

LANSGING COMMUNITY NEWS

Serving the Town and Village of Lansing, Cayuga Heights, King Ferry & Genoa

"Not quite paradise, but a nice place to live."

Wednesday, May 14, 1997 ♦♦♦ Vol. II No. 20

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Lansing School Board Elections

Balloting on the 1997-98 budget and to fill two open seats on the Lansing Central School Board takes place next Wednesday, May 21, at the Lansing Middle School auditorium from noon to 9:00 pm.

School Board candidates (in alphabetical order from left to right) are N. Lin Davidson, Donald Howell and James Tull.



Community Rallies To Support Nick Boles' Family After Accident

Community members across the Town of Lansing are organizing a number of fund-raising activities to assist the family of Nick Boles deal with significant medical expenses related to his recent fall, surgery and rehabilitation.

Friday evening (May 2), Nick fell from the balcony at his home to the ground below. Rushed to the Cayuga Medical Center by Bangs Ambulance where he was treated and stabilized, Nick was airlifted to Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse.

Subsequent examination defined the source of paralysis as six crushed vertebrae. Following surgery on Monday, recovery remains uncertain at this time.

For now, the family remains optimistic and encouraged that some feeling appears to be returning to Nick's legs. On Wednesday, family friend Chris Drew, who'd gone to visit Nick in Syracuse, reported that Nick was much more alert than before and able to move his arms.

Nick is a self-employed contractor and the husband of Town Clerk, Bonny. Together, they have three children: Kelli, 18, in the US Air Force; Tommy, 16, a junior at Lansing High School; and Billie Jo, 14, an eighth grader at Lansing Middle School.

At least four fund-raising efforts are being organized to help the family.

On Saturday, May 17 a chicken barbecue will be held on the town ball fields from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Pete Larson and crew plan to cook 1,000 halves. A half chicken dinner will be \$6.00; a quarter chicken dinner will be \$4.75; and a half chicken (without fixin's) will be \$3.00.

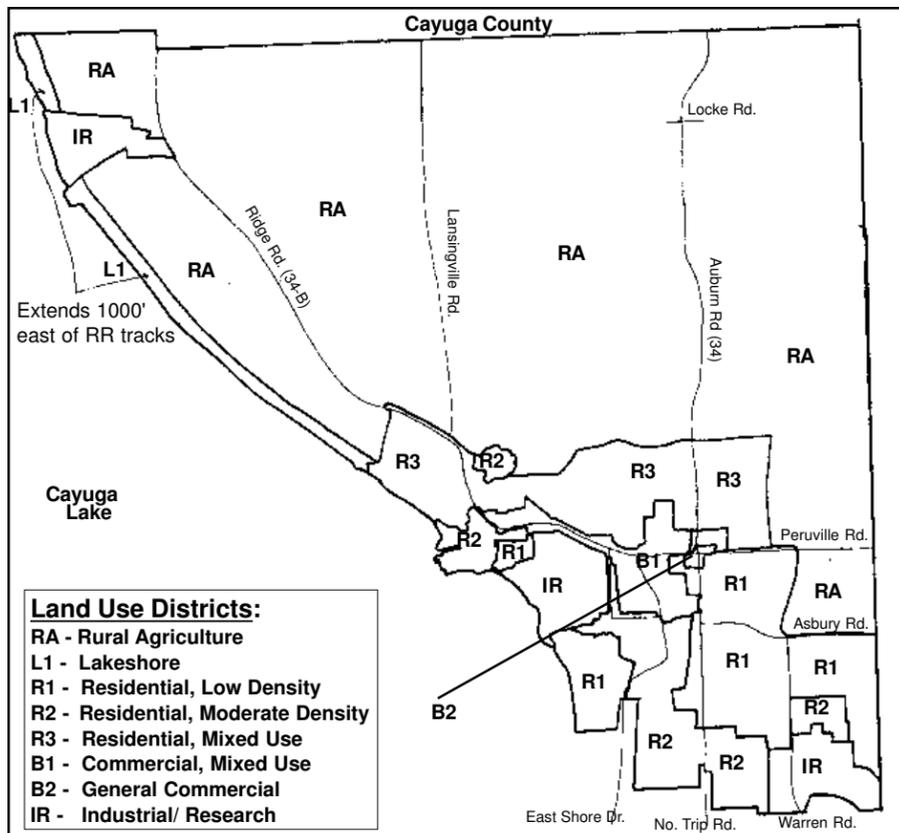
Tickets for a 50-50 raffle are also on sale [See bottom of this page] and the drawing will be held at the end of the barbecue. If you'd like to sell tickets or purchase them, please contact JoAnn Carlson at 533-4568.

On Friday, June 27 from 8:00pm to 1:00am a dance benefit will be held at the Lakewatch Inn on East Shore Drive. Records and good times will be spun by Teddy Antrim. Tickets can be purchased in advance from Cindy Bower for \$10. Please call 533-7353.

Throughout July, Norm Mayright will draw a daily number with all proceeds going to offset Nick's medical bills.

Finally, Debbie Crandall has set up a special trust account. Checks made to the Nicholas A. Boles Trust may be mailed to Debbie at 15 Marion Lane in Lansing.

DRAFT ZONING MAP (May 6 Planning Board Draft: Subject To Revision)



TOWNWIDE ZONING STORY - An explanation of the proposed zoning map and amendments approved by the Town Planning Board at their May 12 meeting appears on page 6 of this issue of the Lansing Community News.

Tom Jones Forges A Sound School Budget Despite Uncertainties At State Capitol

By Matthew Shulman

When Lansing School District Business Administrator Tom Jones realized, several months ago, that the NYS budget would be tardy once more and that no rock-solid state aid reimbursement figures would be forthcoming from Albany, he sighed about the folly of Albany politics and went right on developing a 1997-98 budget that could withstand the uncertainties of political decisions taken on the banks of the upper Hudson River.

The Lansing School District, like all municipalities, assesses property taxes based the difference between projected expenses and revenues other than property taxes. Only this year, neither side of the budget equation is cast in stone.

On the expense side, the largest district cost is instruction. However, instructional costs can't be pinpointed because negotiations with the Lansing Faculty Association to settle next year's contract have not yet been concluded.

On the revenue side, Lansing receives the largest part of its non-property tax income in the form of reimbursements for many of the 43 different categories of state aid (ex: building aid, operating aid, transportation aid, textbook aid, aid for special education, library, etc...). The aid for each category is calculated according to State Education Department formulas that are subject to frequent administrative revision.

"It's a big puzzle," said Jones, whose 1997-98 opus represents the 5th Lansing budget he's prepared without benefit of an on-time state budget. "It's a pleasure to make (our budget) come out right," said Jones,



Photo: STAFF

ORGANIZATION MAN - Tracking details is the key to Tom Jones' staying on top of fluid administrative and political currents that impact the flow of state dollars to the Lansing School District

"and requires a constant vigilance to track and verify that each of the state aid allocation formulas is calculated correctly." (Jones also verifies that correct state aid transmittals follow and has been known to help Albany rework its arithmetical calculations.)

To help Lansing identify and evaluate the constant flow of shifting state budgetary proposals that could (but often don't) materialize, Jones and 400 other school districts have subscribed to a Capital District BOCES organization called State Aid Planning (SAP). Jones finds SAP's analyses particularly useful in determining Lansing's assumptions about what's likely to come out



Photo: STAFF

Bert Hilliard's Sold; Home Center Coming

After a fruitful career at the corner of No. Triphammer and the Peruville Road, Bert & Colleen are helping new owner Carl Snyder dismantle the garage they designed and built in 1967.

The 3+ acre parcel (including a building with several apartments) was sold this past week to Carl Snyder, of Horseheads who is expected to build a new structure that will house the Town & Country Home Center.

The Hilliards started their career at the present site of the C&Y Convenience Store, where Bert worked for eight years before moving to the No. Triphammer Road site. "Don't say Bert's retired," smiled Colleen. "We'll continue to run the wrecker from our home."

To the Hilliards, "Thanks for everything." To Mr. Snyder, "Welcome to Lansing!"

of Albany.

Of all the issues currently on the table in Albany, two proposed changes in the way certain aids may be calculated seem particularly relevant to Lansing. These concern aid that reimburses Lansing for the cost of special education and aid for new building construction.

Special Education Aid

Lansing taxpayers may face an additional burden if a proposal from Gov. George Pataki to change school district reimbursement calculations for high costs associated with providing special education services for children with special needs is approved.

Current reimbursement is based on the type and quantity of services that all eligible children actually receive. Under the Governor's proposal, special education reimbursement would be limited to 11.73% of a school district's enrollment.

While this figure represents the statewide average of children receiving special education services, districts with more than 11.73% youngsters receiving special education services would not be able to receive reimbursement beyond this cap. District's with fewer than 11.73% special education enrollees would not be rewarded or penalized.

In Lansing, approximately 14.19% of our children received one or more special education services. Jones has calculated that if special education reimbursement is capped at 11.73%, the impact of this proposal on Lansing would be the loss of approximately \$38,000 in reimbursable state aid.

The theory behind the proposal, said Jones, is some legislators' concerns that

(Continued on page 4)

<p>50/50 Raffle BENEFIT NICK BOLES DRAWING TO BE HELD ON: SATURDAY, MAY 17 - 4:00 PM At Lansing Town Hall on Ball Fields</p> <p><small>NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN</small> DONATION: \$2.00 3 FOR \$5.00</p>	<p>Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Return Tickets to: Lansing Town Hall Attn: Deb Crandall</p> <p><small>NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN</small></p>
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