

Lowell Jr. High Uses Nature To Aid Studies

The students and teachers at James Russell Lowell Junior High School can, like the poet for whom the school is named, step outside and be in the center of nature.

And that's the idea, as kids and adults alike attest at the school, a two-year-old Livonia Public Schools facility located at Six and Joy Roads in Westland.

MR. LOWELL, a 19th Century poet, noticed his home community "being equaled by the growth of metropolitan Boston and decided to preserve a ten-acre wooded area surrounding his home. It was this green island environment that provided the inspiration for his "What Is So Rare As A Day In June" and "A Good Word For Winter".

The students and teachers of Lowell School have made the same decision—and are discovering a like inspiration.

The 27-acre site of the school has six acres of undisturbed woods, and the staff and students decided to protect it. They've been developing it as a nature center, with the support of the administration and Board of Education.

VIRTUALLY EVERY type of class is participating in the development and enjoyment of the nature center. From woodshop to art, the center, in the words of principal Gordon Geiger, is a unique opportunity for exploration.

"It gives the students the opportunity to get the feel of nature," Geiger noted. "The greatest teaching is out here."

The biology students and teachers took a look at the 80-foot tall beech and poplar trees, the pheasants, rabbits and squirrels, and became enthralled.

Those studying geology tested the soil, measured its levels and planned and dug a small stream through the woods.

Working with wood in their school shops, youthful carpenters were able to examine just outside their door the sources of the kinds of materials they had.

ART CLASSES and student photographers went out into the nature center and found apt subjects.

And the kids, at the most restless age of their lives, found an opportunity for releasing and utilizing their energies.

Lowell School called in the Michigan Conservation Department for advice, but did the work itself. Drafting students worked out paths to be built through the woods. Botanists picked out which trees should stay and which could be cut down.

During the past summer, industrial arts teacher Armin Roth and a dozen students went to work clearing underbrush and laying out the paths. They also dug out part of the future stream. Two ponds, one in the open and one in the woods, are planned.

CLASSES INTERESTED in camping came out this fall to make a camp site under some of the tallest trees of the nature center. Other classes interested in topics, ranging from conserva-

tion to ropemaking, use the center. First aid is taught there—and a history class is thinking of staging a Civil War re-enactment in these woods.

"Some of our students have never been exposed to a rural environment," the principal pointed out. "Now these kids are getting a broader opportunity to do some exploring."

"It's so much more meaningful when they can come out and see the changes in the plant and animal life right here."

Elementary pupils from nearby George Washington and Andrew Johnson Schools have been coming to Lowell on nature hikes. Adult visitors are welcome to come and see the center too, Geiger said.

HIS ENTHUSIASM was evident. A former teacher, counselor and assistant principal (the latter at Livonia's James Whitcomb Riley Junior High), Geiger has gone camping throughout the United States with his wife and four children.

This enthusiasm reflects the spirit of the staff and student body.

"We have real good specimens of beech and hilly poplar, and at least 13 other varieties," said Roth, pulling out from a shelf in his shop a piece of blue beech, the incredibly hard wood nicknamed "musclewood".

The rustic atmosphere of Lowell is preserved not only by the woods in back, but also by the farm across the road and the corn field on the side—just outside the windows of the art room.

But, in an age of urbanization, the corn field and farm might eventually, while the woods still stay in Lowell tradition.



A DISCOVERY — Mrs. Donna Neff, biology teacher at James Russell Lowell Junior High School, points out a tree fungus to ninth grader Mickey Kowalchuk as they make another discovery in the schools unique nature center. In the tradition of the poet Lowell, the school is preserving six acres of woods on school property and making use of this natural resource in classes.

Mattress Blamed For House Fire

An abandoned house at 28576 Oakley in the Middle Belt-Five Mile area of Livonia caught fire Friday night, Livonia fire-

men used two water lines to bring the fire under control. The blaze burned through both floors of the house. The fire department said the fire started spontaneously upstairs in a mattress on the floor.

Resigns Job With City

William C. Miller Jr. has resigned as chairman of the Livonia Industrial Development Commission because of a job transfer to another state. Miller, whose job with the

Change Refuse Pickup

Refuse collection in a one-mile-square area of Livonia will be switched from Wednesday to Monday beginning Oct. 14.

The area is bounded by Five Mile, Merriman, Farmington and Schoolcraft roads.

Beginning Oct. 14, this area will be added to the Monday collection schedule, according to Assistant Director David L. Jones of the Department of Public Works.

HUMID-AIRE
Model FH 300
FITS ALL FORCED AIR HEATING SYSTEMS

Humid-Aire's patented new operational design that gives you more moisture capacity, and more efficient, dependable, noiseless-free humidification than ever before!

- Guards Against Colds — helps eliminate dry nasal linings that encourage nose and throat bacteria, aids breathing.
- Self-Cleaning Action — no mineral deposit problem, pads, pipes, filters or nozzles to clean—ever!
- Self-Regulating — operates only when furnace fan blows. Automatically maintains natural moisture balance.
- No rust or corrosion — all parts made of rust-proof materials. Lifetime warranty on stainless steel reservoir.
- Economical — costs less than 2¢ a day to operate, while cutting heating bills as much as 15%.
- Double Guarantee

PRE-SEASON SPECIAL
FREE INSTALLATION
H & R Hardware
27430 JOY ROAD • PHONE GA 1-5161

WE HAVE IN STOCK
UNITED STATES
PLYWOOD
FALL SPECIAL!
RUSTIC BLACK WALNUT
PANELING
OUR REGULAR PRICE \$16.95
FALL SPECIAL PRICE
ONLY \$12.99
CASH AND CARRY

White Colonial
COMBINATION ALUMINUM
DOORS
CROSS BUCK BOTTOM DESIGN,
PAINTED WHITE, INCLUDING
ALL HARDWARE, READY TO IN-
STALL, ALL HOLES PRE-DRILLED,
32" x 36" widths
x 80" high
\$39.95 Cash & Carry

- GLASS
Cut to size
- ROOFING
Shingles & Rafts
Most Every Color

**H. A. SMITH
LUMBER**
28575 Grand River
near Middlebelt
GR 4-6610
KE 5-8440

★ PUBLIC NOTICE ★

Contrary to Hearsay and Silly Rumor, Michalak's Markets Are Owned and Operated by Jerry Michalak. He and His Employees Guarantee the Same Top Quality and Courteous Service to All Our Customers!

Atlas
4 H.P.
**SNOW
THROWER**
SELF-PROPELLED
\$169.95 LIST

- extra-powerful 4 h.p. 4-cycle Briggs & Stratton engine... fully winterized
- quickly clears 20" path
- 180° swivel chute with deflector top puts the snow where you want it
- heavy-duty auger with over-load clutch
- chain drive covered for safety

HERE NOW!
PRE-SEASON SPECIAL
\$159.88

H & R HARDWARE
27430 JOY RD. GA. 1-5161

STORE HOURS 8-6 DAILY

LET'S GET-ACQUAINTED SALE
MIDDLEBELT ROAD STORE ONLY

THIS AD GOOD WED. THRU SAT. OCT. 2-3-4-5 MIDDLEBELT ONLY

JERRY'S OWN
ONION LIVER RINGS
69¢ lb.

ALL OUR BEEF IS AGED STEERS

TABLE TRIMMED
ROUND STEAK
97¢ lb.

FREE!
To First 50 Customers
Thurs. - Fri. - Sat.

1 lb. Wilson's Cottage Cheese

JERRY'S OWN
Skinless DOGS
69¢ lb.

TABLE TRIMMED
PORTERHOUSE STEAK
\$1.29 lb.

Lean, Ground
CHUCK **69¢** lb.
3 lbs. only \$1.89

BIG SAVINGS
JERRY'S OWN
Large BOLOGNA
69¢ lb.

TABLE TRIMMED
T-BONE STEAK
\$1.19 lb.

Center
Cut
RIB PORK CHOPS **89¢** lb.

WILSON'S
MILK
2 1/2 Gal. 89¢
Ctns.
Cottage Cheese, Ctn. 15c

JERRY'S OWN
ASSORTED COLD CUTS
89¢ lb.

FREEZER BEEF!
Sides... **59¢** lb. Hinds... **69¢** lb. Fronts... **53¢** lb.

FREE PRESTONE
6 Gal. of PRESTONE

FREE with purchase of any TORO BLOWER
Small Deposit holds any Blower until December 1.

TORO's little SNOW PUP® throws 600 pounds of snow a minute. For less than \$100... it's your best buy in a snow thrower.
*Mfr's suggested retail price

TORO

H&R HARDWARE
27430 JOY ROAD GA. 1-5161

MICHALAK'S MEATS
— Just south of Eight Mile Road —
Also MICHALAK BROTHERS, 18510 WARREN, corner of Faust, Phone 271-1525

20313 Middlebelt Ph. 474-2070