



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 24.8 Thursday, February 22, 2018

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

When the large crowd at Sumpter Township's regular meeting Feb. 13 was asked to raise their hands if they wanted to opt out of the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA), a few hands were raised. The board later voted to opt out.

Sumpter Twp. board votes, 5-2, to opt out of MMFLA

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted 5-2 to opt out of the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA) that would allow medical marijuana businesses in the township.

This was at the regular board meeting with a large crowd on Feb. 13. Before board members opted out, they voted down, with the same 5-2 vote, the final item on their agenda, which was a proposal to opt into the MMFLA with 23 facilities in the

Industrial, Agricultural, and Commercial zonings.

The two in favor of MMFLA in both votes were Treasurer Peggy Morgan and Trustee Sheena Barnes.

During the public comment on agenda items only at the beginning of the meeting, Supervisor John Morgan invited the crowd to speak out on the MMFLA question and 11 did.

Mary Ban, long an opponent of MMFLA for Sumpter and against marijuana use, said MMFLA would not enhance the business

environment. She asked for common sense and to be like Belleville and Van Buren Township who have opted out. She said she felt the whole issue was "under the radar" because many people she talked to didn't know this decision was being made.

Supervisor John Morgan said each board member had at least three weeks to go over the data from the fact-finding committee that had been meeting since November. He cautioned speakers that no one knows what Sumpter's decision will be because the vote on the MMFLA is at the end of the meeting.

Ban complained that the committee gave no numbers on the cost to the township. She said federal law considers marijuana a controlled substance and, if approved, they could have federal prosecutors in Sumpter.

Trustee Matthew Oddy, who chaired the fact-finding committee, said there was no dollar amount given, but additional personnel would be needed.

Richard Harris said the proposal doesn't add up to him because it doesn't benefit the majority of the residents. He asked the board not to opt in.

Mary Herring said she was under the understanding that MMFLA was proposed in the Industrial and Agricultural corridors. Now Commercial is added. How did that

(continued on page 15)

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 on page 9**

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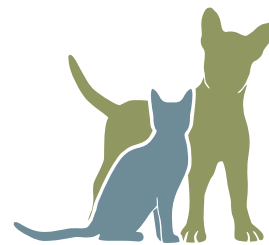
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

US Ecology, VBT board discuss permit renewal for Michigan Disposal

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Representatives of US Ecology and the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees discussed for an hour the newest permit renewal requested from the EPA for the Michigan Disposal Facility on the North I-94 Service Drive.

Then, members of the audience were invited to join in with questions and comments and that lasted just half an hour.

This was at the VBT regular board meeting on Feb. 6. The US Ecology report was at the end of the meeting.

Alex Hurley, director of government and community relations for US Ecology, and Kerry Durnan, vice president of US Ecology, Belleville, gave the background of the toxic landfill and treatment facility that is reported to be the largest such facility in the nation, as to volume.

The landfill has been in that place for 60 years, but the permit being requested has nothing to do with the landfill, but with Michigan Disposal Treatment Facility, which is permitted separate from the landfill.

Hurley said every 10 years they need to renew their permit. He said the physical footprint of the treatment facility is not changing, but the "expansion" referred to in the application is the addition of treatment capabilities in the same facility.

"What we are permitted to hold is less than we have capabilities for," Hurley said.

"We are not seeking to expand the physical footprint of the treatment facility or the landfill," Hurley said.

He said they are requesting several additional waste codes, including waste from manufacturing with very low concentrations of dioxin.

Hurley said dioxin is not new at the site and it has been coming there for years, usually in the soil from manufacturing sites. He said they had an additional request. He said they are asking that the daily maximum limit of gallons per day of dioxin that they can safely handle, be uncapped as to daily quantity. The total annual quantity allowed would not go up.

Also, the treatment outside of the tanks is a safe and common procedure -- macro-encapsulation in a sealed container.

Hurley said it makes no sense to treat a small test sample inside of a 50,000-gallon tank. They need an option to create certain treatment outside of the tanks, he said.

The detailed questions and answers went on until six members of the audience came forward with their additional questions and comments.

Durnan offered tours of the US Ecology facilities and Trustee Paul White offered to accompany any residents interested in a tour.

In other business at the Feb. 6 meeting, the board:

- Held a public hearing and then approved the use of the 2018 federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, of which \$76,581 will be used for improvements to Van Buren Park, \$30,000 for demolition of condemned buildings, \$21,315 to offset the salary of the Senior Center Director and Deputy Director, \$14,210 for Administration, and \$5,000 as an estimate of funds that may be received in 2018 from the Housing Rehabilitation loan and Demolition program, for an estimated total of \$147,106;

- Approved the second and final reading of Ordinance 1-9-18 (1) that revises the General Code of Ordinances Chapter 82 on Traffic and Vehicles to include the Motor Carrier Safety Act. This will allow the township to have a weighmaster ticket trucks and in certain cases the fines will come to the township split with the local district court instead of to circuit court. "This is a notice that our weighmaster will be back on the streets this spring," said Supervisor Kevin McNamara;

- Approved the Donation Agreement to Schoolcraft College and Schoolcraft Institutional Scholarship to provide for the township's 1986 Pierce Arrow ladder truck, that has been decertified for use by the state, to be given to Schoolcraft to use for fire training. In return, the township will receive two, fully paid scholarships for schooling of police officers or fire fighters, worth \$10,000 each. Supervisor McNamara said the township was offered \$3,000 to \$5,000 on auction for the truck and when they put it on eBay, nobody wanted it;

- Approved a six-month personal leave of absence for fire fighter Christopher Roy who has accepted a full-time position with another department. He has worked for the township for three years, but he needs benefits, said Fire Chief Amy Brow. He will be unable to fulfill the requirements for duty crew for six months;

- Approved a revision to the Endowment Committee bylaws to change the time of the regular meetings from 1 p.m. to 11 a.m.;

- Approved the 2017 Planning Commission annual report, as required by Michigan statute. It was prepared by Ron Akers, director of planning and economic development;

- Approved the re-appointment of Harlan Davenport to the Construction Code Appeals Board with a term to expire Feb. 28, 2020;

- Approved the appointment of Aaron Sellers to the Board of Zoning Appeals with a term to expire Dec. 1, 2018. Sellers had been serving as an alternate;

- Approved the split/combination of lots 83-110-01-0137-301 and 83-110-01-0137-302 on West Huron River Drive, necessary to correct a 20' encroachment of parcel 302 on parcel 301;

- Approved a resolution authorizing submission of the Michigan Township Association application for the Township of Excellence Certificate of Achievement in Election Administration, as requested by Clerk Leon Wright, whose office has met all the requirements for the certificate;

- Pulled from the 16 items on the Consent Agenda the Prepaid List of Jan. 25, 2018, as requested by Trustee Paul White, who wanted it to be discussed. He said he had trouble approving payment for things under "Board Other" where the receipts were missing. He pointed to such items worth \$232.82, \$124.93, and \$243.32 and others. Treasurer Sharry Budd said the receipts that were missing were from the Senior Department, Museum, and Police Department and they have all been found. She said "Board Other" was used as a holding spot. She said the Visa bill had to be paid and the receipts turned up later and will be put into the right departments. White said allowing payment without receipts makes more work for the clerk's office. Trustee Sherry Frazier called the procedure "sloppy bookkeeping" and asked why the different departments didn't use their own budgets as holding spots. White said the bills should not be paid until the receipts are turned in. Trustee Frazier said she questioned a payment in January that was \$332 for food during a three-day conference. She got an explanation that made total sense, but suggested the

employee should split the bill with one party paying and the employee using the township credit card. She said she has concerns when experienced elected officials buy meals for someone else on the township credit card. After the question was called on a 5-2 vote the same 5-2 approved paying the Jan. 25 prepaid list, with White and Frazier voting no;

- Heard a report from museum director Katie Dallos that there has been an increase in museum visits from 3,859 in 2016 to 5,641 in 2017. The popular quilt show is coming next month. Trustee Sherry Frazier said she would like to expand help for Dallos since the museum was closed from Christmas until Feb. 6 and maybe she needs someone to help her. Supervisor McNamara said he will be meeting with Dallos soon to go over her programs;

- Heard a letter from Canton Township Police Department thanking Police Chief Jason Wright and the SWAT team for helping during the hostage situation at the bank. Supervisor McNamara said his wife works next door at Rose's and they were locked down during the incident;

- Heard a welcome letter from the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. McNamara said the township will go through policies, procedures, records, training and have a police department like residents expect them to; and

- In response to Frazier's queries, Ron Akers said they expect to start the road upgrade on McBride in April or May, but he has been talking to James Williams from the school district and they might want the township to wait until school is out.

Belleville Planning Commission reelects Steve Jones as chairman

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Steve Jones was reelected chairman of the Belleville Planning Commission during its regular meeting on Jan. 11. Mike Hawkins was reelected vice chairman.

The commission spent 90 minutes discussing changes proposed by library representatives for its library construction.

In other business the commission:

- Approved clarification of the sign ordinance, noting price signs should be considered included in Item C, along with date, time, and temperature signs. These would be non flashing or blinking. This gives the owner of the Marathon station at Five Points approval to change his prices electronically. Now he makes gas price changes by hand. The Citgo sign already has an electronic sign, which City Manager

Diana Kollmeyer said was grandfathered in. The active DDA sign at Main and High is allowed by ordinance. The city had no control over the Belleville High School sign;

- Discussed Rutherford's concern with a zoning ordinance entry for accessory building roofs, with a need for moving a drawing. Or, possibly, it is a typo. Jones said they will look into it and not make a decision that night;

- Discussed the Master Plan update and Jones said when Kollmeyer gets back from Florida they will be looking for a finished project to review. They possibly would get it next month. Commissioner Ronald Priest said enforcement of the ordinances is a problem and when they get some more tax money they should hire somebody. "Thank

(continued on page 18)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Clerk Wright's 48111 action now impacting Sumpter

Late last year, Clerk Leon Wright took official action to have the addresses of those in Van Buren Township changed from Belleville 48111 to Van Buren Township 48111. Since then people have been confused about the changes, especially those in Sumpter Township who are used to having their mail addressed Belleville 48111.

Now, several in Sumpter are getting their mail addressed as Van Buren Township 48111 -- and they don't like it.

Mary Ban addressed the VBT Board of Trustees on Tuesday, expressing her frustrations. She brought along pieces of mail she and her husband got with the Van Buren Township address change, when they actually live in Sumpter.

Clerk Wright said the addresses he gave to the director of address management were correct and he'll make sure Ban's address goes back to Belleville.

Ban said she checked with officials from the City of Belleville and Sumpter Township and they said VBT never informed them of their Van Buren Township 48111 address change.

Wright said he changed the addresses because it was part of a strategic plan developed in 2014, but three of the newer board members never heard of the plan, let alone endorsed it. Trustee Frazier said his move was not an official action of this board. In fact, Wright told the board after he made the change.

"Change is always hard," Wright said.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Patty Bluhm of Van Buren Township said she has been getting telephone calls, that look local on caller ID, leaving a message she won a vacation. When she calls the local number back, the people say they didn't call her, like the auto parts store next to the tracks in Belleville, and a business woman in Belleville. "I have a new friend now," Patty said of Sylvia.

She said she just wants to tell people not to get upset if they answer a call that asks them to return the call and when they call back, it's not who they think it is. It's some kind of scam, but she's not sure what's going on.

The *Detroit Free Press* reports that more than 71% of the trash at Carleton Farms in Sumpter Township now is coming from Canada. In the early 2000s the Toronto trash was a big issue and that was closed down in 2006. But in the last few years, trash from other places in Canada has been streaming into Sumpter, which now takes the most Canadian garbage in the state of Michigan.

The report states Canadian firms are taking advantage of how inexpensive it is to dump in Michigan -- and we've got lots of room. Michigan charges about 36 cents per ton, the lowest in the Great Lakes region, with Ohio charging \$4.75 per ton. Gov. Snyder has proposed raising our state's charge to Ohio's rate.

The *Detroit News* reports that Joseph Cella, who was raised in Richmond, graduated from Hillsdale College, and now lives in Augusta Township, has been nominated by President Trump to be ambassador to Fiji



and four other south and central Pacific island nations. The appointment must first be approved by the Senate.

If approved, Cella, 48, would serve as ambassador to Fiji, an archipelago of more than 300 islands northeast of New Zealand, as well as the Republics of Kiribati and Nauru, the Kingdom of Tonga, and Tuvalu.

A decade ago, he was working as a staffer in Washington for former U.S. Rep. Thad McCotter.

My son Jim said that ambassadorship will really be a tough job, having to swim in the ocean every day.

Perry Mackall called on Monday to report there were several trees full of robins next to Menards.

The National Council for Home Safety and Security released a report last week on the Safest Cities in Michigan for 2018. Van Buren Township ranked 84 of the 134 on the list. Belleville and Sumpter were not listed.

To identify the safest cities, they reviewed the most recent FBI Uniform Crime Report statistics along with their own population data and internal research. They eliminated any cities that failed to submit a complete crime report to the FBI and removed cities with populations under 10,000.

The cities were ranked based on the number of reported violent crimes (aggravated assault, murder, rape, and

robbery) and property crimes (burglary, arson, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft) per 1,000 people. These variables were then weighted, with violent crimes assigned a value 1.5 times (due to their severity) that of property crimes.

The safest community in the state was deemed to be Grosse Ile Township, a town of 10,123 that recorded only 2 violent crimes and 15 property crimes.

At the bottom of the list, at 134th, was Benton Township, with a population of 14,413, and 159 violent crimes and 1,094 property crimes.

In the listing, Van Buren Township's population was listed as 28,090, with 109 violent crimes and 657 property crimes. They figured there were 3.88 violent crimes per 1,000 population and 23.39 property crimes per 1,000 population.

Canton Township was 38 on the list, Huron Township was 44, and Romulus was 111.

Last Friday, at the end of my work day, I collapsed into a coughing fit and coughed all weekend long as I lay on our couch. I was weakened and did my best to get out this week's paper. If I missed something, I apologize.



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Letters

We ask township board to rescind VBT 48111

To the editor:

We wish to express our concern in regard to the letter to the editor in last week's *Independent* from Van Buren Township Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, and Supervisor McNamara pertaining to the U.S. Postal Service now using the Van Buren Township, MI 48111 designation. It seems to us that a *separate zip code* is needed to distinguish your wanting to be a "premier" community.

We also do not want our drivers' licenses to automatically reflect Van Buren Township 48111 on the address. We still want our address to be listed as Belleville, MI 48111. We are proud to live in Sumpter Township.

All of our important mail has had Belleville, MI 48111 as the address as well as mail from friends and family. However, recently we have received some of our mail with Van Buren Township, MI 48111 listed as the address.

We do not want to be listed that way because it is now entered into a computer GPS system.

We ask your township board to rescind the Van Buren Township 48111 mailing address decision or else get your own zip code and your own post office.

You have created unnecessary confusion. We understand that Sumpter Township and the city of Belleville were not consulted or notified of your changes.

Have you thought about people making reservations at the hotels will know Belleville; the traffic signs off I-94 reflect Belleville. Realtors for this area are having some difficulties in giving proper location details for homes and property.

When you applied for the address changes did you think about the Belleville Area District Library, the Belleville Area Museum, the Belleville-Area Independent, the Belleville Yacht Club, the Belleville Tigers? And, the Weather Channel recognizes Belleville.

We understand even the U.S. Postal Service does not like to have two words for a city or town.

We are glad to live in Sumpter Township and be listed as Belleville in our address.

We are known to be the TRI-Community of Belleville, Sumpter, and Van Buren, with the Belleville address listing. We have a history here as Belleville, MI 48111 since 1963 when zip codes came into existence. We resent your township board changing the postal designation and still having the 48111 zip code.

Please get your own post office and your

BC Cab
734-697-5222

own zip code as quickly as possible!

Who authorized the decision for mail to be addressed as Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or was it done by executive order?

Have you ever thought how this might jeopardize election mailings?

Mary and Barney Ban
18001 Lohr Rd.
Belleville, MI 48111
Sumpter Township

What should we do if there's a shooting here?

To the editor:

Since hearing and seeing the tragic news about the Florida school shooting, I was wondering what is the plan for September Days Senior Center in case something went awry there? I have not heard of any details of what to do or where to go if someone enters the building and begins shooting. Is there a safety room. Is there any plan at all?

Where would we go? Is there an alarm (panic button) the seniors can enact? Yes, I know the police station is near, but bullets fly quickly! As far as I know there has been no senior meeting as a whole (together) to find out these answers.

I believe it is better to be pro-active rather than reactive!

Can someone address these concerns of the people about security questions at the center before something happens and we're lost in the dark?

Sincerely,
M. Caldwell
Van Buren Township

Thanks to David, Jim Hughes for helping me

To the editor:

I just wanted to say a special thanks to David Hughes and his dad Jim who helped me out over the week end snow/ice storm. At one point they set aside work in their shop (J&M Hughes Service) on Savage at Bemis to get me going and I appreciate it very much.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

Saginaw Valley State Univ. names Dean's List students

More than 1,900 students from Saginaw Valley State University at University Center, MI, earned a spot on the fall 2017 semester Deans' List, including Belleville students Domique Charles, Tamira McCarter, and Naja Rabon.

To be eligible for the Deans' List, a student must take at least 12 credit hours and carry a semester GPA of 3.4 or better.

"Genius without education is like silver in the mine."
— Benjamin Franklin

City of Belleville

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Marcotte, J.	1,000.00	1,076.50
Loria, J.	1,000.00	1,076.50
Smith, T.	1,000.00	1,076.50
City Manager		
Kollmeyer, D.	75,105.28	109,475.28
Clerk/Treasurer		
Scharf, S.	46,009.60	141,372.69*
Account Clerks		
Tinsley, M.	12,578.55	19,434.83
Tindall, K.	31,738.74	44,966.33
Tyler, K.	19,966.69	36,494.66
McGlynn, T.	36,765.73	54,922.81
Moore, S.	39,028.53	57,966.68
Hootman, B.	10,693.76	11,766.39
Smith, C.	10,447.46	11,246.69
Department of Public Services		
Rutherford, R.	64,605.00	70,843.12
Adams, S.	56,351.63	80,370.03
Demon, S.	57,174.83	92,942.09
Demon, N.	18,232.50	19,627.29
Flynn, D.	6,474.10	6,969.37
Jenkins, R.	2,760.00	2,971.14
Akans, R.	3,626.00	3,903.39
Police Officers		
Berriman, H.	37,525.00	40,395.66
Faul-Schlund, K.	70,172.95	115,645.20
Kassem, A.	20,624.40	22,202.17
Schrecengost, T.	69,336.22	103,885.71
VanDeweghe, M.	61,995.78	92,379.27
Wickham, J.	69,852.42	116,957.30
Trombly, T.	42,847.41	47,499.84
Rose, K.	60,988.84	90,430.61
Dzagulones, S.	40,740.45	60,457.79
Crossing Guards		
Talaga, M.	3,481.40	3,747.73
Fire Department		
Blackburn, B.	2,165.13	2,330.76
Reed, J.	7,032.25	7,570.22
Marginean, C.	1,453.40	1,564.59
Mosholder, D.	4,438.48	4,778.02
Loranger, B.	10,698.63	11,517.08
Loveland, M.	5,059.68	5,446.75
Kelly, J.	1,491.40	1,605.49
McClinton, C.	2,309.60	2,486.28
Rix, K.	4,059.25	4,369.78
Widener, K.	2,216.05	2,385.58
Smith, E.	4,774.68	5,139.94
Smith, D.	4,674.33	5,031.92
Zehel, A.	5,472.20	5,890.82
Zweng, C.	7,808.56	8,405.91
McInally, D.	3,299.80	3,552.23
Senior Trans. Drivers		
Akans, J.	5,478.00	5,897.07
TOTAL	\$1,542,767.26	

* This figure is high because Sherri Scharf is the only city employee in the MERS (Michigan Employees Retirement System) "supervisor" classification and so the amount escalated based on what the city is paying current retirees in that supervisor group because it is not fully funded. The MERS pension number for this employee is helping to pay four retirees: Lisa Long, Gene Taylor, Keith Boc, and Bob Dawson. Two more employees -- Diana Kollmeyer (when she was clerk for 10 years) and Sean Bellingham (who was financial officer) will be paid out of that figure when they retire in the future. Scharf said because of her age, she will never qualify for retirement from the city and will never get any of that money assigned to her.

2016 Wages & Compensation - \$1,581,632.97
 2017 Wages & Compensation - **\$1,542,767.26**
 Difference - **\$38,865.71**

2017 City of Belleville employee wages & cost to city had approximately a 2.52% decrease since 2016.

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Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, Feb. 26 - Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. at the Commons at Belleville High School.
- Tuesday, Feb. 27 - Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 28 - Van Buren

- Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 5 - Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday, March 6 - Van Buren Township regular meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Thursday, March 8 - Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m., if needed. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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Ceremonial Rental Casket	\$1,095.00
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Obituaries



Gail Renee Whitt

GAIL RENEE WHITT

(December 21, 1967 - February 13, 2018)

Gail Renee Whitt, age 50, of Ann Arbor.

Gail is the loving mother of Austin Whitt of New York, Jordan Bota of Ann Arbor and Dylan Bota also of Ann Arbor. She is the cherished daughter of Herb Whitt of Belleville and dear sister of Daniel Whitt of Florida, Terri (Ken) Whitt Dixon of Florida and Chris (Angelique) of Belleville. She is also survived by her niece, Courtney (Daniel) Frost of Belleville and other extended family and friends. Gail was born on December 21, 1967 in Kettering, Ohio to Herb and Ann Whitt (nee King). Gail was truly an educator at heart, obtaining her master's degree in education and was involved with teaching preschool, dance and gymnastics. A graduate of Belleville High School's class of 1986, she also enjoyed cooking and spending time with her family and children. In keeping with her wishes, a simple cremation has been arranged. No public services are planned at this time.

In lieu of customary tributes, memorial contributions may be directed to the wishes of the family.



Doris Jean Beckley

DORIS JEAN BECKLEY

(June 28, 1940 - February 16, 2018)

Doris Jean Beckley, age 77, of Belleville, MI passed away Friday, February 16, 2018.

She was born June 28, 1940, in Paris, Texas the daughter of Roy Keith and Maybell (Dockery) Hudgens. Doris married Gary Beckley in 1962 in Ypsilanti MI and he survives. She was a special education teacher in the Van Buren School District for 20 years.

Survivors include: her husband; one daughter, Kimberly (Terry) Caves of Plymouth; one son, Michael (Traci) Beckley of Wayne; four grandchildren, Matthew (Lisa) Caves, Amy (Chris) Reitenga, Paige and Brady Beckley; two great-grandchildren, Rylee Reitenga and Easton Caves; four sisters, Mary Ann Stokes, Patsy Tennpenny, L. Sue (Gary) Sobbry and Pamela Hudgens; two brothers, James Hudgens and Thomas (Mary) Hudgens; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents.

The funeral service was on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at Stark Funeral Service Moore Memorial Chapel with Pastor Gordon Moore officiating. Burial followed in Washtenong Memorial Park. The family greeted friends from before the service on Tuesday.

Contributions in her memory may be made to The Alzheimer Association Michigan Great Lakes Chapter. Please sign her guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.



SAMUEL HERBERT CRESSWELL, JR.

(May 13, 1947 - February 13, 2018)

Age 70, of Belleville. Survived by children Michael, Stacie, and Adam, also longtime companion, Debra Hood. Also survived by grandchildren, great-grandchildren and brother Greg.

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Obituaries



Eulene Catherine Skszek



EULENE CATHERINE SKSZEK

(September 26, 1922 - February 17, 2018)

Eulene Catherine Skszek, age 95, of Sumpter Township, died peacefully at Superior Woods nursing home early Saturday morning, February 17, 2018.

Eulene is the dear mother of Penelope (the late Benjamin, d. 2003) Loeb of Muskegon, and dear friends Doug Bledsoe of Belleville and Dee Blevins of Indiana.

Sadly, she is preceded in death by her husband Joseph Skszek (d. 2013); siblings Thelma, Jeanne, Mildred, Harold, Clayton, Elizabeth, Priscilla, Francis, Jack, Marna and Dennis.

A long-time Belleville resident, Eulene graduated in 1941 from Munising High School. Following graduation, she enlisted in the Army Air Corps during the Second World War. Mrs. Skszek was a devout parishioner of both Sacred Heart Church of Munising and St. Anthony's Church of Belleville. Eulene enjoyed gardening, singing at weddings and playing cards. She truly was a regal woman, and will be missed.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, February 21, 2018 in the main chapel of the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville (734) 697-4500. An hour of visitation was held before the service.

Interment will take place at Maple Grove Cemetery, Munising, in the summer of 2018.

In lieu of customary tributes, memorial contributions in her memory may be directed to the Knights of Columbus of Sacred Heart Church, 110 W. Jewel St., Munising, MI 49862.

newspaper for public scrutiny. These union negotiated contractual employment benefits and wages are readily available for review by the public to anyone interested in discovering this information and it needn't be put in the newspaper without offering a comparison of public sector wages and benefits for similar positions. Many senior citizens in our community who have been out of the work force for many years may not be able fully comprehend the structured salaries and health insurance packages that are common place in the market place today.

Those of us, who are living on fixed incomes, may feel that certain wages are extremely high, but in some cases reflect two individual job classifications; such as the "cross trained" or more commonly referred to "blended rate" public safety officers. It's a fact that several of these individuals are paid wages in more than one job classification and with the added health insurance coverage for themselves and their family members the cost is significant. However, if Van Buren Township had to hire other individuals to perform these separate job assignments it would increase costs even more to our taxpayers since these additional employees would then require separate health insurance packages. It would be wonderful if the township could afford a full-time, paid fire department, and someday we will, just not now.

I'll be the first to stand up for our educators since teachers aren't appreciated enough for the years of dedication that they provide to our school systems. There are never enough funds available to provide for all that they accomplish in their classrooms and most often they contribute some of their own currency to assist their students. There is additional compensation available for after-school organized activities, which require coaches or staff, but even this is minimal. Let's face it, unfortunately there's a greater chance of injury or even death for both students and faculty members in the academic world today. We see it more frequently and yet teachers stay the course and often sacrifice their lives for our children when these situations turn violent.

As for our local government employees, these folks are the solid rock foundation that holds our community together. They

don't take their responsibilities lightly and many of them have years of experience serving our citizens. I hate to say this but most of them could be more fully compensated in the private sector for similar job performance requirements and longevity. To print the wages and "total compensation costs" for these workers in the newspaper seems rather callous and might even create a competitive environment amongst different bargaining councils and individuals in order to seek greater reward?

I was curious about one line item though; in reference to Trustee Paul D. White's wage and compensation reporting, both he and his spouse are Medicare eligible (80%) and they shouldn't be provided with full "premium" medical insurance coverage by the township. Since Medicare could be

Maya Carnahan earns scholarship at U of Findlay

Maya Carnahan of Belleville was awarded the Edward and Mary Crosby Endowed Scholarship at the University of Findlay for the 2017-2018 academic year. The university is located in Findlay, OH.

their primary provider we taxpayers would just be responsible for Medicare "Part B" (20%) plus prescription medicine. So, someone please ask Mr. White why he's chosen to opt out of Medicare in favor of the township's premium insurance package. He always brags about wanting to save us money -- just like the township car he vowed not to buy when he was previously elected (nine years ago) as supervisor!

Respectfully,

CeJay Marshall

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More Letters

To print salary, total compensation is callous

To the editor:

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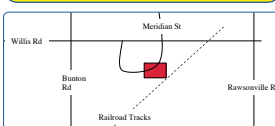
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Dingell sets town hall with U.S. Postal Service on Ypsi mail issues

U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, MI-12, will hold a town hall with representatives from the U.S. Postal Service from 6:30-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22 to discuss the next steps in resolving Ypsilanti's ongoing mail service issues.

The meeting, which is free and open to the public, will be held at the Ypsilanti Eagle Crest Marriott, Main Ballroom, 1275 S. Huron Street, Ypsilanti.

After hearing from constituents and community leaders about ongoing issues with pickup and delivery and unresponsive and unreachable customer service, Dingell in January urged USPS to investigate the matter and share steps being taken to improve service.

This town hall will allow the community to ask questions, hear from the postal service on how they are fixing these

problems, and provide feedback on other issues being experienced.

Besides Rep. Dingell, scheduled to be present are Stephanie M. Brantley, Post Office Operations Manager, USPS; Lee A. Thompson, District Manager, Detroit, USPS; and Alicia Brown, Postmaster, USPS Ypsilanti.

Mackenzie Trester gets BS at Northern Michigan Univ.

Mackenzie Trester of Belleville graduated from Northern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science in Art and Design, *magna cum laude*. Degree requirements were satisfied in December.

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**Minding
Your Business**
with Bob Mytych



Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter Township will be holding their annual Cinco de Mayo fund raiser on Saturday, May 5, from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Romulus Progressive Hall on Ozga Road.

Tickets are \$25 each and they include a Mexican Buffet, entertainment, cash bar, 50/50, and other prize giveaways. Tickets for the popular event are available by calling (734) 461-9458.

The Belleville Community Chorus will be holding a Baked Potato Dinner fund raiser at Open Arms Lutheran Church on Belleville Road next to the VBT Fire Station on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. The cost is a \$5 minimum donation. A Pi-

rates, Princesses & Padawans Luncheon will take place on Saturday, March 3 at 11 a.m. at the church and tickets are \$15 per person. Activities include a treasure hunt, balloon auction and princess dancing. Costumes are encouraged. Call (734) 699-5000.

Sam's Place Family Restaurant on Main Street has expanded its \$2.49 mini breakfast specials to weekends too, from 6 to 11 a.m., with their ad coupon in the newspaper each week. A drink purchase is required. See their ad for other discounts, too. They're open seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call (734) 697-3033.

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

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On Feb. 13, Belleville Kiwanis members visited Cedar Woods Center in Van Buren Township and treated each resident to a Valentine carnation. Jeff Lawther, trustee, and Wendy Marecle, vice president, are shown passing out carnations that were enjoyed by the residents and staff.

Wayne County Fair Association, Inc. presents

Taco Dinner



February 24, 2018 at 6:00pm

\$12.00 per dinner

\$8.00 Kids 8 & under

50/50 Raffle

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All proceeds go to the upkeep of the Wayne County Fairgrounds, a nonprofit organization.

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Kiwanis members Fred Abel and Karen Mida enjoyed treating the residents to Valentines.

Pirates, Princesses & Padawans Lunch

March 3rd - 11:00am

\$15 per person

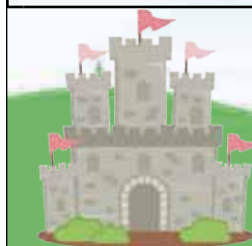
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Court Watching:**Remus bound over to circuit court on assault, weapons charges**

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Following a preliminary exam on Feb. 14, 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green bound over Christopher Michael Remus, 47, to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Feb. 28.

After the victim testified, Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Phebie Longnecker said she was dismissing five of the nine original counts, but moving forward with the felony charges of felonious assault and weapons felony firearm, with the misdemeanors of domestic violence and reckless use of weapon.

The victim testified that on Jan. 13 she was at the Elwell Road home of Remus, who was her boyfriend. She said she and

her year-old son had been staying with Remus and his 11-year-old son for seven months.

She testified there was a verbal argument that turned physical when she was packing up her belongings to leave. She said he grabbed her by the sweatshirt neck, ripping it, and held her against the door frame.

She testified he said if she called police he would put a bullet in her head. She said she knew he was intoxicated.

She said the police report said he grabbed her throat, but that wasn't true. She said the red mark on her throat was caused by her necklace that rubbed against her throat when he grabbed her sweatshirt.

The victim testified that Remus said he could shoot her because he had nothing to lose.

She said she told him that his son was standing there watching, and he let her go. She went and got her child and came back into the kitchen and Remus was there, with a handgun on the island in the kitchen.

"I told him to go put his gun away and he went to the bedroom and put it on the bed," she said, adding she reached around him and grabbed the gun. She said she unloaded it and set it down. But, he reloaded it and came back out to the kitchen with it, she said.

"I was putting my bags on the porch and he picked up the gun and waved the gun back and forth, saying, 'Get out.'"

"I got out. I knew he was intoxicated," she said.

She said she had contacted two friends. When she left the house she backed into the church parking lot across the road and when her friends arrived they backed into the Remus driveway, so she returned in her car. She said she was getting her things from the porch, when Remus said, "Hey, Mark. What's up buddy?" addressing one of her friends. Then he said, "I'm tired of being cheated on," and she heard a gunshot, maybe two.

That's when she got in her car and drove up to the corner where she put her baby in the car seat and then drove to the Van Buren Township police station. She said she told them Remus fired a gun and assaulted her.

She said she got a text message from the phone of Remus' son, which she believes Remus sent. She testified it said, "I should have aimed."

Under cross-examination by defense attorney Lowell Friedman, she said when Remus was waving the gun around, she felt fear for her son because of what Remus had said earlier about shooting her in the head. She said she didn't actually see him reloading the gun.

"I don't think he would intentionally ever do that to me or my son," she said. "I knew he was intoxicated."

Judge Green said, "... but you weren't going to stick around and find out," and the victim agreed.

"Alcohol and a weapon were involved," Judge Green said.

Under cross-examination by Friedman,

the victim said she didn't know if the gun was shot in the air and she didn't see him with the gun, just heard the sound. She said she was almost to the cab of the truck, 10-20 yards away, when she heard the shot.

She said she and Remus had been drinking and she had three beers and a small drink out of a Fireball.

Judge Green said they were lucky no one was hit, especially with the alcohol involved. She said it was an issue for a jury to decide.

"He did end up shooting," Prosecutor Longnecker added.

Judge Green continued the \$5,000 personal recognizance bond and the order to have no contact with the victim.

VBT Det. Mike Long was the officer in charge of the case.

Randy Davon Gray

Randy Davon Gray, 46, had his probable cause conference adjourned for three weeks, as requested by his court-appointed attorney David Lankford, who wanted to work something out with the prosecutor.

Gray is charged with operating while intoxicated-third and driving while license suspended-second in Belleville on Sept. 10.

Lankford said his client only had two previous charges and that was 24 and 25 years ago. He said he wanted to see if the prosecutor would reduce the charges to misdemeanors.

There was mention of the Sobriety Court and Judge Green said the prosecutors know she doesn't want a felony charge to push somebody into a misdemeanor. And as far as the Sobriety Court goes, "I pick people who I think will be successful, not them."

"He was good all these years and then fell off [the wagon]," Lankford explained.

Daniel Lavall Walton

Daniel Lavall Walton, 37, waived his preliminary exam by video from the Wayne County Jail where he is being held on \$20,000/10% bond. He is scheduled to be at circuit court on Feb. 21 for an arraignment on the information.

Walton is charged with operating while intoxicated-third and driving while license suspended-second in Belleville on March 19.

It's Pothole Season

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MMFLA

(continued from page 1)

happen, she wanted to know.

Trustee Oddy said during the discussions at the committee only Agricultural and Industrial were discussed, no Commercial. "That's the way it was put on the agenda," he said of the addition of Commercial.

Treasurer Peggy Morgan said she was the one who put this on the agenda. She said the only reason she did was because there was not that much Industrial in the heart of the township and Commercial would be for the provisionary centers to sell to the patients.

She said Trustee Barnes was still studying the issue and she suggested the Commercial zoning.

Herring said that means it would be at corners at Bemis, Willis, Willow, and Oakville Waltz. "I don't want it down

there," she said.

Kitty Cumberledge asked where users get marijuana now and Trustee Barnes said they get it from a dispensary or a personal care giver. Supervisor Morgan said there is no shortage of dispensaries in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Romulus.

Brian Fennick, an attorney, said he assisted Ann Arbor with their language and he would be glad to help Sumpter. He said they are considering not capping the number of plants. He said the state is very close to a vote on recreational marijuana. He suggested the township consider processing at the cultivation site. That had not been considered in the proposal.

John Fraser, an Okemos attorney, said he has clients who want to apply for licenses. He provided information on MMFLA.

Kurt Nofz said he would hire local and wants multiple licenses.

Kathy Paige said she doesn't want Sumpter to step in this direction.

Steven Edwards said as soon as recreational marijuana comes this will blow up. "We had the opportunity to go forward and all we gave our kids was a dump," Edwards said, considering the board might not opt in.

Linda LeBlanc said, "I don't want marijuana in my back yard."

During the Board Response part of the meeting, which came slightly later on the agenda, Treasurer Morgan said she had a lengthy response.

"I am disappointed with the facts or lack of facts presented by the fact-finding

committee," she began. She said Ken Bednark, who prepared the report on what the people think by compiling their letters, emails, and public comments, just gave his opinions and no facts. She said Bednark suggested people don't want Sumpter to opt in and the board members could be led to believe it and come to the conclusion to opt out.

She said at a fact-finding committee meeting Trustee Barnes questioned Bednark on having no facts and an argument broke out, but the chairman controlled the meeting.

Treasurer Morgan said she personally did a study of the public's opinions, noting 172 people attended the committee meetings and she figured out, counting each person just once, that three spoke against opting in and 11 spoke against opting out. She said there were 13 total letters with 10 asking to opt out (one with 12 signatures) and three asking to opt in. There were two emails, one asking to opt in and one asking to opt out. There were 26 total. At the final meeting of the committee, there were 41 people there, with 3/4ths of the crowd appearing to want to opt in and 1/4 wanting to opt out.

Treasurer Morgan then asked for people in the audience to raise their hands, first if they wanted to opt out and then for opting in.

She then went over the committee report in detail, noting that Trustee Barnes was tasked with determining how many facilities Sumpter should have if it opted in

(Continued on page 16)



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MMFLA

(continued from page 15)

and she found the facts. Treasurer Morgan said Barnes cancelled a trip out of state to be here and spent \$1,600 out of her own pocket. She went to seminars and did many things in gathering the information, Treasurer Morgan said.

Treasurer Morgan said she decided to have her deputy send out emails to 22 townships who have opted in in the state, but then the deputy's email went down. But she was able to get two back and Bangor Township said it made a quarter of a million dollars so far and it has 14,000 residents.

Trustee Oddy agreed that Barnes' report "was fantastic," but Bednark was not present to defend himself. He said Bednark's report appeared to be opinions because they were the opinions that people sent in.

After the votes were taken, township attorney Rob Young was directed to prepare an official resolution for opting out for the next board meeting.

Harris suggested the board reimburse Trustee Barnes for her expenses in carrying out her township duties and Supervisor Morgan replied, "We have rules on how we spend our funds."

At the end of the meeting, Herring said some residents said they were afraid for their physical well-being and that's why they didn't attend that night's meeting.

"Now what are we going to bring in?" Edwards asked.

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

- Approved installation of a new furnace in the senior center offices at a price of

\$4,380;

- Approved raising water/sewer rates by 13% as recommended by auditor Ron Traskos. Also, Republic rubbish pick up will go from \$23.50 to \$27;

- Approved moving the polling location #5 from Bessie Hoffman School to the community center activity room at 23501 Sumpter Road because Lincoln has closed the school and it is not suitable for a polling location;

- Approved the contract for I.T. Right to start service on April 1 as computer technology provider for the Sumpter Township Hall, senior center and fire department;

- Approved hiring Sonya Ingle as a fire fighter, contingent upon her successful completion of the required physical and drug screening;

- After a two-minute public hearing, approved Community Development Block Grant allocations for 2018. Of the \$73,044 expected, \$44,783 will be for senior center improvements, \$10,957 for senior services, \$7,304 for administration, and \$10,000 for demolition of unsafe buildings; and

- Heard attorney Young give a report on the consent order in the Nelson Po case and how Po's funds that had been frozen at Chase and Bank of America were released and distributed. A detailed, written version of the report was distributed to board members, but not made available to the *Independent*.

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

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Feb. 22** – Give blood at the Red Cross Blood Drive, 1 to 6:45 p.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville.

- **Thursday, Feb. 22** – GriefShare program begins at 6 p.m. and runs on Thursdays for 13 weeks at the Romulus Wesleyan Church, Huron River Drive at Goddard Road. Attend any or all sessions. Information: (734) 941-1511.

- **Thursday, Feb. 22** – Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club is holding its general membership meeting at 7 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds dining hall. All are welcome.

- **Friday, Feb. 23** – Sumpter Seniors Black History Program at 1 p.m., Community Center Gym, 23501 Sumpter Rd., \$5 admission per person. Pot luck: Please bring your favorite down-home, pot-licking, finger-licking dish.

- **Saturday, Feb. 24** – The Belleville Community Chorus presents its fifth-annual Baked Potato Dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. at Open Arms Church, 7865 Belleville Road. For a minimum donation of \$5 you get a large baked potato with your choice of toppings, plus dessert and beverage. Tickets at the door or from any community

chorus member.

- **Saturday, Feb. 24** – State Rep. Joseph Bellino, R-Monroe, is holding coffee hours in his district today: 9-10 a.m. at Biggby, 26614 Telegraph Rd., Flat Rock; 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Carleton Branch Library, 1444 Kent St., Carleton; and 2-3 p.m. at Tim Horton's, 404 S. Monroe St., Monroe. Information at (517) 373-1530.

(continued on page 17)



Justice for EGYPT COVINGTON Fundraiser

SUNDAY, FEB. 25
1pm - 6pm

WHERE: Belleville Moose Lodge No 934
45476 Harris, Belleville, Michigan 48111

\$15.00

Children ages 5-12, \$7.00 • 4 & under FREE

Spaghetti Dinner includes salad, garlic bread & desserts

Silent Auction (ends at 4:30pm)

Cash Bar

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
email deborahqueen2@yahoo.com
or call 734.968.1684



Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On Feb. 28th, 2018, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 11:30am, at **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

1997	PONTIAC	4D	1G2WJ52K4VF251311	15-24412
2000	FORD	SW	1FMZU75E6YZA51465	16-21475
2004	JEEP	SW	1J4GL48KX4W190244	16-23032
2000	HONDA	2D	1HGCG2259YA005945	17-0047
2010	FORD	4D	3FAHP0HA0AR112459	17-12881
2009	FORD	4D	1FAHP35N19W247290	17-17268
2004	PONTIAC	4D	2G2WS522341350687	17-22572
2010	FORD	4D	3FAHP0HA0AR415709	17-22958
2005	JEEP	SW	1J4HR48N15C562540	17-25101
2002	DODGE	2D	1B3ES56C12D653190	18-0721
2001	BUICK	4D	1G4HP54K51U213877	18-0786
2002	FORD	4D	1FAFP53UX2G161120	18-0930
2000	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1NE52J5Y6222691	18-0930
2006	HYUNDAI	4D	KMHET46C76A082684	18-1016
2002	MERCURY	SW	4M2ZU86W52UJ21067	18-1987
2003	FORD	4D	1FAFP34393W174121	18-2275

All vehicles are sold in "as is condition." Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright, CMC, Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: Feb. 22nd, 2018

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville PUBLIC NOTICE MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING



The City of Belleville Board of Review will be held on the following dates:

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

Hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6th. A second meeting will be on Tuesday March 13th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **MEETINGS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

Please call (734) 697-9323 ext. 7014 or ext. 7015 to set up an appointment.

The meetings will be held in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville. The purpose will be to review the assessment roll and hear any objections. Resident and non-resident taxpayers are permitted to file protests in writing without personal appearance; letters must be received by March 13, 2018.

Sherri Scharf,
City Clerk/Treasurer
Publish: February 15, 2018
February 22, 2018
March 1, 2018

Things to do in the Belleville area...

(continued from page 16)

• **Sunday, Feb. 25** – Free Dental Clinic at Edgemont Elementary School, 125 S. Edgemont St., put on from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. by the Belleville Seventh Day Adventist Church with the help of volunteers. Cleanings, fillings, extractions. Everyone welcome.

• **Sunday, Feb. 25** – Justice for Egypt Covington fund raiser, 1-6 p.m., at the Belleville Moose Lodge, 45476 Harris, corner of Sumpter Rd., \$15 each adult;

children 5-12, \$7; 4 and under free. Spaghetti dinner, silent auction, cash bar. To earn money to hire private investigator. Info: (734) 968-1684

• **Sunday, Feb. 25** – Waco Band will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

• **Monday, Feb. 26** – The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets at the Livonia Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, beginning at 5:30 p.m. (bring your dinner) and speakers begin at 6:30 p.m. Open to the public. Information: www.wwcgs.org

www.wwcgs.org

• **Tuesday, Feb. 27** – State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood invites constituents to a Teacher Town Hall from 6-8 p.m. at Taylor City Hall council chambers, 23555 Goddard Rd., Taylor, to discuss his new bill package, *TeA+chers for Michigan*.

• **Saturday, March 3** – The Mayors' Ball to raise funds for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Belleville and Romulus will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Belleville Yacht Club. Tickets: \$100. Information: Mayor Kerreen Conley (313) 969-5183 or email mayorsball@yahoo.com.

• **Sunday, March 4** – Jay Frandsen & Saxophone will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, March 11** – 18 Strings will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, March 18** – Kentucky Travelers will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For

more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, March 25** – Southern Echo will entertain 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Free afternoon of music. For more information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan, (734) 699-8918.

• **Monday, April 9** – State Rep. Erika Geiss, D-Taylor, will hold a coffee hour 1-2 p.m. at the Romulus Senior Center, 36525 Bibbins St. Her district includes part of Van Buren Township.

• **Wednesday, April 11** – Belleville Area Women's Club annual Spring Fashion Show at Woodlands of Van Buren, 39670 Ecorse Rd. Tickets \$40. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., fashion show at 8 p.m., with fashions provided by Dress Barn. Proceeds benefit the Community and Education Fund. Tickets available from club members and at Garden Fantasy on Main.

• **Saturday, April 14** – Belleville Area District Library groundbreaking, 11 a.m.

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

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP 2018 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The **BOARD OF REVIEW** of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, on the following dates:

March 6th, Tuesday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
(Organizational Meeting)

No Appeals Heard at this Meeting

March 12th, Monday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 14th, Wednesday
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 15th, Thursday
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review OR by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

Letters of appeal must be received on or before MARCH 14, 2018.

Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-699-8946 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by MARCH 13, 2018.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Agricultural	50%	1.0000
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Thursday, February 22, 2018
Thursday, March 1, 2018
Thursday, March 8, 2018

Sumpter Township Public Notice

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP 2018 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP.

THE SUMPTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW WILL MEETING AT THE SUMPTER TOWNSHIP HALL, 23480 SUMPTER ROAD, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111 ON THE FOLLOWING DATE:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018 *4:30 PM Organizational Meeting*
Monday, March 12, 2018 *1:00 PM - 9:00 PM Appointments*
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 *9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Appointments*

All hearings are by appointment only and must be accompanied by a petition form. Please call one of the numbers below for an appointment. Petitions are available at the Sumpter Township Supervisors Office or download a petition for at www.michigan.gov/treasury: click on forms: type in form number L-4035.

Written appeals are accepted as well and must be accompanied by a petition form and received in the assessing department by Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 4:00 pm. No postmarks are accepted. Mail petitions to: Sumpter Township Board of Review 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

Hardship/poverty exemptions are accepted as well. Please call the assessing department for more information on this exemption.

Any questions regarding the Board of Review, contact the Supervisor's Office at (734) 461-6201 ext. 2229, or the Assessing Department, Tuesdays & Thursday at (734) 461-6201 ext. 2236.

Publish: February 22, March 1st & 8th

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 494 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for the past week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Feb. 11:

0124 -- property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
0150 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville
0217 -- property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Diamondback
0330 -- 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0739 -- property damage accident, Martz/Lohr
0903 -- domestic, Meadows Ln.
1049 -- hospice death, Cedarhurst Dr.
1052 -- property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1230 -- property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Lighthouse Dr.
1300 -- larceny, E. Adams
1326 -- personal injury accident, EB I-94/rest area
1354 -- traffic offense, Robbe Rd.
1422 -- weapons violation, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1514 -- domestic, Oak Ln.
1710 -- unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
1749 -- threat, Liberty Ln.
1801 -- property damage accident, S. I-94 Service
1956 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville
2015 -- threat, Timberview Ct.
2129 -- suicidal person, Quirk Rd.

Monday, Feb. 12:

0125 -- leaving the scene of a property damage accident, S. Bellridge Dr.
0324 -- 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0828 -- malicious destruction of property, Haggerty Rd. / Alden Ave.
0940 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.
1025 -- domestic, Ecorse Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1029 -- assault & battery, Estrada
1117 -- disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1403 -- private property impound, Tyler Rd.
1419 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1530 -- private property/property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.
1636 -- traffic offense, I-275/Ecorse
1840 -- noise complaint, Oak Ln.
1926 -- family trouble, Outer Dr.
2019 -- property damage accident, Oak Ln.
2051 -- harassment call, Oak Ln.
2113 -- civil matter, Haggerty Rd.
2340 -- disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, Feb. 13:

0054 -- domestic, W. Adams
0249 -- retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0653 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Robson Rd.
0656 -- traffic offense, Elwell/W. Huron River Dr.
0818 -- property damage accident, Rolan Meadows
0828 -- traffic offense, Rolan Meadows Dr. / Tavistock Dr.
1118 -- traffic offense, DNR Rawsonville
1246 -- civil matter, Lincoln St.
1313 -- civil matter, Michigan Ave.
1338 -- civil matter, Lincoln St.
1442 -- traffic offense, Savage/Martinsville
1508 -- property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1652 -- fraud, Denton Rd.
1714 -- mental subject, N. Prairiegrass Ct.
1719 -- unattended death, Lake Villa Dr.
1742 -- family trouble, Jackson St.
1756 -- disorderly, Rawsonville Rd.
1757 -- road hazard, Quirk Rd./Ayres Ave.
1943 -- private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
2032 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Edwards Rd.
2153 -- road hazard, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
2334 -- domestic, Winchester St.

Wednesday, Feb. 14:

0108 -- family trouble, Jackson St.
0254 -- leaving the scene of a personal injury accident, Parkwood Dr.
0831 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
0903 -- property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Cir.
1156 -- malicious destruction of property, Dellor
1204 -- private property impound, Parkwood Dr.
1314 -- ordinance violation, Christina Ln.
1412 -- road hazard, Tyler Rd./Andover Dr.
1436 -- fraud, Belleville Rd.

1511 -- civil matter, Ash Dr.
1654 -- disorderly, Crowley Ave.
1700 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
1703 -- civil matter, Bradley Dr.
1731 -- fraud, Westlake Cir.
2015 -- missing person, Water's Edge Ln.
2121 -- assist other dept., Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2152 -- missing person, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2153 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Menards
2200 -- operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.
2305 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
Thursday, Feb. 15:
0045 -- harassment call, Belle Pointe Dr.
0157 -- property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ricardo Dr.
0419 -- domestic, Outer Dr.
0632 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Bemis/Elwell
0830 -- breaking & entering, Marcos
0845 -- breaking & entering, Rawsonville Rd.
0903 -- domestic, Robson Rd.
0943 -- disorderly, Sumpter Rd.
0947 -- domestic, Robson Rd.
1015 -- traffic offense, Tyler Rd./Parkwood Dr.
1112 -- disorderly, Wildflower Ct.
1315 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Lindsey Dr.
1350 -- ordinance violation, Martz Rd.
1528 -- breaking & entering, Arborview Ln.
1658 -- traffic offense, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell
1747 -- fraud, Martz Rd.
2130 -- noise complaint, Village Green Ln.

Friday, Feb. 16:

0713 -- suspicious person/vehicle, E. Schooner Dr.
0917 -- property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Kirkridge Park Dr.
1101 -- ordinance violation, Haggerty Rd.
1203 -- property damage accident, W. Huron River
1305 -- road hazard, Beck/Tyler
1340 -- fraud, Hardwood Dr.
1454 -- abandoned auto, Sadie Ln.
1632 -- property damage accident, Barnwell Dr.
1750 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Hull Rd.
1759 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Robson Rd. / Belleville Rd.
1805 -- property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1820 -- road hazard, Belleville/N. I-94 Service Dr.
1824 -- private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1900 -- breaking & entering, Beckley Rd.
1909 -- family trouble, Beacon Trl.
2233 -- disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2236 -- juvenile complaint, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2300 -- noise complaint, Colony Ln.
2321 -- narcotics crime, Haggerty Rd.
2341 -- civil matter, Beacon Trl.
2351 -- domestic, W. Archwood Dr.

Saturday, Feb. 17:

0049 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
0337 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0856 -- property damage accident, Haggerty/I-94
1209 -- mental subject, Haggerty Rd.
1215 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren Ct.
1331 -- traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Quirk Rd..
1349 -- retail fraud, Belleville
1358 -- lost property/child, Haggerty
1729 -- trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1748 -- fight, E. Schooner Dr.
1836 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
1841 -- mental subject, Haggerty Rd.
1847 -- noise complaint, Hannan Rd.
2010 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Jeremy Rd.
2108 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Stephanie Dr. / Jeremy Rd.
2114 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2306 -- property damage accident, Haggerty Rd.
Also on this week's log are 194 traffic stops, 49 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 11:

0430 -- parking complaint, Bay Pointe Dr.
1055 -- follow up by officer, Belle Villa Blvd.
1337 -- property damage accident, N. Liberty St.
1649 -- found property/child, Carmell St.
1718 -- follow up by officer, E. Columbia Ave.
1751 -- civil matter, Menlo Park Dr.

2016 -- parking complaint, Harbour Pointe Dr.

Monday, Feb. 12:

0310 -- parking complaint, Victoria Commons
0826 -- malicious destruction of property, Main St.
0835 -- assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1212 -- traffic offense, Denton Rd./Main St.
1342 -- assist fire dept., Charles Ct.
1411 -- disorderly, Main St.
1500 -- assist fire dept., W. Wabash Ave.
1551 -- malicious destruction of property, S. Liberty St.
1950 -- intrusion alarm, N. Liberty St.
2049 -- motorist assist, Third St./Main St.
2155 -- suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.
2252 -- parking complaint, Carmell/Belle Villa Blvd.

Tuesday, Feb. 13:

0003 -- assist fire dept., Robbe St.
0930 -- assist fire dept., Capistrano Ct.
1108 -- assist fire dept., W. Wabash Ave.
1143 -- assist fire dept., Main St.
1815 -- traffic offense, High St./Church St.
1920 -- traffic offense, Main St./Denton Rd.
2136 -- parking complaint, Clarence St./Robbe St.
2322 -- intrusion alarm, South St.

Wednesday, Feb. 14:

0930 -- assist fire dept., Fifth St.
1031 -- civil matter, Carmell St.
2130 -- breaking & entering, Victorian Ct.
2141 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Carmell St.
2345 -- suspicious person/vehicle, Savage / Victorian Ln.

Thursday, Feb. 15:

0412 -- warrant arrest, Rawsonville/Bemis
0732 -- property damage accident, W. Wabash
0936 -- intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1459 -- motorist assist, Main St.
1542 -- fraud, Main St.
1840 -- warrant arrest, Rawsonville/I-94
2152 -- assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.

Friday, Feb. 16:

0139 -- noise complaint, N. Liberty St.
0324 -- suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.
1038 -- assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1126 -- larceny from auto, W. Columbia Ave.
2302 -- suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River

Saturday, Feb. 17:

0412 -- parking complaint, Victorian Ln.
1519 -- civil matter, Loza Ln.
1831 -- assist fire dept., E. Thornhill Ct.
2014 -- welfare check, Belle Villa Blvd.
2153 -- assist other dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
2321 -- welfare check, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.

Also on this week's log are 61 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Feb. 11:

0043 -- neighbor dispute, Greenmeadow
0201 -- alarm, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0212 -- suspicious incident, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1227 -- ORV complaint, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.
1232 -- property damage accident, Willow / Sumpter
1321 -- property damage accident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1502 -- fire dept. assist, Creekside Dr.
1605 -- reckless driver, Willow/Haggerty
1638 -- fire dept. assist, Hamshire Dr.
1645 -- property damage accident, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1733 -- reckless driver, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.

Monday, Feb. 12:

0012 -- suspicious incident, Sumpter/Judd
0344 -- suspicious incident, Rustic Ln.
0816 -- citizen assist, Rawsonville/Bemis
1407 -- citizen assist, Arkona/Carleton West
1454 -- fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
2006 -- property damage accident, 40000 bl. Willis

Tuesday, Feb. 13:

0043 -- noise complaint, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
0123 -- suspicious incident, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
0245 -- alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0801 -- threats complaint, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
0952 -- alarm, 39000 bl. Wear Rd.
1055 -- suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1258 -- family trouble, Carriage Ln.
1445 -- warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1829 -- fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1925 -- mental health commitment, New Mexico

2029 -- reckless driver, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.

2155 -- animal complaint, Lohr/Willis

Wednesday, Feb. 14:

0350 -- fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
0712 -- animal complaint, 12000 bl. Rawsonville
0715 -- alarm, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0756 -- mental health commitment, 44000 bl. Paris
0926 -- suspicious incident, New Mexico
1204 -- trespassing complaint, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1222 -- suspicious incident, Sumpter/Bemis

1354 -- larceny, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1409 -- neighbor dispute, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1548 -- suspicious incident, Country Club Blvd.
1826 -- neighbor dispute, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1921 -- threats complaint, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.

Thursday, Feb. 15:

0342 -- warrant arrest pick up, 9200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

0744 -- citizen assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.

0801 -- property damage accident, 47000 bl. Bemis
1120 -- citizen assist, Bemis/Lohr
1124 -- civil dispute, 47000 Bemis Rd.
1125 -- animal complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1434 -- suspicious incident, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1810 -- family trouble, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1859 -- assist other agency, Haggerty/Oakville Waltz
1932 -- fire dept. assist, Texas
2057 -- alarm, Carriage Ln.
2349 -- citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Friday, Feb. 16:

0313 -- fire dept. assist, New Mexico
1252 -- suspicious incident, 28000 bl. Martinsville
1324 -- citizen assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
1418 -- alarm, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.
1451 -- citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1712 -- citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1852 -- operating while intoxicated arrest, Willow / Elwell

2205 -- animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

Saturday, Feb. 17:

0046 -- malicious destruction of property, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0809 -- alarm, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1156 -- malicious destruction of property, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1445 -- fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Clark Rd.
1745 -- death investigation, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1910 -- weapons violation, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2309 -- suspicious vehicle, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Also on this week's log are five follow-up investigations, 25 miscellaneous details, 102 patrol checks, and 44 traffic stops.

Belleville Plan (continued from page 3)

you,” Rutherford said; and

• Heard Cal Kemppainen of Cal Sign Co. in Wayne ask about whether he was on the agenda to present the Edward Jones wall sign for the new building. He wasn’t. He had waited about two hours while the commission discussed other things. He said he brought in the drawings for the proposed sign in December and a lady told him he was a day late for the December meeting and to just come to the meeting on Jan. 11. He said he provided 14 copies of the application, as required. Rutherford said he hadn’t seen it and said he would review it first thing in the morning. Jones apologized for the oversight, “especially since you’ve been into this for two months.”

Carlson, Bukis graduate from Western Michigan U.

Anna N. Carlson and Matthew D. Bukis of Belleville received bachelor degrees during December graduation ceremonies at Western Michigan University. Carlson earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, *cum laude*. Bukis earned a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations.



COME ONE - COME ALL

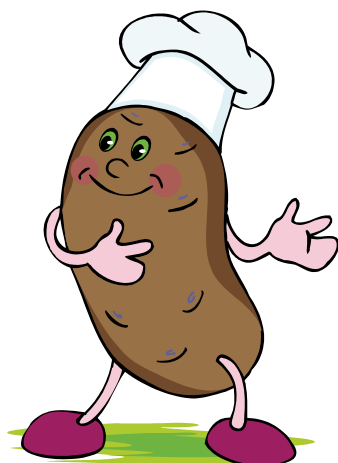


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Fundraiser for Belleville Community Chorus



Feb. 26 -- Sheila Patton, Connie Chudzinski, Doris Juchartz

Feb. 27 -- Dennis Davidson, Gerald Mc Kelvey, Selena Tellez

March 1 -- Jennifer Price

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



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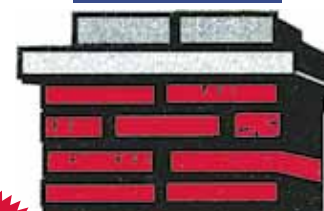
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