

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 23, Issue 64

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, December 18, 2002

No timely or costly delays has construction project on target

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Renovation of old historical buildings oftentimes uncovers the unusual.

"All of the old buildings have their different twists. Some more than others," said Rick Davis, City Hall/police station project manager from Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber. "We anticipated finding items and encountering some of the unusual ways they did things."

Davis says the surprises have been limited due to the thorough pre-renovation investigation.

The thoroughness of Fishbeck's inspection is reflective in the contingency fund. A little over five months into the project, there is \$209,000 left of the \$333,000 which was there when the project was started.

"There have been no big stumbling blocks. Most of those are found when the below-ground work is done," said Lowell city manager, Dave Pasquale. "All of that work is completed."

Ron Rowe, project superintendent of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, notes that it is a little over five months into the project and things are still on schedule for completion in July (2003).

"We've been fortunate that we haven't encountered any big problems and we've had decent weather up to now," Rowe said.

Knowing the weather could change as he speaks, Rowe says the focus now is to get the roof on the police station and to get the interior slabs poured for City Hall and the police station.

"We need to get that done so we can start interior work when bad weather arrives," Rowe explains.

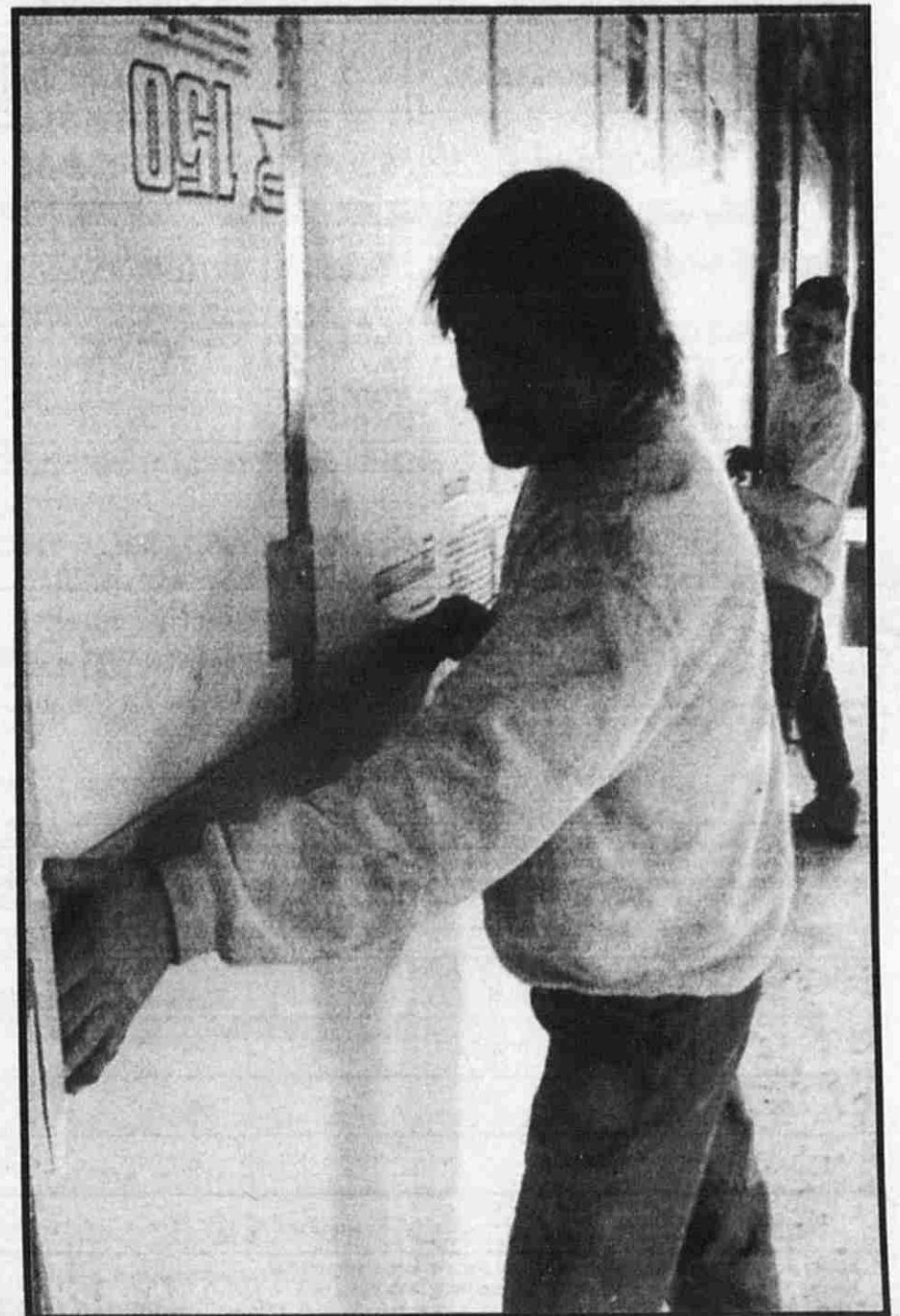
An unusual construction method was found explaining the way the foundation walls were poured many years ago.

"They did them in sequences. This was probably done because they mixed the cement by hand and then wheeled it where it was needed," Davis says. "They locked the pours together by using large stones for the keyways (the locking system used to lock the pours together)."



Marc Casemier, of Davis Construction, in Grand Rapids, works to smooth the cement floor poured in City Hall.

There are seven-eight subcontracting crews on site on a daily basis or roughly 35-40 workers.



Randy Gang, left, and Tim Schrottenboer, right, of Intext Concepts, of Zeeland, hang drywall in the upstairs of City Hall.

LL&P plans brief power outage

Some Lowell Light & Power customers will experience a brief power outage on Friday, Dec. 20 at 7 a.m.

The Lowell electric company will switch loads from one transformer to another, causing a brief power outage.

"This is being done so we can haul the one out and do some maintenance work on it," said Lowell Light & Power general manager, Tom Richards. "We do the best we can to let our customers know in advance when there is going to be an outage."

Lowell's SandCastle offers unique gift ideas through specialty toys

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
 Lowell Ledger Editor

Cathy Staffeld has contained the size of her new

specialty toy shop, SandCastle Riverside LLC.

The same can't be said for the amount of positive feed-

back she's received from her customers.

Staffeld is pleased but also

surprised by the overwhelming reaction.

"I've received a lot of great feedback from people. The reaction has been great," Staffeld explained.

The specialty toy shop opened on Friday, Dec. 6. It is just the third in West Michigan. Staffeld's sister, Lori Davies opened a SandCastle store five years ago in Saugatuck. There is also one located in Holland.

"It's almost a franchise," Staffeld explains.

The Lowell resident of eight years said she's always loved her sister's store and got tired of driving into Grand Rapids for specialty toys.

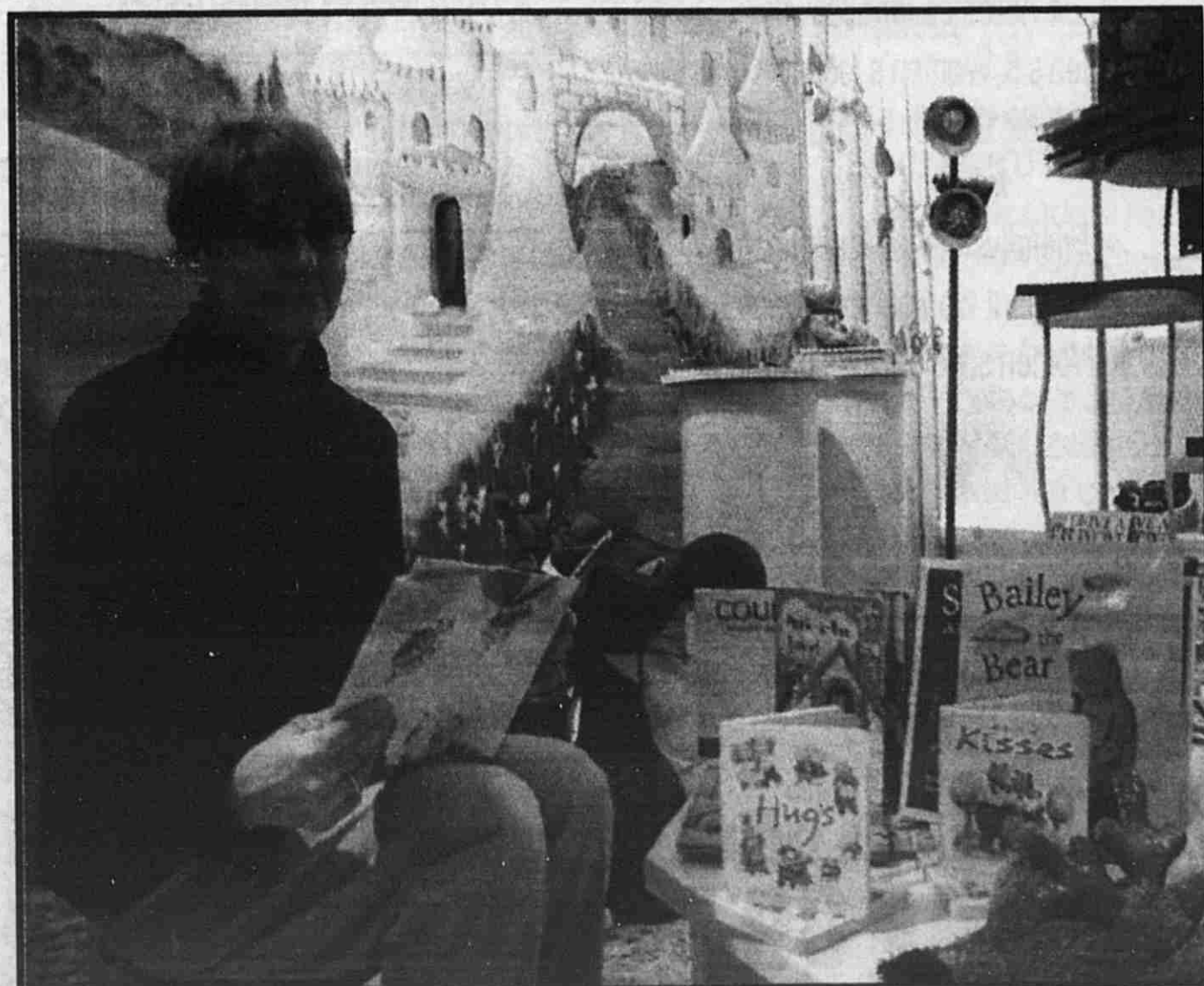
"Space became available in Lowell this summer," Staffeld said. "I want to keep it small to start and make sure that I can handle it. But I'd love for it to be a huge success. But I'll be happy if all it does is make a living for my son (Tyler) and me."

Staffeld works with the

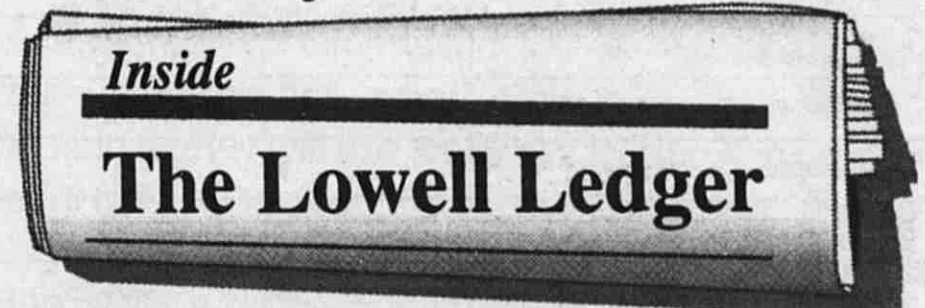
other two stores. "If one of us doesn't have a toy, we can get it from one of the other stores," she explained.

Her hours during the holi-

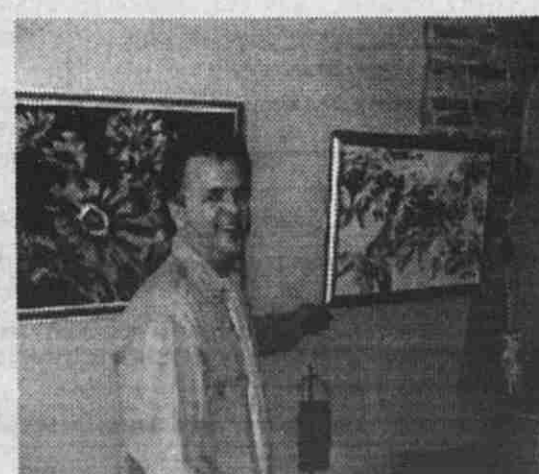
day season are 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday.



Cathy Staffeld's SandCastle Riverside LLC., 209 W. Main, offers specialty toys and books for area children.



Hockey and Volleyball Previews, Page 15



Chimera Opens in Lowell, Page 10

OBITUARIES

BROOKS - Starr L. Brooks, aged 54, of Grand Rapids, passed away December 10, 2002, at her residence. She was born May 13, 1948, in Conway, Mich., the daughter of Donald and Wanda (Duncan) Sehr. During her

working years she worked as a waitress at the Red Lion and Norm's Fine Foods and most recently as a cashier at Sys Supermarket. Starr enjoyed traveling as well as playing Bingo. In 1973, she married Terance Brooks who sur-

vived. Also surviving are three sons Jeff (Coletta) Brown of Lowell, Mark (Peggy) Brown of Lowell, and Richard (Lisa) Brown of Lowell; two daughters Lori (Todd) Barone of Kentwood, Melissa Miles of Lowell; 10 grandchildren; two brothers Grant (Crystal) Sehr of Stafford, Ariz.; Don Sehr of Phoenix, Ariz.; one sister Nancy (Bill) Sanders of Palo, Mich.; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded

in death by her parents and an infant sister Donella. Funeral services were held at the Heckman Funeral Home with Pastor Nelson Duncan officiating. Burial was in the Aetna Cemetery in Morley. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice or the Santa Claus Girls.

BROWN - Dorothea E. Brown, aged 60, of Saranac, passed away December 15, 2002, in Grand Rapids. She was born November 18, 1942, in New York, the daughter of William J. and Dorothy (Snyder) Orange Jr. She married Daniel Brown in Grand Rapids December 2, 1967, at St. Andrew Cathedral. She worked at McDonalds in Lowell and was a tutor for Ionia County Literacy Council. She is survived by her husband Daniel Brown of Saranac; sons Daniel and

Rebecca Brown II of Arizona and Timothy Brown of Ann Arbor; many nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 21, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Saranac with Rev. Tom Boufford presiding. The family will receive friends and family Friday from 6-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Saranac where there will be a scripture service at 8 p.m. Anyone wishing may make a memorial contribution to Ronald McDonald House or St. Anthony's building fund.

MOORE - Thomas Moore, aged 88, of Rensselaer, Ind., passed away on Saturday, November 23, 2002. He was born in Dallas, Texas, on January 29, 1914. He married June Keener. He leaves his wife of 69 years; two sons David

(Gretchen) of Fallbrook, Calif. and Don (Dee) Moore of Golden, Colorado; daughter Susan (Kit) Carson of Gardena, Calif.; Alicia (Barrie) of Portland, Oregon; daughter-in-law Virginia (Robert) Moore of Ada; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Thomas and Rose Moore, a son Robert J. Moore of Ada, a grandson Robert J. (Maria) Moore II, and a brother Don J. Moore. He came to Lowell in 1951 to be the superintendent of Utilities and the director of Public Works. He left Lowell in 1958; he retired in 1975. A memorial service was held on November 30 in Rensselaer, Ind.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOWELL

For the Regular Meeting of **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 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, Pfaller and Mayor Shores. Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Dave Pasquale, City Clerk Betty Morlock, Police Sergeant Steven Junewick and Planning Commission Chairman Jim Hall.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by PFALLER that the minutes of the November 18, 2002 regular meeting be approved as written. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY PFALLER and seconded by MYERS that the bills and accounts payable be allowed and the warrants issued. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by PFALLER that the minutes of the November 18, 2002 regular meeting be approved as written. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to pay \$850 to Shaler Excavating for additional traffic sign rental after payment is received from Ameritech. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (12/02/02)

GENERAL FUND	\$144,562.26
MAJOR STREET FUND	653.92
LOCAL STREET FUND	13,461.68
DDA FUND	1,866.51
CITY HALL CONSTRUCTION FUND	6,377.92
AIRPORT FUND	6,829.90
WASTEWATER FUND	20,826.83
WATER FUND	7,526.06
DATA PROCESSING FUND	777.38
EQUIPMENT FUND	1,081.67
INVESTMENT FUND	1,300.00
CURRENT TAX FUND	2,550.41
LEE FUND	1,350.00

Item #1. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF A COMPUTERIZED DATA BASE AS THE TAX ROLL. Public Act 112 of 1990 requires a City Council resolution adopted which allows the City to prepare a computerized tax roll utilized by the Assessor and the Treasurer. This resolution must be approved on a periodic basis.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BRUBAKER to support the authorization of the use of a computerized database as the tax roll for the City. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

Item #2. SALE OF PROPERTY ON SHEPARD DRIVE. Holwerda Builders and the City agreed to swap small parcels of property off Shepard Drive as part of a housing development. It was later discovered that Holwerda's parcel is owned by the City. Holwerda needs this for access. Thus, a sale of this land commenced with the advertising for bids. On Wednesday, November 27, bids were received. Holwerda Builders submitted the only bid, providing \$10.

Greg Holwerda stated he received approval from both the Council and Planning Commission earlier this year. During the time spent reviewing the issue, it became clear there was an inconsistency between the survey work provided and the plat map which was being used as a reference guide.

Holwerda said the surveyors believe there was an error made years back with the placement of the road right of way and believes it overlaps his property. He noted his ownership of property within the Shepard Drive right of way as shown on the surveyor map.

IT WAS MOVED BY BLOUGH and seconded by PFALLER to accept the bid of \$10 from Holwerda Builders with the City retaining all utility rights to this parcel.

City Manager Pasquale stated the motion should recognize the area shown on the map as Holwerda's as part of the City's right of way. The Council concurred.

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

Item #3. 2002 STREETS PROJECTS - FINAL PAYMENT. In response to Council direction, Dave Austin of Williams and Works requested SBC-Ameritech to reimburse the City for \$950 in expenses incurred by Shaler Excavating for additional traffic sign rentals required. Austin pointed out through preconstruction conference minutes the need for Ameritech to expedite its work on North Division Street. It went seven weeks beyond original estimated completion.

Due to a 12% contractor markup amounting to \$100, Ameritech has agreed to reimburse the City for \$850. The Council questioned the markup and believed the City should not pay for this.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS and seconded by BLOUGH to pay \$850 to Shaler Excavating for additional traffic sign rental after payment is received from Ameritech. YEA: 5. NAY: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED. Councilmember Myers thanked Blough for wanting to pursue payment.

Item #4. SANITARY SEWER AND STORM WATER BACKUPS - PROGRESS REPORT. City Manager Pasquale read into record the report from Public Works Director Dan DesJarden:

• There have been two sewer complaints reported to the DPW since the last report, 1000 block of Riverside and 1400 block of Laurie Gail. City personnel investigated the complaints and it was determined to be the homeowner's sewer lateral blockage.

• The final report on the sewer maintenance program at this time has not been received. DesJarden will give the final report at the next Council meeting on Monday, December 16, 2002.

Item #5. CITIZEN COMMENTS. No comments were received.

Item #6. COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilmember Brubaker congratulated the Lowell Red Arrows

Football team for winning the State Division 2 championship.

Councilmember Pfaller inquired about the enforcement of snow removal from sidewalks. Police Sergeant Steve Junewick responded the issue is enforced on a complaint basis. There is also a notice placed in the local papers.

Councilmember Myers stated a question has come forward regarding a possible conflict of interest with regard to the Highland Hill project. He wanted to restate the contents of conflict of interest represent a personal financial gain. At this time, he has no financial gain and therefore feels fully confident to consider any action on the project.

Myers also noted there was an accident on the corner of Main and James Street. The car was unable to stop at James Street coming down the hill and went onto Main Street.

Mayor Shores asked when a Championship sign would be placed near the City borderline for the football team. Shores also stated she attended the football celebration at the High School. She was very impressed with the team and its members who spoke.

Shores commented on the upcoming Santa Claus parade on Saturday, December 7. There will be a bake sale near the Chamber of Commerce building.

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

1. The following board and commission meetings minutes were provided:

- Grand Valley Metro Council - Transportation Policy Committee meeting of October 16, 2002
- Planning Commission meeting of October 28, 2002
- Trails Study meeting of November 20, 2002

2. At the request of Mayor Shores, Pasquale included Vance Dimmick's letter regarding traffic safety in the Division Street, Grindle Drive and James Street area for this meeting. The letter referred to providing a painted centerline. In talking with DesJarden, he did not feel this would be a problem. There would be a review of the intersections. Shores asked if the speed limit was posted in the area. Junewick believed it was.

3. As a matter of information, the new restaurant by the Riverwalk has asked permission to place a woodbin (they will use wood fire for cooking) adjacent to the Chamber of Commerce building. There is no immediate room next to their business. The bin is not a permanent structure and leaves sufficient room in the alley.

Item #8. APPOINTMENTS. Mayor Shores has discussed the Airport Board vacancy with Jim Sowle. The position will be filled soon.

Commissioner Elizabeth (B.J.) Thompson has resigned from the Planning Commission after serving for 15 years. Anyone interested in serving should contact City Hall.

IT WAS MOVED BY MYERS to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: Monday, December 16, 2002

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

United States Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Publication Title THE LOWELL LEDGER	2. Publication Number 4 5 3 - 8 3 0	3. Filing Date 12/11/02
4. Issue Frequency WEEKLY	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 52	6. Annual Subscription Price \$12.50 in county \$17.50 out county
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) 105 N. BROADWAY, PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331	Contact Person Telephone 616-897-9261	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 105 N. BROADWAY, PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) (Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) ROGER K. BROWN, 105 N. BROADWAY, PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331 Editor (Name and complete mailing address) THADDEUS J. KRAUS, 105 N. BROADWAY, PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) THADDEUS J. KRAUS, 105 N. BROADWAY, PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331		
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.) Full Name Complete Mailing Address ROGER & TERESE BROWN PO BOX 128, LOWELL, MI 49331		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input type="checkbox"/> None Full Name Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		
13. Publication Title THE LOWELL LEDGER	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 12/4/02	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date		
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run) 3000 3000		
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies) 372 372 (2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies) 1925 1925 (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution 600 600 (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS 0 0		
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4)) 2897 2897		
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free) (1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541 0 0 (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541 0 0 (3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS 0 0		
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means) 50 50		
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e) 50 50		
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f) 2947 2947		
h. Copies not Distributed 53 53		
i. Total (Sum of 15g and h.) 3000 3000		
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15i, times 100) 98% 98%		
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership (15c divided by 15i, times 100) 12-18-02 Issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.		
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Date 12/11/02		

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- If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
- Item 17 must be signed.
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.

The Lowell Ledger

(USPS 453-830)
Published weekly for \$12⁹⁹ a year in Kent County, \$17⁹⁹ a year outside the county by the Lowell Ledger Publishing Company, 105 N. Broadway St., Lowell, MI 49331
Roger K. Brown Publisher
Thad Kraus Editor
(616) 897-9261
Second Class Postage Paid at Lowell, MI
Published every Wednesday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Lowell Ledger
P.O. Box 128 • Lowell, MI 49331

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- ★ Aerobics for all levels
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- ★ Teen Center
- ★ Friendly, knowledgeable staff
- ★ Pleasant workout environment
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TEEN CENTER

- ★ Rock climbing wall
- ★ Pool and air hockey tables
- ★ Computer center
- ★ Ping pong table
- ★ Big screen TV & video games

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To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE LOWELL YMCA STAFF

Reflections

Of Faith

Father George J. Fekete
St. Mary Catholic Church

The Third Sunday of Advent was formerly, and sometimes still is, called "Gaudete Sunday." From the Latin this means, "Rejoice-and-to-be-glad-Sunday." Why rejoice and be glad? Because Christ brought joy to the world and we are being brought to Christ.

Think about this. Joy is the blossom or flower of love, and the Christian religion is woven of love. This is our joy - that God became flesh and dwelt among us, and we look with joy to celebrating His birthday. In this wonderful happening of God fulfilling our desires, joy has taken root and blossomed on earth.

In the second reading for Gaudete Sunday, St. Paul, in the first letter to the Thessalonians (5:16-24), tells of the joy that we should develop. In this reading he gives us an instruction in joy. He describes three joy-pro-

ducing activities, which work together and support one another like three sides of a triangle: Pray, rejoice, and give thanks. St. Paul says to do all three without stopping. He also says not to stifle the Spirit, for the Spirit infuses our prayers, prayer awakens our joy, and joy moves us to give thanks. St. Paul adds that we are to refrain from every kind of evil, for evil or sin, kills joy.

So we begin to see that joy is an attitude. It is THE attitude of Christian living. It is living with the belief that God is with us, always, supporting us, watching out for us. So we rejoice always and we give thanks in all things. Even in pain, suffering, or even with the death of someone we love, we give thanks. We give thanks because God remains good to us. Our praying should become part of our daily life or lifestyle - not just an act. Pray, rejoice and give thanks. God bless you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DEC. 19: Lori Moore, Carol Chamberlain.
DEC. 20: Ed Mohr, William Henry Burtt.
DEC. 21: Al Smith, Brooke Page, Zachary Tykocki.
DEC. 22: Jason Seeley.
DEC. 23: Norma Stevens, Marie Doyle.
DEC. 24: Jeffrey Pfaller.
DEC. 25: Chris Woolfenden, Scott Shindorf, Chris Treglia, Jeni Clouser, Peggy Hayes, Star Daverman.



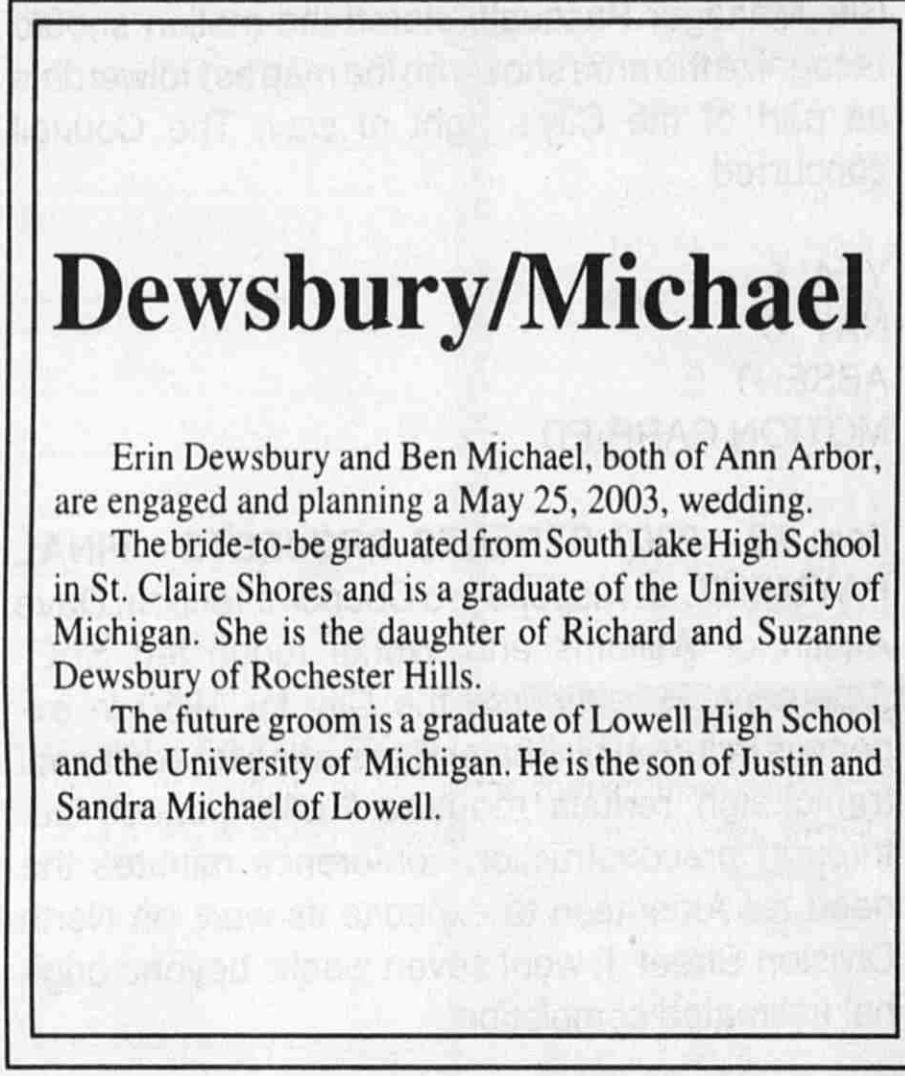
Valentine/Acheson

Jim and Chery Valentine of Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Alana to Ron Acheson of Lowell.

The bride-to-be is a 1998 graduate of Lowell High School and a 2002 graduate of Grand Valley State University Kirkhof School of Nursing. She is currently employed at St. Mary's Hospital.

The future groom, a 1995 graduate of Lowell High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University, is teaching fifth grade at Cedar Springs Public Schools. He is the son of Howard and Gail Acheson of Lowell.

The couple are planning an October 11, 2003, wedding.



Dewsbury/Michael

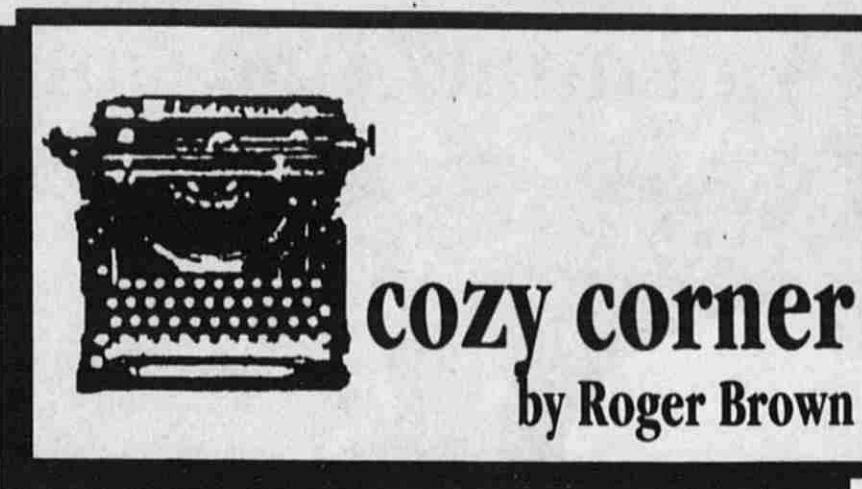
Erin Dewsbury and Ben Michael, both of Ann Arbor, are engaged and planning a May 25, 2003, wedding.

The bride-to-be graduated from South Lake High School in St. Clair Shores and is a graduate of the University of Michigan. She is the daughter of Richard and Suzanne Dewsbury of Rochester Hills.

The future groom is a graduate of Lowell High School and the University of Michigan. He is the son of Justin and Sandra Michael of Lowell.



Viewpoint . . .



I can't let the holiday season slide by without offering a column on my nemesis ... outdoor lighting. Every year I get pressured, shamed, coaxed or cajoled into stringing a bunch of those pesky little lights all over my home and landscaping. I have to admit that it always looks nice when I'm done. Still, if it weren't for keeping up with the neighbors and making my wife happy, I could easily forego this annual risk of life and limb.

It was particularly difficult for me to get enthused this year. We have moved. We now live in the "sticks." I can see the rooftop of my neighbor to the south from my porch. I can barely make out the roof of my neighbor to the north if I look out the kitchen window and peer through the treetops. You guessed it ... they both threw up some lights. The pressure was on.

My wife dragged out the boxes and boxes of lights and decorations, while threatening to put the stuff up with, or without, my help. I have been through a string of her knee surgeries that were the result of falling off a ladder while waxing my boat. If anybody is going to fall off a ladder, I guess it had better be me.

I fiddled with the strands and strands of icicle lights we

have for the eaves. It took the better part of a day to cannibalize a couple sets to get the rest working. Throw in a trip to the store for a few more lights and some special hangers and day one was shot.

Day two, I got out my heavy duty, commercial model, 32-foot, fiberglass extension ladders. I bought them used from a contractor when they didn't pass an O.S.H.A. inspection. You know me, "Mr. Safety." I spent an entire day moving, climbing and cursing that ladder. By the end of the day I had the eave along the entire front of the house and garage draped in icicle lights. When my wife returned home from shopping, her comment was, "Are you going to do the back of the house?" I wonder if a wife has ever been strangled with a string of lights?

Day three, I went to work on porch railings, shrubs and a tree in the front yard. Things went reasonably well. At least I was done with the big ladder. It was laying out in the yard where I'd left it. I was too exhausted to put it away.

Toward the end of the day I was working in the upper branches of the tree. I had wrapped the trunk in white lights and was stringing green ones through the branches using tie-wraps to hold them in place. I was standing atop my tallest stepladder. The steps were nearest the tree and the ground sloped away. Consequently, the back legs were lower than the front and undue stress was placed on the locking mechanism. The fact I was two steps above the step marked "last usable" and I weigh about twenty pounds more than the ladder's weight rating, may have had something to do with the collapse.

The ladder folded up, and down I went. My dad had some colorful anecdotes about people falling. None of them are printable. They always went something like, "He went down like a ton of ..." or "He fell like a sack of ..." You know what I'm getting at. The bottom line is, it wasn't pretty.

I came out of the fall with something torn in my right foot

and a badly scraped shin. I repositioned the ladder, straightened the bent parts and finished lighting the tree with my wife steadying the ladder. I'm sure she was plotting her best escape route if the ladder folded again. Her momma didn't raise no dummies, and she had no intention of serving as a human cushion for my fall. That was the end of day three.

Day four was the easiest of all. I strung lights around the back porch while limping off (my right foot still hurts) to watch a little football from time to time.

I know lots of people who pack up the kids and tour the fancy neighborhoods and subdivisions looking at all the beautiful light displays. There was one guy featured on the news who takes three months to decorate his house and spends \$2,400 on his monthly electric bill when it's all lit up.

I also know a couple of guys who get a box of beer and cruise the back roads seeking out feeble attempts at holiday decorating. They're looking for the places with a single string of lights just sort of tossed over a junk car up on blocks in the front yard. Yes, I do know some weird people.

My place is somewhere in between. It isn't going to win any chamber of commerce awards, but it is way more than those two guys with the beer are looking for.

My biggest problem with decorating this year was logistics. In order to see my house lit up at night, you have to drive nearly four miles off the highway through several twists and turns. Then you proceed down a quarter mile of gravel drive shared with my neighbors and posted with various "no trespassing" signs. Eventually you come to our brightly illuminated home. We had to host a Christmas party just so someone would see our lights.

If all this seems sort of silly to you, imagine how I feel as I continue to limp around plugging in lights every night.

"Happy Holidays!"

100 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER

DECEMBER 18, 1902

New owners of the Lowell Water & Light plant are preparing to complete the dam at Smyrna started by former owners Church & McDannell.

Miss Martha Perry is supplying (substituting) in the Citizens Telephone Company office.

Rural mail patrons are asked to stamp their outgoing letters, as mailmen have to take their mittens off to pick up pennies and do the stamps.

All children wishing Abe Weyrick a Merry Christmas at his meat market on Christmas Eve will receive a bag of candy and nuts.

The new Michigan tax law assesses railroads and express companies taxes based on their valuations rather than earnings.

50 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER

DECEMBER 18, 1952

Officers of Legion Post No. 152 take the Loyalty Oath. The text is printed, and suggested as appropriate for all government and public officials.

The new dial system will go into effect at 9 p.m. Jan. 8, at which time all telephone numbers will be changed.

The post office will remain open Saturday afternoon on Dec. 20, says PM George Hale.

Many volunteers sign up to spend two hours each week on sky watch for the Ground Observer Corps.

Shirley Rickert returns from the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association meeting in New York City as part of a judging team. Her sister Marilyn was rated 12th in the nation last year.

75 YEARS THE LOWELL LEDGER AND THE ALTO

SOLO DECEMBER 22, 1927

Names of Santa Claus Girls' contributors and amounts given by each are listed.

Harry Shuter files for voluntary bankruptcy, to the regret of his many friends on Main Street. He has a shoe store.

Will Kerekes found a watch and the Lowell Hatchery lost one. Both went to the Ledger, where one was told of the other. No charge.

H.C. Scott (Hazel) advertises her Home Made candies, in bulk or by the box.

Michigan is campaigning to end stream pollution by requiring city sewage systems. Conferences are being held.

25 YEARS THE GRAND VALLEY LEDGER

DECEMBER 21, 1977

Amway's Jay Van Andel is one of three joint chairmen of Richard Headlee's Taxpayers United Inc., working to place a tax limitation amendment to the Michigan constitution.

The theme for Roger Brown's "Cozy Corner" on a Tuesday morning getting later is that he can't come up with a subject.

Michigan Bell reminds readers to make their holiday long-distance calls before 10 a.m. and after 3 p.m., to avoid delays.

Volunteer blood donors are sought to join the "Circle 3" Donor Club, to give blood just before three-day holidays, when it is most needed.

The school board changes its meeting place from the choir room to the conference room of the board offices at the middle school.

Ledger Entries

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

125 YEARS THE WEEKLY JOURNAL
DECEMBER 19, 1877

O.H. Look and W.S. Whittlesey are partners in a new law office in town.

The "Jottings and Jimcrax" column (well-represented in our 125-year section) is being noticed elsewhere, this week by the Detroit Free Press.

Hines and Wooding make the best Feed Cutter on the market. They just shipped No. 48.

Many subscriptions are expiring; please renew then NOW. Rickert's Bakery will serve you oysters any way you want them.

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WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night: (For All Ages) 7 p.m.
Generation Jacob Youth: 7 p.m.

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Holy Day Masses: 9 AM & 7 PM
Saturday confessions: 10:10-10:30 AM
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Wednesday AWANA.....7:00 P.M.
(Sept. - April)

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WED 11:25, 2:55, 6:25, 9:55

◉ MAID IN MANHATTAN (PG-13) MON-THUR 12:20, 2:30, 4:50, 7:00, 9:35

◉ STAR TREK: NEMESIS (PG-13) MON-THUR 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

◉ DRUMLINE (PG-13) MON-THUR 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40

◉ CRAZY NIGHTS (PG-13) FRI-SAT MON-TUE 9:25

◉ TREASURE PLANET (PG) MON-TUE MON/TUE 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30

◉ DIE ANOTHER DAY (PG-13) MON-THUR 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10

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Health With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III & John G. Meier

TENSION HEADACHES

Probably the most frequently seen type of headache in a physician's office is the tension headache. It is usually a tension headache if it causes feelings of tightness or pressure on your forehead or the sides of your head. The pain will often move into the neck or shoulders. Many times patients say they feel as though their head is being squeezed by a vise or a thick scarf.

Stress is often the leading culprit in causing tension headaches. Patients say the headache is there for most of their waking hours, usually intensifying if their level of anxiety or stress goes up.

The treatment of tension headaches is directed at treating the cycle of pain. This may involve anti-inflammatory agents (i.e., ibuprofen, naproxen), pain medicine (tylenol) or prescription muscle relaxants. Other beneficial treatment strategies involve:

- Biofeedback and physical therapy: these may help in relaxing the muscles in your head, neck or shoulder.
- Behavioral treatment and relaxation training: these may help teach you new ways to deal with stress.
- Hands-on massage or manipulation: another way of lessening the muscle spasm component and reducing pain.

Letters, Letters, Letters, Letters...

The Lowell Ledger welcomes all "Letters to the Editor" for publication on its "Viewpoint" page. Letters can be typed or written. However, we ask that they do not exceed 250 words.

"Letters to the Editor" should be sent to the Lowell Ledger, 105 N. Broadway, P.O. Box 128, Lowell, MI 49331 or emailed to: ledgerbg1@aol.com. Letters must be signed and please include a phone number when emailing.

Editing may be necessary for space, clarity and to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

The Lowell Ledger thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

Carl Sagan

Serving You Better

Speerstra Insurance Agency has always offered its customers a number of services.

With the announcement that it will be aligning itself with Regal Financial Group, LLC, it intends to perform those services and more ... but even better.

Dale Triplett, of Speerstra Insurance Agency, explains that the alignment provides great networking opportunities.

"Speerstra has always focused on providing property and casualty insurance. With the alignment we will now also offer specialists in health, life and disability and long-term care," Triplett said.

The coordination between the two companies began roughly a year ago.

"It will give us access to 437 companies, which will allow us to better serve our customers," Triplett said.

Through the networking set-up, Speerstra Insurance will also be working with banks/credit unions, CPAs and property/casualty agencies.

Regal, based out of Grand Rapids, has a group of over 40 representatives in four states.

Regal was formed in January of 2000 as a result of the merging of two organizations.

Pictured, from left to right, are: Dale Triplett, Jude McDonagh, disability/life insurance specialist; Eric Hallstedt, health insurance underwriter; Brian Yarch, Regal Financial operations manager, and Larry Taunt, Regal Financial chairman.



Milley/Steppe

Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Milley of Lowell are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth Ann to Aaron Steppe.

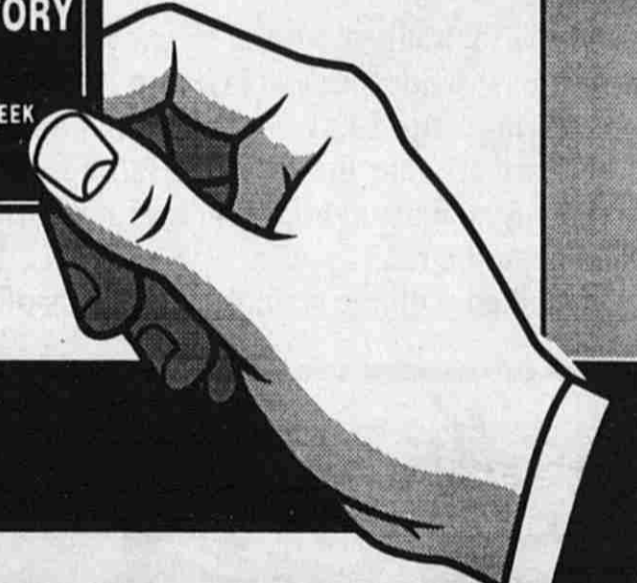
He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Steppe of Menominee.

A May wedding is planned.



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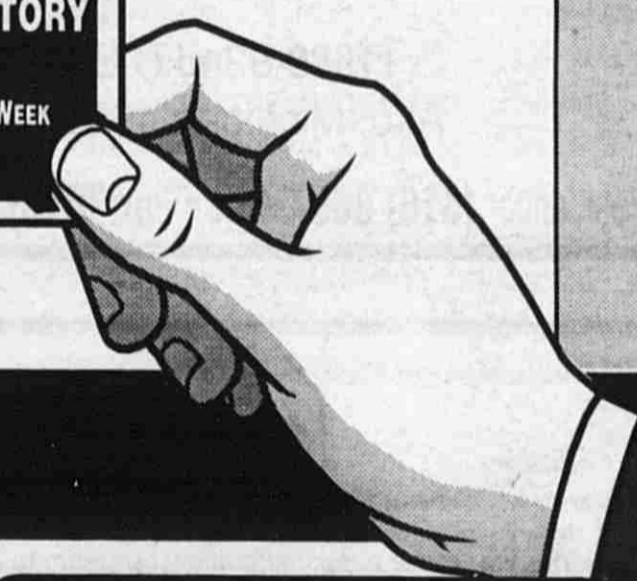
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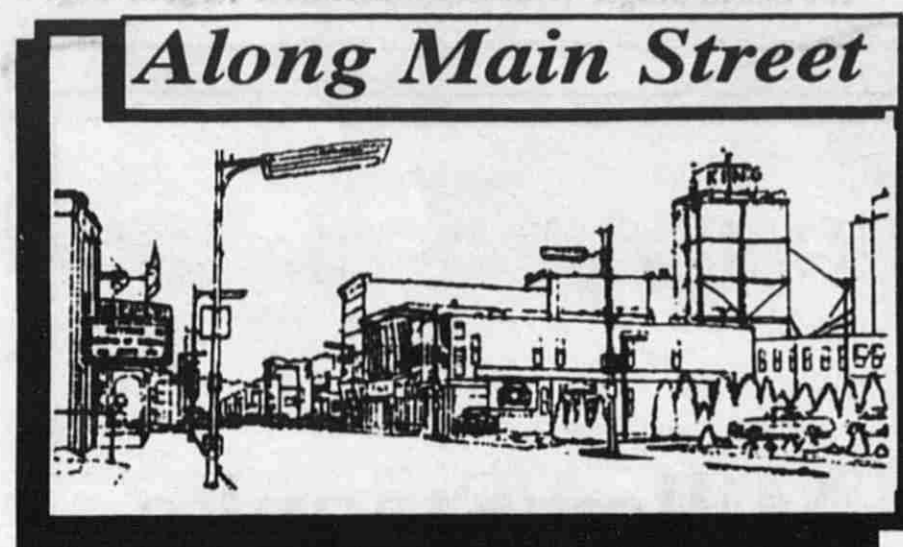
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L.H.S. BAND CONCERT RESCHEDULED
The Lowell High School Bands Holiday Concert is rescheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 7 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. Admission is free; everyone is welcome to attend.

ENTERTAINMENT ALONG MAIN STREET
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6-8 p.m. Lowell High School Cheerleaders; Saturday, Dec. 21, 1-3 p.m. LHS All School Cast and Crew.

CHAMPIONSHIP T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE
The LHS athletic office is selling football championship T-shirts for \$12; adult sizes S thru 2XL.

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THRIFT SHOP CHRISTMAS HOURS
The Flat River Outreach Ministries Thrift Shop will be open Tuesday, Dec. 24 from noon to 4 p.m. and closed on Christmas Day. It will reopen Dec. 26 and 27 from noon - 6 p.m. and Dec. 28 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Check out the sale of Christmas items.

FOODMOBILE - FREE FOOD
The Foodmobile will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds, Foreman Building on S. Broadway on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2003 from 10 a.m. to noon, or until the food is gone. Bring your own box or bag. This food (mostly produce) is available to anyone. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS FOR LIBRARY BRANCHES
Library branches will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25 and resume regular open hours on Thursday, Dec. 26. They will also be closed at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31 as well as New Year's Day on Jan. 1.

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF SENIORS
Volunteers are needed at Van Andel Arena (Dec. 28, also Jan. 3, 11, 25). Call Lynn (676-3680). Please make your Meijer purchases with Meijer certificates and Meijer will donate 5% of your receipts to the trip - certificates available at high school Mondays, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. Call Pam 676-1398 with questions.

SANTA VISITS WITH CHILDREN
Santa will be at Touch of Country, 96 W. Main St., on Saturday, Dec. 21 from 1-3 p.m. for pictures. Also you may drop off your wish list at Santa's mailbox.

Two of your best friends are at ICNB!
Here's the deal: Open a **Hometown Free Checking** account and a **Christmas Club** savings account at any ICNB office and we'll have Santa Clause put Abe Lincoln in your Christmas Club account. That's a \$5.00 head start on next year's holiday funds!
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CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce will be closed for the Christmas holiday from Dec. 23 through Jan. 1, 2003.

SANTA PAWS AND PICTURES
Take your pet to Animal Hospital & Pet Complex at 1161 E. Fulton for pictures with Santa on Wednesday, Dec. 18 from 6-8 p.m.

LUMINARY WALK AT WITTENBACH CENTER
There will be a luminary walk on Saturday, Jan. 4 from 5-7 p.m. at the Wittenbach Center. Use the snowshoes! \$10 adults, \$5 kids. The HS Environmental Club will provide Christmas tree shredding from noon - 4 p.m. and there will be live music by Lowell Music Ensemble.

WINTER FAST PITCH CLINIC
The Lowell High School softball coaches will be holding a winter fast pitch pitching clinic at Riverside gym for girls interested in becoming a softball pitcher. Wednesdays: Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19. 6th graders and under report at 6 p.m.; 7-8 graders at 7 p.m. Clinic: \$25; applications at Lowell Middle School, Cherry Creek, Alto and Bushnell. Call Bob Rodenhouse at 897-4125 or 245-4596 for more information.

AREA BIRTHS

John and Wendy White of Belding are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Zachary Edward and daughter Taylor Renee. They were born December 11, 2002, at Metropolitan Hospital. Zachary weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz. and Taylor weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz.
Welcoming them home is big sister, Lauren.
Proud grandparents are Bill and Kathy Bryant of Lowell, Bud and Nancy Tipton of Grand Rapids and Clare and Karen White of Tennessee.

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"Rolling" in the Gifts

The third annual Toys for Tots roller skating party took place Nov. 12. It was hosted by the County Line 4-H group and held at Rollaway Family Fun Center.

4-Hers and their parents attended from several different clubs around the area including Cherry Valley Livestock, Alto Achievers and Showboat Buddies. Members of the fair court were also present.

Nearly 100 people were in attendance. The charity event had a carload of toys for the Toys for Tots program which donates toys to families in need throughout the holidays.

LEGAL EASE
By **Jonathan David**

DEAR JONATHAN: My father is a widower and I am his primary caregiver; my brothers have not really been involved. He keeps telling me that upon his death he wants me to get everything, but he refuses to make out a will. What happens if my father dies without making a will?

JONATHAN SAYS: If your father dies without making a will, then he will be deemed to have died intestate. This means that any assets he had titled in his name alone will be disposed of pursuant to Michigan law. In other words, even though he says he wants you to have all his assets, that will not happen. Any time a single person dies intestate, Michigan law distributes that person's assets in the following manner:

Sec. 2103. Any part of the intestate estate that does not pass to the decedent's surviving spouse under section 2102, or the entire intestate estate if there is no surviving spouse, passes in the following order to the following individuals who survive the decedent:

- (a) The decedent's descendants by representation.
- (b) If there is no surviving descendant, the decedent's parents equally if both survive or to the surviving parent.
- (c) If there is no surviving descendant or parent, the descendants of the decedent's parents or of either of them by representation.
- (d) If there is no surviving descendant, parent, or descendant of a parent, but the decedent is survived by one or more grandparents or descendants of grandparents, 1/2 of the estate passes to the decedent's paternal grandparents equally if both

survive, or to the surviving paternal grandparent, or to the descendants of the decedent's paternal grandparents or either of them if both are deceased, the descendants taking by representation; and the other 1/2 passes to the decedent's maternal relatives in the same manner. If there is no surviving grandparent or descendant of a grandparent on either the paternal or the maternal side, the entire estate passes to the decedent's relatives on the other side in the same manner as the 1/2.

In your example, you and your brothers would divide your father's estate in equal shares. Obviously this is not what your father's wishes are, so if he wants you to have everything, then he needs to make out a last will and testament saying that.

In answering your question, I made the assumption that your father's assets are all titled in his name alone. However, any assets that are jointly titled with another where there are survivorship rights or which pass pursuant to a contract when there is a named beneficiary other than your father's estate, i.e., life insurance proceeds, retirement plan proceeds, or which are owned by a trust, are not distributed pursuant to section 2103 set forth above, but instead pass directly to the joint tenant, the named beneficiary or the trust beneficiary, respectively.

My recommendation is that your father meet with an estate planning attorney for the purpose of reviewing the importance of a last will and testament, as well as other types of estate planning documents which can benefit him.

DEAR JONATHAN: If I make out a will, will I avoid probate?

JONATHAN SAYS: Not necessarily. Regardless of whether you make out a will, any assets that you own in your own name alone at death will need to go through probate; assets which are (i) held in joint tenancy with full survivorship rights; (ii) owned by a trust; or (iii) contractual in nature, such as life insurance or IRA's where beneficiaries are named to receive the proceeds, are not controlled by a last will and testament nor probate and instead pass to the surviving joint tenant, the trust beneficiary or the named beneficiary under the contract, respectively. The purpose of making a last will and testament is not to avoid probate (because you can't with a will) but to set forth who you want to receive your assets upon death. Your failure to make out a last will and testament allows Michigan law to control how your assets are distributed upon your death.

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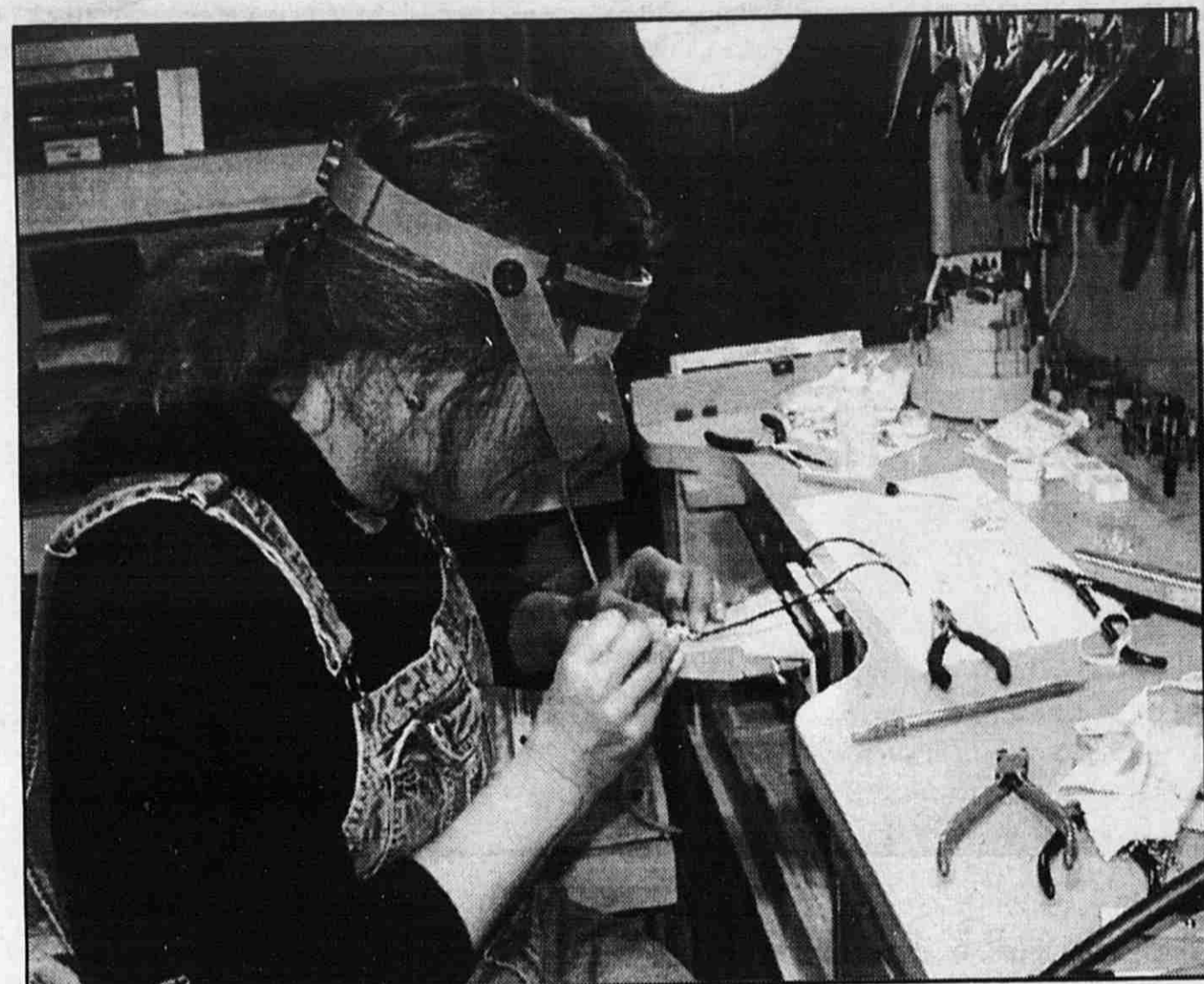
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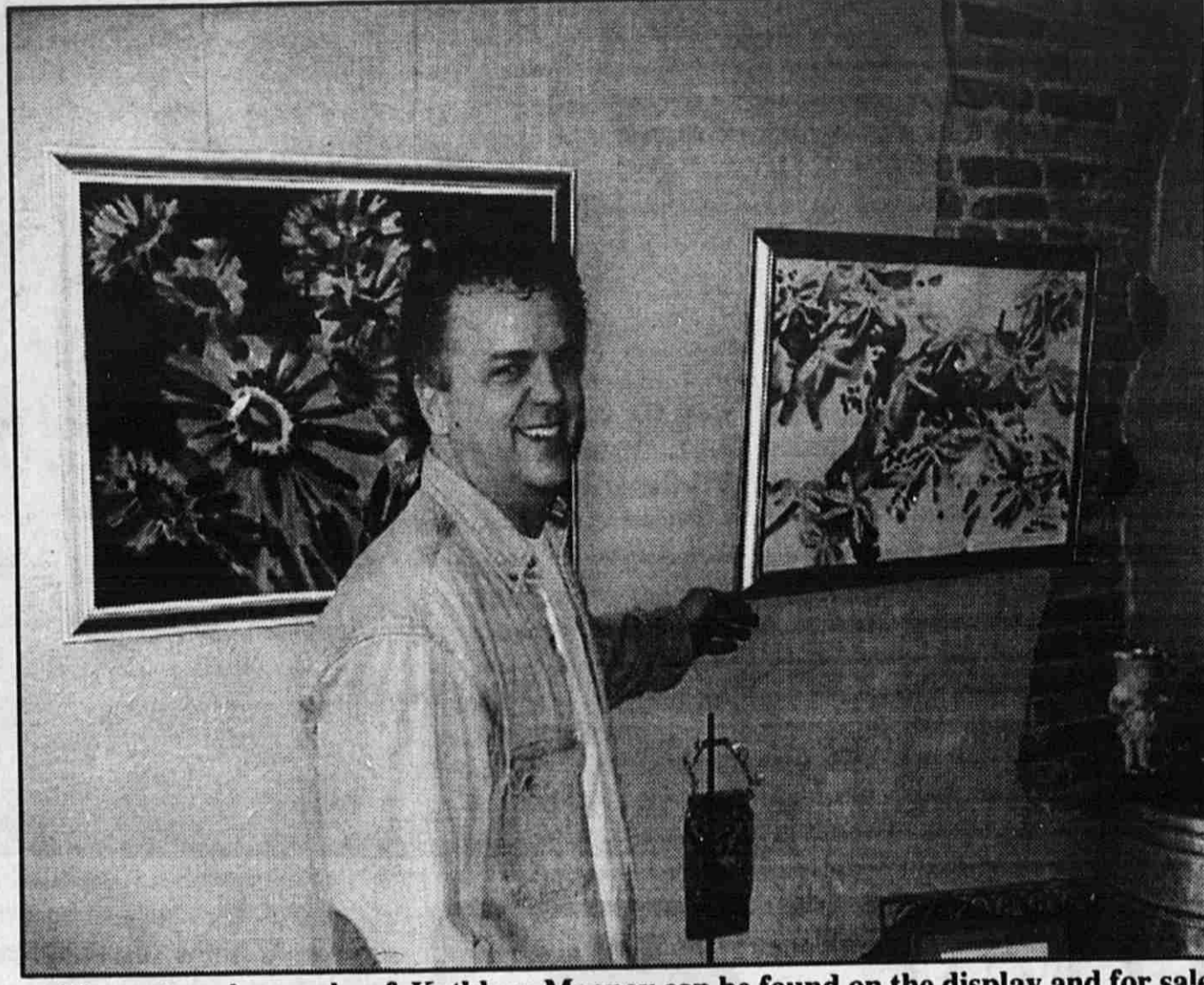
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Julie Claire deVoe creates some unusual fine, distinctive jewelry for Lowell's newest business, Chimera Design, LLC.



The watercolor works of Kathleen Mooney can be found on the display and for sale at Chimera Design, LLC. Cliff Yankovich, pictured above, is co-owner of the new business with Julie Claire de Voe.

One-of-a-kind store offers the unique and distinctive in jewelry and art

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Chimera Design mixes the practical with the impractical and the precious with the unique while providing a venue in which untold artists can sell their work.

Lowell has been a pleasurable experience," says Cliff Yankovich who along with his partner, Julie de Voe opened Chimera Design in November. "This is it. We're committed to showcasing local artists. There are so many local artists who don't have a

place to display and sell their stuff."

Their unique gift items range in cost from \$8 to \$2,500.

Chimera offers precious and semi-precious gemstones, unusual gemstones along with handmade jewelry - much of

which is done with pearls.

"It's stuff you won't find in a mall. Almost everything Julie does is a one-of-a-kind piece," Yankovich said.

The new business also offers the practical - jewelry and watch repair, watch battery replacement, and pearl restringing.

Other items available are paintings, glassware, pottery, photography, and hand-woven tapestry.

"The hand-woven tapestry is by Paula Bowers. I'm lucky to have her work here."

Yankovich said. "Her work has been seen around the country. She recently won the People's Choice Award at the Grand Rapids Festival."

Artwork by Lowell artist, Gary Eldridge will also be available.

"Our hope is that in three-five years, Chimera Design is twice the size it is right now," Yankovich says.

Above the shop of de Voe

and Yankovich at 208 E. Main will be a studio which is being rented out by local artists.

Chimera Design is open six days a week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

"We want people to think of us as fun folks to visit who offer a wide variety of stuff," concludes de Voe.

The best way I know of to win an argument is to start by being in the right. —Lord Hailsham

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Sharing The Vision

Nancy Hopkins,
president Board of Education

As Americans, we hold fast to the ideal that every child should have access to a good education, that school should

equip students for success in private and public life, and that our education system should help us build strong communities.

Currently we seem to see a rejuvenated public involvement in education, a beginning toward establishing a shared vision for quality public education. Despite the well-publicized, grave problems facing our nation's public education system, it is also true that together we possess the ability to work toward solutions. And we must ... our children are too important.

In Michigan, public education is all about giving everyone a fair chance to succeed. High state academic standards help ensure students are prepared for success. In Lowell Area Schools, it all starts with a simple act: the people working in our schools do so because they love children. Our administrators, educators and school staff are as good and as dedicated a group of people as can be found in any district. They understand that glossing over imperfections in our present

delivery of education will only delay or prevent its correction. They are not afraid to ask how and where we are falling short of our district's educational vision and goals. How much do we lose when we fail to meet the varied needs of individual children? How much do we lose when we fail to fan the sparks of excitement for learning? How much do our children lose?

In Lowell, we look for effective actions because with genuine caring comes genuine commitment. If we really care about our kids, we must make every conceivable effort to get results. In Lowell we will continue to build them a better system of education.

During the holidays (and every day), as a community collectively and cooperatively dedicated to our children's achievements and successes, let us give our children one of the best gifts we can - a commitment to actively participate in their education. Be involved and show them that school matters.

OUTDOORS

By Dave Stegehuis



WHAT A DEAL

At a time when natural areas are being consumed at an alarming rate by urban sprawl and development, there are encouraging events taking place around our beautiful state. Parcels of wild land, big and small, are being set aside for the enjoyment of future generations as well as to aid in the very survival of rare or endangered plants and animals.

Recently we were fortunate to witness the creation of the Wittenbach, Wege, and Cooper natural areas near Lowell and the expansion of local park and trail systems. Farther north in the Upper Peninsula, the Nature Conservancy purchased several parcels of wild land totaling over 6,000 acres including waterfalls, lakes, and Lake Superior shoreline at the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

The Nature Conservancy is a 1 million member nonprofit organization with 32,000 members in Michigan. The Conservancy works to preserve plants, animals and natural communities by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Eventually the state will buy the land with Natural Resources Trust Fund (NRTF) money. The NRTF is funded by fees collected from oil and gas leases on state property.

The Maxton Plains on Drummond Island in Lake Huron is an area which was scraped flat and cleared of soil by glaciers. The thin layer of soil that now covers the bedrock creates an alvar grassland which is home to a variety of rare plants. The Natural Conservancy protects and manages a large portion of the plains.

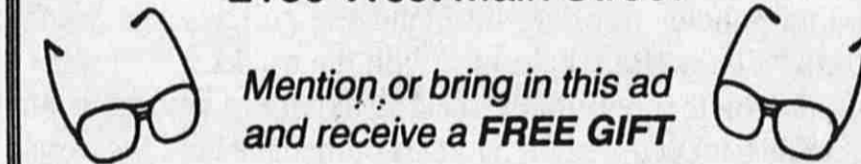
A bigger deal yet was put together by the state and The Nature Conservancy. At stake were 390,000 acres spread across the northern Upper Peninsula from Tahquamenon Falls to the Porcupine Mountains. The land, in various size parcels, was for sale by a Hawaiian education trust. The property is valued at about \$150 million which was beyond the means of the NRTF because of the number of applications received for funding other deserving land acquisition requests. The plan was to combine state and federal funding with Nature Conservancy contributions and then share the purchase cost with a corporate partner. The corporate partner would use the land for commercial purposes—preferably logging which would provide employment opportunities. Because the plan kept the

land under the Commercial Forest Act, the company would be eligible for tax breaks and the land would remain accessible to the public for recreational uses like hunting, fishing and hiking.

The land was for sale to any bidder and last week an out-of-state investment group came up with the highest bid on its own. If the deal is finalized, the new owner will sell standing timber to logging companies by using renewable forestry practices. It seems likely the company could cooperate with the Nature Conservancy and the state of Michigan to achieve the original objectives for the property. Hopefully, it will all work out because we must protect what space we have left as development closes in on our wild places.

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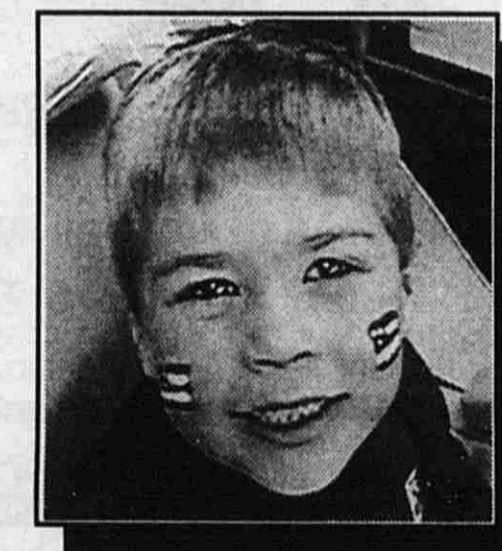
NAME:.....EVAN BRUNETTE

AGE:.....5 years old

BIRTHDAY.....7/17/97

HOBBIES.....Star Wars, riding his bike, playing basketball & Legos

He receives a prize for his great checkup.



November "No Cavities" Club Members

Josh Stevens	Cherokee Brandt	Reese Fox
David Stevens	Fallon Fox	Hanneh DuVernay
Brandon Gamaat	Molly Clarke	Evan Brunette
Logan DeClercq	Sydney Burrows	Mathew Schuitema
Jonathon Anible	Margy Brunette	Rebeka Martin
Chelsae Prill	John Martin	Conner Smithee
Evan Swanson	McKenzie Stiles	Andrew Martin
Travis Snyder		Abby Geng
Sam Young		Mitchell Strawser

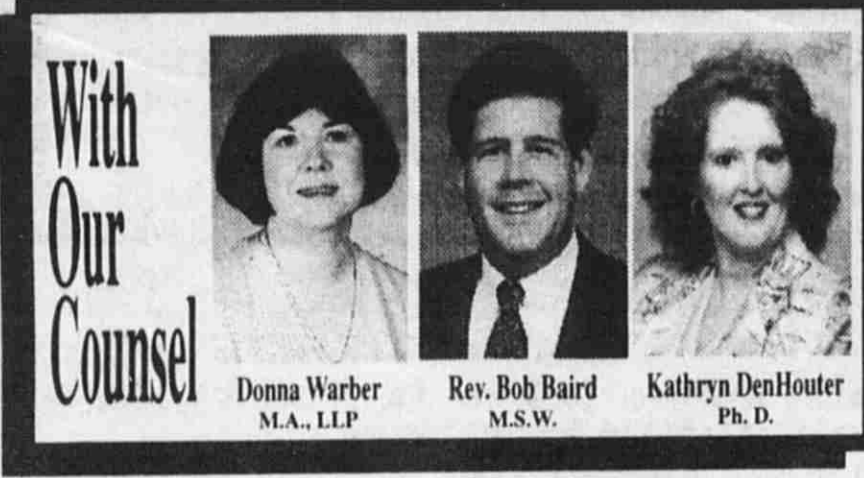
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With Our Counsel
 Donna Warner M.A., LL.P.
 Rev. Bob Baird M.S.W.
 Kathryn DenHouter Ph. D.

I'll be doing a series of six articles on the infant from 0-3. Almost all research done on that time in an infant's life suggests that the largest brain growth happens in the first three years of life. We sometimes think that a baby at that age needs parents with basic physical caregiving skills and a parent that has an extra dose of stamina helping them deal with disruption in their sleep/wake cycle. Without a doubt, the baby's physical needs have to be met, but most importantly, early speech and

communication patterns are established at that time as well. According to Kathy Hirsh-Pasek, Ph.D., co-author of the book, *How Babies Talk: The Magic and Mystery of Language in the First Three Years of Life*, emphasizes how important it is to take a few minutes of down time each day to appreciate what your infant is saying and doing. In this world of cell phones, e-mails, T.V. and radio, sometimes it can be so hard to set aside those times. But the experts say that it is crucial to help build the relationship with your baby and to cultivate his/her communication skills.

First of all, creating the best setting for this communication is important. Research has found that infants can't focus beyond 12 to 18 inches for the first four months. Therefore, you don't want to be too far from the infant's face because you want him/her to see your expressions. Try to let the infant take the lead and your job is to WATCH FOR CUES! The infant is ready for interaction when you see: 1. smiles, 2. eyes wide open, 3. attends to your face and/or voice, 4. their arms or legs are relaxed, 5. moves their mouth as if they are talking, and 6. they coo. This "alert" state, also known as the "steady state," is the very best time for this communication. Early infancy (first few months of life) babies stay in this state for only five

to 10 minutes. As they mature, that state typically becomes longer and longer.

Secondly, watch for cues that your baby is shifting into a fussier state. Some of those signs are thrashing their arms and legs, and their eyes might divert to one side or the other looking away from your face. It's important at this time to not overstimulate your baby, and you may even be able to move your baby back into the receptive state by reducing the stimulation. Covering them and by making some voice tones, changes can often move them out of this fussy state. The important thing is that you are responsive to the baby's changes and that you adjust your behavior accordingly.

Some of the cues that your baby gives when he/she wants to slow down the stimuli are: 1. looks away from your face, 2. eyes wander without focusing, 3. grimaces, 4. face reddens or pales, 5. arches back and neck, 6. arms stiffen and fingers splay as if pushing away, 7. arms and legs thrash.

Although there is no one best way for parents and babies to communicate, experts agree the more you interact, the more easily you'll read your child's cues and signals. Next month we'll look at how infants can help themselves learn to "self-comfort," and how they communicate, "I have needs."

their Las Vegas lighting deployment which took everybody by surprise. Our Enforcement Officer scratches his head over these new facts-on-the-ground which rose from the site plan like a rake in the grass. The Zeigler "upgrade" fails on four elements: elevation, angle of attack, spectral signature, intrinsic wattage. Here is what would happen in some jurisdictions in this State: tear it down.

Having free of charge brought you the events of the month, I wish everyone a merry and reasonably sober Christmas. The people rest.

G.M. Ross

TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ledger:

"I'm doing it so you won't have to." Such is my message to the Lowell Townshipians about their Planning Commission meetings. One almost feels bad for the members, the things which come before them and the statesmanlike way in which they must act.

Item: One petitioner, seeking to rezone "prime ag" land in the southern Township to "light" industrial indicated that he was doing so to keep the area nice because, after all, he lives right around there. Yet another indication of how other public spending policies translate into land use policies, the South Beltline "would really help me" with the trucks.

Item: Another petitioner, seeking extensive land splits on a parcel he has occupied for 31 years opined the benefits were, amongst other things, more tax base for the Lowell Area Schools. He also wants to keep everything nice because you

will not even know the houses are there.

Item: A surreal mess on Bewell in which the residents are not at fault continues. One heard (correctly?) that a magistrate who (poorly) handled the matter could not discuss certain elements of his decision. What is this, the Uniform Code of Military Justice? (See the current *U.S. News and World Report*).

Item: A gentlewoman wants to start a semi-retail operation, so she was directed to look in Ag-2. When have we heard this one before?

Item: Now comes the bobbingagian l'affaire Zeigler and

Lions' band seeks local musicians

The Lions/Lioness club of Michigan are currently seeking area high school students to participate in their annual All-State Band program. This internationally acclaimed youth activity has represented the Lions of Michigan for 25 years. Since its inception, over 300 Michigan high schools and communities have been represented in the band program.

This year's tour will take the band participants to Denver, Colorado, for the Lions Clubs International Convention.

The Lions of Michigan All-State Band provides its members with experience in musical performance, travel

and education, sociological growth and exposure to the Lions' motto "We serve." While on tour the band traditionally performs concerts at hospitals, orphanages and retirement centers.

The band program is not

an honors band and seeks out individuals at all levels including visual ensemble.

All area high school band instructors have received information on this year's tour. Auditions will be held on Jan. 11-12 at Haslett High School.

Deadline for applications is Dec. 31. For more information contact the Lions of Michigan State office at 517-887-6640 or visit their web site at www.lionsofmi.com. The All-State Band is a non-profit organization.

Snowmobile trail maps available at Deer Run

The West Michigan Trail System is marked and ready to ride with adequate (4 inches) of snowfall. The trailhead is Deer Run Golf Course and then proceeds south for 174 miles. Trail maps are available at Deer Run and other sites along the trail.

A reminder: Off-trail riding is trespassing. Removing trail signs and markers is against the law and puts other riders in danger.

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In loving memory of our precious baby girl and sister. You have been gone from our arms for 2 years now. But not a moment goes by that you're not in our minds and hearts. If I had known that cold December morning that SIDS was waiting to steal you from us, I wouldn't have put you down when you fell asleep. If only I'd known that I was changing your last diaper, feeding you for the last time and I was holding you for the very last time, I would have held you forever. I guess in our hearts we are still holding you.

Even though we can't hold you, watch you crawl or walk, get teeth or learn to talk, we know you are in terrific hands. For all the pain we have experienced since your death, we wouldn't have changed a single moment with you. We are glad we were blessed to have been given you (however short). Although nothing will be the same again, you are missed and loved every moment of every day.

Thankfully, we have precious memories. You are always with us in our hearts, minds and dreams.

*Until We Meet Again,
 Love Mom, Dad, Big Sister Jessie King,
 Big Brothers Justin & Jordan Warren.*

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COMING EVENTS

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

EVERY MONTH: Flat River Snowmobile Club meets at the clubhouse (11841 Potters Rd.) east of Montcalm Ave. For dates call 897-5015. Guests welcome.

EVERY OTHER SUN: Single adults, ages 25-50 years, meet 4 - 5:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Lowell. Social time/lt. Bible study. Call Mark 897-8642 or Tammy 897-0872.

EVERY MON.: Lowell High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Friends - meets from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in members' homes. Call 676-1355 for details.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: Fallasburg Historical Society holds monthly board meeting at chamber office at 7 p.m. Public invited. 897-7161.

SECOND MON. OF EACH MONTH: The Lowell Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m. in Administration Building, 300 High Street.

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

THIRD MON. OF THE MONTH: Lowell Showboat Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall of the Nazarene Church. For info. call Dave : 897-2533.

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

FOURTH MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: American Legion Clark-Ellis Post 152 at Schneider Manor, Bldg. D, 725 Bowes Rd. 8 p.m.

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH: Diabetic Support group at 7 p.m. at 1st United Methodist Church dining room. Call 897-2760 with questions.

THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH: Women of the Moose business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

EVERY 1ST MON.: V.F.W.

Post #8303 (men only) meets at 7:00 p.m.

EVERY MON.: Boy Scout Troop 102: boys 11 & up or completing 5th-grade, meets 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Scout Cabin on N. Washington St. Call Terry 868-6481.

1ST & 3RD TUES.: Diabetic Support group meets at Schneider Manor Community Room at 9:30 a.m. ?'s call 897-2760.

TUES.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly Tops M1#372 meets Key Heights Mobile Home Park Community Bldg. Weigh-ins 5:45 p.m.

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

1ST TUES.: Adults with AD/HD at Calvin College, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call Gary Engle at 897-6325 or 248-2423.

1ST TUES.: WINGS Parent group meetings 7:30 to 9 p.m., in Board Room at 300 High St. Business meetings/odd months; program meetings/even months. All are welcome.

EVERY SECOND & FOURTH TUES.: Knights of Columbus #7719 meets St. Mary School, 7:30 p.m.

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

EVERY 1ST & 3RD TUES.: Lowell Lions Club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

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

EVERY 1ST TUES.: Adults w/ AD/HD Issues Group meeting: Calvin College #206 of the Commons bldg. Connie 942-6887.

EVERY OTHER WED.: 6:45-8:45 p.m. G.E.M.S. Girls Club - Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Girls ages 8-13. 897-8694.

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

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

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

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

EVERY WED.: Lowell Church of the Nazarene Caravan children's program, 7 p.m., 5-12 years. Call 897-8800 with ???'s.

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

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

EVERY FOURTH WED.: Elderly volunteers needed for Intergenerational program w/school children from Lowell in activities. 9:45-10:45 a.m. or 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Call Sister Colleen F.S.E. at Franciscan Child Development Center, 897-7842.

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

THURS.: Weight Watchers at Lowell Nazarene Church, 201 N. Washington, 5:30 & 7 p.m. Register 1/2 hour before meetings. New members invited 1-800-651-6000.

EVERY THURS.: Saranac Area Musicians and Singers: Saranac High School, Choir - 6:30 p.m./band - 7:30. Kathy 897-5981.

EVERY THURS.: Pottery classes at Franciscan Life Process Center from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. \$10 per hour/ \$15 for two. Call 897-7842 for info. or to register.

EVERY THURS. - St. Mary's Pregnancy Crisis Center, 402 Amity St., non-denominational help for pregnant women/adolescents at the school: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Mondays: 5:30-8 p.m. 897-9393.

FIRST THURS.: 4-H drama club meetings at Lowell Middle School choir room. 897-1502 after 5.

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

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

EVERY 3RD THURS.: Rubber stamping group meets at Christian Life Center 6-9 p.m. Create cards, scrapbooks, etc. Share supplies. Call Dawn 862-8841 for information.

EVERY 3RD THURS.: VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary: 3 p.m. at Schneider Manor Community Room.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents group at Franciscan Life Process Center: discussion for parents of children. Call 897-7842.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell 6:30 p.m. for socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children welcome. Ada church. Call 752-8300.

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

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

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

EVERY FRI. & SAT.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley 1-4 p.m. By appt.: 676-9346.

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

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.-Fri.: 12-6 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. 897-2037.

ENGLHARDT LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. - Wed., 12 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. - Fri.: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat.: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. 200 N. Monroe St. Call 647-3920.

LOWELL AREA ARTS COUNCIL: Open Tues., Wed. & Fri.: noon - 5 p.m.; Thurs.: noon - 7 p.m.; Sat., 1-4 p.m. 149 S. Hudson. Call 897-8545.

FRI., DEC. 20: Lowell Women's Club bake sale at Huntingon Bank main office - regular business hours.

EVERY 3RD THURS.: VFW #8303 Ladies Auxiliary: 3 p.m. at Schneider Manor Community Room.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Parents Supporting Parents group at Franciscan Life Process Center: discussion for parents of children. Call 897-7842.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: Royal Arch Masons regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Lowell Masonic Center, 119 Lincoln Lake, Lowell. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURS.: LaLeche League of Ada, Cascade & Lowell 6:30 p.m. for socializing; meeting 7 p.m. Mother to mother support for pregnant & breastfeeding women. Nursing children welcome. Ada church. Call 752-8300.

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

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

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

EVERY FRI. & SAT.: Averill Historical Museum of Ada, 7144 Headley 1-4 p.m. By appt.: 676-9346.

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

FLAT RIVER OUTREACH MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOP HOURS: Wed.-Fri.: 12-6 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 519 E. Main St. 897-2037.

DEC. 23 - JAN. 1: Chamber of Commerce office will be closed during the holidays.

SAT., JAN. 4: Luminary Walk, 5-7 p.m. at Wittenbach Agriscience Center; snow shoes available; guided hike; live music by Lowell Music Ensemble.

WED., JAN. 8: LHS bands holiday concert rescheduled from Dec. 11 in Performing Arts Center. Everyone is welcome to attend this free concert.

Christmas Eve CELEBRATION
Hear Yea Hear Yea
 Followers of Jesus of Nazareth Drop-In Communion and Prayer given on The Eve of Christ's Birth. Come one, come all to the Lowell Church of the Nazarene during the hours of 6 and 8 PM.
 Hot Dogs & Chips, Cake, Ice Cream, Accompany the Celebration of Christ's Birth in the Fellowship Hall 201 N. Washington

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
LOWELL SENIOR NEIGHBORS CALENDAR
 897-5949

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

TUES.: 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall. 1 p.m. Bible Study. **FRI.:** 8:30 a.m. Walk at Woodland Mall.

SPECIAL EVENTS
WED., DEC. 18: 9 Adv. Council; 10 a.m. Holland Evergreen Commons \$8 Payable at Sign-up; Bus \$5. **THURS., DEC. 26:** Center Closed.

THURS., DEC. 19: Noon Dance. **FRI., DEC. 27:** 12:45 p.m. Bingo.

FRI., DEC. 20: Noon Christmas Party, Music and Gift Exchange. **TUES., DEC. 31:** 8 a.m. Women's Breakfast.

TUES., DEC. 24: 12:45 p.m. Shop Meijer. **WED., JAN. 1, '03:** Happy New Year!!!



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Red Arrows skate with purpose as program continues to improve

Strong defensive play and strong goaltending have enabled Lowell's hockey team to open the 2002-03 season at 3-2-1.

The Lowell Red Arrow varsity hockey team skated to a 2-2 overtime tie with the visiting Falcons of West Catholic Saturday night at Standard Federal Ice Center. Tie games usually indicate an exciting match-up and this one was no exception.

After nearly a period of scoreless hockey with both teams exchanging shots, the Falcons found the mesh late in the first to take a 1-0 lead into the second. Early in the second period the Red Arrows tied the game with an unassisted goal from Ted McCoy. With a power play advantage late in the second, Lowell's Brandon John passed the puck to Josh Baker on the point and his slapshot found the back of the net to put the Red Arrows on top 2-1 to end the second period of play.

After the intermission, both teams traded shots for most of

the third period until the Falcons scored a power play goal with 6:35 left in the third to tie the game at 2-2. As the clock wound down in regulation, the Red Arrows once again found themselves with a power play advantage but were unable to capitalize, sending the game into overtime.

The overtime period provided excellent scoring opportunities for both teams; neither, however, was able to seal the win. Lowell goaltender, David Maylone was excellent in the net throughout the game, stopping 25/27 shots, and his 4/4 overtime effort was the difference between a potential loss and the eventual tie for the Red Arrows.

"We're improving every week and have fared well against some strong teams," said Lowell hockey coach, Mike Ballard. Lowell's coach points to David Maylone's work in the net as a key to early season successes.

"The key to our success this year will depend on our patience and learning to play together," Ballard said. "I sense

the boys are starting to blend together well."

Josh Baker, Chad Rau and captain Brian Posthumus will lead Lowell defensively.

On offense, the play will be carried by the Red Arrow forwards: Brandon John, McCoy, Corey Kelly, Josh John, and Eric Austin.

"They are a good group of players who listen and pay attention. They have shown so far this year that they can compete at the varsity level," Ballard said. "Our program is growing. More and more are showing interest in hockey."

Lowell has 18 players on the varsity roster and 20 on the junior varsity. Ballard said there are 20-30 younger kids who attended the hockey summer camps.

The Red Arrows are on the road this weekend traveling to Jackson to take on Jackson High School.

Timing is everything as experienced Lowell netters seek better fortune in 2002-'03

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Consistency in execution and a strong desire to win may help begin to change the fortunes of Lowell volleyball.

"I believe in what we're doing and am overjoyed with the direction of the whole volleyball system," said Lowell volleyball coach, Connie Black.

A good balance of juniors and seniors will fill the Red Arrow roster in 2002-03.

The execution will initiate with Lowell setters Katelyn Bush and Jessica Hamp. Bush received plenty of time at the setter position her junior year.

"We're going to attempt to speed up the offense. To do that we'll have to better coordinate the timing with our setter," Black explained.

With the timing in place, it will be up to Bush and Hamp to get the ball to Lowell's row of hitters.

They are middle hitters, Wendy Seis and Heather Becker. On the outside hitting in will be Jenell Gemmill, Kim Huyser, Courtney Phillips and Sarah Swab.

Shoring up the defensive play in the back row will be Stephanie Wagner, Julie Halbeisen and Emily Nurmikko.

"I think the biggest difference going into this year is we have a club loaded with girls who have club experience," Black said. "I really believe girls with experience and exposure to top notch competition make all the difference."

Seniors Bush, Huyser, Phillips, Gemmill and Cori Drenth will serve as assignment captains (e.g., offense, defense and exercise).

Gemmill and Phillips have been named the overall captains.

"If the girls take care of our side of the net, it doesn't matter who's on the other side," Black said.

The Lowell coach says success will come 70-80 percent of the time if his club handles their serves, makes plays, runs its offense and plays good defense.

Red Arrow netters competed in their first official games of the season at the Creston Invitational on Saturday.

Lowell finished 1-2 in pool play before losing in the pool play championship to Reeths-Puffer 15-8, 16-14.

In pool play, Lowell defeated Saranac 15-4, 15-11 and lost to Grand Rapids Christian 17-15, 15-8 and to Wayland 15-10, 15-7.

"We needed to be a little more patient running our offense and the girls need more reps in ball handling and transitioning into our offense," Black explained. "Our serving was good."

Lowell begins its conference play on Thursday at Northview.

Not yet full strength, Lowell grapplers take 2nd at Howell

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

School history was made in Lowell's 55-23 wrestling decision over Forest Hills Northern on Thursday.

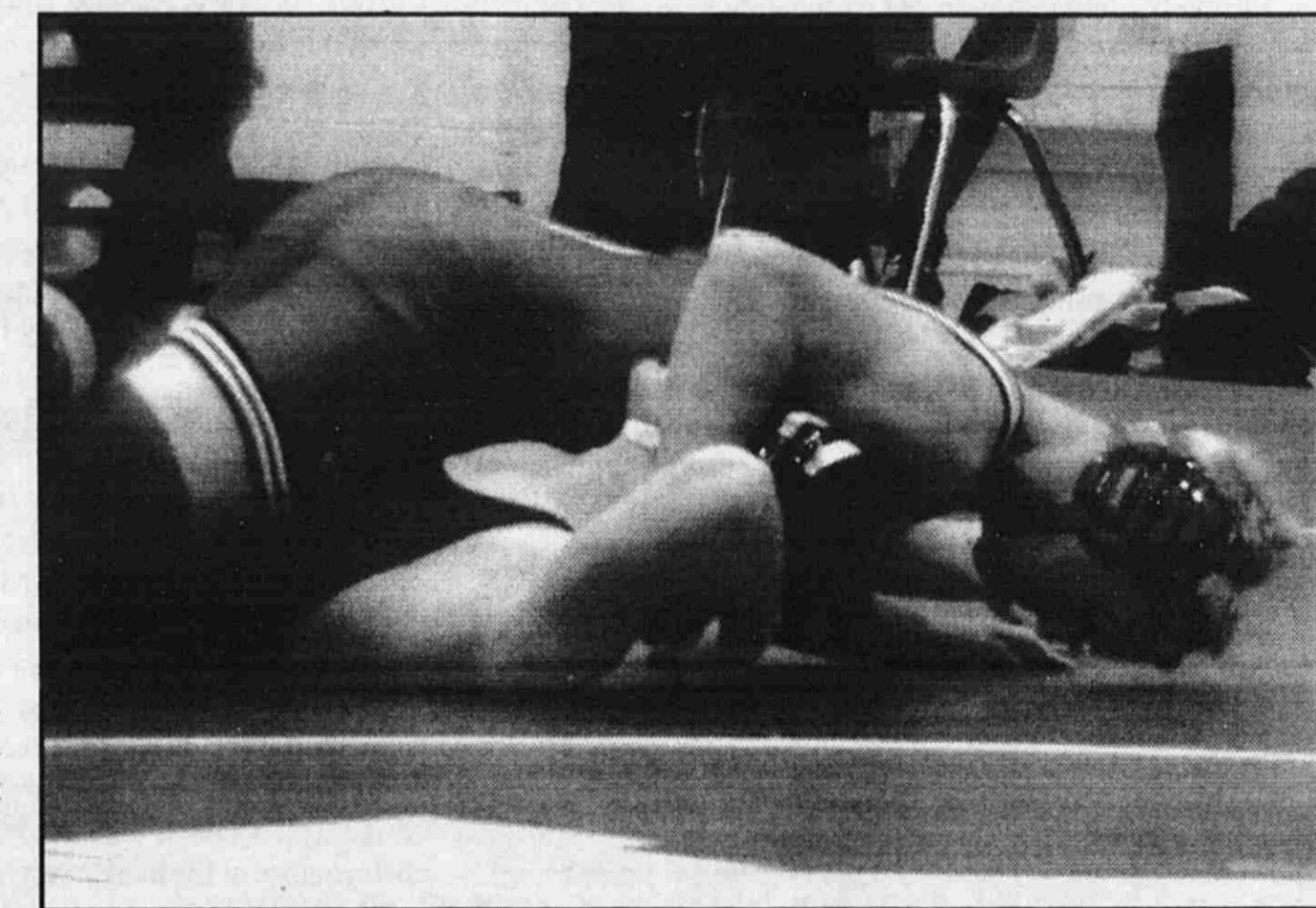
Angelica Williams became the first Lowell girl to win a varsity wrestling match.

Minus a wrestler at 103 pounds for the first few weeks of the season, Lowell wrestling coach, Dave Strejc found one in a junior varsity cheerleader.

"I just wanted someone we could have walk out there in case the opponent did not have a 103 pound wrestler," Strejc explained.

That scenario occurred against the Huskies, enabling Williams to earn her first and probably last wrestling decision (via a forfeit) of her short-lived career.

Lowell's win over Northern and its 44-27 win over



Shoulder blades down, head up and Lowell's Kevin Frazier, 135 pounds, registers himself a pin.

Greenville improved its dual meet record to 5-4 overall and 1-0 in the O-K White.

Other than Williams'

win, Lowell's victory was pretty much ho-hum. The Red Arrows jumped out to a 49-0 lead before the Huskies earned

their first win of the match at 171 pounds.

Wrestling, cont'd, pg. 16

ELECTRIC INTERRUPTION NOTICE

On Friday, December 20 at approximately 7:00 a.m., a brief interruption of electrical service will affect some Lowell Light and Power customers. The outage is necessary to safely perform required system maintenance.

Customers affected will include those in areas:

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South of the Grand River
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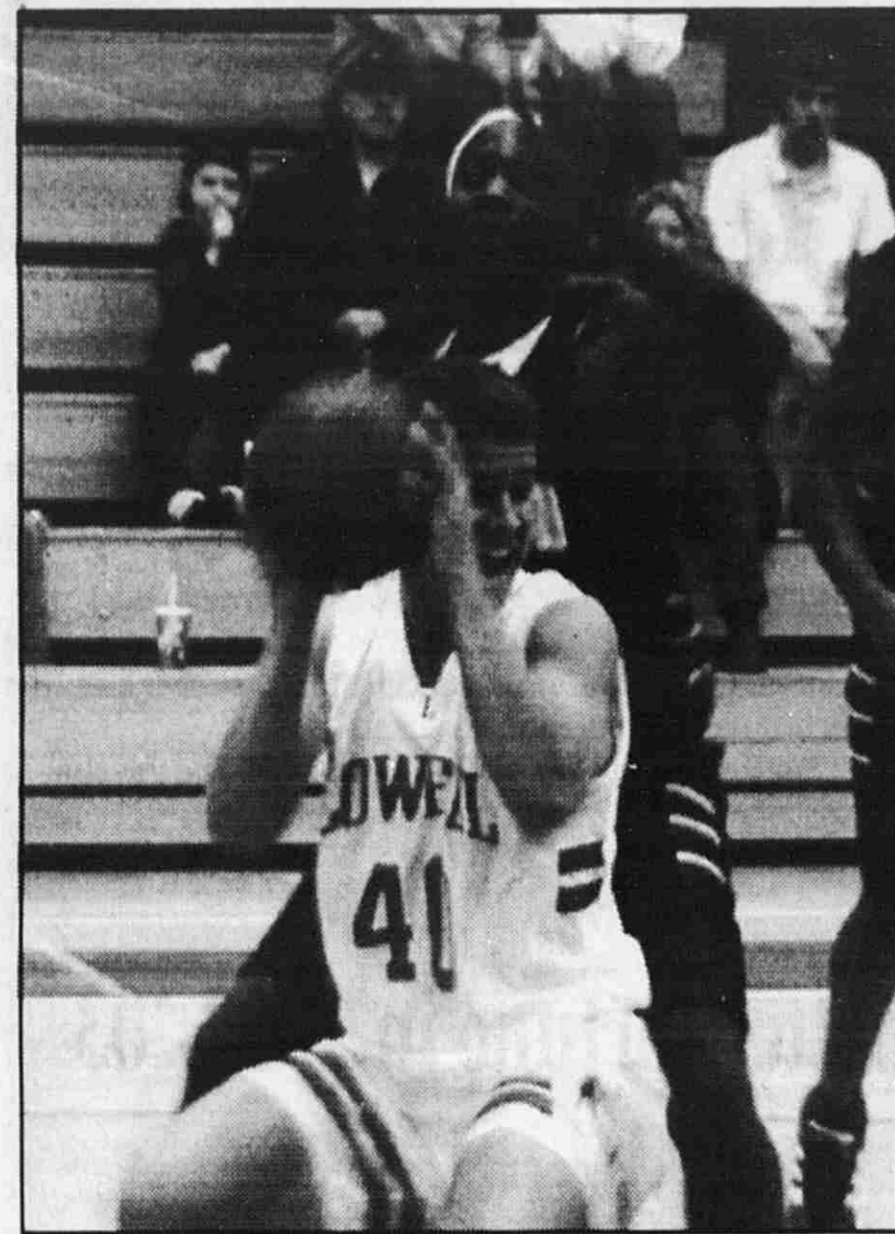
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At Last Summer's
Cannonsburg Festival



Andy McQueen watches his back as he works the offensive boards against Creston Friday night. Lowell won the game 60-40.



Lowell wins for a second time as Red Arrows bury Creston, 60-40

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Active hands, happy feet and a hot touch netted Lowell a 60-40 nonconference win over Creston Friday night in the Red Arrows' home opener.

The 20-point victory followed a 55-38 win over Lake-wood in Lowell's season-opener on Tuesday night. It's the first time since the 1990-91 season that a Lowell boys' basketball team has started off the year at 2-0.

"This game is fun when the ball goes in the basket," said Lowell basketball coach, Jeff McDonald. "The boys played with confidence tonight and looked like they were having fun out there."

Fun translates into a fast-starting opening three minutes of the game and third quarter. "We got off to a good start and that's so important," explained McDonald.

Lowell used that fast start to open a 13-6 advantage and held a 15-12 lead at the end of one quarter.

Landon Trierweiler scored seven of his nine first half points in the opening eight minutes. The senior finished the game with 13 points.

The Red Arrows extended that lead to five at halftime by outscoring Creston 14-12 in the second stanza.

Sam Oberlin netted 10 of his game-high 18 points in the second half which included back-to-back threes from a few feet behind the arc. The Red Arrows outscored Creston 18-2 in the third quarter.

"I don't know what it is about the third quarter," said McDonald. "I am just so proud of the way our guys played half court defense tonight. They had active hands, happy feet, trusted one another and got the things done out there."

Lowell's burst coming out of the gate in the second half extended a five-point (29-24) halftime lead to 47-26 after three quarters.

"I told them in the locker room nobody cares who's winning at halftime," McDonald explained. "And that they should go and finish the job."

Creston first-year coach, Jeff Bauer said the new system he's put in place may have had something to do with his club's lack of rhythm.

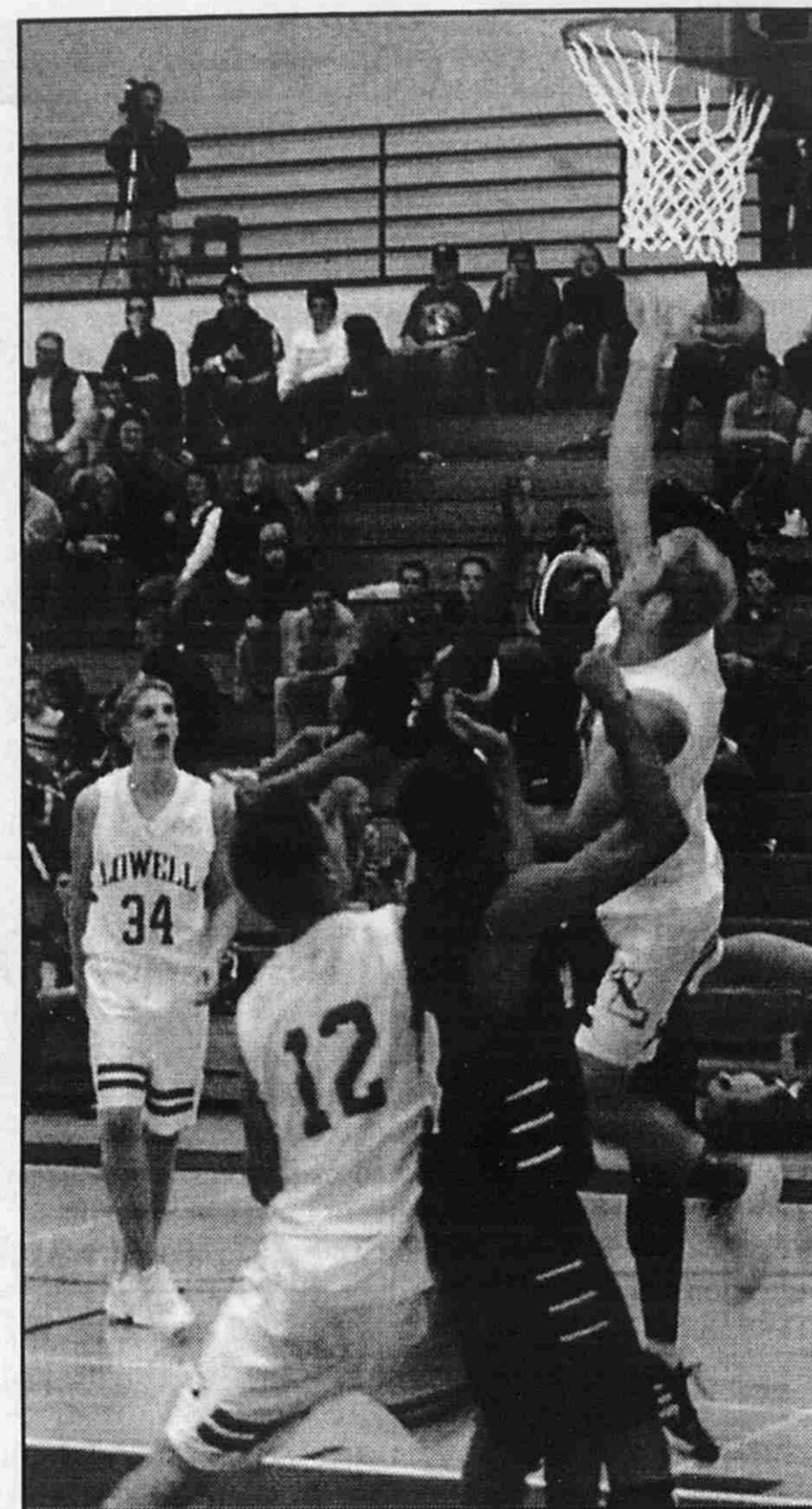
"Lowell shot it well and we kind of panicked. Give Lowell its due ... they got the job done. They shot well, boarded well and got to the loose balls," Bauer said. "I think our guys may have underestimated them."

A third-quarter press helped ignite a 26-4 run against the Vikings at Lake Odessa.

"We started the game wanting to press off the first made bucket, but we never hit a shot," McDonald explained. "Landon (Trierweiler) hit a 15-foot jumper to open the second half and we slapped on the press, and things rolled from there."

Lowell turned a 22-17 deficit into a 48-21 advantage going

Landon Trierweiler drives to the bucket in first-half action against Creston.



Sam Oberlin finds room above the fray for a bucket against Creston.

Wrestling, cont'd... From Page 15

On Saturday, at the Howell Invitational (individual), Lowell earned a second, finishing behind only Clarkston. Lapeer West placed third.

"It was a surprising and strong performance for us," Strejc explained.

Joe Mendez was undefeated (4-0) and took a first as he upended Clarkston's Elliot May in the finals of the 112 pound class.

Brandon Kinney, 125 pounds, was 4-0 on the day as he decisioned Northview's Troy Pitsch 4-3 in the championship match.

Lowell's third and final first came at 145 pounds in which Bobby Gingerich was a perfect 4-0.

Handing in second-place finishes were Kevin Frazier (3-1), 135 pounds, and Ryan Dykhouse (3-1), 160 pounds.

J.J. Wilder, wrestling for the first time this year, placed third in the 171 pound division. He lost in the semi-defending state champion, Clint DeGain from Clarkston.

"This tournament was a good measuring stick to see where Wilder and Dykhouse are to start the year," Strejc said. "I think this indicates they are really good."

Lowell's coach also recognized Patrick Persons for his performance at the heavyweight class. The Red Arrow was 2-2. "Patrick did a whale of a job for us," Strejc concluded.

Lowell hosts Northview on Thursday.

LOWELL AREA SCHOOLS BOARD BRIEFS

Summary of the Regular Meeting of December 9, 2002

STUDENT RECOGNITION - Dignity and Respect Award - Nancy Hopkins and Shari Miller presented the November Dignity and Respect Award to the Middle School student winner - Richelle Kimble, a sixth grader. **Equestrian Team** - Certificates were presented to the Lowell High School Equestrian C Team for their State Championship.

REPORT - 8th Grade Advanced Reading Project - Middle School teacher Chris Stacey introduced two 8th graders, Stephanie Kempker and Kristen Wolfe who reported on their experiences during an overnight class trip to the Wittenbach Center as part of *The Lord of the Flies* reading project.

ACTION ITEMS - Accepted the following gifts:
• Scott and Stacey Hovey (students) donation of a fish tank valued at \$275 to be used by the Wittenbach Center.
• Erica Myers donation of toys valued at \$89 to be used by the Tots on Track program.
• Nancy Biener donation of a cornet and clarinet valued at \$320 to be used by the Lowell High School Music Department.
Adopted the amendment to the 2002-2003 general fund budget.
Approved the utilization of the new addition at the high school as a ninth grade center to accommodate teams in the concept of creating smaller learning communities.

REPORT H.S. School Improvement and Professional Development - High School Principal Scott Vashaw along with school improvement co-chairs Heather Kohtz and Gary Fredline reported on their plans for the year. Scott then shared the high school professional development plans and the reasoning for developing a 9th grade wing to provide a home base for 9th graders.

CONSENT ITEMS - Approved/accepted were:
• The minutes for November 9, 2002 Board Retreat, November 11, 2002 Regular Meeting, November 25, 2002 Special Meeting, November 25, 2002 Closed Session and November 25, 2002 Board Workshop.
• The following payment of bills for November 2002:

GENERAL FUND.....\$867,279.66
SCHOOL SERVICES FUND
A. Food Service Fund.....\$165,666.45
B. Athletic Fund.....\$48,457.57
2000 CONSTRUCTION FUND.....\$367,496.26
TRUST AND AGENCY FUND.....\$28,427.22

• Overnight trip by the wrestling team on January 10, 2003
• Amend and restate its Cafeteria Plan under Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
• Authorize Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. to issue a Letter of Intent, in the amount of \$98,700.00 to Total Fire Protection, Inc.

BOND FOLLOW-UP - Jim White reported that there is now heat in the new wing at the high school with dry wall and painting to begin shortly. Cabling for the new wing will get started shortly after bid approval, and furniture will be ordered soon.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Shari Miller congratulated The Lowell High School Football Team for their state championship and the varsity girls basketball team for their excellent season. The high school students put on a fabulous theater production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* last week. Many students, staff and Board members participated in the Christmas parade. An invitation was extended to school personnel and community to enjoy the many performances and activities taking place in the schools. The Directions' publication provides a calendar listing of these events.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:
Board Workshop
Monday, December 16, 2002
Runciman Administration Building, brd. room • 5:30 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2003
Runciman Administration Building, brd. room • 7:00 p.m.

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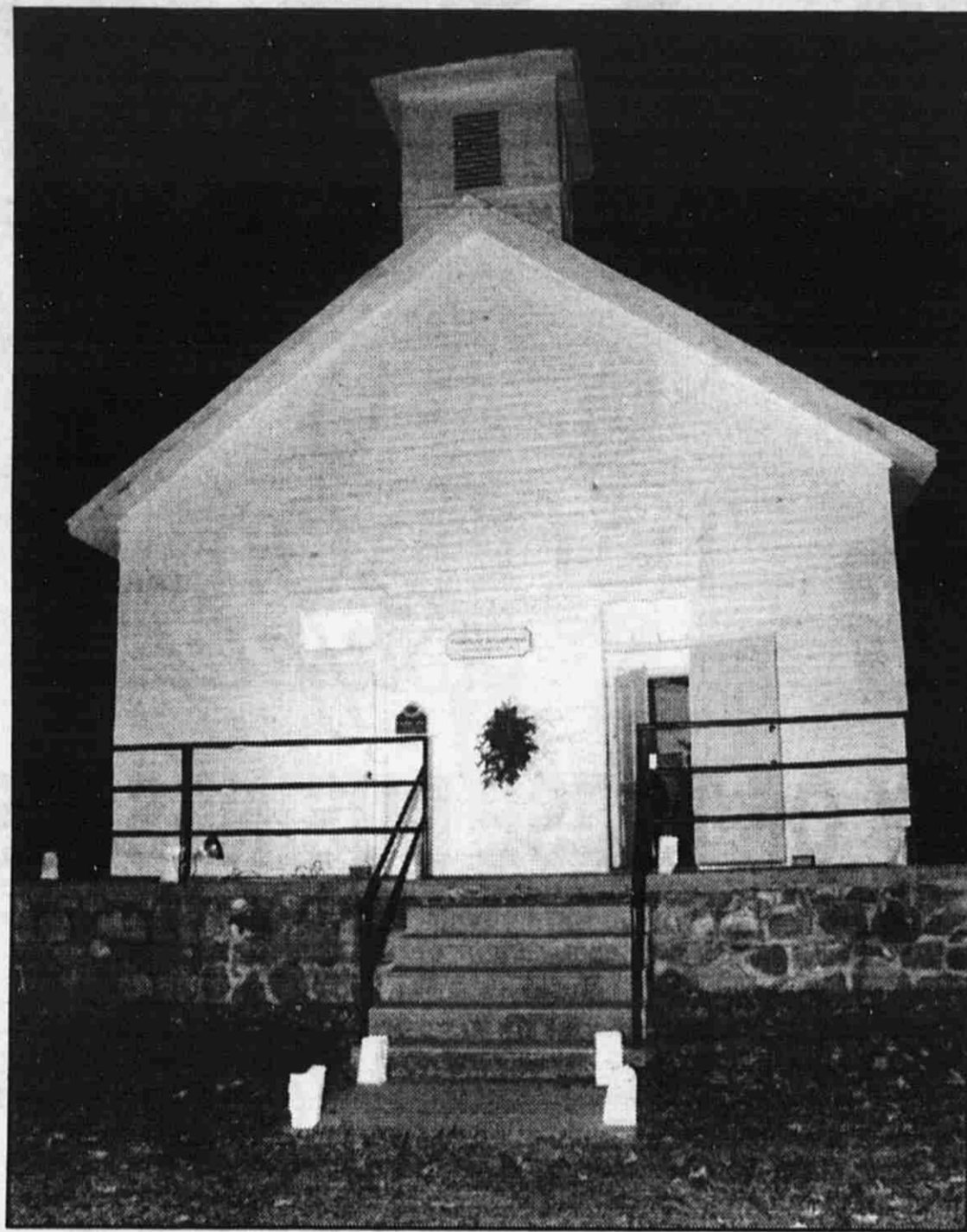
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Inviting holiday sites, sounds and smells from Fallasburg



The luminaries along the road lead the way to the Fallasburg Schoolhouse where the sounds and smells of Christmas invited you inside. The schoolhouse was the site for an old-fashioned Christmas celebration.



Janet Bieri, of Lowell, played period versions of Christmas songs on a pump organ next to the beautiful Christmas tree.



Martha Hayden, a teacher at Bushnell Elementary, seemed right at home in the one-room schoolhouse with her son, Noah.



The sounds of bells could be heard throughout the Fallasburg area. Ringing the school bell are Justin Doll, Savannah Roosenberg, Maya and Chloe Aalsburg, and Adam Roosenberg.

Pictures Courtesy, Bruce T. Doll

CHRISTMAS IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER - CHECK OUT THESE DEALS CLASSIFIEDS

- FOR SALE**
- FOR SALE**
- FOR RENT**
- HELP WANTED**
- CARD OF THANKS**
- SERVICES**

BELLAMY ACRES - West of Ionia. Plat on corner of Bellamy Rd & Bradford, Ionia. We have 1 parcel left. 4.28 acre parcel. Perked. Located on new road in plat, Enterprise Dr., Lot K. For further information call Phil, 616-367-4900.

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GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT! - Kirby vacuum with shampooer & all attachments. Paid \$1,300, asking \$800 obo. 897-7948.

BLUE RECLINER CHAIR - new this summer, but not needed. Call now to give for Christmas! Asking \$150. 897-8464.

MUST SELL!! - 1987 Blazer, \$900 or best. Call or leave a message 534-2947.

QUEEN LOG BED - Amish made, new mattress set. Cost \$1,000, sell \$185. Call 517-626-7089.

1994 NISSAN - King cab XE, 4x4, V6, auto., bedliner, CD, 85K. \$7,000 obo. Call 897-4951.

KEY HEIGHTS - 1995 Redman, 28x56, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Sale priced \$27,999. Great condition. Call North Harbor Homes, 1-800-824-9811.

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Shirley K.

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IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORY Lee Miller
In loving memory of our husband, dad, grandpa and great-grandpa, who passed away two years ago, December 16, 2000. The Broken Chain
We knew little that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, In death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you. You did not go alone, For part of us went with you. The day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, Your love is still our guide; And though we cannot see you, You are always at our side. Our family chain is broken, And nothing seems the same, But as God calls us one by one, The chain will link again.
Your family

SERVICES

INFANT AND TODDLER CHILD CARE OPENINGS - Call the Lowell YMCA Child Development Center at 897-4371.

GOING OUT OF TOWN? - I'll feed your pets and/or check on your house while you are away. Reasonable rates. Call 897-9194.

DAYCARE OPENINGS - FT & PT before and after school, large play area, all ages, CPR certified, 5 yrs. experience. Call 897-9413.

ALTO AREA DAYCARE - has 1 full time opening for infant - up, accepting FIA, licensed; food program, large fenced-in back yard. Call Amy at 868-0752.

GRANT PROGRAMS AMERIDREAM, HART, NEHEMIAH - 3 nonprofits will gift up to 7% to purchase your next home. No income restrictions. Call Michelle at CTX (616) 464-1348/(800) 282-0325, ext. 313 for more info. CTX is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

HAVE YOUR FARM OR SUBJECT - hand painted on a hat or plate for Christmas. \$24 + \$3.75 S&H. Call 527-1555 for details.

BRENDA B'S LICENSED CHRISTIAN DAY CARE - has full or part-time openings. Food program. Please call 987-9351.

DOG & CAT GROOMING - Sr. Discounts & Grooming Plans Available. Evening & Saturday Appointments Available. 10 minutes north of Lowell. 616-794-9614.

PAYROLL & BOOKKEEPING SERVICE - by certified Quickbooks advisor. Call Kathy 897-0686.

RESIDENTIAL PLUMBER Service or new construction, reasonable rates. Call 897-2575.

JOHN DEBIAK HORSESHOEING & HOOF TRIMMING - Serving the Greater Kent/Ionia County area with 15 years of professional, full-time experience. Call 897-4290.

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

CLEANING BY KAREN - Too busy? Too tired? No problem! Residential & commercial cleaning. Insured & bonded. 897-4010.

TOWING - Servicing Lowell & surrounding areas. Flat bed & wrecker, Tire changes, Jump starts, Lock outs, 24 Hr. service. Call Lincoln Lake Autos 446-5909.

SNOW REMOVAL - Driveways, roofs, sidewalks, etc. Reasonable rates. Call Uhen Construction 299-1249.

ALTO AREA DAYCARE - has 1 full time opening for infant - up, accepting FIA, licensed; food program, large fenced-in back yard. Call Amy at 868-0752.

DISCOUNT MANUFACTURED HOMES - Repossessed, late model homes offered at discount prices. Double and single wides. Some like new. Some fixer uppers. Financing available. All offers considered. North Harbor Homes 800-824-9811.

BRENDA B'S LICENSED CHRISTIAN DAY CARE - has full or part-time openings. Food program. Please call 987-9351.

WE SHIP UPS AT THE LEDGER!

GREAT NEWS!!!

The Lowell Ledger NOW AVAILABLE AT:



- MEIJER** (Inside Store)
In Our Community
- ★ AMOCO
 - ★ SHELL ★ SPEEDWAY
 - ★ RITE AID
 - ★ MEIJER GAS MART
 - ★ LOWELL FOOD MART
 - ★ LOWELL BEER STORE
 - ★ GARY'S COUNTRY MEATS
 - ★ ALTO TOTAL STATION

SALE

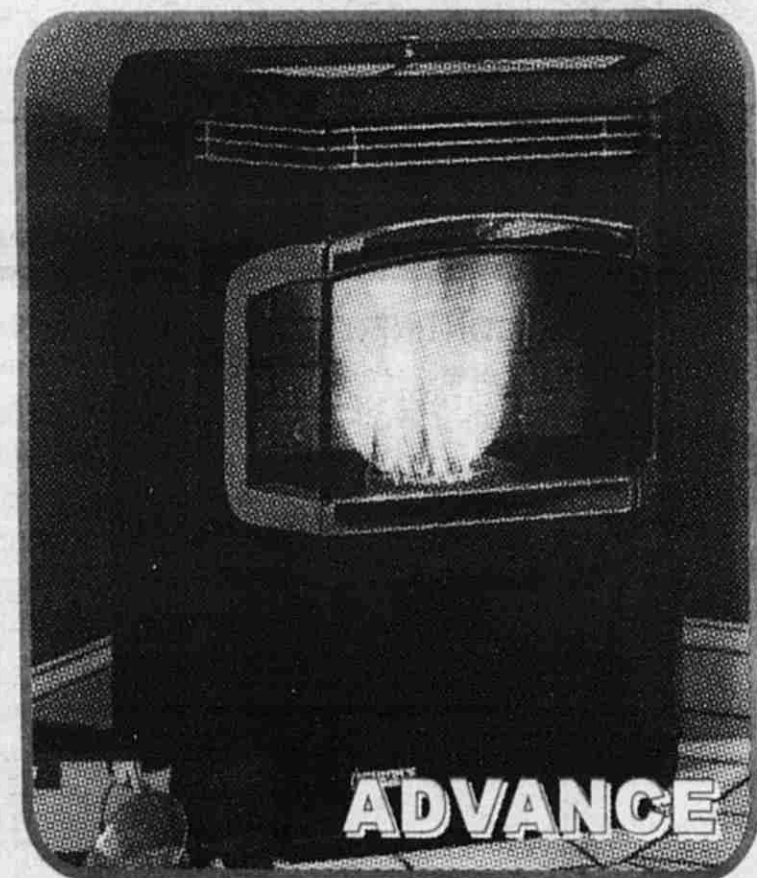
DECEMBER 16 - 30TH

MON, TUE, THUR, FRIDAY 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM

WED : 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

HEAT FOR LESS!



Harman Pellet Stove Sale!

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