



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 18.52 Thursday, December 27, 2012 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

BHS starts vacation early due to rumors, Mayan calendar

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Last Thursday evening the decision was made to close Belleville High School on Friday and beef up security because of numerous rumors circulating about potential threats of violence against students.

The rumors came less than a week after the Dec. 14 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, CT.

There also were rumors about the Mayan calendar and the end of the world on Friday.

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel said in a memo to the media just after 9 p.m. Thursday that the rumors of violence have been investigated and determined to be false, with no credible threats made against any of the students.

"Unfortunately, these rumors have created a major distraction in student learning, causing anxiety amongst the student body at Belleville High School," Van Tassel wrote.

"I have therefore decided to cancel classes for Belleville High School for tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 21, 2012.

"Although I am always reluctant to cancel classes, I feel it is a most appropriate decision given the gravity of recent events and our current situation," he said.

"Because all related rumors are only high school based, Van Buren Public Schools will continue with classes tomorrow for all students, grades K-8. As an added precaution, we will have increased security in all of our buildings along with police presence throughout the day," he concluded.

Security team members from the high school were distributed among the seven other schools in the district which were in session.

Van Buren Township Police Captain

(continued on page 12)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

Last week Belleville Police delivered coats and Christmas presents to a Van Buren Township family with four children on Lindsey Lane identified by the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows as being in need. The father is out of work and the family is struggling. On Thursday, Officer Joshua Wolfe and Cpl. Todd Schrecengost loaded two police cars with gifts provided by a band of Secret Santas at a federal law enforcement agency, which does not wish to be identified. Each year the agency collects donations from law enforcement officials and chooses a police department to distribute its gifts for "Operation Christmas Cheer". This year the Belleville PD had the honor of delivering the gifts.

Former VBT Public Safety Director Elg finalist in 3 states

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Christopher Elg, who served as Van Buren Township Public Safety Director from 2001 to 2003, made front page news in three states last week by being a finalist in three police chief job openings.

Elg has been police chief in West Monroe, LA since 2004 and has worked as a police chief or public safety director for the past 17 years. He has 28 years of law enforcement experience, beginning as a New York state trooper.

On Dec. 18, Elg was offered the job



Chris Elg

of police chief for Bismarck, N.D. and was given until midnight Dec. 19 to decide whether to take the job. He declined.

Meanwhile that same week, he was named one of three finalists for the job of police chief of South Bend, IN and was already one of six top candidates for chief of Bellingham, WA. On Dec. 20, Bellingham chose a candidate from Vancouver, WA.

According to James "Sonny" Bennett, mayor pro-tem of West Monroe, Elg had been asked by the city's mayor since 1978, Dave Norris, to step down as chief of police there effective Jan. 1.

asking for the resignation.

"I think he did a good job," Bennett said. "I think the major problem we have – we have a real small city – is expenses. The (police) budget's getting too large."

(continued on page 12)

EARLY DEADLINES
Due to the upcoming New Year's Day Holiday, **ALL** ads must be submitted by **4 p.m. Friday, 12/28/12**. Classified advertising deadline is **Noon Friday, 12/28/12**.

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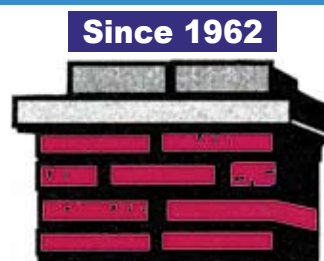
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Planners set public hearing on new zoning ordinance

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A public hearing on the updated Sumpter Township zoning ordinance will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at the Sumpter Community Center.

At its regular meeting on Dec. 13, the planning commission voted to hold the public hearing on the ordinance it has been working on updating for more than a year.

Planning consultant Laura Kreps of Carlisle Wortman said all the changes suggested by the planners have been incorporated in the ordinance, as well as everything to comply with new state laws.

Commissioner Matthew Oddy said he knows many people will be interested in discussing the new version of the township zoning ordinance and so he suggested holding the hearing in a larger room than the township hall meeting room.

The public hearing will be held in the gymnasium at the community center across Sumpter Road from the township hall.

The regular planning commission meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at the community center, immediately preceding the public hearing.

Copies of the proposed zoning ordinance will be available for study at the township hall, the Belleville Area District Library,

and, Kreps said, the digital version could be put on the Sumpter website.

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

- Welcomed new commissioner Sharon Claxton, who was appointed by the supervisor and approved by the township board to replace Don Swinson who was elected to the township board;

- Approved a site plan from A2Mac1 at 8393 Rawsonville Road that includes putting up a fence, gate, and dumpster enclosure. The height of the requested 8' aluminum fence in the front of the property is contingent on the Board of Zoning Appeals giving a variance, since the ordinance sets a 6' maximum height;

- Discussed at length the properties owned by John Chapman at 25891 Sumpter Road and 6000 Oakville Waltz Road that he wishes to get ready for commercial uses. They advised him to fill out the forms and pay the fee to combine two parcels on Sumpter. A public hearing for rezoning at 25891 Sumpter Road was set for 6:35 p.m., Feb. 14, at the township hall. The Oakville Waltz properties will be handled at a later



Sharon Claxton

time. Chapman said he can apply for a bank loan on the Sumpter Road property if it is approved so he can start building his repair shop. He also would like a car lot;

- Heard Oddy thank Deputy Clerk Esther Hurst for preparing new forms for the planning commission members, so they can get information about individual properties concerning permits and other details. He asked questions about the Sheena Barnes trailer at the corner of Oakville Waltz and Sumpter roads that has blue tarps over furniture and other items. "It looks bad for people coming into the township," Oddy said, adding he will be the first commissioner to fill out one of the new forms seeking information on that situation; and

- Heard Commissioner Claxton say that Pioneer Apartments has been an eyesore for decades and it is still an eyesore. She said at one point she and others gathered 700 signatures on a petition asking that it be torn down, "but the person who owned it circumvented it." A Detroit woman purchased the property to use for housing veterans, but could not open because there was not enough room on the property for a proper-sized septic field to service the facility.

VBT planners give final site plan OK to remodel, reopen gas station

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The long-closed, deteriorating Marathon gas station at the northeast corner of Belleville Road and the North I-94 Service Drive is in the process of being remodeled and reopened.

At the Nov. 14 meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission the commissioners voted unanimously to give applicant Jay Hammoud preliminary site plan approval to remodel and operate the gas station at 10445 Belleville Road.

At the planning commission's Dec. 12 meeting, Hammoud was given final site plan approval.

He plans to change the automotive repair space of the building into a convenience store and retain the outdoor pumps and canopy in their current locations.

There were some problems in trying to modernize the site, but Hammoud worked with the township to provide landscaping and committing to a brick veneer on the building to match the Downtown Development Authority standards.

The Marathon Corporation has a deed restriction on the property that it must be used as a Marathon gas station and cannot be used for anything else, said Terry Carroll, Director of VBT Planning & Economic

Development.

As one of the six stipulations to the commission's approval, the applicant must provide evidence of all required State permits and approvals for the storage, disposal, and transfer of gasoline, including the size, construction, overflow protection, and proposed use of the existing underground storage tanks.

Carroll said the township will not issue a certificate of occupancy until it gets state documentation on the tanks.

Hammoud said they plan to keep the three 10,000-gallon tanks on the site and remove a 500-gallon tank in the rear.

Hammoud provided cross-access easement documents for the border with CVS, so in the future the township can get CVS to approve like documents.

Carroll said then motorists could enter the gas station site from CVS instead of having to go out into road traffic first.

Planning consultant Sally Hodges of McKenna Associates explained why the applicant is not being required to install a monument sign, although it is required by the VBT zoning ordinance.

Because of the limited space on the site and that the Corner Clear Vision requirements of the ordinance prohibit placing structures that will potentially block view within

25 feet of the intersection, there are few practical locations for a monument sign, she said.

The commission may permit the pole sign to be reused, but the sign cannot be expanded or altered.

John Delaney asked what size American flag will be allowed on the site's flagpole, which he said was one of the largest flagpoles in the township.

Hodges said they will hold the owner to the same standard as Belle Tire for a flag no larger than 18'x12'. When Belle Tire was approved in April it had to reduce its proposed flag size by two-thirds to meet the township request.

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson said it will be wonderful to have that gas station site cleaned up and in use. She told the representatives at the meeting that she appreciates all their efforts.

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

- Held a public hearing on McDonald's request for special use approval to add a second drive-through lane for the restaurant at 2103 Rawsonville Road. The building had been updated in 1997, so no more work is being done. Reconfiguring of parking spaces will be required, with two

(continued on page 8)



The City of Belleville Christmas Decorating Contest winners were honored at the Dec. 17 meeting of the Belleville City Council. Mayor Kerreen Conley presented a plaque to Stephen Massa for decorations at 111 Carmell, which won the Mobile Home Parks category.



Mayor Conley presented the plaque for home decorations at 461 Waterbury Ct. in Victoria Commons to Ronald Adkins and son Max.



Rodney Herald of The Lunch Box won the Business category and received a plaque from Mayor Conley.



Trully Luke receives her award from Mayor Conley for decorating her home at 234 Harbour Pointe Drive, winning the Harbour Pointe category. Unable to attend the city council session to receive their award were Harold and Elizabeth Kelsey of 237 Robbe Road, who won the award for the Balance of Belleville.

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Hopes for a better year in 2013

A new year is fast approaching and some are concerned because there is a perceived unlucky 13 in the year's name: 2013. We've never found 13 to be an unlucky number, although some builders omit floor 13 in their structures and room numbers often go from 12 to 14.

We are reminded that the 12 disciples plus Jesus equaled 13 and that was good enough for us. Thirteen is an OK number.

Here are a few wishes for 2013:

- That the district library finds a site within the City of Belleville to propose as a new library;
- That the BYC (which some call the Belleville Yacht Club) closes on the purchase of the Moose Lodge, which wishes to sell;
- That the Moose Lodge can purchase the PNA Hall which it has offered to buy from Sumpter Township in order to move its lodge to another building;
- That the school district decides not to destroy buildings paid for by taxpayers that are still usable for other purposes;
- That the Zoo and DIA millages approved by voters will actually go to the Zoo and DIA;
- That Visteon will agree to help pay for the bond payments for its world headquarters that Van Buren Township agreed to in a flighty moment;
- That VBT Supervisor Linda Combs will put together a top-flight Public Safety Committee; and
- That employees at Belleville City Hall will talk to each other as professionals.

Happy New Year!

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I received a letter from my friend Tom Webster who used to live in Sumpter and moved to St. Clair Shores. He subscribes to our paper and wrote a note to comment on Chief Taylor's travails.

"I recalled when Mr. Roy Acho told me a story about receiving a ticket from Chief Taylor for parking on the wrong side of the street by the high school one morning while dropping the kids off to school. Do you think Roy would hold a grudge against the chief because of the ticket?"

Well, as readers may recall, Roy Acho is on the Belleville Civil Service Commission and at the Dec. 11 appeals hearing he made the motion to reinstate Chief Taylor immediately, stating six months of being reduced to corporal was excessive.

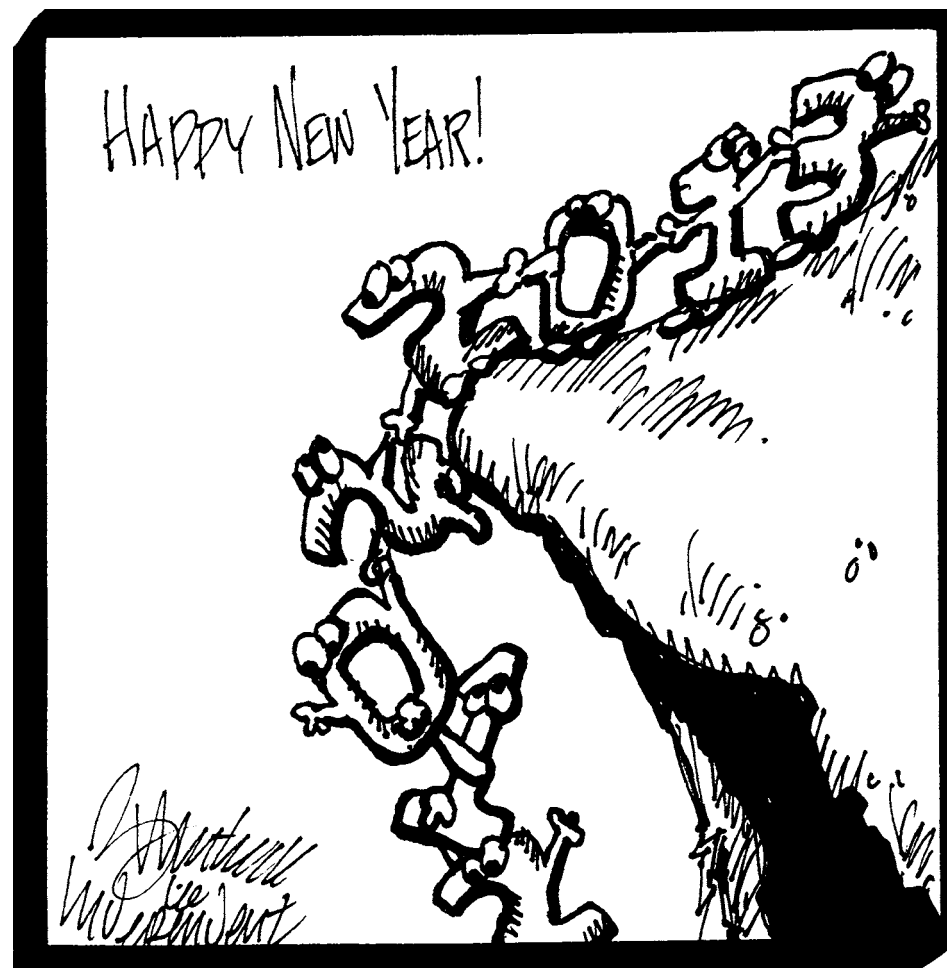
Roy, apparently, doesn't hold a grudge.

Tom used to talk to Roy at his store, 5 Star Market/Benito's Pizza, on Willis Road near Rawsonville. Roy's business is in Sumpter, but he lives in the City of Belleville.

I received a call from Wayne Brymer, who said he started as a Van Buren Public Schools bus driver in September and was fired on Dec. 14. He said he has tried to find out why he was fired, but they won't give him a reason other than it's because of something that happened on his school bus. He wanted to know what happened, but they wouldn't say.

"Nothing happened on my bus," he said.

He said he drove a bus from Rawsonville Elementary, which was full of little children who were great. He said when one child, who had problems, started screaming, the other children would scream back at him and it got very out of control.



He said he stopped the bus and called for assistance from the transportation office. He said he was told they would get him some help, possibly an aide. He said he waited and no one came. He called again to ask if someone was coming and he was told to just continue driving and take the kids home, even though they were out of control.

He thinks he was fired because he was preparing written warnings on some students, but the superintendent decided to suspend students from the bus for a day. The parents first were mad at the bus driver, but then got mad at the superintendent, instead. Wayne feels he was fired by the superintendent so he could get out of the problem.

Wayne said he could hear on the bus radio all the other drivers asking for help and getting no help.

He read the letter in our newspaper last week and wanted to agree with the parent.

"Every bus driver has the same problem," he said, referring to getting no assistance from school officials.

I think unruly kids on school buses is an ongoing problem.

I received an email on Sunday from a lady who said they had so many problems when she was a "junior higher" many years ago that she hated riding the bus, so she walked from her Edison Street house to South Junior High (now Owen Intermediate

School).

I remember when I was a kid riding the bus from Haggerty Road out in Van Buren Township into Belleville for school, my bus driver was Carl Gotts, who was also the truant officer. He had no problem keeping the students in line. We all respected Mr. Gotts and wouldn't think of disappointing him with bad behavior.

We were in our office working on the paper on Christmas Eve and I was amazed at how many people were out and around conducting their business on such a special, family day. The CPA office across the hall was open, as well, so people were bustling in and out all morning – all with parting calls of "Merry Christmas".

We've been told by old-timers that Belleville is a Norman Rockwell kind of town and we see that view over and over again. We were thinking on Christmas Eve that a little snow would make it perfect for Christmas and we were told that could happen.

By the time this issue is published Christmas will be over and we will be heading to the new year with high hopes for 2013 for our family, our town, our state, our nation, and our planet. Happy New Year!





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Deadline for ads 1/2 page or smaller is Noon Monday,
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Letters



Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows thank you

To the Editor:

Another year of the Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows Christmas Assistance Program has come to an end. This year the Goodfellows had the enjoyable job of distributing food, family essentials, coats, gloves, mittens and toys to 110 families and 250 children.

Without our volunteers, who gave their time standing outside in the chilling cold selling candy canes, collecting, sorting and re-packaging the food and shopping for the toys, the assistance we gave to these families would not have been possible.

We would like to thank all of the businesses, schools and residents for their generous donations. The money and goods you donated to the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows helped provide a more joyful Christmas for those families in our community and enabled the Goodfellows to fulfill their promise of "No Child Without A Christmas".

Again, on behalf of the Belleville/Van Buren Goodfellows, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all businesses, schools, residents and volunteers, too numerous to list, for another successful year.

May you all have the happiest of holidays.

Pam Fleming, Coordinator

Belleville / Van Buren Goodfellows



"Don't go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first."

--Mark Twain



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Belleville-area residents were very generous this year, filling three big boxes for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign. The project at the *Independent* was created and run by James Otzman, who reported that last year people filled just one box at the *Independent* office and this year brought armloads of gifts for needy children that filled three big boxes.

Thanks for donations to Toys for Tots

To the Editor:

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

I would like to thank the community for your generous contributions to Toys for Tots. Here at the *Belleville-Area Independent*, you helped us triple the donations from last year!

Three huge boxes of toys and a check donated this year just at the *Independent* compared to one box last year. (Last year was our first Toys for Tots.)

Thank you, once again. Your donations made a lot of children happy this Christmas.

James Otzman

Belleville-Area Independent
Production Manager

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Obituary



Betty R. Reed

BETTY R. REED

(May 15, 1933 - December 23, 2012)

Betty Raye Reed, age 79, of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, December 23, 2012 at Bortz Health Care Center, Ypsilanti, MI. She was born May 15, 1933 in Benton, KY, daughter of the late Orville & Lenice (Riley) McKendree.

Betty was a former member of Grace Baptist Church, Belleville. She was also a member of the Belleville Moose Lodge and VFW. She enjoyed boating on Belleville Lake, traveling, cooking and gardening. Most of all, she was very proud of building her own home.

She is survived by a daughter Brenda Crawford of Belleville, MI; three brothers William Porter Collins, Jerry Collins and George Collins; a sister-in-law Dolly Reed; also several nieces, nephews and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, her step-father Luther Collins, also her husband Wilburn G. Reed on July 26, 2007.

Visitation will be 4-8 PM Friday, December 28, 2012, and Noon-1 PM Saturday, December 29, 2012 with a 1:00 PM Funeral at the David C. Brown Temporary Viewing and Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Interment will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock. Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for them to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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Mark Twain



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Obituaries



Martha Marie Halcomb



MARTHA MARIE HALCOMB

(June 17, 1923 - December 19, 2012)

Martha Marie Halcomb, 89, formerly of Largo FL, and Belleville MI, passed away on Wednesday, December 19, 2012, at Samaritan Bethany, in Rochester.

Marie was born on June 17, 1923, in Detroit MI, to Edward and Emma Anderson. She married Marvin Halcomb on December 10, 1949. They lived in Michigan until moving to Florida in 1977. Marvin passed away in 1986. She was also preceded in death by a son, John Martin ("Marty") in 1975.

She proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1943-45. One of her proudest accomplishments was when she completed training to become an Aviation Machinist's Mate. After an Honorable Discharge from the Marine Corps, she held Administrative Secretarial positions at Kelsey-Hayes and Bechtel in Michigan. She always remained close to the Marines, working and holding various positions for many years in the Marine Corps League, Women Marines Association, and Young Marines. She worked at many Toys for Tots toy drives for the Marine Corps. Marie attended the National Veterans

Golden Age Games for 16 years and was able to keep active, travel to a different state every year, and stay in contact with her fellow veterans. She made many friends over the years thanks to the Golden Age Games.

Marie was a huge sports fan and especially loved rooting for the Tampa Bay Rays and Detroit Tigers in baseball and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in football. She worked as an usher and security guard for several years in Florida at Tropicana Field for the Rays and at Raymond James Stadium for the Buccaneers. She was also a season ticket holder for the Rays. Marie and her daughter took a weeklong trip together to watch spring training baseball in Lakeland FL every year for nearly 25 years.

Marie is survived by a brother, John Anderson of Manistee, MI, and two children Marvin (Kathy) of Stockbridge, MI, and Deana Carr (Dave) of Rochester, MN. She also is survived by two grandsons Chris (Kristina) and Matt (Lindsey), and a great-granddaughter Brooklyn Marie.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Samaritan Bethany chapel in Rochester, MN.

Funeral services will be at the David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel, 500 E. East Huron River Dr. in Belleville. Visitation will be on Wednesday, December 26 from 4 to 5 p.m. for family and 5-8 p.m. for the public. The funeral will be on Thursday, December 27, at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Toys for Tots in Marie's memory.

The family would like to thank all the staff at Samaritan Bethany Home on 8th in Rochester for their love and support while Marie was with them. Please sign Marie's on-line guestbook and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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VBT Plan

(continued from page 3)

RV/truck parking spaces added because the restaurant is less than ½ mile from the freeway. Approval by the planning commission was given Nov. 28 and the township board approved its special land use on Dec. 11; and

- Approved Belle Tire's request for a site plan amendment which was made necessary by Wayne County's requirement of a 100-year-storm-event retention pond in place of the 10-year pond at the construction site at 10595 Belleville Road. Wade Trim Engineer Dave Nummer said the project was approved by the township with a 10-year pond, because county rules say for sites under 5 acres that is sufficient. The Belle Tire site is 1.725 acre, so the 10-year pond was planned – but the county wanted the 100-year pond. (Nummer said a 100-year storm for this area is defined as 3.9 inches of rain within 24 hours.) No water will be channeled to the county drains, so there would be no flooding of Belleville Road. If the pond overflowed and there was flooding of the residences behind on Dewitt Street, the county said its concern is water on the roadway, Nummer reported. The larger pond extends 14 feet further to the west and is two feet deeper. It requires a one-way traffic sign in the rear of the business because of the new lack of space. Recent reports say the county also turned down this latest plan.

At the 33-minute Dec. 12 meeting, the

planning commission:

- Approved a new section of the zoning ordinance on storm water detention ponds. Hodges said it primarily deals with the appearance of storm water ponds, landscaping, fencing and options instead of fencing. The township board approved its first reading of the ordinance at its Dec. 11 meeting;

- Heard Commission Secretary Bryon Kelley ask that an ordinance on vacant buildings that had he had worked on in the past be brought back and acted on or closed

up. He said an attorney's opinion on what the township can require from the banks is needed. Carroll said the ordinance will be brought back to the commission; and

- Heard Carroll suggest the commission

cancel its Dec. 26 meeting because it might not be able to raise a quorum, which it did. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Jan. 9.

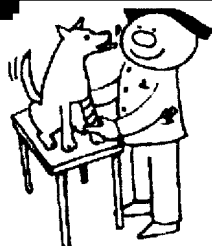
Paid Advertisement

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD

Psalm 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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Upcoming Clinics:

PET SPA, 5260 Willis Rd., YPSILANTI, Sun., Dec. 30th, 4:30-6 p.m.
PET SPA, 5260 Willis Rd., YPSILANTI, Sun., Jan. 13th, 4:30-6 p.m.
WILLIS FEED MILL, 10200 Railroad St., WILLIS, Mon., Jan. 14th, 5-6 p.m.
PET SPA 2, 970 Sumpter Rd., BELLEVILLE, Sun., Jan. 20th, 4-6 p.m.
PET RESORT, 50425 Bemis Rd., BELLEVILLE, Sun., Jan. 27th, 3-6 p.m.

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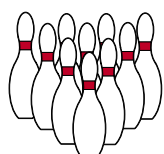
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- ★ Swan Creek Candles
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APPETIZERS, SOUP AND SALADS

Champagne Cocktail • Herbed Polenta Cakes
Blue Cheese with Rosemary • Honey on Bruschetta
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ENTREE

10 oz. Tenderloin of Beef
14 oz. New York Strip Steak
Rack of Lamb; 12 oz. Lobster Tail
Apricot-Apple-Stuffed Pork Loin
Broiled Swordfish • Mediterranean Salmon
Vegetarian - Polenta on top of Puff Pastry w/Goat Cheese,
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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 7AM - 11PM

Correction: Some of the details of involved law suit were in error

In an *Independent* story on the \$12,427.44 settlement of the Kevin Hirsch vs. Rebecca Kesler law suit printed on page 13 of the Dec. 6 issue, we made some errors.

We wrote that "Hirsch said Kesler had hired an attorney and her attorney contacted this attorney to find out if he would settle for less than the court-ordered figure and Hirsch said he wouldn't." Actually, Kesler hired an attorney to handle her grievance issues, not the underlying lawsuit. It was Kesler herself who contacted Kevin Hirsch's attorney.

Also, we wrote that "Kesler said she never promised Hirsch half her winnings." The agreement was never for half of the winnings; it was for one-third of the \$50,000 prize, Hirsch said.

Finally, we wrote that Hirsch does not plan on appealing. Actually, Kesler appealed and Hirsch cross-appealed, but once Kesler paid the judgment, they both agreed to drop their pending appellate issues.

We regret the errors.

-- Rosemary Oztman, editor

More Letters

Wreath on the door, indicates mark of honor

To the Editor:

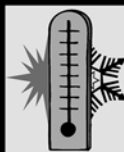
While perusing my library, I found this piece "All About Christmas - A Collection of Legends, Customs and Traditions of The World." by L. Peter Wren, 2010 - reprinted with his permission - Legend of the Christmas Wreath:

"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

P.S. In my conversation with L. Peter Wren, he would like people to know his book is available for \$10 + \$2 s/h. Wren Enterprises 1011 Ridgetop Road, Henrico, VA 23229. During WW II he was the OIC whose rescue boat saved 150 crew members of the torpedoed USS Indianapolis CA35. He is 92 years young and still authoring.



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Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Notice of Public Hearing Variance

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday January 16, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, for the purpose of receiving statements and views on a proposed Variance for A2Mac1 at 8393 Rawsonville. The proposed variance is to erect an 8' fence on the front side of the building.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
Sumpter Township

Publish December 27, 2012

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

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

"BUBBLES"



Out of the many cats here, **Bubbles** has got to have the most passionate wish to find her new fur-ever home. She's not happy in the least about living with so many other cats but is trying hard to make the best of it. **Bubbles** might not be bubbly and friendly with the other cats but she sure is affectionate and friendly to her people visitors. She eagerly eats up and enjoys any attention lavished on her. **Bubbles** is also quite the Chatty Cathy and will make a great conversation partner to enjoy your downtime with. She has lived with other cats in the past but recent upheavals in her life have made her pretty unwilling to accept the company of kitty friends in her living environments. We would recommend a single cat household for this attention loving girl. Her purebred Bengal heritage gives this vocal, pretty girl a soft grey and white spotted coat that is unique and attractive making her one eye-catching cat indeed. **Bubbles** has only one wish this holiday season and that is that someone will come fall in love with her and sweep her away from this crazy shelter life. She's spayed, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped.

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HOTSPOT**



Photo courtesy of Denise Komora
Mary Foster of Public Service Credit Union, left, presents a check to Sumpter Township Deputy Supervisor Craig Moody, Senior Coordinator Mary Ann Watson, and Sumpter Supervisor Johnny Vawters during the township's annual Children's Christmas Party.

**THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT
NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!**

(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a zoning change on the following described property:

Parcel number V125-83-129-99-0002-002 also known as 15400 Sumpter Road equal to 1.01 acres is proposed to be rezoned from C (Local Business) to C-1 (General Business). This property is located on south of Hull Road and west of Sumpter Road.

A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below:



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

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 hours in advance of the meeting if requesting accommodations.

Published: December 27, 2012
Posted: December 27, 2012

Public Service Credit Union proud to be a part of Sumpter's Christmas

The Public Service Credit Union was pleased to be one of the sponsors of the Holiday Dinner and Food Drive for needy families and seniors held on Dec. 17 at the township P.N.A. Hall, where all enjoyed fellowship, a carefree dinner, Christmas cheer and a "CARE package" to take home.

On Dec. 18, Public Service Credit Union contributed toward the raffle gifts for the Sumpter Senior's Christmas Party. Over 200 seniors enjoyed a Christmas luncheon and gifts.

The most delightful of all the parties was the Annual Children's Christmas Party held on Dec. 19 where Santa visited with the children and gave them a gift. Over 300 excited children with smiling faces, eating hot dogs and waiting for their turn with Santa was a precious snapshot in time, of what all children should be able to enjoy.

PSCU staff and Craig Moody and Karen Armatiss delivered food baskets to 25 desperate families, who did not receive any help from anyone this year.

With the economy in despair, the unemployment rate continues to be at historical levels and so many foreclosures, we at Public Service Credit Union are honored to be a part of the Sumpter Township community, to give back to those who need it most.

"Yes, Virginia," there is a Santa Claus, and he lives in the hearts of the Sumpter Township Supervisor Johnny Vawters, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, and in Dean Trudeau, CEO, of Public Service Credit Union.

Bettye Misuraca
Director, New Business Development
Public Service Credit Union

Don't pay high heating bills.

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BHS vacation

(continued from page 1)

Gregory Laurain said the VBT officers were working with the school district and Belleville Police Department in this incident and “concentrating our free time patrol to all the schools within our communities throughout the day.”

National media reported rumors of violence in schools across the nation leading to similar school closings. National media indicated the 30 or so districts in Michigan closing their schools were concentrated in the Southeastern part of the state.

Some schools throughout the country reported no credible threats, and leaders said if parents wanted to keep their children home on Friday it would be their personal decisions.

The Van Buren Public School District is now in its winter break, with classes to resume on Jan. 7.

Chris Elg

(continued from page 1)

Bennett said Elg had some good ideas and he knows what he’s doing, “but sometimes small towns just can’t afford that type of guy.”

Last Thursday, Bismarck City Commissioner Parrell Grossman said Elg thanked Bismarck for the interview and the visit, “but after careful consideration,

a relocation to Bismarck would not be the best option at this time.”

Elg is married to Roseanne and they have two sons and a daughter.

Besides serving as West Monroe Police Chief, Elg is on the Adjunct Faculty at University of Louisiana – Monroe, and is Special Agent in the U.S. Coast Guard, where he has been a reserve officer for more than 20 years.

Elg was pressured to resign from VBT by Supervisor Cindy King after news of him being a finalist at Green Bay, WI was made public. This followed a lot of local and regional television coverage, and a lot of donations coming in to the animal control department, for Hopalong, a stray dog who needed surgery. King was critical of the animal control department, which was under Elg’s management.

The selection of the South Bend Police Chief was still pending as the *Independent* went to press. Elg could not be reached for comment because he was on vacation from his West Monroe position.



INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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.

HELP WANTED

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

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HELP WANTED

Notice to Advertisers:

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

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Feel good about the work that you do. Support persons we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training provided. \$8.00 total per hr. plus good benefits.

Call (734) 753-4804 New Boston
Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Join the team. Assist persons we serve in their home and community. \$8.00 total per hr. plus good benefits.
Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543 Belleville.
Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

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

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

WANTED

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

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

FREE

LeANNE LAYMAN ---- LOHR 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

FREE - 65" TV. Works. Needs a part but you still can watch it, functional. Remote control and book. Call 734-461-0749. 1/10

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 Sheppard 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

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

FOR RENT

BEAUTIFUL 2 BR. TOWNHOUSE. Enclosed private yard/deck, pool & Free storage. See It Now. \$800/mo. Plus security. (734) 697-8529 12/27

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

\$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
888-235-4695
Or apply online
www.4lakeview.com
EHO Expires January 1, 2013
*some restrictions apply

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888-205-6379
www.4lakeview.com
*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

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

RAWSONVILLE WOODS HANDYMAN BLOWOUT!
HOMES FOR \$1!
Many to Choose.
Available Now.
Call Donna!!!
Bankruptcy, Foreclosures, and Bad Credit OK!
Accepting All Applications!
734-461-6700

Birthdays

Dec. 30 - Taylor Currier, Stephen Scharp

Do you have a birthday in January? 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.

SERVICES

Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!

Call **FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**
(734) 699-4711
FREE ESTIMATES!!!
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LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL. Residential Snow Plowing. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

Sam, Sandy Vicchy to host Belleville Day in Florida on February 6

Sam and Sandy Vicchy will be hosting Belleville Day in Florida this year and they want you to mark your calendars and send in your reservations.

Belleville Day is set for Feb. 6 at 12:30 p.m., with a noon check in, and buffet luncheon at 1:30 p.m. at Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club, The Grille Restaurant in the Garden Room, 505 E. Hartford St., Hernando, FL 34442.

Cost per person is \$19.50, with tax and gratuity included. Send reservations, so they are received by Jan. 25, to: Sam and Sandy Vicchy, 4014 N. Ringwood Circle, Hernando, FL 34442 (telling your name and Michigan and Florida addresses, email address, number of people attending and total amount enclosed).

The buffet menu includes London Broil, Chicken Marsala, and Broiled Atlantic Salmon.

For more information, call the Vicchys at 352-726-9132 or 352-400-0069 or email them at sjvicchy@aol.com.

THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!
(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



Belleville Rotary Club provides dictionaries at Rawsonville Elementary

Right before the holiday break, all of the third grade students at Rawsonville Elementary School received a dictionary, courtesy of the Belleville Rotary Club.

Rotary Club representative Richard Willick had the opportunity to distribute this year's annual gift.

"We started this distribution six years ago and have given out over 3,600 dictionaries, 440 this year alone. We have been working with dictionaryproject.org, a non-profit organization, to provide high-quality dictionaries.

"To date, over 27 million children nationwide have benefited from their support."

Karensa Smith, Rawsonville Elementary School principal, also commented about the generous donation.

"Every year, the Belleville Rotary Club donates dictionaries to the Van Buren Public School third graders. It's wonderful to have community partnerships with organizations that understand the importance of academic success."

In addition to Rawsonville, all third graders at Edgemont, Tyler and Savage will also receive their very own dictionaries.

Photo and article provided by Rawsonville Tech Specs Mary Ellen Vago and Deb Mounsey.



Richard Willick, Belleville Rotary Club representative, distributes dictionaries to Kahlia Kaigler's third grade students at Rawsonville Elementary School. The Rotary distributes dictionaries to all third graders in the district each year.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Dec. 27 through Saturday, Dec. 29** – Festival of Holiday Trees continues at the Belleville-Area Museum, noon to 4 p.m.

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

• **Saturday, Jan. 5** -- The Young Life Ring in The New Year Fun Run/Walk at Van Buren Park, registration is at 10a.m. Compete for prizes. Register at www.bellevillyounglife.org

• **Thursday, Jan. 10** – "Totality Down Under" at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Dee Crowe tells about her recent trip to Australia to view the total solar eclipse.

• **Thursday, Jan. 17** – The Belleville Area Museum presents Al and Dave Eicher on "The Early Days of Michigan Radio" at 7 p.m. Free event for Historical Society members; \$3 for non-members.

• **Saturday, Jan. 24** – The Friends of the Belleville Area District Library are holding their General Membership Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Election of officers and plans for 2013.

• **Thursday, Feb. 21** – Annual Belleville Area Museum meeting with Star Spangled Banner presentation by David Collins, at 7 p.m. Free event for Historical Society members.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 16:

0017 – noise complaint, Rustic Lane
0103 – noise complaint, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0630 – family trouble, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0635 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0719 – fire dept. assist, Sumpter/Kozma
0931 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Willow Rd.
1501 – juvenile complaint, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1521 – larceny, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1534 – larceny, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
2020 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2206 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
2236 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

Monday, Dec. 17:

0030 – suspicious incident, Rustic Lane
0752 – civil dispute, Montana
1048 – disorderly person, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1427 – animal complaint, Judd/Wilnot
1618 – fraud complaint, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1707 – civil dispute, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1728 – civil dispute, Rustic Lane
2109 – assault, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
2232 – noise complaint, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
2339 – noise complaint, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.

Tuesday, Dec. 18:

0016 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
0025 – property damage accident, 41000 bl. Judd
0219 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0229 – fire dept. assist, 9600 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0445 – suspicious incident, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
0755 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
0836 – fire dept. assist, Mulberry
0848 – larceny, 25000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1142 – suspicious person, 51000 bl. Judd Rd.
1306 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
1412 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1523 – malicious destruction of property report, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1610 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1623 – animal complaint, 7800 bl. Oakville Waltz
1737 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
1748 – citizen assist, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1752 – juvenile complaint, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1924 – reckless driver complaint, Harris / Martinsville

1934 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2027 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
2257 – larceny, Wayside

Wednesday, Dec. 19:

0005 – suspicious vehicle, Judd/Elwell
0514 – suspicious incident, 9300 bl. Rawsonville
0934 – threats complaint, Montana
1124 – suspicious person, Willis Rd.
1600 – alarm, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1653 – family trouble, 8700 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1735 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willow
1748 – suspicious incident, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1940 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Kozma Rd.
2334 – suspicious incident, Rustic Lane

Thursday, Dec. 20:

0101 – alarm, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0314 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
0435 – suspicious incident, Dakota
0501 – traffic hazard, Rawsonville/Martz
1037 – assist other agency, Nevada
1427 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1529 – alarm, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
2024 – property damage accident, Willow/Karr
2123 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Lane

Friday, Dec. 21:

0707 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
1123 – suspicious vehicle, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.
1319 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1419 – disorderly person, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1712 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Clark Rd
2023 – suspicious incident, 10000 bl. Willis Rd.
2116 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2157 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, Dec. 22:

0522 – personal injury accident, 47000 bl. Willow
1225 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
1421 – suspicious person, New Mexico
1423 – suspicious person, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
1952 – harassment complaint, 44000 bl. Bemis
2001 – suspicious person, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
2110 – alarm, 47000 bl. Executive Dr.

Also on this week's log are 40 miscellaneous details, 130 patrol checks, and 44 traffic stops.

Van Buren Township

Recycling announcement

Van Buren Township is pleased to announce that we can now utilize a 32 gallon container as a recycle bin. The 32 gallon container must have a recycle sticker on it.

Stickers are available at the Community Services Office at Township Hall or by calling us at 734.699.8926 we can mail one to you.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Les Neinas and Linda Luke-Neinas read their *Independent* on top of Lookout Mountain in Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, TN. It is the southern-most mountain in the Appalachian chain. The couple traveled there in October for some general sightseeing after attending the 40th National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. 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.

JOIN US 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.



404 Main Street Belleville • (734) 697-2300

Joseph Orskey of VBT commissioned as Second Lt. in U.S. Marine Corps

On Dec. 14, Joseph Orskey was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, following his completion of Marine Officer Candidate School in Quantico, VA.

Second Lieutenant Orskey is a 2002 graduate of Belleville High School, a 2007 graduate of Western Michigan University, and was a commercial pilot before attending O.C.S.

He is the son of John and Janet Orskey of Van Buren Township.



2nd Lt. Joseph Orskey

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Kristy Mannarelli, DVM
Veterinarians

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CLOSED 12/23/12 through 01/01/13

19435 Sumpter Road, #3 (near Tinpan Restaurant)

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.

Visit us at www.bellevilleconeyisland.com

WELCOME TO BELLEVILLE CONEY ISLAND

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Banquet Room Available For Up To 140 People!

15% OFF
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Excludes Specials. Not to be combined with 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:

- Dog and Cat Food
- Wild Bird Seed, Squirrel Food
- Horse and Livestock Feed
- Hay and Straw
- Country Crafts
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10200 Railroad Street, Willis, Michigan
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We look forward to seeing you soon. **(734) 461-1111** willisfeed@att.net

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