

The Lowell Ledger

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Second in line, second to resign, as school shuffle shakes out

••• Gary Kemp's decision to move back to the classroom after 21 years of administrative service based on improving quality of life.

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Looking to improve his quality of life, Lowell Assistant Superintendent Gary Kemp resigned from his position on Monday.

He did so in order to return to the classroom as a high school math teacher.

"I've missed teaching. I've missed the contact with students," Kemp said. "I believe I've reached a peak as to what I can contribute to this district as an assistant superintendent."

Kemp will fill a position

vacated by Tim Dimmick's resignation. Dimmick opted to remain with the Wyoming Public Schools. He was one of the teachers laid off when Lowell went to a five-hour day at the beginning of last school year.

Kemp's resignation goes into effect Aug. 12. His resignation comes on the heels of the Lowell School District losing its superintendent to the Royal Oak School District.

The result of these changes will be a realignment of the administrative



Gary Kemp

offices with interim personnel.

Acting superintendent, Dick Korb said that using the interim status to fill these positions will allow the new superintendent to make his/her own adjustments.

"It will also allow for business to continue on with known commodities until a

superintendent is appointed," Korb said. "I also think it will bring about stability and continuity to the district over the next year."

Kemp said he doesn't consider his move a step up, down or sideways. "Instead, I believe it's a move that is good for me and good for the district."

The assistant superintendent has been in education 26 years. He spent two years as an assistant high school principal before accepting a high school principalship at Leslie. After two years he returned to Lowell to assume the position as Lowell High School principal. He filled that role for six years before moving into his role as assistant superintendent in 1983-84.

Kemp said he is not ner-

vous about the new math. "The math being taught is the same. The methods in which it is taught has changed," he said.

While Kemp's resignation was accepted with regret, the realignment of the administrative offices did create some discussion.

With the resignation, the school board, with Korb's recommendation, appointed Mike Matlosz as interim director of personnel and community services, leaving his Middle School principalship spot vacant.

The school board also gave Korb the approval to develop the appropriate job description of school/business manager, which is recommended in the Vision 2000 strategic plan.

In light of the school purchasing three years of former superintendent Fritz Esch's retirement, payment of annuity and the school's \$700,000 budget deficit, new board member Ellen McClain said she was opposed to filling all positions with interim personnel.

"Somewhere we've got to stop. We've got to limp along at some point. Where that point is needs to be decided," McClain said.

Korb indicated that none of the interim positions will be new positions.

"I will work to see that all of the readdressing and reorganizing of positions are done at a cost below what the school would have spent had the administrative structure remained as is," Korb stressed.

M-21/Bowes intersection faces funding problems and limited solutions

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

The fate of the intersection of Bowes Road and M-21 is getting unclear and Township Supervisor John Timpson is looking to the Kent County Road Commission for help.

Efforts to find funding for the \$160,000 project have not gone well and Timpson hopes the commission can provide a solution.

At debate is what to do with the intersection. In a survey conducted by the planning commissions of the city of Lowell, Lowell Township and Vergennes Township the cheapest solution was to close the intersection and install a cul de sac. In doing so the Michigan Department of Transportation would then be willing to install a traffic light to help buses at that corner.

Timpson is one person who doesn't like the results of the survey.

"I'm afraid if the road gets closed at any point we may never get it open again and that is something I wouldn't want to happen," said Timpson.

Timpson concerns over the intersection go beyond the busing problem. He is concerned about the increased traffic how it will effect the downtown area.

"Right now a lot of cars and trucks use Bowes, to avoid traffic congestion downtown. If they close it down can you imagine the traffic problems that would exist," said Timpson.

The state has told the city of Lowell that they could not commit funds to the project for another three years. That answer is not good enough for Timpson.

"The state should help us in this matter. It is about time they lived up to their end of the bargain," said Timpson. "They put some changes in Ada, but haven't touched it here in about 50 years."

Timpson has not heard from the road commission as of yet, but when he does he will take action at that point.

Making the street one way when entering Bowes from M-21 is the solution Timpson seeks. In doing this he figures it would alleviate traffic problems downtown and still make it easier for buses to cross at the intersection.

He also believes it would be good enough to have a light installed.

According to the MDOT, in order to have a light installed at an intersection that inter-

Bowes, cont'd., pg. 8

With legislation behind it, Lowell's DDA forges ahead

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Legislators have passed legislation that will allow cities which have outstanding Downtown Development Authority bonds or are selling DDA bonds to capture existing school and municipal revenue. Now the City of Low-

ell is busy reviewing and completing work so that the bonds can be sold by Dec. 31.

"We will meet with our city attorney/bond council, architect and engineer to make one final review, Lowell City Manager Dave Pas-

quale said. "Following that we will meet with the DDA to review what will be done within the scope of the project and all information. The plans have already been completed."

DDA, cont'd., pg. 8

Containment pond new addition to Lowell Township's water tower

By Marc Popiolek
Contributing Writer

The possible maintenance of the new water tower has caused Lowell township to search for a spot to put a containment pond.

The township has looked at two sites for the pond and chose to place it next to the tower, which is located on the north side of Foreman Street.

The purpose of the pond is to store excess water that may need to be drained in case the tower needs some maintenance done.

Original plans called for the excess water to be run in the ditches along Foreman, but the Kent County Road Commission said "no" to the idea.

Creekside Kingdom's Vegas night to be showcased at Lowell Lanes

Michael Lovell
Lowell Ledger Intern

Anybody feel like winning some money? If blackjack, roulette, money wheels and many other kinds of gambling sound like a night of entertainment to you, then you ought to be at Lowell Lanes Saturday, July 16 at 6 p.m.

As part of an ongoing series of philanthropies to fund a community built playground facility, Creekside Kingdom will be sponsoring a Las Vegas night.

Creekside Kingdom's co-chairman Brenda Clark said, "we're really looking forward

to this.. It's kind of a gamble to do this in the summer. Most organizations do this in the spring."

A cash bar will be provided for those of legal age, although anyone 18 and over is welcome to attend.

If potential gamblers are

worried about heat, however, have no fear. Lowell Lanes is air conditioned.

The event, which has been planned for a few months, also offers the advantage of being a showcase for the newly remodeled Lowell Lanes, which

Vegas, cont'd., pg. 8

INSIDE THE LEDGER

Area resident a dragster speed merchant, pg. 18

Car dealers present

Showboat with check, pg. 22

DAYTIME MORNING 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

DAYTIME AFTERNOON 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

FRIDAY EVENING JULY 15, 1994 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

FRIDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 15, 1994 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30

SATURDAY MORNING JULY 16, 1994 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30 7:00 7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00 11:30

SATURDAY AFTERNOON JULY 16, 1994 12:00 12:30 1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30 6:00 6:30

SATURDAY EVENING JULY 16, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SATURDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 16, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY MORNING JULY 17, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JULY 17, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY EVENING JULY 17, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

SUNDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 17, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

MONDAY EVENING JULY 18, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

MONDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 18, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

TUESDAY EVENING JULY 19, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

TUESDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 19, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

WEDNESDAY EVENING JULY 20, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

WEDNESDAY LATE NIGHT JULY 20, 1994. Table with columns for time slots (12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30) and rows for Broadcast Stations, Cable Stations, and Premium Stations.

Lowell's VanOtteren crowned Macker Queen

By Thad Kraus
Lowell Ledger Editor

Laurie VanOtteren became the second Lowell resident in 16 years to be named Belding Miss Macker.

The daughter of David and Betti VanOtteren, was dressed in a floor-length, blue sequin, spaghetti strap formal gown, as she was crowned Belding Miss Macker Wednesday evening at the Belding City Hall.

VanOtteren was one of 12 contestants, ranging in age from 15-23 years old, who participated in the event.

"I didn't expect to win. I

was just happy to be in the top five and to be competing," Miss Belding Macker said.

This was VanOtteren's first Miss Macker pageant but the fourth pageant she has participated in overall.

The other pageants she has participated in were The Kent County 4-H Youth Fair, Lowell Showboat and the Michigan State Rabbit Breeders (her first pageant). VanOtteren is currently serving on the court for the Youth Fair and the Showboat.

"I like to get out and compete. I've also enjoyed representing organizations as a member of their court,"

VanOtteren said. "They never get easier. You still get nervous and excited."

The Michigan State freshman-to-be, who may study agricultural and natural resource communications or neonatology, said the Macker pageant wasn't any more difficult, just more nerve-wracking.

"This was a beauty pageant and it had a bathing suit competition, which I think makes you more nervous," VanOtteren said.

Miss Macker Contestants were also asked to model in basketball attire and their formal gown. VanOtteren's bas-

ketball attire was a Charlotte Hornet T-shirt, matching plaid shorts and a Hornet cap.

The five finalists were asked to explain their favorite sport without giving its name or talking about the rules.

VanOtteren spoke of volleyball, a sport that uses a lightweight ball, can be played indoors, outdoors and on the beach.

"I liked the Miss Macker Pageant because it allowed contestants to present themselves. We were able to tell people about our hobbies and interests," VanOtteren said.

The Lowell resident will represent the Macker at the

Ionia Free Fair parade, the Danish Festival, and will be introduced at a Grand Rapids Macker basketball game and a Whitecaps baseball game.

"I think previous pageants

Fugitive
FAVORITE TALK SHOW - Vicki
FAVORITE LATE SHOW - Jay Leno
FAVORITE FOOD -



Laurie VanOtteren - Macker Queen

NOTICE LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP PENSION PLAN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE AND ESTABLISH AN ANNUITY OR PENSION PLAN FOR THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO CONTRACT, IN THE NAME OF THE TOWNSHIP, FOR SUCH PLAN; TO DEFINE THOSE CLASSES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WHO SHALL BE COVERED BY SUCH ANNUITY OR PENSION PLAN; TO SET FORTH THE RESPECTIVE PER CENTUM SHARES WHICH LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP AND THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES SHALL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PREMIUM OR CHARGES ARISING UNDER SUCH ANNUITY OR PENSION CONTRACT AND TO FURTHER PROVIDE FOR THE DEDUCTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OFFICERS' AND EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION; TO ESTABLISH THE TIME AT WHICH EXISTING AND FUTURE EMPLOYEES SHALL BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH PLAN AND TO FURTHER ESTABLISH THE NORMAL RETIREMENT DATE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES; TO PROVIDE A METHOD FOR NON-COVERAGE OF AN OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF THE ANNUITY OR PENSION PLAN; TO SET FORTH A DATE WHEREIN EACH PERSON COVERED UNDER THE ANNUITY OR PENSION PLAN SHALL HAVE A VESTED RIGHT OR INTEREST IN SUCH PLAN; TO RATIFY AND CONFIRM THE VALIDITY OF ANY ANNUITY OR PENSION PLAN IN EXISTENCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE; AND TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith.

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP, KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.

This ordinance shall be known and cited as the Lowell Charter Township Pension Plan Ordinance.

SECTION 2.

Pursuant to Public Act 27 of 1960, as amended, Lowell Charter Township hereby creates and establishes an annuity or pension plan and program for the pensioning of its officers and employees, and for such purposes, also hereby authorizes the township supervisor and the township clerk to contract, in the name of the township board, with any company authorized to transact such business within the State of Michigan for annuities of pensions.

SECTION 3.

The annuity or pension plans created, established and contracted for under this ordinance shall cover each person within the following classes of officers and employees:

All members of the township board.
All township employees who are employed for more than (15) hours per week on a regular basis.

SECTION 4.

A. Lowell Charter Township shall annually contribute 67 per centum (SEE NOTE) of that portion of the

premium or charges arising under such annuity or pension contract for each person within the class of officers and employees enumerated in Section 3 hereof. Such contributions shall be secured from the general fund of the township. Each person within such class of officers and employees shall be responsible for the remainder of the premium or charges and the township clerk/treasurer is hereby authorized to deduct the same from each person's pay, salary or compensation and to apply the same to such person's responsibility.

B. Each employee who is employed on the effective date of the annuity or pension plan shall be eligible for coverage on that day provided he or she then meets the following requirements, otherwise to be eligible on the first day of the month following the date on which he or she meets them:

1. He or she has completed at least 0 years of continuous employment.
2. His or her age (nearest birthday) is at least 18 years of age.

Every employee who becomes subsequently employed shall be eligible on the first day of month following the date on which he or she meets the following requirements.

1. He or she has completed at least 0 years of continuous employment.
2. His or her age (nearest birthday) is at least 18 years of age.

An employee's normal retirement date shall be the first day of the month nearest his or her 65th birthday.

C. Any person desiring not to be so covered shall give written notice to the township clerk that he desires not to be covered, and if the notice is received before the person has become covered under the contract, he shall not be covered thereunder. If the notice is received after the individual has become covered, his coverage under the contract shall cease as provided for in the contract.

SECTION 5:

Each person so covered under the annuity or pension plan shall have a vested right or interest in such plan 0 months from the date the plan becomes effective for such person.

SECTION 6:

The Township of Lowell hereby ratifies and confirms the validity of any annuity or pension plan in existence on the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 7:

This ordinance shall take effect on the date of its publication. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

I, Carol L. Wells, Clerk, hereby certify that this Ordinance was adopted by the Township Board, Lowell Charter Township, Kent County, Michigan, at their regular meeting held on the 20th of June, 1994.

Carol L. Wells, Clerk
Township of Lowell
County of Kent, Michigan

NOTE: The Township contributes 67% of 15% of annual earnings, the official or employee contributes 33% of 15% of annual earnings; total contributed 15%.

helped prepare me for the Miss Macker Pageant," VanOtteren said.
Miss Belding Macker....
NAME - Laurie VanOtteren
AGE - 17
PARENTS - David and Betti VanOtteren
FAVORITE TV SHOW - Baywatch
FAVORITE MOVIE
ACTOR - Harrison Ford
FAVORITE MOVIE
ACTRESS - Julia Roberts
FAVORITE MOVIE -

Fettucini Alfredo from the Olive Garden.
FAVORITE SNACK FOOD - Potato chips and dip.
FAVORITE COLOR - Red
SOMEONE YOU LOOK UP TO AND/OR ADMIRE - Hillary Clinton. She is looked up to. If she wants something done she goes out and gets it done. I think she is a good leader.

Reath barn addition expected to be finished in time for 4-H fair

Michael Lovell
Lowell Ledger Intern

Looks like there's going to be some building going on down at the fairgrounds.

Lowell Planning Commission approved a proposed addition to the Reath show barn at a special meeting held Monday.

The new addition will measure 14 feet by 48 feet and will have 10 foot ceiling's to aid circulation for the animals (and the humans!).

Work on the barn can begin as soon as this week, according to 4-H fairground president Ron Wenger. The only thing standing in the way now is a building permit, but City Manager Dave Pasquale said that it would be no problem, and that Wenger could pick one up in the morning.

After that, it's smooth sailing, except for the scheduling. The 4-H would like the barn to be done in time for the fair.

That leaves about a three

week window.
"It should take about two weeks to build the addition," Wenger said. "We've got people to lay the cement floors, and to do the doors, but other than that, it's all volunteers."

The reason for the special meeting was to obtain a sealed site plan from the 4-H. A sealed plan is necessary as part of Lowell regulations.

Ron Wenger, 4-H fairground president, who proposed the building to the planning commission didn't realize that a plan was needed.

The Lowell Planning Commission then set up a special meeting, because there wouldn't have been enough time to build the addition, if Wenger had had to wait until the next regular meeting.

The addition will be used as a meeting place, as well as a trophy and ribbon room in case of bad weather. "It could also be used for the auction, if it rains," Wenger concluded.