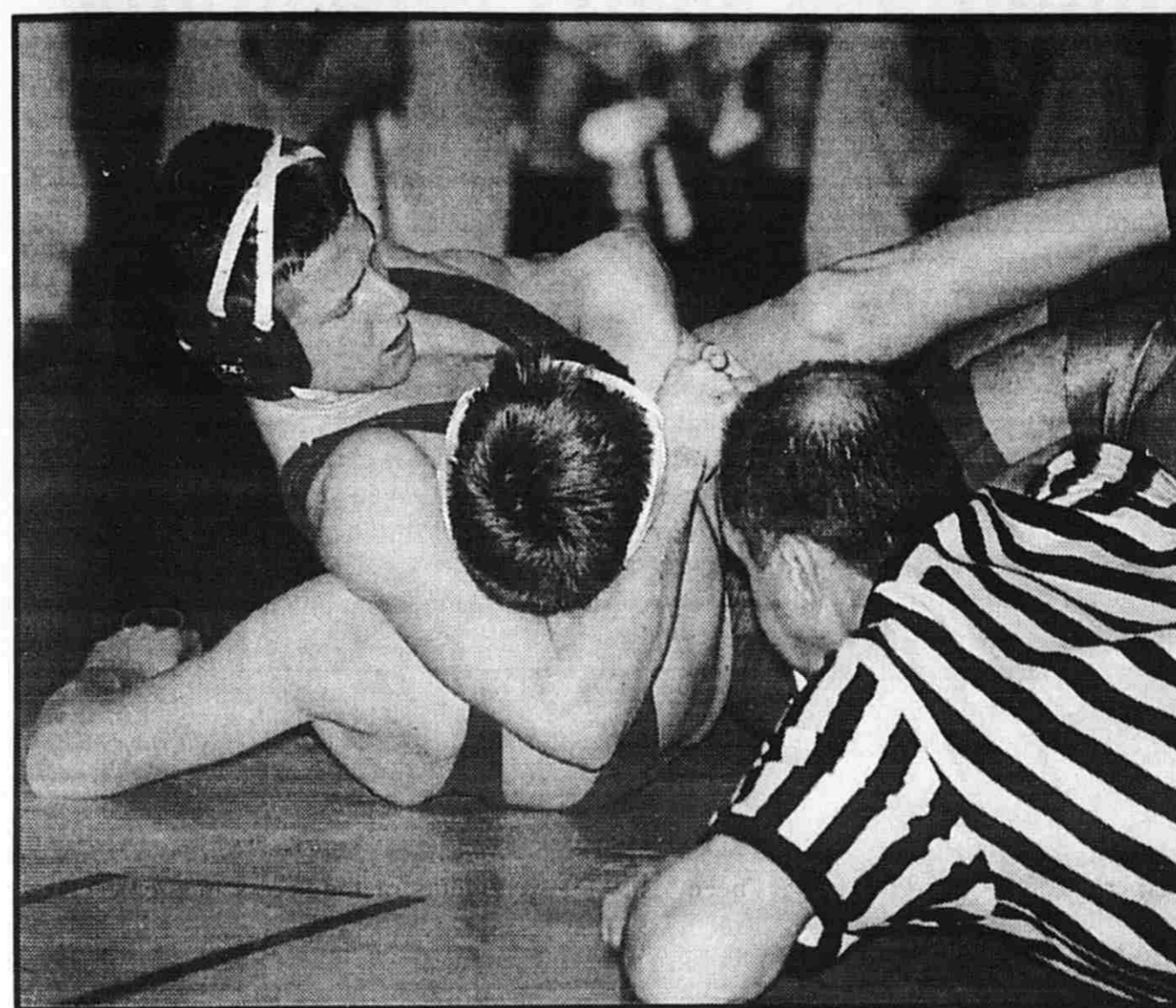
Ages 5 & 6		
Zeth Dean	43 lbs	1st
Tad Rodgers	43 lbs	3rd
Jacob Stephens	46 lbs	3rd
Chad Martin	49 lbs	3rd
Bailey VanAmburgh	52 lbs	3rd
Newt Longway	52 lbs	4th
Jacob Sweet	55 lbs	1st
Jesse Karker	55 lbs	3rd
Nick Longway	55 lbs	4th
Ages 7 & 8		
Derek Krajewski	40 lbs	2nd
Martin Brubaker	43 lbs	2nd
Tristan Bray	43 lbs	4th
Cody Bieri	55 lbs-A	2nd
Kanon Dean	55 lbs-B	1st
Kyle Wierzbicki	55 lbs-B	3rd
Michael Anible	55 lbs-B	4th
Jordan Drake	67 lbs	1st
Ages 9 & 10		
Sean Greenhoe	67 lbs	2nd
Conner Stroude	100 lbs	1st
Jacob Murray	HWT	2nd
Ages 11 & 12		
Cody Grim	90 lbs	3rd
Mark Ford	95 lbs	2nd
Josh Drake	95 lbs	3rd

Fleet wins 100th; Lowell wrestlers dominating at Goodrich

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor



Ben Fleet picks up his 100th career win against Richmond on Saturday at the Goodrich Invitational.



Lowell's Beau Wilder uses this headlock to subdue his foe.

Ben Fleet's high school wrestling progress has plodded along like a tank - slow and steady.

"A lot of all-staters have come through this program. Most of them were blessed with natural talents. Not Ben, he's worked with a dogged determination for everything he's got," said Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc.

His progression won't stop until he's wrestled his final match - it started as a freshman in the varsity lineup. He's been there ever since. Fleet and Ben Vaught are the only two Lowell wrestlers to wrestle in all three state championship matches.

Saturday at Goodrich, Fleet caught up to the 100-win plateau. He now holds a career record of 100-62. The Red Arrow was 6-19 after his first year and has posted a 94-43 record over the last three years.

"Four years ago I didn't think winning 100 matches

was possible. The difference now is I have an offense. Now, I'm doing the pinning," said Fleet.

The senior was one of four Lowell wrestlers who worked their way through five matches Saturday without a loss, running his individual season record to 33-1.

Besides Fleet, Ian DeRath, Brandon Kinney and Joe Mendez also accomplished the feat.

Bobby Gingerich, however, 4-1 on the day, earned outstanding wrestler of the day in the B Pool.

"Bobby beat some good competition," Strejc explained. "He beat several all-state wrestlers."

Gingerich's only loss (3-0) came to Richmond's all-state wrestler, Ken Thomas.

Lowell, 28-4, defeated Lake Orion 51-13, Goodrich 60-21, Armada 64-10, Swartz Creek 53-19 and Richmond 58-18.

"We're beating some good teams. The scores reflect how good we are," Strejc said. "Swartz Creek is a regional

champion this year if not for being in the Lapeer district. Richmond was wrestling without four of their starters due to some minor injuries."

Richmond defeated Center Line earlier in the day, a club Strejc feels Lowell could see in the state quarterfinal.

"It's grind time. The boys are wrestling with more of an urgency. We're getting there - it's peak performance time," Strejc says. "We'll make some final technical adjustments and then let the boys wrestle - hopefully working toward a nice crescendo."

The Red Arrows' last stop before the districts is the O-K White Conference meet at Forest Hills Central on Saturday.

Strejc's biggest concern is not the results. "I want to see our guys wrestle to their potential. If they do that, everything else will take care of itself," he said.

Lowell's wrestling match with Hudsonville was rescheduled for Thursday, Feb. 7 at Northview.

CITY OF LOWELL

KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN

AMENDED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS TO ELECTORS AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF LOWELL, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, SECURED BY THE CITY'S FULL FAITH AND CREDIT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CITY OF LOWELL intends to issue transportation fund bonds in a maximum amount not to exceed \$625,000.

The bonds shall be issued for the purpose of defraying all or a portion of the costs of reconstructing, resurfacing and improving (including in some cases curbs, gutters and sidewalks) various major and minor streets, including, but not limited to, Valley Vista Drive between West Main Street and Donna Drive and North Division Street between East Main Street and Grindle Drive all within the boundaries of the City of Lowell (the "Improvements"); and

The bonds to be issued shall mature within the maximum term permitted by law with interest on the unpaid balance at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law. The bonds shall be issued by the City pursuant to Act 175 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1952, as amended ("Act 175").

SOURCE OF PAYMENT

The principal of and interest on said bonds shall be payable from the State of Michigan collected taxes returned to the City for street purposes pursuant to Act 175, Act 51 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1963, as amended, and other applicable law. **AS ADDITIONAL SECURITY FOR THE BONDS, THE CITY WILL PLEDGE ITS FULL FAITH AND CREDIT SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY AND CHARTER LIMITATIONS.**

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

The bonds will be issued without a vote of the electors unless, within 45 days from the date of publication of this notice, a petition, signed by not less than 10% of the registered electors residing within the City limits of the City of Lowell shall have been filed with the City Clerk, requesting a referendum upon the question of the issuance of said bonds with the full faith and credit pledge of the City as additional security, then the bonds secured by a full faith and credit pledge of the City shall not be issued until approved by the vote of a majority of the electors of the City qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

This Notice is published pursuant to the requirements of Section 5(g) of Act 279 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1909, as amended.

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
City of Lowell

Lowell hoopsters surprise East

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Winning a basketball game on the road in the tough O-K White Conference is a difficult thing to do.

Lowell's boys basketball team learned Tuesday night (Jan. 29) that it is also a lot of fun.

The Red Arrows, in their best 32-minute performance of the year, exploded past East Grand Rapids 68-56.

Lowell led by as many as 22 points in the second half before a late Pioneer rally cut the deficit to 12.

"It was encouraging to watch us shoot at the rim and then see the ball go in," said Lowell coach, Jeff McDonald, making reference to the shooting woes his club has struggled with this year.

"Our offense created confidence for us tonight and I think we played better defen-

sively because of it," McDonald said.

A 25-point second quarter explosion propelled Lowell to a 40-23 halftime lead.

Shooting was just part of the reason for Lowell's success. "We obviously shot well, but we also defended the post well against their big guy and we didn't give up many second-chance shots," McDonald explained.

"And we did it against a conference opponent who has been playing well as of late."

Sam Oberlin led all Lowell scorers with 24. Mark Biener netted 16 and was lauded for his post defense against a much taller Jamie Smalligan (6'10"); Bill Harrison scored 13 points, 11 of which came in the second quarter and included three triples.

"This club needs to win some conference games. It hasn't gotten a lot of satisfaction from its nonconference wins," McDonald said. The win improved Lowell's league record to 2-5 and overall record to 5-8.



In Tuesday's rout over the Pioneers, Lowell led by as many as 22. Pictured above is Zach Beachum.

OUTDOORS

By Dave Stegehuis



One day Gwen and I were sitting in deer blinds overlooking fall brown oak ridges, enjoying relatively mild temperatures; four days later, we were skiing into a cold north-west wind over an all-white landscape on two feet of fresh

snow. It seemed then that muzzlerloader season was weeks ago instead of only days. The abrupt change affected people and wildlife in ways that required an immediate life-style adjustment. Survival became serious busi-

ness for wildlife in the woodlands and motorists on the highway. It was also time to shift gears and pursue winter-time activities.

The sudden abundance of snow brought out just about everyone who owned a pair of skis. The parking lot was busy at Seidman Park on Conservation Drive east of Ada. Seidman provides a convenient venue for local cross country skiers. The area is managed by the Kent County Parks Commission and features six miles of trails divided into three major loops. My trail atlas recommends a

skiing ability level of novice to advanced. Frankly, there are some difficult sections of trail found on each of the three loops. The terrain features some steep hills where the skier encounters tight turns and trees which are uncomfortably close to the trail. One section winds through a low swampy area with pot holes and exposed tree roots. Blow-downs occasionally block the trail.

The park is a multiple use area, so the trails are frequently used by walkers. The glide tracks made by skiers are usually broken down by walkers and dogs. Despite rules that require dogs to be leashed, not everyone complies, and we occasionally

had to dodge loose animals when making downhill runs. The park is a wonderful place to observe a variety of plant and animal life in a secluded natural setting. Snowshoe tracks left by folks getting off the beaten track disappear into the heavily wooded landscape. Honey Creek flows through the property and the hiker or skier can cross the stream on a rustic foot bridge. Ice forms along its banks and snow clings to the rocks and logs in the swift current to create scenery typically found on Christmas cards. I have observed the tracks of a variety of animals meandering through the hardwood ridges and brushy low-

lands. When ski conditions are favorable, constant human traffic motivates the more timid creatures to remain hidden during daylight hours. Birds and rodents don't seem to mind the company and scurry about unconcerned.

Parking lots on Conservation Drive and Honey Creek Avenue each have a sheltered picnic table and vault toilet. Water is not available. There is no charge for park use.

Seidman Park is one of many opportunities we have in this area to enjoy nature firsthand. It's convenient to get to and you can't beat the price.

Spartan Stores, Inc. announces heart screenings

Spartan Stores, Inc. is proud to announce the availability of heart-related screenings during the month of February in cooperation with local health partners and area hospitals. The screenings are available at selected Family Fare Supermarkets, Great Day Food Centers and Prevo's Family Markets locations and Grand Valley Pharmacy and Forest Hills Pharmacy.

Family Fare in Lowell will offer the screenings on Thursday, Feb. 28 from 9 a.m. until noon.

"These heart screenings

demonstrate Spartan Stores' dedication to serving our customers' healthcare needs," says Don Clark, divisional vice president of pharmacy for Spartan Stores, Inc. "Spartan Stores invites area residents to take advantage of this community service for healthy heart screenings."

The types of heart-related screenings available are cholesterol/HDL levels, blood pressure, diabetes and coronary risk assessment. Screening costs are \$9.99 and participants will receive confidential results.

In addition to the screenings, heart healthy education materials will be available to provide information on heart disease risks and prevention. According to current estimates by the American Heart Association, over 60 million people in America have one or more forms of cardiovascular disease (CVD). These diseases claimed 949,619 lives in 1998. Heart disease continues to be the number one killer of men and women. Both medication and food/lifestyle factors are part of the necessary treatment.

Lowell icers skate past E. Lansing

The Lowell JV hockey team improved its record to 8-4-3 this past weekend with a 6-1 win over East Lansing.

John Truszkowski, Ted McCoy, Kyle Austin, Will Holland, Brandon John and Pat McMahon each scored for the Red Arrows. John also carded 4 assists, McMahon added 2 more, while Austin and McCoy each contributed one assist to round out the offensive effort for the cooperative Lowell/Caledonia JV team.

A collaborative effort from goaltenders, David Maylone and Brian Maul held East Lansing to a lone first period goal to seal the win for the Red Arrows.

The Lowell JV team will be on the ice again next Saturday, Feb. 9 at Standard Federal Ice Center at 10:00 a.m. when they take on Okemos.

LHS honors its February students of the month

Each month during the school year, five different departments at Lowell High School honor an outstanding student in that particular subject area. The students of the month for February are as follows:

Christine LaFave was selected by the Art Department. LaFave, the daughter of Ronald and Janine LaFave, is a junior. Her extracurricular activities include fall and winter cheerleading, all school play, golf, International Club and Amnesty International. Her favorite classes are Western Civilization and Art. LaFave's teacher nominator says that she is known for outstanding art work, a wonderful attitude and a willingness to always help others.

Tim Vezino was chosen by the Math Department. A sophomore, he is the son of Jay and Saralyn Vezino of Lowell. At L.H.S. Vezino is a member of the golf team and participates in ATYP Math. In addition, he is em-

ployed at Deer Run Golf Course. His favorite classes are AP Calculus and Engineering Drawing.

Patrick Regan is being honored by the Music Department. Regan, a junior, is the son of George and Linda Regan of Lowell. Regan's extracurricular activities include jazz band, pit band and tennis. He is employed at Meijer. His other interests include piloting and working on airplanes. His teacher nominator says that Regan is one of the leaders in the band - a drum major, first chair in Symphonic Band and also is playing in the pit band for the school musical.

Jenny Wagner is the English Department's choice. She is a senior and the daughter of Sid and Susan Wagner of Lowell. She has played soccer for L.H.S. for the past four years and has received all-conference and all-district honors for her efforts. Her favorite classes are Spanish and Teacher Practicum. Next year Wagner plans to attend

Albion College. Her teacher nominator says she may be a very quiet person, but she is an exceptional writer. Her ability to interpret literature is very impressive and she does an exceptional job writing essays about what she has read.

Darcie Clements was recognized by the Science Department. A senior, she is the daughter of Tim and Debbie Clements of Lowell. Her extracurricular activities include Science Olympiad, Environmental Awareness Club, Art and Drama Club and was also the stage manager for Lowell High School's production of "The Wizard of Oz." Next year Clements plans to study animal biology at G.V.S.U. Her teacher nominator says she has consistently excelled in the wide variety of science classes she has taken. She has also been a very valuable member of the Science Olympiad team, earning several medals in competition and is instrumental in the Environmental Awareness Club.



Students of the month for February are, front row, left to right: Christine LaFave, Darcie Clements and Jenny Wagner; back row, left to right: Patrick Regan and Tim Vezino.

KDL hosts book discussions

The Englehardt branch of the Kent District Library invites adult readers to get together at the library on Tuesday, Feb. 12 at 10 a.m. for a friendly informal discussion of the book *Holes* by Louis Sachar. Copies are available at the checkout desk or by calling 897-9596.

For information on other branches and book titles, call the Kent District Library at 784-2007.

IN THE SERVICE

Army National Guard 2nd Lt. **Todd C. Herrick** has graduated from the Army Quartermaster Officer Basic Course at Fort Lee, Petersburg, Va.

The officer received instruction to perform duties and responsibilities of a Quartermaster Corps lieutenant to function as platoon leader capable of performing common soldier skills and entry level technical skills. Special training phases included general material management, leadership, supplies and field services, petroleum, water and

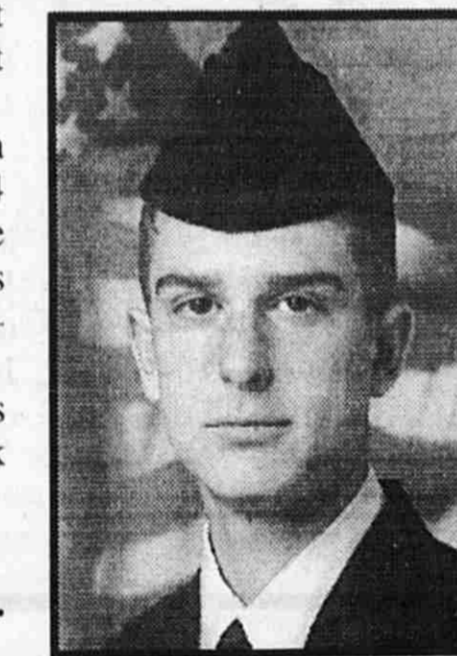
substance management. The lieutenant will be assigned as a petroleum laboratory officer with Detachment 2, 638th Aviation Support Battalion in Elkhart, Ind.

Herrick received a bachelor's degree in 1994 from Bowling Green State University and a master's degree in 2001 from the University of Notre Dame, Ind. He is the son of James Herrick and Glenna Herrick of Alto.

Airman **Christopher B. Cook** graduated from Basic

Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, on Jan. 25, 2002. He will be continuing his military training at Sheppard AFB, also in Texas.

Cook is a 2001 graduate of Lowell High School and the son of Brian and Pamela Cook of Ada.



COLLEGE NEWS

Jennifer Wisner has been included on the Central Michigan University's dean's list for the fall 2001 semester.

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Tax Season is Here - Are You Ready?

If you're like most people, you've probably had some experience with getting your taxes done just before the clock ticks down on April 15. Of course, it's human nature to put off tasks that aren't much fun, but last-minute tax returns often lead to stress and mistakes - some of which can be costly. That's why you'll be doing yourself a favor by starting your tax preparation early.

What can you do to get off to a good start this tax season? Here are a few ideas:

Plan how you'll do your taxes

If you're going to do your taxes yourself, you have two basic options. First, you could take the old-fashioned approach and use paper, pencil and calculator. Second, you could use a commercial software package. A good program will walk you through the steps you need to take, provide you with help if you get stumped, do all the math and show you deductions that you may not have noticed.

Consider using a CPA

You may want to hire a certified public accountant (CPA) to do your taxes. The

expense may be worth it, particularly if you have a complex tax situation. An experienced CPA, who is obviously well informed on changing tax laws, can help make sure you get all the deductions and other breaks that you're entitled to. And, over time, your CPA will become familiar enough with your situation to suggest possible moves you can make throughout the year to improve your tax picture on April 15.

Organize your tax-related documents

No matter which method you choose to prepare your taxes, you'll still need to gather all the key information. You'll find it very useful to set up files for the vari-

ous tax-related categories: charitable contributions, interest paid, medical expenses, investment expenses, union dues, tax preparation fees. If you're self-employed, make sure to keep the receipts for all business-related expenses. • *Become familiar with tax-law changes*

The Economic Growth & Tax Relief Act of 2001

makes far-reaching changes in the tax system. For starters, as of July 1, 2001, you may have entered a lower tax bracket. Plus, your child tax credit rises from \$500 to \$600, effective in 2001. Other changes - such as increased contribution limits for IRAs and 401 (K) plans - go into effect in 2002. Your tax advisor can inform you about any tax changes that may affect you. You can also learn more about tax changes by browsing through the various Web sites devoted to financial matters.

Get some help from Uncle Sam

Even if you're doing your taxes on your own, you're not really alone. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) can actually be quite helpful in answering your tax-related questions - if you know where to look. To obtain a list of publications produced by the IRS, call 1-800-829-3676 and follow the prompts. You can have forms sent to you via the mail, Internet or fax. To get detailed information on dozens of tax topics, call the IRS Tele-Tax line at 1-800-829-4477.

By taking these few simple steps, you can improve your tax - season outlook - and maybe even your outcomes.

Gilmore: "purchasing the city property provides us with security"

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Showing no sign that it opposes selling a portion of city property adjacent to the proposed bistro location at 201 E. Main, the city will advertise and take bids on the property in question.

"Our ordinance states city property must be sold on a

bid basis," city manager Dave Pasquale said.

Greg Gilmore, Gilmore Enterprises, told Lowell's City Council that purchasing the land to square off the lot line is a necessity.

"The success of the business is predicated on seating outdoors. Purchasing the property provides us with security of always having out-

door seating available and handicap accessibility," Gilmore explained.

Pasquale said he thought the bidding process could be completed by the March 4 meeting when the council could accept a bid. In determining the value of the property, the assessor will set the minimum acceptable bid.

Lowell councilman, Mike Blough said he was in favor of facilitating the process as quickly as possible for

Gilmore Enterprises for the proposed "destination bistro."

Gilmore proposes leasing a 12 by 40 foot area from the city. It would be utilized for an outdoor patio fully enclosed with a wrought iron fence or something approved by the DDA and it would be removable.

The outdoor cafe would seat approximately 50 people.

Public hearing set for rezoning issue

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's City Council set a public hearing for its Feb. 19 meeting on a proposal to rezone an area between High, James, Grindle, Fun and the east city limits.

The proposal put forth by

Sundry Development Consulting recommended zoning be changed from SR (suburban residential) to R-1 or R-2 (residential).

The change would allow the development of a single family housing division (greater density) at 751 Grindle.

Under an R-2 zoning, 71 homes could be built on 31 acres, which Sundry has under option. It would bring more affordable housing into the city and contribute to the city's tax base.

Many area residents objected, stating traffic, road conditions and utility costs as major concerns.

The planning commission recommended against R-2 because of traffic, road conditions and citizen input, but it supported R-1 by a vote of 4-1 with one abstention. R-1 requires a minimum of 9,750 square feet of land area and 1,500 square feet of floor area.

Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.

—William Shakespeare, All's Well That Ends Well

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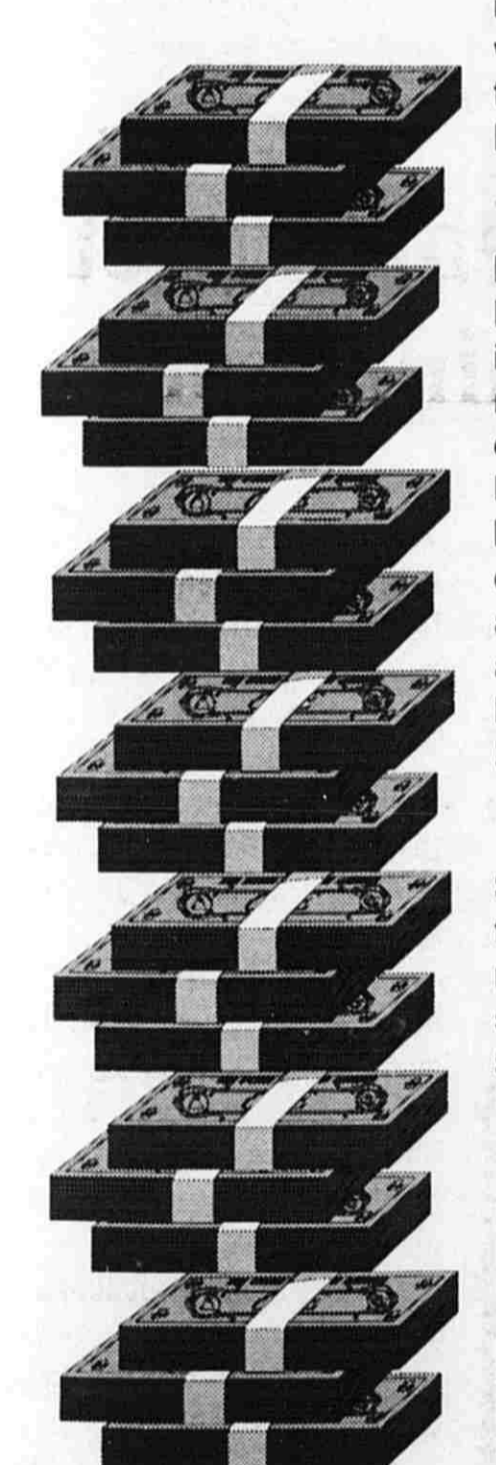
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Nominated by LAAC
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We would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support shown to us during this time of sudden loss of our mother, Doris Ellis. A special thanks to Rev. Gordie Barry for the personal tribute to our mother, to the UMW for the wonderful luncheon, all who provided the special music at the service, all the friends, relatives and neighbors who provided food and comfort, the generous contributions to the church, cards, phone calls, flowers and visits. All the expressions of your sympathy are deeply appreciated. The spirit of "Mom" is greatly reflected with the response of this community.

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FOR SALE

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
FOR SALE - 1989 SABLE - V6, auto, lots & lots of new parts. Good winter car, over \$1,500 invested. Will sell for \$800 obo. Call Kevin, 987-9293, anytime.

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
LOST - Orange/gold kitten. Declawed. Vicinity of Bowes Rd. Belongs to senior citizen. Call 897-9317.

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
WE HAVE 4 DIFFERENT BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM!

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
SECOND HOME DAY CARE - 3 immediate first shift openings, infant thru 5. Lots of fun and daily activities! Excellent references. Alto elementary area. Rena Williams 868-7301.

Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway
Lowell

3 DAY ONLY SALE

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY



U.S.D.A Choice
Premium Monfort Angus
**Boneless Beef
Round Steak**
pound

1.49

SAVE AT LEAST 1.90 LB



California
**Broccoli or
Cauliflower**
bunch

.99

SAVE AT LEAST .70



Kraft
Easy Mac
12.9 oz. wt.

2/\$3

SAVE AT LEAST 3.30 ON 2



Nestle
**Cookie
Dough**
18 oz. wt.



1.79

SAVE AT LEAST 1.20



Chi-Chi's
**Tortilla
Chips**
12 oz. wt.

Buy One,
Get One
FREE

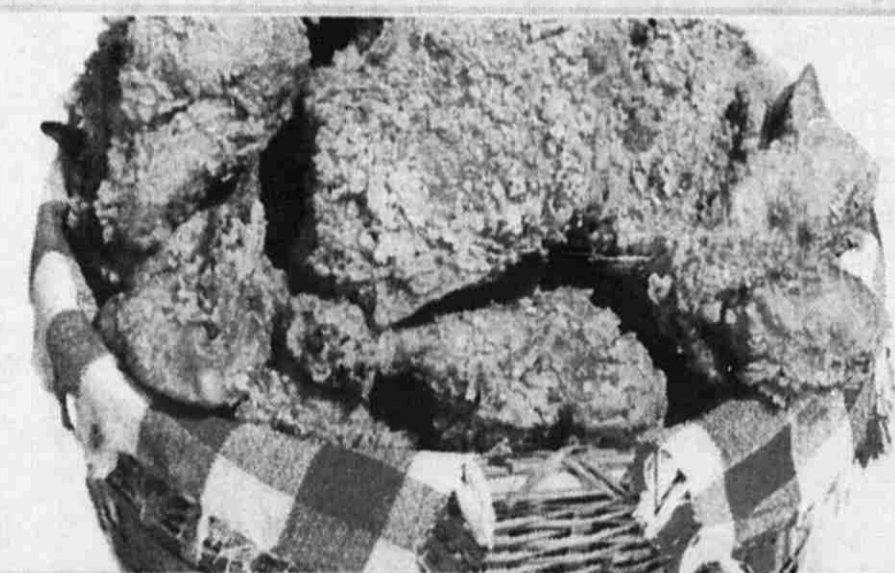
SAVE AT LEAST 1.99 ON 2



Gold Medal
Bleached Only
Flour
5 lb.

.59

SAVE AT LEAST .80



FROM THE DELI

**Fried
Chicken**
8 piece

3.99

SAVE AT LEAST 4.00

Prices Effective Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 7, 8 and 9, 2002

We reserve the right to limit quantities and are not responsible for pictorial or typographical errors.

FAMILY FARE

2153 West Main Street, Lowell, MI

SUPERMARKETS



Visit us at www.servingyoumore.com