



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.51 Thursday, December 22, 2016 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**



The home of Richard and Wendy Rytman, Jr., 723 Harbour Pointe Court, was named top decorated home in Harbour Pointe subdivision.



The home of Elliot and Kera Jokinen, 336 Victorian Ln., was judged to have the best decorations in Victoria Commons subdivision.



Harold and Elizabeth Kelsey, 237 Robbe St., had the top decorated home in the "Balance of Belleville" category.



The Morin Family, 77 Carmell, had the top decorated home in mobile home parks in the city of Belleville.



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Independent photos by Bob Mytych

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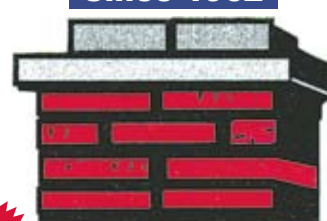
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Court Watching:

Chapman's DNA case postponed 45 days to negotiate with circuit ct.

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A bench trial had been set for Dec. 14 before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley to reconsider a misdemeanor charge against James Forrest Chapman, 57, of Van Buren Township, for refusing to give VBT police a DNA sample after an arrest on June 3.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Nadine Hammoud Chapman began by explaining the background of the case, noting it was dismissed in district court and the Prosecutor's office appealed the dismissal and circuit court remanded it back to Judge Oakley's courtroom for reconsideration.

She said the media (*Independent*) reported that Judge Oakley said if they send the case



Chapman

back to him, the same decision to dismiss would be made.

Judge Oakley agreed that he said he would dismiss again. He said the circuit court said he abused his discretion, but the circuit court gave him no guidance and he had no reason to think his interpretation of the new law requiring DNA samples is faulty.

"If he makes the same motion, I will make the same decision," Judge Oakley said. "Nothing else is changed." He referred to defense attorney John Day's motion to dismiss.

"That I abused my discretion is false," Judge Oakley said. "My job is to make my interpretation of the statute. This was appealed by the People and the circuit court said it was inaccurate. This was not an abuse of discretion.

"I'm not recusing myself," Judge Oakley stated. "Give me a brief from the Prosecutor's office – which I never have

seen, ever."

Jerry Dorsey IV, chief of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office Trial Division, entered the courtroom and was given the floor.

He said if they go forward with the bench trial that day and the judge makes the same decision to dismiss, it would preclude the People from coming back.

Dorsey suggested they stay these proceedings and get a motion.

"You were not authorized to dismiss under those circumstances," Dorsey said, adding the parties could submit briefs.

"I never wanted to hear from the circuit court – let me be clear," Judge Oakley said. "If I had guidance, at least I'd know what they were thinking."

Dorsey again asked Judge Oakley to stay the proceedings so the parties can submit briefs.

"I think the People are out of luck if we go to trial," Dorsey said. "The judge makes

Supreme Court of the United States rules on Maryland v. King

Argued Feb. 26, 2013

Decided June 3, 2013

Holding: "When officers make an arrest supported by probable cause to hold for a serious offense and bring the suspect to the station to be detained in custody, taking and analyzing a cheek swab of the arrestee's DNA is, like fingerprinting and photographing, a legitimate police booking procedure that is reasonable under the Fourth Amendment."

a decision and ..."

Defense attorney Day said he filed a motion for dismissal and there was no filing from the Prosecutor's office.

Day said the circuit court had attached just one sentence in sending the case back

(continued on page 13)

VBT Director Akers: Menard set to start VBT construction this spring

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Menard home improvement store representatives have alerted Van Buren Township officials that it will begin construction of its VBT store this spring.

In July 2015, Menard received final site plan approval from the township to build a 1,019,014-square-foot store on 27.24 acres of vacant property just north of Walmart on Belleville Road.

They expected to start construction in 2016, but then in 2016 it announced it was delaying construction for a year and expected to start in 2017.

At the Dec. 14 meeting of the VBT Planning Commission, Director of Planning

and Economic Development Ron Akers said he received an email from Menard with that announcement.

Akers said Menard representatives plan to come to a VBT Planning Commission meeting in January to seek a change to the site plan that has been approved. They want to reduce the size of the storage facility behind the store and Akers said that should not be a problem.

Sumpter/Hull

When asked about the onsite activity at the southeast corner of Sumpter and Hull roads, Akers said the parcel on the corner is zoned Commercial and the rest of the farmland there is zoned for Agriculture.

He said if anyone wanted to build

something commercial on the farmland they would have to seek rezoning and changing the Master Plan. He said no one has approached the township with a request.

Bemis/Sumpter

Planning Commissioner Joan Franzoi asked what was going on at the northwest corner of Bemis and Sumpter roads, and Matthew Best, Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development, said the parcel on that corner is zoned Commercial and the "L" around it is zoned Agriculture.

He said someone has been looking into building a residence on the "L."

Walmart

Akers said his department has given

administrative approval to Walmart for refreshing the outside of the building with paint and clearcoat brick sealant and extensive material remodeling. He said the elevation and colors won't change, but signage is proposed.

Wendy's, Belleville Road

Administrative approval also has been given to Wendy's at 11000 Belleville Road to "refresh their look," according to Akers.

Wendy's will be removing its solarium and making the restaurant smaller, replacing doors and windows and renovations on the inside, he said. They plan to reseat the parking lot and make sidewalk changes.

Boelter suggests monthly stipends for district library board members

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Dec. 13, at his last meeting as a member of the Belleville Area District Library Board, Michael Boelter suggested a monthly stipend for the seven board members.

He said the city council in Belleville and the township board members in Sumpter and Van Buren get paid.

He suggested \$40 for board members and \$60 for the chairperson, making a total of \$300 a month.

Boelter did not run for reelection to the board and he wouldn't benefit from this pay. His replacement, Alma Hughes Grubbs, will take over his seat in January.

Library Director Mary Jo Suchy said the state act caps such payments at \$30 a meeting.

"I didn't get a chance to research this," said board attorney John Day, who wasn't informed of the proposal before the meeting.

"We don't want to act on something without researching it," said chairwoman Sharon Peters. "We have to look at it with some kind of process."

She suggested sending it to the bylaw committee, chaired by John Juriga.

Peters said that Boelter has a long length of service on the board, since 2010, and as long as he has suggested this they should look into it since Boelter felt it was

important.

"A stipend is a tax-deductible item," Boelter said.

"We need to act in a way that's well-researched," Peters stated.

Boelter is the great-grandson of Fred C. Fischer for whom the Belleville library was built and named. A few years ago the name was changed to the Belleville Area District Library.

Boelter said he did not run for reelection because of conflicts with his work schedule.

In November, voters approved a bond and millage to build a new library and increased millage for operation of the new library.

At the end of the meeting, the board and audience enjoyed chocolate cake to celebrate Boelter's service. Mary Jane Dawson said she suggests they make the address of the new library "1 Fred Fischer Drive," which pleased Boelter.

"We were appointed by the townships and the city in the beginning and we didn't know a lot of what we were doing," Boelter said. "We learned. We have a very strong board now."

Board chairwoman Sharon Peters said she enjoyed working with Boelter, "who has the blood of Fred C. Fischer coursing through his veins."

In other business at the Dec. 13 meeting,

(continued on page 19)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Peace on earth, good will toward men

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:1-14

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

You probably have noticed by now: The East Huron River Drive bridge over the Huron River is now open again. It opened on Sunday. The roadway is now smooth, but the walls along the bridge still are deteriorated to show the rebar.

For the past couple of weeks, the traffic that used to go over that bridge was diverted to various routes. Downtown Belleville traffic was very heavy. There were a lot of trips to New Boston along Hannan Road and some drivers went through the Metro Park and had to pay a \$10 daily fee. Some were very grumpy about that.

At one point I decided to go through the Metro Park and pay the fee, but there was no one in the toll booth at either of the entrances. I entered at Bemis Road.

Library architect Dan Whisler is very enthusiastic about his work and he likes to explain it in detail. I've been listening to him for more than 10 years in various venues and he never is brief.

So, at the Dec. 13 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library board, when he got ready to talk about the topographical survey he began with, "I'll try to make it short."

From somewhere within me came an audible laugh and the board stopped its meeting and all eyes were on me. I apologized, of course. I do try to be the fly on the wall and not interfere in the meetings, but this time I just laughed, out loud.

Dan turned to me and said he wished me to record my "smirk." Well, here it is.

And, of course, his report on the survey and all those who bid on the work and what you cannot do with piles of snow on the site was quite lengthy. But, maybe it wasn't as



long as it could have been.

Charles Tackett, who lives in Florida and Van Buren Township, said he's been thinking about "parity."

He said although the VBT Public Safety Department got voters to approve 2.5 additional mills to add to its 4 mills in 2018, the township still, even with 6.5 mills, does not pull in enough money to support the whole department.

He said he's asking for parity. He said big stores like Meijer and Walmart make a lot of use of the township police and fire departments, while homeowners seldom need to call on them for help. Parity is needed, he said.

Charles said a payment for police and fire service from the big budgets of Meijer and Walmart would be miniscule to them, but would bring parity to the situation.

I gave a post office box address in this column for the Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue a few weeks back. Now, I learn FMAR no longer has a P.O. Box. Its address is 51299 Arkona Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Sorry about that.

At the end of Tuesday's regular board meeting, Van Buren Township's new supervisor, Kevin McNamara, told all of the board members to say together "Merry Christmas" and they did.

Then, Trustee Reggie Miller told him

he had done it too soon and the meeting wasn't over because they hadn't gotten to the "Non-Agenda Items" where the public can speak.

"Whoops. I knew I'd do something wrong," Supervisor McNamara said. He's new to this township board stuff, but he's learning.

Resident Ernie Tozier wanted to ask about the fifth amendment to the Woodland Meadows landfill host agreement that was recently discussed by the previous board – and then silence. McNamara said the new board would be studying that in January.

Earlier in the meeting, Supervisor McNamara said the announcement of Menards coming to VBT makes him feel like Charlie Brown and Lucy with the football. He hopes that Menards really is going to be built now.

Trustee Paul White said when he was supervisor he worked to get Menards here and it was coming to the Farmer Jack area, but then didn't come. He said the store will bring 75 full-time job and 75 part-time jobs and he is delighted it's finally coming.

Merry Christmas to you and yours. We love doing this paper for you and thank God for making it possible.





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Letters

**Thank you for helping
Children's Party**

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a most heartfelt THANK YOU to all those that donated to the 2016 Sumpter Township Annual Children's Christmas Party.

Please allow me to acknowledge our benefactors of this event:
Alan D Bates, Avengers MC, Belleville Rotary, Benito's 5 Star, Biker's United, Brown Funeral Home, Burhop Collision, Burnham & Flower, Carlisle/Wortman Associates, Inc., CRG Electric, Davenport Brothers Construction, Don Swinson, Express Tire & Sumpter Collision, Fox Auto, Hennessey Engineers, Higerson & Neal Funeral Home, Honey Pest Control, Honorable Judge David Parrott, Honorable Judge Tina Green, Insurance Auto Auction, Janowiak Funeral Home, John W. Morgan, Kellers Real Farm Bakery, Martin & Son, Matthew Oddy, Moose Lodge #934, Post, Smythe, Lutz & Ziel, Pumpkin Factory, Republic Services, Rod Porter Construction, Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission, The Bake Shoppe, WCA Assessing, Wise Technologies LLC, Wolverine Power, Works of Joy, Zywicki Greenhouses.

A special thanks to the numerous volunteers that selflessly contributed their time to insure the success of the Children's Christmas Party. Without the generosity of those that contributed, not only monetarily but with their time, this event could not remain the success and tradition it has become.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!
John W. Morgan
Sumpter Township Supervisor

**Light display to music
put up in north VBT**

To the Editor:

It has been suggested by several recent visitors that I reach out to you and let you know about the computer controlled, set-to-music Christmas light display that I have put on. I recognize it's fairly late in the season, but thought I would pass on my information in case you were interested.

You can see some details on my Facebook page @vanburenlights including video and pictures.

The display is located at 45034 Lindsey Drive in Bellepointe Estates (Van Buren Township) northeast of the intersection of Ecorse and Belleville roads.

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Happy Holidays!
David Girard
VanBurenLights

**Bethany CHRISTmas
concert was inspiring**

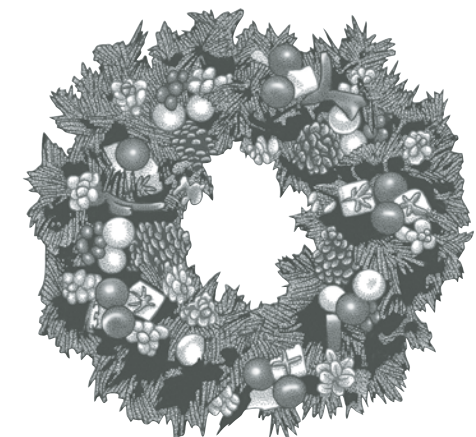
To the Editor:

"Let There Be Light," a CHRISTmas presentation, was performed last Saturday night and Sunday morning by the choir of Bethany Bible Church and even though the weather was threatening, the community's faithful attendees were thrilled and inspired by this dynamic and beautiful musical presentation.

For many years, I have looked forward to attending Bethany's CHRISTmas concert and have never been disappointed. This year's performance was no exception! Under the direction of John Losen, Jr., the choir, soloists, and narration were outstanding. Repeatedly and correctly, emphasis was placed on "The Cross" itself.

As is the custom at Bethany Church's CHRISTmas concerts, the entire audience stood while they and the choir sang Handel's Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah."

My family, along with many grateful tri-community citizens say: Thank you Bethany Bible Church choir for your faithful musical contribution of Faith, Hope and Light.
(Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker
Belleville



Santa's Mailbox
Santa's Mailbox is outside next to the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce for the children to send their letters to the Jolly Old Elf. The Chamber is located at 248 Main Street, Belleville.

More Letters

I had all the Clintons, Bushes I could take

To the Editor:

Some letters in the *Independent* a few days ago indicated some disappointment in the election of President-elect Trump.

About two years ago it was apparent that both major parties had already decided who they wanted. Now, I'm sure the Bushes are fine people and we know the Clintons' background, but I had all the Clintons and Bushes I could take.

If I can ask: Who the heck is Jill Stein?

Mickey Widener

Van Buren Township



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Obituaries



Deborah Lynn Dotson

DEBORAH LYNN DOTSON

(June 10, 1963 – December 8, 2016)

Deborah Lynn Dotson, of Belleville and longtime resident of Milford, passed away in the loving care of her family on December 8, 2016 at the age of 53.

Deb is survived by Dennis, her beloved husband of 34 years; son David Dotson; daughter Danell Dotson; grandchildren, Brooklyn Troy, Sienna Troy, Carter Dotson, Eris Troy, and Ivey Troy; brother Jerry Lewellen; sister Lisa Papke as well as many nieces, nephews, extended family, and dear friends. Deb was preceded in death by her father, Gerald Lewellen and her sister, Alice Lowing.

A Funeral Service was held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, on December 12, 2016. Burial at Milford Memorial Cemetery. Memorials to: the American Red Cross. P.O. Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839.

For further information, please phone Lynch & Sons, 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

DAVID LYNN BAUM

(October 25, 1956 – December 17, 2016)

David Lynn Baum, 60, of Houghton Lake passed away on Saturday December 17, 2016 at home with his loving family by his side.

David was born on October 25, 1956 in Wayne, Michigan to Ralph and Marjorie (Becker) Baum. David worked as an independent truck owner/operator, hauling freight for several companies. He moved to the Houghton Lake area from Ypsilanti Township five years ago. David was a member of the Houghton Lake Eagles and the Houghton Lakes Elks. He enjoyed riding his side-by-side and spending time on his boat.

Surviving Mr. Baum are his daughter, Susi Baum of MI; son, Timmy Baum of MI; three brothers Clifford Baum of FL, Bob Baum of MI, and John Baum of MI; two sisters Lori Maddox of FL and Anna Taleesie of MI; mother, Marjorie Lignal of FL; longtime companion, Peggy McMullen of Houghton Lake; several nieces and nephews. David was preceded in death by his father, Ralph.

At the request of Mr. Baum no services will be held. Memorial contributions in memory of David are asked to be directed to the charity of the donor's choice. Condolences can be sent to the family online at www.christler-holdship.com.



Bessie Lafferty

BESSIE LAFFERTY

(July 20, 1928 – December 13, 2016)

Bessie (Ramey) Lafferty, age 88, of Belleville, MI, went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday December 13, 2016, at her residence, with her family by her side.

Bessie was born in Martin, Kentucky, on July 20, 1928. She was married to Jessie Lafferty on Aug. 6, 1947 until his time of death on March 7, 2011. She is preceded in death by her parents, 5 brothers, and 4 sisters.

Bessie worked for Ford Motor Company Rawsonville plant. She was a longtime member of Faith Assembly Church in Belleville.

Bessie is survived by her 2 daughters Sue (Ronald) Komisar of Lakeland, FL and Barb (Edward) Conrad of Belleville, 8 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Visitation was 6-8 PM Thursday and 12-8 PM Friday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500. Funeral Services were 11 AM Saturday, December 17, 2016, at Faith Assembly Church, 894 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Pastor Doug Valentine officiated. The family welcomed guests at church 10-11 AM.

A procession with graveside prayers followed at Highland Cemetery, Ypsilanti, MI. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospice and would be appreciated.



Heather Lynne Pence

HEATHER LYNNE PENCE

(September 6, 1986 – December 13, 2016)

Heather Lynne Pence, age 30, of Canton, MI, passed away Tuesday, December 13, 2016, due to complications from an automobile accident. She was born September 6, 1986 in Livonia, MI, daughter of Andrew Edward Pence & Janet Lynne (Potter) Nicol. She was a 2004 graduate of Belleville High School.

Heather is survived by her mother, Janet Nicol of Canton, MI; sister Deanna (Tim) Gorham of Belleville, MI; brother Kevin Pence of Harrison, MI; two nieces Marissa (Jordan) Kranz of Havelock, North Carolina and Ashley Gorham of Belleville, MI; two nephews Joshua Gorham of Belleville, MI, and Aiden Pence of Harrison, MI; also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A Celebration of Life Service is being planned and will be announced later. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

**More
Obituaries on
page 8**

Obituaries



Harvey H. Stabnau



HARVEY H. STABNAU

(March 25, 1923 – December 13, 2016)

Harvey H. Stabnau of Belleville passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. Born March 25, 1923 to the late Otto and Olga (Leschner) Stabnau in Dearborn, Michigan, on a Ford Farm where his father was employed. The Ford Motor Company World Headquarters "Glass House" now stands at this location.

Harvey was a World War II Army veteran (1943-1946) serving in the European Theatre of Operations under General George S. Patton, fighting for our country in the Battle of the Bulge. Following his Honorable Discharge, Harvey was employed at the Ford River Rouge Complex. In the late 1950s Harvey served as a Belleville, Michigan police officer and later owned and operated Belleville's Stabnau Sinclair Service. In 1969, after many years of running his own business, Harvey took a position in facilities maintenance for American Airlines at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, where he retired in 1995 at the age of 72.

Survived by his wife of 69 years, Elaine (Graham) Stabnau, as well as four children, Jeffrey (Jacquelyn) Stabnau of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Craig (Karen) Stabnau of Missoula, Montana, Sheila Joy of Reston, Virginia, and Suzanne (Jerry) Vilicich of Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Also survived by nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, two brothers, Gerald (Mildred) Stabnau of Hillman, Michigan, and Floyd (Peggy) Stabnau of Belleville, Michigan.

Harvey was preceded in death by his above-mentioned parents, three sisters Elsie Allen, Dorothy Smith and Edna Horton, and four brothers Roy, Norman, Donald and Ronald Stabnau. At his request cremation rites have been accorded, and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Donations in his memory may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital or Arbor Hospice.

Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Belleville Very Merry Meijer event pays for \$700 cart full of presents

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

There were a lot of happy tears, reports Belleville Meijer store manager Mary Jo Hanson in telling about the third-annual *Very Merry Meijer* event at her store.

She said on Dec. 10 one unsuspecting customer at each of the 230 Meijer stores was chosen to have the contents of his/her shopping cart paid for by Meijer.

In Belleville, Manager Hanson said she looked for a shopper with a large amount of Christmas presents and, "basically, followed them around the store until they got to checkout."

She chose a family including the elderly grandmother, who was doing the shopping, and her daughter and adult grandson who were helping.

Hanson told them Meijer was "gifting" them with the contents of the shopping cart.

"They were very happy and there were a lot of tears involved, including mine," Hanson said. The shopper had about \$700 worth of merchandise in her cart. She also was presented with a \$100 gift card to pay it forward with someone who needed help or to give to a charitable organization of her choice.

And, to top it all off, the cashier who was working to check out the customer also got a \$100 gift card and thank yous for her service.

"Christmas is a time for kindness and joy, and we were so excited to bring back the *Very Merry Meijer* event once again to share the spirit of the season with those we hold dear: our customers and team members," said Executive Chairman Hank Meijer. "We are very appreciative of our customers and team members, and wanted to find a special way to wish them a very Merry Christmas."

The *Very Merry Meijer* event resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in gifts to Meijer customers in the 230 stores – with shopping carts ranging from \$400 to upwards of more than \$1,000 in value – along with a mixture of emotions that spurred tears,

hugs, and even speechlessness from very happy customers.

Meijer released a video that showcases how the retailer surprised its customers. In most cases, the store director revealed the gift upon checkout, but Hank Meijer, Board Director Doug Meijer, and Meijer President and CEO Rick Keyes also helped spread holiday cheer in some of the stores. "We strive all year long to put our customers first, and provide them with a great shopping experience through the quality products we sell, the service we provide, and the many

ways we offer savings," Keyes said. "The *Very Merry Meijer* event was an extra special way to show our appreciation and make the season bright. That is what the holidays are all about."

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Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman
Belleville City Councilman Jesse Marcotte, left, presented the top holiday home decorating award for Harbour Pointe subdivision to Ashley Rytman and her father Richard at Monday's council meeting.



Councilman Tom Smith, at right, presented the top holiday decorating award in the Mobile Home Parks category to Joshua and Nicole Morin at Monday's meeting.



Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria, right, presented the top award for home decorating in the Victoria Commons category to Elliot and Kera Jokinen.



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On Dec. 17, while helping to distribute toys and food to local families, Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows honored the late Dave Cushing who was a tireless worker for helping to make it so there was "No Child without a Christmas." He lost his battle with cancer on Oct. 14.

More Letters

Goodfellows were able to help 162 children

To the Editor:

On Saturday, Dec. 17, the Belleville / Van Buren Township Goodfellows had the pleasure of distributing boxes of food, half hams, warm children's winter coats, mittens, hats, scarfs and plenty of very special Christmas toys to

69 families with a total of 162 children.

This year's program was, at times, a solemn event for Goodfellows members as we mourn the loss of fellow member Dave Cushing, who lost his battle with cancer on Oct 14. Dave was a hard-working, dedicated member of the Goodfellows for many, many years. His years of hard work, unselfish ambition and dedication will forever be remembered. We all will miss him dearly and express our sincere condolences to his family.

The Goodfellows would like to give a huge "thank you" to local schools: Savage

Elementary, Tyler Elementary, Edgemont Elementary, McBride Middle School, Belleville High School and Keystone Academy for their very successful annual Goodfellows food drives. And, "thank you" to September Days Senior Center for their donation of food, hats, scarfs and mittens and Leo's Coney Island for allowing us to place a collection box in their establishment. Also local area businesses, organizations and residents for their very generous monetary and food donations and the Belleville City Police Department for standing in the cold collecting donations and passing out candy canes. Without all of you, this entire program would not be possible.

Aspecial thanks goes out to all the volunteers who eagerly and cheerfully gave their time

and labor picking up donated food from schools and collection boxes, sorting and boxing food, shopping for and sorting toys and coats, and working on distribution day.

All of this dedicated teamwork and generous donations allowed this year's program to run smooth and efficient, and successfully helped to fulfill the Goodfellows promise of "No Child without a Christmas."

The Goodfellows wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and the happiest holiday season, and "THANK YOU" for your continued support.

Pam Fleming, coordinator
Belleville/Van Buren Township
Goodfellows

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Lincoln Consolidated Schools exit Deficit Elimination Plan

The Lincoln Consolidated Schools Board of Education reports the district has been released from the Deficit Elimination Plan by the Michigan Department of Education.

The decision to release the district was made based on the 2015-16 audit and 2016-17 board-approved budget showing positive ending fund balances for each of those years. The approved 2016-17 budget shows the district with an 11.97% fund balance.

"I would like to thank all of the stakeholders

who contributed to the financial turnaround of the district," said School Superintendent Sean McNatt. "Without the personal sacrifice of every employee to ensure Lincoln Consolidated Schools gained a positive financial foundation, we would not have achieved this accomplishment in such a short time."

Lincoln Consolidated Schools District serves more than 3,800 students from southeast Washtenaw and southwest Wayne Counties.



Stefanie Howell, daughter of Cheryl and Kim Toms of Sumpter Township, just received her PhD in Psychology, with a concentration in Cognitive Behavioral Neuropsychology, from George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. She is pictured with her husband Richard and their children Aviana and Liam.

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Photo courtesy of Don Swinson
Leona Mixon poses with the Christmas tree she created for the Dec. 13 senior citizens' Christmas party at the Sumpter Township Senior Center. Mixon made her tree from a partially opened patio umbrella covered with fibers from burlap sacks that she pulled apart.



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Ricardo to operate mobile refueling station to test Toyota vehicles

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor
Ricardo, Inc., at 4000 Ricardo Drive, in Van Buren Township will be testing Toyota Fuel Cell Vehicles at its facility from Dec. 15 through Feb. 15.

At the Dec. 14 meeting of the VBT Planning Commission, temporary land use approval was given by the commission for Ricardo to operate a mobile refueling station for 60 days.

The applicant decided to move the mobile hydrogen refueling station trailer from the access drive, where it was first proposed to be placed, to the parking lot that is surrounded by an eight-foot security fence for security. It takes up three parking spots.

The operation of the fuel cell vehicles may be tested through driving, according to Steven Vrabel, project engineer. He said fuel will not be sent to the building and instead sent directly to the vehicle

that is refueling. He said these vehicles are designed for the use and storage of the fuel.

In other business at the Dec. 14 meeting, the commission:

- Approved the preliminary site plan for a multi-tenant retail building with drive-through for a tenant, as requested by Jason Kishmish for 10573 Belleville Road, (immediately north of Belle Tire), with eight stipulations. Kishmish said he would, if necessary, build a concrete fence along the north side of his property, as requested by Marcella Henderson who lives next door. She voiced concerns on how the proposed vinyl fence is easily damaged and how trash blows in her yard from Tim Horton's, Hungry Howie's, and Firestone. "I want to be sure my yard is protected," Henderson said. Kishmish has no tenants to announce, as yet;

- Approved the preliminary site plan for a new 7,200-square-foot warehouse to be

built at 5809 Sheldon Road, a vacant 1.73-acre parcel between Van Born and Yost, on the Canton Township border. The applicant is Schonsheck, Inc. The warehouse is for Paul Denski, Sr., of Van Buren Township, who will be repairing personally owned historic military vehicles. They were unable to get the site to percolate, so they will be using Canton's sanitary sewer and water. VBT utilities do not yet service that area. The project will be using a 1.5-foot deep bioswale for drainage;

- Approved a tree permit for associated site improvements and construction of a hotel northeast of the corner of Quirk Road and North I-94 Service Drive. Applicant is Belleville Development, Inc.; and

- Heard Patrick Sloan of McKenna Associates give a review of proposed updates to the zoning ordinance in Article 9 (Parking, Loading, and Access Management) and Article 11 (Signs).

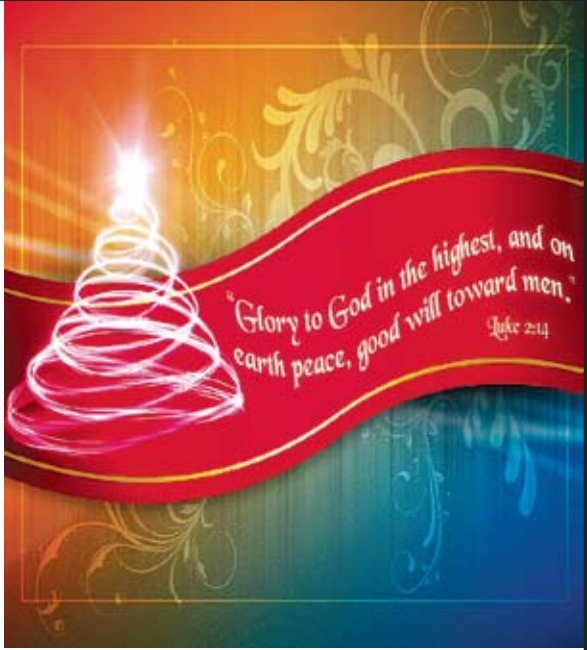
ORPHAN OF THE WEEK "COLLEEN"



Colleen will brighten up the holiday season by being the life of any party with her goofy, playful and energetic personality. She's a 1 year and 11 month old American Foxhound mix ready to jump paws first into the hearts and home of a new family. **Colleen** really loves people and can hardly wait to go home and share all her happy energy and unconditional love. Her sweet, goofy personality and puppy antics will turn any frown upside down. She still does have some puppy traits to work on and sometimes against her better judgment her high energy, excitable nature takes over. Some basic training, daily work and patience will be required once in a home to help her become her best self. She would love to have some kids to play with although ideally not small children that she could knock over with her enthusiastic playing. She's a nice medium size with a short tan and white coat and little black eye patches that give her a silly raccoon look. Start your holiday season off right by calling today to meet **Colleen**. She's spayed, vaccinated to date and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

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Court watching

(continued from page 3)

to Judge Oakley. He agreed the Prosecution should put forth its facts and it should go to circuit court before "we make a decision that's not right."

"Let the Prosecution prove there's a violation and send it to the court," Day said.

Judge Oakley said this should be prior to the trial.

"It's the same statute," said Dorsey. "Nothing is changed. We can get the interpretation consistent with what the law was intended to be."

"I don't mind," Judge Oakley said. "It's a brand-new law and it's worth a couple

hours of briefs. If you read it, I think you will agree there are problems."

"Unfortunately for Mr. Chapman, he's a defendant in two cases with the same charge," Day said. "I have tried to get these charges combined."

Judge Oakley said one DNA charge is tagged on a felony charge that now is at circuit court.

"Why can't this be combined with the circuit court charge?" Judge Oakley asked.

"You have to have the defendant agree and the court," Dorsey said. He was told the defendant did agree, but it was getting the court to agree that was the problem.

"I'm chief of the trial division," Dorsey said. "I will direct my Prosecutors to combine them, if the court permits it."

"I've been trying to get this combined,"

Day repeated.

Judge Oakley called a break in the proceedings while Dorsey and Day talked about the situation.

When court was back in session, Dorsey asked Judge Oakley to adjourn the bench trial for 45 days so they can have a ruling on the issue. It will be resolved in Circuit Judge Margaret Van Houten's courtroom or, if nothing happens there, back at district court.

An in-house review was set for 10:30 a.m., Feb. 15, in Judge Oakley's courtroom.

Chapman's trial on a felony charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer and refusing to provide a DNA sample is scheduled as a jury trial on Jan. 23 in Judge Van Houten's courtroom. It was agreed that jury trial may be postponed until this DNA issue is settled.

Chapman's first jury trial on the felony charge was held in October and then declared a mistrial after the jury room was entered by a police officer during a health emergency.

Present in Judge Oakley's courtroom on Dec. 14 were VBT Police Lt. Charles Bazy, Detective Donovan McCarthy, and Officer Patrick Wehrman.

At the end of the session there was a disruption when Chapman turned to the *Independent* reporter in the courtroom and made a cutting motion across his throat while glaring at her. Later he approached her and ordered her not to spend too much ink on the report of the session.

The VBT police officers witnessed the perceived threat and reported it to defense attorney Day. The three also walked the reporter to her car in the parking lot.

Thomas Charles Cahill

Thomas Charles Cahill, 22, had his probable cause conference before Judge Oakley by video from the Wayne County Jail where he is lodged without bond. He is accused of assault with intent to commit murder, torture, second-degree arson, larceny in a building and stealing a credit card on Dec. 2 in Sumpter Township where

he is accused of attacking his grandfather with a hammer. His preliminary exam is set for Jan. 11 with his codefendant.

Chanice Khadish Letang

Cahill's co-defendant, Chanice Khadish Letang, 20, had her probable cause conference by video on a charge of accessory after the fact to a felony. She was being held in the Wayne County Jail on \$10,000 cash bond. Her court-appointed attorney said Sumpter Police are not finished with the investigation and Prosecutor Latoya Willis supported adjourning the preliminary exam until Jan. 11. Letang's court-appointed attorney said her client is a Dominican whose mother died when she was five years old and her aunt, who lives in Belleville, adopted her. "It's not fair to have my client sitting in there for Christmas while police finish their investigation," she said. Willis said Letang is here on a green card and hadn't been staying at home. She was arrested at a local motel. Her bond was reduced to \$10,000/10% with a GPS tether. Her preliminary exam was set for Jan. 11 with Cahill's exam.

Jovon Jacob Craig

Jovon Jacob Craig, 19, was due for his probable cause conference on two charges of larceny in a building (cell phones on display) on Nov. 28 in VBT. He posted bond of \$5,000/10% and did not show up at court. Judge Oakley signed a bench warrant for him. Court records later showed at the time Craig was jailed on a larceny in a building charge out of Livonia, where he also was facing another similar charge.

Jalil Rashon-Josiah Smith

Craig's co-defendant Jalil Rashon-Josiah Smith, 20, was present for his probable cause conference and will hold his preliminary exam Dec. 28 on two charges of larceny in a building (also involving cell phones on display) in VBT on Nov. 28. He is out after posting bond of \$5,000/10%. He also has two other larceny in a building charges out of Livonia.

Michael Ray Malone

Michael Ray Malone, 36, waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Jan. 11. He is charged with possession of analogues, possession of a controlled substance, and driving while license suspended on Jan. 6, 2015 in VBT.

Greg Alan Nalepka

Greg Alan Nalepka, 33, waived his preliminary exam on charges of operating while intoxicated and no license/multiple licenses on Nov. 30 in Sumpter Township. He was bound over to circuit court on Jan. 11 for an arraignment on the information.

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More Letters

Democrats thank everyone for help with annual holiday dinner

To the Editor:

The Southwestern Wayne [County] Democratic Club, which proudly represents the democrats of the City of Belleville and Townships of Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren, kicked off the holiday season with its Annual Holiday Dinner on Friday, Dec. 2.

The event was well attended, with lots of fun, fellowship, and laughs shared by all. Michigan State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood and his daughter, MI State Representative-elect Darrin Camilleri, and Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous enjoyed the dinner and joined in the festivities.

We acknowledge and offer our deepest thanks to the following businesses and public servants for contributing baskets or items for our Auction and Raffle and urge you to support them:

Businesses & Organizations: Atchinson Ford, Crafted Modern Handmade Gifts, Dos Pesos Mexican Restaurant, Eagle Crest Golf Course, Egan's Pub, Garden Fantasy Greenhouse, Garden Fantasy on Main, JT's Pub & Grub, Leo's Coney Island, Pryde Athletics, Romulus Athletic Center, Romulus Flowers, Team Designs Hair Salon, Tim Hortons, Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course, Woodstone Grill, UAW Local 898, and UAW Region 1A.

Elected Officials: Michigan State Representative-elect Darrin Camilleri, Michigan State Representative Erika Geiss, Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous, Van Buren Township Trustee-elect Kevin (& Lisa) Martin, Michigan State Representative Kristy Pagan, and Van Buren Township Clerk Leon (& Janice) Wright.

SWDC Members: Debbie Chamberlain, Sharon Claxton, Congressman Dave & Sharon Curson, Terree Darling, David Haener, and Candace Myshock.

We invite you to mark your calendars and join us for our first meeting of the New Year, Thursday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m., at the Wayne County Fair Grounds (Dining Hall), 10871 Quirk Road, Belleville, MI.

Wishing you all a very blessed and Merry Christmas, happy holidays, peace, and a safe, happy, healthy New Year!

The Southwestern Wayne [County] Democratic Club Executive Board

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"Men stumble over the truth from time to time, but most pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened."
— Winston Churchill

Sumpter Township to consider ordinance for possible solar farm

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

A company is interested in potentially leasing property in Sumpter Township to put up a solar panels and sell electricity to one of the utility companies.

This is what Laura Kreps, planning consultant from Carlisle Wortman, said at the Dec. 13 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees.

She was brought in to give information on solar farms. Kreps said she is working on a plan to put solar panels on 600 acres of land in Augusta Township, next door to Sumpter.

"You need to decide if this is the kind of use you would want in the township," Kreps said. "It's not in your ordinance."

She said they could decide whether solar farms would be a regular use or especially permitted use.

She said it is a low-intensity use and the panels anchor into the ground. Also, the farms like to be near substations. It provides a greater tax base on Agricultural properties.

This company is looking at 20 to 40 acres in Sumpter for a smaller-type development.

Trustee Don Swinson said they can have the planning commission look at the ordinance and present it back to the board with a recommendation.

Kreps said Augusta Township had a public hearing and it is allowed in Industrial zoning as a special land use with site plan approval. She said in Augusta the applicant worked to

help the township set up the ordinance.

Kreps said when an applicant comes in, they could work with the township to amend the ordinance.

She said Carlisle Wortman, which currently services Sumpter, has some experience with solar farms.

"We have to know more about the impact on the township," said Supervisor John Morgan.

"There is no research on hazards or the negatives," Kreps said, adding it's not permanently affixed to the ground, there are no employees and no smoke or noise.

"It's less intrusive than a combine and plow," she said.

"Is this just for township properties?" asked Trustee Peggy Morgan.

"It's for any properties," Kreps said. "The township would have to decide on locations."

"Do you know if these companies get subsidies?" asked attorney Rob Young.

Kreps said the one in Augusta is having a subsidy.

When asked where the solar farm is to be in Augusta, Kreps said it was north of Arkona between Hitchingham and Willow along the railroad tracks.

When asked if the property in Sumpter is owned by Nelson Po on Willis Road, Berman said she didn't know.

The *Independent* stated Po had an offer to lease his property as a solar farm.

In other business at the Dec. 13 meeting, the board:

- Approved moving Jennifer Price and Yavetta Mills from alternate Parks and Recreation Commission members to full-

time members and moving Richard and Sharon Pokerwinski and Jim Chudzinski from full-time to alternate members. It was explained the Pokerwinskis are retired and wish to travel and Chudzinski is very busy with the three businesses he is running;

- Tabled to the next meeting, or the second meeting in January, the request from Moose Lodge #934 to extend its land contract payments for another five years, through 2023, so it can make improvements to the Moose building, including a 40x40' brick paver patio in back, \$4,000-\$5,000 in new kitchen equipment, and a video surveillance system. "It had a break in one and a half years ago and, although police got the person, it would have helped to have video surveillance of the parking lot. Township attorney Rob Young said on Nov. 18, 2013 the Moose agreed to paying \$175,000 for the building, with \$50,000 down and \$500 a month plus 3% interest. By contract they would be obligated to pay a balloon payment of \$115,000 in November 2018;

- Approved the recommendation from the planning commission for modifications to the Accessory Building ordinance for portable storage containers. Trustee Matt Oddy said a complaint came in about a storage container being used as a shed. He said shipping containers of 200 square feet are about 20' long and 8.5' wide and can be placed in the rear of the property. He said containers now have windows and roll-up doors, similar to a shed. Oddy said portable containers are allowed in the front for 30 days with reasonable restrictions;

- Approved purchase of a copier for the police department to replace the 12-year-old copier in service, at a cost of \$2,897. "Our copier is not dead, but heading towards the light," said Police Chief Eric Luke. He recommended buying a certified pre-owned copier, a Sharp from Image Business Solutions. He said it is half the price of a new model. A refurbished copier is \$5,000, he said; and

- Approved sending Police Sgt. James Cayce to the 2017 Eastern Michigan University School of Police Staff and Command from February through October. Cost is \$3,000 and forfeiture money will be used. He said Sgt. Cayce will attend one week a month for nine months. He will be working a 40-hour week during training and will return to the regular schedule when he is done with the school. Chief Luke said the school, "makes a better person and better officer."

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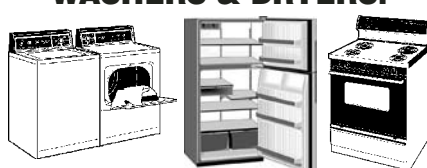
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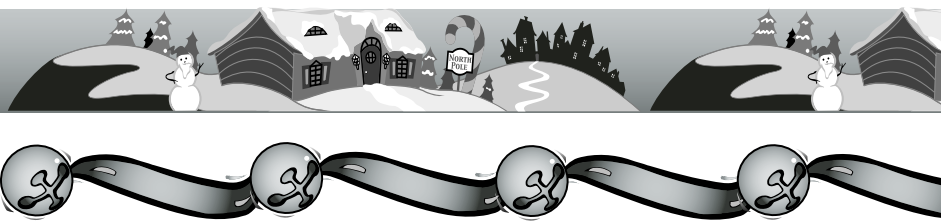
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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 6, 2016

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller and Trustee White. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Executive Assistant Selman, Executive Assistant Clair, DDA Director Ireland, Public Services Director Taylor, Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Planning and Economic Development Director Akers, Planning and Economic Development Deputy Director Best, Public Safety Director Laurain, Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson, Public Safety Deputy Director (Police) Wright and an audience of seven (7).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Frazier seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Frazier moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Work Study Session minutes of November 14, 2016, Board Meeting minutes of November 15, 2016, Special Work Study Session minutes of November 28, 2016, Special Board Meeting minutes of November 29, 2016, Prepaid List of November 18, 2016, Prepaid List of December 1, 2016 and the Voucher List of December 6, 2016]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve the Special Land Use request for the property located at 10573 Belleville Road so the applicant may construct and operate a drive-thru restaurant on the property. The subject 0.86-acre parcel zoned C-1 General Business is located on the east side of Belleville Road north of the existing Belle Tire. Board member expressed the desire for the applicant to provide a masonry wall adjacent to the north side of the property line. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Martin seconded to approve Resolution 2016-14 the 2016 amended General Fund Budget to include the following directives:

A) Revenue in excess of those noted shall be dedicated to fund balance, B) Fiscal year line items, which are not expensed, shall revert to net income, C) approval of appendices noted (Salaried Employee Wage Schedule) as part of the General Fund Budget, D) Revenue as "Tax Administrative fee" is to continue as is past practice. The allocated millage for township operations is 4.9144, which represents .9144 for Township Operations and 4.0 mills for Public Safety, E) adoption by departmental total and F) approval of the December 6, 2016 Final General Fund Amended Budget supersedes any prior resolution. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright, Martin and White. Nays: Miller and Frazier. Motion Carried. Supervisor McNamara read a statement outlining the budget process, thanked Board members for their input and requested approval to "maintain stability in our Public Safety and other departments going forward". Board members opposing the 2016

amended budget expressed concern regarding overspending and wages.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve Resolution 2016-14 the 2017 proposed General Fund Budget and Resolution 2016-13 the Salaried Employees Wage Schedule eliminating the part time Executive Assistant and to include the following directives: A) Revenue in excess of those noted shall be dedicated to fund balance, B) Fiscal year line items, which are not expensed, shall revert to net income, C) approval of appendices noted (Salaried Employee Wage Schedule) as part of the General Fund Budget, D) Revenue as "Tax Administrative fee" is to continue as is past practice. The allocated millage for township operations is 4.9144, which represents .9144 for Township Operations and 4.0 mills for Public Safety, E) adoption by departmental total and F) approval of the December 6, 2016 Final General Fund Amended Budget supersedes any prior resolution. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: McNamara, Budd, Wright and Martin, Nays: Frazier, Miller and White. Motion Carried. Board members opposing the 2017 proposed General Fund Budget expressed concern regarding deficit spending, wages, utilizing landfill funds and savings to balance the budget.

Wright moved, Frazier seconded to approve Resolution 2016-19 the 2016 amended and 2017 Proposed Special Revenue Budgets [Community Development Block Grants, Downtown Development Authority, LDFA Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, 9-1-1 Service Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund and State Forfeiture Fund] Motion Carried.

Wright moved, White seconded to approve Resolution 2016-16 the 2017 Water and Sewer Rates and Fee Schedule. Motion Carried. The 3% increase is based on the increased cost of water purchased from Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) and equates to approximately \$4.87 per quarter per household.

Frazier moved, White seconded to approve the 2016 amended and 2017 proposed Water & Sewer Budget. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the revisions to the Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA) bylaws. Motion Carried. Revisions include added language regarding membership consistent with the LDFA Public Act, when officers formally take office, removed provisions from Public Comment rules and added Teleconferencing rules.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Treasurer Budd announced the winter tax bills have been sent out. During the Township Administrative office shutdown beginning December 23rd through the end of the year payments may be made via the drop box located in front of the main entrance and thru the drop box located in the Public Safety Department. All payments received by December 31st will be receipted in 2016.

NON-AGENDA: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Budd moved, Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Publish: December 22, 2016



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 22, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m., showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk C. Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustees: Oddy, LaPorte, Swinson, P. Morgan. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk J. Hoffman and approximately 25 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only:

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes of October 25, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Oddy to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 25, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the Warrants totaling \$285,672.62. Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, C. Hoffman, Bates, P. Morgan, Swinson, Oddy, LaPorte. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

9. Building/Ordinance Report-LaPorte: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve Building/Ordinance Report. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Fire Report-Januszyk: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve Fire Report. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Parks & Recreation/Chamber Report-Swinson:

A. Public Hearing on the Master Plan on November 17, 2016 went well.

B. December 7, 2016 Parks and Recreation will be stuffing stockings for December 14, 2016 Supervisor's Children's Christmas party.

C. Chamber discussion on Aldi, Menards, Planet Fitness, 200 stockings for Children's Christmas Party.

Motion by P. Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve the Parks & Recreation/Chamber Report. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Planning/Zoning Report-Oddy:

A. Working on Master Plan, Marijuana Ordinance, Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue. Motion by LaPorte, supported by P. Morgan to approve the Planning/Zoning Report. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Treasurer's Report-Bates: Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Supervisor's Report-J. Morgan:

A. Rotary Club of Belleville currently taking orders for Christmas Wreaths, Garland and Centerpiece orders due November 29, 2016

B. Belleville Christmas Light Parade December 3, 2016

C. Children's Christmas Party December 14, 2016

D. Seniors' Christmas Party is December 13, 2016 at Noon

E. Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the Supervisor's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Attorney's Report-Young:

A. Congratulations to Board on last election

B. Continue to monitor Medical Marijuana Act Motion by Oddy, supported by Bates to approve the Attorney's Report. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Board Response:

A. Board Members thank you to residents for electing them back into Office.

17. New Business:

A. Motion by Bates, supported by C. Hoffman to approve the Blue Care Network Renewal for 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation by John Schmitz (Director of Municipal Benefit Sales) of Burnham & Flower

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve Chief Joseph Januszyk's return from leave of absence, restricted to administrative duties until further notice. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve removing Rick Brown as Interim Fire Chief and resume position of Deputy Chief. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by Bates, supported by Swinson to approve Jamie Goode to be placed on the Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Response Team. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the Resignation of Donald LaPorte Jr. from the Fire Department with regret. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve Sumpter Township's Workshop and Regular Board Meeting Schedule for 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve Sumpter Township's Planning Commission Schedule for 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Motion by Bates, supported by P. Morgan to approve advertising for bids for labor to remove existing bleachers and install new aluminium bleachers in fairground area. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Motion by C. Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve to reappoint Matt Oddy (Liasion) and Joy Cichewicz to the Planning Commission. Terms to expire November 20, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by LaPorte to approve to reappoint Matt Oddy (Liasion) and Jennifer Massel to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Terms to expire November 20, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

18. Announcements:

19. Open Floor:

A. Mary Ban

• Congratulations to Sumpter Township's elected Board Members

• Library Millage

• Van Buren Millage

• RESA Millage

• Thanks to Police and Fire Departments

• Happy Thanksgiving

B. Ronald Barrington Robinson

• Prepared for handling of Lawsuit

C. Jay Bardell

• ADA

• Township's fire hydrants flushed and drained?

D. Tim Rush

• Congratulations to Township Board on re-elections

• Happy Thanksgiving

20. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to adjourn at 7:08 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 November 22, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and the said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting 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

Published: December 22, 2016

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City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes December 5, 2016

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Marcotte	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

Presentations None.

Council follow up list

Mayor Conley inquired on the status of the City Street Evaluation and City Manager Kollmeyer responded that she was still waiting to receive the numbers from PFM.

Citizen Comments

Jeff Vernon stated that some citizens did not get the message that the City was offering a leaf drop off service. DPS Director Rick Rutherford stated the program has been extended to December 16th and that his staff was getting the word out with doorhangers. Manager Kollmeyer stated that there was a message printed on the water bills and advertising in the local paper for two consecutive weeks, adding that the City may be able to partner with local non-profit organizations to assist seniors in getting their leaves raked, bagged and into the dumpster before the December 16th deadline.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Loria, Second by Smith to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fielder, Second by Marcotte to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of November 21, 2016 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Mayor's Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Mayor Conley recommended that Randy Priest be appointed to fill a current vacancy on the Planning

Commission.

Motion by Smith, Second by Loria to adopt **Resolution 16-120** appointing Mr. Randy Priest to fill Jim Fitch's unexpired term on the Planning Commission effective tonight.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Wayne County Annual Permits

Motion by Fielder, Second by Marcotte to approve Wayne County annual permits as follows: **Resolution No. 16-121** (Permit A-17046 for road maintenance); **Resolution No. 16-122** (Permit A-17101 for pavement restoration) and **Resolution No. 16-123** (Permit A-17134 for special events) as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Special Events Ordinance

Council Member Fielder stated that since the last meeting, he and Manager Kollmeyer had discussed the draft special events ordinance in detail. A lengthy discussion followed. Mayor Conley recommended that a final draft be presented at the December 19th meeting and thanked the citizens for their input and the special events committee for all its work on the new ordinance.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Loria, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 16-124** to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 for a total of \$129,062.90.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) to discuss the status and strategy of pending union negotiations.

Motion by Fielder, Second by Loria to approve **Resolution No. 16-125** to recess regular meeting and enter Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss the status and strategy of pending union negotiations. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to adjourn Executive Session and reconvene regular meeting at 9:00 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Marcotte to adjourn meeting at 9:05 p.m. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Scharf, City Clerk

Approved: December 19, 2016

Published: December 22, 2016

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Hidalgo Mexican Restaurant on Sumpter Road in the Davenport Plaza has just received its liquor license and is now serving alcohol. It's open Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to noon, and Sunday, noon to 9 p.m. There's still time to schedule catering for your holiday party featuring Hidalgo's home-made, authentic recipes. Visit them on Facebook and call (734) 697-3271.

The Yankee Air Museum continues its monthly Historical Presentation Night on Jan. 4 with a pair of speakers, Donnaleen Lanktree and Michael Lechlitner on their experiences of military support, from WWII to modern times. The program will start at 6:30 p.m. with a history of aerial and photo reconnaissance in today's world. Lechlitner is a Central Intelligence Agency Intelligence Officer currently attending the U.S. Army War College Senior Service School in Pennsylvania. He'll explain how photos can help the CIA with national security, disaster relief, and global disease awareness. Then at 7:30 p.m., Donnaleen Lanktree will share Rosie the Riveter stories she has collected over the years. Lanktree is past President of American Rosie the Riveter Association. The programs are free. Call (734) 483-4030.

Public Notice

In the 34th District Court
State of Michigan
Case No.: 16-4876-SP

TO: Andrew Michael Meyer

You are being sued in the 34th District Court for the State of Michigan (Case No.: 16-4876-SP) by the Plaintiff, Michael J. Meyers for land contract forfeiture. The Complaint for Possession states that the Plaintiff has a right to recover possession of the property at issue and to recover money damages due to nonpayment of money and for material breach of the contract. Plaintiff is represented by Bryan M. Suliman, PLLC in this matter Plaintiff's attorney can be reached at (734) 699-7360.

The subject real property is situated in Sumpter Township, State of Michigan. The four (4) parcels at issue have the following tax IDs: 81 11699 0001 705; 81 11699 0001 706; 81 11699 0001 707, and; 81 11699 0001 708.

You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law at the 34th District Court on or before December 22, 2016. If you fail to do so, a default judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case. A copy of the Complaint is posted at 34th District Court and at the real property. A copy of the order is also being sent to you at your last known address by registered mail, return receipt requested. 34th District Court is located at 11131 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 and the Court's telephone number is (734) 941-4462.

Publish: December 8, 2016; December 15, 2016; December 22, 2016

If you hadn't had time to visit Santa this holiday season, there's one last chance to-morrow evening, Dec. 23, as he will be at Leo's Coney Island in Belleville, from 5 to 8 p.m. Call (734) 697-1000.

You have until Dec. 31 to purchase advance tickets at a great price to next summer's Thunder Over Michigan Air Show at Willow Run Airport, Sept. 2-4. The Blue Angels will perform all three days over the Labor Day weekend. Tickets online are \$25 for adults through the end of the year and parking is only \$10. Kids 15 and under are free. Tickets at the gate are \$40 for adults and \$20 for parking. There's also good discounts for club seats and other packages. Visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org and click on the airshow links.

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

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Tuesday, Dec. 27** – Red Cross Blood Drive. Give blood between 1 and 6:45 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave.

• **Saturday, Dec. 31** – The public is welcome to a New Year's Eve party at the Moose Lodge 934 at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads. Tickets in advance \$20 each; \$30 at the door. Dinner is 7-9 p.m. and Southern Heat Band plays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Pizza and champagne at midnight. Reserve your table of eight. (734) 325-7799

Larcenies from autos over weekend in VBT's Quirk Subdivision

Several larcenies from automobiles occurred over the weekend in Quirk Subdivision, according to a Nexel message on Monday from Van Buren Township Police. Thieves are targeting unlocked vehicles.

VBT Police have three suspects in custody who are alleged to have committed the crimes.

Police warn residents to keep their vehicles locked when parked in a driveway. Having a well-lit driveway also deters theft, they said.

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 534 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Dec. 11:
0130 – disturbance, Lighthouse Dr.
0604 – shots fired, Oak Ln.
1233 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
1329 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1416 – assault & battery, Park Estates
1438 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Beck Rd.
1640 – agency assist, Southbound/Ecorse
1716 – larceny, S. Bellridge Dr.
1724 – PPO violation, Oak Ln.
1939 – harassment call, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2142 – private property accident, Briarwood Dr.
Monday, Dec. 12:
0027 – traffic hazard, Ecorse Rd./Belleville Rd.
0732 – holdup alarm, Haggerty Rd.
0827 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Sadie Ln.
1011 – malicious destruction of property, Ecorse
1141 – juvenile complaint, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1418 – water leak found, Edwards Rd.
1439 – property damage accident, Beck/Tyler
1532 – malicious destruction of property, Walmart
1640 – fraud, Florence Ln.
2231 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.
2234 – assist fire dept., EB I-94/Belleville Rd.
2234 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Belleville

Tuesday, Dec. 13:
0728 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.
0738 – juvenile complaint, Michigan Ave. / Rawsonville Rd.
1012 – assault & battery, Belmont Dr.
1021 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1152 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
1501 – private property incident, Lake Villa Dr.
1625 – private property incident, Industrial Park
1819 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.
1919 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2036 – property damage, Ecorse/Beck
2047 – vehicle repossession, Lighthouse Dr.
2045 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2206 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
2223 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2243 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2219 – missing person, Denton Rd.

Wednesday, Dec. 14:
0201 – assault & battery, W. Archwood Dr.
0944 – abandoned auto, Elwell Rd./Martz Rd.
1255 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1338 – agency assist, Michigan Ave./Dellor St.
1345 – assault & battery, Bellridge
1600 – assault & battery, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1722 – trespassing, Michigan Ave.
1907 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2009 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
2126 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
2206 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Belleville Rd.
2258 – vehicle repossession, Parkwood Dr.

Thursday, Dec. 15:
0033 – operating while intoxicated, Park Estates
0549 – noise complaint, Ash Dr.
0700 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / The Creek
0708 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Kirkridge Park Dr.
0834 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0941 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor Rd./Crowley Ave.
0958 – fraud, Meadows Ln.
1046 – assist fire dept., I-94/Belleville
1149 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1354 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1619 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1633 – agency assist, Lake Villa Dr.
1846 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1856 – traffic hazard, Hannan Rd./Ecorse Rd.

2016 – narcotics crime, Archwood Apartments
2156 – property damage accident, Dellor St./Mott
Friday, Dec. 16:
0120 – traffic hazard, Michigan Ave./Winchester
0156 – property damage accident, Quirk Rd.
0226 – personal injury accident, W I-94/Haggerty
0755 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Jeremy Rd.
0909 – narcotics crime, Town and Country
0918 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0940 – property damage accident, Quirk Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0940 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Lake Villa Dr.
1052 – private property incident, Industrial
1238 – holdup alarm, Owen St.
1253 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1339 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1358 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1411 – property damage accident, Tyler/Haggerty
1429 – private property incident, Industrial
1618 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1728 – assault & battery, Parkwood Manor
1917 – property damage accident, Van Born / Haggerty
1918 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1922 – medical alarm, Lohr Rd.
2104 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2230 – intimidation threat, Coca-Cola Dr.

Saturday, Dec. 17:
0238 – disorderly conduct, Parkwood Dr.
0534 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0608 – assault & battery, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1006 – malicious destruction of property, Tyler Rd.
1040 – assault & battery, Arthur St.
1053 – retail fraud, Walmart
1141 – property damage accident, S. Service / Denton
1149 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1159 – property damage accident, Fedex Smart Post
1208 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1212 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1627 – fraud, Belleville
1805 – property damage accident, Van Born Rd. / Morton Taylor Rd.
1816 – property damage accident, Michigan Service Dr. / Western St.
1910 – traffic hazard, Haggerty Rd./Independence
1938 – assault & battery, Locust Dr.
2005 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Haggerty Rd.
2009 – intimidation threat, Lake Point Blvd.
2025 – property damage accident, Alden Ave.
2100 – larceny, Valero
2109 – private property accident, Belleville Rd
2236 – property damage accident, SB Belleville / WB I-94
2307 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.
2333 – property damage accident, Ecorse / I-275

Also on this week's log are 156 traffic stops, including 59 on the I-94 and I-275 freeways and on the bypasses and 33 in the city of Belleville.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 11:
0041 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0826 – disorderly conduct, Belle Villa rental office
1008 – assist fire dept., E. Huron River Dr.
1845 – ATV/ORV complaint, Victorian Ct.
2002 – welfare check, Main St.
2100 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St. / Belleville Rd.
2245 – welfare check, Santa Clara St.
Monday, Dec. 12:
0045 – traffic complaint, Carmell St.
0225 – suspicious vehicle, W. Columbia Ave.
0238 – hospice, E. Huron River Dr.
0700 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
2326 – parking complaint, N. Aberdeen Ct.
Tuesday, Dec. 13:
0114 – parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
0125 – parking complaint, Belle Villa
0950 – information, W. Davis St.
1243 – disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave.

1503 – hospice, Biggs Ave.
1718 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
2312 – suspicious person, Potter Dr.
2355 – intrusion alarm, E. Huron River Dr.
Wednesday, Dec. 14:
1128 – violation of public health code/violation controlled substance act, S. Liberty St.
1226 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Church St.
1343 – vehicle lockout, Menlo Park Dr.
1502 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
1653 – assist citizen, Carmell St.
2215 – family trouble, Loza Ln.
2216 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.
Thursday, Dec. 15:
0131 – parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.
0758 – intrusion alarm, W. Waterbury Ct.
0841 – property damage accident, Liberty/Third
0850 – property damage accident, High/Main
1000 – property damage accident, Main/Liberty
1155 – intrusion alarm, N. Edgemont Ave.
1419 – vehicle lockout, E. Waterbury Ct.
1525 – vehicle lockout, South St.
1538 – narcotics crime, Angola/E. Huron River Dr.
1622 – missing person, S. Edgemont Ave.
1803 – agency assist, Estrada Dr.
1839 – property damage accident, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
2037 – property damage accident, Loza Ln.

Friday, Dec. 16:
0835 – property damage accident, Huron/Main
1057 – fraud, S. Edgemont Ave.
1125 – trespassing, W. Columbia Ave.
1145 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
1153 – panic alarm, Menlo Park Dr.
1224 – vehicle lockout, Santa Clara St.
1317 – property damage accident, Five Points
1446 – suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.
1518 – animal complaint, Anaheim St.
1644 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
2243 – agency assist, Belleville/I-94
Saturday, Dec. 17:
0057 – welfare check, Henry St.
0930 – property damage accident, Wabash Ave. / South St.
1606 – suspicious situation, Second/Charles
1626 – malicious destruction of property, Loza Ln.
1737 – found property, Owen St.
1917 – welfare check, Main St./Denton Rd.
1929 – domestic assault, Carmell
2225 – operating while intoxicated, Main St./High
Also on this week's log are 30 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 11:
0127 – noise complaint, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
0206 – fight, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0710 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
0740 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1128 – property damage accident, Judd/Haggerty
1143 – alarm, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1242 – civil dispute, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1553 – ORV complaint, Rawsonville/Arkona
1622 – family trouble, Virginia
1745 – alarm, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1904 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2122 – traffic hazard, Willis/Sumpter
2149 – alarm, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
Monday, Dec 12:
0530 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Willis
0953 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1136 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1238 – animal complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1348 – assist other agency, 25000 bl. Martinsville
1451 – citizen assist, 21000 bl. Fenster Rd.
1544 – family trouble, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1604 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Willills Rd.
1720 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1957 – well-being check, 19000 bl. Martinsville
2034 – juvenile complaint, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2052 – ORV complaint, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
Tuesday, Dec. 13:
0728 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
0841 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0847 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1034 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1335 – warrant arrest, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

1344 – threats complaint, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1801 – animal complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
1824 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1912 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1922 – citizen assist, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
Wednesday, Dec. 14:
0316 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1339 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1457 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1627 – alarm, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
1743 – alarm, 43000 bl. Clay Rd.
1816 – fire dept. assist, 8800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1957 – harassment complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter
2302 – mental health commitment, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

Thursday, Dec. 15:
0247 – well-being check, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
0802 – well-being check, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0859 – assist other agency, Mulberry
0944 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1004 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1014 – larceny, 12000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1046 – suspicious person, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1124 – identity theft, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1348 – fraud complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1405 – alarm, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1637 – reckless driver, Karr/Judd
1649 – suspicious vehicle, Haggerty/Wear
2122 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.

Friday, Dec. 16:
0428 – property damage accident, Willis/Wilmot
0631 – juvenile complaint, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1114 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1211 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1227 – civil dispute, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1448 – property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter
1607 – fire dept. assist, Redwood
2134 – dumping complaint, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2217 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2222 – suspicious person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

Saturday, Dec. 17:
1016 – animal complaint, 7900 bl. Oakville Waltz
1051 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1128 – fire dept. assist, Virginia
1349 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.
1431 – traffic hazard, Rawsonville/Willow
1450 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1553 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1746 – alarm, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2214 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

Also on this week's log are 11 follow-up investigations, 24 miscellaneous details, 138 patrol checks, and four traffic stops.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztzman

After the Dec. 13 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library board meeting, Michael Boelter, center, was presented with a plaque honoring his service by board president Sharon Peters, right, and Library Director Mary Jo Suchy, left. This was Boelter's last meeting after serving on the board since 2010. He did not run for reelection.

District Library

(continued from page 3)

the board:

- Approved a 3% raise for Library Director Mary Jo Suchy who turned down a raise last year in able to use that money for staff raises. She makes \$75,000. Boelter, chairman of the personnel committee, said the seven members of the board finished their evaluation of Suchy and offer and approve that raise this year. He said staff is getting a 2.5% raise;

- Heard Suchy summarize her goals for 2017. The theme for the year is "Renewal," like when a homeowner moves and has to reevaluate possessions, like old tapes, 50-year-old tables, files. There will be a lot of cleanup, while maintaining services. "I would like to have more staff," she said, adding she will bring a staffing proposal to the next meeting;

- Approved hiring Midwestern Consulting, Inc., based in Ann Arbor, for a fee of \$17,700, for a topographic and boundary survey of the land parcels involved in the new library project. Midwestern included a \$1,200 fee for the portion of Fourth Street being vacated, which was not included in the other four bids, but definitely is needed since there is no legal description for the street. Midwestern said the survey will be completed within 45 days of authorization. The fee includes dealing with snow. Other bidders were Spicer Group of Dundee, \$27,750; and from Ann Arbor, Smithgroup JJR, \$25,611; Washtenaw Engineering, \$19,600; and Nederveld, \$16,500. "We can't wait until spring," said architect Dan Whisler. "We've got to expect there's going to be delays";

- Heard Suchy and CPA Ron Traskos of Post, Smythe, Lutz & Ziehl of Wayne, discuss the draft library audit report for 2015-16 done by Alan C. Young that has a good "unqualified" report. Suchy said they were able to put more money in the fund balance and Traskos said that was \$55,199 for a total of \$371,808, which is "very healthy." He said on Dec. 31, they get taxes and the new fiscal year starts in July;

- Approved continuing the bookkeeping service by Sharon W. Duckworth, CPA, at a cost of \$2,000 per quarter, and new construction accounting services by Traskos at a cost of \$150 per hour not to exceed \$1,500 per month for a period of about two years. He will be working with the construction manager and the financial people and noted, "It's going to be a fun project";

- Heard building committee chairwoman Joy Cichewicz report that Belynda Domas, who owns the HD Accounting building next door at 360 Charles Street that is being purchased by the library for \$200,000, is getting ready to vacate, but the library won't be ready to take it over until April, so her property tax will be paid by the library, as agreed. Also, Cichewicz said she talked to Sumpter Township Supervisor John Morgan and he said the DPW building will be ready whenever the library is ready, for the satellite library;

- Heard board attorney John Day report he has had preliminary discussions with Sumpter attorney Rob Young and met Nov. 30 with city attorney Steve Hitchcock about what needs to be done to start putting together the details for construction. He said they need to get a plat map, know when they can close the street, infrastructure dedication, joint parking lot agreement, lot splits, and a stake survey to identify issues. "This is one of the largest projects in downtown Belleville in the last 50 years," Day said;

- Approved 2017 board meeting dates of Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Special meetings will be posted at least 18 hours prior to any special meetings; and

- Approved closed dates for 2017 as: Jan. 2, New Year's Day observed; Jan. 16, Martin Luther King Day, April 14, Good Friday (in-service day); May 29, Memorial Day; June 16 (in-service day) and June 17, Strawberry Festival days; July 4, Independence Day; Sept. 4, Labor Day; Nov. 11, Veteran's Day; Nov. 23-24, Thanksgiving; Dec. 22-25, Christmas; and Dec. 30, New Year's (plus Jan. 1, 2018).



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SUMPTER TOWNSHIP	
VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES	\$35,000

42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS	\$30,000 & \$40,000
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

49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES	\$180,000
BEMIS BY SAVAGE 6 ACRES	\$65,000
BEMIS BY SAVAGE 6 ACRES	\$65,000
VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES	\$450,000
WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES	\$15,000
26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308	\$33,000

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP	
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47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES	\$176,000
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VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES	\$30,000
VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES	\$129,000
6422 GILMORE 82X165 ALL UTIL	\$15,000
739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES	\$35,000
HURON TOWNSHIP	
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