



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Nov. 3 election to decide millages, council seats

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3, throughout the state of Michigan as voters make their decisions.

In Belleville, voters will fill two council seats and the mayor's position. The two polls for the city are both at the Father Folta Building of St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia.

In Van Buren Township, voters will consider 6.5 mills for Public Safety for seven years to replace the current 4.0 mill levy that will expire Dec. 31, 2016.

The 6.5 mills is expected to raise \$6,478,215 when it is first levied on Dec. 1, 2017. The \$6 million will go to the public safety department (the current 4 mills plus the new 2 mills), so the township will no longer have to pay that \$2 million from the general fund for public safety. About \$436,000 of the \$6,478,215 will be captured by the VBT Downtown Development Authority.

Throughout the tri-community and in poll locations in Canton and Ypsilanti townships, voters will consider a 0.5 mill Van Buren Public Schools Sinking Fund levy for seven years to replace the current 1.13 mills that expires this year.

The 0.5 mill is expected to raise \$753,255 from local taxes in the 2016 calendar year to be used "for construction or repair of school buildings and the improvement and development of sites and for any other purpose which may be authorized by law.

The Van Buren Township DDA may capture part of that tax, as well.

In 2014 the VBT DDA captured \$351,872 real (18 mills) and personal (6 mills) of school operational funds and \$291,009 of VBT public safety funds (4 mills).



The sign draped over the Welcome to Belleville sign at the entry to the city by the Belleville Bridge proclaims the city is Booville for the month of October. The Booville fun ends this week. On Friday, the city of Booville hosts trick or treating downtown, 5-7 p.m., with a costume contest on the Fourth Street Square at 6 p.m. From 5 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, the real Halloween, Sumpter Township holds its Trunk or Treating event for children at the fire hall at Sumpter and Kozma roads. At 7 p.m. they will hold the costume contest.

VBT meets with Army Corps of Engineers on proposal for landfill

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is considering US Ecology hazardous waste landfill in Van Buren Township for a Superfund Cleanup disposal site.

At the regular meeting of the VBT Environmental Commission on Oct. 21, Township Trustee Jeff Jahr asked for a report on the meeting he attended.

Matthew Best, Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development, said the township was contacted by US Ecology to meet with the Army Corps of Engineers. It was 24-hours notice, he said.

The corps brought its physical health experts and wanted to know if the township was happy with US Ecology.

Best said VBT has a landfill which is able to take some "technologically enhanced, naturally occurring radioactive materials" -- TENORM waste. US Ecology is being

assessed for taking the waste. The corps wants to set up other locations to take Superfund waste so it doesn't have to transport it cross-country for disposal.

He said the Army Corps does all the Superfund clean ups and is looking at bringing in mostly contaminated soils. Best said it would be the same kind of waste the landfill gets now, only from a different location.

Best said US Ecology would get under 50 picocuries of radioactive waste.

"Dr. Wilson grilled them at some length and was satisfied," said Trustee Jahr, referring to Environmental Commission member David Wilson, a retired chemistry professor.

"Radium decays to produce radon and as a gas it migrates," Dr. Wilson said of his chief concern, explaining this is started by the degeneration of fermentable substances.

Dr. Wilson said they told him they will bury it 10 feet or more below the surface and they are not burying fermentable substances with it so no gas is generated.

"They were talking a different language,"

(continued on page 21)



Photo courtesy of Richard Smith
A Booville Police car was put into the garden in front of Belleville City Hall just before the last city council meeting of the month.



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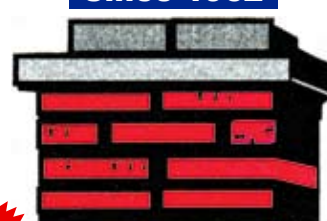
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT budget: How about getting a new K-9 officer?

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Getting a new police dog was one of the items discussed at last Thursday and Friday's daylong budget sessions for the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees.

They were considering amendments to the 2015 budget and the new 2016 budget, which has to be approved by Dec. 31.

When Public Safety Director Greg Laurain talked about the uses for the forfeiture funds, he said they want to get a canine officer.

Director Laurain said the last time his department had a K-9 officer was in 2011 when it got sick and passed away. He said they had funds for it but didn't have an officer for that.

He said it is a good tool for a police officer on the street and now VBT has to call Canton or Romulus PD to use a dog.

Laurain said there was a shooting at Pine Creek a couple of nights earlier and his department had to get a dog to search for the shooter. The suspect got away by running through Laurain's backyard.

And there was another recent chase after a traffic crash of a person who stole from Meijer and bailed out in the Belleville Road/Van Born Road area. Canton Police came out with its dog, but the suspect escaped in the woods.

"I want to get dogs back in our schools to socialize with the students and to do drug sniffs," Laurain said, adding School Supt. Michael Van Tassel supports drug sniffs.

VBT Deputy Director/Police Jason Wright had been a dog handler for Wayne PD for five years.

"We've got to have an officer who wants to do police work," Wright said. "To be proactive, not just driving around showing off his dog."

He said he was trained by the Schoenbachs in the 1990s. Wright said there is a lot more officer safety when there is a dog on the scene.

"If we use forfeiture funds to get it up and running, it could possibly support itself," Wright said.

He said they would have to post the position, do interviews, buy and import the dog for \$7,000, pay \$3,500 for the initial training and preparation of the dog, and then \$3,500 per year for retraining. He said the vet bill for the first year is \$1,000 and then about \$500 per year thereafter, and then there is the food bill.

Wright said the township won't get rich having a dog, but it might fund itself.

Trustee Brenda McClanahan, a retired Detroit Police officer, asked if he would be



All the candidates that will be on the Nov. 3 election ballot in the city of Belleville, plus two write-in candidates, were present for a Meet the Candidate session put on by the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 22 at the Holiday Inn Express in Van Buren Township. When asked why Belleville candidates were featured at an event in VBT, chamber president Randy Brown explained that the Holiday Inn Express is a chamber member and let the chamber use the meeting room free. Candidates, from left, are Jack Loria, running for reelection to council; Kerreen Conley, running for reelection as mayor; Phil Miller running for mayor; Carol Sundell, write-in candidate for mayor; Tom Smith, running for reelection to council; James Shrove, running for council; and Bob Balderston, write-in candidate for mayor. About two dozen people attended the session, most from VBT

Court Watching:

Chapman DNA case adjourned until Nov. 9 before Oakley

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley adjourned the misdemeanor DNA case of James Forrest Chapman until 11 a.m., Monday, Nov. 9.

After Chapman's attorney John Day asked 34th District Court Judge David Parrott to recuse himself because he was prejudiced, Judge Parrott said he wasn't and refused to recuse himself.

Day appealed Judge Parrott's decision to 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green and Judge Green moved the case to Judge Oakley's courtroom and set a date of Oct. 21. She said Parrott did nothing wrong but she wanted to diffuse the situation that was gaining steam.

But on Oct. 21, Chapman's case was not on Judge Oakley's docket and he said he didn't know about it until he was half way through that morning's cases.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Doug Dwyer said he just found out about it and he asked for a short adjournment so he could study the new state law on requiring those arrested to give DNA samples.

"They have known about this for weeks," said Day, noting Prosecutor Dwyer said he needed to study that law the first time the case came before the court.

"This is the third time the matter has been before the court," Day said. "The statute says what it says."

Day and Dwyer went up to talk privately with Judge Oakley after the session and Judge Oakley could be heard saying to them, "As long as you and the prosecutor are on the same page."

Defendant Chapman was arrested on a felony charge of stalking and that case is

heading for a December jury trial. When Chapman refused to give a DNA sample, he was also charged with the misdemeanor.

Day said he has a motion to dismiss the DNA charge against his client which he will present next time he is in front of Judge Oakley.

It is believed that Chapman may be the first person in the state to challenge the DNA law.

Savannah Alisan-Paige Haley

Savannah Alisan-Paige Haley, 20, waived her preliminary exam before Judge Oakley and was bound over to circuit court for a Nov. 4 arraignment on the information.

She has been charged with fleeing Van Buren Township police in a vehicle — third degree on Oct. 9. She was out on \$5,000/10% bond. Officer in charge is Det. Donovan McCarthy. Court appointed attorney was Dave Lankford.

Leo Louis LaBean, III

Leo Louis LaBean, III, 39, was present but did not appear for his probable cause conference before Judge Oakley. His preliminary exam is set for Oct. 28.

LaBean is charged with home invasion 1st degree; weapons — firearms — discharging at or in a residence; assault with a dangerous weapon; weapons felony firearm, and domestic violence all on Oct. 7 in Sumpter Township.

His retained attorney is Keith Kecskes. LaBean posted his \$50,000/10% bond. Sgt. Jim Cayce is the officer in charge.

Zackary Lynn Middleton

The probable cause conference for Zackary Lynn Middleton, 21, was adjourned until 9 a.m. Dec. 2, at the request of his attorney. He is out on \$7,500/10% bond.

He is charged with operating while

intoxicated — 3rd, fleeing in a vehicle, and driving while license suspended. This happened in Sumpter Township on Oct. 8 and Officer Steffani is the officer in charge.

Deborah Jean Morgan

Deborah Jean Morgan, 63, waived her preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court on a charge of operating with a high blood alcohol content on April 12, 2014 in the city of Belleville. Her arraignment on the information is set for Nov. 4 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice.

Her retained attorney is Carl Barone. Belleville Officer Kendra Rose is the officer in charge.

Dalton James Yarbrough

Dalton James Yarbrough, 21, is set for his preliminary exam on Oct. 28. He is charged with fleeing police in a vehicle and retail fraud in Van Buren Township on Oct. 6. Van Buren Det. Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge.

He was out on \$5,000 personal recognizance bond. Court appointed attorney is David Lankford.

Court records show Yarbrough also has a warrant out for an Oct. 15 armed robbery in Wyandotte.

James Franklin Fox, Jr.

James Franklin Fox, Jr., 48, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Nov. 4.

Fox is charged with assault by strangulation, assault to do great bodily harm less than murder, assault/aggravated, and domestic violence in Van Buren Township on Oct. 2.

He is free on \$5,000/10% bond. Det. Ken Toney is the officer in charge.

(continued on page 18)

OPINIONS

Editorial

VBT DDA moves on rights of way for Belleville Road

At Tuesday's meeting of the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority a motion was passed unanimously to move forward with a \$262,000 plan to work on getting 29 rights of way on Belleville Road between Tyler and Ecorse roads.

This would allow 27 feet right of way on each side of Belleville Road, making way for a five-lane highway.

Paul Sanders of Commonwealth Land, who will be doing the acquisitions for the DDA, said he understands VBT DDA wants to use the right of way as "matching funds" when the county widens Belleville Road.

Sanders was at Tuesday's DDA meeting and he said since there is no "project" at the moment, they will have to go for simple acquisitions. They will begin trying to acquire rights of way at once.

With condemnation, you have to have "necessity" and whoever loses a court case has to pay all the costs, said DDA Director Susan Ireland.

She said it is worth going out and trying simple acquisitions. One parcel, however, has a house in the right of way.

She said the other rights of ways the DDA gained for sidewalks have not been deeded over to Wayne County and she wants the DDA to keep them until it's "beneficial" to turn them over.

"If we get everything taken care of, we could be at the front of the line," Ireland said of Wayne County Road plans.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The Belleville High School football team has a big home game on Friday at 7 p.m. as it meets Ann Arbor Pioneer in the first game of the playoffs. BHS has lost just one game this season.

This will be a tight schedule for those trick or treating in downtown Belleville from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, but parents with children in both locations will figure out a way to manage it.

I received a call – actually two calls on Sunday morning from someone who thought Booville might look more festive with a pumpkin placed at or in each outdoor sculpture in the city.

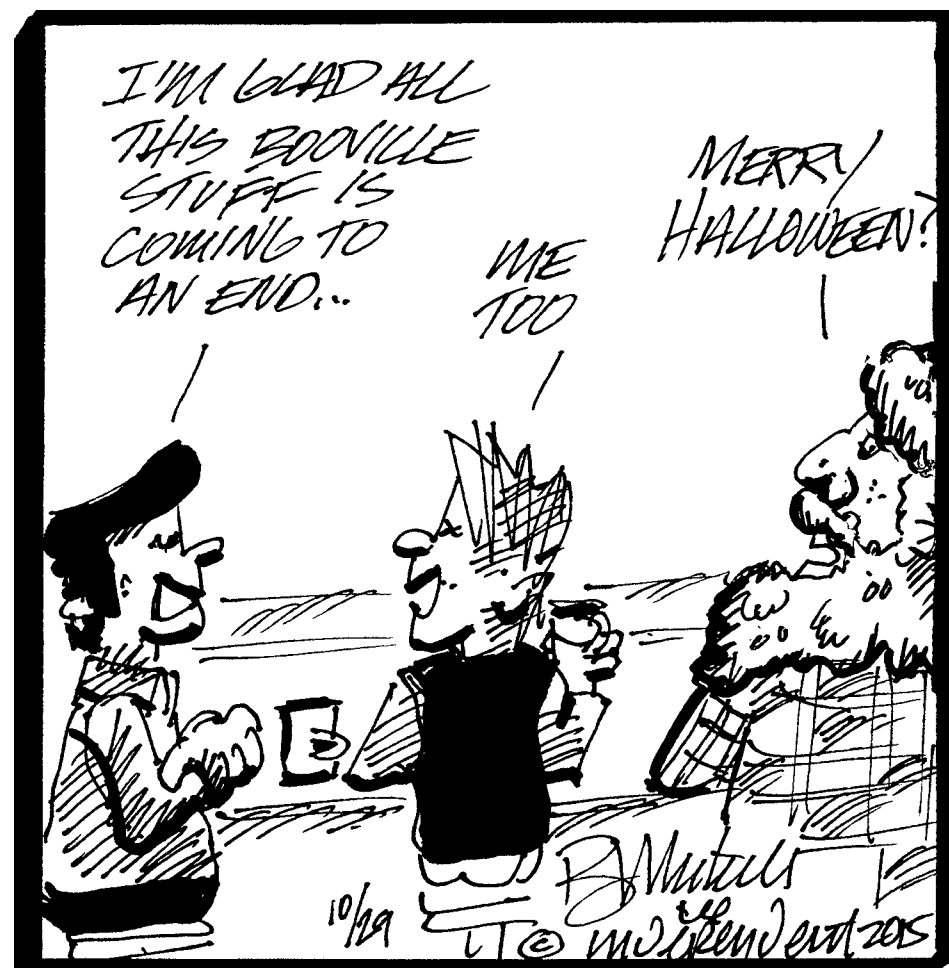
The red sculpture next to the Welcome to Booville sign has three upraised arms that would hold a pumpkin nicely. The bench at Horizon Park would be a fine place for a pumpkin. Others present some problems, but are do-able.

I asked her if she would put the pumpkins in place and she declined. She said if she was seen messing with a sculpture people might think she was the one who hit the red sculpture with a vehicle, which she wasn't.

I guess it was just an idea.

It was too bad that just a handful of Belleville voters turned up at last Thursday's Meet the Candidate session at the Holiday Inn Express in Van Buren Township. All the candidates for mayor and council were present and answered questions.

Chamber president Randy Brown explained that the reason the Belleville event was held in Van Buren Township was because the Holiday Inn Express is a



member of the chamber and gave them use of the meeting room free of charge.

Next time they do sometime for Belleville voters it would be nice to have it in Belleville, so voters could walk to the event.

I received a couple of calls in response to my writing about the upcoming demolition of the Riggs house at the corner of East Huron River Drive and Martinsville Road in Van Buren Township.

The first call was about the Riggs house and whether it could be saved. I told her to call VBT Supervisor Linda Combs.

The second call was prompted by my comments on the Riggs house, but it was about the Albert Harris home and garden.

The property was sold so quickly to the VBT Downtown Development Authority that there wasn't enough time for family members to assemble funds to buy it.

Now, the DDA is making plans for use of the property and family members are afraid its heritage will be lost.

The little, green tenant house on the property was a chicken coop 75 years ago that belonged to the farmhouse. Albert rehabbed it as a first home for him and his wife and they raised the first of their three children there. It has a fire place and a few years back, when one of the daughters was living there while taking care of their mom in the big house, hardwood floors were installed. The big house Albert built for his

family has 11 rooms.

There are lots of special plants and trees in the garden, some 100 years old, that should be saved, as well. They are worried about the property.

When I've mentioned to people that VBTDPW Director Taylor said the Belleville Bridge has only 10 years of life left because it is crumbling, people suggested I got it wrong. I must surely be talking about the E. Huron River Drive bridge over the Huron River which has huge holes in it and is scary to drive over.

So, I checked my notes and it's the Belleville Bridge he was talking about. There's a water pipe, owned by VBT, under that bridge and through it water from Detroit Water & Sewerage flows to the city of Belleville as its "primary feed" for water. Taylor said Detroit is delivering water to its customer – Belleville – through VBT's pipe. The question is who's going to pay for replacing it?

He said the new Great Lakes Water Authority (replacing DWS) will be responsible for this and VBT has to talk to them about it because they can't use township water funds to rebuild it.





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Letters**VBT Board considers
giving itself a raise**

To the Editor:

Last Thursday I attended the first of the two-day preparation for the 2016 budget. I tried to FOIA the material prior to the meeting but Clerk Leon Wright denied my request. So much for transparency!

Raises for the Supervisor, Treasurer, Clerk and Trustees were the first item of business. For 25 minutes the board discussed and argued the issue.

According to Clerk Wright, people he spoke to said the gap between the directors and deputy directors needs to be maintained. Adding an increase in wages to the seven people on the board is not going to make a difference and they need to set an example and do the right thing.

Clerk Wright also explained that all township employees will be getting contractual raises for the next four years starting with 1.5% in 2016, 1.5% in 2017, (2) 2.5% increases 2017 and 2018.

Four Trustees -- Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Miller -- were against the increase with Miller being the most vocal. Miller said she wanted to be shown one township where a board is paid what our township is paid.

Miller expressed a strong opposition to a salary increase saying you don't keep giving pay raises then go out for millages saying you need more money.

Wright said, "We aren't asking people for more money, we're asking them to make a decision."

Miller said the people she talked to do not want us (the board) to have raises, adding that she would be voting "No" on the issue if the raises go through. Supervisor Combs sarcastically asked Miller why she would stay for the rest of the presentations if she was going to vote No.

Trustee Jahr commented that we need to do what we can to avoid a fiscal crisis and look at this budget very carefully. Adding that if we keep kicking the can down the road there will be a crisis.

During the afternoon session, presentations were made by the Senior Director and Building and Planning Director. Supervisor

Combs stayed awake for most of the senior presentation but kept dozing off during Building and Planning.

Diane Madigan
Van Buren Township

Editor's note: The *Independent* was unable to attend the morning session on Thursday and so we appreciate this report on the discussion. According to the 2014 wage report published in our pages last February, the three full-time officials got from \$110,985.84 to \$113,577.93 in total compensation and the four trustees got from \$15,206.28 to \$25,422.26 in total compensation.

**Calling on VBT voters
to vote YES Nov. 3**

To the Editor:

Every day your Van Buren Township Police Officers come to work, strap on a bullet-proof vest, check their equipment, and make sure they are prepared to serve our residents. Your Van Buren Township Police Unions organized a fund in which we've spent thousands of dollars on charity, making sure our residents living with challenges have a holiday meal and are taken care of when life challenges them the most.

As the union president of the Van Buren Township Patrol and Dispatchers Association we thank you for providing us the resources we need to be there for you. On Nov. 3, 2015 we are in a unique situation. Normally our community is calling on us and we've taken an oath to respond. In this situation we are now calling you and asking that you respond by voting YES Nov. 3, 2015 to Secure the VBT Public Safety.

As your Public Safety Director, I am proud to be affiliated with the men and women of our police department who every day risk it all in order to protect our community. The union and management are continually working together to provide and deliver the most effective and efficient service for our residents. We stand united as always providing the highest quality of service and will always be there "keeping your family safe".

When you call we will be there. Please remember to exercise your right to vote on Nov. 3, 2015.

Gregory M. Laurain, Director of Public Safety, Van Buren Township
Adam Byrd, Union President
Van Buren Township Patrol and Dispatchers

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More Letters

Thanks to volunteers who placed flags

To the Editor:

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee wishes to thank the volunteers who helped place American flags on all veterans' graves at Hillside Cemetery for Veterans Day 2015. On Saturday, Oct. 24, several adults and children from the Belleville community and surrounding areas met at the cemetery to place flags on the graves of over 600 veterans. This project is done twice each year, in anticipation of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

We appreciate the contribution of these volunteers in recognizing the service of our deceased veterans.

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory
Committee
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Obituaries



Alyce Jane Supina

ALYCE JANE SUPINA

(August 3, 1915 – October 19, 2015)

Mrs. Alyce Jane Supina passed away on Monday, October 19, 2015 at her home in Sumpter Township. She was born August 3, 1915 a daughter of Ernest Everett and Bertha Belle (Knowles) Mangus. On April 13, 1946 she was married to Michael Francis Supina in Dexter, Michigan, moving to Sumpter Township from Milan in 1946. Mr. Supina preceded her in death on June 15, 2013.

Mrs. Supina was a Milan High School Graduate, Class of 1934. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Belleville. Mrs. Supina enjoyed gardening, flowers, vegetables and blueberries. She found joy in doing crossword puzzles and watching the birds around her home. She and her husband Mike wintered in Florida from 1975 – 2007 where she was an avid shuffle board player. Mrs. Supina attended all of the Mangus family reunions with the exception of this past summer. She enjoyed her Tigers, but most of all she loved her family and friends.

Mrs. Supina was the loving grandmother of Patti (Kevin) Polderdyke. Great grandmother of Brett Smith and Jacob Smith. Great-great grandmother of Adalynn Smith. Sister of John Mangus. Mother-in-law of Buddy Hamrick. Many nieces and nephews also survive. She was preceded in death by her 2 children; Patricia Hamrick and Michael Supina and 4 sisters and 2 brothers.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 from 4 – 8 P.M. at the Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Funeral services were held on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 12 Noon at the funeral home with the Rev. Jim Walker officiating. Burial followed at Alban Cemetery, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

The family requested memorial contributions to either the First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville, MI 48111 or St. Joseph Mercy Hospice, P.O. Box 995, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

SARAH VIRGINIA SOUTHWARD

(June 25, 1921 – October 18, 2015)

Sarah Virginia (Preston) Southward, age 94, of Milan died at Flower Hospital Hospice Center in Toledo. Belleville High School class of 1939. Married in Denton. Service at Ochalek-Stark Funeral Home, Milan, Oct. 23.

KENT F. MORRISON

(September 30, 1954 – October 17, 2015)

According to Mr. Morrison's wishes, a simple cremation has taken place. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

DAVID PHILLIP DOVE

(August 31, 1944 – October 22, 2015)

David Phillip Dove, 71, of Romulus. Cremation rites have taken place. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.



John Ronald Zywicki



JOHN RONALD ZYWICKI

(May 21, 1939 – October 21, 2015)

A longtime Livonia resident, and recently of Brighton, MI, passed away October 21, 2015. He was born on May 21, 1939 a son of John and Helen (Porch) Zywicki. On July 11, 1964, he was married to Nadine Paziuk and they made their home in Livonia until moving to Brighton in 2011.

John was very proud to be retired from the Air National Guard after serving for 20 years. Growing up in Belleville, he worked at the family farm, Zywicki Greenhouse. After graduating from Lawrence Technical Institute John went to work at Ford Motor Company for 17 years, and then as a contractual engineer throughout the automotive industry until his retirement.

John was a very active alumni who graduated from Belleville High School, Class of 1957. During his retirement years he loved working outside in his yard, gardening. He loved history and old movies, and working on puzzles. He had a remarkable memory, remembering the slightest detail, whether it be the room number of a hotel they stayed at on vacation many years before, or the outfit Nadine wore for their first date.

Surviving is his beloved wife, Nadine Zywicki; daughters: Audra (David) Zywicki-Averbach, Cheryl (Kurt) Lusko, Marcy (Paul) Buell; grandchildren: Hallie, Zachary, Noah, and Kirra Averbach, as well as Merina, Harlee, and Gabriel Buell. His brothers: Charles (Linda) Zywicki, Gerald (Peggy) Zywicki, Donald (Carol) Zywicki; and brother-in-law Gene Paziuk and sister-in-law, Doris Zywicki, also survive. John was predeceased by his parents, John and Helen Zywicki, and his brother Raymond Zywicki.

Visitation and funeral services were held at Keehn Funeral Home, Brighton. Memorial contributions are suggested to the Wounded Warrior Project. Please visit John's Book of Memories at www.kehnfuneralhome.com.

LOIS ARLENE McARTHUR

(November 4, 1937 – October 26, 2015)

Age 78, of Sumpter Township.

Lois is the beloved wife of Harold for 54 wonderful years; dear mother of Harold (Regina) McArthur, Gerald (Rhonda) McArthur, Shari McArthur, Scott (Sherry) McArthur, Michael McArthur and Krista (John) Polaczyk. Lois is also survived by her siblings, Lloyd (Lee) Sarkkinen, Anita (Gene) Lukshaitis, Art (Diana) Sarkkinen, and Rose Sarkkinen. Born on November 4, 1937 in Detroit, Michigan, a longtime Belleville Resident, Lois married her dear husband Harry on May 27, 1961. She enjoyed travel, spending time with family and friends, traveling the country, especially "Out West." She was also a longtime member of the Moose Lodge.

A funeral service honoring Lois' life will be held Saturday, October 31, at 11:00 AM at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Visiting hours have been arranged for Thursday 4-8 PM and Friday 2-8 PM.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the St. Joseph Hospice.

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Obituaries



RAYMOND HENRY SEPPALA

(June 11, 1943 – October 17, 2015)

Mr. Raymond Henry Seppala of LaGrange, Georgia, passed away on October 17, 2015 at Twin Fountains Home. Mr. Seppala was born on June 11, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Clifford Seppala and Catherine Tormala Seppala.

He proudly served his country in the United States Navy, was employed by General Motors for many years and was a member of Baptist Tabernacle.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Connie Laforet. On line condolences may be sent to the family at www.higgenslagrangechapel.com.

Survivors include his wife Alice Harris Seppala; sons Raymond (Ray) Seppala, Jr. of Belleville, Michigan and Dwayne Seppala (Amy) of Valley, Alabama; daughters Diane McCaslin (Randy) of Ypsilanti, Michigan and Vickie Holland (Todd) of Roswell; sister Nora Hudleston (Lloyd) of Belleville, Michigan; grandchildren Julie Holland, Kerri Holland, Dianna Seppala and Gypsy Cook; extended family and friends.

Services were October 21, 2015 at 11 a.m. at Baptist Tabernacle with Rev. Bobby Bozeman officiating. Interment followed at Meadoway Gardens. Arrangements by Higgins LaGrange Chapel Funeral Home, (706) 884-7117.

ROBERT M. SPAGA, JR.

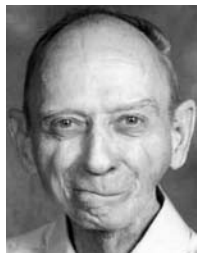
(May 15, 1967 – October 24, 2015)

Robert Michael Spraga, Jr., age 48, life-long resident of Belleville, passed away Saturday, October 24, 2015 at his home. He was born May 15, 1967 in Garden City, MI, son of Robert Michael & Carol Ann (LeBlanc) Spraga, Sr.

Robbie was a Cub Scout for several years. He graduated from Belleville High School with the class of 1985. He worked for Purple Heart picking up donations for many families. He had a huge heart and would help anyone he could, and had many friends. He was a jack of all trades and could fix most anything. He also loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing and time spent on the water.

Rob is survived by his daughter Grace Ann Spraga, her mother Donna Lipkowski and her son Scott Lipkowski, all of Ypsilanti, MI. He is also survived by his father Robert M. (Sharon L.) Spraga of Las Vegas, Nevada and Dexter, MI; mother Carol A. Spraga of Belleville; two sisters and one brother Sherri (Scott) VanHollenbeck of New Boston, MI, Tony (Heather) Spraga of Taylor, MI and Krista (Dan) Gilbert of Novi, MI; two nieces Arianny Spraga and Valerie Gilbert, also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Visitation was 5-8 PM Wednesday, and will be 2-8 PM Thursday and 10-12 PM Friday, October 30, 2015 with a Funeral at Noon, all at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Memorial contributions may be made to his family for a trust fund for his daughter, and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Daniel Kenneth Bieszk



DANIEL KENNETH BIESZK

(February 8, 1945 – October 20, 2015)

Age 70, of Belleville.

Died October 20, 2015 at the University of Michigan Hospital.

Daniel is the beloved husband of Donna for 48 wonderful years; loving father of Dawn (David) Charles and the late Daryl (d.2002); proud grandfather of Aubrey, Ashlynn, Addison and Aiden; dear brother of Gerald (Rita) Bieszk and Patricia Mayer. Sadly, he is preceded in death by his siblings, Paul, Lloyd, Fred, Carl, Donald and Doris Courtney.

A lifelong resident of the Belleville area, Daniel enjoyed spending time with family and friends, being outdoors and spending the winter season with Donna at their residence in Ft. Pierce, Florida. He also loved his time at the Tawas City cottage in northern Michigan.

A funeral service, with military honors, was held at 11:00 AM, Friday, October 23, at St. Paul Evangelical Church, 47445 W. Huron River Dr., Belleville. The Bieszk family greeted guests one hour prior to the ceremony at the church.

Visiting hours were Thursday, October 22, from 2 until 8 PM at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be directed to the church.



Connie Howard Carpenter

CONNIE HOWARD CARPENTER

(November 30, 1957 – October 25, 2015)

Connie Howard Carpenter, 57, of Monroe passed away Sunday October 25 at home under hospice care with her family by her side after a 7-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

Connie wanted people to celebrate her life so all are invited to the VFW in Belleville Sunday, Nov. 1, from 1 to 5 p.m. to celebrate and tell their stories in a more relaxed setting.

Connie was born November 30, 1957 to Ray Otten and Pauline Howard.

She loved the outdoors, enjoyed gardening, fishing, casino games, antiques and crocheting. She also really enjoyed Facebook and Farmville.

She is survived by her mother, Pauline Ross; son Sam Howard of Ypsilanti; daughter, Rachel (Christopher) Buhl of S. Rockwood; sisters, Cindy (Mark) St. John and Mary (Ron Patterson) Schott both of Romulus; niece and nephews Kim (Steve) Stefurak, Zeke (Krista) Church, Lanny (Lindsey) Church and David Howard and great nephews Tristen and Gage Nitz and Noah Stefurak.

She is preceded in death by her father, step-father David Walter Ross and sister Crystal Nickel.



Penny Lynn Deneau

PENNY L. DENEAU

(October 12, 1955 – October 22, 2015)

Penny Lynn Deneau, age 60, of Belleville, MI, formerly of Atlanta, MI, passed away Thursday, October 22, 2015 at Angela Hospice in Livonia, MI. She was born October 12, 1955 in Alpena, MI, daughter of Dayton Patrick Moran and Doris Kathryn Klein.

Penny retired after 30 years of loyal service as Payroll Manager of Cequent Performance Products, formerly Draw-Tite. She enjoyed arts & crafts, sewing, decorating her home, flower gardening, and photography. She loved time spent at the cabin up north and ice skating. She was also a huge Detroit Red Wings fan.

Mrs. Deneau is survived by her husband of 20 years, Ronald A. Deneau, son Thomas (Katie) Abbe, Jr. of Palmer, Alaska, daughter Debra Davis of Tipton, MI, 6 grandchildren: Candice White, Ronald Davis, Abby Davis, Alexandra Davis, Hannah Abbe and Sarah Abbe, her mother Doris Klein of Mio, MI, five siblings: Sherilyn (Dale) Freel of Gladstone, MI, Patsy Ann Kent of Traverse City, MI, twins Diane Suiter of Atlanta, MI and David Moran of Traverse City, and Wayne (Barbara) Moran, also of Traverse City. She is also survived by aunts and uncles Gladys and Lyle Klein, Virg and Ellen Klein, Geraldine and Ralph "Bud" Klein, also numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her father, a sister Sundae Kitzman, a brother Daniel Moran, brother-in-law Richard Kent, niece Vicki Steffens, and grandparents Howard & Neva Klein.

Visitation was 2-8 PM Wednesday, October 28, 2015 with a funeral at 11:00 AM Thursday, October 29, 2015 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500. Interment will be in Hillman-Rust Cemetery in Hillman, MI following a 3:00 PM graveside service on Friday, October 30.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice or American Heart Association and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Charles Ashley Pullen



CHARLES A. PULLEN

(January 12, 1922 – October 25, 2015)

Charles Ashley Pullen, age 93 of Ann Arbor, formerly of Belleville, MI passed away Sunday, October 25, 2015 at Regency at Whitmore Lake, MI. He was born January 12, 1922 in Cleveland, Ohio, son of Edward Hamilton & Marjorie Adele (Bates) Pullen.

After graduating the class of 1940 from Belleville High School, Mr. Pullen served his country in the US Army during WWII. He was an avid reader who loved to learn. He was even working on his computer at 92 years old! He was an adventurous guy who loved sailing. He and his late wife Evelyn traveled all over Southern Europe, France and Hawaii, to name a few places.

Mr. Pullen is survived by five children: four daughters Diane (Harold) Duffield of Howell, MI, Gayle (Richard) Gall of Pinckney, MI, Charlotte Zadorski of Wayne, MI and Donna Rizer of Chelsea, MI; son Terry (Ruth) Pullen of Flint, MI; 14 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; four siblings Richard Pullen of Florida, Joan Robison of Oscoda, MI, Mildred Hildinger of Michigan and Ted (Carole) Pullen of Ann Arbor; also numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Evelyn Jessica (Moon) Pullen on June 11, 2003; sons Richard (Barry) November 30, 2008, James (Corky) November 30 2013; and a great-grandson Tyler Zadorski in 2011.

Cremation rites have been recorded. The family will be have a gathering Sunday, November 15, 2015 from 11 AM until 1 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. A Celebration of Life service will begin at 1:00 PM. Interment of cremains will take place at a later date in Great Lakes National Veteran Cemetery, Holly, MI, with his wife and two sons.

In lieu of flowers, make contributions to Ann Arbor VA. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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More Letters

Consider 'bait & switch' scenario before voting

To the Editor.

Supervisor Linda Combs and the VBT Board of Trustees (all except Trustee McClanahan who voted NO on the proposal) just does not want total transparency on the Public Safety Millage Proposal!

June 30, 2015 special work study meeting. Agenda: Public Safety Millage discussion.

There was a lengthy discussion on

whether to put a 4-mill renewal or a 6.5-mill question on the ballot and possible use of the additional millage. There was no mention of using the money for bond payments.

July 21, 2015, 2 p.m. LDFA meeting.

A LDFA member asked when the Visteon Bond shortfall would happen, and Combs said "last half of 2018". Combs said, "Document I gave you shows VBT plans are to increase the PS Millage by 2.5 mills, for a total of 6.5 mills, [a 62.5% increase]. The 6.5 mills Public Safety Millage would free up 2 million in the General Fund monies, and would be earmarked for that" [meaning money to pay the Visteon Bond]. Then a resident asked about the Public Safety 2.5 mills increase and Combs said, "If we get the 2.5 mills, that will generate approximately 2.4 million and that would allow us to put 2 million in a segregated fund towards paying the (Visteon) Bond Payments."

During the **July 21, 2015, 7 p.m. township board meeting** the Board of Trustees voted to place ballot language on the November 2015 ballot asking voters to approve a 6.5 mills Public Safety Millage solely for the purpose of funding public safety. When I questioned Supervisor Combs concerning

her earlier statement that day to the LDFA about freeing-up General Fund money to fund the Visteon Bonds, **she stated that she did not say that.** In fact she has said that more than once in public settings. I said this action resembles a "bait and switch scenario." **Combs said this action was not a "bait and switch" and publicly tried to discredit me, and impugn my integrity by accusing me of making an untrue statement about what Combs said in other meetings.**

I obtained a CD copy of a digital voice recording (used to prepare the LDFA minutes) of her statements to the LDFA, via a FOIA in which she clearly stated the Public Safety millage increase was designed to reduce the amount of funds flowing from the General Fund to Public Safety in an attempt to use General Fund dollars to fund the Visteon Bond. Combs also said the 2.5 mills increase in equivalent dollars, "That will allow us to put \$2 million in a segregated fund to make Bond payments." If Combs were to call the additional bond millage a "Visteon Bond Payment Millage" that would be an accurate statement.

Be KNOWLEDGEABLE on the millage increase when you vote. I fully SUPPORT our valued Public Safety Department, and will publicly support a 4-mill Public Safety renewal. I do not appreciate VBT Board of Trustees using our Public Safety Department to gather funds via a misrepresentation of a ballot proposal to pay for a debt not associated with Public Safety.

Former Van Buren Township Supervisor
Paul D. White

Pryde Athletics endorses Mayor Kerreen Conley

Dear Editor,

My name is Ivan Ankwatsa, the owner of Pryde Athletics. I am writing this

letter as an endorsement to the incumbent Mayor Kerreen Conley. She has been a wonderful supporter of our community health initiative here at Pryde Athletics and played an integral part in helping us find a home in Belleville back in 2014.

We are excited about her progressive thinking when it comes to sensitive issues in this community, and believe that if given the next term our community will be in great hands.

Vote Kerreen Conley for Mayor.

Best Regards,

Ivan Ankwatsa, MS, USAW

Candidate supports marijuana dispensary

Dear Citizens:

I have lived on Second Street in Belleville for over 40 years. I have always felt safe, which is one reason my husband and I decided to spend our retirement years here. BUT, I am afraid our safety could change. After Phillip Miller's (mayoral candidate) comments, it appears he thinks it would be right having a Medical Marijuana Dispensary with a seven-foot sign on one of the prettiest corners on Main Street (Second and Main). Is this his vision for Belleville's Main Street? Voters, Beware.

Carol Fitch
Belleville

Western Michigan University names 9 local students to dean's list

Western Michigan University has announced that the following nine students who live in Belleville have been named to the Spring 2015 Dean's List:

- Dakota Cardinal, majoring in Aviation Maintenance Tech. in the College of Aviation;
- Corey Kalitta, majoring in Aviation Management and Operations in the College of Aviation;
- Zachary Lazar, majoring in Aviation Flight Science in the College of Aviation;
- Alexandria Graham, majoring in Pre-Marketing in the Haworth College of Business;
- James McGeachy, majoring in Finance in the Haworth College of Business;
- Theodore Rouster, undecided major in Pre Business at the Haworth College of Business;
- Anna Carlson, majoring in Nursing at the College of Health and Human Services;
- Jenna Pinter, majoring in Nursing at the College of Health and Human Services;
- Keeontae Baker, University Curriculum with undecided major.

To be named to the dean's list a student must be an undergraduate, completed at least 12 credit hours of work for a letter grade, and earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0 for the semester.

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More Letters

I have plan, priorities for our city's future

Dear Belleville Resident;

I am Kerreen Conley, and I have had the privilege of serving as your mayor for the past four years. During that time, I have dedicated myself to ensuring that the services that are important to our community meet the needs and the quality standards we deserve, and I remain dedicated to that task. I have not just lived in this community we call home for the past 20 years – I have been committed to its success, and I have the education, experience, and the plan to continue moving Belleville to new heights.

We have a lot to be proud of. We have improved parks, added recreational access to Belleville Lake in a manner that will allow us to build on to it in the future, we have increased enforcement, hired competent staff and have supported over 175 days of events in our downtown, from festivals to car shows. I have remained committed to working with the Library Board to find solutions to keep the library downtown, and the city has a staff in place working on ways to make that happen. We have built the foundation for the future.

However, a lot remains on the horizon. We have worked hard to strengthen the city's financial integrity, and I remain committed to maintaining and building upon that. Belleville, like many communities around the state, is challenged to live within the means of an ever-changing budget. Critical issues are facing the city, especially as it relates to our sewer system and the sewer rates. The potential exists for significant rate increases with no input, and the sale of a community asset with no benefit to those paying for it. I am part of a team working on a solution, without it, the financial implications could be extensive.

During the economic downturn, we have continued to deliver balanced budgets with improved or maintained service levels. We have focused on retaining businesses in our community and preparing for a time of economic growth and development.

We have addressed infrastructure needs, developed plans to improve roads, and we have laid the foundation for future quality development in our community. We have developed a quality standard that makes Belleville a community where people are excited to live, dine, shop, and play!

The future of our community and its success will be built upon partnerships and collaborative efforts. We have a community unlike any other, from the beautiful Belleville Lake, the gathering place of our downtown, to the working relationships of our tri-community and the many organizations within each. The election on Tuesday, Nov. 3, offers a chance to vote for the ongoing development and future improvements of this beautiful city, and I know I have the plan and priorities to get us there.

Sincerely,
Kerreen Conley, Mayor

Applications open for help from Goodfellows

To the Editor.

Applications to receive assistance for the 2015 Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows' Christmas Food and Toy Distribution Program will begin 9 a.m. Monday, Nov 2, at the Van Buren Township Police Dept. Application forms will be available at the front desk.

Printable forms will also be available online on the Van Buren Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org.

The program is open to Belleville City and Van Buren Township residents only. (Sumpter Township has its own Goodfellows' program.)

Families may apply immediately or pick up forms and apply later any time 24/7 after 9 a.m. Monday, Nov 2.

You must apply in person at the police Dept. with proof of residency (Driver's license, State ID or current utility bill showing name and address).

Call-in, mail-in or e-mailed applications will not be accepted.

Applications for assistance will close Friday, Dec 4, at 3 p.m.

For more info or questions about the

Goodfellows' program, contact Pam Fleming at (734) 699-8934 weekdays 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Thank you,
Pam Fleming, Coordinator
Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows

Reminder: Wednesday, Nov. 11 is Veterans Day

To the Editor, Belleville Residents, and All My South Biggs Neighbors:

A reminder: Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015 is Veterans Day. It is an official United States federal holiday that is observed annually on Nov. 11 honoring people who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, also known as Veterans.

Originally called "Armistice Day" Congress amended the bill on June 1, 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans" and it has been known as Veterans Day since.

U.S. President Woodrow Wilson first proclaimed Armistice Day for Nov. 11, 1919.

Many Americans mistakenly believe that Veterans Day is the day America sets aside to honor American military personnel who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained from combat. That's not quite true. Memorial Day is the day set aside to honor America's war dead.

Veterans Day, on the other hand, honors ALL American veterans, both living and dead. In fact, Veterans Day is largely intended to thank LIVING veterans

for dedicated and loyal service to their country. Many companies offer free meals to veterans: Google "veterans day free meals" for info on free or discounted meals for all veterans with proper ID.

Nov. 11 of each year is the day that we ensure ALL veterans know that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made in their lives to keep our country free.

Show your respect and pride for our veterans by displaying a flag in front of your home. I will attempt to have a supply of FREE flags in front of my home (48 S. Biggs). Take one and join all my neighbors with a display any American city would be proud of.

Feel free to drop off any ragged or torn flags for proper disposal.

Pete Pitzen
Belleville Resident

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Willow United Methodist Church collecting diapers

The Willow United Methodist Church invites the public to join in their collection of all sizes of diapers to aid parents and seniors in the communities where finances fall short and the need is great.

The church had a drop-off day on Oct. 25 and now is asking people to drop off diapers at the following alternative drop-off locations in New Boston 48164 (tell them Willow sent you):

- Karen's Place, 36968 Huron River Dr.;
- Huron Township Police Department, 36500 Huron River Dr.; and
- Huron Township Hall, 22950 Huron River Dr.

Correction:

GELC did approve contract before Council

Because of incorrect information received, we reported on page 3 in the Oct. 22 edition of the *Independent* that the city of Belleville's Government Employees Labor Council (GELC) had yet to approve a new contract.

That is incorrect. The GELC, which represents the DPS and clerical employees, had ratified the proposed contract before the city council voted to ratify it. We regret the mixup.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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More Letters

Vote Phil Miller for Mayor of Belleville

Voters of Belleville:

You have an important choice to make on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Reviewing the administration of the current mayor, we see neglect of duty, obfuscation, avoidance and exclusion versus my promise of advocacy, informed and transparent strategies and inclusion.

The mayor insists she “remained committed to working ... to keep the library downtown.” And where was she in the fight to keep the library downtown? I worked tirelessly, attending dozens of meetings to challenge the library board. I created a political action committee to fight the ballot proposals. I wrote letters to the editor, canvassed neighborhoods, attended DNR hearings in Lansing and knocked on doors hoping to convince voters to “Vote No and No” and later managed to help two people get elected to the library board (Stoudemire and Reed-Carver). Our Common Cents slate did not ever see the mayor, receive a word of encouragement or “thank you” from her. *Her silence was neglect, not leadership.* Please remember that I was a point man in our fight to keep the library downtown.

Although the mayor insists that she “maintained balanced budgets while improving or expanding services,” her representation isn’t the whole truth. While the budget balanced on a cash basis, liabilities grew unabated. In the last four years, the line item “Other Post Employment Benefit Liabilities” (read debt) has increased over a million dollars, and the city pension funding remains an abysmal 60.6% of liabilities with anemic returns on the investments. Public discussions and disclosures of long-range fiscal planning are non-existent. Claims of improving/expanding services are virtually unverifiable. *This lack of information is obfuscation and avoidance, not leadership.*

I promise honest discourse informed by transparency and facts. Then tough choices follow.

The mayor insists that she “created partnerships and opportunities ... to enhance services.” What I see is that many of the partnerships she claims as hers existed long before this mayor was in office. Her efforts to improve lake access have produced virtually unusable, “dangerous docks” that exclude the majority of boaters. Has she publicized vacancies for boards and commission? You know the answer. Successful business

owners, public administrators and non-profit directors live in our community and should be encouraged to participate. They would be a source of valuable insight, ideas and opinions. *To ignore them is exclusion, not leadership.* My administration would encourage new residents to participate by including organization information and board applications in “Welcome Packets” and I advocate using technology to increase accessibility of city information for our residents.

It is my promise to be a tireless advocate

for the community. I am a seasoned public finance professional and business development consultant. In my history as a public administrator I have solved complex financial difficulties while mitigating the harm to employees and giving value to residents. My management philosophy is based on a model of inclusion. My values are the values of leadership.

I respectfully ask for your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Vote Miller for Mayor.

Phil Miller, Belleville

no tricks! just treats!

perspective

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More Letters

Fiscal irresponsibly a sign of bad government

To the Editor:

Fiscal irresponsibility is surely a sign of bad government. Let me remind the voting public of some of the highlights of Van Buren Twp. with an eye to the 6.5-mill increase on the ballot Tuesday, 11/3/15:

This past year the *Independent* printed stories on the following issues: The +\$200,000 salary of Police Lt. Floro, who was reported as sleeping on duty and running personal errands on the clock at that pay scale. The problem with the Visteon bonds -- did our elected officials care that the taxpayers might get the shaft on this? And what was the real quid-pro-quo on that deal? What did Visteon really do for VBT? Was there to be tax relief?

I remember when the Lottery was started, the money to be earmarked for Education, giving property tax relief. When the Legislature found out how much of the general fund that freed up for the pork barrel, tax relief was cast to the wind; mind you, this was when the sales tax was 4%, as well.

Roads? Have you been on W. Huron River Drive by the high school? Or, Sumpter Road? Bridges? French Landing Huron River Drive Bridge is about to collapse into the river? Fiscal responsibility?

Next VBT issue: The irresponsibility

of the Board in guarding against lawsuits and protecting citizens' rights and services is indeed wanting. Will someone please provide a rough total of all the payouts due to lawsuits against the township? Oops, I forgot, they have insurance to cover all their settlements. When their premiums go up because of that, they'll just ask for another millage increase. And that history, like it does, will repeat itself.

I read last week that VBT intends to tear down the Riggs heritage farmhouse on E. Huron River Dr. and Martinsville Road. This was supposed to be a part of a Historical/Heritage Park; I would like to know WHO made the decision to use tax dollars to destroy an irretrievable monument and alter a stated historical preservation plan? Could about half of Lt. Floro's salary been used to fix the place up? Or, has a deal been made with the demolition people?

Now, VBT wants YOU, the TAXPAYERS, to continue to finance their fiscal irresponsibility and give the Public Safety Department more money to abuse, and believe you me, I've seen the worst of it!

As Nancy Reagan used to say: "Just say no" to those who swear an oath to uphold the US Constitution and haven't read the document! In a word, JUST SAY NO TO FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY and VOTE NO! ON THE 6.5-MILL PUBLIC SAFETY INCREASE!

Sincerely Yours,
Jimmi (aka, "James Forrest") Chapman
Once Upon a River

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Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015

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- One roof or boiler replacement can cost more than \$500,000

See www.supportVBPS.com for more information

Paid for with regulated funds by Supporters of Van Buren Schools, 10011 Hamilton Ct., Belleville, MI 48111



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

Thank you to all who helped get our shop open

To the Editor.

Garden Fantasy on Main had our grand opening ribbon cutting on Friday, Oct. 2, and open house and drawings on Oct 3.

We were very blessed with a wonderful turn out of supporters. I can't say enough "Thank You's" to ALL who were involved in the process of getting us open! Our Families, Friends, Neighbors, Business Friends, The City and anyone else.

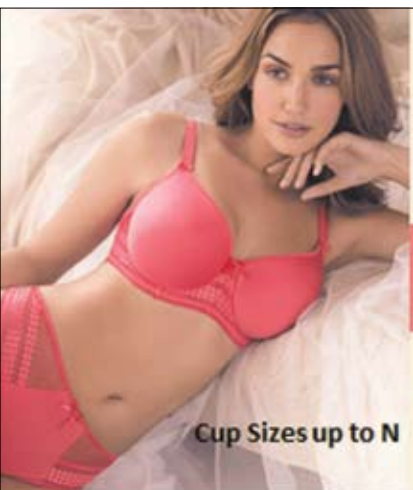
There were drawings for plants and fresh

flowers from our vendors, Hyacinth House, Tropical Distributors, Nordlie Inc., Mayesh and John Juriga (who did the cement leaf baths) and a thank you to them as well for donating the products.

The winners from the drawings are: Charlotte Ralls, Kathleen Springer, Robert Snider, Janet Curtis, Sarah Flynn, Bridget Pearce, Debra Yew, Sophia Crova, Bev

Neal, Russ Monk, Paul Henning, Lisa Burkey, Lenore Razo, Chris Zweng, Gina Simpson and Cindy Monk. Thanks again for all your support and understanding and may the future blossom for all.

Sincerely,
Brian and Colette McClinton
owners of Garden Fantasy on Main



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<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">THURSDAY</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Surf & Turf</p>  <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$11.99</p>	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">FRIDAY</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">All You Can Eat Fish & Chips</p>  <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$7.99</p>	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">SATURDAY</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">1 lb. Crab Legs</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$9.99</p>	

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More Letters

Vote for Kerreen Conley for mayor

To the Editor:

Subject: My observations and irascibility

I have been a member of this community longer than any of the Mayoral candidates running for election this year. And, I have been active in the City of Belleville issues and involved in a wide range of activities throughout the community.

I can tell you that the future of our community is of great concern if Mr. Miller gets elected. The catalyst of economic development of our downtown cannot be Medical Marijuana Distributors. Nor can it be a matter of spot zoning up and down Main Street. The cohesive nature of the zoning ordinance is by design, even the Gerrymandering of Davenport's Industrial Park(?); and the ordinances that have been developed with community input - help ensure we don't end up with a cookie cutter box design or the CET signs that devalue our downtown.

Mr. Miller has been critical of many things that have been done in the city. His sporadic attendance at a council meeting is rare, except in October 2015. Has he volunteered, participated or been instrumental in any of the successes Kerreen, staff and City Council have experienced over the past

incumbency? For just a year and a half he has been living in Belleville, it is only a short walk to where all the action is originating.

He has been critical about the current mayor not attending meetings of the Library. But I believe that Mr. Miller is not in touch enough to know that meetings have taken place in a forum that would yield results for both the BADL and the City of Belleville rather than at a public meeting. Again, demonstrating that Mr. Miller fails to understand how best to represent Belleville citizen interests and not self-aggrandizement.

Mr. Miller can paint a bunch of big tacky signs to give the impression he might be a big deal. But while he (or his 'Elf) is at home painting - Kerreen Conley is busy working for us!

I'm positive she - as Mayor, and the Council - have alienated some citizens by decisions that were/are for the common good and welfare of the community as a whole. While these individuals may (and I say *may*) have "grudges" I ask that they placate those animosities at the voting booth by voting for knowledge, commitment, dedication, for Kerreen Conley and not "Miller braggadocio."

I have known Kerreen for years. There is no doubt in my mind that she will continue to serve our community well and will lead us through the next phase of developing our community. I have seen her unending commitment to the betterment of this community! Her leadership, her professionalism and her partnerships with communities, organizations and school districts are unmatched! Her commitment is *NOT* just to Lake Front development. Her commitment is *NOT* just about city services, or increased business. Her commitment *IS* about making our city, our schools and our resources better - by creating a city where people Want to Live - in Belleville! **VOTE KERREEN CONLEY!**
Sincerely,
Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville

"If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging."
- Will Rogers

Thanks to all for a fun-filled Booville

To the Editor:

A heartfelt *THANK YOU* to our amazing community for another fun-filled BOOVILLE celebration in Belleville. With much creativity and hard work dozens of businesses and organizations, along with hundreds of volunteers, made this year's BOOVILLE a huge success. These are the partnerships that make our community strong. Working together we are able to achieve remarkable accomplishments.

With Scarecrows marching down Main Street and wonderful autumn and Halloween decorations at businesses and public spaces our community looks fantastic. With the Harvest Fest, Zombie 5K, Frankenstein Movie Series, Chunkin' Pumpkins and Carving Pumpkins, a Cemetery Tour, the Booville Tent with the Witches Ball - Pancake Breakfast - Booville Kids games and crafts - Boo-Tech Cauldron Cook-off and the Black Magic Ball, to Downtown Trick or Treat Belleville community families have enjoyed spook-tacular good times.

To the leadership, members, staff and volunteers of so many community groups I salute your excellent work and on behalf of an grateful community *Thank You* to Belleville Central Business Community, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, Belleville Area Museum and Historical Society, Belleville Area District Library, BHS New Tech, Van Buren Public Schools, Belleville Community Chorus and Blue Steel Jazz Band, CAF 5, Belleville Rotary Club, Plymouth Family YMCA, Belleville Area Council for the Arts, downtown businesses including Garden Fantasy on Main, Egan's Pub, A&W, The Lunch Box, Tucker Insurance, Bayou Grill, Unlimited DJ, area churches, City of Belleville Administration and DPW and Police and Fire and Downtown Development Authority, Van Buren Township's Parks and Recreation and Downtown Development Authority and Police, and Sumpter Parks and Recreation and Fire Department.

Happy Halloween to all!
Mayor Kerreen Conley

What is going on in city of Belleville?

To the Editor:

Growing up in Belleville years ago I lived at the property next to the rail crossing on Savage Road and now next to the DPW yard. I come back to visit with family about every year for the past few years and looked at the old homestead and am shocked that the city of Belleville has allowed the property to become a derelict eyesore.

If a citizen owned this property you can be sure the city inspectors would have jumped all over the property owners. I walked the property a few days ago and the old garage was leaning and sagging badly and sheds were filled with junk and trash and some sad-looking electrical connections. Later that afternoon the garage had collapsed probably due to the high winds.

One can only be glad that no squatter was in the garage so the city would have been subject to a law suit. How long is the city going to ignore this eyesore and potential lawsuit before they get off their behinds and clean up this mess?

City workers drive into the DPW yard every day and they are either blind to this mess or just don't care. Where are the city council members concerned about being elected, but incapable of looking at the obvious incompetence of the city to take action on an obvious eyesore and liability risk?

Charles Shoemaker
Sunnyvale, CA

Jasmine Wehr elected president of Newman Club at Findlay Univ.

Jasmine Wehr, of Belleville has been elected president of the Newman Club at The University of Findlay for the 2015-2016 academic year.

This group is one of more than 80 active student clubs, organizations, national honor societies and special interest groups at The University of Findlay.

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As you may or may not know, November is Veteran's History Month, proclaimed by Van Buren Township and Westland in 2012, and Belleville and Sumpter Township in 2014. I encourage the municipalities, police and fire, Van Buren School Superintendent Van Tassel and Van Buren Schools to promote the History of Veteran's to our children. If not for veterans, we would not enjoy the freedoms we hold so dearly. I'm sure my comrades in our local veteran organizations will be happy to assist you in your efforts.



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AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on Nov. 14, 2015, at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliance, furniture, misc. Mona L. Salisbury, G-476; Tantinekka Blade, M-551; Wendy M. Bailey, L-525; Amy Beaudrie, G-459; Ronald Clark, N-818, C-101; Stephen Kantos, I-406, J-614, F-272; Dana Bouknight, M-569; Kimberly Boldin, I-403; Stephen Salisbury, T-978; Daryl Chatman, L-535 and L-536. Publish Oct. 29, 2015, Nov. 5, 2015

FOR SALE

RABBITS: Beautiful spotted & solid color rabbits. Suitable for pets or meat. Different sizes & ages. Call (734) 697-4835. 11/19

MAYTAG: heavy-duty, super-capacity washer \$75 - 5 load settings, 3 water setting, 6 cycles. Also, mini-fridges: 3 ranging from \$20-\$40. (734) 699-3023 10/29

SMALL YORKIE-POO puppy. 13 weeks, female. All shots except rabies. \$500. (734) 391-7555 10/29

FORD ENGINE, 2300 CC I-4 complete. 4-speed transmission. 57,000 original miles. \$250. (734) 461-6696 11/5

1 GREEN LEATHER Lazy Boy recliner, \$75. **1 black faux vinyl** loveseat, \$100. **1 butcher block** table top, 5'x25"x1 3/4", \$125. Call (734) 697-2182 11/5

CRAFTSMAN 42" 15hp riding lawnmower with small 45x70 trailer. Good for hauling anything, 14" tires. Will not separate. \$650 obo. (734) 697-1417. 11/5

FOR SALE

WHITE WICKER 6-drawer dresser. Black cloth chair. Sony 35" TV, older model. Twin mattress set, good condition. Older John Deere riding mower, runs good. (734) 635-8027. Leave message. 11/12

NORTA TRACK, \$75. Total Gym, \$75. (734) 697-7965. 11/12

BLACK ANGUS BULL. Nebraska stock, 7 months old, about 500 lbs. Bottle calf, handled daily. Good 4-H animal. \$1,100. (734) 697-8028 11/12

VEHICLE FOR SALE

1979 SHORTBED F-150 4x4. No rust. New motor, clutch, suspension, brakes, tires, exhaust, interior. Don't miss this one perfect driver. \$10,000. (734) 845-6077. 10/29

2002 FORD WINDSTAR VAN. Needs work. \$800. (850) 324-2165 11/12

1974 LINCOLN Continental Coup. Needs restoration. \$900. (734) 697-2250 11/12

BOAT FOR SALE

1989 20' LARSON I/O. 3 year old trailer. Runs great. \$3,500 OBO (734) 697-2931 11/12

WANTED

WE BUY JUNK CARS
7 Days A Week - CASH PAID!
Affordable Towing Available Too!
(734) 787-1444

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS for the homeless. Please drop off at Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive. (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

I WILL WORK in your home. Cleaning, running errands, shopping, doctor appointments, light yard work too. Looking for up to 30 hours/week. (734) 334-8411. 11/5

GRADUATE STUDENT at EMU in communication & business looking for a part-time position. (734) 757-5911 11/5

LARGE PRINT Readers Digest. Elderly couple. (734) 697-2250 11/12

FREE

TOP SOIL, 5 yards. You load it, take it all. (734) 697-5036. 11/12

FOR RENT

1 BR. APT. 2nd Floor. Corner of 5th & Liberty St. \$595/mo. plus security. Includes heat & water. 1 yr. lease. Must have good credit. No Pets. (734) 945-2409 TFN

TWO BEDROOM apartment in Belleville. Clean. \$650 + utilities. Security Deposit required. No Pets. (734) 391-8704, (734) 740-2891 10/29

4 BEDROOMS, 2 bath farmhouse in Sumpter. \$1,200/mo & \$1,300 security. (734) 461-1362. 11/5

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

Celebrate Fall with a new home from Franklin!
First month security deposit and rent waived when you purchase a Franklin Home. Up to a \$1,065 value! Call one of our sales associates before October 31!*

Visit our website for a list of homes for purchase or lease starting at \$550
www.FranklinHomeSales.com

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Manufactured Homes • Communities
Belleville Manor
734-699-7700
Belleville Road just 1 mile north of I-94
Van Buren Estates
734-697-6159
3 miles south of I-94 at the Rawsonville Exit
Mohawk
734-513-4108
Joy Road between Middlebelt and Inkster
*WAC. Restrictions apply. No cash value. See a Franklin Homes associate for details.

Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

SERVICES

GERRY'S SMALL ENGINE AND EQUIPMENT REPAIR. Tractors, garden, snow blowers, etc. (734) 461-0158 10/29

DEPENDABLE LAWN SERVICE. Fall clean-up. (734) 587-2410 or (734) 693-4712 11/19

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Painting, Drywall, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath. Serving Belleville Since 1995. Call Aaron Schultz @ **734-740-0628**

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CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
Free Padding with purchase of Carpet and Installation.
Repairs and Restretching.
Accepting all Major Credit Cards.

Phil @ 734-612-7570

LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL. Residential Power Washing. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

WILLIAMS MASONRY & CONCRETE
Brick, block & stone work. Glass block windows installed. (734) 444-8245. "Quality work at the best price." 11/13

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

Hiring Reliable & Dedicated Bus Drivers for Van Buren Public Schools. Starting Pay: \$11.50/hour. Training Available. Call 734-699-5100



WEEKLY HOME TIME. Excellent DEDICATED Runs From MI to TX pulling reefer trailers! Top Pay & Benefits; Monthly Bonuses & MORE! Hazmat & Tanker Required. CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req. EEOE/AAP. LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE. 866-370-4476 www.drive4marten.com

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call (734) 697-1800 TFN

SUPERVISOR NEEDED. Production or maintenance background. Please send resume: jobs@hjmanufacturing.com 11/12

DIRECT CARE DCW positions. Alternative Services, Inc. Competitive wages & paid training. Benefits for full-time employees begin after 60 days. Full & part-time positions available in Romulus & Belleville. Apply in person at 32625 7 Mile, Suite 10, Livonia. Applications accepted Monday-Friday, 8am-2pm. Michigan driver's license required. (248) 476-0170 x113. 11/12

DAY CARE PROVIDER needed in Belleville. Call after 5 pm. (734) 231-7326 10/29

HELP WANTED

CRAFT SHOWS

FREE CANDY FOR THE KIDS!

Craft & Vendor Show @ BELLEVILLE MANOR Saturday, Oct. 31st 10am – 3pm 8701 Belleville Road Belleville

Birthdays

Oct. 26 – Elaine Giblin-Gutierrez

Do you have a birthday in October? Does any one you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



HELP WANTED



Van Buren Township Trustee Phil Hart, left, was presented with a resolution honoring him from the Wayne County Commission. Presenting the framed resolution at the VBT Board meeting on Oct. 20 was County Commissioner Al Haidous, right. Reading the resolution aloud was VBT Supervisor Linda Combs, center.

VBT Trustee Phil Hart gets recognition from Wayne County Commission

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At the Oct. 20 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, the board witnessed Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous present VBT Trustee Phil Hart with a framed resolution.

Commissioner Haidous said the county commission has honored Hart because of his commitment to excellence at Ford Motor Company and at Van Buren Township. Hart recently retired from Ford after 38.5 years of service. He is a long-time township trustee.

In other business at the 40-minute meeting, the board:

- Watched Public Safety Director Greg Laurain accept a check for \$750 from Sam Shami of Leo's Coney Island, which was 10% of his business on 9-11. Director Laurain said the funds will be used to provide fire extinguishers and fire alarms to those in need;

- Heard Pam Fleming of the Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows announce that registration for Christmas assistance begins Monday, Nov. 2, at the VBT Police Department. There is an application that can be printed out from the web site, but it has to be presented in person at the PD. For more information, call her at 699-8934 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday;

- Approved the supervisor's reappointments of Kiz Ahamiojie and Ronald Merritt II to the Environmental Commission with terms to expire Oct. 1, 2018;

- Held a public hearing on the transfer of \$34,000 in 2013 Community Development Block Grant funds from housing rehabilitation to demolition and then unanimously approved the transfer. The money has to be spent by the end of the

calendar year and there are several projects ready to go;

- Approved the special land use request by Trilogy Residences, LLC, to demolish the existing tennis courts at 41500 Bellridge Blvd. and construct a 7,785 square foot community clubhouse with a pool and patio in the same area;

- Approved the first reading of the rezoning request of Belleville Development LLC to rezone two parcels to C-2, one with conditions, to make way for a new motel on the North I-94 Service Drive. The second reading is scheduled for Nov. 17;

- Approved the proposal from Wade Trim Engineers in the amount of \$39,500 to provide professional services relating to the construction of the Walden Woods Paving Repairs Project. It is paid 80% by Wayne County and 20% by the Walden Woods Homeowners Association;

- Removed from the revised agenda approval of the amended and restated VBT Governmental Non-ERISA Retirement Plan;

- Heard Supervisor Linda Combs read a letter from School Supt. Michael Van Tassel thanking the VBT police department for being at the school's home football games; and

- Heard another letter, this one from "Phyllis and Cindy," who thanked the Public Safety Department for what they do, adding, "Thanks to you, I don't even have to own a gun."

Read The Newspaper On The Web!
The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com

Wayne/Taylor Apartment Communities looking for full time maintenance technicians.

If you are dependable, a self-starter, motivated to do your best, organized and a logical thinker with the ability to trouble shoot, have knowledge of basic plumbing, electrical, carpentry, drywall, painting, HVAC, and appliance repair, we would like to hear from you. A valid driver's license is required. You may e-mail your resume to either parkhill@pmapts.com or call (734) 326-0070 or coopertree-manager@pmapts.com or call (734) 287-4338. These positions offer good pay and benefits after ninety days of employment.

VBT budget

(continued from page 3)

getting a Belgian and Wright immediately responded VBT's new dog would be a German shepherd. He said a Belgian is not for a first-time handler.

Laurain said at one time there were four dogs at VBT PD, two handled by full-time officers and two handled by reserves.

Wright said the Schoenbachs sold their dog training business to Terry Foley who now is stationed in Taylor. He offered to set up a field trip for the township board to see how the training works. Wright said he has worked with Foley.

Trustee Reggie Miller asked if it was possible to transfer the dog to another handler if the first one left VBT and Wright said each situation is different. He said the dog is township property, but the dog is a living creature.

He said the most important philosophy is that the dog is friendly, "except when we tell him not to be."

Wright said there are officer safety issues, and felon issues.

Laurain said the new Garcia Law requires built-in four hours maintenance a day for a dog handler. That would mean the dog officer would work an eight-hour shift and use the four hours left of his regular 12-hour shift for dog handling.

Laurain said there would be no overtime and if the handler is not on duty they couldn't call him in. If another department called to use the dog, VBT would say, "I'm sorry, he's not available," Laurain said.

Wright said there could be exceptions for major situations.

"I don't want you to think he's going to make \$50,000 for the township," Wright said. "My hope is that it funds itself so I don't have to come back and ask you for more money."

The board did not say anything negative against the dog suggestion.

During the budget sessions, the board heard proposals for their departments from every department director. After discussion by the board, the supervisor prepares a budget and brings it back to a public hearing where it will be considered by the public and the board members. The public hearing on this budget will be held at 7 p.m. Nov. 17

During the budget sessions, much was presented, including the following:

- Some board members were in favor of giving themselves a raise of 1.5%, like the other township employees are getting. Some were vehemently against a raise, with Trustee Brenda McClanahan asking

if they weren't supposed to be worrying about having enough money for the Visteon bonds. Trustee Reggie Miller also spoke up against a raise;

- Public Safety Director Laurain: Federal forfeiture funds need to be spent down, so one of the things he would like to do is spend the funds to get new badges for all the officers. "The present badges are 35 years old and some don't match," Laurain said. "And, the clasps break." The new badges are \$100 each and have a lifetime guarantee;

- Deputy Director/Police Wright: "We're trying to be very prudent" in looking at body cameras for police officers. "It's a huge, huge cost... We are looking into it very carefully." No request for body cameras;

- Lt. Charles Bazy: "There was a temporary restraining order against the township for the razing of 16629 Haggerty, which has been a problem for the township since 2005 ... Today the judge ruled in the township's favor" so the house will be demolished;

- DPW Director Jim Taylor, while discussing the primary feed water line delivering water from Detroit to the city of Belleville that goes under the Belleville Bridge using VBT's system to provide the water along with a DTE electrical line, "We have been told there's 10 years of life left on that bridge. That bridge is crumbling." He said it has to be determined who is going to pay for what;

- Belleville Area Museum Director Katie Dallos said the finances are much better since Midge Artley's estate left them \$70,000 and Sumpter Township gave them \$10,000 and plans to do it again next year;

- Cable TV Director Allie McCracken asked for \$4,200 more in operating supplies. She said the drone batteries are \$60-\$70 each and one failed and they have five left. She also wanted a 33% pay increase for her employees and \$2,500 for training, up from \$200 last year. Board members said a written policy should be in place for use of the drone. "I don't want the VBT drone to cause a crash at the airport," said Trustee Jahr, noting the drone pictures in the township hallway show pictures closer than the 5 miles allowed to an airport." She said there is no insurance on the drone and it will come back when it loses its signal. But, at the recent canoe event on the lake it was gustier than she thought, the drone used more power and, "I almost lost it." She said there is about \$4,000 invested in the drone;

- Senior Services Lynette Jordan asked, again, for a full-time senior coordinator to help her, since she has no full-time

workers. She said there is a part-time senior coordinator, a part-time senior specialist (each 29 hours a week), 100 active volunteers, and 2,000 members of September Days Senior Citizens. She raised the membership dues last year to raise money for a full-time assistant and the revenue went up from \$41,000 to \$62,000, she said. Jordan said she was a full-time senior coordinator when Linda Combs was senior director. When Combs left in 2010, Jordan ran the department without full-time help. She also asked for a raise. When asked about the German citizen who works 40 hours a week on a program and gets \$270 a month from donations, Jordan confirmed that he takes a township car home for personal use during the week and week ends. She said he pays for his own fuel. Jordan told the board that VBT has the largest aging population in Wayne County, according to SEMCOG;

- Planning and Economic Development Director Ron Akers said Menard has its final site plan and plans to start building in April or May and move in during the spring of 2017. Akers told the board he will be looking at permit prices since some are a little high. His department also will be looking at ways to streamline processes so it doesn't take so long for people to do their projects; and

- Heard Alicia McGovern of Edward Jones present herself suddenly at the beginning of the Friday morning session to offer to present a pension plan for employees. She was not on the agenda, but was invited

by Trustee Miller. Clerk Leon Wright said the board does not want to be caught off guard at a budget session. "We're not going to be caught off guard," he stated. Supervisor Linda Combs said later that she eventually wants to go out for bids on all the professional services the township uses, but that day's agenda did not include such a

VBT police to have increased patrols for Halloween night

Van Buren Township Public Safety Director Greg Laurain said historically VBT police and fire have increased personnel staffing on Halloween evening when the communities' children are out and about trick or treating.

And, this year is no different.

"We will also be offering candy checks in the lobby of the police department for families who wish to stop by 46425 Tyler Road where our officers will be ready and happy to check candy for our children," Director Laurain said.

This year, they have Selected Enforcement Units to patrol subdivisions and will be keeping an eye out for the safety of children between the hours of 5:30 and 8 p.m.

Laurain said this Selected Enforcement will consist of high-visibility, marked patrol units assigned to specific areas where they anticipate heavy foot traffic.

TRAILER FUND RAISER

\$10,000

Boy Scout Troop 793 has a large equipment trailer that we use to go to and from outings and campouts and it's time to upgrade our trailer to continue serving our needs. We currently have a trailer that is sixteen years old and has ten thousand miles on it and it would cost us \$3,000 dollars to upgrade it and that does not include the safety issues that come with a trailer that old. The cost for a new trailer and to reequip to what we have now will be \$10,000 dollars. Currently we have raised \$4,740 dollars. A new trailer will significantly upgrade our transportation services and will help us to continue to provide a quality program for the boys. Your donation will be greatly appreciated and we thank you for any support you can give us. Please mail all donations to:

BOY SCOUT TROOP 793
409 WEST COLUMBIA
BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111

Respectfully Yours,
Boy Scout Troop 793

\$4,740

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Keith Dudek : Owner
11681 Rawsonville
Belleville, MI 48111

Office: (734) 461-6165
Cell: (734) 730-9733

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Nov. 2 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 9 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education regular meeting, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

- Tuesday, Nov. 10 – September Days Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Financing Authority, 2 p.m., Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 12 – Keystone Academy

School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

- Monday, Nov. 16 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 17 – Van Buren Township

regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday, Nov. 18 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 24 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Water and Sewer Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 25 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Nov. 30 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 1 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Dec. 7 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 3, 2015

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that the General Election will be held TUESDAY, November 3, 2015.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	McBride Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #2	Wayne County Community College	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #3	Van Buren Township Hall (Board Room)	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #4	Van Buren Township Hall (Gym)	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #5	Tyler Elementary School	42299 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #6	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #7	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #8	Haggerty Elementary School	13770 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #9	Savage Elementary School	42975 Savage Rd.
Precinct #10	Owen Intermediate School	45201 Owen St.

All polling place locations are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk's Office prior to Election Day.

PROPOSALS:

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP:

PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

Shall the Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan assess a 6.5 mill levy to provide funds for police and fire protection? The 6.5 mills (\$6.50 per \$1,000 taxable value) is to be levied against all property within the Township, pursuant to 1947 PA 359, as amended, for a period of seven years beginning December 1, 2017 which would be approximately \$6,478,215 when first levied on December 1, 2017. This replaces a millage that expires December 31, 2016.

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROPOSAL:

MILLAGE PROPOSAL-BUILDING AND SITE SINKING FUND TAX LEVY

Shall Van Buren Public Schools, Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw, State of Michigan, create a sinking fund for the purpose of construction or repair of school buildings and the improvement and development of sites and for any other purpose which may be authorized by law, and be authorized to levy not to exceed 0.50 mills (\$0.50 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of seven (7) years, 2016 to 2022 inclusive? This levy would renew the sinking fund levy previously authorized by the voters in 2008 for an additional seven (7) years. It is estimated that the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the 2016 calendar year shall be approximately \$753,255 from the local taxes authorized in this proposal.

A sample of the ballot may be obtain at the Van Buren Township Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or on the Township website www.vanburen-mi.org. Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk's Office. The deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the November 3, 2015 Election is Saturday, October 31, 2015 until 2:00 p.m. at the Clerk's office.

The County Treasurer's Statement:

I, Raymond J. Wojtowicz, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan do hereby certify that, as of August 20, 2015 the total of all voted increases in excess of the tax rate limitation established by Section 6, Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Michigan, as amended, and the years such increases are effective on property in the County of Wayne are as follows:

WAYNE COUNTY Wayne County Michigan Township of Van Buren

Taxing Authorities	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increases Effective
County of Wayne	November 3, 2009	1 mill	2019
Wayne County Jail	August 7, 2012	1 mill	2021
Wayne County Parks	November 2, 2010	0.25 mills	2015
Wayne County Community College	November 6, 2008	1.25 mills	2020
	November 6, 2012	1 mill	2022
Lincoln Consolidated Schools	November, 2012	18 mills	2018 (non-homestead)
Van Buren Public School District	November, 2011	18 mills	2016 (non-homestead)
	November 4, 2008	1.13 mills	2015

Publish: 10/29/2015

Posted: 9/1/2015

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 15, 2015

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers and an audience of five (5).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Approval of the attorney recommendation regarding case #13-14497.] Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: McClanahan moved, Wright seconded to award the contract for paving repairs in the Walden Woods subdivision to Fiore Enterprises in the amount of \$214,646.80 and to approve a 10% contingency, as recommended by the Township engineer. Motion Carried. Clerk Wright thanked Wayne County Commissioner Al Hadius for his assistance in expediting the placement of the Local Roads Initiative vote for funding on the agenda today. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the funding.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the attorney recommendation regarding case #14-007522-CZ. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NON AGENDA: Residents thanked the Board for approving the repairs to the Walden Woods Subdivision roads. Treasurer Budd thanked the Clerk's office staff for decorating the front of their office in pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor
Publish: October 29, 2015

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Belleville Presbyterian Church on Belleville Road will be holding their annual Craft Bazaar, Luncheon and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$7 for adults. \$3.50 for children 5-12. There will be crafts, baked goods, and a raffle. The event is sponsored by the women's association.

The Craft & Vendor Show that's been held in the past at the Belleville Coney has found a new home and will be held this Saturday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Belleville Manor at 8701 Belleville Road. There will also be free candy for children.

The Yankee Air Museum is holding its Halloween Spooktacular on Oct. 31, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and there will be activities for children like science experiments, a parade of costumes, games, prizes, and treats. Call (734) 483-4030.

Pam's Housekeeping has been serving the Belleville community since 1993 and owner Pam Kuziak will provide you with free estimates on residential and light commercial. Call (734) 389 9500.

Congratulations to Janet Manley of Design Line Embroidery on Belleville Road as they celebrate their 15th Anniversary this month. Stop by and mention this notice in the newspaper and get a free 2016 calendar. Happy Birthday!

Tomorrow is the eve of Halloween and of course I'll be venturing around town during Trick or Treat Main Street, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There will also be a costume contest at 6 p.m. at the Fourth Street Square, featuring prizes in age groups infant to 3,

4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13 and up, and for families. The event is put on by the Belleville Central Business Community, and sponsored by Tucker Insurance, the CBC, and Twisted Rooster.

On the real Halloween, Saturday, the Sumpter Township Fire Department is putting on a Trunk or Treat for children from 5 to 7 p.m. at the fire station at the corner of Sumpter and Kozma roads. The costume contest is at 7 p.m. Lots of candy, fun, and prizes.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Friday, Oct. 30**— Halloween Trick or Treating in downtown Belleville, 5-7 p.m. Costume contest on 4th St. Square.

• **Friday, Oct. 30** – Friends Family Theater FREE Movie Night, 7 p.m., Films, Fun, Food ALL for FREE! Movies will be shown in the white framed building, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road (at Bemis Road) Ypsilanti. Featuring, on the 25-foot screen: *Crimes and Mister Meanors*, (2015, 92 minutes). (734) 482-5074

• **Saturday, Oct. 31** – Free Halloween Spooktacular takes place from 1 to 4 p.m. at Yankee Air Museum, 47884 'D' Street, Willow Run Airport, Belleville. Family fun designed for families with children ages 15 years old and under. Costume parade, games, prizes, Halloween treats.

• **Saturday, Oct. 31** – For Sumpter Township children, Sumpter Fire Fighters are putting on a Trunk or Treat from 5 to 7 p.m. at the fire hall. Trunk decorations and costume contests at 7 p.m. Candy for all. Sign up at the township Supervisor's office. Sumpter Police will check candy.

• **Sunday, Nov. 1** – Bugles Across America, 7:15 p.m., Veterans Memorial on High Street in downtown Belleville. A brief ceremony and "Taps" to honor those

who served, both living and deceased.

• **Friday, Nov. 6** – Potato Pancake Supper, 4:30- 7 p.m., St. John's Lutheran Church, 28320 Waltz Rd., Waltz. No wait for carry outs. Sponsored by St. John's Ladies Aid/LWML. \$10 donation for adults, \$4 donation for children 6-12, children 5 and under are free.

• **Friday, Nov. 6 and Saturday, Nov. 7** – Annual Sumpter Senior Craft Show to earn funds for the seniors' Christmas party. At community center, 23501 Sumpter Road, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: Karen Mickens (734) 461-2296, (734) 461-9373

• **Saturday, Nov. 7 and Sunday, Nov. 8** – Belleville Community Art Show at the BYC.

• **Saturday, Nov. 7** – You're invited to a Veterans' Recognition Dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Belleville Moose Lodge, corner of Sumpter and Harris in Sumpter Township. All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner is \$10 per person, \$5 for vets. Presentations begin at 6 p.m. Chinese Auction and 50/50 drawing throughout the evening.

• **Saturday, Nov. 7** – That's Amore XI dinner and live auction will be open to the public at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. at the Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Road, to benefit CS Mott's Children's Hospital for Pediatric Leukemia Research. Cost: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Information: (734) 657-0048 or (734) 718-6341.

• **Wednesday, Nov. 11** – Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston, is serving a chicken dinner, 5 p.m. until sold out. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person; children 12 and under \$5 each. Menu: fried chicken, mashed potatoes, biscuits & gravy, green beans, cole slaw, dessert, coffee, hot tea, milk, (734) 654-9020

• **Sunday, Nov. 15** – Wine Tasting Fundraiser at Sandhill Crane Vineyard in Jackson, noon to 4 p.m., to benefit Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue. \$45 ticket for those over 21 includes bus ride from Belleville locations, buffet lunch, wine tasting and tour of the winemaking process. Tickets at www.fmar1.org



Sumpter Township Public Notice



SUMPTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the Sumpter Township Planning Commission will be held at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 on **Thursday, November 12, 2015** at 7:05 p.m. for the following purposes:

1) RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE:

- Amend Section 4.6.1 - Permitted Uses in Agricultural District, to add "Detached Accessory Buildings" as a permitted land use.
- Amend Section 5.3 - Accessory Buildings, Structures and Uses, to modify size, setback and dimensional standards for detached accessory buildings. The proposed text amendments utilize sliding scales to regulate detached accessory building size based on lot size and minimum building setback based on building size. The proposed amendments also provide certain exemptions for properties located within the Agricultural (AG) and Rural Small Farm (RF) zoning districts.

2) RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE TOWNSHIP ZONING MAP:

- An application to rezone the property at 51100 Willis Rd. (Parcel no. 81-023-99-0013-003; 1.03 acres; north side of Willis Rd. between Rawsonville Rd. and Lohr Rd.), from the existing Light Industrial (LI) zoning district to the Rural Small Farm (RF) zoning district.

This notice provides a summary of the proposed changes. The full amended sections, the rezoning application, legal description of subject property, and the existing Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map may be examined at the Township Offices, 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111, during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments will also be received at the above address during normal business hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish October 29, 2015



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Notice of Public Hearing Variance

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals on November 19, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 for the purpose of receiving statements and views on a proposed Variance on # 81-047-99-0001-705 better known as 20699 Haggerty Road. The Variance request does not meet set back requirements, per Sumpter Township Ordinance, Section 4.20 (I) Farm structures (greater than six hundred (600) feet in floor area) shall comply with the following setback provisions: A lot less than two hundred fifty (250) feet in width may be permitted a (side) setback of thirty (30) feet provided the structure is no less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from all adjacent residential buildings. The proposed pole barn is located fifteen (15) feet from the north property line and is deficient by fifteen (15) feet.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish: October 29, 2015

Environmental

(continued from page 1)

Best said of Wilson and the other chemists who discussed details in chemical terms.

"It was at a technical level," Jahr said, noting they were glad to have Wilson present to talk to them.

Jahr said then the corps asked US Ecology to leave the meeting and asked the township if it had been a good citizen and performed well.

"We felt they worked well with us," Jahr

said of US Ecology.

"That was the purpose of their meeting," Best said. "They have not selected US Ecology yet." He said US Ecology would have to bid on the jobs and US Ecology would send a notice to the Supervisor's office on any new jobs it gets.

"It is not fracking waste," Best emphasized.

He said there are naturally occurring radioactive qualities and once you move it, "you've processed it" and then it is considered TENORM, "technologically enhanced, naturally occurring radioactive

materials."

"We'll be getting soils," Best said. "Other landfills will get structures."

He said the host community agreement for this landfill, "says the only thing we can limit is NO out of state waste.

"That would be very troubling to a lot of people," Best said of such a decision.

Wilson said the meeting was very instructive and he was glad he had the opportunity to attend. He filled in for Environmental Commission chairman Dave Brownlee who was not available on such short notice.

Besides Best, Wilson, and Jahr, the township was represented by Supervisor Linda Combs at the meeting.

The Army Corps of Engineers does all the Superfund Cleanups and is responsible for the materials even after burial in a landfill, Best said.

He said he talked with Patrick Cullin who is in charge of Wayne County Solid Waste Management for information on TENORM and he said TENORM has been in the county for years and it is the same yesterday as it is today.

"There is no new source planned to come into the township with TENORM waste and he'll alert us to anything new," Best said.

He said TENORM is only going to Type

1 landfills like US Ecology.

In other business at the Oct. 21 meeting, the commission:

- Reelected Brownlee as chairman and Norm DeBuck as vice chairman for the coming year;

- Discussed the proposed ordinance against carcinogenic coal tar sealants and agreed to put it on the Nov. 16 work/study session of the VBT Board of Trustees for discussion and possibly on the agenda of the Dec. 8 board meeting for the first of two votes. The commission hopes to get the ordinance in place before spring when people will be sealing their driveways;

- Discussed the Recycling Road Map, a document to inform residents on where to take items locally for recycling. They discussed whether to consolidate it with the Wayne County Guide and how to distribute it so everyone will have access to the information. It will be on the agenda of the Nov. 18 commission meeting;

- Discussed the new Shoreline Ordinance, with Trustee Jahr complaining that the township's consultants keep adding things. He said the ordinance was intended for use of the shoreline and somebody brought in canned words. The ordinance is on its way to public meetings and then a public hearing before heading to the township board for action.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2015

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers, Consultant Sloan, Public Safety Deputy Director (Police) Wright, Public Safety Director Laurain, Administrative Assistant Fleming, Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson and an audience of five (5).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the revised agenda. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session Minutes of October 5, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of October 5, 2015; Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2015; Prepaid list of October 9, 2015; Prepaid List of October 15, 2015; Voucher List of October 20, 2015 and the re-appointment of Kiz Ahamiojie and Ronald Merritt II to the Environmental Commission with a term to expire of October 1, 2018.] Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Wright moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on Resolution 2015-37 to reprogram (transfer) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from Housing Rehabilitation to Demolition at 7:05 p.m. Funds remaining in the Township's 2013 CDBG account and additional funds received from the HOME program must be spent or are required to be repaid. The Township has identified six buildings in the Township that have been ordered by the Building Official to be demolished. The demolitions would proceed upon transfer of the funds. Having received no public comment Budd moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs read a letter from a resident thanking officer Fred Sweet for his professionalism and compassion in handling the passing of a family member, a letter from Van Buren Public Schools Superintendent Van Tassel thanking Public Safety Director Laurain his Deputy Director Wright and staff for their assistance in patrolling the Belleville High School football games and a letter from a resident encouraging respect and support of law enforcement. Sam Shami of Leo's Coney Island presented a check to the Public Safety Department in the amount of \$750.00. Mr. Shami donated 15% of the total sales at his restaurant on 9/11/15. Funds received will be used to assist residents with fire safety. Wayne County Commission Al Hadius

presented a proclamation to Trustee Phillip Hart in honor of his retirement, after 38 years, at Ford Motor Company and public service to the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Miller seconded to approve the adoption of Resolution 2015-37 to reprogram (transfer) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from Housing Rehabilitation to Demolition. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Special Land Use request by Trilogy Residences, LLC to demolish the existing tennis courts and construct a clubhouse and pool in the same area. Motion Carried

Budd moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the first reading of the rezoning request from Belleville Development LLC to rezone parcel V-125-83-064-99-0002-002 from R-1B (Single Family Residential) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) with conditions and parcel V-125-83-064-99-0002-003 from C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) with conditions. Motion Carried.

Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the proposal from Wade Trim in the amount of \$39,500 to provide professional services relating to the construction of the Walden Woods Paving Repairs Project. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs announced the Candy Loop at Quirk Park on Saturday October 24, 2015 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Clerk Wright announced the Clerk's office will be open on Saturday October 31, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of absentee ballots, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the Voters Right Act guaranteeing the rights of African Americans to vote and the 95th anniversary of Women's suffrage which allowed women to vote and reminded registered voters to vote on November 3, 2015. Administrative Assistant Pam Fleming announced that applications for holiday assistance through the Good Fellows will be available Monday November 2, 2015. Assistance is available to qualified residents of Van Buren Township and the City of Belleville only. Applications are available on the Township website or at the Van Buren Township Police Department. Residents must apply in person (identification required). For more information contact Pam Fleming at 734-699-8934.

NON AGENDA: None

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor
Publish: October 29, 2015

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

The Charter Township of Van Buren is requesting Proposals for the purpose of entering into a contract for Architectural Design & Construction Services. This RFP is being initiated to secure the services of a qualified firm to program, design, and provide construction documents and construction supervision for a renovation project of the Developmental and Clerk's Offices, both located at the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

The Proposals will be submitted to and received by the Charter Township of Van Buren Clerk's Office, 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. The proposal containers shall be marked "Architectural Design & Construction Services." Proposals must be received before the deadline of 4:00pm on Thursday, November 5, 2015. It is the proposer's responsibility to insure that the Proposal is received prior to the deadline as no exception to this policy will be made.

PROJECT GOAL

The goal of this project is to redesign and reconstruct two existing offices in order to:

1. Accommodate recently added staff in the Clerk's Office and the Developmental Services Office, both located in the Van Buren Township Hall.
2. To improve the energy efficiency, lighting and ergonomics of both offices.
3. To improve the delivery of customer service at the counters.

REQUEST A BID PACKET

Bid specifications are available at the Township Clerk's Office : 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m., or may be downloaded from the Township's website at www.vanburen-mi.org. Proposals must be received before the deadline of 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2015. It is the proposer's responsibility to ensure that the Proposal is received prior to the deadline as no exception to this policy will be made.

Publish: October 29, 2015

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 667 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Oct. 18:
0340 – animal bite, Westlake
0440 – disturbance, S. Woodbury Dr.
0526 – private property accident, Meadows Cir.
0855 – dumping complaint, Haggerty/Ecorse
1406 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1435 – juvenile complaint, Daisy Blvd.
1636 – breaking & entering, S. Belldridge Dr.
1654 – suicide or attempt, Prairie Ct.
1724 – harassment call, Andover Dr.
2007 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty Rd.
2014 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
2232 – noise complaint, Quirk Rd.
Monday, Oct. 19:
0255 – vehicle repossession, Yost
0419 – vehicle repossession, Hardwood Dr.
0620 – vehicle repossession, Denton Rd.
1050 – mental, S. Belldridge Dr.
1227 – malicious destruction of property, Madison Dr.
1448 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1631 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River Dr.
1633 – fire investigation, Sumpter Rd.
1704 – fight, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1712 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1914 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1958 – disturbance, Lake Villa Dr.
1958 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Ecorse Rd.
2004 – private property accident, Salem Ct.
2036 – agency assist, W I-94/Haggerty
Tuesday, Oct. 20:
0025 – shots fired, W. Huron River Dr.
0753 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Venetian
0834 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.
1000 – property damage accident, I-94 S. Service/Rawsonville
1205 – agency assist, Carmel
1223 – malicious destruction of property, Ash Dr.
1625 – fraud, Belleville
1712 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.
1815 – larceny from auto, Sylvia Dr.
2056 – trespassing, Martinsville Rd.
Wednesday, Oct. 21:
0107 – vehicle repossession, Oak Ln.
0346 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
0904 – agency assist, W. Columbia
0954 – fraud, Coolidge St.
1525 – harassment call, Sheldon Rd.
1536 – harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
1649 – private property incident, Denton Rd.
1701 – trespassing, Martinsville Rd.
1701 – property damage accident, Huron River Dr./Metro Parkway
1750 – shots fired, Hoeft Rd./Bog Rd.
1755 – assault & battery, Lancaster Dr.
1831 – noise complaint, S. Belldridge Dr.
2038 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
Thursday, Oct. 22:
0010 – agency assist, Sumpter Rd./Bemis Rd.
0157 – loitering, Oak Ln.
1050 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1149 – property damage accident, Mida Dr.
1328 – disturbance, Building 13, Westlake
1528 – mental, Fay Dr.
1544 – fraud, America
1558 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd./Lake Villa Dr.
1758 – assault & battery, Belleville
1853 – harassment call, Elwell Rd.
1934 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.
Friday, Oct. 23:
0326 – noise complaint, Rawsonville Rd.
0503 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
0839 – larceny, Filmore St.
0859 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Hannan Rd.
0951 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter Rd.

1114 – agency assist, Sumpter Rd.
1203 – fraud, Belleville
1205 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1221 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Buchanan
1449 – agency assist, Martinsville Rd.
1528 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1604 – abandoned auto, Belleville Rd.
1632 – property damage accident, High St./W. Huron River Dr.
1751 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1832 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1854 – property damage accident, Michigan/Denton
1925 – mental, Oak Ln.
1957 – felony assault, Belle Pointe Dr.
2103 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Belleville Rd.
2124 – assault & battery, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2147 – private property incident, North I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville
Saturday, Oct. 24:
0657 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
1021 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1045 – personal injury accident, Haggerty Rd.
1147 – intimidation threat, US Ecology
1236 – larceny, Greenwood Dr.
1404 – property damage accident, Bemis Rd./Sumpter Rd.
1417 – property damage accident, Michigan Service Dr. / Gilmore St.
1512 – assault domestic, Paris
1603 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd./Bemis Rd.
1937 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd./Marlowe Ave.
2001 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
2022 – agency assist, Martinsville Rd.
2100 – shots fired, Buchanan St.
2109 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2120 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
2142 – disorderly conduct, Belleville
Also on this week’s log are 177 traffic stops, 45 of which are on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 18:
1010 – domestic assault, Belle Villa Blvd.
2040 – information, Village Park
2218 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
Monday, Oct. 19:
0422 – warrant arrest, Rawsonville/I-94
0742 – juvenile complaint, South St
0808 – juvenile complaint, Main St.
1059 – malicious destruction of property, Hillside
1120 – assist citizen, Loza Ln.
1241 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1426 – trespassing, E. Huron River Dr.
1737 – civil matter, Biggs Ave.
1825 – traffic hazard, Main St./Fourth St.
1925 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
2212 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
2217 – suspicious situation, S. Industrial Park Dr.
Tuesday, Oct. 20:
0005 – assist fire dept., Church St.
1026 – intimidation threat, South St.
1706 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1859 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Fourth St.
1926 – suspicious vehicle, Main St./Liberty St.
2124 – operating while intoxicated, Sumpter/Hull
Wednesday, Oct. 21:
0240 – assist fire dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.
0530 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.
0737 – civil matter, W. Columbia Ave.
0900 – juvenile complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1117 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1455 – follow up, Anaheim St.
1519 – larceny, S. Edgemont Ave.
1620 – fraud, Main St.
1840 – private property accident, South St.
Thursday, Oct. 22:
0350 – malicious destruction of property, Carmell St.
0352 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter
0542 – background investigation, Main St.

1215 – assist fire dept., N. Aberdeen Ct.
1709 – welfare check, S. Liberty St.
1835 – welfare check, E. Columbia Ave./Main St.
1925 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
2024 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Belle Villa Blvd.
2113 – Pbt alcohol, Main St.
Friday, Oct. 23:
0048 – warrant arrest, Michigan/I-275
1147 – fraud, South St.
1212 – suspicious person, N. Liberty St.
1332 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1450 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1600 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1950 – disorderly conduct, Belle Villa Blvd.
2137 – assist fire dept., Wexford Ave.
2206 – noise complaint, Egan’s
2235 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
2356 – suspicious vehicle, W Columbia Ave.
Saturday, Oct. 24:
0741 – malicious destruction of property, Loza Ln.
1209 – agency assist, Paris
1236 – malicious destruction of property, Loza Ln.
1504 – juvenile complaint, Belle Villa Blvd,
1840 – family trouble, N. Liberty St.
2032 – follow up, Martinsville
2036 – harassment call, Main St.
Also on this week’s log are 63 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 18:
0012 – noise complaint, 46000 bl. Reed Ave.
0016 – noise complaint, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0723 – malicious destruction of property, 26000 bl Karr Rd.
0950 – suspicious incident, 50000 bl. Willow
0958 – threats complaint, 24000 bl. Martinsville
1217 – animal complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1411 – civil dispute, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
1424 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2233 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
Monday, Oct. 19:
0100 – warrant pick up, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0135 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0330 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0914 – well-being check, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1047 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1414 – suspicious person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1439 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1920 – warrant pick up, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
2224 – death investigation, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Tuesday, Oct. 20:
0228 – traffic hazard, Savage/HarrisO
0531 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
0715 – warrant pick up, out of township
0801 – fraud complaint, Wayside
0900 – alarm, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0936 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1144 – citizen assist, Rawsonville/Willow
1145 – larceny, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1149 – suspicious incident, Rustic Ln.
1243 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1523 – 911 hang up, Willow/Martinsville
1558 – family trouble, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
1638 – personal injury accident, Sumpter/Dunn
1849 – noise complaint, Rustic Ln.
2023 – assist other agency, out of township
2327 – malicious destruction of property, Carriage Ln.
Wednesday, Oct. 21:
0548 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
0823 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0918 – animal complaint, Karr/Willow
0929 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1050 – well-being check, Carriage Ln.
1204 – civil dispute, Oakville Waltz/Sumpter
1319 – property damage accident, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
1925 – citizen assist, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1948 – property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2312 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
Thursday, Oct. 22:
0040 – citizen assist, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
0106 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Martinsville/Wear
0127 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0233 – breaking & entering, Texas

1149 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1616 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1831 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1943 – breaking & entering, 40000 bl. Harris Rd
2003 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Prince Dr.
2115 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
Friday, Oct. 23:
1109 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1204 – reckless driver, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1334 – harassment complaint, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1554 – alarm, 50000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1557 – suspicious incident, 41000 bl. Willis Rd.
1819 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.
1833 – fire dept. assist, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2248 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
2351 – well-being check, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.
Saturday, Oct. 24:
0129 – larceny, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0618 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0752 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1121 – suspicious incident, Edgewood
1148 – mental health commitment, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1300 – citizen assist, W. Arizona
1329 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1509 – assault, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1614 – assist other agency, out of township
1635 – civil dispute, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1946 – fireworks complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
2014 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2147 – well-being check, 22000 bl. Fenster Dr.
2201 – suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Harris Rdd.
2223 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Fenster Dr.
2355 – mental health commitment, California
Also on this week’s log are 17 follow-up investigations, 38 miscellaneous details, 89 patrol checks, and 71 traffic stops.

Rollover accident in Sumpter ejects two, injures one more

Sumpter Township Police and Fire were dispatched to a single-vehicle, rollover accident at about 4:39 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 20, on Sumpter Road, north of Wear Road. Two of the three occupants of the vehicle were ejected, including the severely injured 30-year-old male driver from Monroe who was flown to the University of Michigan Hospitals by U-M Survival Flight. Apassenger, a moderately injured 21-year-old female from Monroe, was also ejected and was transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital by Huron Valley Ambulance. A second passenger, a 27-year-old male from Clayton, was also transported to St. Joseph Hospital by HVA. He had minor injuries and was the lone occupant not ejected from the vehicle.

Sumpter Township Police Captain Eric Luke said the investigation has shown that the vehicle, a 2008 black Chevrolet Cobalt, was traveling northbound on Sumpter Road and lost control.

The vehicle crossed over into the southbound lane and struck the ditch before going airborne and spinning several times on a vertical axis, ejecting the two.

Sumpter Township police were assisted on the scene by a traffic crash reconstruction unit from the Michigan State Police. The investigation is on-going but speeding and alcohol use appear to be contributing factors, Captain Luke said.

Sumpter Fire Department was assisted on the scene by the Van Buren Township Fire Department.

Hillside Cemetery Tour brings visitors out on icy, windy Saturday

Rick Dawson of Belleville was among those dressed up in historical outfits on Oct. 17 as part of the Hillside Cemetery tour put on by the Belleville Area Museum.

It was an icy, windy day and participants and visitors had to bundle up against the cold.

Museum Director Katie Dallos swears she saw snowflakes.

Dawson was at the grave of Fernando W. Moon and was dressed in a long coat, called a duster that men used to wear. He wore a dark, blue suede cap with the Union crossed rifles design on the front. He also wore his name tag: Fernando Moon.

Dawson has taken the part of Fernando Moon every time there was an opportunity to do so for the last five years. Dawson's wife Mary Jane said she kids him sometimes that he knows more about Fernando and his brother Oliver (who also fought in the Civil War) than he does some of his own relatives.

Fernando W. Moon was a Union soldier, first librarian of Belleville (which was the second reading station in Wayne County), part owner of Moon-Cady Hardware, husband of Lydia E. (Fish) Moon, and father of Carrie (Moon) Cobb (who was married to Dr. Leonard Cobb).

Fernando and Lydia lived in a large home with a wrap-around porch at the corner of Fourth and Liberty. Fernando, Lydia, Leonard, and Carrie are all buried in a family plot at Hillside that was jointly purchased by Fernando and Leonard when Lydia died in 1916.

It is in Section 2 right next to one of the incoming driving paths. There is a large upright stone with MOON / CADY and then 4 smaller headstones that are just above ground level.

Fernando and Oliver Moon were in the Michigan 24th Infantry, Company D (also known as the Iron Brigade). They fought in many well-known battles together, including Gettysburg where Oliver was wounded.

Both of them returned to Van Buren Township after the war. Fernando lived here the rest of his life. Oliver moved to Van Buren County, then Indiana, then Milwaukee where he spent his last years in the Old Soldiers' Home. Oliver was buried in Minnesota.

Because of the lack of parking in Hillside Cemetery, the museum offered shuttle rides to and from the museum to the cemetery for the tours.

The tour took in the oldest part of the cemetery and museum officials said there



Photo by Craig Baugher

Rick Dawson as Fernando Moon

are plenty of other gravesites of interesting, historic people in other parts of the cemetery to use in upcoming tours.

Final call for 2015 Belleville Community Art Show entry forms

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts will continue to accept entry forms for the 2015 Belleville Area Community Art Show until Saturday, Oct. 31. Entry forms may be dropped off at the front desk of the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth Street, Belleville, and must be received by the 31st of October, no exceptions.

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40085 ROBBE, VAN BUREN
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26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
45885 BEMIS PAVED RD BUILDABLE LOT \$27,500
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES \$30,000
42060 NEXT TO WILLIS 3.7 ACRES \$45,000
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BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$29,000

20731 GRIFFIN COURT 1.1 AC \$25,900
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
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