

# The Lowell Ledger

Volume 28, Issue 16

Serving Lowell Area Readers Since 1893

Wednesday, February 26, 2003

## PURforms to purchase original section of Newell

By Thaddeus J. Kraus  
 Lowell Ledger Editor

With the closing and/or downsizing of Family Fare, Newell Manufacturing and Attwood Corp. all within the last year, the city of Lowell was in need of some upbeat economic news.

The announcement that a group of investors purchased what was formerly Newell Manufacturing, right

before the end of last year, filled that void.

The good economic news doubled recently when city officials learned that an offer to purchase 65,000 square feet (original section) of the Newell building was accepted by investors.

The purchase offer was tendered by PURforms, a custom molder of polyurethanes, currently located at 835 Hall

St. in Grand Rapids. An early March closing on the transaction will make it official.

The polyurethanes can be flexible, i.e., such as seat cushions, gaskets; or integral skin polyurethanes, i.e., steering wheels, armrest console coverings and floor mats; or a mold rigid poly foam for structural applications.

Incorporated in 1995, PURforms currently employs

32 people and runs three shifts in a 25,000 square foot building.

"We anticipate expansion and increasing our number of employees," said PURform president, Rick Raimor.

PURforms customers include Crown Equipment, Steelcase, Maytag and 3-M.

"I anticipate the move will allow us to choose from a better employee base and it will improve the quality of life for my family," Raimor explained. The president grew up in Saranac and his family is a member of the First Baptist Church of Lowell.

Once closing has taken place, Raimor says his company will start moving immediately.

"We'll have to coordinate the move with our customers. The move can't inconvenience them or shut them down," Raimor said. "We'll have to operate out of both facilities initially."

The group of investors who purchased the Newell building is working with the city in order to split the facility into two parcels (65,000 and 46,000 square feet).

"The city of Lowell understands and shares the same vision as the investors - redeveloping the manufacturing facility and bringing in jobs," said John Kuiper, vice president of Grubb Ellis Paramount (commercial real estate firm) and a representative of the ownership entity.

"By allowing us to split the parcel, it got the facility down to a manageable size. We're not seeking a variance, instead a clarification on the zero lot line splits."

Kuiper said the building was on the market for approximately nine months.

Grubb Ellis Paramount is currently seeking to market the 440,000 square foot Attwood facility for sale or lease.

"I envision an ideal reuse for the Attwood facility would be for a perspective purchaser to pare down the facility into 60-100,000 square foot sections," Kuiper said.

Attwood currently uses a section of the building for its marine application manufacturing division.



## Tales of Earth and Sky

The Lowell Area Arts Council, in partnership with Circle Presents, offers "The Dallas Children's Theatre production of "African Tales of Earth and Sky."

Originating from the campfires of Ghana, the one-hour musical is a blend of vibrant costumes, pulsating rhythms, storytelling, and dance. "Why Does the Lion Roar," and "Why Do Lightning and Thunder Live in the Sky," as well as other tales about courage, bravery, friendship and pride, are highlighted.

The performance is Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Lowell Performing Arts Center.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children. LAAC members pay \$8 for adults and \$6.50 for children.

## Alto men arraigned in brick throwing incident

The Kent County Sheriff Department arrested three suspects in connection with an incident on I-96 in which a brick was thrown into the windshield of a moving vehicle.

Jeffrey Douglas Kooiman, 18, of Alto, is being lodged in the Kent County Correctional Facility on two counts of assault with the intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder and two counts of felonious assault. Bond was set at \$500,000 cash/surety. He was arraigned on Monday and a preliminary exam was set for March 10 at 2:30 p.m. in the 63rd District Court, Cascade.

Jack Aaron Swick, 16, of Alto, was arraigned as an adult and charged with the same crimes as Kooiman.

The third adult arrested had charges dropped. There is a fourth person that investigators need to question and interview in this incident.

Vickie Prantle, 46, of Greenville, and her 20-year-old daughter, Sarah Prantle were returning home from Grand Rapids on I-96 on Friday (Feb. 21).

Traveling eastbound under the Morse Lake overpass, a brick came through the windshield

Brick Throwing, cont'd. pg. 8

## City promotes preventive measures in fight against sewer backups

By J.N. Boorsma  
 Contributing Writer

In an effort to help promote the use of such devices as backwater valves and drain floats, the city will be giving some residents drain floats as a preventive measure in sewer backups.

At the city council's Tuesday night meeting, Public Works director, Dan DesJarden said he wanted \$500 to purchase drain floats to be given to residents identified as having a sewer backup due to a city or other related problem. His plan was to give one to each resident who has been identified with the problem since 1997, a total of 32 homes.

A drain float can run from

\$8.49 for a 3-inch drain to \$11.88 for a 2-inch drain. The device fits in a drain. When the sewer starts to back up, the float automatically pushes

a seal into the drain to prevent the sewage from going into the home.

Sewer Backups, cont'd. pg. 8

Inside

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Rotary Recognition  
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# OBITUARIES

**COUGHLIN** - Nettie Coughlin, aged 80, of Saranac, passed away February 18, 2003. She was preceded in death by her son Fred and daughter Mary. Mrs. Coughlin is survived by her children Sonny (Kelly) Fetterhoff, Loretta Fetterhoff, Frank Fetterhoff, Lois (Albert) Fortin, Jenny (George) Boyce, Sandee (Tomas) Arizola, Pat (Sandy) Fetterhoff, Cathy Barkes, Harold (Maureen) Fetterhoff; sisters Betty Lambert, Virginia Noble; 39 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandsons. Private services will be held in Big Bay, MI.

**OLSEN** - Keith A. Olsen, aged 47, of Belding, died Sunday, February 16, 2003, at his home. He was born September 13, 1955, in Greenville, the son of Richard and Joyce Geister Olsen. He attended Greenville schools and

worked for 25 years at Frigidaire in Greenville. He was a member of the North American Fishing and Hunting Club and loved hunting and fishing. Keith was a loving husband, father and grandfather and will be greatly missed by his family and friends. He was married on Dec. 31, 2002, to Lisa Roskamp and she survives along with his children Meredith "Mickey" Bunker of South Carolina, Melinda and Tim Ayres of Clare, Chris Olsen and fiancée, Robin Cox of Stanton; grandchildren Alisha, Matthew, Rebecca, Brendan, Brandon, Chris, Israel, Paige, Britney, Haley; parents Joyce and Ronald McMichael of Lakeview and Dick and Nancy Olsen of Greenville. He is also survived by his brothers and sisters Wesley C. Olsen of Sheridan, Jeffrey L. and Nancy Olsen of Howard City, Lynn Everett and friend, Jake Jacobitz of Whitehall, Connie Jo and Gary Frisbie of Middleville, Kendra S. and Greg Dhaene of Belleville, IL, Carol and Ben Nielsen of Belding, Christine Swanson and fiancée Tom Butterworth of Greenville, Ronald B. and Denise McMichael of Wyoming, Michael and Pam McMichael of Wyoming, Daniel and Lisa McMichael of Dorr, Jerald McMichael of Wyoming and Terri and Mike Pranger of Grand Rapids; his

brother and sister-in-law Michael and Donna Roskamp and their children; his mother and father-in-law David and Martha Roskamp of Lowell; grandmother-in-law Anna Marie Roskamp; many nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. Funeral services for Keith will be Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Shiloh Community Church with Pastor Kendall Harger officiating. Interment in the spring in Sidney Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan United Conservation Club.

**RILEY** - William C. Riley, aged 85, of Wyoming, went home to be with the Lord, Friday, February 21, 2003. Mr. Riley was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army, where he received a Purple Heart and fought in the invasion of Normandy. He also retired from Kroger Stores. Surviving are his wife Barbara; his daughters Lynne (David) Barkel of IN, Robin (Danny) Brown of NV; stepchildren Lynn (Joanne) Hillard of Lowell, Wendy (Keith) Kimmel of Wyoming; four grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; nine step-great-grandchildren; one sister Helen Stevenson of KY; one brother-in-law Ruggles (Nancy) Harrington of Wyoming. Funeral services were held Monday at the Matthyse Kuiper DeGraaf Funeral Home, Wyoming. Interment

Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to the Disabled American Veterans or Sun-set Park Church of God.

**ROSEMA** - Lois June Rosema, aged 81, of Grand Rapids, went to be with her Lord Thursday, February 20, 2003, following complications from a seven-year courageous struggle with multiple strokes. Born on May 2, 1921, in Muskegon to Jack and Eunice Vos. She married William J. Rosema in 1941. William owned and operated the Fulton Heights Hardware Store for 25 years. Lois was a member of the Butterworth Guild Assoc, where she volunteered for over 30 years. She left behind many hand-knit treasures and will be remembered for her joy of reading. She was preceded in death by her loving husband William. She will be sadly missed by her children Larry (Char) Rosema, Jerry (Penny) Rosema of Lowell, Rocky (Darlene) Rosema, Robert (Dionel) Rosema, Arlene (Scott) Graham; 17 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren of whom she was very proud; a loving and special sister Sharlene (Douglas) DeBlaay; two brothers Dave (Jacqueline) Vos and Vern (Ruth) Vos; many nieces and nephews. Funeral services including committal were held Monday at the Zaagman Memorial Chapel North with the Rev. John Delger officiating. Private interment Rest Lawn Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan.



**'HARDT HAPPENINGS'** science, for ages six and up, features hands-on experiments, informative presentations and take-home projects. It will be offered on Saturday, March 8 at 10 a.m. For more information call 647-3820. For other locations and times, call 784-2007.

**PAJAMA STORYTIME IN MARCH**

The Englehardt branch library will host Pajama Storytime on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. It is filled with books, poems, songs and activities centered on a certain theme. Children attending may come with their favorite stuffed animal and wear their pajamas if they choose. The program is designed for children ages six and under, and an adult must accompany children three and under. Registration is required. Call 647-3920.

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AD-3359-1 (6/02)

# City changes zoning requirements in suburban residential

By J.N. Boorsma Contributing Writer

One resident, Mark Bowman, of 410 James Street, said he wanted to know how this would affect the proposed Sundry development on High and James streets. The council said this proposal would have no effect since the developers are moving ahead with a planned unit development (PUD) for the project at this time.

Mayor Jeanne Shores said the Sundry project was not the nemesis behind the creation of this ordinance either.

"Even when I was on the planning commission, we were talking about this," Shores said, adding that what it came down to was that the planning commission discovered it was making a lot of variances for this, therefore the commission realized the issue needed to be addressed.

Several residents expressed concern that this would only overpopulate the area. City manager, David Pasquale said the change in lot size is only for the suburban residential area. The

proposed ordinance changes also included a reduction in the front yard setback from 40 to 30 feet, an increase in the rear yard setback from 25 to 35 feet, and a decrease in the minimum lot width from 165 to 125 feet.

In both the residential R-1 and the suburban residential areas, the change would put into effect a new minimum dwelling unit floor area that would be 1,200 square feet for the main floor of a single level home and 780 square feet on the main floor of a multi-level home with total floor space being 1,400 square feet.

Councilman, Dan Brubaker felt the change was the most economical for the city and would perhaps allow some parcels that have remained undeveloped to be developed.

The council approved the change.

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**Scout Honor**

Lowell's first Eagle Scout, Sam Yeiter presented Lowell's newest Eagle Scout, Scott Cooper with an award from the VFW. Yeiter described his path to becoming an Eagle Scout back in 1935 to the members of Troop 102, their families and friends. He also reminded Scott of the slogan, "Once an Eagle Scout, Always an Eagle Scout."

Picture, Courtesy Bruce T. Doll

**Crop Walk Rally, March 13**

The rally for Lowell Area 9th annual Crop Walk will be held on Thursday, March 13 at the First United Methodist Church of Lowell in the education wing.

Representatives from all area churches/organizations will be in attendance to kick off plans for the Crop Walk for Hunger Relief to be held on Sunday, May 4 at 1:30 p.m.

"If your group or organization would like to participate either by walking or sponsoring a group, please send a representative to this rally," said organizer, Jan Stuart.

Pledge sheets, promotion materials and information needed to make your walk efforts a success will be distributed at the rally, or call 897-5936.

Last year over \$28,000 was collected and over 317 sheets were turned in.

Of the funds that remained in the Lowell area, the Flat River Outreach Ministries received \$5,600 and the Senior Neighbors received \$1,400.

"Our goal for 2003 is to collect over \$30,000," Stuart said. "With the help of the Lowell community, we can meet and/or exceed this year's hunger walk goals."

**Lowell YMCA**

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**6-week season March 14 - May 16**

\*\*A player may request up to 2 other participants to play on the same team. All requests must be matched by all players listed.\*\*  
Cost: Member \$30 Program Member: \$35 Non-Member: \$40

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## Saladino/ Ham

Gail and Howard Acheson Jr. of Lowell are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen Saladino of Grand Rapids to William Ham, also of Grand Rapids.

Parents of the groom-to-be are William and Peggy Ham of Greenville. The couple are planning an April 2003 wedding.

## Naval officer, Uzarski, swaps ships

Photo by David McKee

Ada's Joel S. Uzarski is one of the many Naval officers to participate in the first of three crew swaps involving the destroyer USS Fletcher (DD 992) in Perth, Australia. The swap began in late January when the crew of the recently decommissioned destroyer USS Kinkaid (DD 965) flew from their homeport in San Diego to relieve the crew of the Fletcher.

The Navy lieutenant left his duties as the electrical officer on Fletcher.

"I was in charge of nine people who repaired, maintained and ensured all electrical equipment," Uzarski explained.

The Navy is using the three-crew, one vessel experiment to maximize the deployment of naval assets. Uzarski feels that the

crew swap will help the Navy stay forward deployed.

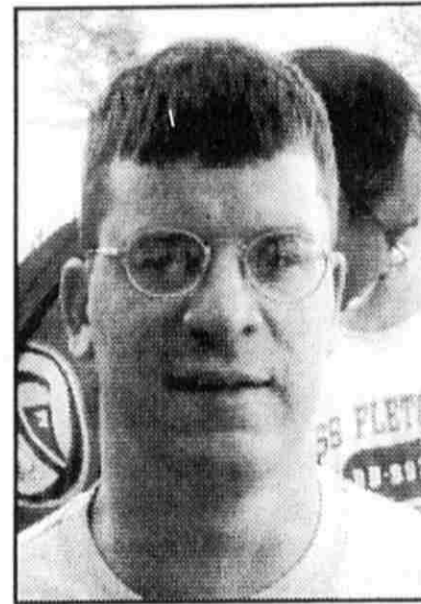
"It allows ships to stay longer which will save the Navy money," Uzarski said.

The crew of Oldendorf (DD972) will replace the new crew later this year. Because this program is still new, there were a few challenges that Uzarski had to overcome.

"Planning to do a complete turnover all at the same time was a challenge, but we got through it," Uzarski said.

There will always be new challenges that Uzarski may have to face, but with the first part of the program completed, Uzarski is ready for what may come next.

Uzarski, 25, is the son of Steve and Linda Uzarski of Ada.



## Meijer joins flight in LAAC butterfly art project



Lowell Area Arts Council executive director, Lorain Smalligan accepted a check for \$3,000 from Meijer for the LAAC's butterfly public art program with Lowell's elementary school children.

The butterfly art project has served as an extension of the curriculum via teaching children about migration, symmetry and the life cycle.

Participating in the public art program were first-, second-, third-, and fifth-grade classrooms from Alto and Bushnell elementaries.

Bushnell Elementary butterflies can be viewed at the following locations: Meijer, SandCastle Riverside, Ionia County National Bank, State Farm Insurance, Lowell YMCA, Lowell Township Hall, Flat River Antique Mall, Edward Jones Investments, Lowell Family Medical Center, Riverbend East Hairstyling Salon, Pottery Palace, Keiser's, Gary's Country Meats, Chimera Design, Frederik Meijer Gardens and D & L Tax Service.

Alto Elementary butterflies can be viewed at Huntington National Bank, Frederik Meijer Gardens, Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, Alto Library, Lowell Township Hall, Englehardt Library, Lowell Area Schools Administration Building, Lowell Post Office, North Country Trails and Meijer.

The butterfly sculptures will remain on display at these locations until May 3 when they will be auctioned off at a public auction at Lowell High School beginning at 2 p.m.

For more information about the butterfly project, call the Lowell Area Arts Council at 897-8545.

Pictured, from left to right, are: Doug Meijer, co-chairman; Smalligan; Joe VanHoven, store director; and Pam Carter, fashion line team leader.

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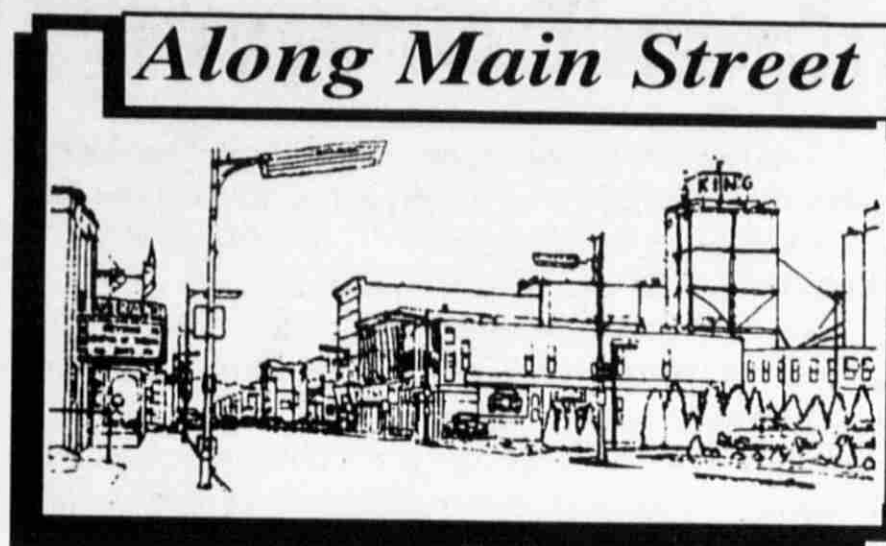
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**VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE AT LHS**

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

**LOWELL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP**

The chamber will offer a workshop on ethics in the workplace at Lowell Area Schools Administration office, 300 High St. on Feb. 27 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 897-9161 to register.

**ONE-HOUR MUSICAL AT LPAC**

Dallas Children's Theater production of "African Tales of Earth & Sky" will be on Friday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. in Lowell Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at the Lowell Area Arts Council by calling 897-8545.

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**CITY OF LOWELL**  
**NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW**  
 The Lowell City Board of Review will meet to receive and review the various Assessment Rolls for 2003 at City Hall on:  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2003**  
 AT 9:00 A.M.  
 A second meeting, for the purpose of hearing appeals and a continuation thereof, will be held at City Hall on:  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2003**  
 FROM 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M., AND 1:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M., if necessary  
 Appeals may be made by letter or on forms available at City Hall. Letters and/or forms must be submitted not later than March 7, 2003. A personal appearance is not required.  
 The following ratios and multipliers are expected for Real and Personal Property assessments:  

Commercial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Industrial Property	50.00%	1.0000
Residential Property	50.00%	1.0000
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

 C. Jeanne Shores, Mayor  
 James Marfia, Assessor

**ROGER MACNAUGHTON QUARTET TO PERFORM**  
 The Lowell Area Arts Council presents a musical evening at Deer Run Golf Course on March 1 from 7-10:30 p.m. The evening includes the Roger MacNaughton Quartet, light hors d'oeuvres/cash bar. Tickets: \$12.50; LAAC members, seniors and students: \$10. Call 897-8545.

**LOWELL DAY IN LAKELAND**  
 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.

**COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION**  
 Seniors may pick up commodities on Thursday, March 6 at the Lowell Recreation Bldg. from 8-? Bring your new benefit amount with you for 2003.

**FOODMOBILE DISTRIBUTION**  
 The Foodmobile will be at the 4-H Fairgrounds, Foreman Bldg., on S. Broadway on Saturday, March 8 from 10-noon or

**Brick Throwing, cont'd... From Page 1**

of their 1994 Chevy Blazer and struck Vickie Prantle in the face.

She was air lifted by Aero Med to Spectrum Health Butterworth Campus Trauma Center after sustaining severe facial and head injuries.

Sarah Prantle was not injured and both occupants were wearing seat belts.

It is believed that the brick was dropped from the overpass. Ionia County Sheriff Department's K-9 unit was requested to assist with a suspect track, which ended a short time later on Morse Lake Avenue near I-96.

**POSSEHN POOLS**  
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 • In-Ground Liner Replacements  
*(we work with insurance companies)*  
 • Pool Openings, Closings & Repair  
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 • Doughboy Pools & Parts  
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 If meet criteria contact:  
**BIRCHWOOD GARDENS APARTMENTS**  
 Call Debbie at (616) 897-8049  
 TDD # 1-800-649-3777  
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until food is gone. Bring your own box or bag. Food (mostly produce) is available to anyone. Distributed by Flat River Outreach Ministries (FROM).

**CROP WALK RALLY**  
 Lowell Area 9th annual Crop Walk rally will be in the Education wing at First United Methodist Church on Thursday, March 13 at 7 p.m. Pick up pledge sheets, promotion materials for your group/organization. Call 897-5936 for more information on the May 4 Crop Walk.

**SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR PERSON OF THE YEAR**  
 If you would like to nominate someone for the Person of the Year, send it in writing to LACC, P.O. Box 224, Lowell 49331, by fax 897-9101 or by email info@lowellchamber.org. Deadline: March 1.

**WANTED: CRAFT EXHIBITORS**  
 The Bridge Walk Committee of Grattan and Family, Friends and Neighbors Committee are looking for exhibitors for the Craft and Collectibles Market Monday, May 26 at the Grattan Academy. Call Dianna Force at 691-6504 for info.

**Sewer Backups, cont'd... From Page 1**

Anyone with information regarding this accident is asked to call the Kent County Sheriff Department Detective Bureau at 632-6125 or Silent Observer at 774-2345. The case is still under investigation.

DesJarden recommended purchasing the 3-inch drain and giving one to each of the residents as well as information on where to purchase additional floats if the home has more than one drain in the basement.  
 The basement is the area of concern since the sewage wouldn't go any higher than the lowest point in a home - usually the basement, DesJarden explained.  
 "Nothing is guaranteed to prevent a backup," DesJarden said.  
 The issue for the city council was whether or not the city should supply the drain floats for anyone who called in with a sewer complaint. DesJarden said those calls aren't always related to sewer backups, i.e., a toy getting flushed in a toilet.  
 "I believe this a good faith effort," said councilman, Charles Myers who supported DesJarden's request.  
 The council agreed to run the program for a year and review it again to see whether it has had any impact.  
 Residents who are determined not to have a city-caused sewer backup would receive information on where to purchase drain floats. Also to assist residents, DesJarden has compiled a brochure on how to clean up following a sewer backup, much of which was received from the Kent County Health Department.

**WIN A FREE \$100 SAVINGS BOND**  
 Sign up for and complete your Free Financial Consultation with Gary Hopkins of FutureShare Financial at ICNB  
 Everyone that completes their Free Financial Consultation will be placed in a drawing for a \$100 Saving Bond.  
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 A drawing will take place every 30 days through April 15th.  
**The Investment Center at ICNB** www.icnb.com  
 1-888-475-4702  
 Hometown Banking 527-6196 (in Ionia)  
 FutureShare Financial, LLC is a registered broker, dealer and member NASD/SIPC. Securities products offered through FutureShare Financial are not FDIC insured, not guaranteed by any bank and may lose value. Future Share Financial is not affiliated with Ionia County National Bank.  
**Congratulations to our January Winner, Joni Robinson!**



**Comdure Wins! Comdure Wins!**

Vicki (Roth) Comdure was the winner of the Lowell Area Historical Museum's Rotary Recognition Contest. Comdure was able to correctly identify 25 of the 30 Rotarians pictured.

She will receive a dinner-for-two gift certificate to the Flat River Grill for her effort.

Ron Story donated the photograph. The Lowell Area Historical Museum believes the photo was taken in 1937, as the license plate on the automobile in the photo is from that year.

The museum was unable to locate a published list of the Rotarians in the picture. However, prior to the contest, Charlie Doyle and Norm Borgerson identified 28 of the 30 men pictured. It is their list the museum used to identify those pictured.

Front row, left to right, are: C.H. Runciman, Ed Kiel, Lee Lampkin, Royden Warner, W.W. Gumser, Ernie Foreman, Harry Day, Wesley Roth, not identified, and Pat Beahan; back row are: Bob Hahn, Dr. B.H. Shepard, Dr. Autland, Bruce Walter, Paul Kellogg, Theron Richmond, Theo Bailey, Don McPherson, Lawrence Rutherford, Wilbur Burras, Howard Rittenger, Frank McMahon, George Story, Dr. McDonald, Rem Jeffries, Dr. Oatley, not identified, Frank Coons, George Harold and Chris Leonard.

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 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.

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# Michigan recognized as leader in information technology

It's a one-two combination that may never happen again. Michigan has just been recognized for excellence in information technology by two separate and prestigious groups, setting an example for other states to follow. The Center for

Digital Government has recognized Michigan with the Sustained Leadership Award for states which have made the most progress in digital government, while the Gartner Research group has just placed Michigan in their upper quadrant of

states with regard to technology management structures.

The Sustained Leadership Award recognizes states that have made the most progress in digital government as measured in the first five years of the Digital State Survey from 1997 through 2002. The annual survey, presented in eight categories throughout the year, has been the survey of merit with governors and has consistently garnered participation by nearly 100 percent of the nation's states. Each year, awards for the annual winner and winners of each category have been presented to the governors and state officials of winning states by the Center for Digital Government and The Progress & Freedom Foundation.

By placing Michigan in their upper quadrant, the Gartner Research group has placed Michigan as a leader among other states when it comes to the breadth of influence and depth of support for the CIO. This means that the organizational strength for Michigan's Department of Information Technology is higher than every other state, positioning the state to become the leader for innovation and progress in technology. "What a tremendous achievement it is for Michigan to be recognized in this way by two respected and prestigious groups," commented Teresa Takai, the newly appointed director for the Department of Information Technology. "Michigan is positioned to take even larger steps in information technology and offer greater service to the citizens of our state."

\*\*\*  
Expect victory and you make victory.  
—Preston Bradley  
\*\*\*

## CITY OF LOWELL KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 03-3 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 5.04 "DISTRICT REGULATIONS" OF CHAPTER 5 "SR - SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT" AND SECTION 6.04 "DISTRICT REGULATIONS" OF CHAPTER 6 "R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT" OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LOWELL.

Councilmember Pfaller, supported by councilmember Myers, moved the adoption of the following ordinance:

### THE CITY OF LOWELL ORDAINS:

**Section 1. Amendment to Section 5.04.** Section 5.04 of Chapter 5 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell is amended to read as follows:  
**Section 5.04. District regulations.** No building or structure, nor the enlargement of any building of structure shall be hereafter erected unless the following requirements are met and maintained in connection with such building, structure or enlargement.

FRONT YARD	30 FEET
SIDE YARD	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS - 20 FEET TOTAL 8 FEET MINIMUM NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS - 30 FEET
REAR YARD	35 FEET
BUILDING HEIGHT	35 FEET OR 2 1/2 STORIES
LOT COVERAGE	35%
MINIMUM LOT AREA	23,000 SQUARE FEET
MINIMUM LOT WIDTH	125 FEET
MINIMUM DWELLING UNIT FLOOR AREA SINGLE LEVEL	RANCH 1200 SQUARE FEET MAIN FLOOR WITH ATTACHED GARAGE 780 SQUARE FEET MAIN FLOOR 1400 TOTAL SQUARE FEET
MULTI LEVEL	

**Section 2. Amendment to Section 6.04.** Section 6.04 of Chapter 6 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell is amended to read as follows:

**Section 6.04. District regulations.** No building or structure, nor the enlargement of any building or structure, shall be hereafter erected unless the following requirements are met and maintained in connection with such building, structure or enlargement.

FRONT YARD	30 FEET
SIDE YARD	RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS - 20 FEET TOTAL 8 FEET MINIMUM NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS - 30 FEET
REAR YARD	25 FEET
BUILDING HEIGHT	35 FEET OR 2 1/2 STORIES
LOT COVERAGE	35%
MINIMUM LOT AREA	9,750 SQUARE FEET
MINIMUM LOT WIDTH	75 FEET
MINIMUM DWELLING UNIT FLOOR AREA SINGLE LEVEL	1200 SQUARE FEET MAIN FLOOR LIVING AREA 780 SQUARE FEET MAIN FLOOR 1400 TOTAL SQUARE FEET
MULTI LEVEL	

YEAS: Councilmembers Brubaker, Myers, Pfaller and Mayor Shores.  
NAYS: Councilmembers non.  
ABSENT: Councilmember Blough.  
ABSTAIN: Councilmembers non.

Dated: February 18, 2003

Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk

### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Lowell, Michigan, certify that the above ordinance is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted at a regular meeting of the Lowell City Council held on February 18, 2003, pursuant to notice given in compliance with Act 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended, and notice of its adoption, including a summary of its contents, was published in the Lowell Ledger on February 26, 2003. I further certify that the above ordinance was entered in the Ordinance Book of the City of Lowell on February 18, 2003, and was effective March 8, 2003, ten (10) days after its publication.

Date: February 18, 2003



Betty R. Morlock, City Clerk

## CITY OF LOWELL MICHIGAN

### NOTICE OF ADOPTION AND SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 5.02 OF CHAPTER 5, "SR-SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT," SECTION 15.04.A.2 OF CHAPTER 15, "PUD-PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT" OF AND TO ADD CHAPTER 23, "OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION" TO THE CITY OF LOWELL ZONING ORDINANCE

The Lowell City Council adopted Ordinance No. 03-2 amending Sections 5.02 and 15.04.A.2. of, and adding Chapter 23 to, the Zoning Ordinance of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lowell on February 18, 2003.

Amended Section 5.02 permits single-family dwellings otherwise meeting the requirements of suburban residential zoned district under the open space preservation provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.

Amended Section 15.04.A.2. corrects a typographical error by properly cross-referencing Section 18.06 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Chapter 23, consistent with the provisions of Act 179 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 2001, describes the conditions and procedures pursuant to which land zoned for low density residential development may be developed, at the option of the land owner, with the same number of dwelling units on a portion of the land specified in the Zoning Ordinance, but not more than 80%, that could otherwise be developed on the entire land area.

Ordinance No. 03-2 is effective 10 days after this publication.



Betty R. Morlock  
City Clerk

# Lowell gymnasts fourth at conference; Plattner grabs honors in floor exercise

By Thaddeus J. Kraus Lowell Ledger Editor

It was the end of a long and frustrating day for Holly Plattner and her Red Arrow teammates.

There was one more floor routine to score. After receiving a so-so score on the vault and suffering two falls on the beam, one might forgive Plattner for going through the motions in her final O-K Rainbow event.

But that's the difference between them and Plattner. The senior and the defending Division II state champion on the vault put all that behind her and focused on the task before her.

"Floor was the last event and she was the last gymnast to perform. Holly finished like a champion," said Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan.

Plattner's floor routine scored a 9.4 making her the O-K Rainbow conference champion.

"After struggling on the vault and beam, it was great to see Holly finish as a champion on the floor," DeHaan said.

Lowell finished fourth in the conference meet at Kenowa Hills on Saturday.

Forest Hills Central won the league meet title with 139.325. The Rangers were followed by Holland 138.775; Rockford 136.15; Lowell 133.25; Kenowa Hills 128.80; Mona Shores 128.05; East Grand Rapids 121; and East

Kentwood 118.875. It was the exact order the teams finished in the regular season dual standings.

"It was a frustrating day, but the girls will work hard to do better at the regional in Holland (Saturday)," DeHaan said. It will take a top three finish to advance to the team state competition for the first time in school history.

Lowell's other scores on the floor were Krystal White 8.85, Jenna Dickerman 8.65 and Melissa Neubecker 8.55.

Carisa Sayer led all Red Arrows on the balance beam with an 8.6 followed by Melissa Neubecker 8.05; White 8.0; and Rebecca Underwood 7.85.

Plattner led Lowell on the vault with a score of 8.65 followed by Dickerman 8.1, White 8.0 and Carmen Datema 7.8.

On the uneven bars Lowell counted scores from Plattner 8.55, White 8.35, Neubecker 8.15 and Sayer 7.7.

**Lowell 134.2**  
**Mona Shores 130.35**

**Vault:**  
Holly Plattner 8.75  
Jenna Dickerman 8.55  
Krystal White 8.4  
Carmen Datema 8.2

**Balance Beam:**  
Melissa Neubecker 9.1  
Plattner 8.65  
White 8.3  
Carisa Sayer 8.3

**Uneven Bars:**  
Dickerman 8.15  
White 8.15  
Neubecker 7.85  
Kim Seaman 7.45

**Floor:**  
Plattner 9.0  
White 8.75  
Neubecker 8.45  
Leannah Seese 8.15

"Melissa has been pushing 9.0 on the beam all year, but has just missed. When she saw 9.1 (personal best), her eyes lit up. It was nice to see her get it. It was a nice way to finish," Lowell gymnastics coach, Michele DeHaan said.

# Lowell icers drop pivotal league match to Northview

In a battle for conference supremacy between Northview and Lowell-Caledonia, the Wildcats defeated the Red Arrows 5-2.

The first period ended with a scoreless tie, but Lowell had scoring opportunities. In the opening period of action, both Corey Kelly and Ted McCoy misfired on breakaway chances.

The second period looked like a carbon copy of the first, with end-to-end action but no scoring. With two minutes to go the Wildcats drew "first blood" to take a 1-0 lead.

The Wildcats added a second goal just 55 seconds later as they added to their lead with a tip-in goal in front of the net, off of a shot from the point.

The third period started with the Wildcats scoring on a wrist shot from the top of the face-off circle.

Trailing 3-0 midway through the third period, Lowell junior, Brandon John scored an unassisted goal, cutting the deficit to 3-1.

Lowell pulled to within one, a little later when McCoy scored a short-handed goal with an assist from John.

With just under two minutes to play in the game, a Red Arrow was assessed a tripping penalty which led to a fourth Wildcat goal.

With its goalie pulled, Lowell gave up a fifth and final goal.

**Lowell-Caledonia 2 (OT)**  
**Northview 2**

The two teams met for the final conference game of the season at Standard Federal Ice Arena, this time with nothing

on the line except pride. Lowell-Caledonia and Northview skated to a 2-2 tie.

It was also the opportunity for both Lowell and Caledonia to honor its players as part of "Parent Appreciation Night."

The first period was a fast-paced, hard hitting affair. Both

Hockey, cont'd, pg. 16

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

The Vergennes Township Board will hold a public hearing for comment on the proposed 2003-04 budget during the March 10, 2003 meeting of the board at 7:00 p.m. The board meets at the township offices located at 10381 Bailey Drive, Lowell, MI 49331.

Copies of the proposed budget are available at the Township Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mari C. Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

## VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ADOPTION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at the regularly scheduled meeting of February 17, 2003, the Vergennes Township Board adopted Ordinance 2003-2, an amendment to the Vergennes Township Zoning Ordinance. The following is a summary:

### Chapter 5 Special Exception Uses, Section 201.502

The amendments clarify language and application procedures, clarify reviewing and approving body, describe unclassified special use procedures, add application submittal deadlines, describe the public hearing and violation process, and add a major and minor modifications process to approved permits.

The complete text of the ordinance amendments can be reviewed at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Drive, PO Box 208, Lowell, MI 49331 - Phone: (616) 897-5671, or on the Township website at [www.vergenestwp.org](http://www.vergenestwp.org). This ordinance takes effect 8 days after publication.

Mari Stone  
Vergennes Township Clerk

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Lowell Area Schools Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for classroom and cafeteria furniture for the new high school addition.

For more information and specifications contact:

Larry Mikulski  
12695 Foreman Road  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-9353

Bids will be due no later than  
2:00 p.m., Friday, March 7, 2003 at:  
Board of Education Room  
300 High Street  
Lowell, MI 49331

The hearing will be held as follows:

**Monday, March 24, 2003**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Lowell Charter Township Hall**  
**2910 Alden Nash Avenue S.E.**  
**Lowell, Michigan 49331**

The proposed amendment is available for review at the Lowell Charter Township offices, 2910 Alden Nash Avenue, Lowell, Michigan, 49331 during normal office hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday or by calling 897-7600.

Dave Simmonds, Secretary  
Lowell Charter Township Planning  
Commission







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## MINIMUM TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE

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2-dr., auto., 8 cyl., 4x4, air, full pwr., alloy wheels, SLT Sport.

**\$261 PER MO.**



### '00 DODGE INTREPID

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., air, CD, pwr. seats, full pwr., gray.

**\$175 PER MO.**



### '00 DODGE INTREPID

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., air, full pwr., 36,000 mi., brown, new tires.

**\$192 PER MO.**



### '99 DODGE 1500 QUAD CAB

4-dr., auto., 8 cyl., air, 4x4, CD, leather, full pwr., alloy wheels, SLT Sport, new tires.

**\$289 PER MO.**



### '99 FORD RANGER

2-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, cruise, tilt, AM/FM cass., red, XLT.

**\$179 PER MO.**



### '02 CHRYSLER P.T. CRUISER

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, cruise, tilt, full pwr., 16,000 mi., blue, bal. of warr., Touring Edition.

**\$276 PER MO.**



### '00 CHEVY CAVALIER

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, red.

**\$158 PER MO.**



### '00 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., 4x4, air, pwr. sunroof, wine, Laredo.

**\$294 PER MO.**



### '00 CHEVY TRACKER

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., 4x4, air, blue, bal. of warranty.

**\$198 PER MO.**



### '98 DODGE STRATUS

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**\$169 PER MO.**



### '00 FORD ESCORT

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, r.w. defrost, red, SE.

**\$141 PER MO.**



### '00 FORD FOCUS STA-WGN.

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, cruise, tilt, 1 owner, blue, SE

**\$167 PER MO.**



### '99 CHEVY LUMINA

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., air, pwr. sunroof, full pwr., 32,000 mi., white, LS

**\$188 PER MO.**



### '97 DODGE DAKOTA

2-dr., stand. trans., 6 cyl., 4x4, air, full pwr., 55,000 mi., white, SLT

**\$194 PER MO.**



### '01 DODGE NEON

4-dr., auto., 4 cyl., air, CD, silver, SE, new tires.

**\$139 PER MO.**



### '97 CHEVY S-10

2-dr., stand. trans., 4 cyl., 47,000 mi., red, new tires.

**\$123 PER MO.**



### '01 CHEVY MALIBU

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., air, pwr. locks, 21,000 mi., green, bal. of warr.

**\$161 PER MO.**



### '00 JEEP CHEROKEE

4-dr., auto., 6 cyl., air, 1 owner, full pwr., green, alloy wheels, Sport.

**\$208 PER MO.**



### '97 DODGE DAKOTA

2-dr., auto., 6 cyl., 4x4, air, 1 owner, full pwr., silver, SLT.

**\$194 PER MO.**



### '98 CHRYSLER SEBRING

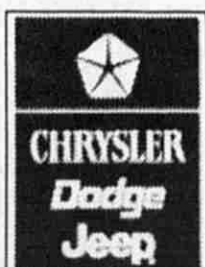
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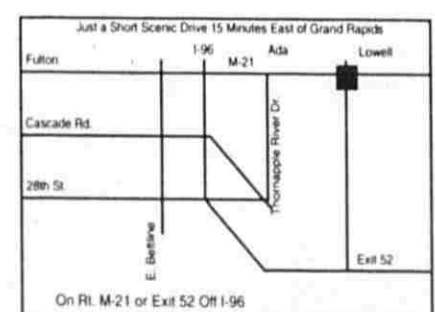
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