



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.40 Thursday, October 6, 2016

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Michigan State Police shoot armed man in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Friday, the intersection of Haggerty Road and East Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township was closed to traffic at about 1 p.m. as Michigan State Police Troopers confronted a man in a pick up truck and then shot him when he allegedly pointed a gun at them.

Huron Valley Ambulance took the white male, who was shot in the side, to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital where he died.

Police have identified him as Richard Parent, 37, of Flat Rock.

MSP Lt. Michael Shaw told television crews at the scene that Parent was stopped at about 12:48 p.m. on Van Born and Telegraph roads in Taylor for a traffic infraction. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

Lt. Shaw said Parent would not produce a driver's license, saying he was a "sovereign citizen" and didn't have to have a driver's license because he was not really a citizen of the U.S.

He rolled up the window on his black Ford F-150 truck and police broke a back window trying to get him to come out of the vehicle.

Parent then drove off, with police in pursuit, through city streets at up to 70 mph and more than 100 mph on the freeways as he got on westbound I-94 to northbound I-275 to Ford Road to Cherry Hill and finally to Haggerty.

After he got off the freeway, police tried two PIT (precision immobilization technique) maneuvers, with one trooper suffering a seriously dislocated thumb in the collision from the first PIT. That trooper was evaluated at a hospital and since has been released.

The pursuit ended after the second PIT caused the truck to spin out and police boxed it in near the corner of Haggerty and East Huron River Drive, at the entrance to Lower Huron Metropark.

Parent got out and ran to a treeline. He allegedly took a shooting stance and two state troopers fired. One is a 12-year veteran and one is an eight-year veteran.

Lt. Shaw said there was no identification on the driver, but he later was identified and police are looking into his background.

He said Parent could have been given a simple citation for not wearing a seatbelt, or the trooper could have given him a warning.

Lt. Shaw said he has seen an increase in people refusing to follow the commands of law enforcement officers.

He said the Michigan State Police is investigating the shooting as it usually investigates its own cases. A 9mm Glock handgun reportedly was found at the scene and Lt. Shaw said they would be doing tests to see if it had been fired.

Belleville foresees work on city streets during next construction season

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Monday, after an hour and 24 minutes of discussing how to finance the upgrade of city streets, the Belleville City Council agreed to get more financial information, talk to its engineers, and then set up a public meeting to discuss options.

If all goes well, the public meeting will be before the holidays and the project will move forward to take advantage of next summer's construction season.

The council held a special work/study session on the street financing at 6 p.m. Monday before the 7:30 p.m. regular council meeting.

Most of the talking was done by Tom Colis of Miller Canfield and Kari Blanchett of PFM Financial Advisors who spelled

(continued on page 20)



Photo courtesy of Paige Spitznagel

Crowned during half time on Friday were 2016 Homecoming Queen Sarah Jeng and King Nigel Beaton. BHS beat Thurston 44-6.

VBT DDA OKs razing, rebuilding Harris house on Belleville Rd.

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority approved Option A for the Belleville Road Placemaking Project – which includes tearing down the 57-year-old house and part of a garage at 10151 Belleville Road and rebuilding it in a slightly different way.

After a description of problems with the old Harris house, the DDA unanimously approved the tear-down-and-rebuild option at its regular meeting Sept. 27.

William M. Wiemer of Wakely Associates of Warren said it will add about \$158,000 to the cost, which had been estimated at \$2.5 million.

Previously a bond for the project had been mentioned, but now DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland said, "We're not going to bond this project at all." She said the DDA is supposed to spend the money it has for approved projects and there is a sufficient amount in the bank for this project.

Ireland said they will obtain township staff review and take plans to the planning commission by the end of the year. Some of the groundwork will be done this year, but the main construction will begin in the spring.

The DDA authorized Axiom Construction Services and Wakely Associates to begin

the construction documents for Option A, then a bidding process will help determine the Guaranteed Maximum Price.

The DDA also authorized Ireland to execute an AIA agreement between the owner and construction manager as constructor where the basis of payment is the cost of the work plus a fee with a guaranteed maximum price.

At a previous meeting, the DDA was told the former house would end up looking like a lodge that would beckon those walking along Belleville Road to stop and sit in the quiet gardens and participate in activities in the meeting rooms and workshops.

The original concept was to preserve the main homestead of the family of early African American settlers in Van Buren Township, but after a study by Wade Trim engineers, there were a few ordinance problems:

- The south side of the main building is encroaching on the side yard setback requirement by at least five feet. Ten feet is the current requirement;
- The required separation between the main building and garage is under the 15' requirement (approximately nine feet existing); and
- The existing building's finish floor was lower (approximately 4"-8") than the surrounding site and although it is workable

(continued on page 22)

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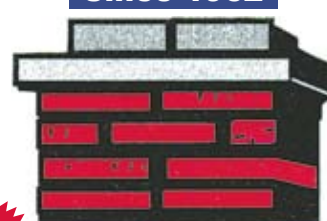
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VB millage committee presents town hall to convince voters

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

An hour-long, town hall gathering to encourage voters to approve the 6.5-millage for Van Buren Township Public Safety was held Sept. 29 at Fire Hall #2 on Belleville Road.

The format was to present promotions of different activities of the police and fire departments, showing how important the work is. The second half of the meeting had VBT Supervisor Linda Combs reading selected questions written on cards by members of the audience.

The whole meeting was being recorded by at least three video cameras and one still camera for use in the commercials to be run on the website supporting the millage and, perhaps, on YouTube.

Camera tripods and cameramen took up the front row of a section of the audience and audience members had to move to get a better view.

One question: "Why does VBT not seem to enforce ordinance violations?" was answered by Public Safety Director Greg Laurain.

He said two years ago they reorganized and the police department took over the ordinance department. He said right now they have 1.5 ordinance officers who try to get people to follow the ordinances. He said one ordinance officer is out on medical, so they only have one person on duty. He said Police Chief Jason Wright oversees the ordinance work and they are looking at 2017 for more in the budget for ordinance.

Another question: "Do all police officers have body cams?"

Director Laurain said, "No. It's a new tool for police, from the last three to four years... We've been researching this for the last three years."

He said each patrol car has video recorders and, "We embrace the body camera ... but there are so many manufacturers." Also, the technology is changing. He said his department is networking with Canton and Livonia, who don't have body cams.

Director Laurain said there are redacting issues and whether to leave them on all the time. Also, the storage of data is very expensive. "That's the biggest thing," he said.

He said in Grand Rapids they had to pay \$900,000 alone for storage.

Another question: "If the millage doesn't pass, will response time go up?"

"It will affect everything across the board in public safety," Laurain said. "... That's why it's so important to maintain."

Earlier in the meeting, Laurain said the national average for response time is 11 minutes and VBT response for both emergency and non-emergency is 7.46

minutes.

Laurain said the VBT Public Safety Department has 40 sworn police officers, 42 fire fighters, 10 dispatchers, and 2 ordinance officers.

Last year, when the 6.5-mill proposal failed, there were immediate threats to cut jobs in public safety. But, that blew over after a big hubbub.

Clerk Leon Wright said the public safety budget now is at \$8 million with a dedicated millage of just 4 mills.

The 6.5 mills proposed will bring about \$6.4 million when it is first levied in winter 2017, so the township board still will have to add more funds for the department budget, he said.

Clerk Wright said the township operates on just .9 mills plus landfill tipping fees.

"There are obligations coming that the township is going to be responsible for," Clerk Wright said, referring to the Visteon bond shortfall in 2019.

"A decision was made in 2003 to move the township forward," Wright said of the township board vote to pledge the full faith and credit of Van Buren Township to pay bonds to help construct Visteon Village.

"The LDFA [Local Development Finance Authority] is not collecting enough to pay for the bonds," Wright said, noting the last 12 years of the bond have balloon payments.

While the township expected growth to provide taxes to pay for the bonds, in 2007-8 the bottom fell out of the economy, he said. An appeal to the Tax Tribunal resulted in less money in taxes.

"Yes, the 6.5 mills will be dedicated to public safety, but they will still need some help," said VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd. "They will get money from the landfill for extra things. They may not get a whole lot more, but the millage will be dedicated to them."

Another question: "Can the township guarantee public safety will continue on the same level for the next 5-10 years if the millage fails?"

Police Chief Wright said, "If the money is not there, I don't know how I would pay for this ... service. If the board doesn't give me the same amount of money? I work with what I have."

"If it doesn't pass, what is going to happen?" asked VBT Police Officer Adam Byrd, who is running the website promoting the millage and putting together newspaper ads.

"The new board will make the decision," he said, noting the more than \$4 million public safety uses above its dedicated four mills is depleting the general fund.

"Our community cannot survive continually depleting the general fund," Officer Byrd said.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Last Thursday a town hall session was held at the Van Buren Township Fire Hall #2 on Belleville Road to explain the need for a 6.5-mill public safety tax. People listened to township officials and public safety officers and wrote questions on cards to be read and answered. The millage request is on the Nov. 8 ballot.

At a recent township board meeting, Officer Byrd said if the township gets an emergency manager, he wouldn't be able to touch a dedicated millage, but could otherwise make cuts to public safety.

Another question: "Are there still going to be blended rates?"

Police Sgt. Marc Abdilla, a blended rate officer and also president of the fire fighters union, said, "This is being phased out." He said once there were 10-11 blended rate officers, but now there are 5 police officers and one ordinance officer under blended rates.

"We're not going to hire any more," he said. "I was able to work 144 hours a month in the fire department on top of working in the police department. This

creates a problem for the budget. Recently we have negotiated and cut our hours to 60 hours a month from 144. We understand the problem on the budget."

Medina Atchinson asked what the benefits to the township were for Sgt. Abdilla to be a blended rate officer and Abdilla said he is a professional who can do two jobs and use those skill sets wherever he is. And, only one person is being paid health and retirement benefits.

"If there are two people on a truck and I'm there [as a police officer], I would be able to work the truck and the two fire fighters can go in and fight the fire," he said, referring to fire fighting rules. "Every second counts because a fire doubles in size every minute."

Swift Transportation, Sumpter Police team up to distribute food

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Sept. 27, Channel 4 Television News broadcast the story of Swift Transportation of Huron Township and Sumpter Township Police, who have been working over the summer to put food on the tables of those in need.

It all started earlier this summer when Denise Adkins, Swift Community Services Director, contacted Sumpter Police to ask if it could enter into a partnership with Swift and Swift Charities to help distribute packaged food and other items that end up in damaged cases that cannot be delivered.

Otherwise, the good items in damaged cases would have to be trashed.

Sumpter Police agreed and throughout the summer, a Swift semi truck would drive into the police parking area and crushed and torn boxes of perfectly good food was unloaded.

Sumpter Officer Beth Egerer showed the television crew how she picked through the damaged boxes to pull out items, which she then would put into packages, bags, and boxes to help put food on the tables of the community.

"There are no ulterior motives," Officer Egerer said. (continued on page 13)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Booville too much for you? DIA calls

On Saturday, Oct. 15, Belleville is having a number of Booville events, but maybe the free trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts that day will lure you.

The DIA is providing a free bus trip on Oct. 15 from the Belleville Area Museum to the DIA and back again as part of its "County Day." The "Matisse Bus" will depart the Belleville museum at 9:30 a.m. and will leave the DIA at 2 p.m. for the ride back to Belleville.

At the DIA, visitors can browse the collection and see the recently installed sculpture "Thalassa" by famed New York street artist Caledonia "Callie" Curry in the DIA's Woodward Avenue lobby.

Visitors can take docent-led tours and take part in an art-making workshop. There are several places to eat the museum and you'll pay for your lunch. Also, the museum shop carries items which cannot be found elsewhere.

Roundtrip transportation and admission are free, but you have to make a reservation. Call (313) 833-4005 or go to tickets.dia.org

Other buses will be bringing visitors from River Rouge, Wyandotte, Detroit, Livonia, and Hamtramck.

If you are more into cute dogs in Halloween costumes on leashes competing for prizes, the Monster Mutt Walk begins at 1 p.m. on Fourth Street. Also, the Zombie Run is at 10 a.m. on Oct. 15, beginning at Horizon Park, the Otisville Cemetery Tour is at 3 p.m., and a dance at St. Anthony's lasts until midnight. Lots to do. Take your pick.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

On Sept. 15, Sumpter Township Police warned residents to make sure their homes, outbuildings, and especially vehicles were locked because there had been recent thefts inside vehicles and theft of a vehicle itself.

At 8 a.m. the next day, they posted a surveillance video photo on the police Facebook page of a criminal with his hair in a man bun and by 2 p.m. that same day he was identified.

Detective John Toth said it was amazing how fast the Facebook posting worked. He said the suspect has not been picked up, but they know who he is and he is believed to have fled the area.

Among the plans I found interesting in the new VBT Parks and Recreation Master Plan was, among the many proposals: in 2017, rebuilding of a performance venue at Van Buren Park, such as a gazebo, stage, or similar structure, \$125,000; in 2018 development of future parks at 15000 Haggerty and 15080 Elwell roads, with money from the MDNR; in 2019, Wi-Fi in Van Buren Park and Riggs Park (high speed), \$15,000 from general fund and CDBG; in 2020, acquiring land for an off-leash Dog Park, \$200,000 (from general fund, user fees, community foundation, private).

There are lots of other plans – and they may or may not be completed. You can get a look at the Master Plan at the township hall. It is due to be approved by the township board in an upcoming meeting.

Two people are asking for permission for new drive-through restaurants in Van Buren Township. The public hearings on

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those requests will be at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at a regular meeting of the VBT Planning Commission.

The request by Michael Berry is for 11175 Haggerty Road where he wants to change the restaurant that is at the BP station to a drive-thru Tim Horton's.

The second request from Jason Kishmish for 10573 Belleville Road is for the property that now has a house next to Belle Tire. We're told he has not obtained a tenant for that site yet.

A caller told me that a car lost control and tore out a few new trees in the landscaping and drove between two gas pumps at the new Citgo station that recently opened at the corner of Sumpter and Hull roads. Brand-new station!

Charles Tackett called to say he'd been looking at the picture on our front page of the bricks that recently fell off the wall at Providence at Harbour Club (better known as Harbour Club Apartments). He has long experience as a builder and he said the blank wall shows perfectly that not one "bow tie" was on that wall to hold the bricks in place, the way they are supposed to be.

He said those bricks could have crushed someone when they came down.

At Monday's city council meeting, it was noted that the new street sign for the corner of High and Main streets has been

delivered and a city crew will be putting it up. Councilwoman Kim Tindall said they'll have to let Don Bluhm know, since he is the one who had pointed out it was gone. I think it's been gone for years.

I told the council that Don Bluhm just turned 93 and, actually, spent his birthday in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital where he had been confined for about two weeks.

He had injured his legs when the electric chair he rides around town dumped over on a city curb. Then there was fluid build up in his legs that spread to his heart and other organs. But, he's still with us. I was able to talk to him at last Sunday's Bugles Across America event at the Veteran's Memorial.

We received a call on Tuesday morning from a lady who lives in Belle Villa mobile home park. She said the loud drilling by Wolverine Pipeline was driving her crazy. She said her neighbor, who suffers from myasthenia gravis is very disturbed by all the noise and shaking and she has stuff falling off her walls. My caller said they just got two weeks' notice that the pipeline was coming through. She said on Monday they drilled from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and on Tuesday they started early. She just wanted someone to talk to, she said.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA
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Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
Home phone (no ads, please!): 697-8290

Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

Sports Editor: Bob Mytych

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager: James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard

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Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Belleville Area Independent Holding Company, LLC
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Letters

Thanks to VBT Public Safety officers, HVA

To the Editor,

On Sept. 27 at 2:10 a.m., I received a call from my pregnant daughter. She was having contractions and needed me to take her to the hospital. Her husband was at work and he would meet us at the hospital.

The baby was not due for five more weeks, so I thought this was probably false labor. Before I got out the door, she called and said her water broke. Panic set in as I raced to her house. She had already called 911. My terrified 12-year-old granddaughter met me at the door. I was handed the phone. The 911 operator was very calm, instructed me what to do and assured me someone would soon be there. She stayed on the phone with me until fire rescue personnel arrived.

Ken Floro and Doug Doty took over the situation with ease. Mr. Floro got down on the floor with my daughter, helping her through the contractions. HVA arrived and examined my daughter. Complications were present so they loaded her up in the ambulance. Mr. Doty drove so both paramedics could tend to my daughter.

HVA paramedics Samantha and Eric did an awesome job. They delivered my newest granddaughter at 3:23 a.m. in route to the hospital.

A very scary situation was handled beautifully. It is comforting to know we have a well-trained, professional public service staff here in Van Buren Township.

On behalf of the Mosley family, our heartfelt thank you to all involved in this dramatic delivery!

Grandma Vicki Brady
 Van Buren Township resident

Thanks to Belleville Police Officer Lewis

To the Editor,

We want to express our thanks to Officer Craig Lewis of the Belleville Police Department who showed such caring and kindness to us on Sept. 22 at our time of great sadness due to the death of David Voakes.

Also, our gratitude goes out to all the people who visited with us at the funeral home and shared memories at the memorial service on Sept. 27.

Mom – Barbara Baynton
 Brother – Robert Voakes
 Sister – Becky Sigeti
 Life Partner – Karen Therrien

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Thanks to Belleville Officer Craig Lewis

To the Editor,

I want to say thank you to Belleville Police Officer Craig Lewis who was so nice to a lady when her 50-year-old son died suddenly of a heart attack.

Officer Lewis helped the 80-year-old lady and took her in the front seat of his police car to where she had to go. She was very upset.

He also came back to check on her and comfort her. The woman's son used to come by to check on her three or four times a day and she really misses him.

I just want the police to know that we appreciate very much what they do for us.

Ruth Barnaby
 Belleville

We thought there was no yard sale fee

To the Editor,

This happened at Victory Park at the Belleville yard sales. A lady came around collecting \$15 from these old, crippled, and handicapped people for the spot they had already set up.

The lady said she was from the town's arts council. I thought there was no yard sale fee!

How sad the arts council is in a spot that they have to collect money from us poor people after we already set up. I was there three hours before I made \$15.

Donations we don't mind, like it used to be to different organizations. But thank you to the park's keepers for allowing us to use the park. We do clean up after.

My name doesn't need to be mentioned.

P.S. This happened last year, also. I just thought someone would have helped before this year.

Wishing the Garascias a happy 50th anniv.

To the Editor,

Wishing Judy and Rick Garascia a Happy 50th anniversary.

We were married Sept. 3, 1972.

Donald has passed, but the happy memories remain.

Sincerely,
 Vera Z. Howell of Southfield
 Former resident of Belleville
 (Victoria Commons)

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Oct. 10 – Teri Hagen-Cranson
Oct. 11 – Crystal Broome
Oct. 12 – Korena Johnson, Angela Jones, Pierre Rice II
Oct. 13 – Sherry Olds, Allison White
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Obituaries



Robert E. Ensign

ROBERT E. ENSIGN

(April 19, 1926 - September 30, 2016)

Robert E. Ensign, age 90, of Belleville. Robert is the beloved husband of the late Mildred (d.2006); cherished father of Roberta (Paul) Loveall of Nampa, Idaho; dear grandfather of Lesa (Scott) Lindstrom of Moscow, Idaho and Lora Loveall of Boise, Idaho. Mr. Ensign is also survived by his great grandson, Connor Lindstrom.

Born on April 19, 1926 in Canton, Robert proudly served his country in the Navy during World War II. He enjoyed collecting and selling firearms, was known for being a very meticulous person when it came to his cars, and was also a collector of antiques.

In keeping with Mr. Ensign's wishes, a simple cremation has been arranged. Inurnment will follow at Arborcrest cemetery, Ann Arbor.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be directed to the American Heart or Lung Associations.



Mary Louise Brooks
(Martinsen)

MARY LOUISE BROOKS (MARTINSEN)

(December 27, 1932 - September 17, 2016)

Age 83, a longtime Belleville resident.

Mary is the beloved wife of the late Everett (d.1976); loving mother of Patty (Bob) Hall of Bronston, KY, John (Andy Talman) Brooks of Buffalo Grove, IL, Ed (Deanna) Brooks of Aurora, CO, Scott (Felicia) Brooks of Belleville, MI, and Brenda (Jack) Zanger of Monroe, MI. Mary is also survived by sixteen grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren, niece LuAnn (Tommy) Martell of Orlando, FL, nephew Bruce (Derenda) Himschoot of Sanford, FL, her great-nieces and nephews, and many extended family and friends.

Sadly, she is preceded in death by her twin sister, Edna Naumann (d. 2007) with whom she had a very special bond.

Born on December 27, 1932 to John and Edna Miller in Detroit, Mary was a lifelong Michigander until moving to Orlando, FL for twenty-two years. She was a member of the Moose, enjoyed playing bingo, dancing, travel and gambling, especially the slot machines.

In keeping with Mrs. Brooks wishes, cremation rites have been arranged by the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

A graveside service will be held at 11:00 AM, Saturday, October 15, 2016 at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. A reception will follow at the V.F.W Hall located at 44170 Bemis Rd., Belleville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the Parkinson's Foundation.



Antoinette Victoria Soja

ANTOINETTE VICTORIA SOJA

(December 26, 1923 - October 3, 2016)

Antoinette "Toni" Victoria Soja, age 92, of New Boston, MI, passed away Monday, October 3, 2016 at Sinai-Grace Hospital, Detroit, MI. She was born December 26, 1923 in Belleville, MI, daughter of Ignacz & Rose Barbara (Magdolski) Domski.

Mrs. Soja attended St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, and St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston. She was born on her family's farm and continued to enjoy farming with her husband, Bernard John Soja, whom she married November 4, 1944. She also enjoyed playing cards, especially Pinnacle and Euchre. She also loved Bingo and taking care of her family.

Toni is survived by three sons, Fred Soja of New Boston, twins Don Soja of New Boston and Ronald (Henryka) Soja of Belleville; two grandsons Gregory Michael and Jacob Matthew Soja, both of Belleville; also numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Bernard on January 12, 2013; six sisters Stella, Clara, Mary Bernice, Eugenia, Francis and Helen; also two brothers Theodor and Leo Domski.

Visitation will be 3-8 PM Thursday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500 with a 7:30 PM Scripture service. A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 AM Friday, October 7, 2016 at St. Stephen Catholic Church, 18858 Huron River Dr., New Boston, MI 48164 with visitation 10-11 AM at Church. Interment will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

Rep. LaVoy introduces legislation providing relief for seniors

State Representative Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe) has introduced a bill to help counteract the latest round of vehicle registration fee increases for Michigan's senior citizens. Rep. LaVoy's district includes Sumpter Township.

The bipartisan legislation, House Bill 5939, would exempt those aged 65 or older from having to pay the increased fees as a result of the controversial road funding package that was passed last winter.

"I don't think it is fair that our taxpaying seniors, many of whom are on fixed incomes, will need to figure out how they are going to find the additional income to register their vehicles," LaVoy said.

"If the current leadership in this state truly cared about senior citizens, they would take this issue up before the fee increase takes effect next year."

Rep. LaVoy's bill has been referred to the House Committee on Appropriations where it is awaiting a hearing.

"I encourage those who support this bill to contact their legislators in the House and Senate to voice their support. Senior citizens have paid taxes their whole lives and we should be able to provide them a little extra relief on this," LaVoy said. "Your voice could make the difference."

More Letters

Lots of help getting my life back together

To the Editor:

The heat was on for the old superintendent. Many teachers and administrators contacted me to come tell my story at a school board meeting. I simply could not handle that because of my sickness. I promised to write it down and send it to the *Belleville Independent*. You published my letter in the February 18, 2016 issue. My sickness would not allow me to stick up for myself which also damaged my self-esteem. By publishing my letter, you gave me a forum to be able to stand up for myself against the old superintendent and his accomplices. Thank you.

After you printed my letter, I was contacted by many others who were damaged by this man and had some of the same symptoms I went through. So many people contacted me by email, Facebook, and phone. I even had one of my old teachers from Belleville High School that found my number somehow and called me from Florida. I still have people in the community come up to me to give me support and encouragement towards my future. I lived here all my life, since I was three years old. It was my dream to teach at Belleville High School. The numerous positive responses that I received reminded me what an awesome community Belleville is. This is just a great town!

I would like to share that on March 8, 2016, I woke up with a clear mind and felt great. The day after of my mother's, Shirley Mays, eighth year of passing. For some reason God decided to heal me! From October 10, 2010 to March 7, 2016 I had lived in what two pastors and two therapists called "Hell." I awoke every single day to a full-blown anxiety attack that lasted all day until my sleeping pill would help me get to sleep. I would have one to five panic attacks a week. Once I had a panic attack, that would last for the rest of the day. But today as I write you, I have been enjoying life again with a much more appreciation than I ever had before. Things are more beautiful to me, people are more amazing to me, and I feel every day I wake up and see my dog Bella is a blessing to me.

Since I woke up that March 8th, I have done so many things I never could have done while I was sick. In May, I started to go to Planet Fitness with thanks to a Planet Fitness worker I only know as Tiffany. In June, I went to Belleville High School to stand up against unjustified and falsified papers in my employee file signed by my old principal and superintendent plus his accomplices. First time to BHS since I got sick. In July, I went to a Detroit Tigers game for the first time in six years. On Aug. 2, I voted at the polling station for the first time in seven years. Thanks to my uncle, Russ Canell, and my good friends, George Buhro and Scott Wilsey, I have golfed several times this summer after avoiding this for six years. I now enjoy going to different restaurants to try their food. I have yet to try Egan's Pub, which opened while I was sick. I have heard so many good things about the food and atmosphere of this place, I can't wait to try a sandwich! I have

yet to try the Lunchbox, Hidalgo's, Kabob's Garden Mediterranean Restaurant, and JT's Pub and Grub. I might be missing a few, but what an awesome town to have so many different options!

I would like to state the Van Buren Public Schools were lucky to have Shirley Mays work for the district for 28 years! She was given an awesome ceremony and a certificate thanking her for her dedication and work in the district. Those that know her, will tell you what an amazing woman she was. The district was also lucky to have myself working for the district for 15 years as a sub, teacher, coach of baseball and football. I did so many favors for the district as a sub with unfulfilled promises. I did many favors for the district without receiving appreciation, but was supported by several administrators that gave me such kind words and recognition of things I did. I did a lot of favors for the athletic department that was recognized only by the most incredible person you could know, Diane Kiessel. She did so much for you as a coach, that if she asked you for a favor, you owed it to her. The ending of my career here at Van Buren Public Schools ended so ugly, that in my employee file it has me resigning and being fired. I know for a fact that I did not sign any paper or say I resigned and I was never informed that I was fired. I mean, which was it? I was never offered an exit interview by the old superintendent or director of human resources. So although I didn't receive the golden apple teachers received for retiring in a district which I always wanted or any type of thank you from the old administration, I still say to them "You're welcome." This district has had 48 years of service from the Mays family.

Several people asked me why did I continue working for the district after receiving such horrible treatment from this monster. This is an easy question to answer and would like you to know, too. First, teachers build steps on their pay scale each year they work. I had worked long enough to making a little over \$80,000 a year for teaching and coaching. If you leave the district, my district will drop your steps to a drastic drop in pay and sometimes to the bottom of the scale again. That's a hard thing to leave. Second, as I stated above, I grew up

in this community since I was three years old. I attended Van Buren Public Schools from kindergarten to graduation. In the seventh grade, at South Junior High, a teacher named Jeff Archer made a huge impact on my life. It was the day he stood on top of a table, took off his shoe and pronounced, "Until you walk the steps of another's shoes, you really don't understand." This really opened up my idea of how great history is. At that moment, I knew I wanted to teach history at Belleville High School and coach baseball and football. So as I looked at it, I worked hard to fulfill my dream jobs. This was my community, not his. The students and players that I've had at BHS throughout my career has been such a blessing, how could I leave this place?

I was so glad to see that the old superintendent was exposed for the man he truly is and this awesome community fought for what is right. Although I can't understand the few that followed him and believed in him after the numerous amount of lives he destroyed on his campaign. They mention that he really wanted what is best for kids. This may have been true. But what many of us, whose lives he destroyed and those that worked for him knew his prime motivation. Power. He was exactly the same as a colleague. As many in the community, I was outraged that somehow this monster was given such a great severance package! I'm trying to remember, was it \$340,000 of the district money and benefits paid by the district until 2017? I really have to question this decision. Did they have the district's and kids' best interest in mind? Especially after the disaster he and his accomplices created with those awesome teachers at Savage. God bless those teachers!

I wanted to add a couple personal thoughts about my career. I remember people saying we needed to go outside the district for a superintendent. They were sick of the good old boy system. Well, personally, Louise Williamson and Larry Tabor never made me feel like just an employee. They made me feel like a part of a team for the primary purpose, what is best for our students. The same goes for two head principals that made you part of their team, Bruce Green and Kevin Kelly. Kevin Kelly was my favorite of all

administration. Kevin would do small things like say thank you for your hard work and wish you a good holiday. Do you realize how small things like that makes an employee want to work harder at their job! After them, there was never praise or appreciation. It was a long string of people telling what you were doing wrong. Never any appreciation or thanks. Maybe my colleagues felt different, I don't know.

The best for last. In July, I met with new Superintendent Pete Kudlak over the matter of those ugly falsified papers in my employee file. The person I met that day was truly an incredible person. I did not get what I wanted, but what Mr. Kudlak offered was awesome. He allowed me to put the truth in my employee file. But most important, Mr. Kudlak offered the ear from someone who cared in the top position in the district. He gave me an opportunity to stand up for myself, something I couldn't do before. He gave me respect that I haven't felt by VBPS in many years. In one hour, I walked out of the administration building finally feeling I can put this whole mess behind me and move on to the next chapter of life. All because of our new Superintendent, Pete Kudlak. Ms. Oztman, I don't believe I can work as of right now. But, God willing, I plan on searching for a teaching job next school year. I really have full confidence that Pete Kudlak is what this district and community needs to heal. I feel that the teachers in the district will finally, after many years, get the appreciation of your hard work and love for your students. I'm actually jealous that my career can't pick up in this district because I have faith in this man. Ms. Oztman, Mr. Kudlak sent an email to me saying something that I never received from VBPS when I left. He wrote, "As you move forward to do good things, know that you are a valued former employee." Thank you, Mr. Kudlak! You don't know how much that one sentence means. Finally, thank you Ms. Oztman for the opportunity to stand up for myself when I couldn't do it publicly. It helped in my healing.

God bless this community I have cherished my entire life,
Ronald J. Mays
Sumpter Township

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More Letters

'Teens Using Drugs' programs to start

To the Editor:

Young people who are harmfully involved with alcohol/other drugs need help, and the helpers need the right knowledge and tools. The "Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do" series provides helpful, hopeful, practical information for families of substance-involved teens.

"Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do" is a free, ongoing, two-part education series. Part One provides information on understanding substance abuse problems and recognizing when a young person may be harmfully involved with alcohol / other drugs.

Part Two provides information on what does and does not help when a teen substance abuse problem is suspected or identified, and will include a talk by a young person in recovery from addiction.

The November 2016 series will be presented from 7:30 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 1 (part one, What to Know) and Tuesday Nov. 8 (part two, What to Do).

Programs are presented at the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti; in the Exhibition Room on the first floor. The series is free and open to the public. It is targeted primarily to parents/caretakers of teens but is inclusive of anyone who would like to attend for any reason. Parents, other family members, teens, students and people who work with teens are all welcome, and families are encouraged to attend together if they would like to. Free literature about alcohol/other drugs and teens is also provided.

The "Teens Using Drugs: What to Know and What to Do" series is sponsored by Dawn Farm, and co-sponsored by the Ann Arbor Public Schools, the Livingston and Washtenaw Regional Coordinated School Health Program Advisory Team, and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Greenbrook Recovery Center. The programs are presented by Dawn Farm Youth and Family Services therapists.

For further information please phone (734) 485-8725, e-mail info@dawnfarm.org

or see <http://dawnfarm.org/programs/teens-using-drugs/>.

Sincerely,

Ray Dalton, MA, CAADC; Coordinator for Dawn Farm Outpatient, Community Corrections, and Youth and Family Services and Teens Using Drugs program coordinator

Make your voice heard; Vote on Nov. 8

To the Editor,

After watching the "debates(?)" and listening to the rhetoric and bombastic sarcasms being foisted upon an "intelligent" electorate, the following scenario came to mind.

It was presidential election time, October 1970, and I was living in Cupertino, CA. There was a sitting Superior Court judge running for re-election who had been on the bench for over 20 years. I thought highly of this judge, as I had served on two juries in his courtroom and observed numerous trials while I was attending Police School at San Jose State College.

It seems this judge had a very small cabin (shack) on Mt. Hamilton Observatory Road that he no longer wanted and couldn't sell. So he hired a man to burn it down and collect \$900 fire insurance. The insurance company investigator uncovered the plot, the man was convicted of arson, and the judge was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to 15 years. It was too late to remove the judge's name from the ballot for that November. The ballot read: Xxxx Xxxxx Superior Court Incumbent. The rest of the story:

The voters, who have since voted into office: Leon Panetta, Nancy Pelosi, and Diane Feinstein, also elected this judge to the Superior Court bench for another term while he was in jail! He was not released, he served the rest of his time (was eventually paroled) never to serve again. He has since passed away though his legacy lives on.

Ah, the informed public! But, be as it may, it is everyone's right and privilege to vote the candidate of their choice. Make it count! Just watch out for the "crook" who should be in jail! She or he, YOUR choice!

VOTE! Nov. 8.

Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville

We can avoid a repetition of history

To the Editor:

Not so long ago, in a land not so very far away, my father and others of his generation found themselves risking their lives and futures to confront tyranny. They rose to face the threats of Nazism to preserve Liberty for America and her Allies. At the time, they had no choice. They had to defeat the Axis powers or be overtaken by them.

My father survived World War II and he and my mother went on to raise a family of five children. They hoped we would learn the lessons of that war so that we might avoid a scenario of "history repeating itself."

So, now, here we are, teetering all too close to just that scenario. The lessons and warnings seem to be forgotten or ignored. I think it is time for a review.

When the basic needs of a population are not met, when some are suffering and some are living in luxury, a "correction" of some sort will occur. It may take the form of violent revolution, it may provide opportunities for humane leadership to move the people closer to equitable sharing of resources, or these conditions may set the stage for dictatorship.

First, believe that it can happen. We cannot afford to be lulled into complacency by a misguided belief that, "That could never happen here; this is America." Our history informs us that the blessings of Liberty require vigilance, work, and sacrifice. The Founders did not endow us with a protective bubble that will keep us free; WE have to keep us free.

Language counts. We teach our children it is wrong to call each other names, not just because that behavior is impolite, but because it obscures the argument. Name-calling takes us farther from understanding each other, farther from peaceful resolution of our disagreements. Name-calling is a thin wedge that is too easily inserted into our discourse, with the intent of dehumanizing others. When it becomes acceptable to verbally abuse others, then only the slightest push is required to condone physical abuse, which serves to widen perceived differences between

people. Once members of a group are seen as "less-than-human" then they become fair game for inhumane treatment.

A charismatic leader can sway masses of people by appealing to the basest elements of their nature. It is so comforting to be told that someone else is to blame for one's hardships; then we can feel justified in resenting them, which leads, very naturally, to attacking them.

We can avoid a cataclysmic repetition of history. We must pay attention. We must strive to live according to high ideals. We must not allow ourselves to be seduced into following a leader who encourages us to hate and mistrust others.

It is my fervent hope that the sacrifices of my parents, and all who work to enhance understanding and peace, will not be squandered. I believe we can move toward greater enlightenment. We do not need to descend into another dark age of ignorance.

June A. Youngoldis
Van Buren Township

Jaali Roberson enrolls at Heidelberg University

TIFFIN, OH -- Jaali Roberson of Belleville has enrolled at Heidelberg University for the fall semester. The 2016-17 academic year began Aug. 24.

Roberson, who plans to major in Integrated Media, is among one of the largest groups of incoming students in Heidelberg's history. As a class, the new and transfer students, numbering 411, arrived with one of the highest recorded average GPA and ACT cohort scores, said Doug Kellar, vice president for enrollment management.

According to Kellar, the class brings a diverse set of experiences and backgrounds to the campus. Nineteen percent are from out of state, 21% are minority students and 46% are first-generation college students.

Academically, 18% are Heidelberg Scholars and 14% are enrolled in the Honors Program.

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— Thomas Jefferson



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More Letters

It's time to Make America Great Again!

To Whom It May Concern: Which is probably 75% of you.

I am what you would describe as a Political Junkie which should tell you I pretty much know what I say. My TV is on the Fox News Network (40) from the time I get up until 11 at night because that's when Sean Hannity goes off.

I was watching Donald Trump in Detroit at a black church earlier today and afterwards I got so torqued up by all the talk of the people and the media. I had to go to bed and as I lay there I thought about what I as a frightened citizen could do, not for myself. I may not be here long and I have no family except for a cousin who one time said she doesn't vote, but she is a Democrat. Her daddy was one.

That's the kind of ignorant stuff that goes on in the country, such as, "Great, it's time we had a black president." Well look around and see what that great man has done for you. And now there is the white Obama female that is probably going to win because of you dumb feminists and ... men who sit in the audience and clap and smile.

Come on, people, get your head out of the sand. If she is elected within a year there will no longer be a United States of America. There will be grocery stores, churches, maybe your own home blown up, shot up. She doesn't care. She has had probably 25 years of government protection, free rides probably with bullet-proof glass. She is a phony, greedy criminal who stays hidden.

Donald Trump has been a great businessman and has senators and governors such as Newt, Christie, Huckleberry, Ben Carson, Ryan, Gulianni that's going to be there for him, if he needs some help, but he is already very political savvy.

Like he says, "What do you have to lose?" Well, I'll tell you what we have to lose if she wins. Your life as you know it before it was sold, given away, traded. Come on, people, and ... as my dad used to say, "Wake up and fly right."

Think about it. She has nothing to offer except a life full of suspense -- wondering does this look like a safe place to enter, to do your shopping, to take your kids to a movie, let them go to a concert, a sports stadium, even to school. Your life as you know it will be like living in a Third World country.

Thank you and may God bless America!
Nancy Fox, Wessling, Erhart
Belleville

Vote for Keith Johnston for VB School Board

To the Editor:

The word "hostile" has been used to describe the recent Van Buren School Board meetings, but that term sounds a bit

violent; so far, there's been no violence, and I think a better word might have been "controversial," perhaps even "polarized." Seems the School pigeons are coming home to roost.

I support the Van Buren teachers and staff, especially those who got fired / suspended by Van Tassel for teaching their pupils well, raising their test scores. *Savage Strong*.

Until the current board is updated to include those who would properly oversee, things will remain the same or get worse. It is election time, and there are some challengers for the board seats. I hope the electorate chooses wisely.

I stand in support of Keith Johnston. He's been on the board before. He has the experience. And I support Sherry Frazier. I think Keith would be a good addition to assist her in board cleaning. And there I stand.

Further, I would not have given Van Tassel a dime in severance pay. Little Hitler has really made a mess of the VBPS system driving away many good educators and support personnel, some of whom have gone on to win awards for excellence serving in other districts and at least one who is training educators on a national level. His tenure was a miserable failure and has cost the district millions in both his undeserved severance package and the amount of state aid lost because of the literally hundreds of students who have fled the district. The damage he did while the present board sat on their hands, even backing and endorsing his actions, (Sherry Frazier excluded) will take years to undo. Let's begin with this election.

The new board should take steps to rectify these things and more. I think Keith is up to the task. I support him. *With Savage Strength*.

Sincerely,

James Chapman

Non-partisan candidate for VB Trustee

Save the Riggs Heritage House

Hands off Lake Property

Vote No on all Millages

Savage Strong

Better access to fruits, vegetables needed

To the Editor,

At a time when almost everything, including clothes, tablets, and diapers, can be ordered online at the push of a button and delivered within 24 hours or less, it is hard to believe there are millions of people in Michigan who do not have access to nutritious, healthy fruits and vegetables. But sadly it is true.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1.8 million people in Michigan, including over 300,000 children, live in communities with inadequate access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Scarce access to fresh, healthy food isn't an inner-city problem or a rural issue -- it's both. From the wooded western Upper Peninsula to the streets of Detroit and Southeast Michigan, far too many Michiganders lives more than a mile from

a grocery store, corner store, or farmers' market that is stocked with fruits and vegetables.

This glaring need could be met if the legislature passes House Bill 5180, sponsored by State Representative Dave Pagel.

This legislation would allow communities to invest in improved health, job creation, and economic development by expanding farmers' markets, grocery stores, and corner stores so they can offer fresh fruits and vegetables to underserved areas of the state.

When fresh fruits and vegetables are readily available, children and adults develop better eating habits and better overall health, including a decreased risk of obesity. Every child deserves access to fresh fruits and vegetables so they can grow up healthy and strong.

Sue Wade

Van Buren Township

Volunteers needed to help save lives

To the Editor:

As if battling cancer isn't hard enough, sometimes cancer patients find themselves with the added burden of trying to line up transportation to and from treatment sessions because they are too ill to drive themselves.

Sadly, too many patients are forced to postpone or even cancel their life-saving treatments simply because they are unable to get to their weekly, and sometimes even daily, treatment sessions.

Thankfully, the American Cancer Society offers the Road to Recovery program, which pairs volunteer drivers with cancer patients to get them to and from treatments. This program is free for all cancer patients.

The program is important to me because I am an eight-year cancer survivor and I know what it's like to be driven to medical appointments, finding rides, relying on family and friends when they work and can't get off. It's a financial hardship.

What I would have given to have had a volunteer in my area. Please, consider this an opportunity to help someone in your area. A way to give back not only

to the community, but to the cancer patients who truly need the help and don't know how to ask -- your neighbor, your co-worker, your son or daughters parent/teacher from school.

Road To Recovery transports more than 2,300 patients each year in Southeast Michigan, but is in desperate need of more drivers because it is unable to fulfill the high demand. Specifically, there is a very high need for transportation to and from treatment in the City of Detroit and Ann Arbor.

All it takes to volunteer for this program is a few hours a week, a willingness to help others, reliable transportation and proof that the driver is licensed and insured. Volunteers can commit to as many or as few hours as their schedule allows.

I urge anyone reading this letter to consider volunteering for this program, so that no local cancer patients have to miss their treatment simply because they can't get a ride. For more information or to volunteer, please call the American Cancer Society office at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org/drive.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Nagy

jmnagy@sbcglobal.net

Belleville, 48111 MI

73 VBT residents respond to May survey

At the Sept. 20 regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees Supervisor Linda Combs gave an overview of the May survey that brought 73 respondents to give their opinions out of the almost 30,000 township residents.

She said 67% were satisfied with VBT. She said copies of the survey are available in her office and the results will be published on the VBT website at www.vanburen-mi.org.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Saturday, Oct. 8** – Harvest Fest starts at 11 a.m. on Fourth Street with events at the museum and library, including a petting farm and pony rides. Music by Joyous Noise, a Nickel Dig at 2 p.m. in front yard of the museum, and Harvest Market 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Fourth Street Square.
- **Saturday, Oct. 8** – Roast Beef Dinner, 5-7 p.m. at Community United Methodist Church, 11160 Olive St., Romulus. Donations: \$10 for adults; \$4 for children, 6-12; and children 5 and under, free. For carry-outs call (734) 941-0736 after 5 p.m.
- **Sunday, Oct. 9** – 18 Strings performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.
- **Wednesday, Oct. 12** – Widows on

Wednesdays (WOW Group) meets at 10 a.m. at the Brown Family Center, 678 E. Huron River Drive. Free. (734) 697-5090

• **Wednesday, Oct. 12** – The Belleville Area District Library is holding a public forum at 7 p.m. in the Sumpter Township Hall board room to explain its ballot proposal in the Nov. 8 General Election and especially the plans for a Sumpter media center.

• **Wednesday, Oct. 12** – Chicken Supper from 5 p.m. until sold out at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston 48164, (734) 654-9020. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person, with children 12 and under \$5 each. Menu: fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits and gravy, cole slaw, dessert, coffee, hot tea, milk.

• **Thursday, Oct. 13** – “Sugar Plum Candy Shoppe” is the subject of this month’s Homegrown Knowledge presentation at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Dorene Mroz and Jeff Vernon will tell about popular Halloween treats of the past and the Golden Age of Candy. Free. Refreshments served.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – It’s a free Hazardous Waste Collection Day for Van Buren Township residents only from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at US Ecology East parking lot, 49350 North I-94 Service Drive.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – Bring your dog in costume to the Monster Mutt Walk in downtown Belleville from 1 to 3 p.m., put on by the CBC, with the help of Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue. They’d like to see the people participating in costume, too.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – Second-annual

Craft & Vendor Show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. sponsored by Victorious Life Church of God at 860 E. Clark Road, Ypsilanti 48198. Food, crafts, much more. (734) 482-4293.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – Huron Valley Ambulance 35th-annual Fall Festival, 1-4 p.m., at its main campus, 1200 State Circle, Ann Arbor. Free food and drinks, music, lawn games, photo booth, CPR demonstrations, free blood pressure check, Andy the Ambulance, pets to adopt from Huron Valley Humane Society, collecting non-perishable goods for Food Gatherers, and more.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – St. Anthony Men’s Club Annual Autumn Dance runs from 6:30 p.m. to midnight at the Fr. Folta Building. Cocktails, dinner, dancing, raffle with \$5,000 grand prize. Tickets to event: \$25 per person. Raffle tickets are \$50 each or three for \$100. For dinner or raffle tickets call Pete Pitzen (734) 699-8563.

• **Sunday, Oct. 16** – Southern Express performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Oct. 23** – Southern Echo performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Wednesday, Oct. 26** – The Belleville Area District Library Board invites you to a 7 p.m. public forum at Wayne County Community College District, 9555 Haggerty Road, to get information on the Nov. 8 ballot proposal for a new library.

• **Saturday, Oct. 29** – Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department presents its FREE Candy Loop, inviting children to Quirk Park, behind township hall, from 5 to 7 p.m., where children can walk the path to various candy stops to receive tricks or treats from various local businesses. If it rains, event will be moved inside township hall. Information at: 699-8921.

• **Sunday, Oct. 30** – 3 J’s perform from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Nov. 6** – Waco Band performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Wednesday, Nov. 9** – Chicken Supper from 5 p.m. until sold out at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston 48164, (734) 654-9020. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person, with children 12 and under \$5 each. Menu: fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, biscuits and gravy, cole slaw, dessert, coffee, hot tea, milk.

• **Thursday, Nov. 10** – “A Viking Cruise: Into the Midnight Sun” will be presented at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library as part of its ongoing Homegrown Knowledge series. Travel along with Dee Crowe to Iceland, Norway, and Scotland, along with stories and pictures from a previous trip to Sweden. Free. Refreshments.

Booville in Belleville: October activities at the Belleville Area Museum

• **Saturday, Oct. 8** – 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Harvest Fest on Fourth and Main streets in between the museum and library. Free event for the family, including the annual Nickel Dig, Scavenger Hunt, and new this year, Donut Bobbing.

• **Tuesday, Oct. 11** – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Painting Party Fund Raiser in the old fire hall. Join in for an evening of painting and partying, Booville-style. This fund raiser includes donuts and refreshments provided by Tim Horton’s of Belleville and you will bring home your own pumpkins masterpiece. Reservations required. Find us on Facebook for ticket information or contact museum at (734) 697-1944.

• **Saturday, Oct. 15** – 3-5:30 p.m., \$10 per person/\$8 for members. Cemetery History Tour at Otisville Cemetery in Van Buren Township. Tickets available at museum, Belleville City Hall, Van Buren Township Hall, Sumpter Township Hall, and Belleville Area District Library. Free parking available at 42100 Riggs Road. Tours depart every 20-30 minutes, depending on attendance. Tour is about 30-45 minutes long.

• **Friday and Saturday, Oct. 21 and 22** – 8 p.m. – midnight, \$20 per person/\$15 for museum members. Paranormal Investigation Night at the Museum. Is the museum haunted? Participate in an actual ghost hunt throughout the halls of this building, built in 1875. Includes Benito’s pizza and pop at 10 p.m.

• **Tuesday, Oct. 25** – 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$20 for adults/\$15 for students. Fall Colors Sunset Canoe Trip. Depart from Horizon Park for a quick last trip around the lake. Meet at Horizon Park at 6 p.m. for 6:30 p.m. departure. Dress warm. Costumes encouraged. Contact Ryan Youmans at bamdayonthelake@gmail.com or the museum at (734) 697-1944.

• **Saturday, Oct. 29** – 7-9 p.m., Bonfire and Ghost Stories at the museum. Join us in front of the museum for this family friendly event. Listen to ghost stories and enjoy donuts and hot chocolate from Tim Horton’s in Belleville. FREE.

• **Sunday, Oct. 30** – 3-5 p.m., Children’s Halloween Party featuring access to the jail in the museum basement, pizza, and refreshments. Costumes strongly encouraged. Also, games, pumpkins to decorate, and pinatas filled with candy. (Donations of pie pumpkins needed. Please drop off at museum.)

The museum’s fall hours are Tuesday, 3-7 p.m.; Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Group tours and archival research by appointment. The museum is located at 405 Main Street in downtown Belleville.

“There are basically two types of people. People who accomplish things, and people who claim to have accomplished things. The first group is less crowded.”

– Mark Twain

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SOUTHWESTERN WAYNE DEMOCRATIC CLUB ENDORSEMENTS 2016 GENERAL ELECTION

PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- Hillary Clinton, Democrat

CONGRESSIONAL

- Debbie Dingell, 12th Congressional District, Congresswoman; Incumbent

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

- Erika Geiss, State Representative 12th District; Incumbent
- Bill LaVoy, State Representative 17th District; Incumbent
- Kristy Pagan, State Representative 21st District; Incumbent
- Darrin Camilleri for State Representative in the 23rd District

WAYNE COUNTY

- Judge Mark Slavens, Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court; Incumbent
- Benny Napoleon, Wayne County Sheriff; Incumbent
- Cathy Garrett, Wayne County Clerk; Incumbent
- Bernard Youngblood, Wayne County Register of Deeds; Incumbent
- Eric Sabree, Wayne County Treasurer; Incumbent
- Al Haidous, Wayne County Commissioner, 11th District; Incumbent

JUDICIAL AND EDUCATIONAL ENDORSEMENTS (NON PARTISAN)

- MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT: Frank S. Szymanski, Deborah Thomas
- WAYNE COUNTY 3rd DISTRICT COURT: Matthew Evans - Wanda Evans - Robert Ficano - Brian Morrow
- FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS: Cynthia Diane Stevens; Incumbent, Nicole James
- EDUCATIONAL: State Board of Education: Ismael Ahmed, John Austin - U of M Regents: Denise Ilitch, Laurence Deitch - Governor of Wayne State University: Mark Gaffney, Yvette Anderson - MSU Trustee: Dianne Byrum, Diann Woodard

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP

- Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
- Leon Wright, Van Buren Township Clerk; Incumbent
- Sherry Budd, Van Buren Township Treasurer; Incumbent
- Reggie Miller, Van Buren Township Trustee; Incumbent
- Sherry Frazier, Van Buren Township Trustee
- Kevin Martin, Van Buren Township Trustee
- Paul White, Van Buren Township Trustee

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

- John Morgan, Sumpter Township Supervisor; Incumbent
- Clarence Hoffman Jr, Sumpter Township Clerk; Incumbent
- Alan Bates, Sumpter Township Treasurer; Incumbent
- Don LaPorte, Sumpter Township Trustee; Incumbent
- Peggy Morgan, Sumpter Township Trustee; Incumbent
- Don Swinson, Sumpter Township Trustee; Incumbent
- Matt Oddy, Sumpter Township Trustee

HURON TOWNSHIP

- Dave Haener, Huron Township Supervisor
- Linda Spangler, Huron Township Treasurer
- Antionette Garcia, Huron Township Clerk
- Jeremy Cady, Huron Township Trustee
- Candace Myshock, Huron Township Trustee
- Donna Mendrysa, Huron Township Trustee; Incumbent
- Kristy Novicki, Huron Township Trustee; Incumbent

CANTON TOWNSHIP

- Dian Slavens, Canton Township Treasurer

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Compassionate Care Hospice of Canton held its annual memorial service, Lanterns of Love, on Sept. 21 at Harbour Club Golf Course in Van Buren Township. Dozens of sky lanterns were released at dusk by families and friends honoring the memory of a special loved one. Hospice volunteers and staff helped with the launch after names were read outside the clubhouse.

Swift & Sumpter

(continued from page 3)

Egerer told Channel 4.

On the police department's Facebook page, Police Chief Eric Luke explained the project on Sept. 14:

"Using numerous donated items from Swift over the past several months, the police department has been able to provide bulk food and supplies to families in need.

"We've also been able to strengthen and increase the already numerous positive interactions between police department members and the individuals we come into contact with from day-to-day. This has been made possible in the form of 'goodie bags' that patrol officers carry with them in the trunks of their patrol units and those distributed by our tremendous administrative team to individuals coming into the station seeking police services.

"Furthermore, we've been fortunate to be able to provide items to those attending the Park & Rec's Sumpter Fun Day and the Sumpter Progressive Civil League's recent Back to School Fun Day.

"In addition to providing items to citizens through direct contact with our officers and staff, we've also been able to bring in other entities within the township, such as the Sumpter Township Senior Center, Focus

Hope, and the local WIC office. Their ability to reach even more of the community has benefited everyone involved and we thank them for their participation.

"Again, we would like to give our sincere, heartfelt 'thank you' to Denise Adkins for reaching out to us on behalf of Swift Transportation. Their continued generosity and support has and will continue to allow us to give back to the community in this way," Chief Luke concluded.

At a recent township board meeting, Chief Luke was asked about the Channel 4 truck seen at the police department earlier that day.

Chief Luke told about the project with Swift Transportation led by Lt. Pat Gannon, Officer Egerer, and others.

He said officers carry the goodie bags in the police car trunks to give to anyone.

"Last week, there was a whole shipment of Zip Lock bags," Chief Luke said, noting that by not having to buy such storage bags, a family would have more money for food.

Chief Luke said the police department didn't want the information to come out about what they were doing before the millage election in August, "as if we were using it for that."

After the millages passed, they felt free to talk about the Swift project, he said.

Belleville ZOMBIE 5K Run/Walk 2016

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Costumes Encouraged/Optional

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Rebecca Merritt and Erick Keefe

Rebecca Merritt, Erick Keefe to marry

Rebecca L. Merritt and Erick Keefe, both of Livonia, are engaged and planning to be married on Oct. 15.

Rebecca is the daughter of Deborah Merritt of Van Buren Township and Ronald and Merilynne Merritt of Highland Township.

Erick is the son of Myra Miller of Livonia and the late Fred Miller.

Rebecca has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a master's

degree in Human Resources and Organized Development. She works at DTE in Human Resources and Staffing.

Erick works at Fresh Thyme as regional manager, traveling to other states to oversee operations.

Anniversaries

Oct. 8 – Cindy & Keith Kibilko

Oct. 9 – Amanda & Rick Kibilko

Oct. 28 – Andrea & Joshua Flag

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Costumed **MONSTER MUTT WALK**

**Saturday,
October 15, 2016
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

The Belleville Central Business Community is partnering with Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue to host a costumed Monster Mutt Walk. The Walk will take place on the sidewalks and only 4th street will be closed.

Registration begins at 1:00 p.m. on 4th Street next to the Belleville Area Museum. The fee is \$10 plus a can of dog food. Advance registration is encouraged.

The walk will start on 4th Street and travel right on Charles, left on Roys, right on High Street and right on Main back to 4th Street. Medals will be awarded to 1st 2nd and 3rd in three categories: Scariest, Cutest and Best Mutt & Family (family must dress also). In fact, it would be fun for everyone to wear a costume.

For a mere dollar you will also be able to visit the FMAR Kissing Booth and enjoy a poochie kiss! You don't have to have an animal to visit the booth or to meet some cute adoptable dogs. **Come and enjoy the first annual dog walk!!**

Applications are available on line at www.bellevillecbc.org or call (734) 558-5368 after 3:30 p.m., email: jfayemillard@att.net

SPONSORS

Gold Leash: Feed-Rite Pet Shop

**In Kind: Ahearn Signs, Edward Jones (Alicia McGovern)
Johnston Lithograph, Sams Club, TKM Awards**

Mildred Baker celebrates 90th birthday

On Sept. 24, Mildred Baker, along with 110 friends and relatives, celebrated her 90th birthday in the fellowship hall of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Belleville.

The guests were greeted by a lavender theme of balloons, decorations, purple Stock (*matthida incana*) flowers and pictures of Mildred from childhood to adulthood.

Deb's catering provided a buffet lunch. Music from Mildred's era provided background music.

Many family members traveled from several locations to complete her special weekend: Her son and his wife from Frankenmuth, her daughter and husband from Tennessee, a grandson and his wife from Owosso, three granddaughters and their husbands along with eight great-grandchildren from California, a daughter-in-law along with her daughter and her son from New Jersey, a grandson from Kentucky, a granddaughter and her family of four from Tennessee, her sister from Arkansas, her sister from Westland, and several nieces.

The festivities included a blessing from her son Jim, singing of "Happy Birthday" led by her great-grandchildren, smiles, laughs, recalling of years ago, and visiting between friends and family – and lots of hugs.

The family extends its thanks to Deb's Catering, Garden Fantasy on Main,



Mildred Baker

"helpers" from St. Paul's, and everyone who attended to make this event successful.

The weekend stretched from Thursday through Sunday and constituted a big reunion for this extended family.

Story prepared by Mildred Baker and Joan Baker Vicary.

**One Call Does It All . . .
. . . At the Independent
699-9020**

VOTE ☒ YES NOVEMBER 8TH!

**RIGHT SIZE
RIGHT PLACE
Downtown Belleville
LIBRARY-YES!**



Residents of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Townships supporting the library bond and operating millage proposals on the November 8, 2016 election:

KEN ASKEW
SANDY ASKEW
ALAN BATES
VIRGINIA BELINSKI
CAROL BIRD
MIKE BOELTER
YVONNE BOWLING
SHARRY BUDD
JEWELL BUTLER
JOY CICHEWICZ
LINDA COMBS
ANGELA CORY
GEORGE CRAVEN

DAVID CURSON
SHARON CURSON
KATIE DALLOS
RICK DAWSON
MARY JANE DAWSON
SUSAN FEATHERINGILL
TOM FIELDER
SHERRY FRAZIER
DEBRA GREEN
ELAINE GUTIERREZ
AL HAIDOUS
JULIE HARDY
REBECCA HASEN

LILLIAN HENDERSON
PAUL HENNING
CLARENCE HOFFMAN
JEFFREY JAHR
BEVERLY JENKINS
STEVE JONES
JOHN JURIGA
DON LAPORTE
SANDRA LAUTH
DONNA LAVIN
JAMES LENZE
JACK LORIA
ROSEMARY LORIA

ROBYN MCCOY
KEVIN MCNAMARA
BARBARA MILLER
REGGIE MILLER
JOSEPH MONTE
JOHN MORGAN
PEGGY MORGAN
MATTHEW ODDY
DENISE PARTRIDGE
JIM PEDERSEN
SHEILA PEDERSEN
SHARON PETERS
JENNIFER PRICE

LINDA PRIEST
RANDY PRIEST
LACHELLE REED CAVER
JOYCE ROCHOWIAK
TIM RUSH
SCOTT RUSSELL
CLAUDETTE SERPETTI
CYNTHIA SMITH
THOMAS SMITH
MARY JO SUCHY
TANYA STOUDEMIRE
DONALD SWINSON
KIM TINDALL

SHERRY TONTALO
RENEE VIVES
KEN VOIGT
PEGGY VOIGT
KATHY WHITAKER
DAVE WILSON
MARTY WILSON
JANICE WRIGHT
LEON WRIGHT

Follow Us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/BACNL



Find out more at
www.bacforanewlibrary.weebly.com

Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



This Saturday marks the Belleville Central Business Community and the city's annual Harvest Fest from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities include make-n-take crafts at the library, live music by Joyful Noise, hands-on old-time activities at the museum, and a harvest market with vendors across the street in the Fourth Street Square. Pony rides and petting farm also returns to their usual locations. Belleville A&W will provide food for a nominal fee and bakery items will be offered from local non-profits. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts will be joining me this year as we'll be chalking up 4th Street alongside the museum. Stop by and join us and be sure to enter to win a free basket of cool art stuff. Be sure to check out the scarecrows up and down Main Street. We're officially Booville, folks.

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce is looking for wrapped candy donations to give away on Trick or Treat Main Street on Halloween Monday. Last year, the chamber saw over 1,000 treaters stopping by. All donations will be recognized on an insert hand-out that evening. Deadline to drop off to the chamber is Monday, Oct. 24. For information call Chamber Director Paul Henning at (734) 697-7151.

An estate/business liquidation auction will take place Oct. 15, beginning at 10 a.m. at the home of Rodney and Linda Way at 24701 Haggerty Road in New Boston. Featured items include a fleet of trucks and handicapped accessible vans and a parts inventory of fire protection systems and accessories from the company they owned -- Shurtrev Inc. See their ad in today's paper and visit www.rolloandbrad.com, the auction company commissioned for the sale. Call (734) 439-7939.

Express Tire on Belleville Road is offering all types of savings on Bridgestone tires and pre-winter maintenance. See their ad in today's paper and visit www.expresstiremi.com for more info. They're open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (734) 697-2424.

Belleville Attorney Amy Eversole will be holding a free seminar titled "Family Peace & Harmony Through Estate Planning" on Wednesday, Oct. 12, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall Community Center. Participants will receive a \$100 discount on a basic estate planning package. For information call (734) 718-8574.

The public is invited to the Belleville Chamber Ribbon cutting at Developpe Dance & Performing Arts Studio on Friday, Oct. 7, beginning at 1 p.m. at 877 Sumpter Road. There will be giveaways and refreshments served. Call (734) 697-7151.

Today's paper features an insert from Zino's Pizza on Sumpter Road at Bemis. Be sure to check it out for valuable coupons on pizza, subs, and much more. Taste why they're the official pizza provider to some of the elementary school lunches in the area. Call (734) 697-7999.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.

"I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon."

— Tom Stoppard

VBT board goes into closed-door session to discuss law suits

After a five-minute work/study session on Monday, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees went into closed-door session to discuss with their attorney two law suits, both brought by Wolverine Pipe Line Company.

One is against VBT and Kilanski Farms, et. al. and the other is against VBT and Harvey Hollins, et. al.

When it came back into open session, the board adjourned. The only board member absent from Monday's meeting was Clerk Leon Wright.

SOUTHWESTERN WAYNE DEMOCRATIC CLUB



COMMUNITY PICNIC



Sunday, October 9, 2016
Horizon Park on High Street, Belleville
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
MEET OUR ENDORSED CANDIDATES
Free Cider, Hot Dogs, Donuts, Fun & Fellowship, Activities for the Kids. ALL ARE WELCOME!




Paid for by Southwestern Wayne [County] Democratic Club, P. O. Box 1182, Belleville, MI 48112

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR NEW LOCATION:
43250 TYLER ROAD!
(1.25 Miles East of Belleville Road)

GARDEN FANTASY
Greenhouse

YOUR FALL DECORATING HEADQUARTERS!



FALL MUMS
\$5.99 Each or
5 for \$25
MUM HANGING BASKETS
\$9.99 Each

1 GALLON PERENNIALS -- \$3 EACH or 2 FOR \$5
3" PERENNIALS -- \$1.00 EACH
FALL CEMETERY CONES

SWEETEST DAY IS OCT. 15
BOSSSES DAY IS OCT. 16

OPEN: MONDAY – FRIDAY 9 A.M. – 6 P.M.
SATURDAY 9 A.M. – 5 P.M. • SUNDAY 1 P.M. – 5 P.M.
(734) 697-1765
Fax: (734) 699-0505



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734-699-9020

ORPHAN OF THE WEEK



Hey **Jude**, who's the nicest kitty in town that will make any bad day better? You are that's who. **Jude** is a young very nice, social and affectionate kitty boy eager to find his fur-ever family. We just love his mellow and friendly personality and you will too. He recently came back to us suffering from stomach issues that we found were caused from him swallowing a piece of plastic. His surgery to remove it went well and he is now ready to start fresh in a new home. **Jude** loves lap snuggles, lots of pets and attention and just being with people. He also is quite playful and requests tons of toys to bat around in his new home. He seems to like things a little low key and will do best in a more laid-back household. His grey and white coat is soft and fluffy and his super long whiskers give him a silly Fu Manchu look you'll love. Make your day better by coming to meet **Jude**. He's neutered, vaccinated to date, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

SUMPTER PARKS & REC'S

TURKEY SHOOT

**STARTS
AT
NOON**



**AT
GUN
RANGE**

**FIRST FOUR SUNDAYS
OF OCTOBER**

**Questions,
Call Don Swinson @
734-674-4980**

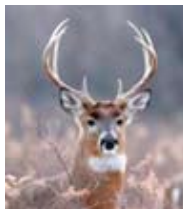
**SUNDAYS
IN OCTOBER**

Registration Starts
@ 11:30 a.m.
October 9th, 16th, 23rd

*Police Firing Range at Old Landfill
on W. Willow Rd. (Between Sumpter & Elwell Road)*

Rules: 12, 16, 20 Gauge Shotguns -
30" Barrel Max., NO Scopes or extended chokes
410 Shotgun (*Kids 12 & under only*)

Prizes: Turkey, Ham, Bacon
& \$\$ rounds
Ammo provided



Willis Feed Mill

Deer/Wildlife Feed, Attractants, Food Plot

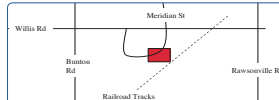
We carry a wide variety of the very best:

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- Hay and Straw
- Poultry Food
- Horse and Livestock Feed

10200 Railroad Street, Willis, Michigan
(South end of Meridian St, off Willis Rd, Between Rawsonville and Bunton)

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Hours:
MON-FRI 9AM-6PM • SAT 9AM-5PM
SUN 12PM-4PM



(734) 461-1111

willisfeed@att.net

In October Belleville Becomes BOOVILLE!



Celebrating Harvest and Halloween

Sometimes Scary, always Fun - Come join us!
So many events and celebrations all through October!

Scarecrows, Harvest Fest and Harvest Market
Painting Party, Golden Age of Candy, Scary Stories,
Zombie 5K Run/Walk, Kick or Treat FootGolf
Monster Mutt Walk, Cemetery Tour, Paranormal Tours
BOOVILLE Tent: Witch's Ball, Music/Brats and Jazz,
Harvest Pumpkin Flower Workshop
Bonfire Ghost Stories, Children's Costume Party
Candy Loop and Downtown Trick or Treat

Complete event listings at:

www.buyitinbelleville.com/boo-ville



Costumes encouraged
at all BooVille events!

Van Buren Twp. BZA approves variances for Grace Lake sign

At its meeting on Sept. 13, the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals unanimously approved variances to make way for a large sign along I-275 between Tyler and Ecorse roads to promote Grace Lake Corporate Center.

The request was made Aug. 8 by Danylo Dobriansky of Sovereign Partners, owners of Grace Lake LLC.

The sign includes a digital message sign to be used by the township for community information.

The motion was made by Township Trustee Jeff Jahr, who sits on the BZA, and seconded by Commissioner David Senters to approve the requested sign height variance and maximum sign area, based on the following conditions:

1. The applicant reduce the size of the proposed sign from 672.5 square feet to 631.25 as specified in the U.S. Sign Council calculation.

2. The applicant reduce the height of the proposed sign from 34.6' to 30' from grade to be consistent with the maximum height for billboards.

3. The applicant develop an agreement with the township over the governmental use of the sign so it can be exempted from the square footage calculation.

4. The applicant obtain approval from the Michigan Department of transportation, if necessary, prior to the township issuing a sign permit.

5. The sign be limited to identifying the corporate center and its tenant's appropriate logos.

The draft report of the motion notes this approval is based upon the following findings of fact:

1. Strict compliance with the Zoning Ordinance provisions governing sign height and maximum sign area would prevent the applicant from constructing a monument sign along I-275 which could be safely and effectively viewed from the freeway.

2. The United States Sign Council on Premise Sign Legibility Rules of Thumb document presents a formula for calculating sign size which is based upon determining

effective legibility of signs for motorists. Based on the presented information that formula recommends a 631.25 square foot sign area.

3. The proposed sign is an on-premise sign, but is sized and in a location which is comparable to a billboard.

4. The Township's Zoning Ordinance establishes a maximum of 30' in height for billboards.

5. The OT zoning district allows for additional monument signs at public thoroughfares.

6. The unique circumstances of the property are its proximity to I-275 and the location of the berm adjacent to the freeway.

7. The issues are not self-created.

8. The request will not impair an adequate supply of light and air to adjacent property or increase congestion on public streets.

9. The request will not increase the hazard of fire or flood or endanger the public safety.

10. The request should not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area.

11. The request should not in any other respect impair the public health, safety, comfort, morals or welfare of the inhabitants of the township.

12. The request will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

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(Behind Family Dollar)

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Purchase Of
A Dinner
Entree.**

With Hidalgo Coupon. Expires Sept. 14, 2016

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that on 10/13/16 at 9:00 a.m. or after the contents of the following storage units will be sold by competitive bidding (Public Auction) at: U-Lock-It Self Storage LLC 6130 Rawsonville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 482-1502
SPACE #B-13 Arianna Benin
SPACE #C-38 Stephanie Harbin
Some featured items included in these units: Household furnishings, sofa, love seat, lamps, wall cabinets, fans, bongo drums, refrigerator, stove, granite pieces.
Publish: Sept. 29, 2016; Oct. 6, 2016

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on October 8, 2016 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, appliances, furniture, misc. N810, 0715, S960 & S962, Terry Booth; P770, John Bartush; P-785, Jeremy Poe; J-618, Douglas Laura; S-941, John Smith; G-476, Mona L. Salisbury; S-959, Antione Effinger; L-537, Denise Hendrickson-McFay; C-114, Timothy Ralls; K-667, David James.
Publish: September 22, 2016; October 6, 2016

AUCTION

NOTICE OF AUCTION FOR MICHIGAN STATE POLICE AT J&T CROVA TOWING 3657 GRANT ST., ROMULUS, MI 48174 (734) 699-0584

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 @ 9 a.m.

Make/Model	VIN
2006 Pontiac G6	1G2ZG558764214858
1996 GMC Sierra	1GTEC19M4TE524672

Publish: Oct. 6, 2016

NOTICE OF AUCTION AT J&T CROVA TOWING 287 Industrial Park Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 699-0584 Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016 @ 10 a.m.

Make/Model	VIN
2005 Dodge Caravan	2D4GP44L25R428562
2004 Chrysler Sebring	2C3HD46R94H694729
2006 Chrysler 300	2C3LK63H56H349921
1997 Ford F-150	2FTDF0822VCA23611
1998 Chevrolet Tahoe	1GNEK13R0WJ340856
2001 Pontiac Grand Prix	1G2WR52101F136327

Publish: Oct. 6, 2016

RUMMAGE SALE

ANNUAL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE at Morning Star Church, 44441 Clay Road. Oct. 5, 6 & 7, and Oct. 12, 13, & 14, 9am-5pm 10/6

GARAGE/YARD SALE

44274 ROBSON Rd., off Belleville Rd. Oct. 6, 7 & 8, 9am-6pm. Household items, furniture, men's stuff, DVD's, like new women's plus size clothes. 10/6

SATURDAY, OCT. 8 ONLY. 8:30am-5:00pm. 46121 Ecorse Rd., Belleville. 64 years of stuff 10/6

OCT. 6, 7 & 8, 9am-2pm. Holiday decorations, plus size clothing, 1950's yellow table, Toledo scale, household items, shelf boards, vehicle bike racks, new light fixtures, misc. 40281 Alden, Belleville. 10/6

WE GOT A LOT, including 1946 stove & fridge, women's & men's coats, hunting & fishing gear, do-it-yourself materials, 1,000s of nails & much more. 19383 Savage, Sumpter. Oct. 7, 8 & 9, 9am-4pm. 10/6

OCT 7 & 8, 9am-5pm. 44823 Harris. Man Sale: tools, horse equipment, Tiger coats, remote control car & helicopter. Christmas decorations. 10/6

HUGE SALE. Oct. 8 & 9, 10-5pm. 41189 S. Woodbury Green Dr. Sports memorabilia, bedroom set, bench press & weight set, household & misc. 10/6

GARAGE/YARD SALE

4 FAMILY SALE. Oct. 8 & 9, 9am-5pm. 17219 Haggerty. Girls/women's clothing, shoes, accessories, toys, books, housewares, furniture, Gymboree, North Face, Aeropostale. 10/6

FOR SALE

LARGE WHIRLPOOL washer & dryer and small freezer. (734) 697-2250 10/6

STEGA PING PONG table w/paddles & balls, blue. \$100. (248) 303-3753 10/6

OAK VANITY CABINET with beige marble vanity top. 48" long. \$35. (734) 461-1695 10/6

19" Toshiba TV with digital converter box, \$20. In good shape. (734) 461-6347 10/6

EGGS! Fresh free range, \$4/dozen or \$5.50 for 18. Available at Hollow's Landscaping Supply, 6280 Rawsonville. (734) 482-7263 10/13

SEASONED OAK firewood. \$70/face cord. Free delivery with 3 face cords. (734) 379-9599 or (313) 300-3344 10/13

MOVING SALE. Too much to list. All very nice-high end. Call for appointment (734) 674-8302 10/13

ASSORTED HUB CAPS \$5, must take all. Oak cabinet, 28" long x 8 1/2" high \$10. Brand new Mojack for riding lawn mower \$60. Metal table for saw, 19 1/2" x 10" \$40. (734) 483-9656 10/20

HOUSE WANTED

LAND CONTRACT/owner financed house wanted. Fixer upper okay. Excellent credit. Large house in country setting preferred. Open to all offers. (313) 312-5583 10/6

SERVICES

FIREARM TRANSFERS

Consignments-Buy-Sell-Used-New
Email: FFL48111@gmail.com
Call or Text: 734-740-0746

PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS. Adults or children. Pay for 4 lessons, next 2 lessons free. (734) 697-9628 10/20

WILL PROVIDE cleaning, residential & office, baby sitting, prepare meals, dog walking, house sitting, elder care. Any hours/days. References. (734) 325-6255 10/13

SERVICES

A&L SERVICES

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

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FREE ESTIMATES
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(734) 485-WOOD

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We Buy Scrap/Junk Cars. Lock Outs Too.
Call (313) 586-2172

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

ESTATE / BUSINESS LIQUIDATION AUCTION

Saturday, October 15, 2016 @ 10 am 24701 Haggerty Rd., New Boston, MI 48164



Auctioneer's Note: The Way family have commissioned Rollo Juckette and Brad Neuhart Auctioneers to sell vehicles, tools, equipment and lots of fire protection system parts/accessories for the late Rodney and Linda Way owners of Shurtrev Inc. a fire protection system installation and repair company. This sale is loaded with vehicles including HANDICAP ACCESSABLE VANS, Trucks, Zero Turn, LOTS of tools and more. Do not miss this sale!

VEHICLES:(To sell approx. 12:30pm):
2001 Ford F-550 Crew Cab, Service Body, 4x4, Diesel; 2002 GMC 3500 Crew Cab, Diesel; 2000 Chevrolet 1500 Limited SE Handicap Conversion Van; 2000 Chevrolet 1500 Explorer Handicap Conversion Van; 1997 Chevrolet Conversion Van; 1999 Cadillac Eldorado; 1986 Ford F-350 Reg. Cab Dually;

ZERO TURN & LAWN/GARDEN, TOOLS, TRAILER, FIRE PROTECTION INVENTORY, AND MUCH MORE!
See more pics and info at:

www.rolloandbrad.com
Auctioneers

Rollo A. Juckette (734) 529-2388	Brad Neuhart (734) 439-7939
--	---------------------------------------

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

Hiring Reliable & Dedicated Bus Drivers for Van Buren Public Schools. Starting Pay: \$14.31/hour. Paid Training. Call 734-699-5100 or Apply Online At www.tinyurl.com/GM7SR2D

CLERICAL/OFFICE

Property Management Company For Mobile Home Parks In Canton/Belleville Area. Mail Resume To: Owner P.O. Box 85530 Westland, MI 48185

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

DRIVERS WANTED at Michigan Bulk Cement. CDL-A with NT endorsement. Experience preferred. (248) 676-9863 or fax (248) 676-9864 10/6

HELP WANTED

Apartment Communities in Belleville, Gibraltar, and Taylor are looking to fill full time maintenance positions. Fair pay & full benefits will be offered to Dependable, Hardworking, Enthusiastic people. Qualifying applicants; are also required to have basic knowledge of electrical, plumbing, and carpentry. HVAC Certified preferred a valid drivers license is a must. We look forward to receiving your resume at bellevillepointe@pmaps.com

Quest, Inc. is HIRING

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes.

Applicants must be:

- Responsible & committed and work well with others.
- Have a clean criminal record.
- Be available for training. MORC/WCHO/CLS Training is preferred.

Send Letter/Resume to: recruiter@questserv.org or Call (734) 458-8140

HELP WANTED

TRAILER MECHANIC. Assemble & repair trailers. Must weld & drive hi-lo. Work in all weather conditions. 40-50 hrs. per week with rotating Saturdays. Email: michelle@usa-trailer.com 10/6

DRIVERS: Co. & O/O's. Home DAILY! \$3,000 Sign-on. Great Benefits. Paid Weekly! CDL-A. New Grads Welcome. 888-300-9935 10/13

MPB Restorations is looking for an experienced auto body, painter, fabricator, tech that has high attention to detail & loves to work on classic cars. (734) 587-3597 10/13

DRIVERS w/chauffeur's license. Part-time, flexible hours. Must be reliable. (734) 697-5222 10/6

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.

HELP WANTED

LOST

MALE, GRAY & WHITE short haired cat named Twilight – lost in Haggerty Sub. (734) 644-1451 10/13

MISC. BATTERY POWER TOOLS: Rigid screw gun & Dewalt screwdriver set. Fell off my truck on Haggerty Road between Huron River Drive & Bemis. Reward. (313) 826-5723 10/20

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER

BEAUTIFUL HOME on approx. 6 acres. All handicapped equipped. 6 bedrooms & 3 baths in Van Buren Twp. \$350,000. Call (904) 445-1016 or (734) 674-8302 10/13

BEAUTIFUL BRICK half duplex in New Boston. In mint condition. All appliances stay. Finished garage. (734) 753-9107 10/20

WANTED

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

H & W TOWING. Top \$ cash paid for junk vehicles. Free towing. (734) 223-5581 10/27

"You have to be odd to be number one."
— Dr. Seuss

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BHS home games

Here are upcoming Belleville High School home athletic events:

- Thursday, Oct. 6 – Freshman Football, 4 p.m.; JV Football, 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 8 – JV Volleyball Invitational, 9 a.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 11 – Girls Swim & Dive, 6 p.m.

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

City streets

(continued from page 1)

out what financing was available to the city under the law.

Since the proposed upgrading of city streets was estimated at about \$10 million and the city's present bonding capacity is just \$4,868,862, other options were discussed.

One of the best options seemed to be having Harbour Pointe subdivision, which has the worst streets in the city, and Victoria Commons subdivision, which has some bad streets, request Special Assessment Districts. Under the SAD, the property owners would request the SAD and pay for the street work, with the pledge of the full faith and credit of the city.

Also, another SAD could be set up for one or more other sections of the city.

All of the SADs could be issued at the same time, but costs would be different for property owners, depending on the work needed in that particular district.

Under a SAD, those properties that don't pay property taxes, such as schools and churches, would be required to pay their share for the street work, since they utilize the streets.

Councilman Tom Fielder pointed out that the city has 25% of its properties non-taxable.

It was uncertain whether the property owners would pay by frontage foot or just have all the parcels counted and the cost for their separate SAD divided among them.

Blanchett, who is the city's financial advisor for the project, said she would be able to get more precise numbers together in about a week.

City officials and the consultants would talk to the city engineers to isolate clusters in the city where the roads are the worst in order to set up SADs there.

The city council's second public meeting on the street options will be held after the general election and before the holiday season kicks in.

Councilwoman Kim Tindall said, "The city could ask for everything it wants in a bond election, like \$10 million, and only do what we can. We could pick any random number. We have no obligation to issue the bonds."

Colis agreed that a bond could be approved for everything that is needed and after it is approved, the consultants would only allow what is legal in size to be issued.

Any random number could be chosen because there is no obligation to issue the bonds, he said.

Colis said there have been bond issues voted into place and never issued.

Also, he said, in one instance bonds were voted into place and then World War II came and they weren't issued. After the war the municipality went forward to issue the bonds and citizens objected. A court said the bond approval was still good and they issued the bonds.

Colis said as an option, the city could have a vote to increase the tax limit in the city charter from the 20 mills limit.

City Manager Kollmeyer said the city is already at its charter limit and because of the Headlee rollback it is now limited to 16.5 mills.

Colis said municipalities across the state are looking at combinations of financing to do infrastructure work.

"We'll scrape in different pots and see what can happen," Colis said.

"It's difficult for small communities," Blanchett said. "There's not so many ways they can go."

Colis said he would look at a bond, something the city can tackle with the funds available.

"Maybe we can just take a bite of the apple, and not eat the whole thing at once," he said.

"You may be able to sequence bonds every three years," Colis said.

Blanchett said she could estimate how much the future value of property in the city would be.

"If we do it in smaller pieces and go back to the voters next year and then the next year, that's a recipe for disaster," said resident Mike Renaud.

Colis said the whole program would be voted at once and the bonds would be authorized in sequence. He said if, for example, voters authorized \$100 million in bonds in sequence, after three years they would reevaluate the debt limit. Just because they are approved, doesn't mean they will all be issued, he said.

Belleville mayor finally appoints third member of Civil Service Comm.

By Rosemary K. Otzman

Independent Editor

Mayor Kerreen Conley's third appointment to the Belleville Civil Service Commission was unanimously confirmed by the city council at a 12-minute regular meeting Monday.

The CSC now has the three members required by the city charter.

The previously appointed two members of the CSC held their first meeting April 27 to interview candidates for police positions.

Mayor Conley had tried to get rid of the commission by changing the city charter. That was turned down by voters in the 2014 election.

Her attempt to dissolve the group came after the commission – then made up of Don Bluhm, Roy Acho, and Mike Loria – voted unanimously to support Keith Boc's appeal regarding the city council's power to change healthcare benefits for CSC employees without going through the CSC.

The CSC said the city should pay 100% of the health care premium for retirees, as stated in the CSC handbook.

After that meeting, two members resigned and Bluhm was not reappointed when his term ran out. There was no longer a Civil Service Commission.

Mayor Conley refused to appoint any members to the commission, even though

it was required by the city charter, until late last year.

Members of this new two-person commission were Douglas Dalton and Jacqueline Schank-Ulch. Dalton is chairman.

Monique D. Gary of Harbour Pointe subdivision was present at Monday's meeting to accept her appointment as the third member.

The full CSC was scheduled to meet the next morning (Tuesday) to interview eight candidates to fill the payroll/building clerk position left by the resignation of Michelle Bellingham. Bellingham now works for Sumpter Township, closer to her home.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said they expected the interviews to take all day on

Tuesday.

Gary's appointment was added to the agenda at Monday's short meeting.

She is a two-year resident of the city of Belleville and works for the City of Detroit as a Training Manager. She is retired from the U.S. Army and has 15 years of experience in Human Resources.

Gary holds a bachelor's degree in management and organizational development and two master's degrees, one in adult instruction and performance technology and one in leadership and coaching.

A second clerk in the city hall offices, Marilyn Tinsley, is expected to retire in February, which will require another CSC meeting to fill the vacancy.

Dr. Craiger to begin phase out of Sumpter Pet Care services

Dr. Yvonne Craiger has announced that after a significant down-turn in business since April and changes in her personal life, she reluctantly will begin to phase out her Sumpter Pet Care business this month.

Sumpter Pet Care has been offering veterinary services at 19435 Sumpter Road since December 2010. She lives in the city of Belleville.

For the month of October, her hours will be Mondays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dr. Craiger said when her veterinary clinic is not open, she recommends people take their pets to Canton Animal Hospital, 43439 Michigan Avenue, just past Sheldon Road.

During October she will continue to see patients for preventive and outpatient care, including surgeries, by appointment during her open hours.

Dr. Craiger said clients are invited to come

by to pick up their pets' original medical charts so they can be taken to the new veterinarian of their choosing.

She said beginning Nov. 1, the plan is to have the clinic open one day per week on a walk-in basis – on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. This will continue until the end of the calendar year or until the space is re-leased, whichever comes first.

Dr. Craiger said her on-line store and website will continue until the end of this calendar year.

She said if the clinic space has not yet been re-leased in the new year, the clinic will open two days a month for clients to pick up the pets' charts and for any prescription refills.

If Dr. Craiger does take a regular position with another facility, she said she will put the location on her website and also let the community know through the pages of the *Independent*.



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Sumpter Township residents concerned about Po law suits

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on Sept. 27, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees heard from resident Mary Ban on concerns she has heard in the community on the claims in the law suit brought against the township by Clarita Po.

She said the suit claims the township raided Po because it needs money because Sumpter is broke. Ban said she attends all the meetings and has heard reports on the budget.

"We're not broke and we're not about to be broke," Ban said, adding the budget is available to everyone to study.

Township attorney Rob Young said what a lawyer puts in a complaint is his idea of the situation, but not the facts.

He said the auditors, Miller Canfield bond counsel, Stoddard Barch, and the Moody organization in New York have reviewed Sumpter's finances and Moody's has given Sumpter an A-minus rating, which is very good.

"You can believe all these professionals, or believe the Pos or their attorney," Young said.

The board held a closed-door session with attorney Young after the meeting was concluded to get an update on the Clarita Po vs. Sumpter Township law suit. Young said the township had yet to be served on that law suit or the second law suit that more recently was filed by Nelson Po.

In other business at the Sept. 27 meeting, the board:

- Approved paying Van Buren Township \$12,772 as the matching funds for the FEMA grant that has provided some \$122,000 worth of air packs and bottles for the fire department. VBT is acting as fiduciary for

the grant for fire departments in the area;

- Approved and adopted amendments to the township dog ordinance, which is being printed in the Oct. 6 edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent*, Sumpter's newspaper of record;

- Approved transfer of Ordinance Officer Randy Lynch to a full-time position in the Water Department;

- Heard Trustee Don Swinson report that Sumpter Parks and Recreation made \$11,551.11 in profit from the Sumpter Country Fest and \$1,475.48 from the car show and demolition derby. He reminded everyone that the Turkey Shoot fund raiser will be held starting at noon on the first four Sundays in October at the police shooting range next to the closed landfill;

- Heard Supervisor John Morgan thank the Parks and Recreation volunteers for all they do for the community. "They need a big thank you," he said, and then pointed out a couple in the audience. "Mr. and Mrs. Posegay should be in retirement, but they're working like little Trojans -- and smiling";

- Heard attorney Young report that the governor signed new medical marijuana bills the previous week and that makes quite a change in the agenda. He said it appears a board will be appointed to review applications and that board will be a cross between the Liquor Control Commission and the Gaming Control Board. "The township does have the opportunity to opt out or to control grows in the township," he said;

- Heard Virginia Belinski, representing the League of Women Voters, remind everyone they have until Oct. 11 to register to vote in the Nov. 8 election. She said they can get sample ballots and backgrounds of candidates by going to Vote411.org;

- Heard Belinski say, as a Sumpter citizen, that the three board officers are here full time although they are paid part time and this is the lowest paid township board in Wayne County. She said board members give a lot of donations from their own pockets. "I appreciate this board and they are a great team," she said, adding residents can get answers to their questions in person or by phone; and

- Heard Jay Bardell say the Sumpter Police Department did a fine job in identifying the person who did the thefts from cars in the township.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Sumpter Township Trustee Don LaPorte, who also is the Sumpter fire fighter, dons a new air pack to show residents at the Sept. 13 board meeting. Fire Chief Januszyk, at left, explains that the township received 24 air packs through a grant, having only to pay 10%, \$13,000, which is almost a \$120,000 savings for the township. Chief Januszyk praised Van Buren Township for putting up the money necessary in advance for the grants for the surrounding fire departments. He said Sumpter also got a hose grant fairly quickly and hopefully will get a grant for 13 sets of turnout gear.

Court Watching:

Po preliminary exam in delivery/manufacturing drugs set for Oct. 12

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The preliminary exam for Nelson Po, 76, of Sumpter Township on a felony charge of delivery/manufacturing drugs on Aug. 16 in Sumpter Township has been adjourned until Oct. 12 at 9 a.m. at 34th District Court in Romulus.

Po was due for his probable cause conference before District Judge Tina Brooks Green on Sept. 28, but she was not in the courtroom when his attorney Ronald Ruark made arrangements for an adjournment on the preliminary exam from Oct. 5 until Oct. 12.

Ruark also asked for a discovery order to be signed by the judge and he got it. This will give him evidence to study from the Sumpter Police Department.

The pretrial on Po's misdemeanor charge from Van Buren Township was adjourned until Nov. 30. In this case, Po is accused of molesting/disturbing the workers at Atchinson Ford in VBT when he came in to confront employee Don Swinson on Oct. 29, 2015. Swinson is an elected trustee of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees.

Po has a medical marijuana business on Harris Road in Sumpter Township.

Gobel Dene Ratliff

The probable cause conference for Gobel Dene Ratliff, 72, was adjourned until Oct. 12. He is facing charges of possession of a weapon by a felon, felonious assault, and felony firearm in Sumpter Township on Sept. 14. He is free after posting his \$10,000/10% bond. Beth Egerer is the officer in charge of the case.

Grayling Jerome Regains

Grayling Jerome Regains, 56, waived his preliminary exam on charges of fleeing police in a vehicle and retail fraud first degree in Van Buren Township on Sept. 15. He is free after posting \$5,000/10% bond. Detective Mark Buxton is the officer in charge of the case.

He is due to be arraigned on the information at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit on Oct. 12.

David James Roberts

David James Roberts, 31, waived his preliminary exam on charges of tampering with an electronic monitoring device in Sumpter Township on Dec. 3, 2015. He will be due at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Oct. 5 to face the charges. He was incarcerated by Circuit Judge Margie

(continued on page 25)

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VBT DDA

(continued from page 1)

it does not lend itself to good barrier-free access and proper drainage away from the building.

Also, it was determined the outside walls of the existing structure could not sustain an additional 16” of unrestrained height that was proposed with re-framing the roof system. The access to the existing attic space would be difficult to run ductwork or electrical.

The existing roof framing may require extensive reinforcement thus adding to the problems of ducting a new HVAC system. The existing sanitary drainage inside the building is questionable and cannot be ascertained as to its condition.

Ireland said there is piping in the ceiling because of the slab below and there are fuses in the house. With the new building they will be able to run HVAC underneath.

Ireland said the DDA wants to comply with the township ordinances and by rebuilding the house in the right spot they won’t have to ask for a variance. The garage will be shortened to meet the setback requirement to the house.

She said the front entrance will be relocated, but they will maintain the homestead’s features.

Ireland said a new structure would result in better insulation and better installation of HVAC, plumbing and electrical system. There also could be two toilet rooms and more efficient layout of the building.

The proposed layout includes a large meeting room, two offices, two toilet rooms, a reading and sitting room, exhibit hall, kitchen, vestibule and porch.

In other business at the Sept. 27 meeting, the DDA:

- Reviewed and approved the amended 2016 DDA Budget and Proposed 2017 DDA Budget, which now goes on to the township board as a part of its greater budget. Ireland said she plans to do another PowerPoint presentation on the budget for the board and for the website;
- Learned the MDOT is preparing to award the grant for the pedestrian overpass and they are putting the relevant DDA information into their system. MDOT will work with the DDA on the aesthetic and non-motorized features of the bridge, as well as proposed signage. The designing will occur during the state’s 2017 fiscal year (starting Oct. 1) and construction should begin in 2018. The state is in charge of construction and engineering and it will own the overpass;
- Approved the 2017 meeting date schedule as the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.; and
- Went into closed-door session to consider purchase of real property and then came out into regular session and voted to purchase parts of parcels 16 and 19 as Belleville Road right of way for future road projects. At its July meeting it purchased parcels 2, 3, 6, 14, and 17 and approved options for parcels 6, 14, and 17.

VBT Planners OK Mayser, Country Walk homes, parks plan

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting Sept. 28, the Van Buren Township Planning Commission approved the Mayser USA final site plan, the Gilbert Homes plan to build 10 new houses in unfinished Country Walk subdivision, and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2016-2020.

Mayser Polymer is building a 50,346-square-foot manufacturing building and offices and making related site improvements at 6200 Schooner Drive. Mayser now is located in Canton, just down Michigan Avenue from this site, but it wanted more space because business is growing.

This phase will be built on an 8.91-acre portion of the 14.58-acre site which will allow for expansion in the future.

At one point the township wanted Mayser to put a decorative fence around its storm pond, but approved instead dense vegetative buffering in this industrial area. Terracing will be on the south side of the pond. Also, the township is allowing a rectangular-shaped pond, instead of the natural, irregular shape the ordinance calls for.

Mayser Polymer received preliminary site plan approval with conditions at the May 11 planning commission meeting.

Gilbert Homes

The planning commission discussed at length the design of 10 houses Gilbert Homes wants to build in phases three and four of unfinished Country Walk subdivision.

Gilbert is in the process of acquiring these 10 lots from Blue Country Walk, LLC and has submitted plans for the houses it wishes to build.

Country Walk, the largest subdivision in Van Buren Township, was planned in the early 2000s to have 536 units, but fewer than half were built before the bottom dropped out of the economy in 2007.

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson said the township’s Planned Residential Development (PRD) agreement was made just for the Country Walk project and, she said, “The PRD is not living up to our plans.” She asked township staff to look at changing it and to come up with a faster process for PRDs.

The existing PRD was approved in 2002, amended in 2005, and had expired. A memorandum of understanding was approved in July 2015 between VBT, Country Walk Three Homeowners Association, and Blue Country Walk, LLC. This outlined the responsibilities of the parties with regards to completion of the development and required compliance with the PRD agreement.

Gilbert Homes was asking for revisions to the plan for single-family architectural elevations. At first, Gilbert presented a single home plan for all 10 house, but when it was told they had to be substantially different, it presented three different plans. Commissioners said they didn’t like

bump-outs for the fireplaces, the porch model had too-small a porch, and brick should be over the garage, even though the rest of Country Walk has vinyl there. At the end, the commission approved the elevations, leaving details to staff.

“We’d like you to come back with 10 or 20 more,” Thompson told Bruce Gilbert and Edmund Aronowitz, who were present on the project.

Parks & Recreation Master Plan

The township’s Parks and Recreation Master Plan was last adopted by the board of trustees in 2011 and must be adopted every five years for the township to be eligible for state and federal recreation grants.

The lengthy document was first presented to the planning commission at its Sept. 14 meeting and commissioners wanted more time to review it before taking action to recommend it to the township board for a vote to adopt.

The plan is for the years 2016-2020.

Treasurer Sharry Budd, who sits on the planning commission, pointed out three changes that needed to be made in the document to make it accurate before presenting it to the township board for approval.

The commission voted unanimously to recommend the amended document to the township board.

McKenna Associates planning consultant Patrick Sloan said the document has to be sent to the state by the end of the year – or by February or March. “We have lots of time,” he said, adding the noted changes will be made.

Zoning Ordinance Update

In the fall of 2014, McKenna started work on a comprehensive revision of the zoning ordinance and since then has held 13 meetings with a planning commission subcommittee to review the proposed changes and make revisions.

The draft version now is ready for the planning commission to review. Sloan asked the commission to set six meetings or parts of meetings to go over the document.

Ron Akers, director of planning and economic development, said one of the planning commission meetings a month could be set aside for this during the winter, since work in his department is a little

lighter in winter.

Thompson said they will rely on the staff to set the schedule.

Belleville Lake invasive species

Matthew Best, deputy director of planning and economic development, gave a lengthy report on possible management of the invasive species in Belleville Lake, namely Eurasian Milfoil. He said he had been asked to study the problem.

He said in Michigan, Eurasian Milfoil is spreading, with voracious growth in the spring.

“You run your boat through it and you spread it,” he said. “Fragments of the plant grow into new plants.”

He said Belleville Lake has two boat launches and if you don’t clean your boat you could spread it to the lake, and that includes jet skis and kayaks.

A lake without boat launches could be pristine, he said.

For Belleville Lake there is Eurasian Milfoil miles up the Huron River and it comes downstream.

He went through a list of management methods and the costs, which go up very high and have to keep being redone.

“What can VBT do?” he asked.

He answered himself, saying there is moving water in the lake and the milfoil is difficult to eradicate.

“The township has no jurisdiction,” he said. “Nothing says the township has to do weed management. There is no funding in the current structure.”

He said the MDEQ has to approve treatments and the herbicide treatment is not popular with them.

He said property owners around the lake could set up a special assessment district of \$1,000 per year times 300 residents for five years.

There are no grants available and no magic solution.

“Once you have it you can never get rid of it,” Best said.

Some lakes hire people who are Environmental Sentries to inspect each boat, but Best does not recommend that.

“Can VBT succeed in ridding the lake of Eurasian Milfoil? No,” he said.

“Whether homeowners have the will and if we can get it approved is the question.”

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City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **OCTOBER 13, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.** at Burhop's Collision, 112 Davis Street, County of Wayne, Michigan, a public sale of the following vehicles will be held:

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BY CHIEF HAL BERRIMAN

Belleville Area District Library Public Notice

Belleville Area District Library Proposed New Library Public Forums Wednesdays at 7 pm

October 12, 2016: Sumpter Township Hall (Board Room)
October 26, 2016: Wayne County Community College District,
 Western Campus

Learn about the library's plans to build a new library in downtown Belleville and to open a satellite media center in Sumpter Township. More information can be found at: www.belleville.lib.mi.us/building-program.

Publish: September 22, 2016; September 29, 2016; October 6, 2016; October 20, 2016

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION October 26, 2016 7:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 for the following special use request at the October 26, 2016 regular meeting:

- Case 16-003:** A request by Jason Kishmish, 10573 Belleville (Parcel ID# V-125-83-059-01-0020-000) for a special use approval to operate a drive thru restaurant at 10573 Belleville Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.
- Case 16-028:** A request by Michael Berry, 11175 Haggerty Road (Parcel ID# V-125-83-051-99-0003-005) for a special use approval to operate a drive thru restaurant at 11175 Haggerty Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or via email at rakers@vanburen-mi.org. All materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact the Van Buren Township Planning & Economic Development department at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you require assistance.

Posted: September 22, 2016
 Published: October 6, 2016

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Oct. 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
- Tuesday, Oct. 11 – Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 12 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 13, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m., showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk C. Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustees: Swinson, Oddy, LaPorte, P. Morgan. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk J. Hoffman and approximately 18 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by C. Hoffman to amend Item B on Special Meeting Minutes September 6, 2016 Agenda to read "To hire Eva Harris as Part-Time Clerical Worker, twenty-four (24) hours total. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 hours per day with no benefits". Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by P. Morgan, supported by C. Hoffman to approve Special Board Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Oddy to approve Planning Commission Minutes of August 11, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve Warrants totaling \$732,373.21. Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, C. Hoffman, Bates, Swinson, P. Morgan, Oddy, LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Water & Sewer Report: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve Water & Sewer Report. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Police Report-Luke: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve Police Report. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Building/Ordinance Report-LaPorte: No Report.

10. Fire Report-Januszyk: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve Fire Report. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Treasurer's Report-Bates: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by LaPorte to approve Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Supervisor's Report-J. Morgan:

A. Wayne County Community College is having College Night September 14, 2016 from 6:30 until 8:00 pm.

B. "Science for kids" Belleville Area District Library September 14, 2016 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

C. Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue September 15, 2016-Spaghetti Dinner at Ypsilanti Eagle's Lodge.

D. Detroit Institute of Arts sponsoring a free trip to the DIA October 15, 2016 (313) 883-4005 Call for more information.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve Supervisor's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Attorney's Report-Young: No Report

14. Board Response:

A. Trustee LaPorte continuing his auditing of departments.

B. Trustee P. Morgan, Chief Januszyk reported on bill for Fire truck.

C. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to pay Fire Truck repair, not to exceed \$8,000. Motion

• Thursday, Oct. 13 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. (regularly scheduled) Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, Oct. 17 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Oct. 18 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

carried unanimously.

15. New Business:

A. Presentation by Library Board Member Joy Cichewicz.

B. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Oddy to approve the Second Reading of the Amended Dog Ordinance 5-F Regulation of Dog Ownership, Licensing and Regulations pertaining to Dangerous Animals. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve for Carlisle Wortman to update the Parks & Rec Master Plan to 2022 at a cost of \$6,940.00. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by Bates, supported by C. Hoffman to approve to hire Eva Harris for part-time twenty (24) hours, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve to enter into a new Five (5) year contract with Taser International for New Body Cameras for Sumpter Township Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve for Michael Beaudrie to return to the Fire Department September 12, 2016 from Leave of Absence. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Motion by P. Morgan supported by C. Hoffman to approve hiring Brian Blackburn as a Firefighter pending he passes his physical. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Announcements:

A. Trustee Swinson announced September 18, 2016 Don Rochon Car Show, registration 9:00 am, 4:00 pm Demolition.

17. Open Floor:

A. Mary Ban

1. Commended Firefighter's and their wives for an excellent, well planned Chicken Broil.

2. Coyote population what can be done?

3. Medical Marijuana new regulations

B. Jay Bardell

1. Cameras and Audio postings for Township Hall

2. Liability Insurance

C. Ronald Barrington Robinson

1. Insurance for Board Members

2. Editing of Board Meeting

3. Little to no diversity of Township Fire Department and Police Department

18. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by C. Hoffman to adjourn at 7:43 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

,Sumpter Township

Certification

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the following is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of trustees on September 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that the said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: October 6, 2016



Sumpter Township Public Notice



ORDINANCE NO: 5-F

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE EXISTING DOG ORDINANCE REGARDING APPLICATIONS FOR DOG LICENSES, THE EXPIRATION OF ANY SUCH LICENSE, REQUIRING ALL OVERSIGHT OF THE EXISTING DOG ORDINANCE TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE TOWNSHIP TREASURER'S OFFICE, TO AMEND THE DANGEROUS ANIMAL SECTION AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SUMPTER HEREBY ORDAIN:

Sec. 1. Purpose.

The purposes of this Ordinance is to amend the existing Township Ordinance Article II ("Ordinance") pertaining to the regulation of dog ownership, licensing and regulations pertaining to dangerous animals, all as further set forth in sections 5-52, 5-53 (b), 5-54, 5-151, 5-152 (a), 5-152 (b), 5-153 (b), 5-153 (c), 5-154 (e) of the referred to Ordinance that are otherwise amended hereby, and to provide penalties for the violation of this Ordinance.

Sec. 2. Conflict.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed in such a manner as to conflict with any existing law of the State of Michigan or Township of Sumpter.

Sec. 3. Application, issuance and expiration of animal licenses.

Section 5-52 shall be amended as follows:

Sec. 5-52. Application, issuance, and expiration.

Upon application properly prepared and filed with the Township Treasurer's office in the form as determined necessary and proper by that office, the Township Treasurer, shall issue to each applicant a license to own or harbor a dog for the term commencing on the date of such license and terminating on the 31st of March following.

Section 5-53 shall be amended as follows:

Section 5-53. Contents of application inoculation.

Section 5-53 (b) shall be amended as follows:

Sect. 5-53 (b) The Township Treasurer shall at all times demand ample proof from the applicant that the dog to be licensed has been inoculated for rabies in a manner approved by the Township Treasurer. Any dog that has not been immunized against rabies must be confined on the owner's property in an enclosed area at all times, so that the dog cannot escape or in any way, come into contact with the public.

Sections 5-54 shall be amended as follows:

Section 5-54. Issuance of tag, specifications, and renewal.

Upon proper application for license under this article, the Township Treasurer shall deliver to the applicant a tag of copper, brass or other fiber, metallic or durable material which shall contain, duly stamped or engraved thereon, the serial number of the license issued, the year when issued, together with the words: "License, Township of Sumpter, Wayne County, Michigan." The size and shape of the tags shall be changed each year on the first day of March thereof. Duplicate tags, upon due proof of the loss thereof, shall be issued by the Township Treasurer at a cost of One Dollar (\$1.00) to the applicant.

Article III of the Ordinance under Dangerous Animals, shall be amended as follows:

Section 5-152 (a) shall be amended as follows:

(a) Upon a sworn complaint, or petition if there is a pending action, filed by the Township Attorney and indicating that the animal is a dangerous animal and has caused serious injury or death to any person, has attacked any person in a vicious and dangerous manner, or has caused serious injury or death to a dog or other animal, the district court judge or magistrate having jurisdiction over the alleged matter, shall issue an Order to Show Cause, to be served upon the owner and directing the owner to appear in court and show cause as to why the animal should not be destroyed.

Section 5-152 (b) shall amended as follows:

(b) Upon filing of a sworn complaint or petition as provided in subsection (a), the court or magistrate shall order the owner to immediately surrender the animal over to the Township Animal Control Authority or Designee, licensed veterinarian, or a boarding kennel at the owner's expense and at the direction of the Township Police Department, to be retained by that entity until a hearing is held and a decision is made regarding the disposition of the animal. The Township Police Department shall notify the entity that has custody of the animal under this section, of the court's orders. The expense of the boarding, retention and subsequent disposition required for the animal, is to be borne by the owner. The animal shall not be returned to the owner until it has a current rabies vaccination and a license as required by law.

Section 5-153 (b) shall be amended as follows:

Section 5-153 (b) If the court or magistrate finds that an animal is a dangerous animal and is not on the dangerous animal list described in section (1) below and has not caused serious injury or death to a person, the court or magistrate shall notify the Township Police Department of the finding of the court, the name of the owner of the dangerous animal, and the address at which the animal was kept at the time of the finding of the court. In lieu of destroying the animal, the court or magistrate shall order the owner of that animal to do one (1) or more of the following:

- (1) If the animal has been found to be a dangerous animal and is of the *Canis familiaris* species, the animal must be registered with the Township Police Department and designated as a dangerous animal and shall remain so designated until the animal is removed from the Township or dies.
- (2) Require the owner of the dangerous animal to take specific steps, such as installing an escape proof fence or enclosure, including a top or roof, to ensure that the animal cannot escape or to ensure that unauthorized individuals are denied access to the secured area.
- (3) Have the animal sterilized.
- (4) Require the owner to obtain liability insurance coverage in an amount not less than \$500,000 to protect the public from any damage or harm caused by the animal in the future.
- (5) Require the owner to leash and/or muzzle the dangerous animal at all times while the dangerous animal is not located within the secure area.
- (6) Take any other action appropriate to protect the public.

Section 5-153 (c) shall be amended and the following language added:

(continued on page 25)



Sumpter Township Public Notice



(continued from page 24)

Section 5-153 (c). Investigations.

All vicious animal complaints shall be investigated by the Sumpter Township Police Department within 24 hours of receiving such a complaint, unless extenuating circumstances should exist or otherwise prevent any such investigation.

Sec. 4. Penalties.

Section 5-154 (e) shall be amended as follows:

(e) The court may order a person convicted under this section to pay all court costs along with the actual costs of prosecution.

Sec. 5. Repeal of Prior Conflicting and Inconsistent Provisions.

Conflicting Ordinances. All prior ordinances adopted by the Township of Sumpter inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, hereby expressly repealed.

Sec. 6. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect 30 days after the publication of the same in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

Sec. 7. Recorded in the Record of the Township.

This Ordinance shall be recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Code of Ordinances upon adoption. This Ordinance shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Township Supervisor and the Township Clerk. A true copy of the complete ordinance can be inspected at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, Michigan 48111.

This Ordinance is hereby adopted by the Township of Sumpter, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular Board meeting held on September 27, 2016.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.

Clerk

Sumpter Township

Publish: October 6, 2016

*To build a better world,
start in your own community!*

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

REPROGRAMMING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.** regarding the proposed use of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider the reprogramming / transfer of the following funds and the creation of a new Program Year 2015 activity to demolish and remove condemned buildings and structures (including single-family homes) that are uninhabitable.

Qualifying the Project

The demolition project would meet the qualifying standards for CDBG projects as follow:

- National Objective – Elimination of Slums and Blight
- Eligible Activity – Clearance and Demolition (HUD Matrix Code 04)

The Township will comply with all CDBG regulations pertaining to project qualification.

Proposed Funding Sources

The cost of each demolition will be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on the scope of the demolition and whether asbestos abatement is required. To establish funding for the demolition program, the Township proposes to use the following funding:

- Reprogram (transfer) 2015 balance:
 - Activity #15-30-03F, Public Facilities & Improvements - \$25,000.00
 - (Repairs and site improvements in Van Buren Park) **TOTAL \$25,000.00**

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m., the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting to request accommodations.

Posted: October 6, 2016

Published: October 6, 2016

Court watching

(continued from page 21)

Braxton for violation of probation on drug charges and spent 60 days in jail and 60 days in a half-way house. Roberts' court-appointed attorney David Lankford said Roberts cut his tether off while on probation. Sumpter Police Chief Eric Luke said he had no problem with the personal bond proposed by Judge Green, although he is incarcerated by Judge Braxton and was arraigned on probation violation charges at circuit court on Sept. 29.

Richard Elmer Smith, Jr.

Richard Elmer Smith, Jr., 47, was present for his probable cause conference and is demanding a preliminary exam on Oct. 5. He is charged with operating while intoxicated-3rd and driving while license suspended-2nd in Belleville on March 14, 2015. He is free on \$10,000 personal recognizance bond. Belleville Officer Jeff Wickham is the officer in charge of the case. Smith's retained attorney is Michael Vincent.

Linda Ann Fields

Linda Ann Fields, 48, was present for her preliminary exam on three cases of driving while intoxicated and one charge of driving while license suspended, all in Van Buren Township in May and June of 2015. Her attorney Scott Weinberg said she is waiving her preliminary exam on all three cases and will be at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Oct. 12 to face the charges. She is labeled a habitual offender. She is free after posting bond.

"Stop worrying about the world ending today. It's already tomorrow in Australia."

– Charles M. Schulz

Van Buren Township
Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 529 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Sept. 25:
0221 – disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1058 – assault & battery, Jackson St.
1131 – breaking & entering, Pine Dr.
1238 – malicious destruction of property, McBride
1350 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1428 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1446 – property damage accident, Westlake Cir.
1455 – assault & battery, N. Bellridge Dr.
1619 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1846 – breaking & entering, Bemis Rd.
2219 – malicious destruction of property, E. Huron River Dr.
Monday, Sept. 26:
0320 – harassment call, Park Estates
0537 – suicide or attempt, Lighthouse Dr.
0848 – suicide or attempt, Comerica/S. I-94 Service Dr.
1002 – assault & battery, Lighthouse Dr.
1037 – personal injury accident, North I-94 Service Dr./Beck Rd.
1259 – larceny, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.
1306 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.
1348 – malicious destruction of property, Bak Rd.
1533 – property damage accident, Atchinson Ford
1617 – retail fraud, Rawsonville Rd.
1657 – trespassing, Peachtree
1837 – harassment call, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2033 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.
2132 – noise complaint, America
Tuesday, Sept. 27:
0202 – disturbance, Bemis Rd.
1045 – assault & battery, Hull Rd.
1103 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1312 – property damage accident, Briarwood Ct.
1424 – property damage accident, Belleville / McDonald’s
1426 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1540 – property damage accident, N. Cumberland
1610 – larceny from auto, Belleville Rd.
1625 – breaking & entering, E. Archwood Dr.
1727 – suicide or attempt, Rose Blvd.
1817 – PPO violation, Oak Ln.
1901 – intimidation threat, Belleville Rd.
2008 – vehicle repossession, Oak Ln.
2052 – noise complaint, Wildflower Ct.
2230 – private property incident, Belleville Rd.
Wednesday, Sept. 28:
0527 – vehicle repossession, Western St.
0707 – breaking & entering, E. Huron River Dr.
0718 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. Bellridge Dr.
0917 – vehicle repossession, Aspen Ln.
1017 – larceny, Denton Rd.
1321 – abandoned auto, Haggerty Rd./Tyler Rd.
1643 – abandoned auto, Tyler Rd./Jackson St.
1654 – neighbor trouble, Savage Rd.
1710 – civil matter, Rose Blvd.
1905 – neighbor trouble, Parkwood
2121 – assault & battery, Brandi
2221 – private property accident, Nautica Dr.
2248 – fight, Lighthouse Dr.
2253 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2309 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
Thursday, Sept. 29:
0041 – property damage accident, Rawsonville/S. I-94 Service Dr.
0139 – larceny, Westlake
0733 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1350 – breaking & entering, Salem Ct.
1458 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
1617 – property damage accident, Freedom Way
1649 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1738 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
1742 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Quirk Rd.
1944 – fight, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
2019 – intimidation threat, W. Huron River Dr.
2056 – missing person, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2106 – shots fired, Sadie Ln.
2135 – intimidation threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.

2140 – assault & battery, Aspen Ln.
2344 – private property accident, Industrial
Friday, Sept. 30:
0256 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0324 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Oak Ln.
0739 – vehicle repossession, Hayes St.
0821 – breaking & entering, Denton Rd.
1103 – malicious destruction of property, Linda Vista Ct.
1122 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd. / Hull Rd.
1154 – fraud, Stonebridge Ct.
1213 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1317 – assist citizen, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty
1401 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1435 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1444 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1542 – malicious destruction of property, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1547 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1620 – fraud, Brookside Dr.
1720 – breaking & entering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1807 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2027 – breaking & entering, Parkwood Dr.
2054 – noise complaint, S. Bellridge Dr.
2232 – suicide or attempt, Belleville Rd.
2332 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
Saturday, Oct. 1:
0158 – disturbance, Hanover Dr.
0231 – disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0309 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Village Green
0431 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
0817 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1125 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
1312 – fraud, S. Woodbury Dr.
1516 – disorderly conduct, Quirk Rd.
1557 – hunting complaint, Haggerty Rd.
1602 – hunting complaint, N. Woodbury Dr.
1701 – assault & battery, Revere Dr.
1735 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1821 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1845 – abandoned auto, Morton Taylor/Ecorse
1938 – intimidation threat, Richard Run
2214 – family trouble, Van Buren St.
Also on this week’s log are 198 traffic stops, 59 of which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police
Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 25:
0209 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
0300 – domestic assault, Church St.
1114 – prisoner transport, Main St.
1220 – suspicious situation, W. Huron River Dr. / Harbour Pointe
2040 – property check, Harbour Pointe Dr.
2353 – intrusion alarm, South St.
Monday, Sept. 26:
0305 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
0840 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Owen
0958 – juvenile complaint, Henry
1124 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1242 – intrusion alarm, Light Tower Dr.
1806 – animal complaint, Anaheim St.
1934 – property damage accident, Main/Denton
2152 – suspicious person, E. Columbia/Madelon
2230 – suspicious person, Henry St.
Tuesday, Sept. 27:
0058 – breaking & entering, Belle Villa Blvd.
0144 – malicious destruction of property, Owen
0727 – intrusion alarm, E. Waterbury Ct.
1020 – assist fire dept., Third St.
1105 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1648 – agency assist, Menlo Park Dr.
1930 – civil matter, Main
Wednesday, Sept. 28:
0031 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
0158 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe
0314 – domestic assault, N. Liberty St.
1728 – noise complaint, Victorian Ct.
2019 – missing person, Carmell
Thursday, Sept. 29:
0803 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
0837 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1504 – property damage accident, South St.

1529 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
1839 – suspicious vehicle, Citgo
Friday, Sept. 30:
0157 – assault & battery, Main St.
0637 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
1035 – welfare check, Church St.
1154 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1214 – follow up, Church St.
1448 – traffic complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1503 – juvenile complaint, Light Tower Ct.
1507 – welfare check, Madelon St.
1627 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1901 – property damage, W. Columbia Ave.
2134 – assist fire dept., Main St.
2242 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
Saturday, Oct. 1:
0945 – neighbor trouble, N. Liberty St.
1007 – disorderly conduct, Victory Park
1254 – civil matter, N. Liberty St.
1641 – intrusion alarm, Owen
2231 – domestic assault, Carmell St.
Also on this week’s log are 24 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township
Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Sept. 25:
0330 – well-being check, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1020 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1130 – suspicious incident, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1151 – malicious destruction of property, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1308 – citizen assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1322 – ordinance violation, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1346 – found property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1520 – subpoena service, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1602 – recovered property, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1629 – noise complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
2047 – noise complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
2227 – trespassing complaint, Edgewood
Monday, Sept. 26:
0811 – malicious destruction of property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0837 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0840 – neighbor dispute, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1133 – suspicious vehicle, Virginia
1249 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1346 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1926 – assist other agency, 20000 bl. Haggerty
2029 – civil dispute, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2057 – suspicious person, Wyoming
2142 – warrant arrest pickup, 20000 bl. Haggerty
Tuesday, Sept. 27:
1101 – malicious destruction of property, Carriage Ln.
1116 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
1132 – animal complaint, Nevada
1255 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1637 – ordinance violation, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1908 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2140 – larceny, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
Wednesday, Sept. 28:
0503 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0753 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
0947 – fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1458 – mental health commitment, Nevada
1937 – suspicious incident, 5100 bl. Wear Rd.
Thursday, Sept. 29:
0324 – suspicious person, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0751 – traffic hazard, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
0819 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
0824 – larceny, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0833 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1240 – malicious destruction of property, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1430 – alarm, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2022 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
Friday, Sept. 30:
0000 – noise complaint, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
0346 – alarm, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
0606 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0949 – runaway juvenile, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1049 – malicious destruction of property, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1118 – assist other agency, out of township
1307 – assist other agency, out of township
1601 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1650 – civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
1912 – citizen assist, Willow/Sumpter
1938 – family trouble, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2155 – warrant arrest pick up, Carriage Ln.
2246 – assault, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Saturday, Oct. 1:
0021 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0324 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
0353 – suspicious vehicle, Virginia
0626 – reckless driver, Rawsonville/Willow
0923 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1234 – missing recovered, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1749 – well-being check, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
1858 – alarm, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1902 – well-being check, Carriage Ln.
1947 – fireworks complaint, 47000 bl. Harris Rd.
1958 – animal complaint, Willow/Martinsville
2035 – civil dispute, Edgewood
2107 – warrant arrest pick up, Rustic Ln.
2124 – warrant arrest pick up, 50000 Willow Rd.
2130 – noise complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
2253 – fight, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2330 – noise complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
Also on this week’s log are 11 follow-up investigations, 33 miscellaneous details, 95 patrol checks, and 26 traffic stops.

Armed robber hits BP gas station

Van Buren Township police are seeking a black male who robbed the BP gas station at Haggerty Road and I-94 early Sunday morning and got away with about \$1,100 in cash and \$150 in cigarettes. VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain said at 12:17 a.m. Sunday the VBT dispatch center received a 911 call from an employee at the BP station stating an armed robbery had just occurred.

The employee told officers that while he was vacuuming the store he saw the suspect enter and then walk around the store for several minutes. Eventually, the man walked up to the counter. Then, he reached into his waistband and pulled out a revolver and pointed it at the employee.

The suspect forced the employee to the secured cash register area and made him empty the cash drawer and place all the cash into a plastic bag along with two cartons of cigarettes. The gunman then ordered the employee to lay face down on the floor until the man left the store in an unknown direction.

The suspect is described as a black male, possibly in his 30s, about 5’10” tall, 200 pounds, medium to stocky build, wearing grey sweatpants, grey sweatshirt, and a white baseball cap with a blue brim that said “DETROIT” in block blue letters on the cap.

Director Laurain said the employee described the weapon used as a black, revolver-style pistol. Laurain said this suspect is considered armed and dangerous and any information on this robbery should be reported to the VBT Detective Bureau at (734) 699-8930.

Tie gang railroad work closes part of Hannan

The railroad crossing on Hannan Road between Huron River Drive and Northline Road will be closed Oct. 10-14 for work by the railroad’s tie gang. Hannan is the boundary line between Van Buren Township and the City of Romulus. Last week end, the tie gang closed Romaine Street in the City of Romulus between Goddard and Menton roads. The railroad is doing track maintenance on those crossings.

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Photo courtesy of Cynthia Hewlett

When attorney Victor Walbridge saw the scarecrow that was put up near his office on Monday morning, he said, "That could be me," and posed for a picture. Walbridge has an office with attorney Barbara Rogalle Miller at 321 Main Street in downtown Belleville, next door to the scarecrow in front of Century 21. The scarecrows are part of the Booville celebration during the month of October.



TOP 3

**REASONS TO KEEP OUR
PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT**

- ✓ **MAINTAIN LOW EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIMES.**
- ✓ **MAINTAIN LOW INSURANCE RATES.**
- ✓ **MAINTAIN PAYING ONE OF THE LOWEST MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAXES IN WAYNE COUNTY AND HAVING SOME OF THE HIGHEST PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES.**

Vote "YES" November 8, 2016
WITHOUT YOUR VOTE THERE WILL BE NO REVENUE
DEDICATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Our Neighboring Communities Local Tax Rates

Community	Local Tax Rate (Mills)*
City of Westland	18.8823 Municipal Mills
City of Belleville	18.1260 Municipal Mills
Ypsilanti Township	14.9681 Municipal Mills
City of Romulus	13.5579 Municipal Mills
Canton Township	10.9000 Municipal Mills
Van Buren Township	7.4144 Municipal Mills (Proposed)
Van Buren Town EXPIRED	4.9144 Municipal Mills (Current)
Sumpter Township	4.7904 Municipal Mills

*Millage rates given reflect ONLY municipal rate
(Excludes the rates of all other taxing jurisdictions, i.e., county, schools, etc.)

Data Sources:

- 2015 Apportionment Report, Charter County of Wayne
- Washtenaw County 2015 Apportionment Report

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BELLEVILLE LAKE



44035 S I-94 SERVICE DR, VAN BUREN BELLEVILLE LAKE! - FULL BRICK HOME. 3 Bedroom (Possible 4th), 2 Baths, 1,845 Square Feet, Basement, Two Enclosed Porches, Two Kitchens, Stoves, Refrigerators and Living Rooms. More than 1 Acre, 65 Feet of Lake Frontage, 2 1/2 Car Garage And Much More. The Most Affordable Home on Belleville Lake. \$259,900.

BELLEVILLE LAKE



43989 S I-94 SERVICE DR, VAN BUREN PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED for Optimum Living and Lakefront Enjoyment. Features 4 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, Two Fireplaces, Two Kitchens, Central Vacuum, 1.63 Acres with more than 182 Feet of Lake Frontage with Newer Seawall. 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage Plus Large Heated Workshop. \$624,900

BRICK - 2 GARAGES



19137 SUMPTER, SUMPTER BRICK RANCH FEATURING 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths and More to See! 1,500+ Square Feet, Open Kitchen - Dining Area, Large Entertainment Room, 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage PLUS an Extra 1 1/2 Detached Garage, Paved Street, City Water and City Sewer. Live in the Country just Minutes to Shopping and Expressways. \$150,000

ORIGINAL OWNER



12540 BECK, VAN BUREN NATURE'S BEAUTY SURROUNDS this Full Brick Ranch with Walkout Basement in THE Preferred Location. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Family Room with Fireplace, Central Air and Four Seasons Room. Large Barn & Near Belleville Lake. Built with Quality, Fine Design and Pampered with Loving Care \$219,900

UPDATED CLASSIC DESIGN



6315 DENTON, VAN BUREN CLASSIC LINES AND TIMELESS DESIGN. Impressive and Updated 4 Bedroom Victorian Home with Wrap Porch Master Bedroom with Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Basement, High Energy Efficient Furnace and Updating Everywhere. 2 1/2 Car Garage PLUS Bonus Second Home w 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$194,900

3 BR - 2 BA + POLE BARN



18730 SAVAGE, SUMPTER BEST OF COUNTRY LIVING in this 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath brick and vinyl ranch on 2.18 Acres. 1500+ Square Feet, with Huge Family Room, Two Fireplaces, Skylights, plus 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage. Paved Street, TWO LOTS plus Pole Barn with Entertainment Upper Area and Priced to Sell at \$209,900

3 LOTS - BELLEVILLE



242 CHURCH, BELLEVILLE TRIPLE LOT AND CHARACTER-RICH with original details. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Larger Kitchen, Impressive Formal Dining Room with Large Living Room, Fireplace, Hardwood Floors and Basement. This home includes, Big 3 Car Garage, Rear Deck & Fish Pond. **NOW \$229,900.**

HURON TOWNSHIP



21239 OTTER, HURON TOWNSHIP LIVE THAT COUNTRY LIFE just minutes from everywhere. Great location and Updated, This Huron Township Country Home offers 2 Bedrooms, 1 Newer Bath, Newer Furnace, Newer Vinyl Siding, Side Deck, Shed, on 2.37 Acres of Green Grass, Trees and Wildlife. Priced at \$134,900

UPDATED AND 2+ ACRES



23260 KARR, SUMPTER IMPRESSIVE AND UPDATED 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch with Granite Counter Tops & SS Appliance. Large Living Room with Fireplace, and Hardwood Floors. Formal Dining Room Master Bath with Jetted Tub and Separate Shower. Central air and ceiling fans, Attached Garage, Shed and on 2.2 Acres. \$209,900

EASY LIVING & 1 ACRE



20700 GENTZ, HURON TOWNSHIP EVERYTHING YOU'VE EVER WANTED AND MORE! Updated with Fresh Paint and New Carpet. Large Huron Township 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch featuring Family Room, Formal Dining Area, Master Bedroom with Huge Queen Size Master Bath. 2 1/2 Car Garage, Large One Acre Yard, Huron Schools and Paved Street. \$134,900.

AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
VACANT MCKEAN 11+ ACRES \$85,000
RAWSONVILLE & JUDD 78 AC \$400,000
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES \$35,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000

25817 SUMPTER RD. 97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$25,000
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10AS \$59,500

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS \$30,000 TO \$40,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES \$30,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES \$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$25,000
BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$29,000

BELLEVILLE
337 MAIN ST. 83X165 \$79,500
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES \$35,000
47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES \$176,000
VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES \$29,750

VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$30,000
VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES \$129,000
6422 GILMORE 82X165 LOT WITH WATER AND SEWER - PRICED RIGHT AT \$19,500
BOG ROAD 2.74 ACRES \$47,500
5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES \$31,000



**2016 F-150
SUPERCAB XLT
4x4**

24 month lease for
\$268/mo.*
REBATES UP TO \$7,300.
BUY AS LOW AS \$31,991.



2017 FUSION SE

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\$133/mo.*
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AWD SE**

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