

The Lowell Ledger

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Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Musical cast dances comfortably into production of Cinderella

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Last year, children from the audience were selected to be part of the cast from the munchkin land scene in Lowell High School's presentation of the "Wizard of Oz."

Lowell play director, Tod Nyson has planned a surprise for each of the six shows of this year's musical production "Cinderella."

"I like to add a little surprise, a twist, for the audience," Nyson said. "This year, each night, a leader of the community has been selected to participate in the play," Nyson explained. "The community leader will be the minister in the wedding scene at the end of the play."

"Cinderella," as with all musical productions, presents its own challenges. With "Peter Pan," it was the special effects; with the "Wizard of Oz" it was the costumes; with "Cinderella" it's the dancing.

"There is a lot of dance. It takes this production to another level," Nyson explains. "The whole cast dances and sings."

Nyson, who can sing and act, says dancing is out of his league. "I have two left feet. I put Kim Nyson (wife) in charge of dance choreography. She's done a nice job."

Along with having a lot of dance, "Cinderella," a love story, also provides humor and plenty of music.

"The kids have been incredible. Working with them has



Cinderella opens on Thursday at the Lowell High School Performing Arts Center. Pictured to the left are Brittany Huisman as fairy godmother, and Megan Nyson as Cinderella.

Back in October, 98 students tried out for the play. Only 34 were selected. Trimming the cast down to 34, Tod Nyson recalls "was the worst and most difficult job in the world."

Nyson continues, "The competition was incredible. There is just so much talent here in Lowell."

Filling the roles of the main characters are Megan Nyson as Cinderella; Brad Eldridge as Prince Charming; Ben Vaught as King; Kristen Lee as Queen; Megan Fleet as stepmother; Mandace Tawney and Lena Dhayni as stepsisters.

This year's costumes were designed by Patty O'Haire and Nancy Wood.

"The production is big and the kids are pumped. We sold out all three of the evening shows last year and expect to do the same this year," Nyson said.

Tickets, purchased in advance for the evening shows (March 21, 22 & 23) are \$7 for adults and \$6 for students and senior citizens. The play begins at 8 p.m. The Saturday matinee begins at 1 p.m.

All tickets purchased at the door are \$7.

been unbelievable. They are a mix of students - from athletes, to student class leaders," Nyson explains. "They are all quick learners."

Kim Nyson seconds that thought. "Teaching the dances has not been as difficult as I thought because the kids have been so eager to learn the waltz, the gavotte and the Irish dances. Not only have they been eager to learn but they want to be good at it."

Kim Nyson gave kudos to Christie Getz for providing Irish dance instruction.

Lowell EXPO opens Saturday

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The sixth annual Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce Community EXPO will provide a venue in which area

agencies) "We're roughly 10 above last year," Baker said.

The booths will cover everything from remodeling a house and volunteer oppor-

police station renovation; and the Lowell Area Fire Department will showcase its new fire truck.

Throughout the day, entertainment will be provided



residents can leisurely gather information on a multitude of topics as well as drop off sports equipment for the use of other community members.

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

The opportunity will be enhanced March 23 as the event grows to 100 vendors (businesses, service groups, churches and government

tunities to money for college education.

The expansion of vendors will make it necessary to set up booths in the high school auxiliary gym.

The YMCA will have space to show off some of its exercise equipment; Lowell Little League will provide opportunity for last-chance sign ups; LASSO will give kids a chance to kick things around and have their kicks' velocity measured by a radar gun; the city of Lowell will display plans for City Hall/

by Generation Jacob & Christian Life Center as it presents EKG Rhythm of the Heart & Praise Band; Lowell's beginning strings group; the high school Men's Club; and "Ringspiration," the First United Methodist Church of Lowell's handbell choir.

The annual Chamber event will run from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Proceeds will go toward the cost to market and advertise the event. The remaining funds will be used for the operation of the Chamber office.

Landon Companies seeks rezoning of Vergennes Township property for development

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Vergennes Township is the latest area municipality confronted with either fending off development advances by Landon Companies or working with the developer to create a high-end manufactured home community.

Vergennes represents the third area municipality which Landon has approached. It has been turned away by Bowne Township and is currently involved in a legal battle with Grattan Township. Cascade Township also fended off a manufactured home development (not Landon).

John Truscott, representing Landon Companies, went before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission seeking rezoning of the property at Vergennes and Lincoln Lake from R-A to R-3 because of the high density nature of the project. Landon

has an option on the property which is currently owned by Jim Cook Jr.

R-3 lots already exist within the township, but the developer has determined them unsuitable for several reasons: the sites are too small; too close to the airport or railroad; and public utilities are not available.

"Landon Companies believes this property is the best and only location for this

manufactured home community," said Truscott.

In presenting a financial impact study which the development would have on the township and school district, Joseph Katz, of Katz & Associates, estimated the revenues would cover the estimated cost.

When asked what a \$75,000 mobile home owner would pay in property taxes.

Landon, cont'd. pg. 9



OBITUARIES

BUCK - Dorthea Ann (Dotty) Buck, of Cascade, went to be with her Lord on March 12, 2002. She is survived by her daughters Paula Buck Beak of Cascade and Deborah Buck DeJonge of Ada, along with son-in-law Dr. Robert DeJonge; grandchildren Jordan, Reid and Paige DeJonge; niece Ruth; nephews David, Mark, Robert and Charles;

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The residents of Vergennes Township will hold an Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 30, 2002, at 1:00 p.m. There will be opportunity for residents to comment on any issue regarding the state of the township. The 2002-03 budget will also be reviewed.

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

Mari C. Stone
 Vergennes Township Clerk

NOTICE TO THE CITIZENS OF LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND THE PUBLIC

In accordance with Public Act 168 of 1959, as amended, the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on March 25, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell Township Hall, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue S.E., Lowell, Michigan. The purpose of the hearing will be to consider comments on the 2002 Master Plan for Lowell Charter Township. This proposed Plan is intended to serve as a guide to the future development of Lowell Charter Township and contains recommendations about future land use and methods to implement the Plan.

Anyone wishing to comment on this Plan is invited to attend this meeting. Copies of the Plan may be reviewed at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue S.E., Lowell, Michigan 49331.

John Cornish, Chairman
 Lowell Charter Township
 Planning Commission

sister-in-law June. She was preceded in death by her son Brian Alan Buck and brother Robert Brammer. Dotty was a glossy model for the Barbizon-modeling agency for several years in New York City in the late 40's, in addition to studying at Columbia University. Her community contributions were many and varied which included her work with the Child Study Club at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell, Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts 4-H, American Cancer Drive and later academic tutoring and teaching swimming. Funeral services were held on March 15 at O'Brien-Eggebeen Gerst Funeral Home.

CRAYCRAFT - Evelyn M. Craycraft, aged 93, of Lowell, died Wednesday, March 13, 2002. She was born October 22, 1908, near Trivoli, Ill., and raised near Glasford, Ill., by her parents, Elmer E. Prior and Goldie Mae Prior. She joined Copper's Creek Church near Glasford. She married Allen Von Craycraft on March 2, 1927, in Peoria, Ill. While residing in Peoria, she worked for Block and Kuhl's Department Store as a card department manager. She moved to St. Paul, Minn., and continued working for 20 years as a claims clerk, then later as head records clerk before retiring from St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Co. She

was involved with geneology research of her family history. Preceding her in death are one son Donald Craycraft, her parents, and two brothers. Surviving her are one daughter and son-in-law Nona and Howard Wirt of Ada; one sister Leatha Cowser of Mapleton, Ill.; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two nieces and two nephews. A visitation was held at Roth-Gerst Chapel on Friday. Services and inurnment were held at Park Hill Cemetery in Bloomington, Ill., on Monday. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimers Association.

OSTER - Robert L. Oster, aged 67, of Ada, passed away March 16, 2002. He is survived by his wife Dana; children Cindy (Don) Nunn of Hudsonville, Robert (Sharon) Oster of Muskegon, Ken (Mindy) Oster of Lowell, Kathee (Steve) Meinke of Kent City; grandchildren Laura (Matt) Holman, Kevin Nunn, Ashley, Reece, Casey and Cody Oster, Kyle, Blake and Tyler Meinke; brother Norman (Lynda) Oster; sisters Diane (Mack) Craig and Dortha (Bob) Naugle; brother-in-law Dr. William (Sylvia) Stotler; sister-in-law Sandra (Terry) Ressler all of Pennsylvania; mother-in-law Milly Stotler of Florida; also many nieces and nephews. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered Wednesday at noon at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Parnell, Rev. Ronald Hutchinson, Celebrant. Interment Findlay Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Holland Home Care and the American Heart Association.

 The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.
 —Ralph Waldo Emerson

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ANNUAL REPORT OF PRIVATE FOUNDATION NOTICE

The annual report of the Lowell Area Housing, Inc. Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2001 is available for inspection at its principal office, 725 Bowes Road, Lowell, Michigan during regular business hours by any citizen who requests within 180 days after date of this notice.

Dated: March 20, 2002

Phillip H. Schneider, Jr.
 President

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Vergennes Township Board has adopted an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance on March 11, 2002.

Ordinance 2002-3 amends Article IV General and Special Regulations to add section 201.434

201.434 Height Exceptions
4.34 Church spires or steeples shall be exempt from the height regulations in all zoning districts so long as they do not exceed 85 feet in height.

The amended text of Ordinance 2002-3 is on file at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671**, and is available for public inspection during regular business hours.

This ordinance shall become effective eight (8) days after publication unless a notice of intent to file referendum is filed within such time and, if so, then these changes to the ordinance shall take effect at such time as is provided by MCLA 125.282 as amended.

Mari C. Stone
 Vergennes Township Clerk

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Lowell Charter Township Assessment notices were mailed the week of March 5, 2002. Therefore we are adding an extra day to the Board of Review. Appointments will be taken for March 25, 2002 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

You may appeal your assessed valuation in one of two ways:

1. By letter addressed to: Lowell Charter Township Board of Review Attn: John Timpson, Supervisor 2910 Alden Nash S.E. Lowell, MI 49331 and be received by him prior to March 22, 2002, or
2. By phoning the Lowell Charter Township Hall at 616-897-7600 for an appointment to appear in person.

John Timpson,
 Supervisor



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ENTERTAINMENT

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FREE ADMISSION

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Beginning Strings Group

The Men's Club from Lowell High School

Hand Bell Choir - First United Methodist Church of Lowell - Ringspiration

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 D & C Carpet
 D & D Fabricating
 Dawn Borup Photography
 Decorate with Shannon featuring Home Interiors & Gifts
 Dery Physical Therapy Services, PC
 Digital Image Signs & Graphics
 Diversified Pressure Clean
 Edward Jones Investments - Chris Godbold
 Erb Lumber
 Fallasburg Historical Society
 Fifth Third Bank
 Fireplaces Plus
 First Class Auto Center
 First United Methodist Church of Lowell
 Flat River Outreach Ministries, Inc.
 Galaxy Signs & Awards
 Gary's Meats/JS Homestyle - Kristina Laux
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 Good Times in Lowell
 Great Lakes Paving
 Greenridge Realty, Inc.
 Harding Enterprises/Harding Asphalt Mtn. & Paving
 Harold Zeigler Ford
 Hooper Printing
 Independent Bank

Ionia County National Bank
 J.B. Harrison Insurance Agency
 James C. Veen Observatory
 Kent County Youth Fair
 Klutter Bug
 Kodiak Construction L.L.C.
 LASSO - Lowell Area Select Soccer Org.
 Litehouse, Inc.
 Lowell Area Arts Council
 Lowell Area Fire Department
 Lowell Area Historical Museum
 Lowell Area Hunger Walk
 Lowell Area Jaycees
 Lowell Area Schools
 Lowell Calvary Christian Reformed Church
 Lowell Church of the Nazarene
 Lowell City Directory
 Lowell Education Foundation
 Lowell Light & Power and Cable TV
 Lowell Lions Club
 Lowell Little League

Lowell Police Department
 Lowell Rockford Ambulance
 Lowell Senior Neighbor Center
 Lowell Township
 Lowell YMCA
 Lowell Youth Football
 Master Creations
 Michigan State Police
 Modern Photographics
 Natural Stone Carpets @ Floors by Design, Inc.
 North Country Trails Assoc.
 Ollie's Roasted Almonds/Risner's Roofing
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 PartyLite
 Paws with a Cause
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 RE/MAX Country Hills
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 Regal Financial Group
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 Rich's Service Company
 River Valley Credit Union
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Reflections Of Faith

Rev. Tim DeShaw
Church of the Nazarene

This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: "Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message." So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. (Jeremiah 18:1-4)

ions and restores us. This is the story of Easter. It is about God taking broken lives, and touching them, changing them, and restoring them. He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to buy back marred vessels, to reshape and restore them through His redemptive love.

Vosburgs celebrate 55th anniversary

Ernest and Alma (Stiles) Vosburg of Ada will be celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary on March 21, 2002.

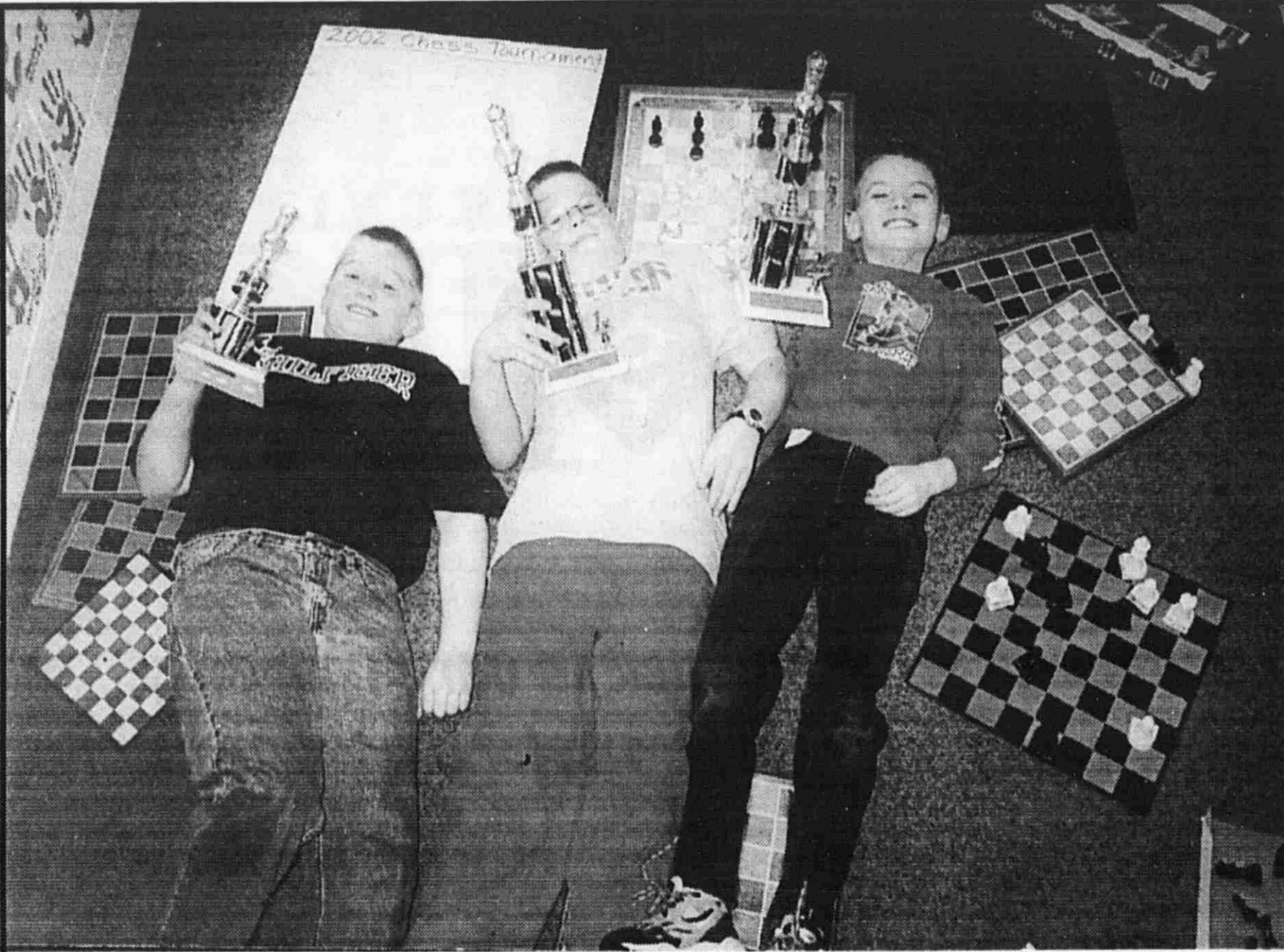
Celebrating with them will be their four children and their families: Jerry and Verle Sharp of Mulliken, Gary and Jackie Phillips of Saranac, Bert and Herman Vosburg of Ada, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Cards may be sent to 8755 Bolt Dr., Ada, MI 49301.

The prophet Jeremiah relates this story to us to teach us about God. This parable helps us to understand God's incredible patience and ability to take a life that is marred and make it over again. This parable is such good news to those who find their lives ruined, their dreams dashed, and their future filled only with hopelessness.

The potter is God, and the lesson here is that God is a God of second chances. He has more than one plan. Like the potter, He has a plan: a dream for our lives, but our rebellious nature, and refusal to be pliable forces the Master to go in a different direction. He could just throw us away; a hard piece of clay, unusable. But God, like a skilled potter, takes our lives in His hands, and gently shapes us as seems best to Him.

This parable teaches us two things about God. First, we see Him as the Creator. He made us, knows all about us, and gently fashions us, preparing us for life's journey. The second point is when our lives become marred, He does not discard us, but puts us back on the wheel and refash-



Uneasy Lies the Crown...

Eighty-five fifth graders participated in Cherry Creek's third annual chess tournament. This year's winners are, left to right: Tom Alberts, third place; Steve Maier, champion (Brent Noskey's class), and Chris Bilski, second place (Cindy Young's class).

Lowell Knights form "Squires' Circle"

The Lowell Knights of Columbus Council 7719 and St. Mary's Catholic Church are proud to announce the official formation of our new Squires' Circle.

A Circle is a fraternal order, sponsored by a K of C Council for young Catholic boys ages 10 to 18. Any Catholic boy in this age bracket may join a Circle regardless of the Parish in which they belong.

In addition, the fathers of the Squires do not have to be a

K of C member in order to join. The Circle will organize and conduct activities throughout the year including church events, lazer tag, camp-outs, fundraisers and community events. A Circle's primary goal is to help young men live their lives as Jesus Christ did, through charity and faith.

Anyone interested in joining the Circle may contact Bruce Langlois, Joe Sejat or Phil Lindstrom in the Lowell directory.

People seldom become famous for what they say until after they are famous for what they've done.

Cullen Hightower

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY



CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL
Rev. William J. Renkema - 897-7050
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

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.....9:50 A.M.

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

EVERGREEN MISSIONARY CHURCH
10501 Settlementwood • Ph. 897-7185
Sunday School.....9:45 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11 A.M.
Evening Service.....6:00 P.M.

Prayer and Praise - Wed., 7:00 P.M.
GLENN H. MARKS - Senior Pastor, 897-9110
STAN GERIG - Associate Pastor, 897-5894
ALL ARE WELCOME!
(Barrier-Free)

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)
3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert W. Holmes, Pastor
Jonathan Walker, Youth Pastor
Jason Greer, Children
Stacy Peters, College & Twenties
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
Generation Jacob Youth: 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fr. George J. Fekete
402 Armitay St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 P.M.; 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

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
10305 Bluewater Highway (Missouri Synod)
Halfway between Lowell & Saranac on M-21
www.iserv.net - goodshep
Sunday School.....9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship.....10:00 A.M.
(Nursery available)

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

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

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Phone: (616) 897-1267
website www.aplighthouse.com

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.

PASTOR TIM DESHAW
Staffed Nursery Provided
Barrier-Free Entrance

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL
(United Church of Christ)
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Dr. Roger LaWarre.....Pastor
Megan MacNaughton.....Music Director
Barrier-Free.....Nursery Provided
Come Join Us For Praise & Worship

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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

ALTON BIBLE CHURCH
Lincoln Lake Ave. at 3 Mile Road
897-5648
Sunday School.....10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A.M.
Evening Praise.....6:00 P.M.
Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.
(Sept. - April)
Prayer and Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.
Pastor Ken Ford (Home) 897-6418
YOU ARE WELCOME!

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LOWELL
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



Viewpoint . . .



cozy corner by Roger Brown

I heard a joke on the radio the other day. The announcer said there is a new bumper sticker making the rounds. It says, "Honk if you wrote Doris Kearns Goodwin's last book." Perhaps I should explain. Ms. Goodwin is a noted historian and author. She recently resigned from the Pulitzer Prize Board of Directors amid speculation that some of her work wasn't totally original. In other words, she plagiarized someone else's stuff. In the future I should stay up for Jay Leno's monologue and steal jokes from him. At least his jokes wouldn't need explanation.

Had I known plagiarizing someone leads to resignation, I would simply have copied Dave Barry's weekly column years ago. When caught, I would have resigned as a Ledger columnist. Think of all the sleep I could have saved by not getting up early every Tuesday morning for 25 years!

What got me going on this plagiarizing kick was an e-mail from my daughter. It was this funny comparison of a woman's

bathroom habits and those of her mate. I had saved it in the pile on my desk for use as a column when I didn't have a cute story about my grandkids to relate.

Only one problem . . . my wife cleaned my desk and apparently threw out my piece to be plagiarized. Now I figure I'm off the hook. The way I see it, if a person is retelling a story from memory he can never get it exactly the same. Therefore, it can no way be construed as plagiarism. It's the same rationale that us chubby people use when we don't count the calories in broken cookies.

The piece went something like this:

When preparing for an event, a woman will spend an unlimited amount of time beforehand selecting her attire. This may include shopping, cleaning, pressing and coordinating each piece of the "outfit" to be worn. Prior to her preparatory toilet (imagine the word using a fake French accent and you will think of the verb, not a piece of porcelain), she will inventory her entire wardrobe to be sure the new outfit is the one she will wear. Chances are, it isn't.

With her chosen outfit neatly laid out on the bed, she disrobes. Her clothing is folded and returned to a drawer or neatly hung in the closet. Her socks and undergarments are sorted by color and placed in the hamper. She immediately dons a terry robe in case her husband might enter the room.

In the bathroom she applies a cucumber-banana-melon-guava-scented facial peel and begins a minute inspection of her manicure and pedicure. She carefully repairs any flaws, making sure she uses the matching shade of "crimson strawberry flash" nail polish they sold her at the salon.

The peel comes off and an overly critical inspection of her face begins in the mirror. The robe is removed and neatly hung on a hook behind the door. The same overly critical inspection is made of her body. She quickly wraps herself with a large towel when her husband bolts in looking for the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit edition he thinks he may have left by the commode.

The shower begins with two thorough shampoos and rinses using a color-safe mango, grapefruit, orange peel, lemon juice, semi-organic shampoo from the special shop in the mall. A cream rinse from the same shop is applied to her hair. It is a watermelon, asparagus, rhubarb and cauliflower concoction with added iguana egg yolk for extra luster.

The body soap contains Himalayan yak milk extract,

honey, and dandelion sap. A special long-handled scrub brush is used for her back. Scruffy sponges are used on her elbows and knees. A small brush is used on the cuticles. An extra absorbent 300-thread-count terry washcloth is used on the rest of the body. The iguana egg yolk is rinsed out.

The wife carefully towels off in the shower, squeezes the shower walls and door, applies spray to ceramic surfaces. She steps out of the shower being careful to stay on the bath mat and neatly hangs her towel to dry. The ritual goes on and on through more critical exams in the mirror and a step on the scale. Then there is the application of make-up, deodorant, lotions and powders. All this followed by the drying and coiffing of her hair. Finally, there is the donning of clothes, jewelry and accessories. All of which can become an experience unto itself.

Enter the husband. He pulls his dirty T-shirt over his head and tosses it on the bed. He then drops his pants and underwear to his ankles. With a deft kick they end up in a wad on the bed. He raises both arms to signal a successful field goal. The sneakers are kicked into the corner. He parades past his wife, stops, turns to a full frontal and does a little dance while saying something romantic like . . . "hubba, hubba, hubba." He heads for the bathroom, passing gas on the way.

He turns to a profile in the mirror, flexes his biceps, sucks in his gut and remarkably, likes what he sees.

In the shower it's a quick once-over with baby shampoo. His mom got him started using it long ago. He again passes gas and laughs out loud at the amplification in the shower. He lathers up with whatever's-cheap bar soap. He uses no washcloth at all. He quickly rinses off, steps out of the shower and proceeds to the sink where he drip-dries on the floor. There he lathers his face with Foamy, shaves with a Bic razor, splashes on Aqua Velva and rubs Right Guard in his armpits. These are all products he's been using since high school and easily found at the grocery store. He combs his hair, gives his teeth a once-over, grins at himself in the mirror and passes gas.

He dresses in less than two minutes. He again passes gas and heads downstairs to watch Battle-Bots while his wife finishes her toilet in peace.

I brought up the plagiarism thing at the beginning for a reason. If you thought this piece was entirely original, you would get the impression that this is the way things are at our house. You might be right.

By Priscilla Lussmyer

Ledger Entries

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

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO SOLO MARCH 24, 1927

A delegation of Ionia businessmen goes to Lansing and wins the promise of eight miles of paving, connecting Ionia to the new US-16, and therefore with paved roads from Grand Rapids to Detroit.

Ledger circulation this week is 1800.
Dr. and Mrs. S.S. Lee entertained at their home on Riverside Drive with a three-course meal, followed by bridge with 12 tables occupied.

The Elmer Richmonds spent Sunday at their daughter's, Mrs. Earl Vosburg, for a delicious fish dinner followed by listening to the radio.

An article tells how to heat the box of a delivery truck in winter.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 20, 1952

An 18-year-old is arrested for stealing stink bombs used as railroad hazard warnings. They went off in the school, City Hall, Lowell Cafe and Lowell Manufacturing last week.

Bob Chrouch installs his 53rd two-way radio station in West Michigan.

Burning papers in public alleys will no longer be allowed; too much unburnable trash finds its way in.

"Harmony Parade" will be presented at City Hall Thursday by Barbershoppers and Sweet Adelines of Lowell, Grand Rapids and Ionia.

Farmers are urged to bring soil samples to Bergy Bros. in Alto for testing.

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL MARCH 21, 1877

Members of the Michigan Legislature are paid three dollars per day while in session.

Mrs. Boise of Grand Rapids will be in Lowell Friday to organize a Women's Temperance Union.

Sleighting is excellent. 20 below zero last Saturday morning.

Vergennes Township Republicans will meet at the Waters School Friday at 2 p.m. to nominate township officers. An article informs businessmen of the definition of third-class mail; a lengthy list names the categories which can be mailed for two cents, or one cent for two ounces.

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER MARCH 21, 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 MARCH 23, 1888

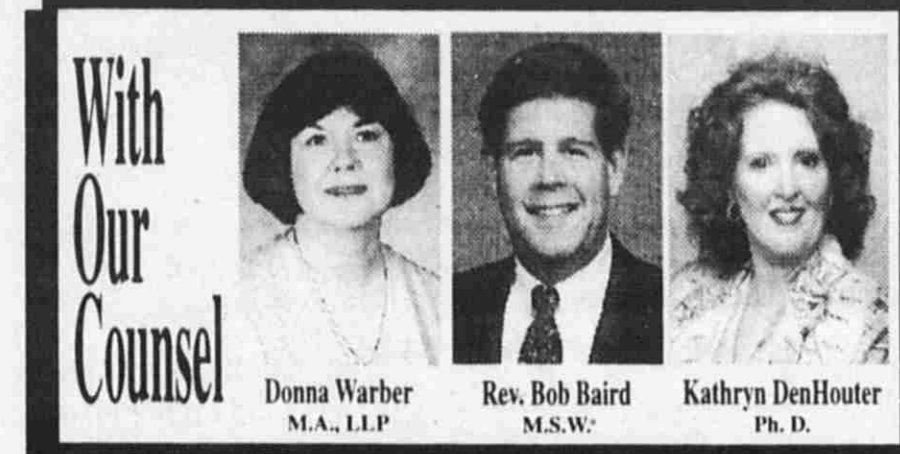
(These are the Blizzards of '88) New York City is reporting food and coal shortages, no milk, and losses of \$5 million in the recent three-day storm.

Hooker Chapter Royal Arch Masons bought new robes for \$250 and new swords for \$30; how many is not stated?

Lowell is lagging behind neighboring towns in adopting standard time.

The Ladies Aid Society will hold a warm sugar social Friday (that is, maple sugar).

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



Testing and the gifted child Part 1

The needs of the gifted youngster in many districts have been overlooked since so much monetary and program investment has been directed to children with special needs. Fortunately, more and more of these efforts are being channeled to the gifted child, who has unique and, many times, challenging social, emotional and intellectual needs.

Questions often posed include the following:
 1. What is the difference between individual and group testing?
 2. What are the differences between achievement and intelligence testing?
 3. How would testing help my gifted child and when is it best to test?
 4. What test (s) would give me the most usable information?
 5. Should I test periodically throughout their school career?
 6. Are their tests for anxiety and depression that might help me understand my child's moodiness?

In this article, the first two questions will be discussed. Group testing is used in a setting dealing with masses of individuals such as school systems and the Armed Forces. Intelligence tests, when administered to large groups throughout the country, compare the results with others of the same age who have taken the same test. Little to no information is gained regarding how the individual learns and their strengths and weaknesses, since the purpose of the test is to derive comparisons among groups of students. The school systems

appropriately use these tests to check the effectiveness of their curriculum and mastery of grade appropriate materials. Individual testing, however, has quite another purpose. The test administrator has been carefully trained to administer the test unlike group testing, in which a teacher or counselor has quite often not been trained to administer the exam. The environment for individual tests is carefully prepared to remove any unnecessary distraction. The testing environment needs to be quiet and free from visual and auditory distractions. Rapport is established between the examiner and the student, and testing guidelines are strictly followed to insure a fair assessment of the individual's ability and achievement. When a group test is administered, excessive distractions are present, with other students and proctors walking around the room to insure quiet. For an individual administration, the test is scheduled at the time of day the youngster performs his best. The main purpose for choosing individual tests over group testing is to accurately assess the student's ability and achievement so a suitable educational plan can be made to help the student maximize his academic career. Some of the individual tests used for this purpose are: 1. Wechsler Intelligence

Scales for Children and Adults (WISC-III and WAIS); Wechsler Individual Achievement Test (WIAT II and Screener). Some group tests include Otis-Lennon Test; California Achievement Test (CAT); Stanford Achievement Test (SAT). Concerning the second question: both types of tests sample aptitude, learning and achievement to some degree and both tap into the child's repertoire at the time of in coverage than achievement tests, and sample from different types of learning styles (spatial relations, common sense, reasoning with words, etc.) Because I.Q. tests have a broader field of questions, they are a more valid measure of "learning potential" than are achievement tests. Achievement tests, which measure reading and math skills, are heavily dependent on formal learning experiences that are acquired in school. They assess specific skills. In summary, intelligence tests measure one's ability to apply information in new and different ways whereas achievement tests stress mastery of factual information.

IN THE SERVICE

Marine Corps Pvt. **Matthew C. Pifer**, nephew of Ronald and Annette Pifer of Alto, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. Pifer successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally. Pifer and fellow recruits began their training each morning by running three miles and performing calisthenics. Also they spent nu-

merous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. Instruction was also given on the Marine Corps' core values - honor, courage, and commitment, and what the words mean in guiding personal and professional conduct. Pifer ended his training

phase with The Crucible, a 54-hour team effort, problem-solving evolution which culminated with an emotional ceremony in which the recruits were presented the Marine Corps Emblem. Pifer is a 2001 graduate of Caledonia High School.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd class **Christopher A. Huizinga**, son of Carol S. and Mark R. Huizinga of Lowell, recently graduated from the Navy's Basic Nuclear Power School at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, Goose Creek, S.C. During the six-month course, Huizinga received

fundamental training in several technical fields related to the nuclear power program. Huizinga studied basic mathematics and physics for three months in preparation for hands-on training later in the course. In the latter half of the course, Huizinga spent hours becoming familiar with nuclear reactor theory and operations. With his newly acquired knowledge, Huizinga is prepared to operate a reactor on a nuclear powered submarine or aircraft carrier, ensuring the availability of propulsion and power. Huizinga is a 2000 graduate of Lowell High School.

Foreman/Hudson streets' proposed modifications go to engineer

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The cure-all would require four 12-foot lanes and the taking of the right-of-way. Cost and community sentiment are two good reasons why that won't happen.

Instead, at the recommendation of Ed Swanson, senior vice president of Wade Trim, the city will work with what it has and make the best of it.

The existing intersection design requires modification. The trucks utilizing it are not able to make the turn without cutting through the eastbound lane on Foreman Road coming from the south on Hudson Street or hitting the curb on the north side of Foreman as they turn.

Swanson's report indicates that solving the problem for northbound left turns would require a 50-foot taper on the north side of Foreman. The taper would begin at the spring point closer to the edge of the sidewalk (approximately three feet from the existing curb line) and taper over 50 feet to meet the existing curb.

This would allow the trucks the extra room they need to complete the turn without hitting the curb or cutting through the eastbound lane on Foreman Road where a car may be

waiting to turn onto Hudson Street.

In order to solve the problem of eastbound traffic turning from Foreman onto Hudson, a short 20-foot taper is recommended by Swanson on the west side of Hudson Street, south of Foreman Road. The taper would begin at the spring point, approximately 4 1/2 feet west of the existing curb line and taper over 20 feet to meet the existing curb. The construction of the taper would require that an existing catch basin within the curb be moved back to be located within the proposed curb.

The corner of the intersection has a power pole, fire hydrant, and a stop sign that would need to be relocated.

"The recommended improvements to the Foreman Road and Hudson Street intersection are within the existing right-of-way," Swanson explained. "The proposed layout will improve the ease of truck flow through the intersection, allowing them enough room to complete their desired movements. I don't propose that this is a cure-all, but we're working with what we have to make it better."

Following Swanson's report, the Lowell City Council approved having Williams and Works initiate engineering work on the intersection this year.

COLLEGE NEWS

Emily Louise Myers, a 2001 Lowell High School graduate, has been named to the dean's list of distinguished students at Knox College for the first term of the 2001-2002 academic

year. Selection to the dean's list requires a grade point average of at least 3.45 on a 4.0 scale.

Myers is the daughter of Karen and William J. Myers of Ada.

Knox College, founded in 1837, is an independent, national liberal arts college located in Galesburg, Ill.

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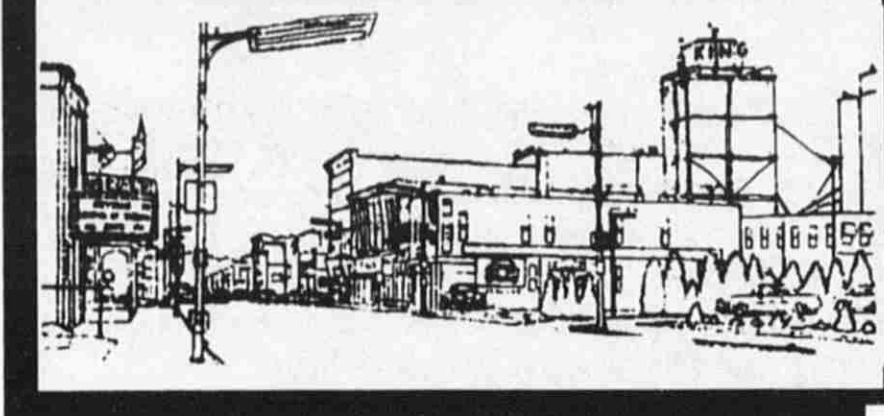
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Along Main Street



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AT SSC

Lowell High School seniors may now pick up local scholarship information and applications in the Student Services Center. In addition, some scholarships are available to students who do not attend LHS but live in Vergennes or Lowell townships, or the city of Lowell. They are the Englehardt Scholarship and scholarships through the Grand Rapids Foundation. For more information call 897-1465.

You are invited to attend The 2nd annual Spirit of Community Celebration Dinner & Awards Presentation Friday, April 26, 2002 at The Lowell High School

Please join us for the Spirit of Community Annual Celebration, recognizing persons for their leadership in the areas of education, arts and community service. This celebration was inspired by the life of Ray Quada, a longtime Lowell resident who gave countless years toward the enrichment of the Lowell Area through his volunteerism and government service.

This special evening will begin with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Accompanied by the Lowell String Ensemble 8:00 p.m. - Awards Presentation in the Lowell Performing Arts Center

The celebration honors the recipients of the following awards:

Character in Action Recognition
Presented by: Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Lowell Area Schools and The Lowell Ledger

Tribute Tree Recognition

Presented by: Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation

Marsha Wilcox Community Service Award

Presented by: Lowell Area Schools Board of Education

Arty Award

Presented by: Lowell Area Arts Council

Person of the Year Award

Presented by: Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce



The Awards Presentation is free of charge. No RSVP is required.

If you plan to attend the sit-down dinner, the cost is \$15 per person.

Please detach this form with your check payable to Lowell Area Schools no later than Wednesday, March 27, 2002. Your check is your RSVP. No money will be collected the evening of the event.

We look forward to sharing our Spirit of Community

Please reserve _____ seats for the sit-down dinner at \$15 each in the name of _____

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Mail form to: Lowell Area Schools
c/o Rose Hartley
300 High St. • Lowell, MI 49331

UMPIRES' TRAINING CLINIC

The YMCA is conducting an umpires' training clinic on Thursday, March 21 from 6-8 p.m. at Lowell Middle School. For more information call 897-8445 ext. 705.

ALL-SCHOOL MUSICAL AT LPAC

Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" will be performed at Lowell High School in the Performing Arts Center on Thursday and Friday, March 21 and 22 at 8 p.m.; on Saturday, March 23 at 1 and 8 p.m. Tickets: \$7; special rates for children 14 and under for Saturday matinee. Ticket info. call 897-4449; ticket purchases call 897-4125.

LOWELL AREA FIRE DEPT. PANCAKE BREAKFAST

A breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, coffee and milk will be served at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson, March 23 from 7-11 a.m. Cost: donations at the door.

ACADEMIC DESSERT - STUDENT AWARD PRESENTATION

The Lowell High School Performing Arts Center will have its Academic Dessert-Student Award presentation on Monday, March 25 at 7 p.m. Call 897-4125 for information.

USED SPORTS EQUIPMENT COLLECTED AT EXPO

Those wishing to donate used sports equipment at the Lowell Community Expo on Saturday, March 23 from 9-3:30 p.m. will receive a tax donation form. Equipment may be dropped off at the front entrance of Lowell High School. Other collection dates are March 28, 29 and 30 at the YMCA Wellness Center from 7 a.m.-9:30 p.m. For further information call Dan Stevens at 897-8445.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FALLSBURG HIST. SOCIETY

There will be a potluck dinner/annual meeting of the Fallsburg Historical Society at the Lowell Chamber office on March 25 at 6:30 p.m. Bring your own table setting.

LOWELL JV HOCKEY TRYOUTS

Lowell junior varsity hockey tryouts for the 2002-03 season will be held on Tuesday, March 26 and Wednesday, March 27 at Standard Federal Ice Center. Registration begins at 6 p.m. on March 26 with tryouts from 7-8:30 p.m. each evening. Call Jim Blair with any questions 897-6436

PHOTOS OF FIRES/FIRE TRUCKS NEEDED

The Lowell Area Fire Department is looking for information or photos of fires or fire trucks to help with its history. Call Steven at 897-2889 if you can help.

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**CITY OF
LOWELL
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Lowell City Planning Commission-Citizen Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing on Monday, March 25, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main Street, Lowell for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the following:

- To consider a Special Use Permit request from The First United Methodist Church to use 613 Avery (North side between Jackson and N. Division) for Church class rooms, meeting space, parking lot or Church building.

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

Betty R. Morlock
City Clerk
616-897-8457

Landon, continued... From Page 1

Katz explained mobile home owners do not pay property tax, however, all the improvements made to the property could be included in tax assessments, and the park owners would be paying property taxes.

School operating costs are paid through state sales tax under Proposal A. The 225 proposed new students generated from the manufactured housing development would bring \$6,500 in revenue for each student.

In addressing additional cost for police and fire protection, Katz said there would be no financial impact on the budget. "Patrols are part of the normal activity. This activity is paid for through county taxes. Some townships contract for more than one patrol shift if there is a need."

"It does not appear through the preponderance of imperfect evidence that an extra shift (s) would be created by the addition of 1,000 people over the next 10 years."

As for the cost of fire protection, the township currently splits the administrative cost three ways - with the city of

Lowell and Lowell Charter Township. Additional charges are based on runs.

Based on the fiscal year ending March 31, 2001, 25 percent of the runs went to Vergennes Township.

How many additional runs would be generated as a result of the proposed development? Lowell fire chief, Frank Martin estimated a 10 percent increase in cost.

The developer plans to preserve the natural berming and open space, and believes it is consistent with the master plan. "They do not plan to change the property and will preserve the trees," Truscott explained. "Landon Companies is committed to developing high quality homes using the most advanced techniques to meet the needs of the marketplace."

The purpose is to create affordable housing for young couples starting out who want to stay in the community. It will also create affordable housing for empty nesters and senior citizens.

Cook notes that the land directly to the south of his is owned by Peter Wege and is

proposed for a development of at least 260 homes. "The land next to the high school on the west side of Alden Nash has been purchased from three residents and is proposed for a home development of between 75 and 100 homes," he says. "All of the developments in this area will be served by public water and sewer."

Jim Telman, of Economics, representing owners south of the property in question, outlined five reasons why the development is not supported by the master plan. They are:

- The proposed development calls for five units per acre which is not compatible with the density allowed by the master plan.

- The goal of the master plan is to protect, encourage and retain integrity of rural residential character.

- The proposed development is located within an area that is wetland.

- Property is not served by public sewer nor is there available capacity for public sewer.

- The proposed use is not

compatible with adjacent uses.

The planning commission tabled the rezoning re-

quest until it has time to review the information and have further discussion.

The commission also de-

nied approval of the preliminary site plan because it did not comply with the current township ordinance.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION PROPOSED REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY IN SECTION 4 FROM R-3 URBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO IND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 10, 2002 at 7:30 p.m., in the historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding the application of Lowell Engineering for the rezoning of the following properties from R-3 Urban Residential District to IND Industrial District:

11501 64th Street (PARCEL 1)

PART OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 4, T5N, R9W, BOWNE TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE WEST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE S87° 53' 00"E 1881.03 FEET ALONG THE EAST-WEST 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION TO A POINT WHICH IS 757.00 FEET WEST OF THE CENTER OF SAID SECTION TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION; THENCE N0° 11' 05"E 1322.07 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE S87° 57' 03"E 486.00 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF SAID NW 1/4; THENCE S0° 11' 05"W 264.00 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST 271.0 FEET OF SAID NW 1/4; THENCE S87° 57' 03"E 7.00 FEET; THENCE S00° 11' 00"W 167.65 FEET; THENCE N87° 53' 00"W 233.00 FEET ALONG A LINE WHICH IS 891.00 FEET NORTH OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE EAST-WEST 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE S00° 11' 05"W 891.00 FEET; THENCE N87° 523' 00"W 260.00 FEET ALONG SAID 1/4 LINE TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. SUBJECT TO RIGHT OF WAY FOR 64TH STREET OVER THAT PART LYING 33.00 FEET NORTH OF THE CENTERLINE OF SAID STREET, ALSO SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS OF RECORD.

(Permanent Parcel no. 41-24-04-176-024)

6164 Timpson Avenue (PARCEL 2)

THAT PART OF THE NW 1/4 OF SECTION 4, T5N, R9W, BOWNE TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE WEST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION; THENCE N00°01' 22"E 1599.15 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE S87° 55' 10"E 463.30 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING S87°55' 10"E 409.74 FEET; THENCE S00° 11'05"W 406.07 FEET PARALLEL WITH THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE S87°55' 30"E 160.00 FEET; THENCE S00° 11' 05"W 272.20 FEET; THENCE S87° 55'11"E 852.32 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST 757.00 FEET OF THE SE 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION; THENCE N00° 11'18"E 400.00 FEET ALONG SAID WEST LINE; THENCE N87° 55' 11"W 597.23 FEET ALONG THE NORTH 1/8 LINE OF SAID SECTION; THENCE N00° 11' 05"W 846.09 FEET TO THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF THE C & O RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY (120 FEET WIDE); THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF THE C & O RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY TO A POINT N00° 01' 34"E 881.64 FEET FROM THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE S00° 01' 34"W 881.64 FEET PARALLEL WITH SAID WEST LINE, TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.
CONTAINING APPRX. 24.3 ACRES.

(Part of Permanent Parcel no. 41-24-04-176-027)

The proposed rezoning amendment may be examined at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan, on Wednesdays or Fridays between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

March 20, 2002
Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

KDL offers April kitten showers

It's a kitten shower at Kent District Library this spring. Children of all ages are invited to bring the gift: kitten food, collars (no flea collars), leashes, new or used towels, cat toys or treats -

and the Kent County Animal Shelter, Vicky's Pet Connection or the Humane Society will bring the kittens. Your child may even make a reservation to adopt a kitten at the program.

Alto Library will offer the shower on Wednesday, April 3 at 4 p.m. (647-3820); Englehardt Library will present the program on Saturday, April 6 at 1 p.m. (647-3920).

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Avoid Disruptions to Your Investment Plans

To achieve any long-term financial goal, such as a com-

fortable retirement, you need to invest consistently. But that's not always easy to do. A lot of things can disrupt your ability to invest - so you'd better be prepared.

What sort of preparations should you make? Start by putting away six to 12 months' worth of living expenses. Keep the funds in a liquid vehicle, such as a money market account. Because interest rates are now so low, you

won't earn much of a return, but that shouldn't be your chief concern with this money. You just want to make sure you have enough to tide you over in case you lose your job or need to make a major purchase. Without this emergency fund in place, you might have to dip into your investments to make ends meet.

Your debt load is another threat to your investment capability. Simply put, the more you owe, the less you have to invest. That's why you may want to contact your tax professional about the possibility of debt consolidation. By rolling over your high-rate credit card debt to a low-rate home equity loan, for example, you may be able to save thousands of dollars a year - which you can then invest. Furthermore, a home equity loan may be tax-deductible, unlike your credit card debt. (Make sure you can afford the payments, though; if you default on a home equity loan, you run the risk of losing your house.) You also can free up money for investing by refinancing your mortgage to a lower rate.

Another way to protect your ability to invest is to make sure you have adequate insurance. You may think you're protected with life insurance, but the fact is that during your working years, you are far more likely to become temporarily disabled than you are to die. If you have a good disability insurance policy, you can replace some of your lost income. Without this coverage, you may be forced to tap into your investments. Your employer may offer disability coverage as a benefit; if so, take it. But

be aware of how much coverage you're getting from your employer's plan. If it's not enough, you may have to supplement it with an individual policy.

Here's one more way to sustain your investing over time: Know the reason for each of your investments. Your 401(k) and your IRAs are designed to help you retire comfortably. You may have some investments that you hope will help pay for your children's college education or that will finance a vacation home.

As long as you're focused on what your investments are supposed to do, you'll be less tempted to raid any of them for "impulse" purchases or other short-term needs. But if you're just investing for the sake of investing, you're more likely to dip into your accounts whenever you need some money. We've seen what obstacles can impede your investing. But with discipline, patience and careful planning, you can overcome all these roadblocks - and stay on the path to long-term investment success.

Lowell MYWA Folkstyle Wrestling MYWA League Finals @ St. Johns

Ages 5&6		
Zeth Dean	40 lbs	3rd
Jacob Sweet	55 lbs	1st

Ages 7&8		
Derek Krajewski	40 lbs	4th
Chad Martin	49 lbs	4th
Jordan Drake	67 lbs	2nd

Ages 11&12		
Josh Drake	95 lbs	5th

Ages 13-15		
John Fleet	145 lbs	2nd
Brock Graham	155 lbs	1st
Trevor Foss	HWT	1st

MYWA State Finals @ Lansing Eastern

Ages 7&8		
Chad Martin	49 lbs	3rd
Jordan Drake	67 lbs	3rd

Ages 13-15		
Trevor Foss	HWT	1st

CITY OF LOWELL/PITSCH YARD WASTE PROGRAM FOR 2002

Yard Waste Pickup Will Be The Same Day As Recycling Pickup

TUESDAY RECYCLING PICKUP
March 26, April 9 & 23,
May 7 & 21, June 4, July 9,
August 6 & September 3

THURSDAY RECYCLING PICKUP
March 28, April 11 & 25,
May 9 & 23, June 6, July 11,
August 8 & September 5

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2002

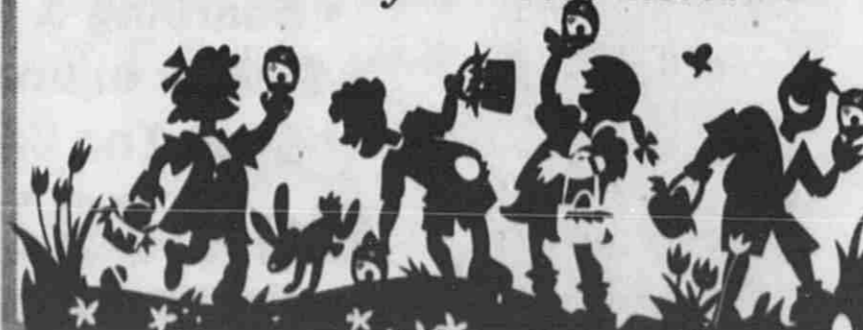
CREEK SIDE PARK

AGE GROUPS
1-3 yrs.....11:00 AM
4-5-6 yrs.....11:45 AM
7-8-9 yrs.....12:30 PM
10-11 yrs.....1:15 PM

SPONSORS:

The Men & Women of the Moose, Lodge 809

Prizes donated by the local merchants



Jones celebrates 104th Birthday

Staff and residents of Cumberland Retirement Village will help Crystal Jones celebrate her 104th birthday on Wednesday, March 27. Jones has been a resident at Cumberland for the past 10 years. She celebrated her birthday with her daughter-in-law, Virginia Jones; granddaughter, Carol (Jones) Oberg; and great-grandchildren, Zachary, Ian and Samantha Oberg. Jones has a grandson, David C. Jones and a niece, Mildred Stauffer, who live in Alto. Jones is the oldest of three daughters born to Peter and Charlotte Anderson. She was married to Charles W. Jones in 1925 and they lived in Lowell until retirement and then lived in East Lansing for 17 years. They had one son, Lester. When Charles passed away Crystal moved back to the Lowell area. She served as a legal secretary in the 1950's for a Lowell attorney. Jones is a member of the First Congregational Church and was a member of the "Cheerful Doers."



Herb gardening program at Alto Library

The Alto Branch of Kent District Library will be offering a program on herb gardening for adults on Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required and participation is limited to 25.

Connie Hanson, of Scents of Summer Dried Floral and Herb Shop in Rockford, will cover the basics of growing an herb garden including location, soil and some herbs that grow well in this area. Participants will receive information about eight basic herbs and how to grow them.

To register or for more information, call the Alto Library at its new number 647-3820.

March Makeover Madness

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and see all the latest and best in color cosmetics.

I will help you with a look that is just right for you.



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...A Chance To Win A Miracle Set
(Timewise Skin Care & Day/Night Solution Set-Value \$88)

THURSDAY, MARCH 21
BRENDA'S HAIR SALON



Refreshments Will Be Served!

Amy Zimmerman
Mary Kay
INDEPENDENT
BEAUTY CONSULTANT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BOWNE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE TO ADD PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AS A USE ALLOWED BY RIGHT IN THE C-2 COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Public notice is hereby given that the Bowne Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, April 10, 2002 at 7:30 p.m., in the historic Township Hall, located at 8240 Alden Nash Avenue, Alto, Michigan, to hear public comments regarding a proposed amendment to Section 12.02 of the Zoning Ordinance to add professional offices of doctors, lawyers, architects, dentists, engineers, chiropractors, real estate, insurance, financial services, and other similar professions, as a use allowed by right in the C-2 Commercial District.

The proposed amendment may be examined at the Township Hall, 8240 Alden Nash, Alto, Michigan on Wednesdays or Fridays, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

March 20, 2002
Sandra Kowalczyk, Clerk
Bowne Township

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE

ANNUAL MEETING

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2002
7:30 P.M.

HISTORIC TOWNSHIP HALL
8240 ALDEN NASH SE
ALTO, MI 49302

A budget shall be submitted for consideration.

Citizens attending the hearing have the right to provide written and oral comments and ask questions concerning the entire budget.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

A copy of the entire proposed budget shall be available for public inspection at the Bowne Township Office (historic hall) Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sandra L. Kowalczyk
Bowne Township Clerk

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Cash Back

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Reg. & Crew Cabs
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\$3,002
Cash Back



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CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of **MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2002.**

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

Present: Councilmembers Blough, Brubaker, Myers, and Mayor Shores.
Absent: Councilmember Pfaller.
Also Present: City Manager David Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Public Works Director Dan DesJarden, Police Sergeant Steve Junewick, Police Officer James Hinton and Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by MYERS to excuse the absence of Councilmember Pfaller.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by MYERS that the minutes of the February 19, 2002 meeting be approved as corrected.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

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

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (03/04/02)

GENERAL FUND	\$93,074.46
MAJOR STREET FUND	3,235.56
LOCAL STREET FUND	902.40
DDA FUND	2,591.81
CITY HALL	
CONSTRUCTION FUND	15,877.09
BUILDING AND SITE FUND	39,685.00
AIRPORT FUND	16.03
WASTEWATER FUND	30,876.69
WATER FUND	93,519.39
DATA PROCESSING FUND	625.26
EQUIPMENT FUND	2,799.36
CURRENT TAX FUND	1,009,711.84

Mayor Shores deviated from the agenda in order to welcome State Representative Jim Koetje. His district has shifted and he is wishing to represent the City of Lowell during the next term. Koetje looks forward to the challenge and learning more about important issues to Lowell. He has a range of experience with farm and industrial land, land preservation issues and clean water initiatives. Koetje believes his experience will benefit the City and the residents of Lowell.

Item #1. CONSIDERATION TO SELL A PORTION OF CITY RIVERWALK PROPERTY. At its February 4, 2002 meeting, the City Council authorized the advertisement to consider the selling of a City owned parcel 12' x 90' immediately adjacent west of 201 East Main Street. This was initiated through a request from Gregory Gilmore who wished to utilize this property for outdoor dining.

The only bid received was from Gregory Gilmore in the amount of \$1,000. This amount was the value calculated by City Assessor Jim Marfia.

A letter was provided to the Council from Downtown Development Authority Boardmember Dean Lonick and read into record:

I think everyone will be satisfied with Mr. Gilmore and his project. I think he will be a good neighbor and citizen. But, I think we need to have some assurance that we will be able to carry out our mission in the downtown area should business conditions warrant his selling the property and/or business.

In order to have this assurance, the City may want to attach a covenant to the property. In the event that Gilmore decides to resell his property at some point in the future, such covenant could give the city first right of

refusal to purchase back the property for \$1.00 and require him to restore the property to conditions consistent with the rest of the Riverwalk area at the time of the resale and such restoration would be to satisfaction and approval of the presiding City Council and DDA, whoever has authority at that time. Review by the city of the new use and/or buyer (at the time of the future sale) could also be required in a covenant and those results could trigger the option. Such a covenant would need to be drafted so as not to put undue restriction or burdens on Mr. Gilmore.

Since I believe strongly in property rights, I would not normally be in favor of attaching such a covenant. In this instance, though, I think we look on the Riverwalk as the center of our "destination point." Mr. Gilmore's proposed use is consistent with that view and indeed enhances the attraction of the area, if not overshadowing it.

I think this could provide the mechanism to provide Mr. Gilmore with all of the control he needs to operate his business and alleviate any fears anyone has for down the road.

I would appreciate it if you would share these thoughts with the City Council and the DDA.

Councilmember Brubaker noted he would abstain from discussion due to a conflict.

Steve Bowyer, Chief Operating Officer of Gilmore Enterprises, was present for discussion.

City Manager Pasquale noted the stipulation provided by Lonick could be attached to the deed.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to accept the bid of \$1,000 from Gilmore Enterprises for the purchase of City owned property along the Riverwalk with the covenant as stated above.
YEA: 3. (Councilmembers Blough, Myers and Mayor Shores)
NAY: 0.

ABSTAIN: 1. (Councilmember Brubaker)
ABSENT: 1. (Councilmember Pfaller).
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. FRONT YARD LOT LINES FOR A CORNER LOT - ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION - ADOPT OR SET A PUBLIC HEARING (3/18). The Planning Commission has over the last several meetings reviewed the Zoning Ordinance section involving front yard setbacks on corner lots. Presently, each yard lot line facing the street is considered a front yard. This creates a hardship for many property owners and necessitates variances when additions are proposed.

The proposed ordinance provides for a principal and secondary front yard lot line. The principal is the narrowest of the two lot lines and requires the current setback. The secondary has a setback of one half of the principal front yard lot line. Where front yard lot lines are of equal length or not evident, the zoning administrator determines.

At its February 25, 2002 meeting, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended the ordinance amendment to be adopted. The Council may adopt this at the meeting or set a public hearing for March 18.

Councilmember Blough inquired if a public hearing was held during the Planning Commission meeting. Pasquale responded yes, noting no comments were received.

Blough asked if City staff had reviewed the issue. Pasquale responded yes, the issue has been reviewed by Building Inspector Doug Hopkins, Director of Public Works Dan DesJarden and himself. Several discussions and drafts have been reviewed. The staff feels comfortable with it as does the Planning Commission.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to set a public hearing for March 18, 2002 to consider a zoning ordinance amendment determining front yard lot lines for a corner lot.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #3. SUNDRY DEVELOPMENT ZONING PROPOSAL - CONSIDERATION OF WORKSESSION. The rezoning requests to either the R-1 or R-2 district in the Highland Hills area submitted by Sundry Development were denied by the Council at the last meeting. At its

February 25 meeting, the Planning Commission was approached by representatives of Sundry to consider cluster housing on the 31-acre site providing 77 single-family homes. This would be accomplished by a zoning amendment.

The Commission wanted to have drawings of the proposal to determine the appropriateness. Further, a worksession with the City Council was recommended to exchange ideas regarding this proposal.

Mayor Shores attended the Planning Commission meeting. She agreed with the Commission and felt it would be wise to hold a worksession to discuss exactly what Sundry Development is proposing.

Councilmember Myers stated he has learned the citizens have five primary concerns with the development. These involve the number of homes, lot size, square footage of the house, amount of traffic and storm water run off. He believed discussion of these issues was necessary especially if there is going to be cluster housing.

Councilmember Brubaker also believed a worksession was necessary. He agreed with Myers, stating many issues need to be addressed.

Councilmember Blough also felt a worksession was in order. He wanted the Council to recognize there were a number of individuals who do not want any changes on the property. Therefore, unless the City is ready to address some of the concerns, nothing will be resolved. Blough was not in favor of the Council entertaining any rezoning, unless there is a major consensus during the worksession indicating everyone really wants to work through the problem.

Shores suggested the worksession last no more than two hours.

Planning Commission Chairman Hall believed it was important for the Council and the developer to meet to determine if there is an option to consider. He stated the Commission is looking for guidelines to follow.

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER to set a Council worksession for March 11, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the library to review and examine zoning issues regarding the Sundry Development proposal at the Highland Hills property with the developer.

Blough was confused with the process the Planning Commission wanted to play. He believed the Planning Commission should be working off the Master Plan and receive input from the community. The Commission should drive the process which reflects community values and provide feedback to the City Council. Hall responded the Commission is unsure what should be done given the circumstances. The developer is interested in a zoning district between R2 and R3. Hall believed it would be understandable for the Planning Commission to participate in a zoning between R1 and SR. Hall stated the developer has the right to develop the property. However, at this point, it is zoned SR, which is the district the neighbors want to keep. The Commission did not see where a new zoning district somewhere in between would make sense.

Hall stated if guidelines can be given to the Planning Commission as to how the property might be developed to the satisfaction of the City and the developer, the Commission would be willing to review.

Councilmember Myers had heard no solutions from the developer concerning a change of the prior concerns or issues presented.

Blough suggested the City Council meet with the Planning Commission in order to provide direction on such developments.

Brubaker's previous motion died due to lack of support.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by BRUBAKER to establish a meeting with the City Council and Planning Commission on March 11, 2002 at 7 p.m. to consider direction on development in the Highland Hills area.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #4. CONSIDERATION OF A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH NORTH KENT TRANSIT. A proposed



Lowell/Caledonia's junior varsity hockey team defeated Muskegon 5-3 in the West Michigan Junior Varsity divisional championship.

JV icers win championship

The Lowell Junior Varsity hockey team closed out its season this past weekend by winning the West Michigan Junior Varsity divisional playoffs.

On Thursday, the second-ranked Red Arrows defeated East Lansing 3-2, tied Kenowa Hills 3-3 on Friday and defeated South Christian on Saturday 5-1 to earn a spot in the championship game.

On Sunday, Lowell faced off in the championship against the top ranked

Muskegon Crusaders. Midway through the first period, Muskegon scored first but Lowell's Brandon John answered 13 seconds later to tie the game. Muskegon scored again in the first to take a 2-1 lead into the second period. Ted McCoy responded for the Red Arrows in the second period to tie the score 2-2.

The Red Arrows took their first lead of the game early in the third period on a goal by Corey Kelly with John getting the assist. Muskegon tied

the game again at 3 goals each but Lowell answered within 13 seconds for the second time when Kelly scored the Red Arrows' fourth goal of the afternoon.

The Red Arrows maintained the one-goal advantage until John sealed the win with an empty net goal in the closing seconds to give the Lowell/Caledonia cooperative team a 5-3 victory and the championship.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

contract amendment with North Kent Transit raises the subsidy rate paid by the City Community Development Block Grant funds for senior and handicapped riders from \$11.81 per ride to \$16. Dan Gowdy, of North Kent Transit, said the increase was necessary to keep up with the cost of ridership.

Gowdy explained North Kent Transit is a door to door specialized transportation system which the City of Lowell provides to its residents. In order to be eligible, an individual must have a disability or be over the age of 60. The individual can travel anywhere in Kent County. The passenger pays a fare of either \$3.00 (to a participating community) or \$6.00 (to a non-participating community) dependent upon where they travel. Gowdy noted the entire program is funded by Block Grants. The program has approximately \$100,000 between all of the member communities. It is important to note the Block Grant office combines all applications into one service. From their perspective, it is important this is managed under the \$100,000 budget. The ridership for the City of Lowell has increased this year. The budget actually supports 20 rides a month, while there were 69 rides this past month.

City Manager Pasquale noted if the increase if approved, it would be retroactive to July 1, 2001.

Councilmember Brubaker inquired if monies would have to be allocated from the General Fund, if there were overages. Pasquale responded no. The County has the allocation.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to approve a contract amendment ridership rate increase to \$16.00 per ride with North Kent Transit for seniors and the handicapped utilizing Community Development Block Grant Funds through Kent County.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.
ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to authorize the notice of intent and related actions for the issuance of a \$4,800,000 Building Authority Bond involving the City Hall and Police Station project and approve the resolution.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.

Item #5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF INTENT AND RELATED ACTIONS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS INVOLVING THE CITY HALL AND POLICE STATION PROJECT. As part of the effort to initiate the bond sale for the renovation and construction of the City Hall and Police Station respectively, the Council is required to adopt a resolution authorizing the publication of a notice of intent to issue bonds, filing of the notice with the Michigan Department of Treasury and declaring the City's intent to reimburse itself for the costs of improvements from bond proceeds.

Revenue bonds not exceeding 4.8 million dollars (includes all current bonding costs) are proposed to be sold by late Spring.

City Manager Pasquale stated two bonding scenarios were involved. The difference between the two involves the amount of interest being projected. One considers the current rate based on AAA rating and the other adds 25 basis points to the current rate.

Pasquale noted a total of \$4,577,131 is necessary to complete construction of the project and also reimburse the General Fund for the additional allocations necessary to complete property acquisition.

Councilmember Myers inquired what the 4.8 million represented in millage. Pasquale explained if the AAA rating is examined as of January 16, 2002, there were 3.5 mills levied for the first year. As told before, the DDA will initially provide an equivalent of 1 mill to bring this amount down to 2.5 mills. It can also be insured at no instance will it ever go above 3.5 mills during the life of the bond.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to authorize the notice of intent and related actions for the issuance of a \$4,800,000 Building Authority Bond involving the City Hall and Police Station project and approve the resolution.
YEA: 4.
NAY: 0.

ABSENT: 1.
MOTION CARRIED.

Item #6. CITIZEN COMMENTS. No comments were received.

Item #7. COUNCIL COMMENTS. No comments were received.

Item #8. MANAGER'S REPORT. City Manager Pasquale reported on the following:

A. The following information was provided:

- Planning Commission meeting of January 28, 2002
- Look Memorial Fund Committee meeting of May 23, 2001
- Community Walking Trails meeting of February 13, 2002

B. The Board of Review will meet:

Wednesday, March 6 at 9:00 a.m. to receive and review the various Assessment rolls.

Wednesday, March 13 to hear appeals
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon & 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. if necessary

Item #9. APPOINTMENTS. The following position needs appointment:

Downtown Development Authority: Expires January 1, 2004 Vacancy (Charlene Chapman resignation)

IT WAS MOVED BY BRUBAKER to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, March 18, 2002

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

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March 22
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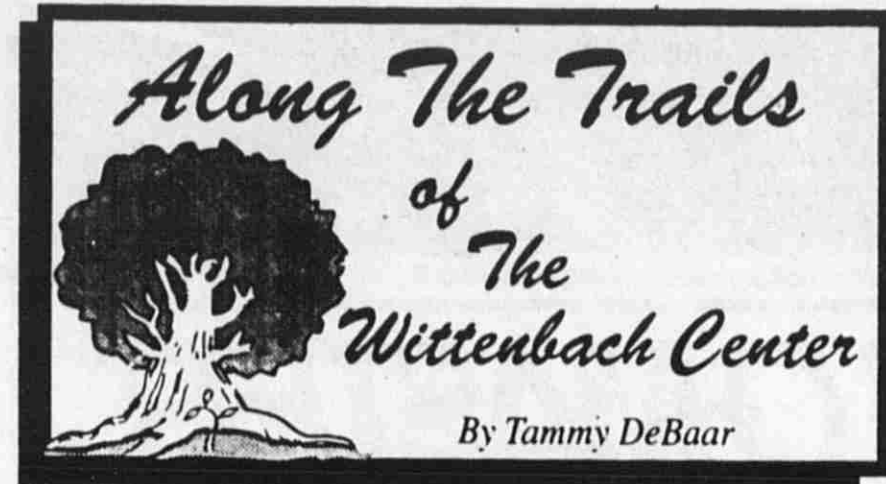
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North Hudson streets
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- Hose end sprayers
- Coll hose
- Lawn & Garden Sprayers
- Deck Sprayers
- 36 oz Trigger sprayers
- Some with Free Sample

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Please take a look at some Ag facts and activities at the Wittenbach Center. Let's also take a moment to think about the history of this area and thank all the farmers who feed us daily. Remember: Agriculture includes much more than food and animals - It also includes forestry, textiles, soils and water science, and many other areas.

There are activities and other information at www.agday.org. Check this and the following out: <http://www.moomilk.com/tour.html>; <http://www.mda.state.mi.us/>

Red Arrow skaters named to all-conference team

Lowell/Caledonia varsity hockey players Austin Hunt, Eric Austin and Jeremy Stein were recently named to the Third Tier All-Conference team for the 2001-2002 season.

Hunt, a senior and team captain, was selected to the First Team All-Conference team following his first season as a Red Arrow. As a defenseman, Hunt scored 11 goals and assisted on seven others and was an imposing defensive force for the Red Arrows the entire season.

"Austin was a great addition to our team this year, and he brought a lot of playing experience and leadership to our team," said head coach, Paul Jacobus. "He is definitely one of the best players in this league and is very deserving of this honor."

Junior Eric Austin, the 2001 Lowell varsity hockey's Most Valuable Player, was given Honorable Mention All-Conference following a successful season as the Red Arrow's first line center. Austin scored 10 goals and assisted on four others throughout the 2001-2002 season.

"Many people who watch Lowell hockey games would not guess that Eric has only played the game for four years," said Jacobus. "It's amazing how far he has come in such a short period of time. He had a great understanding of the game

kids/stories/farmlife/chickensindex.html; <http://www.kidsgardening.com/grants.asp>; <http://www.ics.uci.edu/~pazzani/4H/Sheep.html>.

Fact: Agriculture is the second largest industry in Michigan and contributes more than \$37 billion annually to the state's economy. Over 46,000 farms in Michigan employ more than 100,000 workers and produce over \$3.7 billion in commodities per year in annual gross farm sales. The average Michigan farm size is 215 acres.

Fact: Because of unique micro-climates, Michigan is the second most diverse agricultural state in the nation, producing more than 125 food and fiber products.

Fact: Michigan vegetable producers grew over 763,580 tons of fresh market and processing vegetables in 1998. That makes our state 120th nationally in fresh and seventh in processed vegetable production.

Michigan is number one in the nation in navy bean production, accounting for 30 percent of the total production in the U.S. Michigan is number one in tart cherry production, 75 percent of the total. We are also number one in cucumbers

for pickling, number two in carrots for fresh market and celery and third in asparagus, apples and grapes. Corn is the leading crop in terms of value and in acreage planted, which was 2.3 million acres in 1998. Soybeans are the second leading crop at 1.9 million acres in 1998.

Activities:
Thursday, March 21: FFA dairy judging at MSU.
Tuesday, May 7: We will be hosting an agriculture and natural resources careers day for the middle school.

Friday, May 17 from 9:30 - 11 and 1-2:30 p.m. We will be hosting a "small animals day" for K-1st grade students (max. 90).

The community garden will be opening again this spring. A flat plot and a raised bed cost \$35 to rent (\$10 returned upon fall clean-up).

John Schut also offers sheep shearing demos in the spring (weekday afternoons from 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.)

We will be hosting a Junior Master Gardener workshop (grades 3-5 and 6-8) from June to the end of July (\$85 for the entire summer).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH 21: Terry Raymor, Ardis Barber, Gary Yeiter, Molly Clark.

MARCH 23: Brian Gabrion, Richard King.

MARCH 24: Joe Vezino Jr., Candy Speerstra, Isobel Edwards, Angela Titcombe, Marian Rutherford.

MARCH 25: Chris Yeiter, Shirley Carigon, Sari VanKeulen.

MARCH 26: Margaret Hoats, Bob Perry, Carol Maynard.

MARCH 27: Joel Roudabush, Kelly Geldersma.

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The Lowell Ledger

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and he always works hard to develop his skills to the next level."

Stein, a senior goalie and one of two Caledonia students on the 2001-2002 roster, was also named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team for Tier Three. In his second year as a player on the varsity team, Stein saved 84 percent of his shots in conference play.

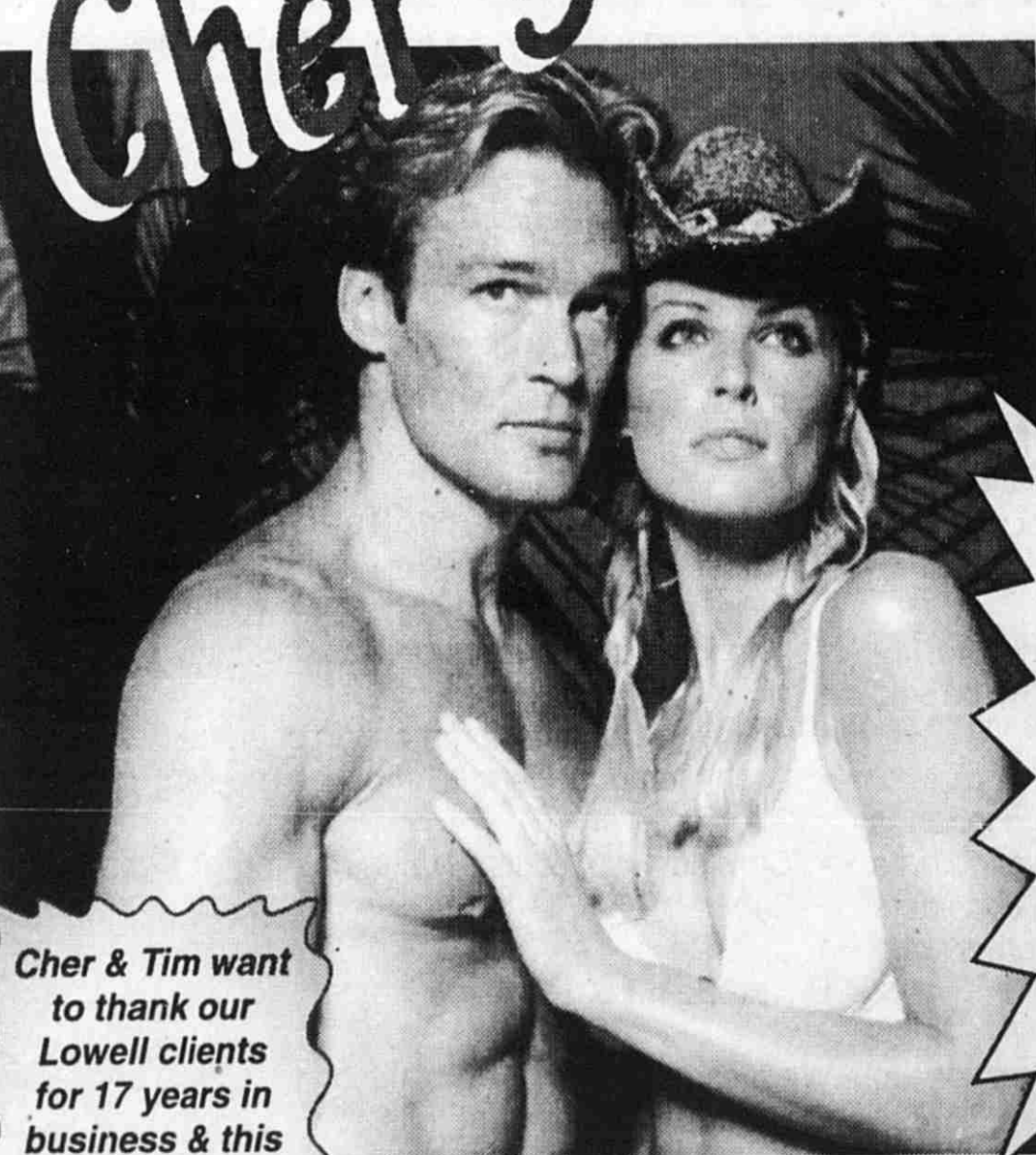
"I truly enjoyed coaching Jeremy because he has such a wonderful attitude about hockey and about things outside of hockey," said Jacobus. "His goaltending kept many of our games close and we will miss him next year."

Society works by putting opportunity and responsibility together.

Tony Blair

GRAND OPENING EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 31!

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Cher & Tim want to thank our Lowell clients for 17 years in business & this new salon, as an expression of our gratitude, is for you. We love you all! Come on in & see your new salon!

EXCLUSIVELY HIGH PERFORMANCE
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M-TH: 9 AM - 8:30 PM • FRI: 9 AM - 7 PM
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You must arrive 40 minutes prior to closing times
Walk-ins Only (Except Ultrabronz need appointments)

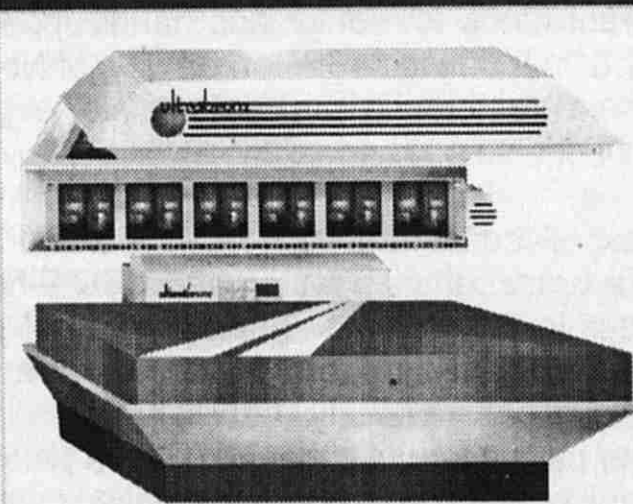
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THAT'S ONLY \$9 PER SESSION! (REG. \$18)

NO Burning Rays
NO Wrinkles
NO Drying Effects
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Expect to be IMPRESSED

3 Ultrabronz SESSIONS \$54.00 (10 Day Package)

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Buy 1 - Get 1 FREE!

Student Discounts (Must have ID)

LEGAL EASE

By Jonathan David

DEAR JONATHAN: I recently purchased a term life insurance policy with a death benefit of \$3,000,000 and I named my wife as the beneficiary. I know that sounds like a lot of insurance, but I have a young family and I carry a lot of debt. I want to make sure that if something happens to me, my family will be protected and not be saddled with all that debt without any income coming in. I thought when I purchased the policy that my wife would receive the proceeds tax free, but I recently read an article in a magazine which stated that life insurance is taxable. The article went on to say that life insurance can create a taxable estate even if the estate would not be taxable without the life insurance proceeds and if that is the case, then tax planning was advisable. I was very surprised by this since the policy is a term policy which does not have any cash value and without that policy, my estate only has a net value of around \$100,000. Could you please shed some light on this?

JONATHAN SAYS: First of all, you are correct in that term life insurance does not have any cash value and, as such, does not add any value to your estate while you are alive. Consequently, if you were to terminate that policy or stop paying the premium at any point, the policy would lapse and there would be no value associated with that lapsed policy. However, if you retain that policy through the date of your death, all of a sudden that term life insurance policy has real value. In your case, the size of your estate will be increased by the amount of the death benefit on your policy, i.e., \$3,000,000, and those life insurance proceeds will be subject to federal estate tax.

I assume that the tax planning to which the magazine article referred was the traditional tax planning which is utilized to minimize an estate's federal estate tax exposure. This involves taking advantage of both the marital deduction, which is only available to people who are married, and the unified credit, which is available to everyone. The marital

deduction is a deduction from the gross estate of the value of the property passing to your surviving spouse. The unified credit is a credit against the federal estate tax. The best way to explain this is by using an example: If you die this year without having engaged in any type of estate tax planning, then the \$3,000,000 of life insurance proceeds your wife is slated to receive will be taxed in your estate. However, since your wife is the beneficiary of those proceeds, those assets qualify for the marital deduction, reducing your taxable estate to zero and, as such, there will be no federal estate taxes due at your first death. However, the estate taxes are really only deferred because at your wife's subsequent death, the \$3,000,000, or what is left of it, will be taxed again and the current federal estate tax which would be imposed on a \$3,000,000 estate is substantial, approximately \$1,300,000. Although that tax would be reduced by your wife's unified credit which this year is worth \$345,800 (which is equal to the tax on a \$1,000,000 estate), the estate tax that would be due and owing would still be quite substantial, approximately \$950,000.

If you engaged in tax planning, however, then under the same set of circumstances, you could save approximately \$500,000 by taking advantage of both the marital deduction and the unified credit which, when used in combination, gives you the greatest reduction in federal estate taxes available. This is accomplished by using a trust to receive the life insurance proceeds as opposed to having your wife directly receive those proceeds. The idea is to establish a trust while you are alive and name the trust as the beneficiary of those life insurance proceeds. Upon your death, \$1,000,000 of the life insurance proceeds would be directed into a family or bypass trust on behalf of your wife, and the remaining \$2,000,000 would either be distributed outright to your wife or placed in a marital trust on her behalf. As before, at your first death, no federal estate taxes would be due and owing, but the difference here is that you will have utilized both the marital deduction (for the \$2,000,000 distributed outright to your wife or placed in a marital trust on her behalf) and your unified credit (for the \$1,000,000 in the family trust) to reduce your estate taxes to zero—remember, in the first example, you did not take advantage of your unified credit and instead relied solely on the marital deduction to eliminate taxes at your first death. Consequently, at your wife's subsequent death, assuming that happened this year or next year, her estate would only be taxed

on the \$2,000,000, or what is left of it, that was distributed to her outright or to a marital trust on her behalf; the \$1,000,000 in the family trust would not be taxed again in her estate because she did not have control over the \$1,000,000 in that trust and as such, the assets in that trust will "bypass" her estate for death tax purposes. The tax on a \$2,000,000 estate is approximately \$780,800 and after reducing that tax by your wife's unified credit amount of \$345,800, you end up with a net estate tax of approximately \$435,000—a savings of approximately \$500,000.

So you can see, by engaging in estate tax planning, you are able to protect an additional \$500,000.00, which otherwise would have gone to pay federal estate taxes due and owing at your wife's second death. I encourage you to meet with an estate planning lawyer who can go over this in much more detail with you and help you and your wife design a plan that both maximizes your tax savings that achieves your objectives of protecting your family.

Redd to compete in spelling bee finals

Culver Redd, a seventh grader from Lowell Middle School, was among 22 students who competed for the title of best speller in West Michigan on March 19 at the Gerald R. Ford Museum in Grand Rapids. He is the son of Jim and Marsha Redd of Lowell.

What started as 30,000+ West Michigan kids was whittled down to a mere 22 top participants on Feb. 26 when the top spellers from 250+ school districts from around West Michigan traveled to 22 regional sites to battle it out. The winner from Tuesday's competition will head to Washington, D.C. for the National Championships in May 2002.



Week of 3/25 - 3/29

ELEMENTARY

Lunch: \$1.45
Milk \$.30
Peanut butter & jelly sandwich & chef's salad are also available daily as lunch options.

MON: Pepperoni pizza or ravioli & cheese w/breadstick, corn, berry applesauce.

TUES: Nachos w/meat & cheese & dinner roll or diced chicken BBQ on bun, apricot halves & cherries, oven fries.

WED: Hot dog on bun or cheeseburger on bun, watermelon wedge, crunchy carrots, Fritos corn chips.

THURS: Spring Break

FRI: Spring Break

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Call For Appointment
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Senior Retirees - \$25
Senior Retired Veterans - \$20

#1

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS

BID PROPOSAL

Sealed bids, in triplicate, for the addition to Lowell High School, will be received and read publicly at the Lowell Board of Education Administration Offices, 300 High Street, Lowell, MI 49331 on Tuesday, April 9, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. (Mailed bids will be accepted).

SITE INSPECTION

A construction pre-bid meeting will be held at the High School, in the cafeteria located at 11700 Vergennes Road, on Wednesday, March 27, 2002 at 3:30 p.m.

BID DOCUMENTS

The Bidding Documents may be obtained at Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., 300 Ionia N.W. Grand Rapids, MI. A deposit of \$100.00 is required. The deposit will be refunded if documents are returned within 15 days after bid opening. A non-refundable charge of \$25.00 will be required for mailing documents.

BID SECURITY - PERFORMANCE BONDS

Each bid shall be accompanied by bid security or bid bond in an amount not less than 5% of the Bid amount.

The successful Bidder will be required to secure Performance, Labor and Material bonds for all contracts exceeding \$50,000, from a surety company having a rating of A- or better, for the full amount of the contract.

Home Buyers Have the Advantage

Why is *now* the perfect time to buy a home?

We all know that interest rates are low, but is that enough?

As of lately we have had an influx of new homes on the market, and these homes are priced great! With a True "Buyers Market" out there, you can get into the home that you Really Want with little or no money down! For the home of your dreams with "No Hassle, No Pressure and Great Service" from start to moving day!

Call Charles Lupton
617-1862/897-8106
RE/Max Country Hills



Workshop connects kids with past

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Nearly three dozen kids stepped back in time as they participated in an Early Settler Workshop sponsored by the Lowell Area Historical Museum and the Wittenbach Agricultural Center.

"It was just a great day and a wonderful way to reach children," said the museum's executive director, Judy Straub. "It helped them get excited about learning and helped the kids connect with the past."

The day included whittling, butter churning, candle-making and animal stalking activities. In addition to the organized activities, children got a first-hand look at early settler pelts, furs, toys and hats.

"The most popular toy was an old, rusty spinning top," Straub explained. "The children played and played with it."

For lunch, they enjoyed a venison stew, corn bread and popcorn - all made over an open fire. Tableware included

wooden bowls, pie tins, cake pans, forks and ceramic cups.

Following lunch, children were led in a discussion about the pioneer historic costumes, tableware and food.

"It was a great day. The workshop was well organized and very well run," said Wittenbach Center executive director, Tammy DeBaar. "The instructors were wonderful and they all provided appropriate activities to go with the time period."

For lunch, they enjoyed a venison stew, corn bread and popcorn - all made over an open fire. Tableware included

Memory feeds a culture, nourishes hope and makes a human, human.

Elie Wiesel

LOWELL SCHOOL BOARD BRIEFS

Summary of the Regular Meeting of the Lowell Board of Education
Held on March 11, 2002

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT - Jason Craig, Student Council President and Representative to the Board, reported that the student council sponsored blood drive is Friday, March 15 at the high school. The high school musical "Cinderella" will be held March 21, 22 and 23 at the high school Performing Arts Center.

REPORT - FFA Update - John Schut and members of the FFA gave a report on the activities and accomplishments of the FFA.

REPORT - Football Players - Noel Dean and two football players, Mark Catlin and Travis DeVoid explained the importance of what academics and community service mean for the football program.

REPORT - High School Madrigal Singers - Torey O'Haire, high school senior, explained the newly formed student-initiated club activity "Madrigal Singers." Torey and fellow high school students - Mandace Tawney and Christine Benson then performed a song for the Board.

ACTION ITEMS - Accepted the following gifts:

Franciscan Rhythms Music Studio donation of resource material for Lowell Community Education String Program valued at \$1,250.

Alto Lions Club donation of books for Alto Elementary School library valued at \$1,500.

John and Nancy McIntyre donation of computer equipment for the Wittenbach Center valued at \$300.
Barbara Roth donation of crafts and stickers for "kid rewards" valued at \$714 to be used by Amanda Smit's 1st grade class.

June Wittenbach donation of original artwork by Judy Jagt valued at \$700 to be displayed at the Wittenbach Center.

Mari Kuhn donation of oak antique rocker valued at \$100 to be used for performances at the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

Approved the high school addition bid process
Adopted the Career Pathway Initiative

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved/Adopted were:

The minutes for the February 11, 2002 workshop session, the February 11, 2002 regular meeting and

the February 25, 2002 workshop session.

The following payment of bills for February 2002:
GENERAL FUND.....\$813,534.07
HEADLEE UNDERFUNDING.....\$293.27
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund.....\$68,638.42
B. Athletic Fund.....\$13,956.35
2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND.....\$73,824.19
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....\$28,622.78
Tax sheltered Annuity Plan and Deferred Compensation Plan.

BUDGET - Bert Bleke explained that currently the school district is facing a \$500,000 deficit for next school year. At some point the Board will need to decide if reductions should be made or dip into the fund balance.

CONSUMERS ENERGY EASEMENT - Bert Bleke explained the need for Consumers Energy to place a power line near the high school site. In order to minimize the removal of trees, the line will be moved approximately 20 feet onto school property.

Please visit our web page at www.lowell.k12.mi.us

We Value: Responsibility • Integrity
Compassion • Honesty • Respect

It's Spring Cleaning TIME Clean Out The Closets With An Ad In The CLASSIFIEDS

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING MEMORY
Kenneth R. Kropf
September 10, 1946 -
March 24, 2001
Beloved Brother and Uncle
Not a day do we forget him
Thoughts of him are always
near.
We who loved him greatly
miss him
As it dawns another year,
Your Brother
& his family

IM MEMORIAM
In loving memory of our
parents:

Emma E. Kropf
June 17, 1907
February 23, 1958

Bertha M. Weir
October 24, 1901
February 20, 1968

James W. Weir
October 7, 1899
March 20, 1973

Carl Kropf
September 13, 1909
January 18, 1993

Those we love remain with us; for love itself lives on, and cherished memories never fade, because a loved one's gone. Those we love will never be more than a thought apart, for as long as there is memory, they'll live on in our hearts.

Lovingly, your family

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
HELP WANTED

NOW HIRING - \$1,000.00 Springtime Production Bonus, Customer Service/General Help. Due to large increase in business, local company must expand operations and fill 13 full-time permanent positions to start at \$540.00/week. Since there are several positions to fill, the company will train the inexperienced: Job descriptions, hours, pay scales, profit sharing, etc., will be discussed at a one on one interview. No 3rd shift! For appointment call 616-243-9131 10 A.M. - 3 P.M.

SUPERVISOR - PT shift supervisor to manage market research call center. "No Sales Calls." Shift hours: Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Sun. 1:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.; Wed., 4 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. \$10 per hour. Must be able to motivate & manage people of diverse background & ages. Needs to be reliable, responsible & fun to be around. If this sounds like you please call Shannon. Barnes Research, 363-7643.

HELP WANTED - Grand Rapids area concrete sawing and drilling firm now accepting applications for full time and seasonal positions. Construction or mechanical background a plus. Must have good driving record. Pre-employment physical required. Union Wages including Pension, Health care and Vacation. Send resume: Attn. Terrie, 443 Jefferson SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or call 616-451-2886. (EOE)

SEEKING MOMS & OTHERS TO WORK FROM HOME AS A STARLIGHT INT'L DISTRIBUTOR - Earn a potential \$500, \$1,000 + a month. Represent the finest wellness products. Local training. Quality for new car & luxury travel. 897-1543.

MOTHERS & OTHERS - Work from Home or Office, Part time \$550-\$1,500/mo. Full time \$2,000+mo. Call: 1(800) 945-6043.

LOWELL CITY DIRECTORIES will be delivered shortly! We will also have additional copies at the Lowell Ledger, Buyers Guide 105 N. Broadway, Lowell. Look for yours to be delivered with your Buyers Guide.

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
FOR SALE

'94 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE - Excellent condition, 3.3L V6, power windows, locks & mirrors, dual air & heat, integrated child seats, keyless entry. \$2,900. 897-5096.

'89 BERETTA GT - red, auto., sunroof, \$1,500 obo. Call 676-9878.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - 2 bedroom, 2 bath, mobile home in Key Heights. Needs some TLC. Includes newer deck, shed, central air, washer/dryer & stove. Only asking \$4,700 obo. Call anytime 897-4387.

DAYBED - Beautiful porcelain enamel. Gorgeous w/trundle & mattress (Never used), cost \$575, sacrifice \$250/Best. 517-204-0600.

BERBER CARPET - 120 yards, autumn wheat, bought, never used. Cost \$1,400, sell \$495. Call 517-449-3273.

DISCOUNT MANUFACTURED HOMES - Repossessed, late model homes offered at discounted prices. Some like new. Some fixer uppers. Financing available. All offers considered. Call North Harbor Homes 1-800-824-9811 or 616-822-2318.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - 3 bedroom, 1 possibly 1 1/2 bathroom mobile home. Washer & dryer included, frig & oven negotiable. 10 ft. storage shed & deck. Lowell schools. \$11,000 or best. 897-8646.

'86 BRONCO - 5 spd., 4 x 4, lots of miles, but runs good. \$875. Call 897-8369.

FUTON SOFA BED - Log style w/mattress, hand built (bought new, never used) Cost \$550, sell \$275/best. 517-204-0587.

DISH NETWORK - No equipment to buy. Up to 4 receivers. Three months FREE programming 100 or 150 channels. Call TOM'S SATELLITE SYSTEMS at 897-2016.

GOOD HOME NEEDED - for 1 year old lab collie mix. Very good with kids, needs space to run. Call to inquire 897-0788.

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FOR SALE

KING AMISH LOG BED - White cedar, w/mattresses (in plastic). Cost \$1,200, sell \$195. Call 517-626-7089.

LAND FOR SALE - Three, 3+ acre parcels 1 1/2 miles W. of Saranac on M-21. Excellent hillside wooded sites, perfect for modular homes on basement walk-outs. \$30,000 each or make offer. Call Mike at 642-6933.

CERAMIC TILE - for as little as 99¢ per sq. foot. Installation available. Tileworks, 1301 Bowes Road, 897-0991. M, Tu, Th, F - 9-6 p.m.; W - 9-8 p.m. Sat. 9 - 1 p.m. Other hours by appointment.

QUEEN PLUSH PILLOWTOP - floor display, mattress set, \$250. Still in plastic. Also full & king. F/Q cherry sleigh bed, \$300; F/Q Canopy bed, \$100; frames \$45; assorted head/foot boards. All new. 682-4767/293-7430.

DIRECTV - Mini-satellite dish FREE equip. & FREE install! New subscribers only. Call for details. 1-800-459-7357 K-

SOFA, LOVE, CHAIR & OTTOMAN - 100% FULL GRAIN ITALIAN LEATHER Brand new, never used, cost \$5,000, sacrifice, \$1,950. 682-4767/293-7430.

AMISH QUEEN LOG BED - & hand built (mattress never used). In plastic. Cost \$900, sell \$175/best. 517-626-7089.

'93 CUTLASS CIERA - 4 dr. sedan, grandparent owned, PL, PW, air, 83,086 miles. \$3,500 obo. Call 897-2766 eves.

www.sundrydev.com \$\$ - Turn Your Land Into Money. \$616.676.4043.

1999 ESCORT SPORT - 4 dr, excellent shape, well maintained, 47K, automatic! Asking \$6,500. Call 897-4898.

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FOR RENT

BIRCH RIDGE CABIN RENTALS - on Beaver Island, sleep 6, 2 baths, washer/dryer. Call 897-8564.

SHARP 2 BEDROOM APT. - \$600/month plus utilities. Call 897-5591 after 5 p.m.

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
WANTED

WANTED - Old folk guitar, Gibson, Martin, etc. 897-9624.

WANTED - Old farm tractors, running or parts. Cell 481-7937.

WANTED - Woodburner stove. Call 897-7948.

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
SALES

MOVING SALE - Everything must go. Lawn equipment, furniture, misc. tools, household items & clothes. Fri., March 22 & Sat., March 23 2-7 p.m. 1530 Carol Lynne.

Be sure to check out the school lunch menu in this issue of the Ledger.

NEED WEDDING INVITATIONS? STOP BY & CHECK OUT ONE OF OUR CARLSON CRAFT BOOKS!

Many styles to choose from in many different price ranges! Lowell Ledger 105 N. Broadway

EXTRA!!! The Lowell Ledger EXTRA!!!
BUSINESS SERVICES

CHRISTOPHER'S TREE/SHRUB SERVICE - removals, proper pruning, yard cleanup, garden tilling. Small jobs welcome. 868-1614.

LITTLE - Cleaning Services, residential and office buildings. Weekly or bi-weekly, spring cleaning available. Call Dawn 616-693-0001 or cell 616-862-3299.

IT'S IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

QUALITY COLLISION REPAIRS - Let Bob's Body Shop repair your vehicle to factory specifications, using their new electronic measuring machine along with expert paint matching. Rental cars available while yours is being fixed. Call 897-9040 for details.

ASAP - new construction cleaners, residential and commercial buildings. Insured subcontractor. Free estimates. Contact Bonnie. 616-374-1180 or cell 616-838-1644.

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

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

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

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



Lowell sophomore football player Ryan Moore reads to children from Nancy Russell's first-grade class.

Book drive enhances children's literacy

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

A recently completed drive for new and gently-used books by the Lowell football team and the Lowell Lions Club will provide books for elementary children throughout the school district.

"I was read to a lot as a child and I read a lot to my children," said Lowell football coach, Noel Dean. "I guess you could say there is a passion there for children's literacy."

The month-long book drive was undertaken in February. Drop-off boxes were

set up at Springrove Variety, The Lowell Ledger office, all area school buildings, Ionia County National Bank, Fifth-Third Bank, Huntington Banks and Family Fare.

The football team and Lions Club collected over 1,000 books; slightly less than a third of them were new books.

The drive also raised over \$500 which will be used to purchase books for the elementary schools' Weekly Reader program for children in need.

The books will be distributed in March, National Read-

ing Month, putting the books in the hands of children.

The Lowell Lions Club, first established in Lowell in 1954, has donated over \$200,000 to various projects and organizations. Besides local needs, it also donates to Lions Club affiliated organizations such as Welcome Home for the Blind, Leader Dog, White Cane, Michigan Eye Bank and others.

The football team and the Lions Club first joined together to collect books for children in February of 1999.

Amendment to front yard lot line approved

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Lowell's city council, Monday night, approved an amendment to the front yard lot lines for a corner lot.

After several meetings of review by the planning commission, a recommendation for the amended ordinance was made to provide for a

principal and secondary front yard lot line.

The principal is the narrowest of the two lot lines and requires the current setback. The secondary provides a setback one half of the principal front yard lot line.

Where the front yard lot lines are of equal length or

not evident, the zoning administrator makes the determination.

Presently, each yard lot line facing the street is considered a front yard. "This creates a hardship for many property owners and necessitates variances when additions are proposed," Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale said.

What the wise do in the beginning, fools do in the end.

Warren Buffett



Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation 2002 Tribute Tree Celebration

The Tribute Tree is a way for...

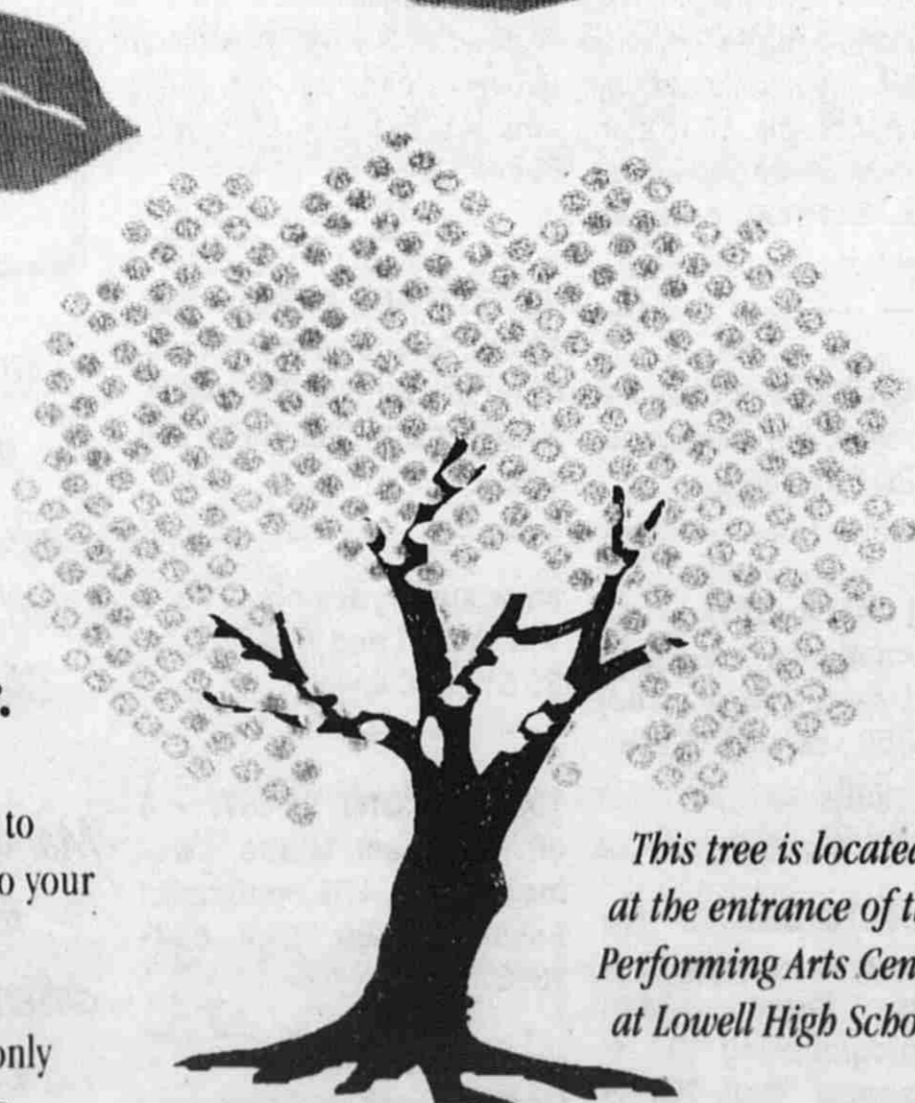
- ...Friends and community members to honor individuals who have helped improve the Lowell School System
- ...Graduating and reunion classes to honor a favorite teacher or class member
- ...Booster clubs and sports teams to honor a coach or player
- ...A family to honor a member who is or was a teacher
- ...Faculty and staff to honor retiring colleagues
- ...Student organizations to honor their sponsoring teachers.

When you give, the memories will last forever.

When you dedicate a brass leaf on our tribute tree to someone, you're ensuring that their contribution to your life and the lives of others will never be forgotten.

With your contribution of \$400 or more, you not only honor someone who made a difference...you make exciting learning opportunities possible for children in Lowell today. When completely filled, the Tribute Tree will have generated an endowment of \$160,000, the proceeds of which will be used to fund extraordinary learning opportunities in Lowell Schools.

Jane Doe
Teacher-Mother
Her Family



This tree is located at the entrance of the Performing Arts Center at Lowell High School

Learning
Is Growing!

Celebrate with us!

Friday, April 26, 2002 at 6:00 p.m., the Lowell Area Schools Education Foundation will hold a banquet to honor the year's new "leaves."

We are interested in dedicating a leaf on the Lowell Area Schools Foundation's Tribute Tree, and supporting extraordinary learning in the Lowell schools. Please contact us about the size and lettering options.

Our Name/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Person/Organization being honored: _____

Describe briefly this person's contribution/dedication to the Lowell Area Schools:

By April 19, 2002, return this section to:
LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS EDUCATION FOUNDATION
300 High Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331