



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 18.51 Thursday, December 20, 2012 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **FREE**

City resident goes on vacation, comes back to water shut-off notice

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Henry Kurczewski told the Belleville City Council Monday that he went on a 30-day vacation and came back to a notice that his water was to be shut off in three days.

He said, in its wisdom, a while back the city decided to use monthly water billings and installed new water meters.

He left on vacation and a few days later his water bill arrived. He couldn't auto pay it because the city doesn't do that. He said the day after it's due and it's not paid a shut-off notice is issued.

"The council might want to look at the policy," he said, adding when the bills were issued every three months, they had 90 days.

He suggested the city might auto deduct from checking or savings accounts or accept a credit card.

"I've been in the city for 17 years," Kurczewski said and this is the first time he got a shut-off notice.

George Chedraue said when he was on the city council three years ago, he asked about this and was told the city is setting that up. It should have taken three minutes to do, instead of three years, he said.

Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Long said she has an appointment with a credit card representative for a card that can be used on line.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said city officials met with Chase bank and was told the city isn't big enough to get free service. She said the city can't charge the fee back to the consumer, by law.

City Manager Kollmeyer said earlier that day a man from Tennessee came in to pay for a grave opening and all he had was a credit card, which they couldn't accept. The funeral home agreed to pay the city for the grave opening, use the credit card from the man, and send back the charges

(continued on page 11)



Photo courtesy Goodfellows

On Saturday, the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows held their annual Food and Toy Distribution at the old Van Buren Fire Station on Ecorse Rd Service Drive. This year, with the generous donations from area residents and businesses, the Goodfellows had the pleasure to assist 110 families and 250 children in their "No Child Without a Christmas" campaign.

LDFA votes to continue to capture \$2,465 in zoo millage, but set it aside

By Diane Madigan
Independent Special Writer

Van Buren Township's Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA) met Dec. 11 to consider a recommendation regarding tax increment capture of the Detroit Zoo Millage, which is the subject of a letter to Treasurer Sharry Budd from Wayne County Treasurer Raymond J. Wojtowicz.

In the Sept. 6, 2012 letter, Wojtowicz notes that the public purpose intended by the collection of the zoo millage was to establish a stable funding source to operate the zoo.

It warned Treasurer Budd, that local municipalities that continue to capture

the zoo millage may have unintended consequences including a revocation of an office holders bond, necessitating the assumption of the treasurer's responsibility by the Office of the Wayne County Treasurer.

Should the local municipality, its Downtown Development Authority (DDA), Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA), or any other taxing authority or unit capture the zoo levy the county will charge back a like amount to pay the Wayne County Zoological Authority, the letter said.

In an attempt to correct minutes from the Nov. 13 meeting LDFA member Doug Peters, an attorney and VBT resident, stated that he does not think that township money should be spent on an attorney to fight the payment of the taxes where the voters have said the money should be given.

Terry Carroll, VBT director of planning and economic development, reported that the impact from Visteon taxes that

are collected for the LDFA capture of the Detroit Zoological millage is estimated to be \$2,465.

(continued on page 16)

EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the upcoming Christmas Day Holiday, ALL ads must be submitted by 4 p.m. Friday, 12/21/12. Classified advertising deadline is Noon Friday, 12/21/12.



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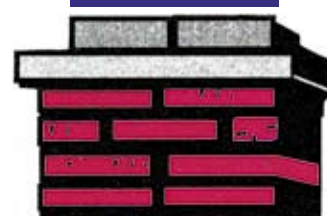
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Board approves MAFF union contract for fire fighters

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Michigan Association of Fire Fighters union contract with the members of the Van Buren Township Fire Department has been approved by both sides.

The contract, which expired in 2011, was approved by the union local and then officially approved by the township board at its Dec. 11 meeting.

The contract will run from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014. There are no hourly pay increases, but there is a four-year progression to the top rate of \$18.40 for hours worked and training time.

Full-time fire fighters will get a signing bonus of \$750 following ratification and paid-per-call fire fighters will get a payment of \$400.

In the first pay period after July 1, 2013, the full-time fire fighters will get another payment of \$500, with \$200 for paid on call fire fighters.

A summary of the contract was given to the board by attorney Andrew Barron.

He said health care was tied to the police department agreement, which has employees paying 10% and contributing to the 10/40 drug card.

In the future, the fire inspector will be required to have certification 1 and 2 as a fire inspector, which is in progress.

Barron said there are a handful of operational changes, clarification to the grievance procedure, and a rule that no member of the fire department will wear a uniform or insignia of the department during political activity or at any public forum, so there is no confusion that the fire fighter is representing the township.

Darwin Loyer, former VBT fire chief, came up to the podium to speak on the union contract. He said the existing contract provides uniforms for all, plus a payment of \$150 per year is given to every fire fighter for uniforms. He said the \$150 is supposed to be for boots or cleaning uniforms, but the fire stations have washing machines and detergents to clean the uniforms and some of the fire fighters may only put on boots four times a month.

Barron said there was no change in that part of the contract.

Loyer said the current full-time fire inspector gets 65 days a year off and 24 of those can be cashed out on termination or retirement.

Barron said that was not raised as an issue in the contract negotiations and there are no changes in time off.

Treasurer Sharry Budd, who was part of the negotiating team, said the vacation schedule is tied to years of service. There

are 25 days vacation for those with 15 years of service, three personal days, 13 holidays (that all the employees get), but that does not total 65. She said 65 was not correct.

There also is a cap of 24 sick days, which Budd did not count, but does give a total of 65 days, since the fire inspector has exceeded 15 years of service.

She said the time off was similar to the contract for the Police Officers Labor Council.

Loyer said Barron said there was no wage increase, but now there are getting \$18 per hour for training and, "They are getting a wage increase."

All members of the fire department are members of the union, except Fire Chief Dan Besson.

Van Buren Township honors 19 employees with service awards

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Nineteen longtime employees of Van Buren Township were honored at the Dec. 11 board meeting for their years of service.

Three police officers were honored for 30 years: Captain Gregory Laurain, Lieutenant Dennis Brooks, and Officer Keith Smyth.

Also honored were:

- 20 years: Police Officer Kenneth Toney, Fire Captain Anthony Karver, and Fire Battalion Chief Ronald Folks;

- 15 years: Water Worker III Jason Valinski and Fire Inspector Anthony Karver;

- 10 years: Account Clerk (Water & Sewer) Karen Smith, Account Clerk (Treasurer) Donna Hunter, Police Officers Donovan McCarthy and Carrie Traster, and Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham;

- 5 years: Fire Fighters Ryan McCormick, Todd Sorrell, Timothy Queen and Bruce Van Gemert, Jr.; and Police Officers Derek Perez and Christopher Herrick.

Ten of the 19 were present to be presented to the board and honored.



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

Van Buren Township Police Captian Gregory Laurain, left, and Police Lieutenant Dennis Brooks celebrated their 30th years of township service and were feted by VBT officials at the Dec. 11 meeting of the board of trustees. Keith Smyth, also a police officer for 30 years, was not present at the meeting.



Ken Floro, center, was presented with his Captain's rank, badge, and helmet shield for the Van Buren Township Fire Department during the Dec. 11 meeting of the VBT Board of Trustees. The rank was presented by Fire Chief Dan Besson, left, and supported by Battalion Chief Ron Folks and Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal David McNally. Floro also holds the rank of lieutenant in the VBT Police Department, where he has served for 17 years. He has also been a fire fighter for 7 years.

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OPINIONS

Editorial

Local school district responds to shootings

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel wrote an email to parents of Van Buren Public School students on Monday to inform them of what is being done to safeguard their children following news of Friday's shooting of 27 innocent victims in a Connecticut elementary school.

Supt. Van Tassel said each school in the district has an emergency crisis plan as well as specific procedures in place in the event a lockdown for security reasons becomes necessary.

He said in light of these recent events, the Van Buren Public Schools will be conducting a complete review of its emergency plans to assure all of our students are safe.

Supt. Van Tassel said he personally visited each school Monday morning to assure that procedures were being followed and that students and administrators had the necessary supports.

He said the schools are not initiating any discussions with students about Friday's tragedy, but will provide trained personnel in the event individual students need support.

Our hearts are heavy as we go into the final days to Christmas, but it's good to know everywhere people are working to safeguard our precious children.

As Van Tassel wrote: "... I continue to be absolutely dismayed that anyone would be capable of inflicting such a horror on so many young lives and their families ... Our thoughts and prayers, just like yours, are with the families at this terrible time..."

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The day after Gene Taylor was returned to his position as Chief of Police of the City of Belleville, he took the rest of the month of December off. He explained that he had built-up vacation time that he would lose at the end of the year if he didn't take it, so he took it.

Interim Police Chief Hal Berriman will stay in the chief's office until the end of the year. It's interesting. A little city, about one mile square, has two police chiefs.

VBT Police put out an advisory last Thursday on Nixle warning residents that some neighboring communities have experienced theft of delivered packages from their front porches.

There have been no such incidents in VBT, but people should be aware. It appears that the perpetrators have been following package delivery companies, i.e. UPS, Fed-Ex, US Postal, and observe packages left at unattended residences.

They then take the packages containing valuables and leave the area. The advisory said to protect yourself from this type of theft, have a plan in place for family members or neighbors to watch for deliveries that you anticipate arriving while you are away from your home.

Last Thursday at the Sumpter Planning Commission meeting, a reader told me of some calls she received from a man with a heavy foreign accent telling her she was being sent a new Medicaid card and she needed to tell him the final four numbers in her bank account. A red flag went up in her mind and she told him no and hung up.



He called back, but she didn't answer. She wants people to be alerted to this scam that could clean out your account.

It's been pointed out to us that since Wayne County has been giving Van Buren Township businesses heartburn with new requirements for storm water management, the library board should be sure to have Wayne County put its stamp of approval on the DNR site, portions of which appear to be in the FEMA floodplain. The DNR property is the site of choice so far for a new library Belleville Area District Library.

Dave Curson of Van Buren Township is nearing the end of his seven-week, storied career as Congressman. His career began at the November election and will end at the end of this Congressional session on Jan. 2. He was elected to the 11th District, which was here but moves on in January due to redistricting. Dave has been interviewed all over the place and last Friday it was on the Today Show.

He said Congressman John Conyers gave him and his crew some space in Conyers' offices. Dave has thrown himself into the job and seems to be having a great time. He's staying at a hotel and driving his pickup truck to work.

I'll bet he likes the work so much he'll retire from his UAW job and run for office again – this time for a full term as something in Washington.

VBT Clerk Leon Wright called me on Friday to disagree with my editorial on the Menard's store giving up on the township site it wanted. I blamed the planning commission and he said the township had worked hard to clear the way for Menard's, but the county wanted storm water work that would cost a quarter of a million dollars. And, the county wouldn't budge, he said.

I told him of statements from a planning commission member that said Menard's would never be here. That was way last summer before the county gave any directives on storm water.

I told him of the September planning commission meeting where the Menard's representative was blindsided and treated with contempt. I was shocked and so was he. Another person who watched that meeting on TV said she, too, was surprised to see how badly he was treated.

Clerk Wright said Menard's may come back to VBT when the economy improves. I hope he is right.

I think VBT needs to be more helpful to businesses on the county's storm water requirements. I hear Belle Tire is still having county storm water troubles.



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Letters

Donations sought for Strzalkowski family

To the Editor:

On Sept. 14, two-year-old Amelie Strzalkowski underwent emergency surgery for a malignant brain tumor, specifically Medulloblastoma, an aggressively malignant brain cancer.

She has since been undergoing chemotherapy at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. "Operation Ameliorate" is the ongoing effort organized to help Amelie and her family.

Belleville High School graduates (and former students of Amelie's father Jason Strzalkowski), Jennifer Overholt and Leia Opachick, recently launched internet campaigns selling custom-designed bracelets and t-shirts to help financially support the family and they moved their campaign to the streets last Saturday during Belleville's annual Winter Fest celebration.

Upon hearing of the efforts, Bayou Grill owner Brian Copsey immediately stepped up with a \$1,000 donation to the family. When asked about his generosity, Copsey said "We are blessed to be able to do this. We hope this contribution helps to raise awareness of Amelie's struggle and helps to encourage a similar generosity in other folks".

In addition to the bracelets and t-shirts, organizers offered an assortment of tasty baked goods and were also accepting financial contributions.

By the end of the evening, the group had much to show for their efforts. Selling out of almost all their merchandise, they nearly

equaled Copsey's donation in merchandise sales and contributions.

Due to Amelie's medical restrictions, a family representative was unable to attend the event, but Amelie's father Jason later commented that they were "humbled and amazed" at everyone's generosity.

For more information, search "operation ameliorate" on Google, Facebook or Etsy.com. Online contributions can be made at fundrazr.com. A fund for the family has also been set up through Chase Bank; simply go to any Chase Bank branch and tell them you'd like to make a contribution to the Strzalkowski family.

Kim Tindall
Belleville

"By all means marry; if you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher."

--Socrates



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Thanks for helping with Shop, Drop, Hop event

To the Editor:

Jazzercise of Belleville would like to thank everyone involved in producing our SHOP DROP AND HOP fundraiser for Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue last Friday. The event was very successful, raising a significant amount of money and products for FMAR.

We especially thank all the vendors who participated; the Jazzercise instructors and staff who worked so hard to prepare and clean up; the Jazzercise students from Belleville, Ann Arbor, Saline, Wayne and other locations who attended and participated in the demonstrations; and all the guests from the community who attended, purchased items from our vendors and brought product or made cash donations for FMAR. Without all of these people the event would not have been successful.

Thank you so much! We look forward to another successful event next year.

Best Regards,
Joyce Gant
Jazzercise of Belleville
Shop Drop & Hop Event Coordinator

enormous 'Thank You' to shopping helpers

To the Editor:

I would like to give an enormous "Thank You" and many "bless yous" to the men and women who chaperoned the kids for their shopping spree for Christmas. What a great way to spread and share the Holiday Happiness.

Thank you and bless you all! And have a happy holiday.

Gramma, Belleville

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More Letters

Thank you for helping my sister Missie Frey

To the Editor:

On Friday, Dec. 7, we held a spaghetti dinner benefit for my sister, Missie Frey, who is facing a lifelong battle against metastatic breast cancer.

The simple words of thank you cannot begin to express the gratitude and indebtedness we feel as a result of all the love and selflessness that was evident that evening.

First and foremost we would like to say thank you to the Belleville Moose for allowing use of their facility for the event. Next, we owe our heartfelt thanks to all of the wonderful people who volunteered their time in preparing for the event as well as throughout its operation.

Most importantly, we cherish the family, friends, and community that all rallied together that evening and showed my sister just how loved she truly is.

I hope you were all as inspired as I was that evening, especially during the symbolic lighting of the lanterns, and will strive to always "pay it forward" as I fully intend to.

Thank you,
Angie Clements

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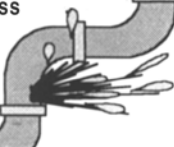
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Obituaries



Sally Ann Schaerer

SALLY ANN BAKER-SCHAEERER

(December 9, 1945 -- December 14, 2012)

Mrs. Sally Ann Schaerer passed away Friday, December 14, 2012 at home surrounded by her family. She was born December 9, 1945 in Wayne, Michigan a daughter of Hugh Edsel and Betsy Ann (Clarke) Baker.

On February 19, 1965 she was married to Paul James Schaerer in Westland, Michigan, moving to Belleville from Westland in 1967. Mrs. Schaerer enjoyed gardening and her flowers. Her pastimes also included crafts, scrap booking and playing bingo. Mrs. Schaerer loved being a school bus driver. However, her greatest joy was her grandchildren. Mrs. Schaerer had been employed by the Lincoln Consolidated Schools as a bus driver for 9 years.

Mrs. Schaerer was the loving wife of Paul James Schaerer. Dear mother of Paul J. Schaerer, Jr., Betsy Elliott and Ronald Manore. Fond grandmother of Dakota Manore and Emily Ann Elliott. Sister of Virginia Griffin and Sherry Leach. Aunt of Kim, Katelin, Leesa and Derek. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 10:00 A.M. at the Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Visitation was held on Monday, December 17, 2012 from 4 to 8 P.M. at the funeral home. Burial followed at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville. The family suggested memorial contributions to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103. www.hnfh.com

POLLY ANNE WILCOX

(June 24, 1941 - December 12, 2012)

Age 71, of Belleville, formerly of Dearborn. Survived by granddaughter Isabelle Wilcox, 3 nieces, 7 great-nieces and nephews. Private burial at Hillside Cemetery. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.



Jane Elizabeth Collins

JANE ELIZABETH COLLINS

(July 22, 1947 - December 17, 2012)

Jane Elizabeth Collins, age 65, of Belleville passed away on Monday, December 17, 2012 at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday, December 21, 2012 at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville, where a Rosary will be recited at 4:15 p.m.

Visitation also will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 22, at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, followed by services at 11 a.m.

She was born on July 22, 1947 in Appleton, WI, daughter of Theron and Ruth (Harvey) Collins. Jane graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in interior design and worked in various related and somewhat-related fields.

She very much enjoyed talking and joking with her friends. Jane also liked traveling, having new experiences and seeing new things, watching Notre Dame games and entertaining friends. She also enjoyed watching her children and grandchildren's sporting events and activities and taking them to plays and shows.

Her loving companion, Donald Houtakker, will remember her as a very gentle, kind, loving, giving and compassionate woman.

Jane is survived by one son Michael Strzyzewski of Brooklyn, MI; two daughters Anne Stauffer of Arlington, VA and Karen (Gary) Henslee of Covert, MI; four grandchildren Lauren, Amanda, Danielle and Michelle; and one great-granddaughter Emily; one sister Terre (Terry) McNamara of Bakersville, NC; and one brother Theron (Jan Marie) Collins III of Grand Rapids, MI.

Please sign Jane's on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Margaret E. Betts

MARGARET E. (OWEN) BETTS

Age 93, passed away Monday, December 17, 2012 at her Ann Arbor home with her family by her side. She was born in Ypsilanti, the daughter of Ben R. and Edna C. (Mills) Owen.

The funeral service will be 11 am Thursday, December 27, 2012 at Stark Funeral Service where the family will greet friends from 10 a.m. until time of service. Burial will follow in Highland Cemetery. Complete obituary and guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.

ERIC ALLEN JACKSON

(September 16, 1970 - December 12, 2012)

Age 42, of Ypsilanti. Survived by his wife Shannon; children Andy, Elizabeth, Robbie; parents Pastor Keith & Mrs. Phyllis Jackson of Willis; brother, Kevin (Amy) Jackson. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

SKIP MASKILL

(June 23, 1926 - December 12, 2012)

Age 86 of Belleville. Founder and owner of Maskill Hardware in Birmingham and Royal Oak for 53 years. Survived by three children, four grandchildren, five siblings. Service was Dec. 15 at A.J. Desmond & Sons.

MARSP Wayne Metro donates \$200 to Toys for Tots Christmas charity

The Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel, Wayne Metro Chapter Area 27, donated \$200 to the Toys for Tots Christmas charity last week.

Toys for Tots is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which distributes toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas.

Area 27 MARSP Director Lois Mida Zilka, formerly of Belleville and now of Canton, said the vote to donate was taken at the group's Nov. 15 meeting.

She delivered the check to the *Belleville-Area Independent* office, one of the drop-off locations for Toys for Tots.

Zilka said Area 27, with about 2,000 members, is one of four MARSP areas in Wayne County. Larry McConnell is Assistant Area 27 Director.

Area 27 is made up of 13 school districts: Crestwood, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights #7, Garden City, Hamtramck, Highland Park, Huron, Inkster, Romulus, Van Buren, Wayne County R.E.S.A., Wayne-Westland, and Westwood.

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More Letters

Martin & Son celebrates 56 years in business

To the Editor:

It's that time of year again when we love to hear feel-good stories. Here's one that really hits home.

I was reminiscing when I received a reminder message from my sister-in-law Debra, reminding me this December my father, Frederick Martin, will have owned and worked at Martin and Son for 56 years.

Yes, 56 years ago my dad and my grandfather, Henry Martin, opened Martin and Son on Dec. 3 to service their community as the town's auto mechanics.

My father probably had no idea he would still be there now. I remember many lean times, weeks when there were no paychecks, but this was dad's love and now he has passed that on to his son, my brother Randy, and his grandson, my nephew Brent, which now makes this feel-good story even sweeter. How many small businesses are so fortunate as to have three generations working as closely together as they do on a daily basis?

Martin and Son has not only been long-serving to its community, but as a family business it has time and again helped out family members who may have needed a part-time job or an in-between job.

My mother did the bookwork for many years and still does the banking to this day. I and my sister have both had our hands in and out of there from time to time, also.

And, many a kid can thank my dad for hiring them through the years as a cleaning person for a little money while they were in high school. Now my sister-in-law Debra works the front desk and I am back to doing bookwork.

So, congratulations, Martin and Son for another GREAT year, and here's to you Dad, Randy and Brent! For all the years that you have there and all the years to come. God bless you and everyone that has and does work there.

I am blessed to be a part of this family and to have such wonderful parents as mine and for them to have passed on their love and kinship to me, my siblings, and extended family.

Here's to many more years!

Rona Nowak

Van Buren Township

Owen bus rides include fights, drugs, tomatoes

To the Editor:

Earlier this school year there was an incident on an Owen Intermediate (5th & 6th) school bus. The incident was reported on the evening news, because it involved a fight between two students, which ended in an arrest due to a broken nose.

A few weeks after this incident there was another incident. This time it involved marijuana smoking on the school bus.

And yesterday there was another incident... tomato throwing while the bus was en route to school.

The Transportation Department and Superintendent have repeatedly told the parents who have children on the bus (including myself) that there are no problems, that it is not the business of anyone except the children's parents who were involved (But aren't the parents of all children involved when there is so much distracted driving from disruption on the bus?), and they have claimed that they would put an aide on the bus to help with the matter. Still nothing has changed and no aide has been put on the bus.

This bus is overcrowded (requiring all seats to have 2 students to them and many seats to have 3 students in them), none of the students involved in any of the above instances have been removed from the bus either permanently or temporarily, and the school's premise is that no one should worry about it and it is not the business of the parents who have children on this bus (if their children did not start the trouble).

Given that this bus has cameras, I thought it might make a very lovely story regarding how unsafe the Van Buren School Transportation System is and how unwilling they are to address safety issues involving children.

It is completely unjust for those children who are just trying to be good kids to have to deal with fights, drugs, and tomatoes, along with all the rowdy behavior that is non-stop on their bus.

Many parents have tried to work with the School Administration to resolve these issues, and we have all been blown off.

Please consider running a story on this issue. Thank you.

I am happy to be contacted for further details and may be able to provide you with additional parties to interview as well.

Kind Regards,
Concerned Parent

Elwell demolition: Pathetic and sad

To the Editor:

Pathetic and Sad. Those are the thoughts that came to my mind when I heard that the Van Buren Board of Education made the decision to demolish the Elwell School building. Pathetic and sad.

This action clearly demonstrates that Martha Toth and the rest of the Board members that voted in favor of this, have put the self-interests of the School Board ahead of the best interests of the kids, parents, and property tax-payers that have the unfortunate circumstance of residing within the Van Buren Public Schools.

Martha and the rest of her Michigan Education Association (MEA) endorsed puppets decided that it would be best to spend \$200,000 of your property taxes to raze an unused building, rather than placing a "For Sale" sign in front of the building and selling the property to the highest bidder. They did this because, as they admitted, they are afraid of competition. They fear

that a successful Charter School like Keystone Academy will buy the building and actually provide a quality education that attracts parents.

They realize that they are not providing a quality education and will spare no expense to shut out competition. Not only did they waste \$200,000 of your tax dollars but they also wasted whatever amount that they could sell the building for. They did not even bother to have the building appraised. They have clearly breached their fiduciary responsibility to the public and they could care less.

Furthermore, Martha and her cronies have abandoned Sumpter Township in dramatic fashion. Razing Elwell, closing Haggerty, and not even giving Sumpter the opportunity to do something positive with a vacant building, including offering it as a library, is all but giving Sumpter Township the middle finger.

I am hopeful that Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Clarence Hoffman, and Deputy Supervisor Craig Moody, and the rest of Sumpter leadership recognize the positive impact that Keystone Academy Charter School has had for the community. I call on them to pass a Township resolution inviting other education providers in the community to fill the void left by Van Buren Public Schools. The parents, kids, and Sumpter property taxpayers deserve better.

While I may no longer reside in Sumpter, my house does. So long as my tax dollars contribute to the thugs at Van Buren Public Schools, so too does my opinion.

Pathetic and sad, Martha. Pathetic and sad.

Very Sincerely,

Douglas Jahner, Nashville, TN

Owner of 17700 Martinsville Road,
Sumpter Township

BACA receives donation from township trustee

To the Editor:

During the most recent election cycle, newly elected Van Buren Township Trustee Regina (Reggie) Miller pledged to donate her salary to a number of local community organizations.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts was one of the organizations Trustee Miller pledged to help. BACA is very pleased to announce that Trustee Miller has been true to her word as we have recently received her very generous donation of one-quarter of her newly earned salary along with the promise that the donations will continue throughout her tenure with Van Buren Township.

BACA President Steve Jones expressed his gratitude to Trustee Miller recently and has invited her to BACA's January meeting to make an official presentation to the BACA Board.

Kim Tindall

Acting Corresponding Secretary

Belleville Area Council for the Arts

Anthony Munoz to receive master's degree at Ashland

Anthony Munoz of Belleville will receive a Master of American History and Government degree from Ashland University, Ashland, Ohio, at the Winter Commencement ceremony on Dec. 15. Munoz majored in American history and government.



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More Letters

To Mark, John Moran: It's about my ceiling...

To Mark and John Moran

Dear Mark and John,

Since you won't answer my phone calls or return any of my calls, I am forced to contact you via newspaper. Hopefully, you or someone you know will be sure to get this letter to you.

I have been calling you at least 4-5 times a week for over 2 months now and have not gotten even a return call from you. Every time I call I am directed to your voice mail. The one time I did get through, your wife answered and told me it was the wrong number. I have talked to your Mother and Father, who both reassured me I had called the correct phone number; and was also told by them that they had forwarded my message to you.

This is in regards to the ceiling you painted throughout most of my house. The paint had begun to crack and have been getting brown spots throughout the house.

My first thought was a leaky roof, but my roof is new so I highly doubted that. The roof was checked out and there are no leaks.

After some research and others' opinions, it had been concluded that a primer was to be painted on before the ceiling paint itself. I believe that if you had put a primer on

prior to painting this problem would not have happened.

I was highly recommended by a very dear and trusting friend to hire you for this job. Unfortunately, I am very disappointed not only in the problems that have occurred from the paint job itself, but also the fact that you do not have the common courtesy to return my phone call.

Hopefully, this will catch your attention and we can come to a conclusion.

Judy Brothers

Van Buren Township

Wreath on the door, indicates mark of honor

To the Editor:

While perusing my library, I found this piece "All About Christmas - A Collection of Legends, Customs and Traditions of The World." by L. Peter Wren, 2010 - reprinted with his permission - Legend of the Christmas Wreath:

"The wreath in early times was a band of leaves, flowers or metal twisted into a circular form and worn on the head. It was a mark of honor for the crowning victors. Today the Christmas wreath on the front door of homes indicates a mark of honor in that home. Christ, the Victor of Peace, abides within."

Merry Christmas

Cornell Anton, Jr., Belleville

Community Band to give Christmas Concert

To the Editor:

Christmas Concert Date: Friday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Free Admission

First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street, Belleville

As Christmas approaches, the city of Belleville is preparing to offer our residents many joyous events to bring in the Holiday spirit.

With that in mind, the Belleville Community Band is pleased to announce its Christmas Concert, under the direction of Mr. Tim Miller.

The board and members of the Band would like to extend to the community our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and say thank you for supporting us over the years.

Jack Keelan, President

Belleville Community Band

It's time to patronize our own businesses

To the Editor:

The week of Nov. 20, 2012, my friend was driving my car to my doctor's office for my cast removal. Less than a quarter of a mile on Belleville Road, sounds of bells were ringing with a red light reading low on brake fluid.

Knowing my appointment could not be rescheduled, I told Linda to keep driving.

Once at the office, my friend calls Atchinson Ford (where I purchased my car) and explains to the Automotive Dept. that my car was showing brake fluid low.

Bryan Robson told Linda to bring the car in, but if we saw an oil change shop between Joy Road and Atchinson's to stop and have it checked. There are no shops 'til you reach Belleville after Tyler Road. Panicking, we drive with bells ringing,

which is now every two minutes.

Longer story, short. We reach the car lot where I saw Norm Wisnieski, a salesman, and tell him the problem and he advises us to drive to their auto shop.

Two women having an auto problem would be for some mechanics a Hawaiian vacation.

Bryan checks my car, caps it off with brake fluid, checks for leaks and we are on our way with no charge.

Kudos to Bryan and Atchinson Ford for honesty.

My point is simple. I received service with professional courtesy in our city.

There are numerous business owners in Belleville that should be patronized also. Citgo gas station has Black Friday prices every week.

Pro Hardware's prices are competitive to the national chain of hardware stores and they have a variety, collection of greeting cards, 2 for \$1.

Our restaurants from Bayou Grill to the Charhouse to Johnny's Grill offer specials every day, from breakfast to Happy Hour.

If you would like to escape to a Victorian atmosphere of London for dessert, try the Cupcake Shop next to another great eatery, Benito's.

It's time we patronize our own. Wake up and smell the roses at Garden Fantasy on Haggerty Road and remember there are ABC's of shopping. It's not Ann Arbor or Canton, it's Belleville.

Thank you,

Carol Ann Pesta, Belleville

P.S. Remember, if you are a Snow Bird you can subscribe to the *Independent*.

Don't forget: Now you can get in free to DIA

To the Editor:

Just a reminder that with the recent passing of the millage for the Detroit Institute of Arts, residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties now receive free general admission to the DIA! What a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of this magnificent jewel right in our own backyards!

You can visit their website at dia.org and see information about all the current and upcoming exhibits. Remember, some of the special exhibits aren't included in the general admission entry and require special tickets ... more information is available at their website.

Why not get out of the cold and spend a toasty afternoon admiring all the beauty that the DIA has to offer!

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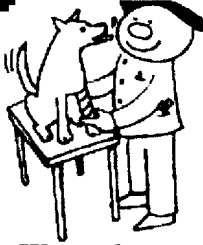
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Mark Twain

Sumpter: William Fred Ayres sentenced to 1-15 years in prison

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

William Fred Ayres, 49, of various addresses in the Belleville area, was sentenced to up to 15 years in prison on Oct. 4 at Wayne County Circuit Court.

He now is housed in the Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center in Jackson. His earliest date of release is Oct. 3, 2013. Maximum discharge date is Jan. 13, 2035.

Ayres pled guilty to one count of Home Invasion, 2nd degree, for a March offence, and to another count of Home Invasion, 2nd degree, for a Dec. 10, 2004 offense.

He originally was bound over for trial at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit for drug and home-invasion charges filed by Sumpter Township Police.

Ayres had entered a not-guilty plea to the drug-connected charges of possession of cocaine less than 25 grams, habitual offender 4, and commission of a felony using a motor vehicle, which allegedly happened on March 28.

Ayres also pleaded not guilty to home invasion 2nd degree (a 15-year felony), larceny in a building (4 years), and habitual offender 4, which allegedly happened on March 26.

On April 11, 34th District Court Judge David Parrott presided over Ayres' preliminary exam and found enough evidence to send him on to be arraigned on the evidence at circuit court on April 25.

"Dustin was very important to our case. Without Ken Toney's son we probably wouldn't have been able to prosecute anything but the drug charges," said Sumpter Police Det. John Toth, referring to Dustin Cox, 20, of Sumpter Township who testified at the preliminary hearing.

Cox is the son of Van Buren Township Police Officer Ken Toney and Shawn Cox-Toney. Officer Toney said he is very proud of their son, who has a goal of joining the FBI. Cox currently is working on his accounting degree.

"Ken Toney's son saw someone breaking into his neighbor's home and jumped into police mode," Det. Toth said.

Cox saw the unusual vehicle in the drive of a man he had worked for and then saw an unfamiliar man walking out of the side door of the garage with construction supplies and driving off.

"He knew it wasn't right," Toth said of Cox, who jumped into his vehicle and went after the fleeing van.

Cox followed the vehicle from the 19000 block of Haggerty in Sumpter and cornered it at the former Pro-Tech business at Haggerty and E. Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township, where he got a good look at the license plate.

At that point the driver "flipped him off"

and drove off at a high rate of speed, so Cox disengaged, "like a good police officer would do," Toth said.

The eye-witness information was turned over to Sumpter Police Sgt. Jim Cayce, who determined the vehicle was stolen.

Two days later, Sumpter Officer Beth Egerer was on patrol with rookie Officer Dave McKean when they came upon the same vehicle on Sumpter Road, with its flashers on. It had just run out of gas.

Toth said the female driver got out of the car to talk to police, while Officer Egerer ran the plate and found it was stolen. Sgt. Pat Gannon and Det. Toth were called.

Ayres was just awakening in the vehicle, following a multiple-day bender on cocaine, Toth said.

Sumpter Police set up a lineup and Cox picked him out as the man he saw stealing construction materials.

Toth said the Wayne County Prosecutor's office declined to prosecute the female.

"If it wasn't for Ken Toney's son being a good neighbor and acting quickly," we wouldn't have been able to prosecute him on the home invasion," Toth said. "If he was my son, I'd be super proud."

Ayres was detained in the Wayne County Jail because of parole violations.

Michigan Department of Corrections records show Ayres was on parole after serving 5 years of his 3-15 year sentence for a 2004 home invasion 2nd degree.

He also has served time for other convictions for home invasion 2nd degree, larceny from a person, breaking and entering, and fleeing a police officer.



Ayres

BHS basketball seasons get under way

By Bob Mytych
Independent Sports Editor

The Belleville Tigers basketball team opened up its season with a 69-42 victory over Wayne Memorial on Dec. 4, played at Wayne.

The Tigers were led by Rod Walker with 18 points, followed by Alex Fowler with 14 points. Mychael Bradly and Darius Dillard each chipped in 8 points.

Meanwhile, the Lady Tigers opened the season at home against Westland John Glenn on Nov. 29 and lost to the Rockets, 52-32. Belleville's Daniela Perez led the team with 17 points, followed by Sheree Nicholson with six points and Erin Burbank with four.

Belleville followed up with a 63-21 road loss to Ypsilanti on Dec. 4. Against Edsel Ford on Dec. 7, the Lady Tigers came up short with a 64-31 loss to the Thunderbirds.

Burbank the led the offense with 11 points, followed by Maydison Ampe with nine.

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City Council

(continued from page 1)

to the city.

She said they want to put a credit card machine in the city that doesn't charge the city.

She said to Kurczewski that she doesn't want to automatically deduct an amount from his bank account because, "What if we take out \$1,000, Henry, and you're not expecting it?"

Kurczewski said he wanted the council to realize that the change to charging every 30 days has unintended consequences, such as shut offs in 30 days.

Chedraue, an attorney, said that many of his clients have auto pay through their

banks. He said there has got to be so much more paperwork for the city with billing and paying every 30 days. He suggested going back to the 90-day billings.

Kollmeyer said the city could never balance what water Detroit sent out and billed for and what the city billed its customers.

Steve Jones said the billings also are not regular. Some months it comes the first week and sometimes it doesn't, he said.

"I'm working on it," Kollmeyer said.

In other business at the 25-minute meeting, the council:

- Presented awards for Christmas Decorating Contest winners;
- Removed from the agenda the proposed water contract adjustment with Detroit

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Psalms 33:12a

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14

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Water and Sewer Department that would last until 2017. "We had hoped to resolve issues before this meeting, but they haven't been resolved," said Mayor Kerreen Conley;

• Heard Tom Fielder report on Juvenile Justice issues and the lack of mental health treatment in the state for juveniles. He said if a kid is arrested for something, like drugs or alcohol, and is somewhat mentally disturbed, the moment he is adjudicated in Wayne County he cannot have mental care because of county rules;

• Approved \$120,570.50 in accounts payable and the following purchases in excess of \$500: for leaf disposal, \$3,200 to Blue Ribbon; for water line repair at fire hall, \$3,245 to Blue Ribbon; for water service repair at BHS, where water service line was hit, \$540 to Blue Ribbon; for uniforms for new police officer Kendra Rose, \$975 to Allie Brothers; for vehicle maintenance for police car #205, \$536 to F&R Automotive; for six snow tires for police vehicles, \$763 to Goodyear Tire; for bullet-proof vests for five police officers, \$2,971.80 to C.M.P. Distributors; and for painting the new 2013 Taurus SE police car, \$1,085.40 to Burhop's Collision;

• Heard Councilwoman Kim Tindall announce her daughter had graduated on Saturday from Michigan State University with a double major after 4 ½ years and is going to DC after the holidays to find employment. She said her daughter graduated from Belleville High School and the school served her well and prepared her for college;

• Heard Councilman Brian Blackburn, who is a fire fighter, ask everyone to keep first responders in their thoughts and prayers, referring to the massacre in Connecticut. He also thanked Hal Berriman for serving as interim police chief for the city;

• Heard Mayor Conley say she received an email from School Supt. Michael Van Tassel telling what he would be doing and attempts to address the problems of children in the schools following the shootings in Connecticut last Friday. She said it is good to review how the leaders in the communities respond. "I greatly appreciated that and feel good about the Van Buren Public Schools," and

• Went into closed session to discuss pending union negotiations.

Brown Funeral Home gets national recognition for programs, outreach

David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville has been honored by the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) with the 2012 Pursuit of Excellence Award.

Only 164 firms from around the world received this prestigious recognition, placing David C. Brown Funeral Home among an elite group of funeral service providers.

Pursuit of Excellence Award recipients raise the bar on funeral service excellence

by adhering to the highest ethical and professional standards and providing unsurpassed service to families and communities.

To earn an NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award, a participating funeral home must meet or exceed business standards set forth by the program and demonstrate proficiency in key areas of funeral service, such as compliance with state and federal regulations; providing ongoing education and professional development opportunities for staff; offering outstanding programs and resources to bereaved families; maintaining an active level of involvement within the community; participating and actively serving in the funeral service profession; and promoting funeral home services through a variety of marketing, advertising and public relations programs.

Participants are also required to adhere to a Pledge of Ethical Practices.

"David C. Brown Funeral Home's voluntary participation in the Pursuit of Excellence Award program reflects a clear determination to exceed the expectations of those they serve," said NFDA Chief Executive Officer Christine Pepper, CAE.

"This prestigious recognition assures families of the high-quality, compassionate service they will receive the moment they walk through the funeral home's front door."

David C. Brown, owner and manager of David C. Brown Funeral Home, has been active in the Belleville community since 1974, when he first moved to the area. He first opened the Funeral Home on April 5, 1982, after extensive renovation of the location. The year 2012 marks 30 years of service.

The Funeral Home was also instrumental in bringing the Angel of Hope statue and garden to Belleville's Hillside Cemetery. They also organize the "Thunder Rolls" Veteran's Memorial Day celebration as well as the Annual Tree of Remembrance ceremony.

The funeral home currently is rebuilding after an Aug. 5 fire burned part of the building and necessitated closing of the whole facility. The services continued in a temporary viewing and service chapel across the street from the original building.

More information about the NFDA Pursuit of Excellence Award program can be found on the association's website, www.nfda.org/pursuitofexcellence.

NFDA is the world's leading and largest funeral service association, serving 18,500 individual members who represent nearly 10,000 funeral homes in the United States and 43 countries around the world. NFDA is the trusted leader, beacon for ethics and the strongest advocate for the profession.

NFDA is the association of choice because it offers funeral professionals comprehensive educational resources, tools to manage successful businesses, guidance to become pillars in their communities and the expertise to foster future generations of funeral professionals.

NFDA is headquartered in Brookfield, WI, and has an office in Washington, D.C. For more information, visit www.nfda.org



Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

“KUSH”



If you've always dreamed of having an amazingly gentle and sweet dog in your life than you absolutely must come meet **Kush**! She's a 2 year old Greater Swiss Mountain dog mix with a true heart of gold. **Kush** may seem a little shy or timid in her kennel but trust us she's anything but once out and around people. She comes fully alive and beams happiness when she gets to be with her people friends, especially kids. This sweetheart pup adores kids and it's a real treat watching her happily trail after them ready to play at a moment's notice. She will no doubt make a child or two the best friend they could ever have. **Kush** seems to have very nice doggy manners and a low-key but still playful energy level. She loves playing fetch but can get picky about which tennis balls she'll play with, she seems to like the pink and green ones here best. Her beautiful tri-colored coat is short and easy to care for and boy does she have the sad puppy dog face down pat when she wants you to take notice. **Kush** is bound to add endless love, goodwill and devotion to a new home and will only ask for lots of quality time, good eats and a big, soft bed in return. Come meet this precious girl today, she is spayed, vaccinated and micro-chipped and completely ready to win her way into your life.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

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\$38-95 PER LANE



INCLUDES UNLIMITED BOWLING, FREE SHOES,
1 LARGE PEPPERONI PIZZA, 1 PITCHER OF POP &
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Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



The **Belleville Charhouse** has announced its special New Year's Eve menu. For the details, see their colored ad in today's paper. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (734) 699-9959.

The **Bayou Grill** on Main Street will be ringing in the new year with live entertainment and tunes by **DJ Steve** (aka Steve Jones). Dinner and drink specials will be available all evening. Party favors and a champagne toast will be served at midnight. For reservations call (734) 697-2300.

The **Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce** has hired **Karen LaBelle** as its new executive director. La Belle comes to us as former director of the Romulus Chamber and will start here after the first of the year.

The **Bake Shoppe** at Bemis and Savage Roads is all prepared for the holiday rush, offering homemade breads, pies, cakes, cookies, and other goodies. They'll be open until 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve and will re-open January 15. To place an order, call (734) 699-2236.

The **Belleville Community Band** will perform a **Christmas Concert** tomorrow evening, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the **First United Methodist Church** on Charles Street.

Tickets are scheduled to go on sale online today for next summer's **Thunder Over Michigan Air Show** at Willow Run Airport, where the Air Force Thunderbirds are scheduled to perform. I tried to get a bit more info on ticket prices before newspaper deadline for this week but the folks at the **Yankee Air Museum** told me that they are waiting as well for their website to update with next year's show and release all of

the details. It should be up sometime by the time our paper is printed this week. The tickets will be available in time for Christmas gift giving, I'm told.

Visit www.yankeearmuseum.org.

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

Give the gift that will keep on giving for a whole year!

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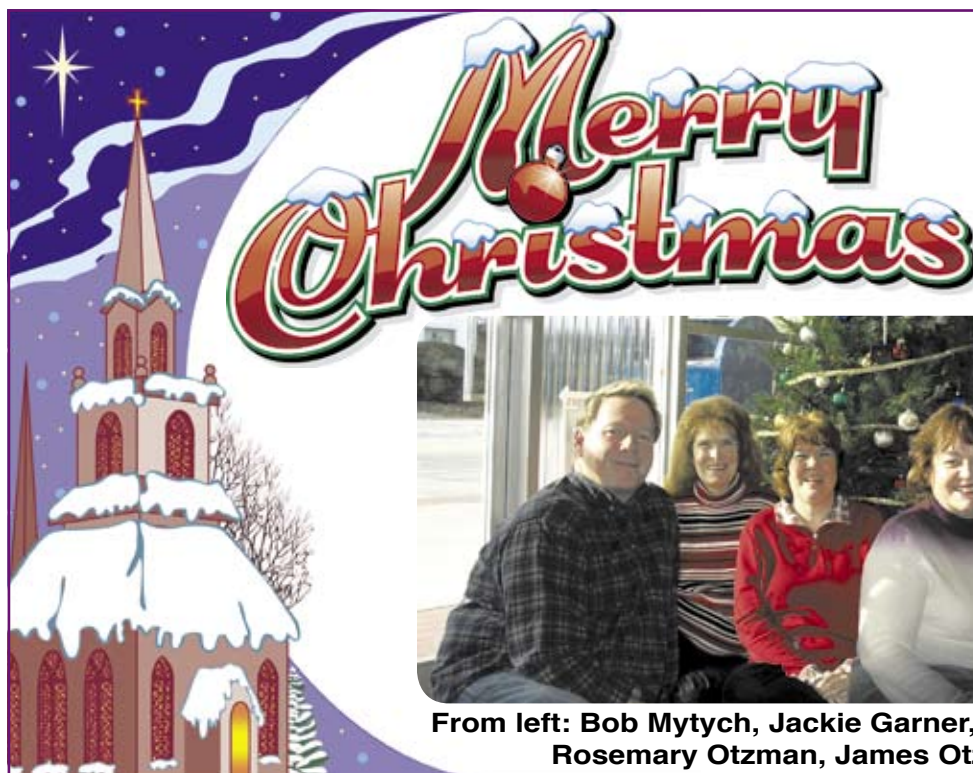
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Welcome, Bryson Joe Carroll



Cecilia and Steven Carroll announce the birth of their son Bryson Joe Carroll at 7:51 p.m., Dec. 3, 2012, at Oakwood South Shore, with Dr. Khaghany attending. Bryson weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 18 _ inches long. Proud grandparents are Michelle and Ron Sereno and Ron Carroll. Proud great-grandparents are Sharon and Eyvind Claxton, Eugene and Estella Petrie, and Mary Carroll. Proud aunt and uncle are Jessica and David Lane.



*From All Of
Us At The
Belleville
Independent!*



From left: Bob Mytych, Jackie Garner, Cathy Currier, Angela Netto, Rosemary Otzman, James Otzman, Diane Madigan

Open Arms Lutheran Church Christmas Eve Worship Services 5pm & 10pm

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Ask Angela

By Angela Nettro

I am here to answer questions pertaining to buying or selling real estate. Send your questions to "Ask Angela", c/o *Belleville-Area Independent*, 152 Main Street, Ste. 9, Belleville 48111 or send me an email at nettroandco@comcast.net. I'll answer questions in this column.

Question from Don in Belleville area: I recently divorced in June of 2012. My ex-wife and I are on the mortgage together. I pay the mortgage, and she gave up all rights to the house in the divorce. I have a quit claim deed from her. I am trying to get my ex's name removed from the mortgage and house. I tried to go through the mortgage, they said they could not do anything. I just want it all in my name, that's it. I am not trying to refinance, I can afford everything like it is. Can you help me?

Answer: Don, If you do have a signed quit claim deed from your ex-wife - relinquishing all of her interest/rights in the home to you -- then the home is ONLY rightfully yours. Be sure to go to the county where you live at the Register

of Deeds office and have the original Quit Claim Deed recorded. It will then be a matter of record that you alone hold title and she has no ownership of the home.

Also your divorce degree should state that you received sole ownership and the sole responsibility for the mortgage payments. The divorce degree should also have been recorded in the county you got divorced in. Banks and mortgage companies sometimes will honor the divorce decree and take her name off their records, but most lenders will not, because the mortgage was written in both of your names. The reason the bank does this is just to keep her obligated to the mortgage note -- in case you default on the loan.

Unless you do a new mortgage in your own name, and refinance, that is the sure way to take her name off the current mortgage. Having your ex-wife on the mortgage does not give her any ownership or interest in the property. You alone are the OWNER. You can sell the home at any time, or rent it out. As long as you have the quit claim deed (BE SURE TO RECORD IT) you should not be concerned about your ex-wife's name on the mortgage.

She should be the concerned one. Since she has given the house to you

in the divorce and the QUIT CLAIM DEED, and as a result has no interest or ownership, instead she has her name on a mortgage lien.

Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Prosperous New Year to all! -- Angela

ANGELA NETTRO/Broker

Angela Nettro & Co.

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Court Watching:

Motion hearing set for Jan. 17 in VBT case against John Delaney

By Diane Madigan
Independent Court Reporter

On Thursday, Dec. 6, John Delaney of Van Buren Township, along with his attorney James Fifelski, appeared at the 34th District Court to request a motion hearing.

Previously, Van Buren Township had filed a misdemeanor complaint against Delaney's alleged disruption of a meeting.

The charge stems from Delaney's actions at both the Sept. 12 Planning Commission meeting, where Delaney was escorted out

by police, and the Sept. 18 township board meeting, when VBT Supervisor Paul White had Delaney arrested.

No officials from Van Buren Township attended the Dec. 6 court session.

A motion hearing is a proceeding in which each party has the opportunity to present his or her side of the issue in court.

Delaney's request for such a hearing was granted Dec. 6 in the courtroom of 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green. The hearing was scheduled for 10 a.m. Jan. 17, 2013.

When asked for a comment Delaney's attorney Fifelski stated, "I think this case is about protecting people's right to speak their mind in an atmosphere that will not suppress their right to free speech."

Delaney has demanded a jury trial. He said each side has more than 10 witnesses to call.



Danielle Clem and Brent Elgas

Danielle Clem, Brent Elgas engaged, set September wedding date

Danielle Clem and Brent Elgas of Livonia announce their engagement. A wedding date has been set for September 2013.

Danielle is the daughter of Kelly Clem of Garden City and Craig Clem of Jackson. She graduated from Garden City High School in 2005 and is employed at Beginners Inn Childcare in Canton.

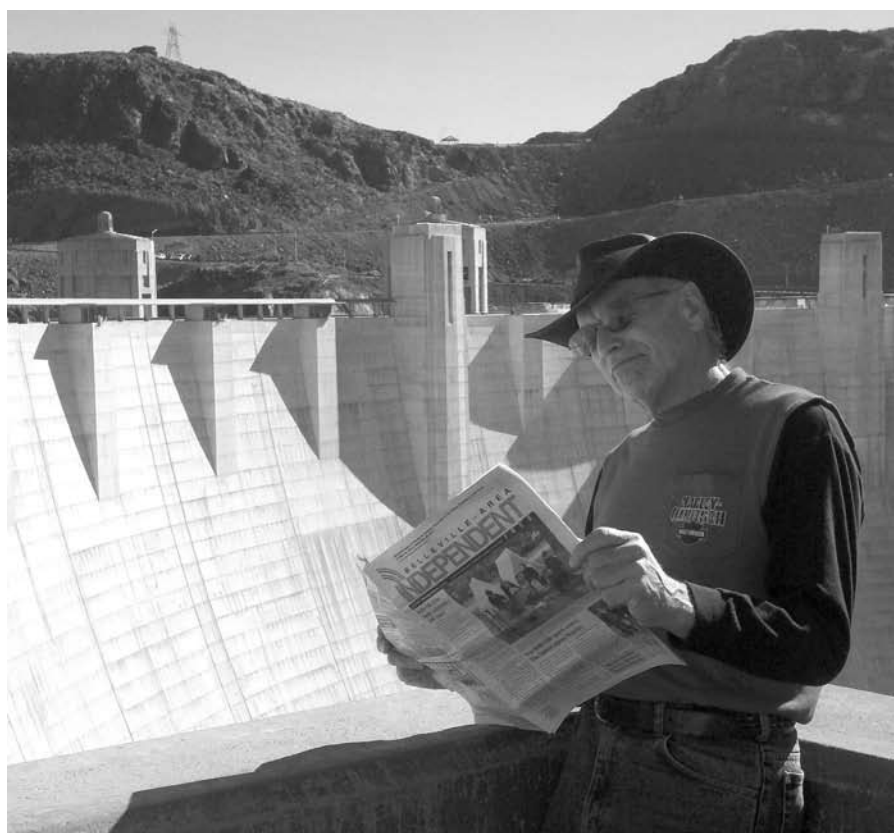
Brent is the son of Randy and Carole Elgas of Belleville. He graduated from Belleville High School in 2004 and Ferris State in 2008. He is employed at the Mando Corporation.

Upcoming Meetings

• Wednesday, Jan. 2 – Van Buren Township Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

• Monday, Jan. 7 – Van Buren Township work-study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Jan. 8 – VBT September Days Senior Center Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m. with swearing in of new members before meeting. Also, Van Buren Township board meeting, 7:30 p.m.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Dave Oliverson of Sumpter Township reads his *Independent* at Hoover Dam in Boulder City, NV. He's enjoying his retirement from the Huron Clinton Metro Parks.

For those who are considering submitting a photo, be advised that your entry will be run when space allows. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before it's printed. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$25 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$30 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

National Heritage Academies Keystone Academy Public Notice

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OPEN ENROLLMENT NOTICE

Open enrollment for the 2013-2014 academic school year ends on 2/28/2013 at 5:00 pm. Applications are available for grades K-8 and can be obtained at the school, at www.NHAschools.com or by calling 866-NHA-ENROLL. Should the number of applications received during open enrollment exceed available seats, a random-selection drawing will be necessary. The drawing, if needed, will be held on 3/11/2013 at 1:00 PM at the school. Applications received after open enrollment will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for remaining open seats. Waiting lists will be formed accordingly.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Keystone Academy admits students of any race, color, and nationality or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or athletic abilities, measures of achievement or aptitude, disability, status as a handicapped person, homeless status, English proficiency, religion, creed, race, sex, color, or national origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies and athletic or other school-administered programs.

Publish: December 20, 2012

Zoo millage

(continued from page 1)

There is currently a group of 19 capturing authorities in Wayne County (including the City of Belleville DDA and the Van Buren Township DDA) that are getting together and hiring an attorney.

The LDFA advised the group that it would not be participating from a financial standpoint. It is the VBT Deputy Treasurer's recommendation that VBT should continue to capture the taxes, sequester it and if there is an issue VBT will deal with it.

Carroll said that once the millage is voted in it becomes subject to the capture that the municipalities have. There is an opt-out provision within the State statute that would have the Zoo Society go to each one of the capturing municipalities and request that they not capture. In this case the Zoological Authority went to the Wayne County Treasurer.

Township Supervisor Linda Combs said the agencies that are fighting it, like the DDA, believe if they don't capture the zoo tax then they will not be able to capture the just-passed DIA tax. It may set a precedent and the township won't be able to capture any millages which will make DDAs and LDFA's defunct, she said.

Peters asked, "Why don't we want the zoo to get the money?"

Supervisor Combs answered, "It's not that we don't want the zoo to get the money, it's just that it will set a precedent for future taxes and anything else that will come down the pike. In the LDFA district, the taxes are collected from the Grace Lake building owners.

"You would not be able to handle this case by case, because if you have the authority you have the authority. If you don't you don't," Peters added.

"If you've got the authority, you've got the obligation to exercise it where the voters have spoken on the millage," Peters continued.

In support, LDFA Chairman Michael Dotson said, "There is a process that has been established for the Zoo Authority to make application for the way it is to be captured and that has not been exercised for every LDFA and DDA."

Supervisor Combs said the zoo millage impact for the VBT DDA is around \$100,000.

Peters said, "I just want to make sure that we don't get legal bills to fight a fight that makes no sense to me. And that we do not agree to participate with the DDAs or PSAs, or LSDs or anything that gets us sued for money that we should be collecting for charitable organizations according to the taxpayers. It just smells."

Legal strategies were further discussed with an agreement to sequester the millage not spend on something else and revisit this issue the moment the township is sued because, Peters said, "I have no doubt that Wayne County will sue us."

Dotson directed Director Carroll to keep this item on the Agenda for frequent status updates as well as documentation to show that those taxes are in a separate account

in escrow.

The LDFA voted unanimously to capture the taxes associated with the Wayne County Zoological Millage.

Diane Madigan asked if the precedent Combs spoke of included millages for the new library. Combs said, "Possibly, yes."

Carl Johnson quoted from the letter from Wayne County Treasurer Wojtowicz, which was obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request.

Johnson asked for an explanation of Wojtowicz's warning that he would revoke the township treasurer's bond. Johnson asked if anything they do to VBT would have to go through due process.

Supervisor Combs replied, "Treasurer Budd has given me no indication they could arbitrarily pull her bond without due process."

John Delaney asked about the interest in the sequestered millage account.

Combs replied, "The interest would stay with that account because it's being earned on that money."

Doug Peters asked that an update on the litigation be added to the agenda.

The board approved 2013 meeting dates for the LDFA at 2 p.m. on the second

Tuesday of each month.

Updates on Visteon case

A Resolution was made to the township trustees to recommend some course of legal action be explored on the expected shortfall for bond payments.

Combs said she met with the attorneys and gave an update to the Visteon case. The attorneys are in the process of building their case that will be heard at the Bankruptcy Court in Delaware.

Peters asked if Visteon had been approached verbally.

"Have we tried to work something out short of litigation? Have they given us a sense of whether we can talk with them?" Peters asked.

After being questioned, Combs said she hopes that all avenues have been explored prior to deciding to litigate.

Dotson advised that the LDFA will not be discussing legal strategy in public.

Former Supervisor Paul White had been directed by the LDFA to send a letter to Visteon, but new Supervisor Combs said she has no copy of such a letter in the supervisor's office.

Delaney said he recalled three meetings ago hearing Peters ask if an attorney had

been hired, when Paul White was in office and it turned out that it wasn't done.

"Mr. White waited and waited, in fact we didn't even get an attorney's opinion because an attorney wasn't hired," Delaney said.

"There was a letter drafted that never made it to the attorney. Mr. Peters called him on it on two separate occasions. Mr. White acknowledged that there was something drafted but it wasn't delivered.

"There was not due diligence involved by the Supervisor, but the clock had run out. This was back in June or July and I was concerned because Mr. Peters thought that the letter was sent. Am I correct, Mr. Peters?" Delaney asked.

Peters nodded in agreement.

[The letter Delaney referred to was actually drafted at the September LDFA meeting.]

Supervisor Combs said, "In the packet that was given to me by Mr. White there was no such letter. All he gave me in the packet was a letter from the attorneys saying what the next steps would be."

She said she would check on that and thanked Delaney for his comments.

Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Van Buren Public Schools (District) will receive sealed bids for:

DEMOLITION OF ELWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 17601 ELWELL RD. AND A PORTION OF EDMONT ELEMENTARY, 125 EDMONT ST. BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111

Bids must be delivered no later than 2:00 p.m. EST on January 4, 2013, at the Administration Building located at 555 West Columbia Avenue, Belleville, Michigan 48111. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:15 p.m. Bids received after the above stipulated date and time will not be opened, considered, or accepted.

Beginning Friday, December 14, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. bid documents can be obtained by accessing the following email:

<http://app.e-builder.net/public/PublicFolderView.aspx?FolderID={dd37b674-70c4-4feb-ad64-cf97c203ce9a}>

Please contact LaMerra Hobbs at lamerra.hobbs@plantemoran.com with any questions you may have with regard to retrieving the RFP information.

All bidders are invited to attend a non-mandatory pre-bid meeting on Wednesday, January 2, 2013 starting at 2:00 p.m. at the site located at 17601 Elwell Road, Belleville, Michigan.

Prospective bidders must meet the following minimum standards in order to submit a proposal:

- Must be an established Contractor in Michigan for a minimum of five years
- Has successfully completed a minimum of 3 comparable demolition projects each with contract values in excess of \$50,000.00, within the last five (5) years.
- Must be technically and financially capable to execute a project of size and complexity described in the Bid Documents
- Must be able to provide business and liability insurance, performance and payment bond for work required by the Bid Documents

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by Plante Moran CRESA for the "ELWELL ELEMENTARY DEMOLITION PROJECT" and must be accompanied by a bidder's bond or a certified or cashier's check payable to the District for the sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount. All bids must be accompanied by a familial disclosure statement. Bids received without a bidder's bond, certified or cashier's check, and a familial disclosure statement WILL BE REJECTED.

The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein and accept that bid, which best serves the District's interest.

Publish: December 20, 2012; December 27, 2012

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2012

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent: None. Others in attendance: DPW Director MacDonald, Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll, Recreation and Parks Director Wright, IT Director Rankin, Public Safety Director McClanahan, Cable Director McCracken, Fire Chief Besson, Senior Director Jordan, Cable Director McCracken, DDA Director Ireland, Deputy Treasurer Budd, Executive Assistant/Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Attorney McCauley, Attorney Baran, Secretary Cline and an audience of thirty-nine (39).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of New Business Item #9 "Consider approval of revised Planning Commission Rules and Procedures." and to move Correspondence to follow approval of Consent Agenda, as amended. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes November 26, 2012; Closed Session Minutes November 26, 2012; Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 27, 2012; Approval of one additional year of the Cemetery Advisory Committee per the By-laws and the reappointments of Marc Littleton, Marie Krouse and Robert Gerick to the Cemetery Advisory Committee with terms to expire December 12, 2013; Approval of the reappointments of Tom DiPietro, Laurie Watkins and Edward Miller (alternate) to the Board of Zoning Appeals with terms to expire December 1, 2015; Approval of Treasurer's request to extend without penalty the collection of the 2012 Winter Property Taxes through Thursday, February 28, 2013.] as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Service awards were given to the following employees Ryan McCormick, Todd Sorrell, Timothy Queen, Derek Perez, Christopher Herrick, Bruce Van Gemert Jr. for 5 years of service; Karen Smith, Donna Hunter, Donovan McCarthy, Carrie Traster and Sean Bellingham for 10 years of service; Jason Valinski and Anthony Karver for 15 years of service; Ken Toney, Anthony Karver and Ronald Folks for 20 years of service; Keith Smyth, Greg Laurain and Dennis Brooks for 30 years of service.

Fire Chief Besson announced the promotion of Fire Lieutenant Ken Floro to rank of Fire Captain.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Miller seconded to open the public hearing to consider the 2012 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2013 Proposed General Fund Budget. Carried. Supervisor Combs opened the public hearing and thanked the Directors and the Board for their efforts in preparing the 2012 Amended and 2013 Proposed General Fund Budgets. Supervisor Combs stated the process for the Amended 2012 and Proposed 2013 General Fund Budget started months ago with the individual Department Directors reviewing and amending their 2012 budgets and putting together a proposed 2013 Budget based on the needs of their respective departments. A Budget Preparation meeting was held in October where Department Directors made presentations to

the Board with each budget being reviewed in detail. Supervisor Combs stated she attended the Budget Preparation meeting and has reviewed the General Fund Budget making the necessary adjustments. The documents provided to the Board set forth line items for expenditures for each department and explanations of designated fund balance including the following: Fund Balance Modification Statement and the Salaried Employee Wage Schedule. The 2012 General Fund Amended budget has been reduced from what was originally budgeted. The Proposed Expenditures for the 2012 Amended Budget are \$13,386,337 and the 2013 Proposed Budget expenditures are \$13,576,632. The 2012 Amended Budget is down approximately 3%. The proposed 2013 General Fund Budget reflects a 1.5% increase based on anticipated building repairs and minor equipment needs along with increased costs of services. Revenue sources include property taxes, Public Safety Revenues, registrations and licenses, permit fees, park fees and State Shared Revenue. The 2013 Proposed Budget reflects a transfer of \$2.8 million from the Landfill Fund and approximately \$800,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance. There will not be an increase to the Salaried Employee Wages, noting no increase since 2009. The Budgets before the Board are balanced as required by law. Supervisor Combs requested that items A-G outlined in Supervisor's memo dated December 4, 2012 be a part of the motion for the budget approval inclusive of the following items: A) Revenues in excess of those noted shall be dedicated to fund balance; B) Fiscal year line items, which are not expensed, with the exception of specified reserve line items, shall revert to net income; C) Approval of appendices noted above as part of the General Fund Budget; D) Revenue as "Tax Administrative Fee" is to continue as in past practice. The allocated millage for township operations is 4.9144, which represents .9144 mill for Township Operations and 4 mills for Public Safety; E) Adoption by departmental total; F) Van Buren Township Board of Trustees hereby sets the value for capitalization of fixed assets at \$1,000 for items having a useful life greater than one year. The exception would be computer and technology equipment for which items with values less than \$1,000 will be grouped and depreciated as long as the total of the grouped items exceeds the \$1,000 threshold; and G) December 11, 2012 approval supersedes prior resolutions. Department Directors are in attendance of tonight's meeting to answer any specific questions. There were no comments or questions from the Board or audience. There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing. Jahr moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Jahr moved, Wright seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on the 2012 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2013 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets. Carried.

Supervisor Combs opened the public hearing and stated the following are the Special Revenue Funds: Belleville Area Museum, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), E-911 Service Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund, Landfill Fund, Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA), Lohr Road Special Assessment District (SAD) and State Forfeiture Fund. Supervisor Combs gave the following explanations of the Special Revenue Funds: the Belleville Area Museum is a joint venture with the City of Belleville; the Community Development Block Grant Funds are for projects that apply to the Township Fiscal

Year; the Downtown Development Authority is in a line item format reflecting fund balance designations; the E-911 Fund is restricted for use of Public Safety Emergency Dispatch Service; the Federal and State Forfeiture Funds are governed by Federal and State Laws and are used for Public Safety purposes; the Landfill Fund tracks the usage of the fees received based on the Host Agreement; the LDFA is used specifically to repay the Visteon site infrastructure improvements bonds; and 2012 is the final year for the LOHR Road SAD.

There were no comments or questions from the Board or the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to adopt the 2012 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2013 Proposed General Fund Budget, as outlined in Supervisor Combs memo dated December 4, 2012, noting items A through G inclusive. Carried.

Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the 2012 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2013 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets, as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the 2012 Amended Water and Sewer Department Budget and the 2013 Proposed Water and Sewer Department Budget, noting the correction of title heading reads 2012 Projected should read 2012 Amended, as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Budd seconded to accept Resolution 2012-23 the 2013 Fee Schedule, as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Wright seconded to accept Resolution 2012-24 the Capital Improvement Plan for years 2012 through 2017, as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2012-25 the health care "opt-out" for 2013. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, McClanahan, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to accept the Supervisor's recommendations for Commission/Committee appointments and appointments to other Organizations. Carried.

Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 12-11-12 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to Wireless Communication. Carried.

*(A synopsis of Ordinance 12-11-12 follows the minutes. A complete copy of the ordinance is available in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Rd., during business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve granting Special Land Use to McDonalds for a drive-in and drive-through restaurant at 2193 Rawsonville Road. Carried.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve Change Order #2 to the contract with LiquiForce Services. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve Michigan Association of Fire Fighters (MAFF) Contract dated July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014. Carried.

Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve the appointment of Kiz Ahamioje to the Environmental Commission with a term to expire on October 1, 2015. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve the December 11, 2012 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor Combs ordered the September 2012 and October 2012 Budgetary Reports received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Best of the New Year. Supervisor Combs made the following announcements. The Public Safety Committee meetings have been suspended for the present time so the Supervisor can study the By-laws and the Board can decide what direction the committee needs to take in the future. The only meetings to be televised in the future will be the Board of Trustees and Planning Commission meetings, as the Board would like the Cable Department to focus on the events of community interest. Also, Department Directors are no longer seated at the Board Table as they are no longer required to attend Board meetings unless they have an item on the agenda. All questions will be noted and if necessary, researched and provided to residents the following day or as soon as the information is available to allow for more accurate information being disseminated to the public.

Waste Management will now allow for the use of 40 gallon plastic trash containers for recycling purposes. A sticker indicating the container is for recycling is required on the container. These stickers along with new flyers are available in the Community Services Department.

The Township is accepting applications for committee and commission appointments. Also, the Clerk's Office is accepting applications of election inspectors. Applications are available in the Clerk Offices and on the Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org.

Supervisor Combs read a press release stating the Township was recently notified Menard's will no longer be locating in Van Buren township due to financial concerns related to cost associated with improvements with storm management requirements and a recent traffic study.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 8:45 p.m. to 8:49 p.m. by the Board and audience regarding the following topics: Menard's; Public Safety Committee; MAFF contract amount of time off for Fire Inspector; Public Safety Committee By-Laws. Board members wished all a great holiday season.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor
Publish: December 20, 2012

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**Sumpter Township
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2012**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, & Swinson. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 17 residents. Excused absence: Treasurer J. Morgan.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the agenda with item E. Removed. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public comments on agenda items only

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Hamm to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting November 13, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Hamm, supported by Swinson to accept minutes of the parks & recreation meeting of October 17, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by Bates, supported by Hamm to accept minutes of the planning commission meeting October 11, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the warrants totaling \$137,381.55. Roll call vote: Yea: Vawters, Hoffman, Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, & Swinson. Nay: None. Absent: J. Morgan. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Parks & Recreation: Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve the parks & recreation report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Attorney: Motion by P Morgan, supported by Hoffman to continue negotiations regarding the Medical building on Sumpter Road and to approve the attorney's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Supervisor: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the supervisor's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Board Response

11. New Business:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve resolution 2012-16 Wayne County Special Events permit for 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve resolution 2012-17 Wayne County Annual Maintenance Permits for 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve to adopt the Michigan Residential code book and the Michigan building code book dated 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the following board appointments: Johnny Vawters-Police – Clarence Hoffman, Seniors – John Morgan, Water – Peggy Morgan, Fire – Alan Bates, Planning & Zoning Board – Bill Hamm, Building – Don Swinson, Parks & Recreation. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Removed.

F. Motion by Swinson, supported by P. Morgan to approve to purchase 7 laptops computers for the police vehicles not to exceed \$35,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Announcements

13. Open Floor

14. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to adjourn at 7:41 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on November 27, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that 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 of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: December 20, 2012



**Sumpter Township
Public Hearing Minutes
November 27, 2012**

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Vawters at 6:00 pm showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, Swinson & P. Morgan. Excused absence Treasurer J. Morgan. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 15 residents.

3. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to open the public hearing for the consideration of the request to approve an industrial facilities tax exemption for A2MAC1, LLC located at 8393 Rawsonville Road in Sumpter Township commonly known as parcel 82-81-022-99-0004-704. Motion carried unanimously. Township assessor Sue Iott spoke and stated that no application has been turned in for the request. She has called and spoke to a number of people and as of today no paperwork has been submitted. The board cannot act on the tax exemption at this time.

6. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to close public hearing at 6:12 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Adjournment: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 6:12 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Public Hearing Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on November 27, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that 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 of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: December 20, 2012



**Sumpter Township
Special Board Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2012
6:00 PM**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Trustees: P. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, & Swinson. Also present Attorney Young. Excused absence Treasurer J. Morgan.

3. Agenda: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

3A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve resolution 2012-18 to Van Buren School Board regarding Elwell School as potential site for library. Motion carried unanimously.

Copies of resolution to be sent to all members of the Belleville Area District Library Board, Van Buren School District Board, Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, and the Mayor and City Council members of the City of Belleville.

3B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to remove 3B from agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

3C. Motion by P. Morgan supported by Hoffman to direct the Attorney Young to go forward with preparing the sale of property at 19130 Sumpter Rd. Motion carried unanimously.

4. No floor discussion.

5. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to adjourn meeting at 6:29 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Special Hearing Meeting of the

Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on December 3, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that 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 of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: December 20, 2012

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 12-11-2012**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE 6-2-92, AS AMENDED,
OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**

The First Reading of Ordinance 12-11-2012. Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 to be held in the Board Room, in the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 as amended of the Charter Township of Van Buren to amend and modify provisions and requirements of Section 4.24b Wireless Communication Facilities and to modify Section 4.31.D Colocation Administrative Approval.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1.	WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES	ADD
SECTION 2.	COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL	ADD
SECTION 3.	CONFLICTS	ADD
SECTION 4.	SEVERABILITY	ADD
SECTION 5.	EFFECTIVE DATE	ADD

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the ____ day of _____, 2013.

YEAS : Combs, Wright, Budd, Hart, Jahr, Miller and McClanahan.
NAYS : None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAINED: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Leon Wright, Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Supervisor

Adopted:
Published: 12/20/2012.
Effective:

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Daniel C. Besson
Fire Chief
O: 734-699-8916 C: 734-673-1019

Van Buren Fire Department
46425 Tyler Rd
Van Buren Twp., MI 48111



AUXILIARY FIREFIGHTER POSITION

The Charter Township of Van Buren and the Van Buren Township Fire Department are accepting applications for the position of Auxiliary Firefighter. The Van Buren Township Fire Department, situated in western Wayne County less than 30 miles from Downtown Detroit, is a combination department that responds to 2400 calls a year from two staffed fire stations. All applicants must be at least 21 years old, three years of firefighting experience (currently employed with a fire department preferred), be a U.S. Citizen, have a valid Michigan driver's license, no criminal history, and be capable of performing all the duties associated with the position of an Auxiliary Firefighter. Candidates must have and maintain (where applicable) Firefighter I & II and Haz-Mat Operations certifications as well as a Michigan Emergency Medical Technician License. Candidates are required to pass a background investigation, psychological, physical, and medical assessment. Applicants shall live within 25 miles of the nearest Van Buren Township border and will be required to work one 12 hour shift and attend three hours of training a month.

Auxiliary Firefighters are covered by a Collective Bargaining Agreement and compensation is between \$12.40 (probationary period) and \$15.40/ hr.

Applications may be obtained and returned to the Van Buren Township Department of Public Safety Office, at 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, Michigan. Job description or additional information is available by emailing Fire Chief Dan Besson at dbesson@vanburen-mi.org. Please include with the completed application any applicable certifications and licenses (copies accepted). This application period will close on February 8, 2013.

Our Mission: The members of the Van Buren Fire Department shall work together in a professional and caring way to protect life and property from the adverse effects of fire, trauma, illness and dangerous conditions. Our services will be provided in a fair, honest, and ethical manner with the highest respect and dignity to all.

Publish: December 20, 2012; December 27, 2012; January 3, 2013; January 10, 2013



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Theresa Paul and Brian Leggieri of Belleville reading their *Independent* in Fugawi, North Carolina on Nov. 13 while on a motorcycle touring trip.

For those who are considering submitting a photo, be advised that your entry will be run when space allows. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before it's printed. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

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Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Use of Community Development Block Grant Funds

On Tuesday January 8, 2013 in accordance with guidelines of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Charter Township of Van Buren will hold a public hearing on the proposed use of the Township's 2013-2014 Community Development Block funds. The Public Hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall located at 46425 Tyler Road.

The estimated funding level for 2013-2014 CDBG Budget year is \$125,000. The CDBG program gives priority to those qualified activities that further national objectives. Those objectives are:

- Assist low and moderate income persons
- Address slum and blight conditions
- Meet a particular urgent community development need

Some past projects in Van Buren Township have included removal of ADA barriers in public facilities, senior citizen programs, youth programs, planning and design of community areas, demolition of unsafe structures, housing rehabilitation, and administration. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m., Tuesday January 8, 2013.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance if requesting accommodations.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

Publish: December 20, 2012

Posted: December 14, 2012

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

On Wednesday, December 26, 2012, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing** and Storage, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2001	DODGE	4D	1B3ES46C51D186221	12-29520
1991	FORD	PU	1FTEF15N9MLA64590	12-29796
1998	FORD	PU	1FTRF18L7WNA46866	12-30011
1998	AUDI	4D	WAUED28D6WA115201	12-30327
1993	MITSUBISHI	2D	4A3CF34B4PE060852	12-30327
1999	FORD	SW	2FMZA5143XBB31754	12-31181

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **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.

1994	GEO	2D	2C1MR2467R6766021	12-29319
1996	FORD	4D	2FALP73W0TX183753	12-29359
1996	CHAMPION	BU	1FDLE40G1THB03870	12-29553
1994	OLDSMOBILE	2D	1G3AG55M6R6309751	12-29553
1994	HONDA	4D	1HGCD5635RA141042	12-29959
2000	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1ND52J5Y6322728	12-30898
2006	FORD	4D	2FAHP71W06X126840	12-31788
1996	FORD	4D	1FALP52U5TA120869	12-31929
1998	OLDSMOBILE	4D	1G3WH52K9WF372540	12-31929

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, Van Buren Township Clerk
Published: December 20, 2012



Photo courtesy VBT Fire Dept.

Matthew Holland of the St. Joseph Mercy Cancer Center of Ann Arbor accepts a check on Dec. 14 for \$8,500 from, from left, Firefighter Josh Worth (kneeling), Firefighter Bruce Van Gemert, Holland, Fire Chief Dan Besson, Battalion Chief Ron Folks, and Firefighter Michael Shores (kneeling).

VBT Fire Fighters give \$8,500 check to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital

In the month of October, members of the Van Buren Firefighters Association conducted several fundraising events in order to help raise money for the awareness and prevention of breast cancer.

"After several 'boot' drives at the local intersections and a very popular car wash we are happy to report the generosity of the community helped raise \$8,500 for the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Cancer Center in Ann Arbor," said Fire Chief Dan Besson.

The check was presented to Matthew Holland, representing the cancer center, on Dec. 14 at a small ceremony at Fire Station 2.

Firefighters Bruce Van Gemert Jr., Lacey Marcotte, and Michael Shores spearheaded the fundraising campaign by organizing the boot drives and the car wash. The success of the car wash was aided by the Belleville Road Walmart who provided the soap, brushes, and other cleaning supplies.

"So many families we meet in the community use St. Joe's ER or the primary care facilities. We rely on St. Joe's too. So we wanted to support a cancer program that helps the same people we help as firefighters," said Firefighter Van Gemert, who lost his grandmother to complications

associated with breast cancer.

He added he was overwhelmed by the support Firefighters received from the community and, "When we told drivers we were raising money for breast cancer (awareness) a lot of them threw in another dollar. Sometimes within two hours we had raised a thousand dollars and I think it's pretty amazing that the community was able to do that."

"Unfortunately our firefighters know all too well the effects breast cancer has had on their own families," said Chief Besson.

"Some family members have been lost to it, some have survived it, and our hope is that many more can avoid it by supporting research, awareness, and other services" said Besson, whose mom Yvette fought breast cancer twice before passing away in 1994.

"As a Fire Chief I am just so proud of my firefighters – they took time away from their families to help others – with the hope that they can save other families the grief they've experienced from a breast cancer diagnosis. Also the community needs a special thank you for digging deep in their pockets so the firefighters could reach and exceed their goal".



Four generations of Petes met recently at the home of Pete Pitzen II of Belleville. Two sons from Alabama, one daughter from Wisconsin, one son from Grass Lake and one son from South Lyon were all brought together for a family reunion. One son from Saginaw was unable to attend. The day was spent reminiscing, telling tales of growing up in Chelsea, carving on the family picnic table, and enjoying some good food. The out-of-state kids all had to leave bright and early Sunday morning. In the picture from left are: Pete II, Pete IV, Pete V, and Pete III.

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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

WE ARE CURRENTLY seeking individuals to ring bells for the 2012 season. This is a paid position with flexible hours from Nov. 9 -Dec.24. Call to schedule an interview. The Salvation Army (734) 453-5464 TFN

City of Belleville Christmas Home Decorating Contest Winners 2012

Harbour Pointe: Eric and Trully Luke, 234 Harbour Pointe Drive

Victoria Commons: Ronald and Donna Adkins, 461 Waterbury Ct.

Mobile Home Parks: Stephen Massa, 111 Carmell

Balance of Belleville: Harold and Elizabeth Kelsey, 237 Robbe

Business: The Lunch Box, Rodney Herald

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Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

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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.



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FUR COATS - SIZE SMALL Designer Amilie Gucci, Full length mahogany - Rare Emba female pelts. Ex. Cond. \$1800. ¾ "Stroller Length" Tourmaline (off-white), Rare quality female pelts. Ex. Cond. \$500. Latest Appraisal Available. White Fox Boa, very retro, \$150. By appointment only. (734) 344-4720 12/27

STEVE'S SERVICES - Seasoned Fire-wood. All Hardwood. Pick-up or delivery. Going Fast - Call Now. (734) 635-6307 12/27

ANTIQUE CROSLEY Refrigerator, \$400. (734) 697-8954 1/03

BEDROOM FURNITURE - Chest of Drawers, Vanity w/mirror, Night stand, Standard bed frame & Metal wall head board. \$100 obo (734) 699-0832 1/03

FRIGIDAIRE Electric Stove. White, Used twice. You pick up. \$225 (734) 699-2166 1/03

PETS/LIVESTOCK

(6) LAB MIX PUPPIES. 4 females, 2 male. Ready Dec. 10th just in time for Christmas. \$50 ea. (734) 642-7827 12/20

WANTED

WANTED: JUNK CARS

Running or Not. Top \$ Paid. Call For Free Pickup. Drive In For Extra Dollars.

734-282-1700

WE BUY JUNK CARS

7 Days A Week For \$300 & Up! Cash Paid! (734) 787-1444

PRIVATE COLLECTOR

Pays Cash For Sports Cards And Comic Books. I Prefer Items 1975 & Older, But Will Consider Anything. Mike 697-3546 Eves.

WANTED

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

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

GENE & SON TOWING. WE BUY Junk Cars. Top Dollar paid. We pick up. 7 days a week. (734) 502-4017 or (734) 686-1250 12/20

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO DO Light house cleaning & some errands. Must have references. Please Call (734) 516-8693 12/27

FREE

ALICIA MAXWELL -- HOEFT RD. YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

FREE - MEN'S CLOTHING & China Cabinet. (734) 697-8954 1/03

FREE TO GOOD HOME. (4) Adorable kittens. All different. Perfect for Christmas. (734) 947-2572 1/03

FOUND

FORD CAR KEY (remote). Atchinson Ford ring. Near Walgreen's and retention pond by Walmart's. (734) 697-9446 1/03

LOST

Lost - Big Tiger Cat. Area of Bemis & Bak Rds. Missing since 12-07-12 evening Neutered & De-clawed. (734) 699-6623 27

Young big German Shepherd puppy. Light blond w/black saddle. Very friendly & Senior Citizen companion. Named Smokey. Lost 12-09-12 in vicinity of Elwell/Wear/Dunn Rds. REWARD (734) 776-2248 1/03

STORAGE

CAR, BOAT or Misc. Storage inside secure building. Call Larry. (734) 502-3293 12/27

FOR RENT

NEW BOSTON - 1 BR. DUPLEX. C/A & Heat. 1 mile from freeway. Available December 1st. \$500/mo. Plus security. (734) 740-3515 TFN

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BELLEVILLE LAKEFRONT CONDO 3 BR., 1 full & (2) ½ baths. Newly remodeled, All appliances, Basement, Clubhouse, Pool & Boating privileges. Easy access to I-94. \$1,200/mo. plus security (734) 223-3993 12/20

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LAKEFRONT - 1 BR. APT. Newly re-modeled. 91 Potter St. #1. No Pets, No Smoking. \$675/mo. Includes heat. (734) 287-6619 (Garner Properties) or www.garnerproperty.com 1/31

BEAUTIFUL 2 BR. TOWNHOUSE. Enclosed private yard/deck, pool & Free storage. See It Now. \$800/mo. Plus security. (734) 697-8529 11/15

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\$399* MOVES YOU IN and FREE RENT UNTIL FEBRUARY 1ST, 2013!

Spacious 3 bedroom 2 bath Homes!

Starting as low as \$749/month!

Call Sun Homes Today

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Or apply online

www.4lakeview.com

EHO Expires January 1, 2013

*some restrictions apply

UNBELIEVABLE SAVINGS!

3 bed/2 bath, 1450 s/f home for only \$19,995? Yes! All appliances including washer, dryer, a/c, shed and deck.

Located at Lakeview in Ypsilanti with incredible amenities.

Reserve this home today!

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*WAC. EHO. Financed: \$19,995

@ 10.5% APR, 36 months.

Discount lot rent for 3 years. Financing arranged through Sun Home Services,

Inc. NMLS # 33675

Expires January 1, 2013

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(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



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HOMES FOR \$1!

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Available Now.

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Accepting All Applications!

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Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!

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Items, Inside Or Outside Debris.

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Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too

SMALL. Residential Snow Plowing.

LICENSED & REFERENCES.

(734) 765-9224 TFN

Birthdays

Dec. 23 - Shelly Papineau

Dec. 25 - Constance Genevieve Riggs

Do you have a birthday in December? 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.

"Fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities. Truth isn't."

Mark Twain

"The liberties of a people never were, nor ever will be, secure, when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them."

- Patrick Henry

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected runs for VBT Police.
For more detailed police logs, see www.bellevilleareaindependent.com.

Sunday, Dec. 9:
0159 – disturbance, 831 Huron River Dr., Moose
1033 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 41441 S. Bellridge Dr.
1315 – fraud, 41470 E. Archwood Dr.
1347 – breaking & entering, 11793 Meadows Cir.
1633 – noise complaint, 9655 Wildflower Ct.
1717 – property damage accident, Haggerty / E. Huron River Dr.
1734 – harassment call, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.
2210 – breaking & entering, 10960 Lighthouse
2253 – sexual assault, 41470 E. Archwood Dr.
2352 – trespassing, 10058 Jackson Lane

Monday, Dec. 10:
0112 – assault & battery, 45857 Ecorse Rd.
0222 – assault & battery, 9278 Parkwood Dr.
0756 – larceny, 81 Park Estates
0921 – malicious destruction of property, 11575 Meadows Cir.
0920 – property damage accident, 10760 Belleville
0944 – malicious destruction of property, 6555 Outer Dr.
1254 – fraud, 10915 Belleville Rd.
1339 – suspicious person, 49575 Bog Rd.
1358 – mental, 2 Pine Dr.
1427 – breaking & entering, 48521 S. I-94 Service
1506 – juvenile complaint, 129 S. Ponderosa Trl.
1735 – private property accident, 49050 Denton
1931 – larceny, 9237 Parkwood Dr.
2208 – disturbance, 6190 Dellor St.
2251 – operating while intoxicated, Ecorse / Haggerty

Tuesday, Dec. 11:
0117 – noise complaint, 49061 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1134 – property damage accident, 41775 Ecorse
1157 – larceny, 43473 S. Timberview Dr.
1225 – retail fraud, Meijer
1559 – fraud, 8073 Marlowe Ave.
1700 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1932 – narcotics crime, 9216 Parkwood Dr.
2103 – fraud, Walmart

Wednesday, Dec. 12:
0110 – assault & battery, 41477 S. Bellridge Dr.
0741 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Southport
1002 – harassment call, 8701 Belleville Rd.
1257 – larceny from auto, 46040 Lake Villa Dr.
1527 – property damage accident, Denton/tr tracks
1532 – property damage accident, Belleville/S. Service
1532 – assault & battery, 41480 W. Archwood Dr.
1609 – assault & battery, 42840 S. Darmoor Cir.
1617 – personal injury accident, 10760 Belleville
1625 – breaking & entering, 44219 Tyler Rd.
1732 – fraud, 48815 Laguna Dr.
1807 – assault & battery, 8054 Marlowe Ave.
1807 – fraud, Chase
1901 – assault & battery, 45297 Greenbriar
1950 – juvenile complaint, 11530 Belleville
2026 – intimidation threat, 42840 S. Darmoor Cir.
2230 – assault & battery, Elwell/Hull
2302 – disturbance, 49241 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2314 – noise complaint, 45000 Van Born

Thursday, Dec. 13:
0434 – hospice, 7252 Sheldon Rd.
0755 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 11275 Oak Ln.
0937 – disorderly conduct, 14090 Martinsville Rd.
1058 – fraud, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1532 – private property accident, 9700 Belleville
1641 – harassment call, 256 S. Ponderosa Trl.
1652 – trespassing, 46141 Village Green Ln.
1703 – larceny, Walmart
1722 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1742 – fraud, Meijer
1847 – disturbance, 11740 Belleville Rd.
1929 – narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler Rd.
2030 – fraud, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.
2040 – property damage accident, 18 Daisy
2245 – weapons violation, 45501 N. I-94 Service
2344 – noise complaint, 42273 Milton Dr.
2355 – property damage accident, Savage / Haggerty

Friday, Dec. 14:
0156 – larceny, 50595 Bog Rd.
0201 – assault & battery, 49120 Denton
0348 – noise complaint, 85 Maple Dr.
1127 – mental, 49931 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1217 – breaking & entering, 9216 Parkwood Dr.
1311 – retail fraud, Meijer
1318 – private property accident, 10784 Belleville
1408 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / WB I-94
1605 – narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1602 – malicious destruction of property, EB Hull / Sumpter
1611 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd./Lake Villa Dr.
1620 – wires down, 48320 Martz Rd.
1723 – missing person, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1738 – narcotics crime, 42465 Tyler Rd.
1841 – mental, 10960 Lighthouse Dr.
1953 – noise complaint, 85 Maple Dr.
2245 – noise complaint, 85 Maple Dr.
2311 – disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Ln.
2357 – mental, 10960 Lighthouse

Saturday, Dec. 15:
0104 – assault & battery, 49345 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0250 – agency assist, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
0324 – noise complaint, 11150 Oak Ln.
0520 – shots fired, 51349 Old Michigan Rd.
0909 – assault & battery, 45945 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1102 – trespassing, 7829 Beck
1224 – water leak found, 10825 Borgman Ave.
1249 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1325 – suicide or attempt, 46080 Lake Villa Dr.
1453 – malicious destruction of property, 9826 Jackson St.
1549 – larceny, 48940 Denton Rd.
1918 – assault & battery, 50011 W. Huron River
Also on this week’s log are 214 traffic stops, 61 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 9:
0401 – assist fire dept., 241 Church St.
1034 – assist fire dept., 176 W. Columbia Ave.
1041 – intrusion alarm, 525 E. Huron River Dr.
1243 – animal complaint, 207 S. Aberdeen Ct.
1014 – assist fire dept., 42 Loza Lane
Monday, Dec. 10:
0025 – suicide or attempt, 83 N. Edgemont Ave.
0647 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op
0835 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.
0836 – E-911 cellular, 940 Minion Dr.
1101 – prisoner transfer, 6 Main St.
1145 – assist fire dept., 15 Carmell St.
1230 – E-911 cellular, lat/long
1346 – agency assist, 265 Main St.
1501 – disorderly conduct, BHS
1502 – miscellaneous complaint, BHS
1502 – disorderly conduct, BHS
1506 – private property accident, 885 Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 11:
0059 – suspicious vehicle, Village Park
0346 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.
1221 – suspicious person, 341 Light Tower Ct.
1825 – operating while intoxicated, Sumpter/Main
1942 – malicious destruction of property, 45201 Owen St., Owen Intermediate School
2133 – suspicious situation, Belleville Transmission

Wednesday, Dec. 12:
0037 – intrusion alarm, 123 S. Edgemont, ECDC
0124 – follow-up, 146 High St., Johnny’s
0354 – assist fire dept., 241 Church St.
0450 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op
0942 – agency assist, BHS
0942 – narcotics crime, BHS
1122 – assist fire dept., 30 Carmell St.
1544 – assist fire dept., South Middle School
1626 – bank drop, 6 Main St.
1650 – malicious destruction of property, 955 Sumpter Rd.
1727 – welfare check, 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court
1734 – indecent exposure, 5 Points
1746 – parking complaint, W. Waterbury Ct. / Victorian Ln.

1807 – fraud, Chase
1831 – assist citizen, Main St./Third St.
1852 – vehicle lockout, 112 E. Davis St.
1959 – suicide or attempt, 8 Carmell St.
2115 – serve warrant, 6 Main St.
Thursday, Dec. 13:
0628 – assist fire dept., 241 Church St.
0958 – welfare check, 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-op
1030 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. Liberty St.
1155 – civil matter, Edgemont Elementary
1443 – warrant arrest, Washtenaw booking
1447 – background investigation, 6 Main St.
1636 – malicious destruction of property, 23 Carmell St.
1659 – traffic complaint, BHS
1712 – property check, 287 S. Industrial Pk. Dr.
1736 – larceny, 129 South St.
2037 – assist fire dept., 12 Menlo Park Dr.

Friday, Dec. 14:
0029 – domestic assault, 28 Loza Lane
0036 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.
0517 – intrusion alarm, BHS
1044 – vehicle lockout, 95 Potter Dr.
1449 – private property accident, BHS
1648 – miscellaneous complaint, 6 Main St.
1658 – juvenile complaint, 265 Sumpter
1708 – assist fire dept., 3 San Carlos St.
1737 – welfare check, 24 San Carlos St.
2007 – welfare check, 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court
2007 – parking complaint, BHS
2138 – suspicious vehicle, N. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
2208 – intrusion alarm, 45201 Owen St., Owen Intermediate School
Saturday, Dec. 15:
0135 – violation of public health code / violation controlled substance act, 478 Robbe St.
1451 – E-911 cellular, 48 Henry St.
1732 – intrusion alarm, BHS
1810 – fraud, 6 Main St.
1908 – narcotics crime, 472 Robbe St.
Also on this week’s log are 65 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 9:
0050 – assist other agency, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0417 – citizen assist, Rawsonville/Willis
0934 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1045 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1150 – alarm, 8500 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1758 – larceny, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1826 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1912 – civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
2001 – disorderly person, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2203 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
2213 – suspicious incident, Mulberry
2247 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.

Monday, Dec. 10:
0019 – fight, Dakota
0228 – suspicious incident, 41000 bl. Harris Rd.
0549 – malicious destruction of property, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0733 – civil dispute, Montana
0907 – follow-up investigation, Montana
1013 – follow-up investigation, 21000 bl. Sumpter
1158 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1257 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.
1305 – malicious destruction of property, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1342 – fraud, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1424 – alarm, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1539 – well-being check, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1728 – personal injury accident, Bemis/Elwell
1841 – accidental damage report, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2108 – shots fired, 20000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2126 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2330 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 11:
0116 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
0213 – assist other agency, Martinsville/Willis
0218 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
0241 – assist other agency, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0325 – parking complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0424 – threats complaint, Nevada

1010 – suspicious incident, Brookview
1017 – suspicious incident, Rustic Ln.
1125 – suspicious incident, Oregon
1559 – disorderly person, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1610 – larceny, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1615 – recovered missing vehicle, 28000 bl. Waltz
1935 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1959 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
2131 – fire dept. assist, Dakota
2357 – fire dept. assist, Arizona

Wednesday, Dec. 12:
0021 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0235 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Bemis
0701 – traffic hazard, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0824 – 911 hangup, Rustic Lane
0957 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1333 – alarm, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.
1440 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1849 – neighbor dispute, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1956 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2002 – assist other agency, 21000 bl. Martinsville
2211 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
Thursday, Dec. 13:
0422 – family trouble, Carriage Ln.
0911 – ordinance violation, 21000 bl. Martinsville
1044 – warrant arrest, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1407 – follow-up investigation, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1641 – 911 hangup, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1939 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1945 – juvenile complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Friday, Dec. 14:
0237 – assist other agency, 46000 bl. Reed
0927 – breaking & entering report, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1201 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1304 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1437 – civil dispute, Carriage Ln.
1505 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1540 – breaking & entering report, Redwood
1635 – warrant arrest, out of township
1701 – suspicious person, Sumpter/Harris
1813 – larceny, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1923 – fire dept. assist, Dakota
1930 – suspicious vehicle, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
2137 – assist other agency, out of township
2304 – death investigation, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
Saturday, Dec. 15:
0951 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1415 – dumping complaint, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
1453 – suspicious incident, Rustic Ln.
1702 – suspicious person, 23000 bl. Martinsville
1752 – alarm, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
2109 – family trouble, Hampshire
2127 – suspicious person, Oakville Waltz / Haggerty
Also on this week’s log are 26 miscellaneous details, 124 patrol checks, and 60 traffic stops.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Dec. 20** – The Other Book Club meets at 7 p.m. at different restaurants throughout the Belleville area. Call the library for today’s location, 699-3291. Today’s book is “The Man Who Made Vermeers” by Jonathan Lopez.

• **Friday, Dec. 21** – Christmas Concert by the Belleville Community Band, 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville. Free.

• **Friday, Dec. 21** – Friends Family Friday Movie 7 p.m. (Bounce House @ 6:45pm) Fun, Food, Films, Free. In Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road (at Bemis Road), Ypsilanti. Movie information, call (734) 482-5074 or go to <http://home.comcast.net/~friendsfamilytheater/>

• **Thursday, Dec. 27** – The African American Book Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. Tonight there will be a holiday outing.

*We hope you
have a happy
and safe
Holiday Season!*

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*For New Year's
Eve*

Ring in 2013 with us!
December 31, 2012

Dinner specials • Drink specials

Live Entertainment

DJ Steve on hand to spin some tunes

Champaign toast at midnight

Party favors for people who make reservations.



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Thank you to all for blessing us with your trust for your pet care!
Merry Christmas!

Our office will be closed from 1pm Saturday 12/22/12
to 8am Wednesday 01/02/13 for the holidays.

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For Up To
140 People!**

*Not to be combined with any other offer.

15% OFF
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any other offer. Expires March 31, 2013

BREAKFAST SPECIAL
2 OMELETS
\$8.50
WITH COUPON
From 7am - 11am Only.

Excludes Weekends & Holidays. Not to be combined
with any other offer. Expires March 31, 2013

DINNER FOR 2
With 2 Drink Purchase. Includes Soup or Salad.
\$10.99
WITH COUPON

Select From Our Dinner Favorites Menu
From 3pm to close. Not to be combined with
any other offer. Expires March 31, 2013

HUGE PET GOAT SALE!

Our goats are back from the petting zoos and looking for new homes. All of our goat prices have been reduced by \$20 to ensure rapid placement. So come on down and see how friendly our goats are (they also make great lawnmowers).



We carry a wide variety of:

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**15% OFF
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Auto. 24 month lease for

\$129/mo.*

UP TO \$2,895 IN REBATES.

BUY FOR \$15,588

**New
Certified Diesel
Tech Jim Rachke on Duty!
10% Off All Diesel
Repairs!*****



2013 FUSION SE

Auto, Alloy Wheels. 24 month lease for

\$219/mo.*

UP TO \$2,000 IN REBATES.

BUY FOR \$20,285.41

Tired of

WISE GUYS

BAD DEALS



...Then Buy From The Right Place!



2013 EDGE SE

24 month lease for

\$187/mo.*

UP TO \$4,500 IN REBATES. BUY FOR \$21,783

All Rebates
& Payments
Expire 12/31/2012



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24 month lease for

\$186/mo.*

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