

The Lowell Ledger

Volume 28, Issue 14

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Amendment will be needed before fence can be erected

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Her arguments were compelling and change will probably occur, just not in the form of a variance.

Candice Fleszar-Smith went before the Zoning Board of Appeals anticipating asking for a variance so she and her husband, Chris could erect a four-and-a-half foot high front yard fence at 417 Howard.

Under Section 4.07 B, fences in the required front yard are limited to three feet in height.

Smith's request for a recommendation from the planning commission for a variance fell through when the commissioners recommended against granting the variance.

The planning commission noted that there were no unusual circumstances nor undue hardship demonstrated.

However, the planning commission noted that it wished to amend the ordinance, allowing greater latitude for front yard fence height.

Lowell's City Council unanimously agreed with the commission's ruling, stating that it preferred to give the commission time to work out an amendment rather than approve a variance.

Planning commission chairman, Clark Jahnke said it would be April before the commissioners could have something written in ordinance form.

Fleszar-Smith said with

two small children (4 and 19 months) the sooner the better.

"We have no backyard and two sideyards," she explained.

The Lowell residents are proposing putting in scalloped picket fencing. "It will add some continuity to the neighborhood and I think it goes with Lowell's historical look," Fleszar-Smith said.

She also asked that materials be considered when amending the ordinance. "Not always are the right materials selected for the city's historical look," Fleszar-Smith said.

The council tabled the request for a variance so that the planning commission could look at possible amendments to the ordinance.



Lowell girls varsity sideline cheer team claimed the first-place trophy Saturday as Lowell High School hosted its first-ever sideline cheer competition. Story, page 14.

City sets two public hearings for Feb. 18

In an effort to allow greater flexibility to develop housing in the SR and R-1 districts, the Lowell City Council will consider an ordinance amendment revising several regulations in these districts.

Proposed revisions to regulations in the SR District involve:

- reducing the front yard setback from 40 to 30 feet
- increasing the rear yard setback from 25 to 35 feet
- decreasing the minimum lot size from 35,000 to 23,000 square feet
- decreasing the minimum lot width from 165 to 125 feet
- adjusting the minimum dwelling unit floor area previously 1,500 square feet UFA to single level - ranch 1,200 square feet main floor with attached garage; multi level - 780 square feet main floor with 1,400 total square feet.

In the R-1 District:

- adjusting the minimum dwelling unit floor area previously 1,500 square feet UFA to the proposed single level - 1,200 square feet main floor living area; multi level - 780 square feet main floor 1,400 total square feet.

The council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, Feb. 18.

Lowell City Council will also hold a public hearing on adopting an open space preservation provision.

State legislature passed an open space preservation statute under Public Act 179 of 2001.

The statute requires Michigan cities which have adopted zoning ordinances with a population of 1,800 or more and with undeveloped land for residential development at a certain density to adopt open space preservation provisions at the option of the land owner.

AG-1 special use permit could be considered by township

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

A wholesale lumber operation on the corner of Alden Nash and 60th St. will require rezoning.

It will require rezoning AG-1 property to commercial/industrial which does not conform to the Master Plan and could be considered spot zoning.

An alternative for the Lowell Charter Township Planning Commission would be to consider a use allowed by Special Use Permit in AG-1 — "Specialized Collection and Storage Facilities for agricultural products not grown on premises." Such a permit would require 300 feet of road frontage.

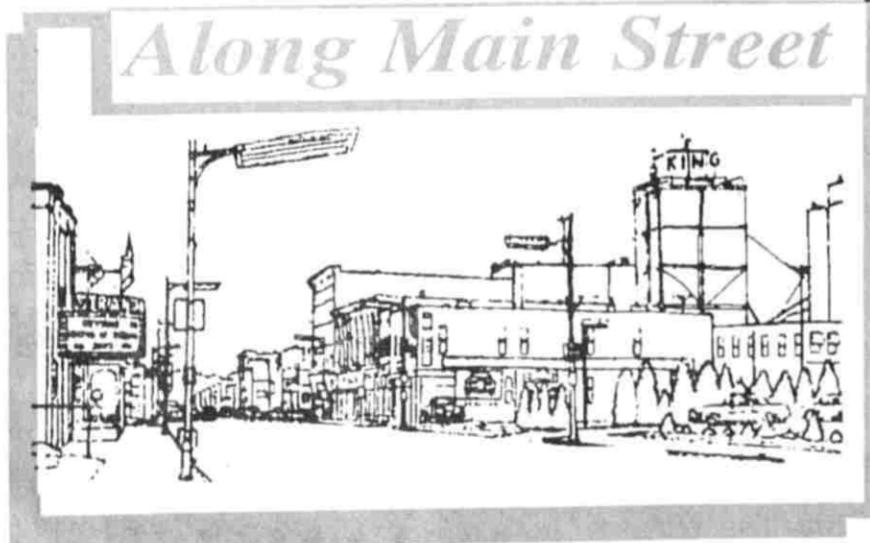
For this to be established, the planning commission would have to assume that lumber is an agricultural product.

With this as a possibility, the planning commission gave Steve Traetz the sections of the zoning ordinance related to special use permits/site plans, etc.

Traetz's proposal calls for a 300x80 storage building, and will include 800-1000 square feet of office space.

The site picked by Traetz is wet and not prime for farming. He plans to leave most of the area undeveloped other than the building, and parking lot area.

Traetz would start with five employees and could expand up to eight in the future.



LOWELL AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM PRESENTS ...

"The Murder of Charlie Knapp" by Michael Tummino on Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. at Lowell Township Hall. The free program is open to the public; light refreshments served.

KDL BRANCHES CLOSED FOR IN-SERVICE

The 18 branches of Kent District Library and the KDL Service Center will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17 so staff may attend an in-service training day. Regular hours resume on Tuesday, Feb. 18.

FREE KINDERMUSIK STORYTIME

Englehardt Library will offer a free Kindermusik storytime on Tuesday, Feb. 18 from 10 - 10:30 a.m. Newborn to 18 months accompanied by a parent or caregiver as well as

siblings are welcome. Call 897-8545 to register. Sponsored by Lowell Area Arts Council and Kindermusik by RiverSong Music.

STAFF/STUDENT VARIETY SHOW

The annual Lowell High School staff/student variety show will be held in the Lowell Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are available for \$4 at the high school office or by calling 897-9904. \$5 at the door.

BLOOD DRIVE AT LOOK FIRE STATION

The Lowell Area Fire Department is sponsoring a blood drive for the Grand Valley Blood program on Wednesday, Feb. 19 from 2-7 p.m. at Look Memorial Fire Station, 315 S. Hudson St.

VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE AT LHS

Senior guys vs. junior guys volleyball challenge on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lowell High School main gym. \$3 at the door. All profits go to the senior class.

LOWELL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Join the chamber on Thursday, Feb. 27 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. to see what is happening to ethics in the workplace and in our organizations. For registration form call 897-9161.

Main Street, cont'd pg. 8

Inside
The Lowell Ledger
Mark Catlin Signs
With GVSU,
Story, Page 11

OBITUARIES

ASHLEY - Herbert Thomas Ashley, aged 72, formerly of Muskegon and Ventura, CA, passed away on January 20, 2003 in Lowell, following a courageous battle with brain cancer. He will be sadly missed by his loving wife of 46 years, Leona, his child Vicki (Jim) Danielson of Lowell; three grandchildren Karrn Middleman of Colorado, Deanna MacKenzie of Grand Rapids, Jamie Danielson of Lowell; one great-grandchild Anheles Coronado of Colorado. He is also survived by his brothers and sisters John (Jean) Ashley, Jane VanWyck and Mary Ashley; one sister-in-law Beth (Al) Cousins; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Herb retired in 1989 from a successful career as a quality control engineer. He made a number of important

contributions to our country's defense and NASA programs. Herb enjoyed his retirement, traveling the globe with his wife and golfing every chance he got. Herb requested cremation with no funeral or memorial services.

BARNOSKI - Donald E. Barnoski, aged 77, of Alto, passed after a lingering illness on February 4, 2003. Surviving are his wife Jean; his son Mark (Malita) Barnoski; two grandsons. At Don's request, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held in May.

BOGGS - I. Shirlene Boggs, aged 78, of Saranac, passed away Wednesday, February 5, 2003. She was preceded in death by her husband John; son Kelley Boggs and daughter Patricia Glass. Mrs. Boggs is survived by her children Phyllis (Dean) Parsons of OH, Janice (Mike) Schuff of TN, John J. (Roxanne) Boggs of Grand Rapids, Jim (Katie) Boggs of Ada, Vanessa (Russ) Palmittier of Saranac, Ellen (Jim) Chernoby of Lowell, Kathy (Kevin) Smith of Lowell, Teresa (Russ) Phillips of Lowell, Bob (Janice) Boggs of FL, Joann (Dale) Vandenberg of Comstock

Park, Chuck Boggs of Saranac; daughter-in-law Teddy Boggs of OH, sisters Delta Phillips of OH, Mary Shields of OH, Pauline Shields of OH, Juanita Miller of FL; sisters-in-law Christine (Ed) Lutz, Helen Boggs; brothers-in-law Paul (Rosie) Boggs, Royce Boggs; 36 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild. Funeral services were held Saturday by Pastor Vance Dimmick at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell. Interment Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

TEUNESSEN - Mrs. Frances Teunessen, aged 92, of Rockford and formerly of Byron Center, passed away on Friday, February 7, 2003. She was one of seven children and all her siblings have preceded her in death. She is survived by her children Agnes Bolt of Tecumseh, Elizabeth and Gary Gillis of Rockford and William Joseph and Nancy Teunessen of Lowell; son-in-law Terry (Jan) Walsworth of Gown; 17 grandchildren Cindy and Dr. James Daily, William Walsworth, Terry Walsworth II, Beverly and Matt Soave, Walter and Amy Bolt, Christopher Bolt, Gary Gillis II, Amy and George Fotis, David and Jane Gillis,

Sarah and Eric Cavalli, Dr. Molly and Brian O'Kane, Rebekah and Ryan Pokorzynski, Amanda Gillis, Paul Gillis, Alex Gillis, Joe Teunessen and Josh Teunessen; 15 great-grandchildren, plus the much anticipated arrival of twins; and nieces and nephews. Mrs. Teunessen was preceded in death by her husband William Teunessen in 1976; a daughter Mary Ann Walsworth in 1992, and a granddaughter Rachel in 1976. The mass of Christian burial was offered Tuesday at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church with the Rev. Anton Tran presiding. Interment in Resurrection Cemetery. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Carmelite Sisters of the Building Fund at Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church.

WESSELL - Tyrus R. Wessell, aged 90, of Grand Rapids, died on February 5, 2003, after nearly seven decades of service to the students and members of the staff of Davenport University. His association with Davenport began in 1931 when he enrolled as a student at Davenport-McLachlan Institute following graduation from Grand Rapids Central High School. A memorial service was held at Davenport University on Sunday.

he served as an officer of Davenport Schools, a board member of the Davenport Foundation and an advisor to the Davenport/Snedden family. He is survived by his children Gretchen J. Friberg of Hudsonville, Tyrus R. (Kathy) Wessell, Jr. of Rockford, David B. (Charmaine) Wessell of Bradenton, FL, Steven J. (Tana) Wessell of Grand Rapids and Kimberly S. Wessell of Golden, CO; grandchildren Nick (Demetria) Friberg, Lori (Steven) Hoeze, Kelly Wessell, Shawn (Beth) Wessell, Ryan Wessell, Jackie (Joel) Bouwman, David (Dawn) Wessell, Jr., Christine (Glenn) Huett, Andrew J.B. Wessell, Tia Klug-Wessell and Ann Wessell; great-grandchildren Natalie, Nicholas, Alec, Kayla, Hailey, Brooke and Mitchell. He is also survived by close family friends, Donna Burns and Linda Wessell and by thousands of former students. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate the support of his many friends, former students and colleagues in the effort to continue his work with a memorial contribution to the Tyrus R. Wessell Student Aid Fund, Davenport University, 415 E. Fulton St., Grand Rapids, MI 49503. A memorial service was held at Davenport University on Sunday.

The Lowell Ledger

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

GRATTAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
A Public Hearing before the Grattan Zoning Board of Appeals will be held at the Grattan Township Hall, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI on:

Wednesday, February 19, 2003
At 7:00 p.m.

Richard Simkins, of 3930 Murray View N.E., Lowell, MI (PP# 41 12 33 302 018) has made an Application for Variance from the Grattan Township Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Article 3, sub-section 3.01B (1) to construct a second accessory building (gazebo) in addition to an existing accessory building (storage building) on a lake front lot.

Article 3, Section 3.01, I to construct an accessory building in the front yard in the R-L District, cannot exceed 150 square feet in size and not exceed 8'-0" in height.

Written comments concerning this issue should be received prior to the hearing and addressed to: Al Berry, Grattan Township Zoning Board of Appeals, 12050 Old Belding Road, Belding, MI 48809.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Greenridge Realty announced that Jayne Ready received Realtor of the Month in January. This award recognizes Ready for her outstanding success and achievements.



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Balloonattics Delivers

••• Jan McLeod's new business, at 220 W. Main, offers balloons, baskets and gifts for all special occasions.

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

Jan McLeod floated around the idea of starting her own business for a year. On Monday (Feb. 3), she did something about it as she opened the doors to Lowell's newest business, Balloonattics at 220 W. Main St., located in the same building as D&L Tax Service.

"Opening my own business is something I've always wanted to do," McLeod said. "I've been looking for a building right along, but within the last few months I really began to get serious about it."

McLeod actually started the business concept out of her home last year. The need to expand in the Lowell community started the process of finding a building.

Balloonattics offers balloons for all occasions along with baskets, stuffed animals, Beanie Babies and gifts.

McLeod also delivers, a feature she believes sets her apart from competitors. Deliveries are also available after hours by appointment.

"We have great competitive prices," McLeod explained.

Balloonattics' store hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

"We're starting out slow, focusing on getting our name and location out to people," McLeod said.



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NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Vergennes Township is currently taking bids for office lawncare and cemetery lawncare services to be performed in 2003. The bids should be received by March 5, 2003 to be considered, and will be decided at the March 10, 2003 meeting of the board.

For more information, please stop by or contact the township offices at 10381 Bailey Dr., PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331-0208. Hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to 3pm. Phone number is 897-5671, fax 897-5674.

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Franciscan Center program a positive experience for LHS students

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Keith Boeve, Lowell High School Life Skills instructor, just shakes his head and smiles when discussing the immediate impact the partnership with the Franciscan

Life Process Center is having on his special needs students.

"You can't believe the change in personality I see in these kids - from the classroom and hallway at school to the active role they take on here at the center," Boeve explains. "The Franciscan Life Process Center is an incredible resource that we need to use more often."

The nine-week program that Boeve's 14 students have embarked on is being funded (\$500) through the Lowell Area Education Foundation.

"The program is covering everything from child care to adult relationships; and cooking to horticulture," Boeve says. "This program helps the students develop re-

lationships - that one connection which keeps them motivated to do better in school."

In just a few short weeks, students have displayed better behavior and attendance. "I really believe these kids experience a personal growth outside the area of academics," Boeve explained.

How does one transfer that positive attitude back to the high school with the students?

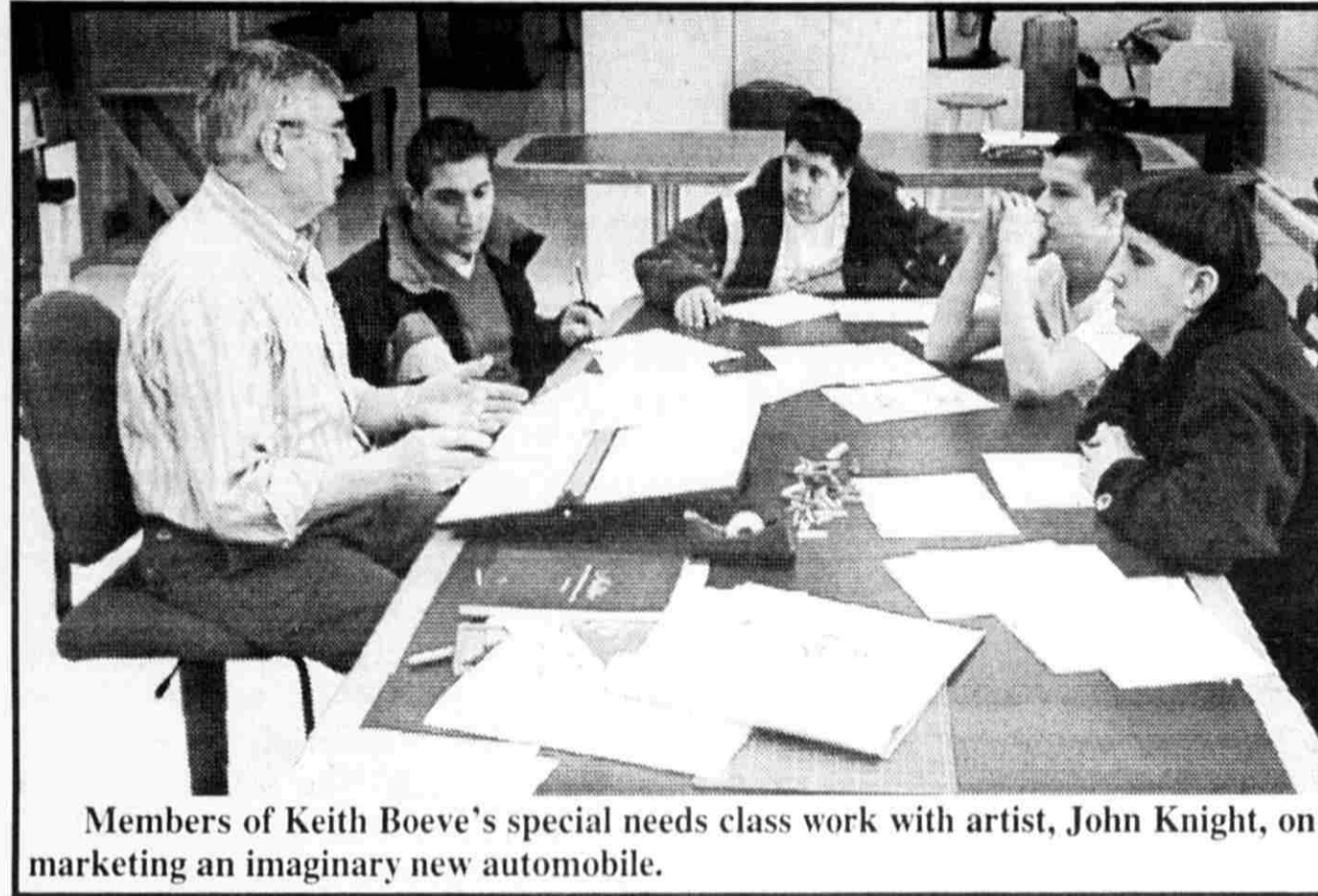
Sister Colleen Ann Nagle says the key is to provide the students with a variety of work options to consider and positive feedback. "They are awfully nice kids. If they have a continuous flow of positive experiences, there's a better chance that some of that will

get back to their daily lives at the high school."

They must also be allowed to be different. "Give them the opportunity to be different. That's okay. The human condition is to keep them in this attitude box and not allow them to be different," Sister Nagle explains.

For most of the students, they did not know the Franciscan Life Process Center existed. They now view it as an exciting educational opportunity.

"We don't have the facilities, materials or financial resources to cover what the Franciscan Center is able to offer these students," Boeve concluded.



Members of Keith Boeve's special needs class work with artist, John Knight, on marketing an imaginary new automobile.

ROTARIAN RECOGNITION

The picture shows members of the Lowell Rotary Club between the years of 1935-1940. The picture was taken in front of Richmonds' Cafe (Larkin's) where Rotary met for lunch and meetings. The Lowell Area Historical Museum is having a contest to see who in the area can name all of the members shown in the picture. The person who names the most will receive dinner for two at the newly opened Flat River Grill. The restaurant has graciously donated this prize to the winner. The contest will run until Feb. 15. In case of ties, the earliest postmark on the entry will be the winner. All entries should be sent to: Lowell Area Historical Museum, P.O. Box 81, Lowell, MI 49331.



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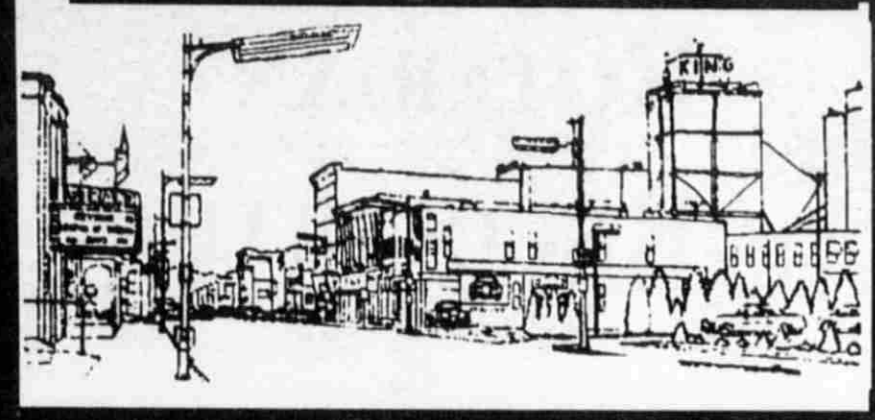
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Along Main Street



WANTED: MUSICIANS
The Lowell Showboat Summer Concert Series, beginning June 12, is seeking musicians. If interested, forward your CD/cass., a brief bio and group photo to: Lowell Area Arts Council, P.O. Box 53, Lowell, MI 49331. Deadline: Feb. 28. Call 897-8545 or 897-9161 with questions.

LOWELL DAY IN LAKE LAND
Join the Lowell seniors in Lakeland, Fla., on Sunday, March 2 at Huntington Hills Country Club, Duff Rd. Invite all your Lowell friends to the 1 p.m. buffet. Call Mary Peckham

at 863-683-6336. Carmen Roudabush at 863-604-9093 or Barb Curtis at 863-682-7136.

FUNDRAISER FOR ST. MARY'S PREGNANCY CENTER
The Lowell Institute for Volunteer Excellence is sponsoring a fundraiser for St. Mary's Pregnancy Center. Needed are diapers, wipes and formula; they may be dropped off at the chamber or at the Lowell Leadership booth at the Expo on March 22. Call Marcia at 897-5205 with any questions.

Wittenbach Center to host 2nd annual Maple Sugar Festival

The second annual Maple Sugar Festival will be held at the Wittenbach Agri-Science and Environmental Center on Friday, Feb. 28 and Saturday, March 1.

The event will offer unique learning and interactive opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

Patrons will be taken on a maple sugaring demonstration tour that will show how the Native Americans, settlers and pioneers used and processed maple syrup, as well as how current technology aids in the maple syrup processes today.

Friday will be geared toward student involvement and demonstration tours for students from within the district as well as outlying areas.

There will be tours and activities for special needs with disability students as well as interactive mentoring of special education students.

"We will be providing visits focusing on the science and maple syruping," said Wittenbach Center director, Tammy DeBaar. "Students will participate in helping build a Native

American lean-to and pioneer wall tent as well as experience the tapping of trees and the science that goes into this process."

Saturday's activities will include a community pancake breakfast (donation) and maple sugar demonstration tours (\$2) from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

There will be a gift shop and local maple sugaring items for sale along with live music from Hawks and Owls old time string band (11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

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COLLEGE NEWS

Beth Hoag, a senior graduate curriculum and instruction major at Bradley University, recently was chosen for inclusion in the 2003 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

The students were selected by campus nominating committees and editors based on academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

Bradley University is an independent, privately endowed, coeducational institution located in Peoria, Ill., with an enrollment of approximately 6,000 students.

Hoag is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Hoag of Lowell.

Ashley Rickert, a sophomore at Northwood University in Midland, along with 21 other Northwood students, had the

opportunity to participate in the North American International Auto Show during the week of Jan. 4.

The students, invited by the Detroit Auto Dealers Association, spent the week with various jobs such as media kit distribution, ticket sales and networking with manufacturers to establish contacts for the Northwood Auto Show.

Rickert is a Lowell High School graduate and the daughter of Jeffery and Julie Rickert of Lowell.

Area dairy farmers receive awards

The Kent/Muskegon counties Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA) recently held their annual meeting at the Swan Inn Restaurant in Grand Rapids to recognize 2002 award winners.

Board president, John Finkbeiner presented Mr. Shepard of Shepard Farms with the Outstanding Dairy Producers award. Shepard's, of Sparta, also received the High Lifetime Cow award for cow No. 90 with production of 268,014 pounds of milk in 3,405 days in nine lactations.

The High Cow award was presented to the Oesch family of Swisslane Farms, Alto. Their top cow produced 38,940 pounds of milk with 1,572 pounds of butterfat for a value of \$4,413. Mark Vanderhyde, of Sparta, received the High Protein Production Cow and the High Herd awards. Their herd of 298 holstein cows produced 26,471 pounds of milk, 985 pounds of butterfat and 812 pounds of protein.

Also receiving an award for a one-year increase for milk included Terry Nugent of Lowell.

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BOWNE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PUBLIC HEARING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2003 7:30 P.M.

HISTORIC TOWNSHIP HALL 824 ALDEN NASH SE ALTO, MI 49302 868-6846

REQUEST #1 - Kenneth & Marian Adamy 11470 74th Street S.E., PP#41-24-09-300-011- Are asking for a variance to Article 3.02 Accessory Structures & Uses-location and square footage of an accessory building variance.

REQUEST #2 - Kenneth & Cathy Garnaat 9750 84th St SE - PP#41-24-18-351-023 - Are asking for a variance to Article 7.05 Height, Area and Dimension regulations in the Low Density Residential zoned area so that they may place an addition into the required setback area.

GLORIA KING
ZBA CHAIRPERSON

LHS honors February students of the month

Each month several departments at Lowell High School select a student to be honored for expertise and contributions in a particular area. The February Students of the Month have been chosen and are as follows:

The English Department chose Helen Crimmins, a senior. She is the daughter of Ed and Sue Crimmins of Lowell. Helen's extracurricular activities include varsity soccer, Pals, All-school play, Lady Arrows Varsity Club, Model UN, powderpuff football, National Honor Society and Youth Ambassadors. Her teacher nominator says she is an impressive student with a bright future ahead of her: she is confident, intelligent and hardworking. In addition to all of these admirable qualities she is a wonderful human being.

The Music Department is honoring Megan Nyson, a senior. She is the daughter of Lowell residents, Tod and

Kim Nyson. Megan is active in FFA as an officer, Women's Club, Rotary Club, Ski and Snowboarding Club, Choir, All-school play and musical, cheerleading, cross country, Leader's Club, Drama Club and Youth Ambassadors. After graduation, Nyson plans to attend Grand Valley State University and study business and theatre. Her teacher nominator says she adheres to a code of moral as well as artistic values.

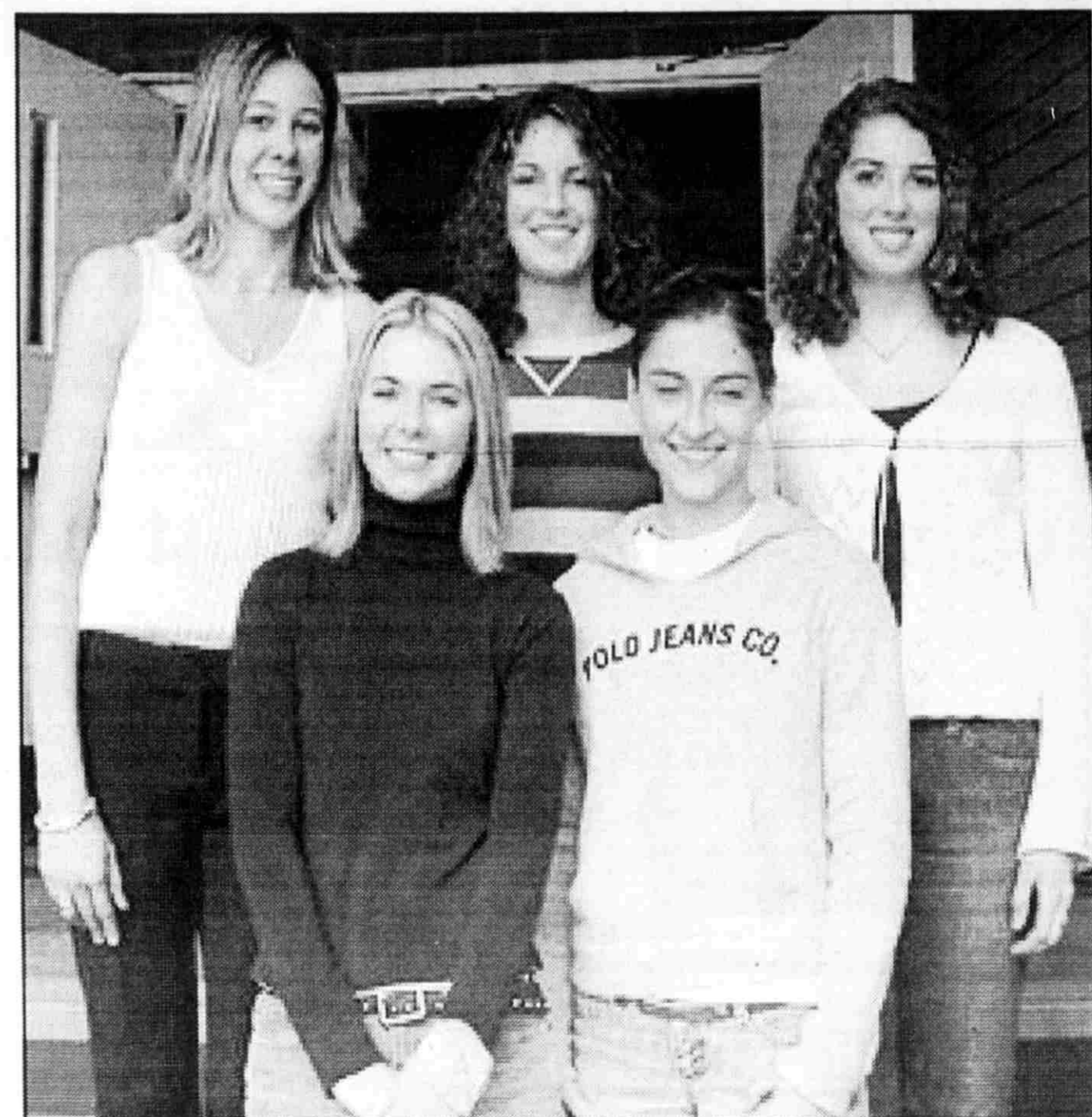
The Art Department selected Melissa Neubecker, a senior. She is the daughter of Mark and Denise Neubecker of Lowell. Melissa participates in tennis, gymnastics and Art Club at LHS. Next year Neubecker plans to attend Grand Rapids Community College with the goal of becoming an art teacher. Her teacher nominator says she does excellent work and is a pleasant person to work with.

The Science Department chose to honor Natalie Kent,

a senior. She is the daughter of Dennis Kent and Rose Lawrence, both of Lowell. Natalie's extracurricular activities include National Honor Society, Women's Club, annual, band, secretary of the Lady Arrows Varsity Club and captain of the track and cross country teams. In addition, Kent is president of her 4-H Club and is employed at Rollaway Fun Center. Next year her plans are to attend Aquinas College to study pre-med or biology. Her teacher nominator says she has consistently been at the top of her physics class and is always a leader in the classroom and in the lab.

The Math Department selected Shannon Levingston, a senior. She is the daughter of Steve and Shirley Levingston of Lowell. Shannon has been a member of the LHS tennis team. She plans to attend Grand Valley State University next year. Her teacher nominator says she is always

positive and always willing to help. She is a positive role model and her excitement for math is appreciated.



The students, pictured bottom row, left to right, are: Megan Nyson and Melissa Neubecker; top row are: Natalie Kent, Shannon Levingston and Helen Crimmins.

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing before the Vergennes Township Planning Commission will be held on **Monday March 3, 2003 at 7:00 PM, at the Vergennes Township Hall, located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI** to consider proposed amendments to the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance. A summary follows for the proposed text amendments:

Chapter 4 General and Special Regulations, Section 201.430 Home Occupations, 201.431 Home Based Businesses, 201.431A Rental Storage

The proposed amendments for all of the sections are to clarify language and amend the effective date for existing businesses. Section 201.431 Home Based Business is amending the application procedure by requiring a zoning permit issued by the zoning administrator instead of a special use permit and amending the application procedure section. Section 201.431A Rental Storage is a section being removed from Chapter 3 as a special use permit and added to Chapter 4 as a type of home occupation permitted in the RA District in existing farm buildings upon application for a zoning permit issued by the zoning administrator. Section 201.430 is a home occupation section with and without an accessory building and is being amended for clarification of procedures and language. The current requirement for a zoning permit is still in effect.

Chapter 2 Definitions, Section 201.202

The definitions of home occupations and home based businesses are being amended to clarify the meanings.

Chapter 3 Zoning Districts

Various portions of sections 201.304, 201.305, 201.306, 201.306A, 201.3075 are amended to coordinate with the above amendments to change rental storage and home based businesses from special use permits to zoning permits and to add home occupations and home based businesses to the Lake Residential District.

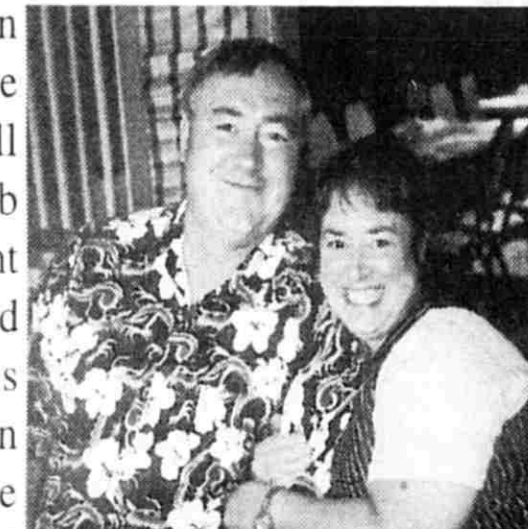
The complete text of the proposed ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the **Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671** [fax 897-5674] or on the website at www.vergennestwp.org. Written and oral comments will be received until the conclusion of the public hearing. Written comments may be addressed to the Planning Commission Chairman or the Planning Coordinator at the Township Offices. Comments may be emailed to the Planning Commission at: zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township Planning Commission

THE FAMILY

Bob and Lanie Rice are members of the Lowell Schools and the Lowell community

The Rices moved to Lowell in the 1973-74 school year when Bob was accepted as high School Band Director and is now in his 30th year in that role. Lanie was finishing her college studies to be a teacher. She then taught for 12 years in an elementary Catholic school before moving to first grade at Bushnell (where she has been ever since). Bob and Lanie have two kids. Both went through our schools. Robert graduated in 1988 and is now working on his doctorate degree. Dianna graduated in 1996 and is preparing to enter the teaching profession in early childhood development.



The Rices see the school employees as a family that reaches out to the community. For Bob and Lanie that means working with middle and high school band parents, community parades, football games, their church, the Lowell Area Arts Council and more. They love the caring attitude of the schools and community. Their 30-year commitment is evidence of that caring.

Bob and Lanie are concerned about the possible loss of part of that family - the school custodians. The district may fire our custodians and replace them with a cheaper unknown workforce. They see the custodians as caring community members who help the kids, the community, and help the teachers do their jobs. For example, Lanie works with custodian Larry Wenger at Bushnell. In addition to his regular duties, Larry has changed flat tires for parents, teachers and others. He helps unload cars and has repaired a broken rocking chair for the school. Larry made the wooden pillars for the "Character Counts" display. And when he has a spare moment, he is on the playground with the kids. Bob Rice cites the time at high school when the band needed to practice for the state finals at the Silver Dome. The football field was covered with snow. Custodial groundsman, Tim Bergy, volunteered to help. He used the leaf blower to clear the field for the band. Bob regards the custodians in the high school and middle school as co-workers and friends but most of all as part of the school family and community.

Bob and Lanie believe we should keep our custodians. Does the school district believe that our people can be replaced by lower paid outsiders without harming the family?

Tell the central office not to jeopardize our school family. All of us make it a caring family.



THEN & NOW

Valentine's Day will mark the golden anniversary of Bob and Carol (Callan) Reagan of Lowell.

The Reagans are the parents of Steven and Jane Arzberger, Karen Myers, Jim and Kathy Ormiston, Jim and Becky Reagan, Bill and Peggy LaPenna, Steve and Ruth Thomet, Rich and Patty Wade, Don and Michelle Reagan and Ed Reagan.

They have 20 grandchildren.



Financial Focus

Edward Jones

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As mortgage rates have tumbled to levels not seen in decades, millions of Americans have rushed to refinance their homes.

But what if you don't want to simply refinance a 30-year mortgage? What if you want to replace your 30-year loan with one carrying a shorter term, such as 15 years? Is this a good move?

It might be - but not necessarily from a financial point of view. The question of switching from a 30-year mortgage to a

15-year one involves both financial and emotional issues - and, as such, there is no easy answer. Let's look at the points to consider on both sides.

For many people, changing from 30-year to 15-year is simply intuitive: It just feels better to have a mortgage paid off sooner, rather than later.

Furthermore, you can save many thousands of dollars in interest by paying off your mortgage early. Clearly, you've got some intriguing reasons to go from a 30-year mortgage to a 15-year one. However, you can find some equally compelling factors for not making the switch.

Of course, there's no guarantee on what type of investment return you might get from the money you might have put toward a mortgage. And yet, if you put these funds into a well-diversified portfolio containing high-quality investments, you could speed up your progress toward some of your important long-term financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement.

Building up your investments also may provide you with more financial protection than paying off your mortgage early. If you encounter a severe setback - disability, job loss, etc. - you can always fall back on your investments until you regain your financial footing.

So, there you have it: some sound reasons to pay off a mortgage early, and some sound reasons to keep paying on a longer-term mortgage and invest the difference.

LEGAL NOTICES
STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF KENT
NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, WALTER CHESTER BIZIEWSKI, who lived at 1209 Fourth Street, N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, died 08/09/2002.

Catlin chooses GVSU as his home for college football

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

The pride of Lowell football signed on the dotted line to play four years with the pride of West Michigan football.

Lowell fans, make that West Michigan high school football fans, received good news last Thursday when Mark Catlin signed to play football with Grand Valley State University.

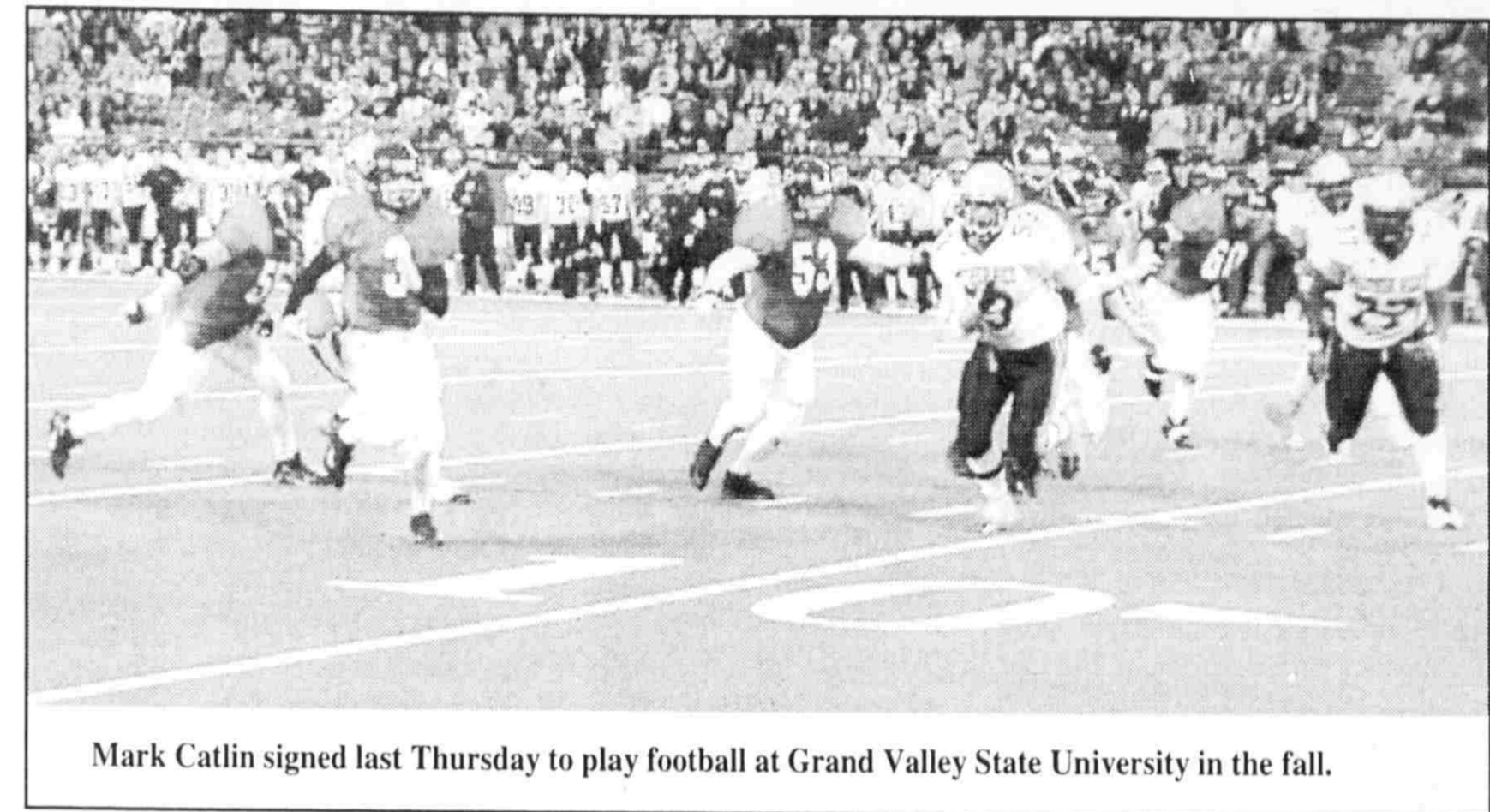
The sensational Red Arrow QB who led Lowell to its first ever football state championship (Division II) will stay close to home to play at the next level, making it easy for area fans to follow his post high school football career.

Catlin, who shattered the state record for most all-purpose yards in a championship game, chose Grand Valley after being courted by Mid American Conference teams and Northwood University.

"After I visited Grand Valley I knew that was the school for me. Their facilities are Division I-like," Catlin said.

Where does Catlin see himself in three years? "They are going to start me off in the slot back and then work me into the quarterback position. I'll be happy if they decide to keep me as a receiver... wherever I can help out."

You can talk about his performance against Birmingham Brother Rice, you can talk about his 2,500 passing yards in his senior season, his 1,100-plus rushing yards, but for Lowell High School football coach, Noel Dean, that all pales in comparison to the fact that in four years Catlin never missed a practice and never missed a game.



Mark Catlin signed last Thursday to play football at Grand Valley State University in the fall.

"Mark never took a day off. That's what is remarkable to me. We couldn't work him hard enough in his eyes," Dean said.

His youth football playing days started in the second grade. Catlin recalls that first week when he assumed the position of a lineman. After a week, it became clear the little guy didn't belong on the line.

Grand Valley State football coach, Jeff Kelly, was ecstatic to sign not only Catlin the football player but Catlin the person.

and understanding of the game. You talk to coaches who've coached against him, you watch film, and you talk to fans, and you understand that he's the real deal."

The GVSU coach said what separates Catlin from the rest is, in bigger games when the game was on the line, the senior elevated his play.

"Mark loves to play and compete... that goes for any competitive game," Kelly said. "He has a confidence in his ability to make plays. He's also always in control... he never gets outside of himself, is not overconfident and does not get down on himself."

Catlin's theory is he can't be good the next play if he's worrying about the last play.

"It's all mental. You've got to believe you can do it. If you don't believe, you probably can't do it," Catlin says.

Coach Kelly calls Catlin an impact player.

"Twelve years ago I said I would recruit anywhere if the student-athlete was right for our program," Kelly explained.

Thus, it seems right that the pride of Lowell football and the pride of West Michigan football are now one.

Red Arrow hockey team skates past West Ottawa

The Lowell-Caledonia varsity hockey team bested West Ottawa 6-2 in what can only be described as a total team effort with every player on the 18-man roster contributing to the victory.

Things did not start out smoothly for the home team however, as the Panthers struck first with an opening period goal just two minutes into the game.

But on this night, Lowell's checking, passing, shooting, and overall hustle paid dividends midway through the first period.

Senior Jordan Schaefer tied the game up on a perfectly placed shot, after receiving a pass from defenseman Josh Baker.

The blue line tandem of Brian Posthumus and Brandon Gillikin scored the go ahead goal. Posthumus slid a pass over to Gillikin at the blue line, who then uncorked a blast that cleanly beat the Panther goaltender.

With two minutes to go, there was a face off to the right of the West Ottawa goal. Red Arrow center, Brandon John won the face off and neatly fired a wrist shot past the stunned Panther goalie. The opening period ended with the Arrows leading 3-1.

The entire second period was filled with end to end action. Red Arrow goalie, Dave Maylone came up with timely saves. The lone goal in the second period came off the stick of Ted McCoy.

After receiving a pass from sophomore Ramsey Charrouf, McCoy skated over the blue line, and ripped a shot into the upper corner of the net to put Lowell up 4-1 at the second period intermission.

The Red Arrow skaters started fast in the final period. With

the Panthers serving a penalty, the Lowell power play went to work. Corey Kelly made a great move to get the puck to Brandon John, who found McCoy alone behind the Panther goal. McCoy promptly took John's pass and wrapped the puck around to the front of the goal, giving the Red Arrows a 5-1 advantage.

Lowell closed out its scoring with five minutes to go in the third period on a power play goal. McCoy again ended up with the puck behind the Panther goal; he fed a pass out in front to Eric Austin who wasted no time in slamming a hard shot past the sprawling goaltender for a 6-1 lead.

West Ottawa scored their final goal of the night on a power play of their own just 40 seconds later.

Holt 6 Lowell 4

In Friday night's hockey action the Lowell-Caledonia team lost to Holt.

The Red Arrows were ahead at the end of the first period 2-0, but could not maintain the lead.

Josh John, Lowell freshman, had his best performance of the season scoring three of Lowell's four goals. Brandon John contributed with one goal and one assist. Ted McCoy and Brian Posthumus each had an assist in the losing effort.

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Pictured are the Lowell champions from each respective age level: front row: Zach Noskey (10), Jordan Drake (9), Chris Barlow (13), Brett McMahon (12), Cole Wade (11), Kate Scudder (9), Samantha Braman (10); back row: Krista Foster (11), Breanna Bueche (12), Chelsea Harrison (13), Brittany Lyman (14), Drew Happie (14) and Brent Noskey (Free-throw chairman).

Knights crown 8 district winners

The Lowell Knights of Columbus Free-throw Championship was held on Jan. 7. Winners of the Lowell competition moved on to the district level competition, held on Feb. 1.

Winners at the district level include: Breanna Bueche, Brittany Lyman, Chelsea Harrison, Brett McMahon, Zach Noskey, Grant Noskey, Krista Foster and Drew Happie. They will advance to the regional competition on Feb. 22.

Attention All Coaches, Proud Parents, Athletes & Others Who Wish To Submit Photos In The Ledger...

It is important that the subject's face not be shaded in order to print your photo clearly in the paper. All group pictures should be taken WITHOUT caps, visors, etc. Photos will no longer be accepted if faces are too dark.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lowell City Council will conduct public hearings at their regularly scheduled meeting on TUESDAY, February 18, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Public Library Community Room, 200 N. Monroe Street, Lowell, Michigan.

The purpose of said hearings would be to receive comments on the following:

- An Ordinance to amend Section 5.02 of Chapter 5, "SR-Suburban Residential District," section 15.04.A.2. Chapter 15, "PUD@Planned Unit Development District," of, and to Add Chapter 23, "Open Space Preservation" to the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell

Copies of the proposed Ordinance are available for public inspection during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) at City Hall (414 East Main Street - Huntington Bank Building) and at the Englehardt Public Library during scheduled hours Monday through Saturday.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Lowell City Hall, 301 East Main Street prior to the meeting or appear in person at Englehardt Public Library.

CITY OF LOWELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Lowell City Hall Offices, Police Offices and Department of Public Works will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2003 in observance of Presidents Day.

Also

Due to Presidents Day, the Lowell City Council meeting date will be Tuesday, February 18, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. at the Englehardt Public Library.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk

NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT UPDATE OF THE GRATTAN TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION PLAN OF (2004-2008) IS SCHEDULED AS PART OF THE REGULAR TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24, 2003 IN THE SENIOR RECREATION ROOM. PUBLIC COMMENT CAN BE PRESENTED AT THAT MEETING OR BEFORE THE HEARING, AND/OR 10 DAYS AFTER THE HEARING DATE.

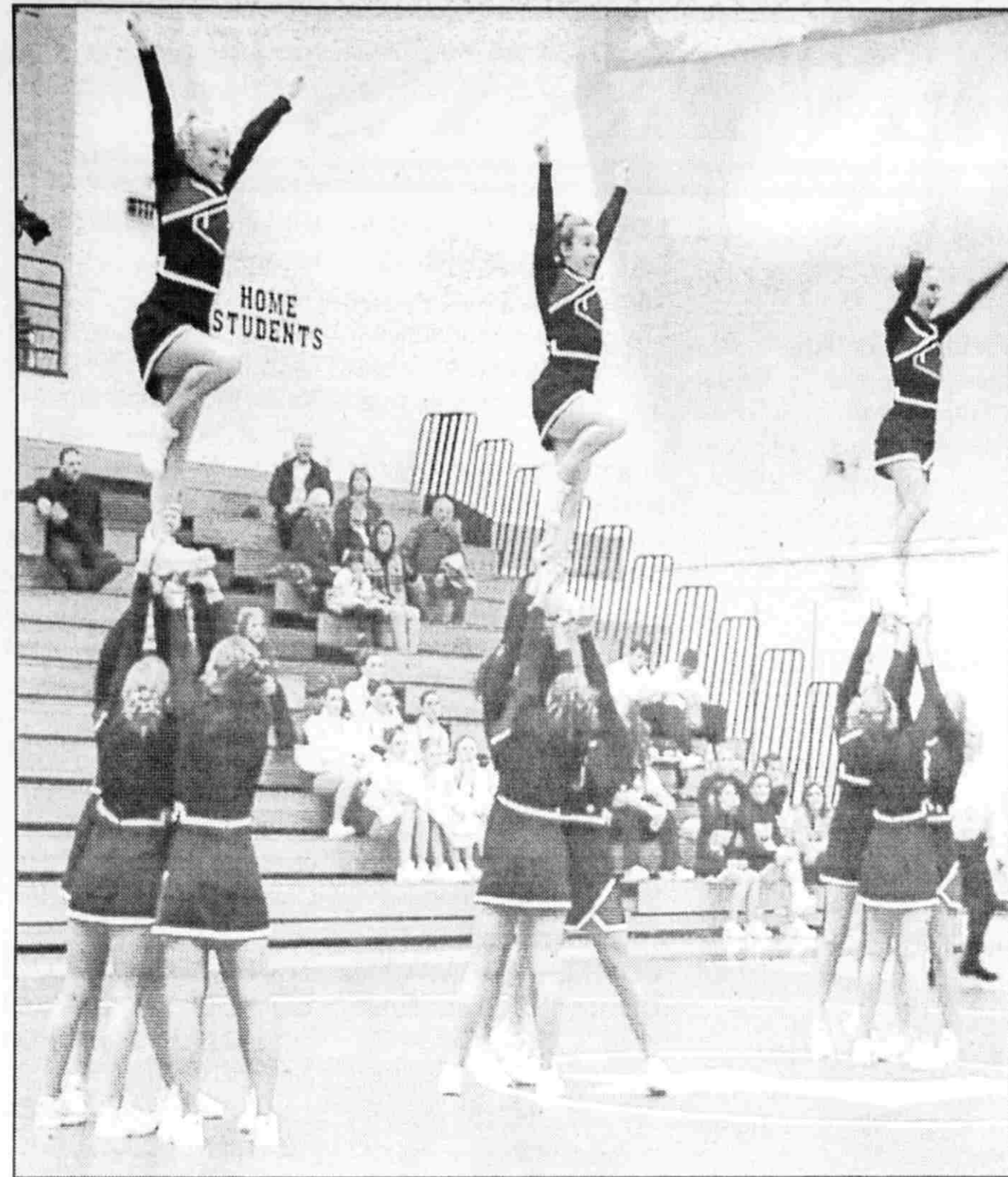
AN UPDATED, CURRENT 5-YEAR RECREATION PLAN OF (2004-2008) IS REQUIRED BY THE MICHIGAN DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR MICHIGAN LAND TRUST APPLICATION AND FUNDING.

Copies of the Draft plan can be viewed at the Grattan Township Offices at 12050 Old Belding Road., Belding, MI., 48809, during normal business hours M-F, 9 am-4pm.



Betty R. Morlock City Clerk 616-897-8457

POSSEHN POOLS In-Ground Pool Packages In-Ground Liner Replacements Pool Openings, Closings & Repair Pool School April 8 Doughboy Pools & Parts Everything Pool! BioGuard



Lowell edged Holt to win the first-ever Lowell sideline cheer competition.

Red Arrow girls win their sideline cheer competition

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

The timing could not have been better for Lowell's varsity sideline cheer squad.

The Red Arrows combined precision, degree of difficulty and continued improvement in winning the first-ever Lowell Sideline Cheer Competition.

Competing in the Class A division, Lowell tallied 468 points, outdistancing Holt 462, Pinckney 419 and Wayland 415.

The Red Arrows scored

208 in the clean cheer event and tallied 260 in the creative cheer round.

Holt recorded 207 points in the clean cheer round and 255 in the creative cheer.

In the Class C-D varsity sideline cheer competition, Gobles edged Fowler 444-435. Maple Valley was third with 386 points.

"The girls really wanted this one," said Lowell coach, Amanita Fahmi. "They had their timing and precision

down. The girls hit it today." The Lowell coach pointed to stunt difficulty, facials, timing and precision as reasons for her club's winning effort.

"The difficulty level these girls are performing at is amazing compared to just a few short years ago," Fahmi explained. "There has been such a big improvement. They looked sharp out there today."

Times keep changing as Ranger swimmers continue to make vast improvements

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

First-year Forest Hills-Lowell swim coach, Andrew Klipa is trying to find an even balance between hard work and having fun.

That's not just for his Ranger swim team... that's for himself as well.

"I know as a swimmer there was a fine line between working hard and working too hard that we didn't want to be there," Klipa explains. "The important thing is that they have fun while also working hard."

Klipa is enjoying his initiation into the varsity coaching ranks. "It's been great and I am happy to be coaching," he explains. "I've had a lot of help along the way from FHC's athletic director, Rob Stepanowski as well as from former coaches and coaches from opposing teams. That has made my first year much easier."

Being just a year removed from the role of a high school swimmer, Klipa said establishing a coach/player relationship has not been a problem.

"Most of the swimmers were sophomores when I was a senior captain. I think having held that leadership position as a swimmer has made the transition easier," Klipa said.

His young Ranger squad, made up of 14 swimmers from Lowell and five from Forest Hills Central, has shown steady im-

provement throughout the year.

"It's been a good year thus far, the team is working hard and individual times keep dropping," Klipa said. "They have pretty much met or exceeded my expectations."

Klipa and his Ranger squad have enjoyed the strong effort of Forest Hills' Jeff Porth. The freshman has been a force in the 100 meter breaststroke. His best time to date has been 1:05.

Lowell's Luke Baker has been strong in the 50-meter freestyle (24.03) and the 100-meter butterfly (1:04).

The foursome of Dirk Timmer, backstroke; Porth, breaststroke; Baker, butterfly; and Mac Russell, freestyle have formed a strong medley relay team. Their best time so far this season is 1:51.

In the Rangers' 110-63 loss to Forest Hills Northern, they got standout performances from Porth, Baker, Russell and Kara Teft.

Porth won the 100 breaststroke while Russell broke the school record in diving with 273 points. Teft, a junior, has given the Rangers a strong one-two combination in diving.

Baker clocked his best time in the 100 butterfly with a time of 1:04.

Lowell, 2-5, travels to Hudsonville on Thursday looking for its first league win.

Inconsistency befalls Lowell spikers

By Thaddeus J. Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Untimely hitting errors and offensive inconsistency were instrumental in Lowell's straight set volleyball loss to East Grand Rapids Thursday night.

The Pioneers edged Lowell in game one 17-15 and then waltzed to a 15-2 win in game two.

"We wanted to come out

and get that first game," said Lowell volleyball coach, Connie Black. "We had a great opportunity but could not capitalize."

The Red Arrow coach pointed to untimely hitting errors, poor serving and lack of execution.

"The girls played well in that first game, but then did not execute and were flat in game two," Black said. Alex

Booth led the Pioneers in kills with 11 while Alex Ankney had a team-high 17 assists and Katelin McCahill recorded two aces.

Earlier in the week, the Red Arrows split with games against Middleville and Ionia.

Lowell lost to Middleville 15-13, 15-10 but defeated Ionia in three sets 11-15, 15-10, 15-7.



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Gardeners look ahead to 2003 gardening season

Gardening questions aren't as rare in winter as some folks might think! Gardeners are looking ahead to the next gardening season as well as back at the previous one, and time to ponder often generates questions for Michigan State University Extension specialists on various gardening topics.

knot in my plum trees?

A. You can spray with fungicides in the spring, but the primary means of control is pruning in the winter, when trees are dormant. Remove all shoots or branches with visible swellings, making cuts 2 to 3 inches below each knot. Remove and dispose of infected wood, by burning, if possible. If it's left near the trees, it will continue to be a source of infection. Nearby wild cherry or plum trees and abandoned orchards can be a source of infection, so it may take a cooperative effort by neighbors to control the disease.

Q. My new place has a coldframe attached to an outbuilding. I've never had one before. What can I do with it?

A. The general purpose of a coldframe is to provide a sheltered spot with good light for plants. You can use it to start seeds in spring, force bulbs, get greenhouse-grown plants used to being outdoors, grow salad crops early in spring and late into fall, store root vegetables over the winter or start cuttings of woody plants in the summer.

Q. Must fruit trees be pruned?

A. Pruning is a necessary part of fruit tree care. Young trees need pruning to develop a strong but open branch structure that will expose leaves

and fruits to sunlight and pest control materials. Mature trees need pruning to stay healthy and productive.

Q. I am not one of those people who overwater houseplants and kill them with too much care. Just the opposite! I tend to forget to water my plants, sometimes for two to three weeks at a time. What can I grow besides cactus that will thrive -- or at least survive -- this degree of neglect?

A. You need plants that evolved in dry, hostile environments that are adapted to survive long periods without water. The term for this sort of plant is "succulent", and dozens are available as houseplants. They tend to grow slowly, but they also need little care and do well in the dry air and low light conditions in Michigan homes and offices in the winter. The one thing they can't tolerate is too much water, but it sounds as if that won't be a problem in your home. Examples include not only cacti but also living stones (Lithops spp.), which need no water at all in winter; jade plant (Crassula portulaca); hen and chicks (Sempervivens spp.); burro's tail (Sedum morganianum); kalanchoe; wax plants (Hoya spp.); zebra plant (Haworthia spp.); ghost plant (Graptopetalum paraguayense); pony tail palm (Beaucarnea recurvata) and Aloe spp., among others. Plant forms vary, but all tend to have thick, fleshy, water-conserving leaves. Indoors, they like bright light, dry air and cool temperatures, especially in the winter, and little or no water when they're not growing.

Forget them for weeks on end -- they'll do fine.

Q. I need a gift for a gardening friend -- got any ideas?

A. One that's sure to please is your friend's favorite gardening catalog and a gift certificate. If you don't know the friend's favorite, give him yours! If your friend has a special interest that he wants to explore -- irises, for instance, or water gardening -- check the national horticulture magazines for specialty catalogs and order those for him. A gift certificate from a local greenhouse or garden center is another option. Then your friend can examine plants, tools and other items firsthand before taking them home.

Q. A couple of my plant catalogs offer named black walnut varieties. What's the advantage of planting these rather than growing black walnuts from seed?

A. A grafted named variety will usually start producing nuts sooner than a seedling -- as early as two or three years after planting rather than 10 to 15. They may also be more productive and have nuts with thinner shells, which makes for easier cracking.

Q. Whenever we have a winter warm spell, I find large purple-black wasp house. Where are they coming from?

A. Wasps that become active in winter are usually mated females (queens) roused from their winter dormant period by unusually warm temperatures. If you're finding them in your house, they are probably overwintering there in an attic or wall void. If you can find out where they get in in the fall and seal

it in the spring, after they leave, you may prevent a new batch from coming in next year. Don't seal it now! This would prevent them from getting out the way they came in and probably result in most of them finding their way into your living area. A sturdy flyswatter should be all you need to cope with the occasional slow-moving winter wasp.

Q. Some of my houseplants are looking sort of pale and spindly, with long stems and small leaves. Do they need fertilizing?

A. Probably not. These are more likely the signs that plants aren't getting enough light, a common problem in Michigan in the winter. Supplementing natural light with light from fluorescent tubes will go a long way to prevent this legginess and poor growth. Fertilizing when plants aren't growing well can damage plant roots and form a crust of soluble salts on plant pots and soil that can injure plant tissues that come into contact with it. Too much water can be a problem in winter, drowning roots and even killing plants.

Q. Why do people grow old-time vegetable varieties when today's hybrids have so much going for them?

A. The so-called heirloom vegetables give gardeners a chance to have a literal taste of the past -- part of their attraction is that they date from years ago. Preserving old-time varieties keep their genetic traits available to plant breeders. An advantage to home gardeners is that they can save seed from some of these crops from year to year. This works best with crops that tend to self-pollinate, such as snap beans, lettuce, peas and tomatoes. Crops that cross-pollinate, such as squash and pumpkins, are not as reliable because insects carry pollen from one flower to another. If you plant the seeds, the results may be interesting but unlike either of the parent plants.

Q. Since we brought our freshly cut Christmas tree indoors, we've been finding lots of insects and spiders in the house. Did they come in with the tree?

A. Probably. Like other plants that grow outdoors, Christmas trees have their share of arthropod residents. Bringing the tree indoors and warming it up warms up the bugs, too, and they become active as if it were spring. Chances are good that they pose no threat of damage to structures, fabrics, houseplants, people or their pets, or human or pet food. Keep a flyswatter or vacuum handy to collect them, and enjoy your tree.

Trust everybody, but cut the cards.
—Finley Peter Dunne

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VERGENNES TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Vergennes Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vergennes Township offices located at 10381 Bailey Dr. Lowell to hear the following applications:

Shawn and Michelle Ford are requesting a variance on property located at 13837 Covered Bridge Rd, Lowell, MI 49331, in the NW 1/4 of Section 24, parcel # 41-16-24-100-026. The variance request is from the Vergennes Township R-A Zoning District Section 201.304 (E) lot area, (F) Setbacks, (G) Floor Area. The applicant is requesting the variance to remove an old cottage on the property and to construct a new home. The existing lot is located in the Fallasburg Village area and cannot meet current setbacks due to the shape and size of the lot.

The Vergennes United Methodist Church is requesting a variance on property located at 10411 Bailey Dr, Lowell, MI 49331, in the SW 1/4 of Section 20, parcel # 41-16-20-300-014. The variance request is from the Vergennes Township R-A Zoning District Section 201.304 (E) lot area and (F) Setbacks. The applicant is requesting the variance to construct an addition onto the rear of the church of 18 by 48 feet. The existing lot is located at the corner of Bailey and Parnell and is unable to meet current zoning setbacks due to the shape and size of the lot.

The complete applications can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. State law and zoning ordinance requires any residents or property owners within 300 feet of an applicant for a variance to be notified of the application.

Public comment will be heard at the meeting. Written comments received by mail, in person or in the mail slot located at the office entrance will also be considered if received at the Township office prior to 7:00 p.m. on February 18, 2002. Comments may also be emailed to zoning@vergennestwp.org.

Vergennes Township ZBA

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF LOWELL MICHIGAN

Sealed bids will be received at the Lowell City Hall office, 414 East Main (Huntington Bank Building) or mailed to 301 East Main, Lowell, MI 49331 until Tuesday, March 11, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. where they will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time. The bids are regarding the purchase of a riding mower with a 48" mowing deck that will be used for general work. Please mark envelope "MOWER BID".

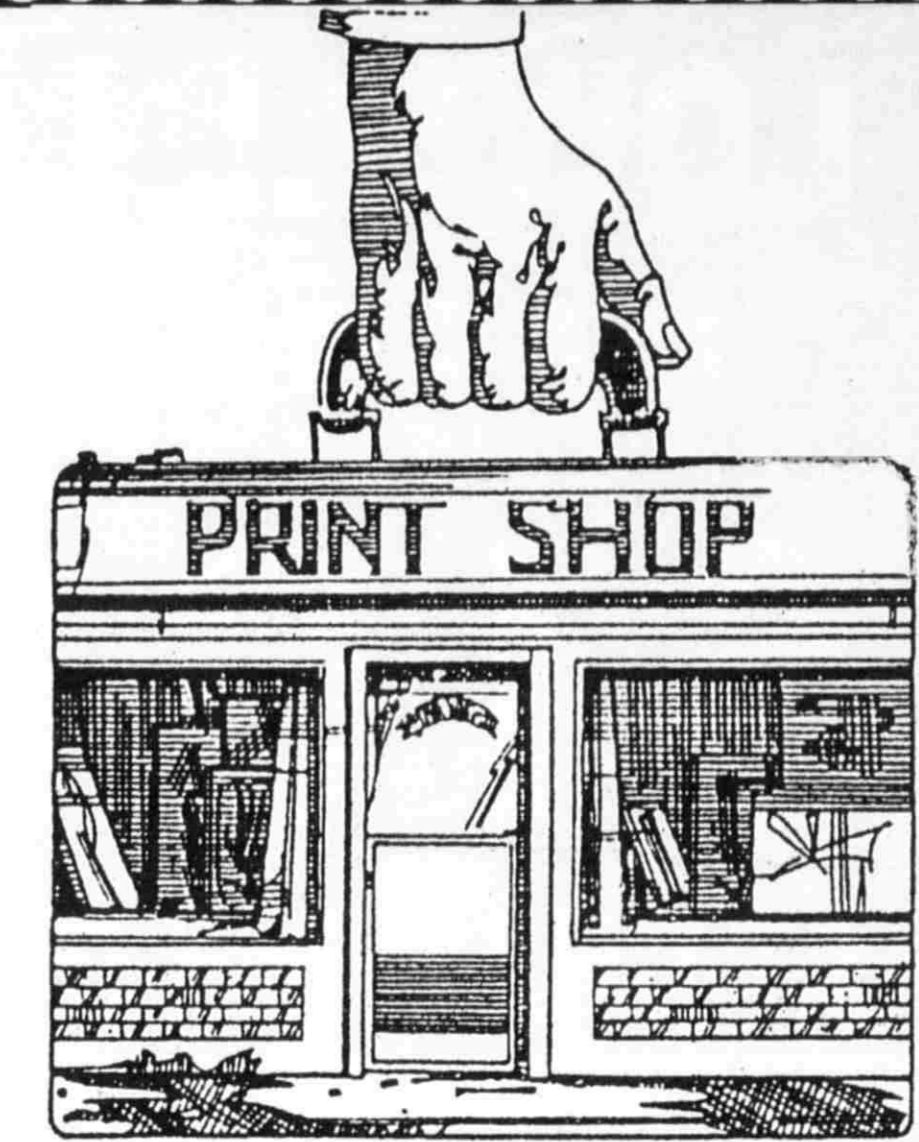
We have a 1995 Yazoo, 48" mowing deck with 1,042 hours for trade in.

Specifications may be secured upon request from the City of Lowell at 616-897-8457 or the Department of Public Works 616-897-5929.

The City of Lowell reserves the right to reject any or all bids and also the right to waive any formal defects in bids when deemed in the best interest of the City. Further, the City reserves the right to accept a bid higher than the lowest bid, if the City's interest will be better served.



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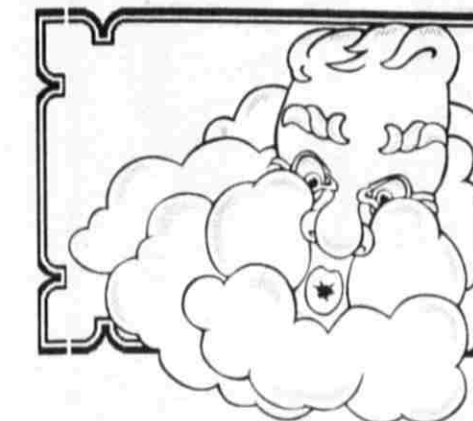
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EVENTS

SAINTS AND SINNERS ALIKE - Metal returns to the New Riverview in Lowell on Fri., Feb. 21 at 8 p.m. Eighth Chakra, Genocya, One Away From Breathing and Know Lyfe. \$5 cover, All ages welcome. www.eighthchakra.cjb.net

FOR SALE

KEY HEIGHTS - 1999 Redman, 16x72, 3 BR, 2 bath, very clean, new carpet, appliances, \$18,900 obo. Low down, low payments to qualified buyer. Call N.H.H. 1-800-824-9811.

FOR SALE - Applewood 2 yrs. seasoned, \$25/ pickup load, you cut. Call 897-7347.

'99 JEEP CHEROKEE - 4x4, 4 dr., auto., power windows & locks, burgundy, 47,000 miles. \$8,300. Call 897-1597.

MATTRESS SETS - Brand names w/warranties. Never used, still in plastic. Twins, \$130, fulls-\$150, queens, \$200, kings, \$375 and up. 682-4767 or 888-682-6602. Can deliver.

'93 CHEVY BLAZER LT - 4x4, 4 door, loaded 96,000, mint, \$4,750/bo. 897-6577.

FOR SALE - corner lot near Irons, paved road; well, septic and electric on property. Must sell. \$10,000 obo. Call 231-266-5865.

QUEEN LOG BED - Includes plush mattress set (2 months old, still in plastic). Cost \$1,000, sell \$185 obo. Call 989-719-8062.

READY VALENTINE'S DAY - Tiny red AKC Pomeranian puppy. "Cupid" is a kisser, \$500. Call 897-7681.

'98 FORD CONTOUR SE - 4 door, 70,000 miles, mint, loaded, \$4,500/bo. 897-6577.

1978 GMC - 28ft. motor-home for \$2,500 obo. Call 889-6493 or 897-0866.

DIRECTV - Mini-satellite dish, 1 receiver for \$1 or 2 receivers for \$19.99 w/free install. Local channels available. We beat all advertised prices. New subscribers only. Call for details, 1-800-405-9824 K-20.

BEDS - Black wrought iron canopy, cherry sleigh beds, headboards, frames, and more. From Parade of Homes displays. 682-4767/888-682-6602.

SNOWBLOWERS - 2 stage Craftsman track drive, Toro 8hp, Toro S200, Toro S620 electric start. \$125-\$350 364-8566.

KING LOG BED - Amish built with firm mattress. "Rustic Look" Bought, never used. Cost \$1,000. Sell \$199. 1-989-227-2986.

HOME FOR SALE - City of Lowell remodeled kitchen & bath, 2 bedroom, front porch, large fenced in back yard, \$95,000. Call 676-8113 or 690-1503.

FOR SALE

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.

1999 DODGE RAM 2500 SLT - 4x4 reg. cab, long box, V8, 5.9L 360 engine, bedliner, 5 spd. auto., cab & tires, 8 months old, PW & PL, air, Dodge custom running boards, sliding rear window, low mileage, mech. excellent, \$16,800 obo. 897-5758.

PEVEY SRC 1600 - 16 channel mixing console CS800 power amp., 3020 HT Pevey speakers, \$3000 obo. 889-6493 or 897-0866.

FOR SALE - Antique table, chairs and buffet with mirror. \$800. Call 868-6935.

'98 FORD WINDSTAR - very clean. \$6,000 obo. Call 897-4947.

'98 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER SE - 76,000 miles, loaded, mint, \$6,500. 897-6577.

WASHER, DRYER FOR SALE - Good running shape. \$67 each. Guaranteed. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE - 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath mobile home in Key Heights, \$6,000 or best offer. Call 897-1181 or 897-8641.

1999 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT - 23,000 miles, black, 4 dr., 4x4, loaded, CD/cassette, power windows & locks. \$9,300. Call 897-1597.

2000 POLARIS 550 - blue, 2,800 miles, ready to ride. \$2,500 obo. Call 460-4842.

FOR SALE - sofa-sleeper, blue, \$200. Excellent condition. 531-5453.

OAK BUNK BEDS - Solid, w/mattresses. \$99 complete. Dennis Distributing, 315 N. Lansing, St. Johns, 989-224-4822.

FOR SALE - 5 pc. sectional couch, \$250 obo. Call 897-6975.

2000 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT - 4x4, white, 4 dr., 30,000 miles, loaded, \$10,500. Call 897-1597.

SNOWBLOWER PARTS - Used Toro, Snowmaster, S200, S620, handles, covers, carbs, frames & motors. \$5-\$50. 364-8566.

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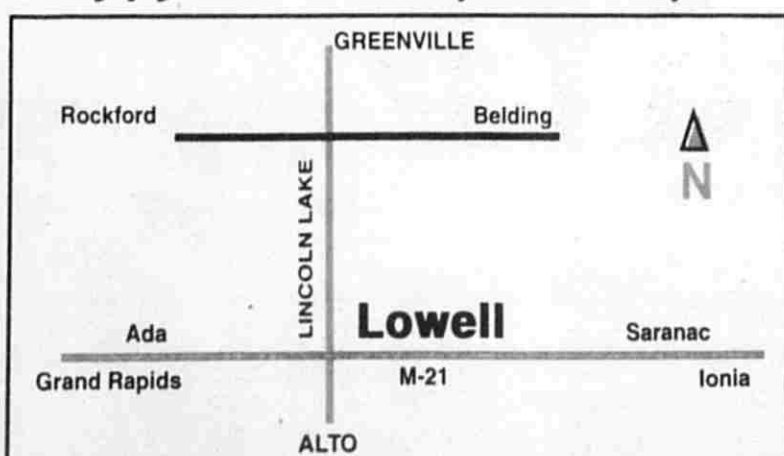
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