



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 18.21 Thursday, May 24, 2012 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

You Tube video inspires armed robbery in Sumpter Township

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A pizza delivery man was attacked, injured, and robbed at about 11:49 p.m. Tuesday, May 15, and it turns out the robbers were inspired by a You Tube video.

The 24-year-old delivery person was delivering a pizza from Red Rooster Pizzeria to the 700 block of Virginia in Holiday West mobile home park, to what turned out to be a recently vacated home. When he got out of his vehicle, he was attacked by a masked male wielding a spindle from a deck railing.

Sumpter Township Police Detective John Toth said the driver was hit on the head and suffered two lacerations, indicating he was probably struck twice.

The driver was robbed of about \$200 in cash while he was on the ground. A second man appeared. Both wore masks and the victim couldn't tell the race of his assailants, but could tell they were males.

The driver returned to the business and called 911. He received treatment at the scene and then was transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Just seven hours later a man who lived two blocks over from the scene of the robbery told Sgt. John Ashby that two people were in his back yard the previous night and he confronted them and there were some back and forth obscenities.

The man recognized the 14-year-old person in his backyard and watched when he went to his Oregon Street home.

There were items dropped in the man's flower garden that connected the juvenile to the robbery, as well as clothing matching the driver's description.

Sumpter Police invited the juvenile and his mother in for a talk and Det. Toth said the boy confessed. He was turned over to the juvenile court system.

His alleged partner in the robbery, Sean
(continued on page 23)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Saturday, volunteers gathered at Hillside Cemetery to put fresh American flags on the graves of veterans in time for Memorial Day. From left are Bill Emerson, Kae Hartford, Richard Smith, and Phyllis Smith, the group that worked on Section B.

Belleville DDA selects LED lights for Main St.; installation after festival

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Some 146 LED lights will be installed in the decorative light poles in Belleville's Downtown Development Authority district. The work will take about three weeks and will begin after the Strawberry Festival is over.

The replacement of the lighting fixtures should be minimally disruptive and it will not be necessary to shut down Main Street for the work, said Carol Thompson, DDA Administrator.

At the DDA's regular meeting on May 16, the board voted unanimously to award a contract to Airport Lighting to install 54-watt GlobalTech LED replacement fixtures

for a bid price of \$65,090.

There were seven bids from four contractors when bids were opened Feb. 15. After Spicer engineers reviewed the bids and met with a DDA subcommittee, it was decided to put up demonstration lights to see how the different models looked and which ones the residents preferred.

There were 22 responses from citizens: 16 on the Doane's Landing models and six on the South Street models. Most South Street responses said the lights were too bright and/or had too much glare.

The overall preference showed 76% preferred the new LED lights over the existing lights.

Spicer engineer Evan Pratt said besides saving costs on energy, he believes the DDA will be able to realize further cost savings by working with the contractor to replace all double light fixture arms with single-armed light fixtures. Pratt expects the payback period for the LED investment

(continued on page 11)

Sumpter Twp. Country Fest under way at township fair grounds

By Rosemary K. Otman
Independent Editor

Sumpter Township's annual Country Festival starts at 5 p.m. today when the carnival starts up and the beer tent opens.

The annual Princess Pageant is at 7 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

On Friday, the carnival and beer tent open at 5 p.m. and disc jockey music runs from 5 to 8 p.m., with "Rusty Lunchbox" performing from 8 p.m. until midnight.

On Saturday, the parade, with a patriotic theme, begins at noon at the corner of Judd and Sumpter Roads and heads south to the fairgrounds. The carnival and beer tent opens at noon and the Impersonators/Tribute Artists perform from 2 to 10 p.m.

On Sunday the classic car show opens at noon, with DJ music running 1-3 p.m., Dwight Carroll performing from 4 to 7 p.m. and "Von Zippers" performs from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Fireworks are at dusk on Sunday, with a rain date of Monday.

On Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, the carnival opens at noon and closes at 10 p.m., with all amusement rides \$1. The Auto Enduro Demo by U.S.A. Demolition Derby is at 6 p.m.

Every-day events at the festival include the beer tent, pony rides, craft vendors, silent auction, carnival, petting zoo, Cute Baby Contest, bounce castle and free family entertainment shows.

The Country Fest is located at 23501 Sumpter Road, across from the township hall. For more information, call the township hall at 461-6201.

**EARLY
DEADLINES**

**Due to the upcoming
Memorial Day
Holiday, ALL ads must
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SECOND FRONT PAGE



Mary Sherwood named Grand Marshall of Sumpter Fest Parade

At noon on Saturday, the annual Sumpter Country Fest Parade steps off at Sumpter and Judd roads, heading south on Sumpter to the fairgrounds at Dunn Road.

Presiding over the parade will be the 2012 Grand Marshall Mary Sherwood, representing the early settlers of Sumpter Township.

Mary Flannery Sherwood was born in Springfield, Ohio. The Flannery family moved to Augusta Township in 1946 and Mary finished her school years at Lincoln High School, graduating in 1950. George Sherwood also attended Lincoln High School and graduated in the class of 1947.

George and Mary married in 1950 and started their life together in a home on Sherwood Road. In 1975 they moved into their home on Willis Road, where Mary still lives. The house is next to the original Sherwood homestead, which was owned by George's uncle John Sherwood.

George passed away in 1994. He and Mary had been married for 44 years.

Mary has lived in Sumpter Township for 62 years and has been active in many township function. She is on the township election board and attends township board meetings as often as she can. She is well-regarded in the township for her helpful and friendly manner.

George and Mary raised two fine sons: Tom and David Sherwood. They both live in Sumpter Township on Sherwood Road. She is the proud grandmother of five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The Sherwood family came to Sumpter from Detroit in the early 1900s. They wanted a "nice" place in the country and they found it here.

Many years ago when the township was naming roads they generally named the

roads after the families living on them. Thus, Sherwood Road was taken from the name of the John Sherwood family who owned the corner property at Willis Road and what is now Sherwood Road.

John Sherwood served as the Sumpter Township Supervisor from April 1932 to April 1942. Sherwood Park on the corner of Sherwood and Wear roads was also named in honor of Mr. Sherwood.

"I am deeply honored to be asked to serve as the Grand Marshall of the 2012 Sumpter Country Fest Parade," said Mary. "Thank you, Sumpter Fest Committee. I am so proud to live here where everyone is a good friend and neighbor. God Bless the U.S.A. and Sumpter Township."



Gertie and the late Matt Bies

Sumpter Parade honors memory of Matthew Bies, Bies/Sobecki family

The memory of Matthew Bies and the Bies/Sobecki Family will be honored during Saturday's Sumpter Fest Parade.

The Sumpter Parks and Recreation Commission members said on this Memorial Day weekend, their thoughts are of those who have gone before to make the lives of this community better.

The Bies/Sobecki family history began when two young immigrants arrived from Poland. They each made their way to Sumpter Township. Rosalie Stopczak Sobecki, a widow with three sons (Frank, Felix, and Cass) met and married Michael Bies in 1917. The family made its home on a farm on Sumpter Road.

Michael and Rosalie were blessed with seven more children: Matthew, Bernice, Louis, Henry, Rosalie, Chester and Stanley (Bies) and raised their extended family of ten on that farm – not an easy task in those early days during the Depression.

Time passed, and when duty called, five of the boys proudly went off to serve our country during World War II. Matthew was wounded in action in 1943 and was awarded a Purple Heart. He and his brothers

returned home to Sumpter Township to establish their lives. Only one brother, Louis, married and moved out of state to New York.

Felix Sobecki started businesses in Sumpter, including a gas station, a country grocery store and a bar, located on the corner of Sumpter and Willis roads. Brother Cass built and operated a bowling alley next to the bar. Many a Sumpter family has fond memories of the times spent at those establishments.

Matthew met his wife, Gertrude Truchnicki from Dearborn, at his job at Industrial Wire in Wayne. They married in 1946 and bought a home on Willis Road where Gertrude still resides today, after Matthew's passing at age 90 in 2009.

Matt and Gertie, as they became known to everyone, raised three children. Their oldest son Edward was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. Daughter Teresa Bies-Sawyer and husband Herbert now reside in Florida. Teresa was involved in the building of both of the veteran's memorials in the area. Daughter Diane and her husband Craig Brannock live close to her mother.

Of note also, Matthew was an active and proud member of St. Anthony's Parish, VFW Post 4434, PLAV Post 167, and PNA Lodge 2984.

A majority of the Bies and Sobecki families still proudly call this area home. Looking back, they say they are honored to have been a part of the growth and development of Sumpter Township.



Wendy, Andy Clark honored family in Saturday's parade

Wendy and Andy Clark are being recognized as an Honored Family in Saturday's Sumpter Fest Parade because of their work to get the Veterans Memorial erected in Belleville.

Memorial Day has always been special for the Clark family. Wendy said it's a time to remember and honor our military and their family has a long military history.

Wendy's dad was in the Big Red 1. He taught her a lot and would tell her stories of his time in World War II.

Andy Clark and Wendy Deming Clark graduated from Belleville High School in 1969 and were married that October. They

stayed in Belleville where they have lived since they were small children. They each came from a large family. Andy is one of the seven children of Henry Ford and Peggie Clark. Wendy is one of the seven children of Albert and Beulah Deming.

Andy and Wendy raised two children, Katrina and Andy Jr., and were blessed with grandchildren Brittney and Courtney.

Andy is currently employed as an engineer for Link Engineering. Wendy is content to be at home as a homemaker.

Wendy and Kathy Paige worked together with many in the community on the Veterans Memorial.

Wendy said they would like to take this time to honor their son, Andy Jr., who passed away last Father's Day. He served in the U.S. Army for four years in the Army Corps of Engineers as a heavy machine operator. At the time of his passing he worked as a foreman for Wayne County.

"We would like to thank every veteran who gave of themselves for our Nation and our Freedoms," Wendy said. "For our current military and their families: Thank you – God Bless You and Keep You."



LeRoy, Kathy Paige honored in Sumpter Fest Parade on Saturday

LeRoy and Kathy Paige were shocked when they were told that they had been selected by the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission as one of the Honored Families for the Country Fest Parade.

LeRoy is the son of Vincent and Pauline Paige and one of four children. Kathy is the daughter of Ian and Viola Smith, one of seven children. Both sets of parents lived in Sumpter Township.

LeRoy and Kathy have one son, Brandon, who is married and has a little girl.

LeRoy served in the U.S. Army from November 1968 to July 1970. He did one tour in Vietnam as a Switchboard Operator in Signal communications. He is active in Vietnam Veterans of America and is a member of Chapter 528, Plymouth-Canton area. He is the leader for a Pointman Ministries Outpost for Veterans at Woodland

(continued on page 14)

OPINIONS

Editorial

What a week end!

“Welcome Home, Troops” is the theme of the 2012 Sumpter Township Country Fest that begins today, as well as Saturday’s noon parade. It’s going to be a very patriotic week end in Sumpter.

On Monday, Memorial Day, Thunder will be Rolling into Belleville when the hundreds of expected motorcycles arrive at the Veterans Memorial after a tour of rural Van Buren Township.

Then the Memorial Day ceremony honoring our military, past and present, will begin with speeches, music, refreshments, a 21-gun salute, and Patriotism with a capital P.

The Brown Funeral Home and Brown Family Center always put on a wonderful program, which includes calling off the names of veterans who have died in the last year with a tolling of the bell for each name.

Meanwhile, Memorial Day activities will be under way at the Yankee Air Museum site at Willow Run Airport, with pancakes for breakfast, hot dogs for lunch, and more patriotic ceremonies.

Belleville’s Main Street is lined with American flags hanging from the light poles which adds to the atmosphere.

It’s Memorial Day in Small Town America. Put on your red, white, and blue and join in to thank those who have preserved our liberty.

Then we can start thinking about Flag Day on June 14 and Chief Taylor’s project to get flags flying everywhere. This year’s Strawberry Fest also will have a patriotic theme.

God Bless America and all who have sacrificed to keep us free.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Last Saturday I joined the volunteers at Hillside Cemetery who were placing fresh American flags on veterans’ graves in time for Memorial Day. Lisa Long, Belleville Clerk/Treasurer, is in charge of the project and so I asked her for an assignment and she directed me to a group that had a large area to cover in Section B and would get done sooner with help.

Phyllis Smith had the clipboard with the list of names we were assigned, her husband Richard Smith was carrying armloads of new flags, Bill Emerson was carrying the old flags that were replaced, and Kae Hartford was finding the graves and gently brushing off dried grass clippings from some of the headstones so they could be read.

When I joined them, I asked them to stop for a minute, right where they were, so I could grab a photo and then we could get on with our task. They were good sports and posed for a minute and I snapped away.

Then, I asked whose grave they had just marked and it turned out to be: Homer R. Morris, 1C3 U.S. Navy, Korea, March 16, 1931 – February 18, 2010.

We were stunned. One of the group said people would think this was a set up. Of course, it wasn’t.

They referred to my two weeks of stories about the Coy Kendall greenhouse property, which featured Homer Morris’ dream of splitting the cleared property into plots so people could build homes. This is the same Homer Morris. There are some who have noticed unusual things that have happened recently that make them think Homer is watching over his wife Jean and helping with this greenhouse project. There were four witnesses to what happened on



Saturday.

A Michigan Court of Appeals ruling released May 8 said a man’s admission to a pastor that he sexually assaulted a girl is protected under state law.

The Rev. John Vaprezsan of Metro Baptist Church in Van Buren Township cannot testify against a member of his church who confessed to raping a nine-year-old girl, the ruling said. The suspect’s comments were confidential under the “cleric-congregant privilege” and under Baptist church doctrine, according to the court.

The Rev. Vaprezsan reported the man’s confession to police but his testimony was not allowed during the preliminary exam in district court and the circuit court also refused any further use of that evidence, which the Appeals Court said was correct.

Samuel D. Bragg is facing first-degree sexual assault charges in Wayne County Circuit Court for the rape that allegedly happened in 2007. This local case has been watched nationwide because, as Bragg’s attorney argued in February, allowing Vaprezsan to testify threatened to turn clergy into agents for police.

A2 Mac1, that has purchased the former ATEK building on Rawsonville Road in Sumpter’s industrial area, is an automotive benchmarking business. They take apart cars and digitize the components, some in 3-D, and send them on to the office in

China. One Sumpter resident said it is legalized industrial espionage. The firm has benchmarked all the German cars and now is working on all the American cars.

It’s legal, but wrong, the resident said.

Absentee ballots for the Aug. 7 primary will go out June 22 to those overseas and in the military and about the first week of July for local voters, according to VBT Deputy Clerk Kathy Cline.

Everyone at Monday’s City Council meeting prased the work of the BYC volunteers in cleaning up the Belleville Lake shoreline on Saturday. The volunteers wore matching, bright orange T-shirts and gathered up a lot of stuff that didn’t belong along our pristine lake.

Last year, in the BYC’s first effort, the volunteers wore neon green shirts and cleaned up about 10 years worth of trash. This year, there was less trash, since it had only been a year since the last cleanup.

Police Chief Gene Taylor said he and his daughter were driving over the bridge on Saturday and saw all the people in orange shirts and she said, “Look, they’ve got the work program here,” referring to the district court offenders that do clean ups. Understandable mistake.





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INDEPENDENT**

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Letters

Thanks to volunteers who helped place flags

To the Editor:

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee wishes to thank the volunteers who helped place American flags on all veterans' graves at Hillside Cemetery for Memorial Day 2012. On Saturday May 19th, citizens from the Belleville community and surrounding areas met at the cemetery to place flags on the graves of veterans. This project is done twice each year, in anticipation of Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

We appreciate the contribution of these volunteers in recognizing the service of our deceased veterans.

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee
City of Belleville

Rotary Murder Maestro Mystery thanks

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Bayou Grill for accommodating our event. They did an excellent job for what they had to work with and made it a great success and I would also like to thank our Chairperson Rachel Kozlowski for getting the event going.

The people of this community are very patient and thoughtful through this event and we appreciate all the effort that they gave for this event.

Rotary will use this money to help literacy and put more books into our library and third graders to have their very own dictionary.

Thank you all again for being there for us. The Rotary Club of Belleville really appreciates everybody's effort in this event.

Sincerely,
Your Belleville Rotary President
Joyce Rochowiak

Chamber of Commerce thanks Road Rally folks

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce Dr. Anna Loranger (past

president) and Alicia McGovern (vice president) would like to extend a huge Thank You to the support of our sponsors and volunteers for the First Annual Road Rally!

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We could not have had such a successful event without the support of our local businesses! Again, thank you with our deepest appreciation!

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce.
Alicia M. McGovern
Edward Jones

Thanks for help with my Eagle Scout project

To the Editor:

My name is Jeff Neal. I am part of Troop 231 and have finished my Eagle Scout project.

We cleaned up the Tyler Road Cemetery, washed veteran headstones, built and installed benches, and put a plaque up.

I would like to thank the following for donations: K&L Custom designs for making the sign, Pro-Hardware for donating the hardware to make the bolts, Man's Lumber for getting me wood at a cheaper price, Gardeners Choice for donating the mulch for the benches, Home Depot for donating two \$25-off-your-purchase cards, the VFW hall and the Polish Legion Of American Veterans for donating money, everyone who donated to my many bottle drives, and my Boy Scout troop 231 for helping me build and install the benches. Thank You.

Sincerely,
Jeff Neal, Troop 321

"He who has health has hope; and he who has hope has everything"

--Arabian Proverb



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Belleville Area Independent

More Letters

Breen new club leader, sets candidate forum

To the Editor:

At the May Meeting of the Belleville Area Women's Club the following officers were installed to lead the club into the next fiscal year: President Raquel Breen, Vice President Cynthia Weipert, Secretary Jackie Leich and Treasurer Sophia Zoller. Immediate Past President Shelly Brown will also serve on the Executive Board.

For its first event of the new year, the club will host a political debate with the candidates for Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer in the Charter Township of Van Buren.

The debate will be held on Wednesday, June 6 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at South Middle School, 45201 Owen. All interested persons in the community are invited to attend.

If you need further information, please feel free to call Janet at 734/485-2968 or e-mail at jfayemillard@att.net

We look forward to a full house at the debate.

Janet Millard
Belleville Area Women's Club

Owe a few apologies for 'so many errors'

To the Editor:

Well, I went and did it. Made so many errors. I do owe a few apologies to a few folks. First I apologize to the editor for saying she exposed the wrong committed by Mr. Herman. It was Ms. King, the supervisor, who, when she realized a wrong was committed tried to make it right.

Then with bowed head and bended knee I apologize to State Rep. Dian Slavens for even inferring she was a part of the cesspool that is Wayne County politics. When even the President didn't want Mr. Ficano at his gatherings, I can understand how one might be insulted.

But then I must take umbrage with the way Ms. Clair was referred to as a judge's wife. Such as his car, or house, his wife. I grew up at a time when a wife was still considered the property of the husband. Not all men did, my father didn't, but it was there. A woman belonged to a man. So I find it demeaning and an insult to have anyone referred to in the possessive.

Vic Franzoi, Van Buren Resident

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Obituaries



JAMES EVAN BREES 'BREEZY'

(October 31, 1926 – May 7, 2012)

James Evan Brees, "Breezy", age 85 of Sumpter Township, died Monday May 7, 2012. He was born October 31, 1926 in Marshalltown, Iowa. Mr. Brees was honorably discharged from the United States Army as a Medic where he served in the Pacific Theatre during WWII and also in the Korean War.

On June 6, 1964 he married Sally Lou Hess in Wayne, MI, and she survives. Mr. Brees retired from Wayne County General Hospital as a Radiology Technician. He was a member of the VFW, Westland, MI.

Survivors besides his wife Sally Lou include five children: Vicki Nicholson, James Raine, Robert (Cathy) Raine, Thomas Raine and Darryl (Christine) Brees; 14 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; one brother Frank Brees; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one sister and two brothers. A private family service will be held at a later date.



Ryan Richard Black

RYAN RICHARD BLACK

(December 17, 1984 – May 11, 2012)

Ryan Richard Black, age 27, passed away Friday, May 11, 2012, in Canton, MI. He was born December 17, 1984 in Irving, Texas. He loved mustangs, motorcycles and giving his babies bear hugs.

Ryan was a young man with a lot of talent who was loved by many. Beloved father of Elizabeth Marie and Eiland Joseph. He is survived by his two children, father Richard (Cindy) Black; mother Brenda Anderson; brother of Jennifer, Ricky, Rhonda, Steve, Mitchell, Garrett and Jay; step-father Jerry Anderson; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins, longtime girlfriend Angel Deselles, and best friend "Hippie". He was preceded in death by his sister Tonya M. Poley. Cremation has taken place. A memorial dinner was held on May 17, 2012.



Leonard W. Butzin

LEONARD W. BUTZIN

(July 17, 1933 – May 18, 2012)

Leonard William Butzin, age 78, life-long Belleville-area resident, passed away Friday, May 18, 2012 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born July 17, 1933 in Detroit, MI, son of the late Otto & Ann (Fisher) Butzin. Leonard proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He was a former member of the Belleville Moose and the Belleville Masonic Lodge. He retired from Ford Motor Company's Rawsonville Road plant after nearly 30 years of loyal service. He was a member of the UAW Local 898. He enjoyed gardening, canning, spending time at his home in Northern Michigan and snowmobiling. He loved building and was the founder of Butzin Lumber, Belleville.

He is survived by his wife Deborah Yvonne (Evanski) Butzin; two sons Mike (Susan) Butzin of Ypsilanti, MI and Warren (Paula) Butzin of Ypsilanti; step-daughter Terriann Carlton of Ann Arbor, MI; three grandchildren Jessica Butzin of Ypsilanti, Lindsey (Paul Keehl) Butzin of Belleville, MI and Christopher (Bree) Butzin of Grand Blanc, MI; three great-grandchildren Kash Keehl, Max & Paisley Butzin; four step-children Shawn (Jamie) Johnson of Belleville, Veronica Johnson of Virginia, Matthew (Liz Welt) Johnson of Belleville and Andrew Johnson, US Navy HM2, stationed in Italy; one step-grandson Reid Johnson; three brothers Otto (Sharon) Butzin of Garden City, MI, Harold (Eleanor) Butzin of Belleville and Ernie (Cecilia) Butzin of Belleville; a sister Bernit Grace of Florida; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sibling in infancy, five brothers Carl, Marvin, Melvin, Warren and Harvey, also a sister Bernice.

Visitation was 5-8 PM Monday and 1-4 PM & 6-8 PM Tuesday with an 11:00 AM Funeral Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Pastor Gordon Moore officiated. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association and would be greatly appreciated by the family. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

CATHY HORSTE, VBT HISTORIAN

(May 6, 1946 – May 21, 2012)

Van Buren Township Historian Cathy Horste died Monday, May 21, at her home surrounded by her family.

She is the co-author, with Diane Wilson, of the local history book, "Water Under the Bridge: A History of Van Buren Township."

She was born in Dearborn, the youngest daughter of Ruth and Melvin Stromme. Cathy was raised in the Van Buren Township area and graduated from Belleville High School in 1964. She briefly attended both the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University.

On June 11, 1971, Cathy married Robert J. Horste and they have one child, Martha Louise. Cathy had been employed as a credit investigator, a bank teller, an investigator for a private detective, supervisor for a large collection agency, VBT police officer, border patrol officer, and ordinance officer for the City of Belleville.

Arrangements are by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, 697-4500. An official obituary will be printed next week.

Visitation will be 2-8 p.m. Friday, with services at 11 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Burial will follow at Otisville Cemetery on Riggs Road in Van Buren Township.

CHARLOTTE 'BABE' PRICE

(April 5, 1928 – April 6, 2012)

Family and friends are welcome to attend a celebration of Charlotte's life from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 2, 2012 at the Belleville-Area District Library.

Fish Photo, Fishing, Tall-Tale Contest is June 9 at Horizon Park

By Bob Mytych

Independent Sports Editor

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts and downtown businesses will sponsor the 3rd Annual Fish Photo & Tall-Tale Contest on Saturday, June 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Horizon Park.

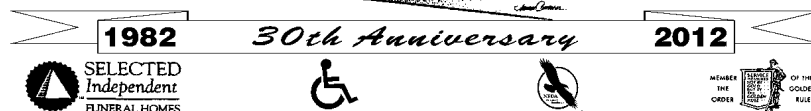
No fishing licenses will be required during Free Fishing Weekend here in Michigan. All fish entered in the contest must be caught from the Horizon Park Dock system. Once registered, fish caught will be measured and recorded.

The community is invited for an afternoon of dock fishing, fish story-telling, hot dogs, root beer, and having a photo taken with your big catch. Fish trophies for largest and smallest fish will be awarded in several age categories, including, 1-5, 6-12, 13-17, and 18 and over. The best fish tale story will also win a trophy. Fishing poles and some bait will be available to those who do not have fishing poles.

Participants who have their photos taken will find them available on display for them to pick up for free at downtown merchants starting Monday, June 18.

To learn more, call Bob Mytych at (734) 231-3289 or BACA President Kay Atkins at (734) 697-9376.

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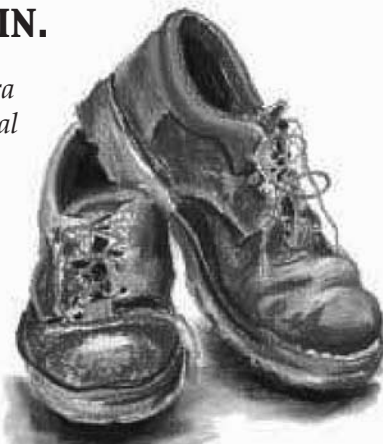


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Dist. Judge Green runs unopposed; Ahamiojie challenges Rep. Slavens

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Besides the local township races listed in last week's Independent, voters will get a chance to decide other offices in the Aug. 7 Primary Election.

Thirty-fourth District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green, however, is unopposed on the August ballot for reelection to a six-year term.

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D, is unopposed in the primary but will face Republican Robert Stano in November. McNamara, an incumbent, recently moved from Canton to 45768 Prairiegrass Ct. in Van Buren Township to stay in the redrawn 11th District. Stano lives at 8909 Millington Ct., also in VBT.

Incumbent State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, is opposed in the 21st District primary by Kiz Ahamiojie, D-Belleville. The Republican opponent in the 21st District runoff in November will be Joe Barnabei of Romulus. The 21st District includes VBT and the City of Belleville.

In the 17th State Rep. race, three Democrats and one Republican are running. The Democrats who will fight it out in the primary are Jim Pedersen of Sumpter Township, Bill LaVoy of Monroe, and Brian David Hensley of Estral Beach. Facing the Democratic winner in the November election will be Republican Anne Rossio of Carleton. The 17th District encompasses Sumpter Township.

The redrawn U.S. Representative 12th District includes the tri-community. Democrats John Dingell and Daniel Marcin will face off in August, as will Republican candidates Karen Jacobsen and Cynthia Kallgren.

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabnow, incumbent Democrat, is unopposed in the primary. Republicans will vie for the chance to oppose her in November. They are Clark Durant, Gary Glenn, Randy Hekman, Pete Hoekstra, and Peter Konetchy.

Mitchell, Tuer are all-A Michigan Tech students

Two all-A students from Belleville are on the Michigan Technological University Dean's List for the 2012 spring semester. They are Brian Mitchell, studying Computer Network and System Administration, and Michael Tuer, studying Computer Science.

More Letters

Delightful afternoon tea with Mary Todd Lincoln

To the Editor:

Who knew you could have tea and a history lesson at the same time!

That's what happened at a delightful afternoon tea with the First Lady -- that is, First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln!

An array of teas and foods that were served during President Lincoln's days at the White House, were elegantly spread on a buffet of lace covered tables.

As diners were munching on small sandwiches and scones, Pat Marshall highlighted the life of Mary Todd Lincoln with informational tidbits of living in the White House during one of America's most trying times.

She gave facts of how involved Mrs. Lincoln was with charitable activities. Mrs. Lincoln was often criticized for some of her social involvement, such as providing support for the Contraband Relief Association, which helped blacks who came North during the Civil War.

Mary Todd Lincoln was chastised for overspending her budget (\$20,000) for refurbishing the White House by \$7,000! The White House was in dire need of patching walls, repairing windows and etc. Can you just imagine what renovations would cost today and how many eyebrows would go up?

Pat Marshall, dressed as Mary Todd Lincoln, brought laughter, social consciousness and the life of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln alive. With her ever-present confidante Elizabeth Keckley, Mrs. Lincoln endured many trials and tribulations. Mrs. Keckley was a highly regarded Negro seamstress to the First Lady and was her constant companion.

Kudos to all participants who helped Pat Marshall, who is a teacher and Lincoln history buff, bring tea attendees little-known historical facts and an afternoon of delight.

Marian Caldwell
Van Buren Township

Editor's Note: The event was held at Trinity Episcopal Church on Sunday.



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Tim Szetela announces bid for VBT Supervisor

Editor's Note: The following statement of candidacy was released by Tim Szetela.

Touting his strong record of business management experience, Tim Szetela announced today his candidacy for the Van Buren Township Supervisor position.

A pragmatic, progressive Democrat focused on results, Szetela would bring over 20 years of proven experience as an executive-level financial manager to the Township.

"These are tough times for all the citizens of Van Buren Township and for the Township itself," stated Szetela, "More than ever, Van Buren Township needs strong, experienced, effective, and professional management at the executive level. I believe that I can operate the Township in a fiscally responsible manner, protecting the safety of our community, without the divisive

politics that have characterized the tenure of our current leadership. Every citizen in this Township has an interest in the state of the Township and deserves to have their concerns addressed in a respectful manner. I feel that bringing a sense of unity back to our community is just as important as sound financial management."

Szetela received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration (BBA) from the University of Michigan - Dearborn and is working towards his Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA), as well. Szetela has already earned the support of numerous community leaders and elected officials.

Szetela's extensive business management experience and his ability to form and maintain cooperative, professional relationships with both township employees, as well as the citizens of our community, gives him the unique ability to effectively serve the citizens of Van Buren Township.

"I am committed to creating quality jobs for residents of the Township, controlling expenses associated with public safety while maximizing the safety and security of our Township, and controlling taxes to protect all members of the community. The

safety and security of our community is paramount to the well-being of our citizens and an essential element of our ability to attract and promote well-planned, carefully thought-out business and economic growth in our community."

Szetela and his wife, Rebecca, have owned a home in Van Buren Township for more than 7 years and are the proud parents to two sets of twins: Grant and Gavin (age 4) and Geneva and Griffin (age 1). Szetela has been actively involved in the Country Walk neighborhood and is the former President and current Board Member of the County Walk I Homeowners' Association.

The date for the primary election is Aug. 7. Additional information about Tim Szetela is available on his campaign website at www.ElectSzetela.com.

Gamble vs. VBT officers jury trial set Nov. 5 in U.S. District Court

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A jury trial has been set for Nov. 5 in U.S. District Court in Detroit for the Civil Rights law suit of James Gamble vs. Van Buren Township Police Officers Scott Griggs and Patrick Wehrman.

The trial will proceed in Judge Gerald Rosen's court, unless the case is settled by the parties before then. The final pretrial settlement conference is scheduled for 10 a.m., Oct. 25.

The deadline for preliminary witness lists was May 16. Gamble's attorney presented a list of more than 30 proposed witnesses. The attorney for the police officers listed 80 witnesses. Additional non-expert witnesses may be filed with the court by June 15.

The law suit was filed Oct. 11, 2011 in Wayne County Circuit Court and then removed to federal court on Nov. 11.

The suit concerns a neighbor's complaint about a loud radio that led to a confrontation in a Robson Road garage between Gamble and the two VBT police officers at about 10:30 p.m., Oct. 19, 2009.

The law suit said Gamble was in a garage at his residence listening to the radio, with the garage door a quarter-way closed to conserve heat.

The suit claims the two officers appeared at the Gamble home, walked into the garage and demanded he turn off his radio. The suit said he declined to turn off the radio, stating he was on his own property and that the radio was not loud.

The suit claims the two officers "set upon him," called him names, and struck him with such brutality on his head that he lost consciousness.

The suit said he was taken to the VBT jail where he "languished" about two hours before being conveyed to a hospital. Gamble said he is diabetic, but the officers said he was drunk.

Gamble alleges the "wrongful acts" of the police caused him many debilitating injuries. The counts in the law suit include false arrest, false imprisonment, malicious prosecution, and violation of Civil Rights.

The officers deny they mistreated Gamble. They said they sought to take him into custody by handcuffing him and he resisted, necessitating the officer taking him to the ground.

The officers deny they struck him with brutality in the head or that Gamble lost consciousness. They said he was taken to jail, but they didn't know how long he was there before being transported by Huron Valley Ambulance to Annapolis Hospital for evaluation.

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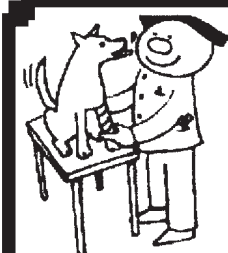
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Rabies 3 yr.	\$16
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PET SPA, 5260 Willis Rd., YPSILANTI, Sun., June 17th, 4-6 p.m.

PET RESORT, 50425 Bemis Rd., BELLEVILLE, Wed., June 20th, 5-8 p.m.

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Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



This weekend marks the **Memorial Day** holiday weekend and that means **Sumpter Fest**, folks. The ever-popular five-day country festival will bring huge crowds to Sumpter, for its parade, live music, and other fun-filled events. See their schedule in today's paper.

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue of Sumpter Township will be holding an adoption booth at **Sumpter Fest**. The no-kill shelter will be offering adorable cats and dogs and free information on its services. Call **(734) 461-9458**.

The **Hen House** in the former location of Paula's Home Cookin' opened its doors last Friday with breakfast specials starting at \$1.99, from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. Owner **Rodney Herald** will offer his All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet on Sundays for just \$5.99. Call **(734) 699-1230**. Just released: Ventriloquist and Funny Puppet Guy Richard Paul is coming to perform at the Hen House on June 15, at 6 p.m. Watch this column for the details and ticket info.

Don't forget that the **US Coast Guard Auxiliary** will be presenting **National Safe Boating Week** activities today, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the **Belleville District Library**. Activities include how to choose the right personal flotation device, knot tying, marine radio communication, weather basics and personal watercraft safety. There will be activities for children on Friday, too, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. including mini safe boating lessons, coloring books and knot tying. The events are free.

The deadline is just a few short weeks away for artisans and food vendors that might like to take part at the **Belleville Area Council for the Arts 2nd-Annual ArtAffair on Main** -- a two-day juried fine arts and antique fair coming to Downtown Belleville July 28-29. Applications are available on-line at www.artaffaironmain.org or www.bellevilleartscouncil.org.

For information, call **Steve Jones**, Artaffair chair, at **(517) 403-0351** or **(734) 697-8123**

Congratulations to the **Belleville High School** senior class of 2012, who will take

part in commencement ceremonies this evening at the **Convocation Center** at **Eastern Michigan University**.

Because of the Memorial Day holiday weekend, the deadline for all ads and minor ad changes is tomorrow, Friday, at 4 p.m., for next week's paper. Our office will be closed Monday.

The **Belleville Church of God** on Hull Road is gearing up for a **Neighbor to Neighbor Sale** on Saturday, June 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Vendors are needed for the open market setting. Bring your own table and rent the 12'x8' space for just \$10, \$15 if you need a table. Deadline to reserve a spot is May 26. To register, call **Connie** at **(734) 732-7116** or **Kim** **(517) 442-5181**, or **Dawn** **(734) 829-7956**. All merchandise for sale is subject to approval by the event organizers.

The *Independent* has expanded our latest advertising promotion featuring free color. We call it our *Show Your Stripes* promotion. Now through July 5, if you double the size of your display ad (or larger) for 4 weeks or more, you'll get free color. If you're not a current advertiser, but thinking about it, simply advertise in Belleville's real hometown newspaper for 2 months in color and get 1 month of color for free. Call me for the details at **(734) 699-9020**.

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

Seeking graduates of BHS Class of 1973

Graduates of the Belleville High School Class of 1973 are being sought so the class' 40th reunion can be planned for sometime in 2013. Please send the names, addresses, and contact numbers for the classmates to Laura Kingsley Delsh at bellevillemi1973.40@comcast.net or call her at 734-485-2744.

Enduro & Demolition Derby, plus a wedding set at Sumpter Fest

An evening filled with smashups, crash-ups, and Enduro racing will close out the Sumpter Country Fest on Monday, beginning at 6 p.m. at the dirt track at the Sumpter Fairgrounds.

The Enduro Derby will have a 60-car limit with \$500 going to the winner. The Demolition Derby will have a 24-car limit, also with a \$500 prize. The smoking Burn Out Contest winner will receive \$100. Rules, regulations, and application forms can be downloaded at the organizations website at www.usademoderby.com

Also taking place at the evening's activities includes a live wedding between Doug Ingram and Vicky Green. A special race heat will also take place in honor of drive/car #825, Butch Sakofske who passed away last November.

USA Demolition Derby is a local motorsport organization based in Belleville.

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

Mark Twain

"Life would be infinitely happier if we could only be born at the age of eighty and gradually approach eighteen."

Mark Twain



Dear Brooke,

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Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

to be under 10 years.

The DTE Energy Rebate Application will be submitted after installation.

In other business at the 45-minute May

16 meeting, the DDA:

- Approved the proposed 2012-13 DDA budget, as prepared by DDA Chairman John Hoops, Treasurer Sabrina Richardson-Williams, Denise Baker, and Jim Higerson. Tax capture is projected at a 6.5% decrease, so after cutbacks and belt

tightening, the committee recommended taking \$39,500 from the \$834,000 fund balance (which now actually is \$65,090 less because of purchase of the LED street lights) to balance the \$882,406 budget. With the balance in the bond account and economic improvement remaining slow, the DDA agreed to reserve two years of 2010 bond payments in the amount of \$568,840 to guarantee it can pay the bonds;

- Approved as part of the budget, the budgeting of \$15,050 in support of community events that are deemed to be

consistent with the DDA's efforts to support downtown businesses: \$3,650 to Belleville Area Council for the Arts – Music Lakeside (\$7705.88 requested); BACA – ArtAffair on Main, no allocation (\$5,000 requested – note that last year the Art Affair request for \$3,000 was granted with the stipulation it was “one time only seed money”); \$7,000 to National Strawberry Festival (\$12,000 requested) to help cover costs of local business participation; \$3,500 to Chamber of Commerce for Winter Fest (\$5,000 requested); and \$900 to the Central Business Community for the Taste of Belleville and Holiday events (\$1,100 requested) and the DDA said it also would pay for the roping on the bridge. The District Library Summer Reading Program and the Friends of the Library for Harvest Fest did not submit applications. Last year matching grants were awarded, but because of a glitch the grants were not used;

- Extended the deadline for façade program requests to May 31, 2013. Grants will be taken from the fund balance as needed;

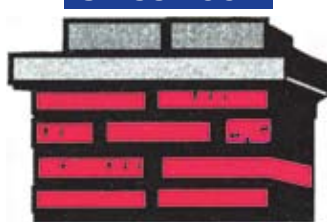
- Discussed the 1999 truck being used for watering flowers in the district. Chairman Hoops said the truck is used as a DPW truck when not watering the flowers. He found it needs an estimated \$4,343 worth of repairs, including a tune up, tie rods, ball joints, and lifters. He said a used truck is \$10,000. He hoped to get by this year and next with a few repairs. The DDA voted to spend up to \$3,500 to repair the “DDA Water Truck” after getting two other quotes; and

- Discussed the vegetation growth in the small ponds at Victoria Commons. The water levels are low and the muck is knee deep. Some of the aerators in the pumps are barely working because they are clogged with vegetation. Hoops said no treatment will help and they need a creative way to get it out, besides the suggestion to use long-handled rakes. He said the DPW suggested draining the ponds for the winter and cleaning them out. He said there also is muskrat damage along the shorelines of the ponds. The muskrats will have to be dealt with in the fall, he said. The vegetation is good fertilizer and can be dried out in half a day, Hoops said.

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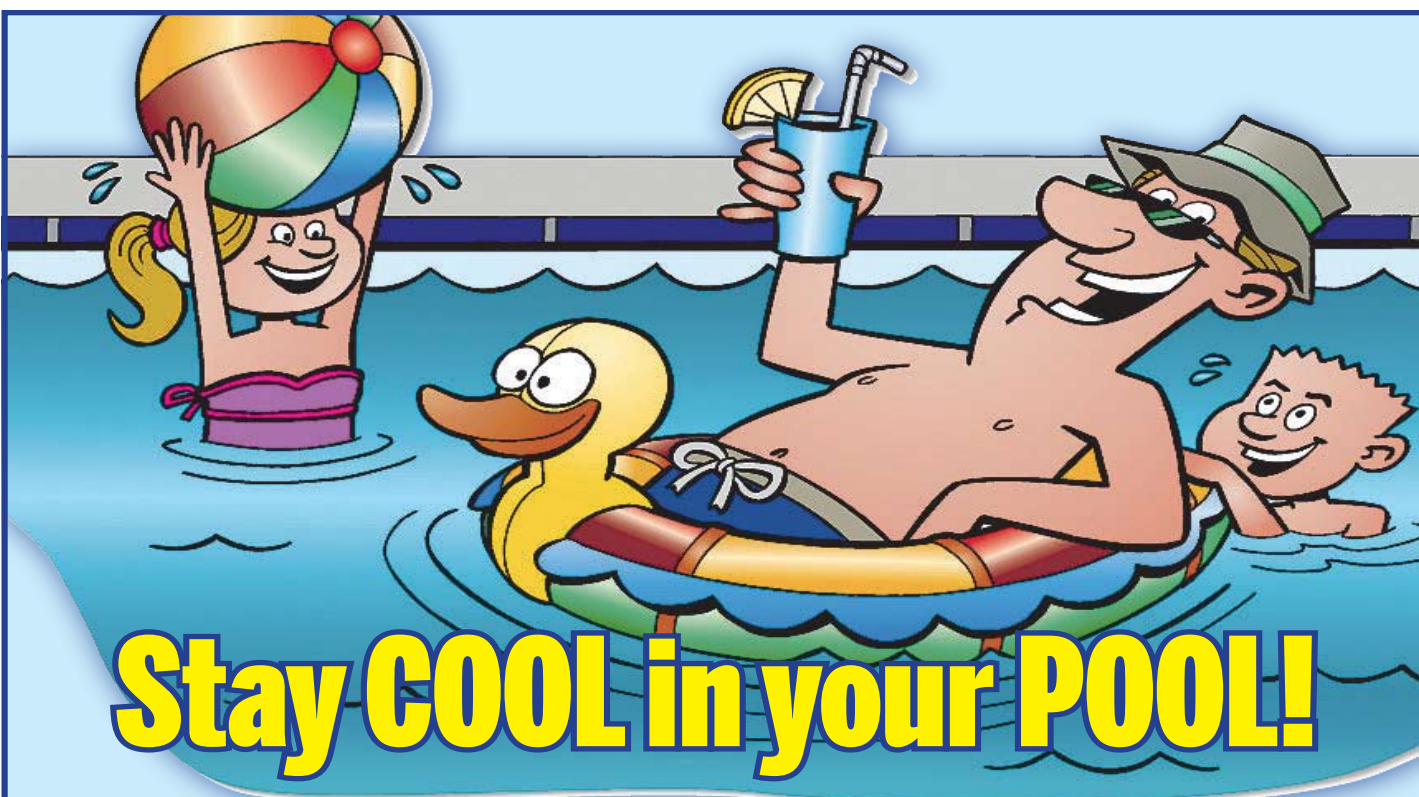
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The Marcotte family brought their two dogs, Lulu, left, and Blaze wearing their life vests, to Saturday's Coast Guard Auxiliary event at Horizon Park. Everyone wore personal flotation devices including, from left, Lacey, Bruce, Candace, April, and Jesse. The Coast Guard Auxiliary was trying to break a record of the number of people photographed at once wearing a life vest – while also emphasizing water safety. There were 68 people registered and that didn't break the record set by Canada, but did beat Ohio and was tops in Michigan.

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Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

“BLU”



Let us introduce you to **Blu**. He's a 9 month old Australian Sheppard mix that came to us from a life lacking many opportunities to socialize with people or other dogs. **Blu** is a shy, timid boy with a heart aching to share its love and affection with a trusted human companion. We are working with him here at the shelter and he is responding very well but his trust is slow in its coming. We just know there is a loving, friendly dog inside him that with the proper patience, socialization and understanding will emerge and blossom. **Blu** is an incredibly handsome boy with a thick, medium length brown and white coat and striking eyes boasting one blue and one brown. His breed mix is known for their intelligent, receptive and active natures and once he overcomes his shy handicap we are sure he'll live up to this and more. Like a diamond in the rough, all this pup needs is some work and polish and he will emerge in all his glory as an amazing, loyal best friend. **Blu** is neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Call today to meet **Blu**; you'll be happy you did!

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Sumpter honors

(continued from page 3)

Church in Brownstown. LeRoy retired in 2006 from the Ford Motor Co. Rawsonville Plant after 41 years of service.

Kathy has worked for the last 20 years as a transplant for Robson's Greenhouse, owned by Lynn and Arleen Robson. Kathy also was active with veterans' issues. She was the secretary of the Veterans Tri-Community Committee in the Belleville area, bringing about the erecting of the All-Veterans Memorial on High Street in Belleville. She was involved in fund raising and helped in writing the inscription for the memorial.

LeRoy and Kathy would like to express their good wishes for what the Sumpter Country Fest and the Sumpter Parks

and Recreation Commission is doing to promote Respect, Patriotism, and Love of Country when they honor the veterans and their time of service to the U.S.A.

They also would like to say this: "God Bless America and America, Bless God!"

May Birthdays

May 1 – Ron Mazurkiewicz
May 15 – Alice Topash, Gary Foster
May 20 – Connie Foster-Ray
May 23 – Julian Topash
May 24 – Matthew Hernandez
May 29 – Barbara Hintz

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



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Based on space availability Van Buren Public Schools participates in an open enrollment Schools of Choice Program—All students regardless of resident district are welcome!

Why Young 5's

Young 5's is a program provided by Van Buren Public Schools as an alternative to regular Kindergarten. This program is designed for children who may be developmentally young and/or chronologically young (those who have late summer or fall birthdays.) Young 5's specifically addresses language development, fine motor skills and, most importantly, social/emotional growth. Students will then go onto Kindergarten the following year.

You may register at the elementary building nearest your home or at the administration building. Enrollment forms (are available at www.vanburenschools.net), all elementary buildings and the administration building.

When you register please bring the following documents:

- Legal Birth Certificate
- Updated Immunization Record
- Three Proofs of Residency (driver's license, deed or lease, utility bill, insurance bill, etc...)

Questions? Call Pam Melton at 734-697-9123 ext. 1014

www.vanburenschools.net

2012 SUMPTER COUNTRY FESTIVAL

Memorial Weekend

Thursday, May 24

Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 5pm – closes @ 11pm

Princess Pageant 7pm

Saturday, May 26

Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 12 Noon – closes @ 12 Midnight

12 pm – Parade –

Starts at Judd & Sumpter Rds.

Impersonators/Tribute Artists 2pm – 10pm

The Whatabouts, Jerry Lee Lewis, Patsy Cline,

Toby Keith, Willie Nelson, Loretta Lynn,

Sherman Arnold "Elvis",

The Blues Brothers,

Allen as Tim & The Dance Hall Rockers - 10pm – close

Friday, May 25

Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 5pm – closes @ 12 Midnight

D.J. Music 5-8 pm

"RUSTY LUNCHBOX" 8 pm – close

Sunday, May 27

Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 12 Noon – closes @ 12 Midnight

Classic Car Show Noon

D.J. Music 1-3pm

Dwight Carroll 4-7pm

"VON ZIPPERS" – 8 pm-close

FIREWORKS @ DUSK

Rain date – Monday

Monday, May 28

Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 12 Noon – closes @ 10pm

ALL AMUSEMENT RIDES ~ \$1.00

D.J. Music 1 pm – 7 pm

"THE VINTAGE" 7 pm – close

Auto Enduro Demo by

U.S.A. Demolition Derby – 6 pm



Sumpter Country Fest
is located at:

**23501 Sumpter Road,
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more information call Sumpter
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EVERYDAY EVENTS

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City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville Regular City Council Meeting Minutes May 7, 2012

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Blackburn	Present -7:42 P.M.
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Tindall	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENT

None

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of April 16, 2012 and the City Council/DDA Special Joint Work Study meeting minutes of April 18, 2012 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Horizon Park Use – Ready Set Wear It – Life Jacket World Record Day

Motion by Loria, Second by Tindall to approve Resolution No. 12-041 to approve a request by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 091-18-11 to hold the Ready Set Wear It – Life Jacket World Record Day event on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at Horizon Park from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Belleville Fire Department – 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve Resolution No. 12-042 to approve a request by Belleville Fire Department to have a parade on October 13, 2012 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and to have no parking posted on Main Street. Approval given to park fire apparatus on Main Street in the parking lanes and to use Victory Park and parking spaces for vintage fire apparatus display if necessary.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Belleville Fire Department – 100 Year Anniversary Celebration

Motion by Tindall, Second by Blackburn to approve Resolution No. 12-043 to approve a Chinese lantern release on the Denton Road Bridge at dusk on October 13, 2012.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Thunder Rolls in Michigan – Street Closings & Use of Horizon Park

Motion by Loria, Second by Tindall to approve Resolution No. 12-044 to approve a request to hold the Thunder Rolls in Belleville event and to close High Street on Monday, May 28, 2012 at the Veteran's Memorial from 11:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. Wayne County Special Events Permits

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Smith to approve Resolution No. 12-045 to approve resolution authorizing execution of annual special events permits. City agrees to fulfill all permit obligations and conditions for the current year. Indemnifies, hold harmless and defends Wayne County and its officials and employees against any and all damage claims, suits or judgments of any kind or nature arising as a result of the permitted activity. Designates and authorizes Keith Boc, Director of Public Services to sign the permit on the City's behalf.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

F. Wayne County Annual Pavement Restoration Permit

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve Resolution No. 12-046 to approve resolution authorizing execution of an annual pavement restoration permit. The City will fulfill all permit requirements and to the extent permitted by law, will save harmless, represent and defend the County of Wayne and all of its officers, agents and employees. Designates and authorizes Keith Boc, Director of Public Services to sign the permit on the City's behalf.

AYES: Loria, Tindall, Smith, Conley

NAYS: Blackburn

MOTION CARRIED.

G. S-2 Grant Application – Sewage Treatment Projects

Motion by Tindall, Second by Blackburn to approve Resolution No. 12-047 to approve resolution to authorize filing for S2 Grant Agreement for sewage treatment works, storm water treatment, or nonpoint source projects and to designate Keith Boc, Director of Public Services as the Authorized Representative for purposes of the S2 Grant Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. FY2012/13 Proposed Budget

City Council will hold a budget meeting on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 6:00 P.M.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Loria to approve Resolution No. 12-048 to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 with a correction to the payment amount of \$623.00 to Jack Doheny.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Loria, Second by Blackburn to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Long, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: May 21, 2012; Published: May 24, 2012



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Sunday, newly inducted Belleville High School Distinguished Graduates were honored. From left are Tim Marsh, '79; Karen Renton Reynolds, '87 (a posthumous award accepted on her behalf by her sister Amy Renton Snider, '89); David Medley, '67; and Alesia Hermosillo, '78.

VB School Bus Drivers win regional awards; heading on to State

On Saturday, Team Van Buren won first place in the Wayne County Regional Bus Rodeo held in Northville.

Individual Van Buren Public School Bus Driver Dawn Hunter won first place, Karen Bliven won third place, and Patty Ayers won fifth place.

Hunter and Bliven will compete in the statewide bus rodeo on June 20 in West Branch.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Nicholas and Elizabeth Knieper of Belleville read their Independent at Manassas National Battlefield Park Manassas, VA.

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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Correction: QAR team members switched

On page 3 in the May 17 issue of the *Independent*, we inadvertently switched the school districts represented by two members of the Quality Assurance Review team that was in town to assess education in the Van Buren Public Schools.

Vicki Donnelly is from the Lincoln Consolidated Schools and Dr. Kristina Harmon is from the South Redford Schools. We regret the error.

Rosemary K. Oztman, editor

**One Call Does It All . . .
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Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, May 24 – Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.
- Monday, May 28 – Memorial Day
- Monday, June 4 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public School Board of Education Employee Retirement Recognition, 7 p.m., BHS Auditorium. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 5 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 6 – Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, VBT Public Safety Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- Monday, June 11 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Rawsonville Elementary School

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD

MEETING MINUTES - MAY 15, 2012

Supervisor White called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor White, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Partridge. Absent: Trustee Ostrowski (excused). Others in attendance: Parks and Recreation Director Wright, Public Safety Director McClanahan, Planning and Economic Development Services Director Carroll, IT Director Rankin, Public Safety IT Coordinator Dandy, DPW Director MacDonald, Chief Loyer, Executive Assistant/Assessing Coordinator Stevenson, Secretary Cline and an audience of thirty-four (34).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to approve the agenda as presented with the following change: under the Approval of Consent Agenda Item #4 move to New Business as Item #3 "Consider appointment of Olivia Bruce to fill the vacancy on the Public Safety Committee with a term to expire July 30, 2012." Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Jahr moved, Partridge seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes April 30, 2012; Closed Session Minutes April 30, 2012; Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 1, 2012.] as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Senior Alliance representative gave a brief presentation stating the Senior Alliance funds Meals on Wheels, Holiday Meals and assists seniors and disabled Americans live in their homes longer with dignity and quality of life by providing services. The Senior Alliance can provide information on Caregiver support, legal assistance, senior housing, adult day services, home delivered and congregate meals, homemaking and personal care, respite care, long term care options, Medicare/Medicaid assistance program and for more information call 734-722-2830.

Director Wright read a thank you letter from an attendee of the recent Mother and Daughter Tea Party stating how nice this event was.

Supervisor White read the following Proclamations: Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month (May 2012), National Safe Boating Week (May 19, 2012 - May 25, 2012) and Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15, 2012) and Police Week (May 13, 2012 - May 19, 2012).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to remove from the agenda New Business Item #1 "Consider applying for National Flood Insurance Program participating community status." Carried.

Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the Township Building Camera System replacement contract with Midstate Security including the bond in the amount of \$70,282, with \$45,282 from the Township and \$25,000 from grant award for this project, noting transferring \$45,282 from the General Fund, Fund Balance to Building and Grounds, Capital Outlay. Carried.

Partridge moved, Hart seconded to approve the appointment of Olivia Bruce to fill the vacancy on the Public Safety Committee with a term to expire July 30, 2014. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Wright moved, Partridge seconded to approve the May 15, 2012 voucher list. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor White ordered the February 2012 and March 2012 Budgetary Reports received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor White announced a Special Work Session Meeting on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the National Flood Insurance program. Trustee Partridge announced on Sunday, May 20th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. the Belleville Area Council for the Arts is hosting Another Mother's Day Dinner and Dessert at the Masonic Temple on Main Street in Belleville. Treasurer Budd announced the Drive-In Dog Clinic was a success last weekend with 107 dogs being licensed.

Director Wright announced the following: Saturday, May 19th a Babysitting/CPR certification class; Saturday, June 9th Annual Family Fishing Day in conjunction with Wayne County Parks at the Crosswinds Marsh from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; Lights, Camera, Action Acting Class for children on Thursdays beginning June 14th. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 734-699-8921, visit the Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org or like us on Facebook.

Larry Fix announced the University of Michigan women rowing team recently won the Big Ten championship; University of Michigan Tennis team and University Michigan Softball team also won their Big Ten championships.

Willow Run Tea Party caucus inquired about the protocol/policy and permission to hold an event on July 4th at the Township.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Comments were made from 9:20 p.m. to 9:25 p.m. by the Board and audience regarding the following topics: permit for carnival, Planning Commission, Wellington Industries, Ordinances and Planning Department Director.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 9:26 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Paul D. White, Township Supervisor
Publish: May 24, 2012

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2012-13 PROPOSED CITY BUDGET



Notice is hereby given that the Belleville City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 4, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville MI, to consider the proposed 2012-13 City Budget.

The proposed General Fund budget is \$2,012,042 based on estimated sources of revenue, including a proposed 2012-13 City property tax levy of 18.126 mills for general operating purposes.

The City Council has authority to establish the proposed total millage rate of 18.126 mills, the current maximum allowable millage rate permitted by State Statute and the City Charter.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The budget includes proposed appropriations for the following funds:

FUND	REVENUES	EXPENDS.
General Fund	\$ 2,031,972	\$ 2,012,042
Major Street Fund	\$ 158,010	\$ 163,812
Local Street Fund	\$ 94,760	\$ 124,661
Cemetery Fund	\$ 76,100	\$ 75,112
Sanitation Fund	\$ 205,891	\$ 206,459
Perpetual Care Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ -0-
Building Dept. Fund	\$ 30,000	\$ 53,263
Budget Stabilization Fund	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
Public Improvement Fund	\$ -0-	\$ 49,652
Capital Equipment Fund	\$ 59,853	\$ 148,146
DDA Operating Fund	\$ 399,220	\$ 438,720
DDA Debt Service Fund	\$ 443,686	\$ 443,686

A complete copy of the proposed 2012-13 City Budget is available for public inspection during regular business hours at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan.

Public comments on the proposed budget may be submitted in writing prior to the public hearing, and in writing or in person at the hearing.

Lisa Long
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish 5/24/2012

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville Special City Council Meeting Minutes May 14, 2012

A special meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 6:00 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Conley.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Blackburn	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Tindall	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. FY2012/13 Budget.

Discussion was held on the FY12/13 budget. City Council made a request to accounting personnel to provide a salary analysis for each department and to clarify the health insurance appropriation.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Blackburn, Second by Smith to adjourn meeting at 8:39 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted.

Lisa Long, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: May 21, 2012; Published: May 24, 2012

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ST.VINCENT DePAUL is in need of your CLEAN in Working Condition useable stoves, refrigerators, washers & dryers. For needy families in Belleville, Van Buren & Sumpter areas. (734) 461-2763

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

WANTED - ROCKS - ANY SIZE. Please call Karen. (734) 941-9567

FREE

LEIGH ANN SANDERS, BIGGS ST. YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. www.mainstreetflowers.com or (734) 697-7400

FREE WOOD. MUST TAKE ALL. Call for Details. (734) 502-9038

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OFFICE SPACE - 167 MAIN ST, Belleville. 800 Sq.Ft. Partially Furnished, Built in Storage Shelves. \$1,000/mo. First & Last months rent & Security deposit. Call (734) 699-5971 or (734) 787-9259

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1999 FORTUNE. 1800 sq.ft., 3 BR., 2 full baths, fire place & A/C. Very Nice. \$20,000 obo Call (734) 512-8925

PETS/LIVESTOCK

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FOR RENT

BELLEVILLE LAKE - West End Boat Slip. Available for this season. (734) 834-2877

BRAND NEW 3 BR. 2 BATH HOME. Rent for only \$750/mo. Call (734) 961-4707

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NEWLY REMODELED 2 BR. CONDO in great location. Newer kitchen & Appliances, New carpet, C/A, Carport, Pool access. Municipal & Military may receive a monthly rental discount. First Step Properties Management. (734) 699-1972

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DRIVERS: New Pay & Benefits Package. Steady Employment/Sign On Bonus. Local & Regional. Late Model Equipment. CDL-A. 3 yrs. Exp. (888) 784-8859

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



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GARAGE/YARD SALE

FLEA MARKET IN DEPOT TOWN starts May 20th at 8:30 a.m. & every Sunday through-out the summer. For information call (734) 340-4241 5/24

50462 BOG off Rawsonville Rd. 1/2 mile S. of Huron River Dr. & Textile. May 17-19, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Beatles, Elvis, Tools, Antiques, Furniture, Beer signs, Bikes, Books & Glass. 5/24

SUB WIDE - WALDEN WOODS SUB-Division on Tyler Rd. between Belleville & Haggerty Rds. June 1-3, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. No Early Birds. 5/31

HUGE BARN SALE - 49903 MARTZ Rd May 26 & 28, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Furniture, Music equipment, Trampoline, Welder, Compressor, Docking plate, Ladders, Older car parts, Boat & Much More. 5/24

9763 MORTON TAYLOR between I-94 Service Dr. & Tyler Rd. May 25-26, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Hot water heater, Furnace, Electric dryer. 5/24

48747 & 48939 WEAR RD. MAY, 27, 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., May 28, 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. 2 miles from Sumpter Festival. Variety of everything. 5/24

42621 FRET RD. MAY 25-26, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Holiday items, Home Interior, Pictures, Bikes, Books, Arc Welder, Clothes & lots more. 5/24

HUGE 6 FAMILY SALE - 46760 JUDD Rd. May 25-27, 9 a.m. - ?. Harley collection, Toys, Household, Clothes (Kids, adults & XL), Furniture, & Catering supplies. 5/24

MOVING SALE - ALL MUST GO. 45415 Harmony Lane, May 25 - ?, 9 a.m. 6 p.m. Piano, Furniture, Tools, All household & yard items. Must See. 5/24

MULTI FAMILY BARN SALE. 42984 Bemis Rd., May 25-27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Something for Everyone. 5/24

2 FAMILY REMODELING YARD Sale. 21559 Sumpter Rd. corner of Sumpter & Judd Rds. May 24-26, 10 a.m. - ?. Baby furniture, Kid's clothes & toys (Indoor & Outdoor), Tools, Furniture, Household items & Much more. Good condition. 5/24

MOVING SALE - 44176 HARMONY LANE. May 24-26, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Rooms of furniture, TV's, Entertainment Center, Patio, Snowblower & other items. Excellent condition. 5/24

38 ANGOLA ST. MAY 25-27, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Misc. Stuff. 5/24

GARAGE/YARD SALE

DENTON VILLAGE between Michigan Ave. & Ecorse Rd. Sub Wide Sale. May 23-26, 9 a.m. - ?. Accepting Donation items. 6500 Western. (734) 620-6382 Kim 5/24

ESTATE SALE - 43199 Winding Pond Trail. Country Pond Estates off Savage Rd. June 1-2, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Musical Instruments, Furniture, Tools, China, Bikes & Much More. 5/31

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RETIRED MASON Contractor Tools. Hydro-Stone Splitter \$500. Norton Chipper Brick saw, \$400. Masonry Hand Tools, Misc. Block Brick Stone Pavers. (734) 529-3042 6/07

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1962 RAMBLER, 2 DR., Solid body, \$1,500. 1987 Bay Liner Bass Boat, \$800. 1952 - 8N Ford Tractor. Runs good, \$2,000. Chain Saw, old but runs good, \$100. (734) 587-3311 5/31

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THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!
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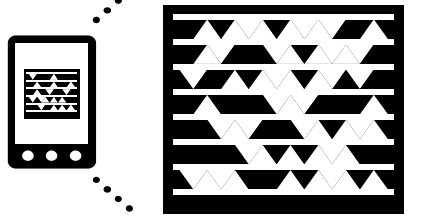
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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

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

Sunday, May 13:
0044 – property damage accident, Ecorse / Belleville Rd.
0228 – animal bite, 8856 Parkwood Dr.
0316 – felony assault, 94 Daisy
1053 – fireworks, 5159 E. Adams
1133 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville / Martz
1141 – breaking & entering, 46600 Bemis
1340 – malicious destruction of property, Shelley Dr. / Parkside Dr.
1512 – domestic assault, 6720 Sadie Lane
1736 – intimidation threat, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1753 – juvenile complaint, 41553 McBride
1812 – malicious destruction of property, 9886 Jackson St.
2104 – animal bite, 24 Oak Blvd.
2251 – juvenile complaint, 10000 bl. Endicott
2326 – disorderly conduct, Winding Pond
Monday, May 14:
0622 – breaking & entering, 6850 Sheldon Rd.
1013 – property damage accident, Sumpter / Spencer
1224 – loitering, Kmart
1226 – malicious destruction of property, 119 Maple
1407 – larceny, 10034 Jackson St.
1434 – fraud, 84 Park Estates
1558 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1603 – fight, 11791 Meadows Lane
1605 – larceny from auto, 43442 N. I-94 Service
1735 – property damage accident, Belleville / Ecorse
1847 – shots fired, 48711 Denton Rd.
2008 – malicious destruction of property, 42542 N. Cumberland Dr.
2023 – disorderly conduct, 51214 Sylvia Dr.
2023 – fraud, 6174 Gilmore St.
2102 – fraud, 46537 Ecorse Rd.
2233 – mental, 6850 Sheldon Rd.

Tuesday, May 15:
0113 – juvenile complaint, 51298 Sylvia Dr.
0248 – disturbance, 7277 Rawsonville Rd., Salisbury Landscaping
0316 – assault & battery, 6597 Parkside Dr.
0330 – juvenile complaint, 6597 Parkside Dr.
0811 – suspicious person, Mott/Denton
1017 – assault & battery, 7473 Kirkridge Pk. Dr.
1051 – private property accident, 49221 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1145 – larceny, 44700 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1245 – trespassing, 7798 Kirkridge Pk. Dr.
1307 – assault & battery, 48440 Denton Rd.
1343 – larceny, 44401 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1503 – private property accident, 11650 Belleville
1548 – fraud, Meijer
1549 – missing person, 42901 Tyler Rd.
1703 – marine violation, Van Buren Park
1740 – breaking & entering, 6790 Sadie Lane
1750 – assault & battery, 6418 Western St.
1805 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 41455 S. Bellridge Dr.
2032 – disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr./Ryznar Dr.
2305 – juvenile complaint, 51000 Michigan

Wednesday, May 16:
0052 – suspicious situation, 51322 Sylvia Dr.
0252 – noise complaint, 41661 Arthur St.
0401 – shots fired, 11805 Juniper
0402 – shots fired, 11597 Meadows Ct.
0402 – shots fired, 11697 Meadows Cir.
1024 – assault & battery, Martz/McKean
1039 – juvenile complaint, 42975 Savage Rd.
1308 – fight, Walmart
1451 – harassment call, 51214 Sylvia Dr.
1724 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Visteon Way

1746 – juvenile complaint, 46194 N. I-94 Service
1750 – assault & battery, Quirk/Belleville
1832 – retail fraud, Meijer
1837 – missing person, 7730 Kirkridge Park Dr.
1932 – larceny, 17104 Westlake Cir.
2053 – private property accident, Walmart
2127 – indecent exposure, 6 Pine Dr.
2235 – suicide or attempt, 43 N. Ponderosa Trl.
2246 – suicide or attempt, 9810 Andover Dr.

Thursday, May 17:
0133 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 8800

Parkwood Manor
0240 – shots fired, 45945 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0640 – mental, 6850 Sheldon
1127 – assault & battery, 6522 Outer Dr.
1323 – malicious destruction of property, 16800 Lohr Rd.
1523 – private property accident, 7625 Kirkridge Park Dr.

1722 – personal injury accident, Savage / Martinsville
1902 – property damage accident, E. Walden Dr. / Solitude Ln.
1940 – shots fired, 50435 Bog Rd.
1955 – property damage accident, Ecorse / Belleville
1957 – fight, 8851 Parkwood Dr.
2024 – intimidation threat, 10930 Lighthouse Dr.
2214 – property damage accident, Denton/S. I-94 Service Dr.
2217 – noise complaint, 8837 Parkwood Dr.
2231 – fight, 46151 Village Green Lane
2240 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Haggerty
2315 – noise complaint, 8835 Parkwood

Friday, May 18:
0214 – loud party complaint, 6575 Parkside Dr.
0314 – property damage accident, 11175 Haggerty
0323 – malicious destruction of property, 51238 Sylvia Dr.
1034 – juvenile complaint, 49285 Hull Rd.
1033 – property damage accident, 6703 Haggerty
1035 – intimidation threat, 46194 N. I-94 Service
1057 – fraud, 9106 Westlake Cir.
1226 – malicious destruction of property, 11009 Buchanan St.
1257 – private property accident, Walmart
1502 – harassment call, 101 Maple Dr.
1530 – juvenile complaint, 6577 Maurice Dr.
1632 – property damage accident, 48356 W. Huron River Dr.
1821 – juvenile complaint, 47097 McBride
1947 – private property accident, 10950 Belleville
1955 – malicious destruction of property, 41106 N. Woodbury Dr.
2027 – noise complaint, 144 Cherry
2147 – noise complaint, 6564 Parkside Dr.
2204 – private property accident, 41477 S. Bellridge Dr.

2206 – missing person, 14230 Hoeft Rd.
2216 – assault & battery, 13711 Chinkapin Dr.
2300 – fireworks, 47616 North Shore Dr.
2303 – suspicious person, Belmont/Elwell
2308 – property damage accident, Ecorse / Belleville
2312 – noise complaint, 48511 Denton Rd.

Saturday, May 19:
0021 – PPO violation, 51079 Colony Ln.
0234 – loud party complaint, 5857 Vernon St.
0716 – malicious destruction of property, 48356 Denton Rd.
0818 – larceny, 46171 Village Green Lane
1126 – missing person, 48722 Bemis Rd.
1439 – larceny, Walmart
1517 – assault & battery, 47097 McBride Ave.
1621 – ATV/ORV complaint, Fret/Martinsville
1645 – suicide or attempt, 79 N. Ponderosa Trl.
1811 – ATV/ORV complaint, Sadie Ln./Ecorse
1901 – ATV/ORV complaint, 6323 Sadie Ln.
1923 – disturbance, 46145 Village Green Ln.
1930 – disorderly conduct, 39 Oak Blvd.
1948 – noise complaint, 43556 Arborview Ln.
1950 – assault & battery, 46145 Village Green Ln.
2105 – loud party complaint, 44711 Greenwood
2132 – property damage accident, Bemis/Bak
2315 – noise complaint, 42707 Leon Dr.

Also on this week's log are 201 traffic stops, 29 of which are on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 13:
0158 – animal complaint, 588 E. Thornhill Ct.
1218 – intrusion alarm, 106 Main
1257 – animal complaint, 810 Estrada Dr.
1430 – follow up, 21800 Martinsville
1559 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op
1710 – malicious destruction of property, 54 N. Biggs
2358 – assist fire dept., 106 Clarence St.
Monday, May 14:
0108 – suspicious person, 33 W. Wabash Ave.
0115 – property damage accident, Sumpter / Spencer
1305 – warrant arrest, Canton Twp. PD

1310 – suspicious person, Belle Villa
1551 – parking complaint, 185 E. Huron River
1618 – traffic complaint, Denton/Main
1732 – missing person, 54 Biggs
1947 – juvenile complaint, Skate Park
2217 – juvenile complaint, Victory Park
Tuesday, May 15:
0444 – disturbance, 281 Henry St.
0829 – assist fire dept., 804 Estrada Dr.
0915 – warrant arrest, 6 Main
1302 – suspicious situation, BHS
1602 – intimidation threat, South Middle School
1607 – disorderly conduct, 168 N. Liberty St.
1634 – juvenile complaint, Victory Park
1857 – parking complaint, 450 W. Columbia Ave.

Wednesday, May 16:
0557 – agency assist, 831 E. Huron River Dr.
0723 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 20 Menlo Park Dr.
0914 – malicious destruction of property, 215 Second St.
0959 – suspicious person, 555 W. Columbia Ave.
1006 – assist fire dept., 265 Main St.
1048 – fraud, 6 Main
1125 – property damage accident, BHS
1355 – overdose, 375 N. Liberty St.
1452 – animal complaint, Estrada/Belle Villa Blvd.
1458 – robbery, 181 Church St.
1507 – background investigation, 6 Main
1547 – assist citizen, 6 Main
1612 – juvenile complaint, South Middle School
1833 – agency assist, 9701 Belleville, Meijer
1911 – agency assist, Belleville/Quirk
1943 – animal complaint, W. Waterbury Ct. / Victorian Lane
2004 – civil matter, 304 Estrada Dr.
2128 – missing person, 6 Main

Thursday, May 17:
0220 – parking complaint, 215 Belle Villa Blvd.
0631 – found property, Village Park
0652 – intrusion alarm, 465 Main St.
0702 – animal complaint, 1 Belle Villa Blvd.
1357 – assist fire dept., South Middle School
1503 – assault & battery, 327 Church St.
1543 – animal complaint, 150 Carmell St.
1619 – harassment call, 206 South St.
1654 – bank drop, 6 Main St.
1845 – P.b.t. alcohol, 6 Main St.
2126 – disturbance, 65 S. Liberty St.
2140 – suspicious person, 564 W. Columbia

Friday, May 18:
0543 – information, Sumpter/Industrial Park Dr.
0642 – intrusion alarm, 593 E. Thornhill Ct.
0847 – assist fire dept., 189 Belle Villa Blvd.
0933 – motorist assist, South/Henry
0933 – prisoner transport, 34th District Court
1036 – background investigation, 6 Main St.
1156 – larceny, 6 Menlo Park Dr.
1306 – background investigation, 565 E. Thornhill
1518 – motorist assist, Church/Roys
1519 – private property accident, BHS
1704 – assist citizen, 48356 W. Huron River Dr.
1713 – misc. complaint, 486 E. Waterbury Ct.
1746 – follow up, 560 Sumpter
2107 – agency assist, 11811 Meadows Cir.

Saturday, May 19:
0125 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.
0211 – intrusion alarm, 106 Main St.
1250 – assist fire dept., 271 Henry St.
1423 – animal complaint, Johnny's Grill
1501 – assist fire dept., 181 Church St.
1733 – juvenile complaint A&W
1757 – welfare check, 35 Loza Lane
2141 – property check, 209 Charles Ct.
2318 – property check, 265 Sumpter
2327 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 31 E. Huron River Dr.

Also on this week's log are 14 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 13:
0329 – noise complaint, 18000 bl. Haggerty
0914 – parking complaint, 29000 bl. Haggerty
2159 – parking complaint, 8700 bl. Rawsonville
Monday, May 14:
0900 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
0910 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter
0929 – family trouble, 19000 bl. Elwell

1131 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter
1234 – larceny, 39000 bl. Wear
1536 – death investigation, 39000 bl. Willis
1732 – neighbor dispute, 20000 bl. Haggerty
2036 – family trouble, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
2126 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2134 – animal complaint, Oakville Waltz/Haggerty
Tuesday, May 15:
0307 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Rawsonville / Willis
0834 – ordinance violation, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.

0921 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter
0932 – parking complaint, 24000 bl. Elwell
1010 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Griffin Ct.
1235 – larceny, Rustic Ln.
1336 – warrant pickup, Sumpter/Bemis
1342 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Willis
1703 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis
1705 – civil dispute, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
1710 – assault, 29000 bl. Martinsville
1851 – 911 hangup investigation, 44000 bl. Harris
1901 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Wear
1911 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
1912 – breaking & entering report, Brookview
2317 – alarm, 49000 bl. Judd
2349 – armed robbery, 51000 bl. Willis

Wednesday, May 16:
0529 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Savage Rd.
0746 – suspicious incident, Oregon
1014 – truancy violation, Oregon
1016 – malicious destruction of property, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1046 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
1240 – mental health commitment, 48000 bl. Willis
1310 – identity theft, 46000 bl. Dunn
1623 – civil dispute, 8700 bl. Rawsonville
1820 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter
2153 – family trouble, 50000 bl. Arkona
2216 – well-being check, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.

Thursday, May 17:
0355 – warrant pickup, out of township
0721 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1038 – animal complaint, Stonecrest
1109 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Rustic Lane
1335 – well-being check, 42000 bl. Judd
1351 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
1510 – ordinance violation, 47000 bl. Bemis
1557 – child abuse/neglect, Nevada
1628 – property damage accident, Judd/Fenster
1702 – assist other agency, 18000 bl. Elwell
1705 – animal complaint, 27000 bl. Sherwood
1718 – violation public health code, Dakota
1801 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Arkona
1902 – ORV complaint, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1909 – fight, Sherwood/Wear
1912 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Haggerty
2003 – warrant pickup, out of township
2019 – juvenile complaint, Edgewood
2044 – suspicious incident, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
2128 – warrant pickup, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.

Friday, May 18:
0212 – malicious destruction of property, Redwood
1039 – citizen assist, 18000 bl. Elwell
1128 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Paris
1312 – death investigation, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1339 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Judd
1348 – assault, 47000 bl. Bemis
1532 – civil dispute, 18000 bl. Elwell
1611 – alarm, 22000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1847 – civil dispute, Sumpter/Willis
1912 – trespassing complaint, Country Club Blvd.
2138 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris
2245 – shots fired, 42000 bl. Judd

Saturday, May 19:
0106 – suspicious person, Brookview
0251 – fight, Redwood
1217 – parking complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1256 – traffic hazard, Harris/Martinsville
1545 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
1615 – alarm, 29000 bl. Elwell
1722 – shots fired, 43000 bl. Willow
2154 – suspicious vehicle, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
Also on this week's log are 24 miscellaneous details, 135 patrol checks, 65 traffic stops, and 22 follow-up investigations.

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School Board approves additional work, as new BHS almost complete

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At a special meeting on Monday, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education unanimously approved additional projects with the bond funds left over from the main construction of the new Belleville High School.

The board approved an upgrade to toilets and vestibules in the auditorium area, as recommended by Plante Moran CRESA.

School Board President Martha Toth said this would make the auditorium area as nice as the rest of the new school, adding

the fixtures and finishes in that area were of 1965 vintage.

Sid Dotinga of Granger Construction, who is project manager, said this change will add new plumbing, hand driers, resonance flooring, and tile with glass tile inserts, to complete the public area of the auditorium for the next 50 years.

"We are able to add on projects because we saved money in the bidding," Dotinga said, filling in for Paul Wills of Plante Moran.

These renovations were approved at a not-to-exceed cost of \$111,243.

Dotinga noted the "band shell" for the auditorium that previous was approved has just arrived and will be installed.

At Monday's meeting, the board also:

- Approved up to \$27,282 for additional

power locations for curriculum and technology. The support infrastructure proposed two years ago needed updates;

- Approved up to \$35,659 for additional camera and power locations, also updating the two-year-old proposals. "This is not the Big Brother approach," said School Supt. Michael Van Tassel, referring to the many security cameras throughout the new building. He said the cameras will be deterrents when students know the cameras are there and also, "It's a way to go back and see what happened";

- Heard a bond fund update, showing the project is still within the \$79,050,134 bond total and the building is 98-99% done. There is \$126,483 remaining in the reserves that can be spent on additional projects;

- Heard presentations from Aleisa Pitt, principal of Haggerty Elementary School, and Karensa Smith, principal of Rawsonville Elementary School;

- Approved a resolution accepting the Wayne RESA budget for 2012-13;

- Discussed board member terms that could be lengthened from four to six years because of a recent change in legislation on school election dates, with no decision

made;

- Heard a presentation by School Supt. Van Tassel on the 2012-13 school district budget; and

- Accepted the minutes of the May 10 special board meeting for a disciplinary hearing in which a BHS student was expelled for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. He can apply for readmission to the second semester of the 2012-13 school year.

BHS inducts 24 into National Honor Society

On Sunday, the following students were inducted into the Belleville High School National Honor Society during ceremonies held in conjunction with the Distinguished Graduates induction into the BHS Hall of Fame:

Andrew Attard, Sydney Bagley, Lauren Benedict, Ronald Biggs, Johnathan Duke, Brea Ford, Jillian Garland, Eri Iwao, Alex Jones, Chaney Jones, Allison Juchartz, Kelsey Long, Katelyn Martin, Theodore Miller, Terralyn Parks, Taylor Pearce, Layla Pollock, Erin Richie, Taylor Robinson, Hannah Rodriguez, Robin Seay, Jessica Sierak, Brittany Simmons, and Alan Stelton.

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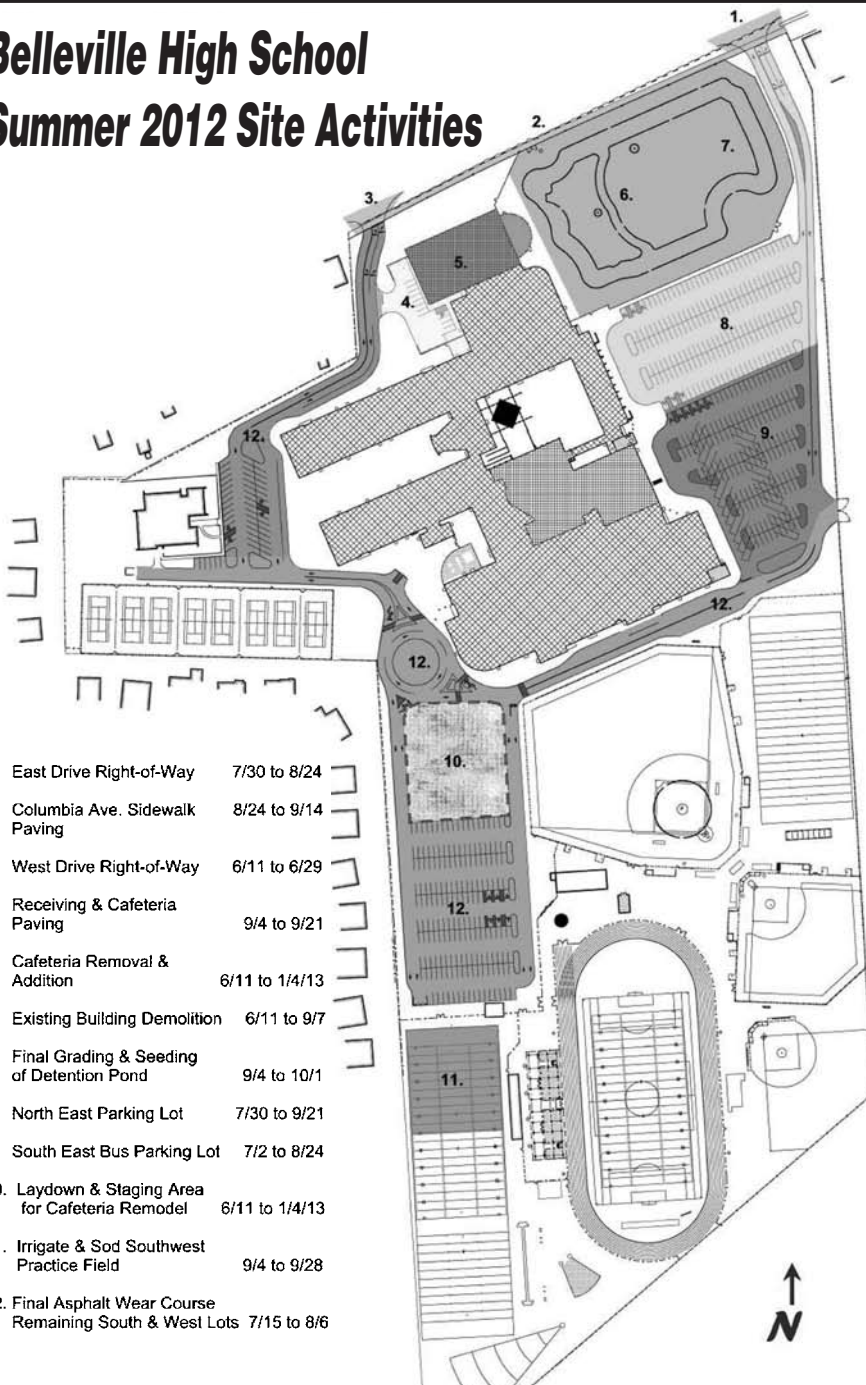
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1. East Drive Right-of-Way	7/30 to 8/24
2. Columbia Ave. Sidewalk Paving	8/24 to 9/14
3. West Drive Right-of-Way	6/11 to 6/29
4. Receiving & Cafeteria Paving	9/4 to 9/21
5. Cafeteria Removal & Addition	6/11 to 1/4/13
6. Existing Building Demolition	6/11 to 9/7
7. Final Grading & Seeding of Detention Pond	9/4 to 10/1
8. North East Parking Lot	7/30 to 9/21
9. South East Bus Parking Lot	7/2 to 8/24
10. Laydown & Staging Area for Cafeteria Remodel	6/11 to 1/4/13
11. Irrigate & Sod Southwest Practice Field	9/4 to 9/28
12. Final Asphalt Wear Course Remaining South & West Lots	7/15 to 8/6

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, May 24** – Safe Boating program with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Belleville Area District Library, 4-6 p.m., drop in to learn a variety of helpful skills such as knot-tying and weather basics. 6-7 p.m., Personal Watercraft Safety teaches you the “rules of the road”.

• **Thursday, May 24 to Monday, May 28** – Sumpter Country Fest in Sumpter Township. Princess contest on Thursday at 7 p.m.

• **Friday, May 25** – U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Belleville Area District Library, 3:30-4:30 p.m., children’s activities including mini safety classes, knot-tying, and coloring books.

• **Friday, May 25** – Free Outdoor Family Movie Night at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston, 734-654-9020. Gathering at 8 p.m., movie begins at 8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

• **Saturday, May 26** – Sumpter Country Fest Parade starts at noon beginning at Judd and going south on Sumpter Road to the fairgrounds.

• **Monday, May 28** – Thunder Rolls in Belleville, Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans’ Memorial in Horizon Park, about 2 p.m., after all the motorcycles arrive.

• **Friday, June 1** – First September Days Senior Center Golf Invitational, 9 a.m., Harbour Club Golf Course, \$22. Sign up at senior center, 699-8918. Proceeds support the German Volunteer Program.

• **Friday, June 1** – Classic Car show at Victory Party, noon-4 p.m., free, sponsored by Belleville Area Council for the Arts. Tea and sweets, \$5 per person.

• **Sunday, June 3** – Bugles Across America, 7:15 p.m., Veterans Memorial, Belleville, honors those in the service now and in the past.

• **Monday, June 4** – Crusin’ Car show on Belleville’s Main Street, 6-8 p.m., free. The Belleville Area Museum will be open late to welcome visitors.

• **Wednesday, June 6** – Debate between candidates for Van Buren Township Supervisor, Clerk, and Treasurer at 7 p.m. at South Middle School cafeteria, 45201 Owen, Belleville, sponsored by Belleville Area Women’s Club.

• **Friday, June 8** – Free Outdoor Family Movie Night at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston, 734-654-9020. Gathering at 8 p.m., movie begins at 8:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

• **Saturday, June 9** – Family Fishing Fun Day at Crosswinds Marsh, 9 a.m.-noon, no pre-registration required. FREE. Put on by Wayne County Parks & Recreation and Van Buren Township Parks & Recreation as part of DNR’s Free Fishing Weekend. Prizes for biggest fish. Crafts for kids.

• **Saturday, June 9** – Fish Photo and Tall Tale Contest on Belleville Lake at Horizon Park in the City of Belleville, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by Belleville Area Council for the Arts and downtown businesses. Dock fishing, fish stories, hot dogs and drinks. Have your photo taken with your big catch for free. Pictures will be displayed downtown. Fishing licenses not required. Information: 734-231-3289.

City approves Plante Moran, Alan C. Young for finance services

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Monday, the Belleville City Council opened bids for its accounting and audit services and reappointed Plante Moran to continue with the accounting and Alan C. Young to continue with the financial audits, both for three years.

There was only one sealed bid for each service and that was by the companies already doing the jobs. City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said the city had solicited six companies and advertised the call for bids.

Plante Moran bid the same fee as it now charges, \$6,135 per month, for the 2012-13 fiscal year, with a 3% increase to \$6,330 for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 years. The annual fee to prepare for audit had been \$18,000 and was reduced to \$15,000.

A separate auditor is necessary, since Plante Moran can’t audit itself, so Alan C. Young has been doing the job. The firm bid \$15,300 for the first and second years and \$16,065 for the third year of the agreement. A two-year option for renewal was added on, with fees of \$16,065 and \$16,870. Currently the audit fee is \$17,000.

City Manager Kollmeyer said Young had been out of the country and when he returned he saw the call for bids and called to ask what his company had done wrong.

Kollmeyer said she assured him the city was happy with his work, but because several new people have been elected to council, all the city services are being re-bid to see if they can’t get better prices.

Also during Monday’s meeting, the council:

- Set a public hearing on the proposed 2012-13 city budget for 7:30 p.m., Monday, June 4;

- Changed the city’s board appointment policy to allow the same person to be appointed to the Downtown Development Authority and the Parks and Recreation Commission, among other adjustments;

- Approved Mayor Kerreen Conley’s appointment of Tom Fielder to the DDA and Becky Hasen to the Planning Commission, with both terms to expire Dec. 31, 2014; and the reappointment of Toni Clark to the Cemetery Advisory Committee with a term to expire Dec. 31, 2013;

- Received a copy of the city’s ordinance governing the Hillside Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund that allows appropriation of funds by the council for certain uses, after recommendation by the Cemetery Advisory Committee. During a budget workshop, council members indicated they wanted to study the document to see what could be done;

- Deferred until the June 4 meeting action on the city fee schedule, for more information and possibly adding inspections of rental units. New items added on the proposed schedule are fees for Massage Parlors, Tattoo Parlors, Precious Metal Sales, and

Voter Lists;

- Approved \$136,586.01 in accounts payable, including the following departmental expenditures over \$500: ICMA membership renewal, \$598.40; CLEMIS police information system, to Oakland Co. Treasurer, \$2,046.75; Horizon Park bank work, Valentine Tree Service, \$1,000; jail inmate at Dickerson Facility, to Wayne County, \$665; and an expenditure for fire hose of \$6,543; and

- Discussed options for marking crosswalks on Main Street for the crossings that don’t have control lights, such as between the museum and Fourth St. Square. Police Chief Gene Taylor was asked to come up with some options.

Yankee Air Museum sets Pancakes, Blood Drive

The Yankee Air Museum will be holding its annual Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast and Blood Drive on Monday, May 28, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon, at the Yankee Air Museum’s Collection and Exhibits Building on D Street at Willow Run Airport.

The cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children 2-15 and free for children 2 and under. A hot dog lunch will be offered along with a 50/50 raffles and special performances, guest speakers, and flyovers. The Museum’s annual Memorial Day honor ceremony will also be held.

To learn more, call (734) 483-4030 or visit www.yankeeairmuseum.org.



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You Tube robbery

(continued from page 1)

Anthony Hatchard, 17, also of Holiday West mobile home park, also confessed, Det. Toth said.

He was arraigned Friday on armed robbery charges and a bond of \$30,000 or 10% bond was set. He will go through a pre-exam and may have a preliminary exam on May 30 at 34th District Court.

Det. Toth said Hatchard said the robbery was inspired by the "Hell Yeah" song on YouTube by the Dead Prez group. They planned the robbery just like the song where the group was hungry, so they hauled out the yellow pages, ordered a pizza and then attacked the pizza delivery man and took his money and the pizza.

Hatchard said they were hungry, poor and broke, just like the song, so they ordered a pizza and set upon the delivery man and

beat him without even asking for his money, which they took. Then they ate the pizza.

Home Invasion

At about 11:24 p.m. Saturday, May 5, a man walked in on a home invasion under way in his home in the 27000 block of Sumpter Road.

Det. Toth said the man heard noises in the back of his home and thought it was his daughter, so he called out.

He found two black males running out to

a truck. The truck headed northbound, he told police.

Multiple items, including electronics, had been stolen and there was damage to the back door where entry was made.

A witness validated the report by saying he also observed the truck heading northbound from the home.

Anyone with information is asked to call Sumpter Township Police, 461-4833, ext. 305.

Stabbing suspect waives exam, bound over to Circuit Court for trial

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Denise Lashawn Courtwright, 43, of Van Buren Township on May 7 waived her right for a preliminary exam in district court and was bound over to be arraigned on the evidence at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit, in preparation for a circuit court trial.

Courtwright has been charged with one count of Felonious Assault and one count of Domestic Violence, second offense, after she allegedly stabbed her boyfriend several times in the chest and arm with a kitchen knife.

The incident started with a verbal argument at 11649 Meadows Lane just before 3:33 a.m. May 2.

When police arrived Jack Ray Lantz, 56, of VBT, was bleeding profusely. He was transported to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

VBT Police Captain Gregory Laurain said Courtwright was very uncooperative and resisted officers.

She was arrested and later charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office. She was arraigned on the charges at 34th District Court and bond was set at \$10,000 cash. Courtwright was remanded to the Wayne County Jail awaiting trial.

VBT man arraigned on charge of using baseball bat on girlfriend

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Joseph L. Topash, 28, was arraigned on a charge of Domestic Violence on May 14 at 34th District Court in Romulus. He was released on a personal recognizance bond with no contact with the victim.

Topash's alleged victim was his 22-year-old live-in girlfriend. The incident occurred at about 3:16 a.m. Sunday, May 13, at 94 Daisy in Van Buren Township.

VBT Lt. Ernie Thornsby said it was reported that a baseball bat was involved.

Topash's next court date is 9 a.m., May 31, at 34th District Court.



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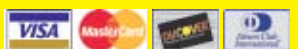
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