Official Newspaper of Record for Sumpter Township & the Charter Township of Van Buren
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BELLEVILLE-AREA
INDEPENDENT

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North Middle School teacher faces felonies

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A North Middle School teacher was arraigned at 34th District Court Tuesday morning on two felony charges and one misdemeanor concerning her alleged activities with a 15-year-old student.

Andrea Deanna Brennan, 37, of Ypsilanti was charged on Monday by the Wayne County Prosecutor with distributing sexually explicit material to a minor, a felony punishable by up to two years in prison; use of a computer to commit a crime, a felony punishable by up to four years in prison; and furnishing alcohol to a minor, a misdemeanor punishable by up to 60 days in jail and up to a $10,000 fine.

Brennan booking photo

VBT Police Captain Greg Laurain said at about 1:30 a.m. on July 10 at Beck Baseball Field, a VBT officer investigated a suspicious vehicle parked in the parking lot of the ball field. The officer reports Brennan and a 15-year-old VBT juvenile were found there consuming alcohol.

Brennan was taken into custody for furnishing alcohol to a minor and the juvenile was held until his parents were contacted and they managed to pick him up, Captain Laurain said.

A search warrant was later obtained on Brennan's personal cell phone which revealed a history of text messaging between her and the juvenile, along with one sexually explicit photo of Brennan that was sent to the teen's cell phone, Laurain said.

The teen reportedly has never been a student of Brennan.

Brennan turned herself in at the courthouse

(continued on page 23)

Independent photo by Bob Mytych

Belleville's Main Street was turned into an artists' market last Saturday and Sunday, as local residents turned out to shop through the tents of 46 artists and lots of antiques. This was the second-annual Artaffair on Main put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

VBT Planners review plans for Enbridge Pipeline station

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Although Enbridge Pipeline's petroleum pipeline into Van Buren Township is regulated by federal and state agencies, on July 11 the company voluntarily brought to the Planning Commission for review its plans for a new meter station off Hannan Road.

Enbridge agreed to follow suggestions for landscaping and design of the new meter station, which will be along the Lower Huron Metropark border on the west at the end of a private road that intersects Hannan Road between Wabash and Superior streets. The existing private gravel drive that also serves the residence next door to the site will be paved and Enbridge will maintain it.

The site is related to the Sunoco, Buckeye and Wolverine Pipelines that already are in place underground in that area, some since the early 1900s.

The parcel will include facilities to launch and receive necessary internal inspection tools (commonly called "smart pigs"), a metering station which consists of above-ground meters, provers, and related equipment, a building containing equipment for sampling product in the pipeline, a sump tank, and three electric service buildings.

The station facility is part of Enbridge's Line 79 pipeline project, approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission on May 12.

The project consists of about 64 miles of pipeline between Stockbridge Station and the new meter facility in VBT. The first 35 miles of the pipeline will be a new 20-inch diameter pipeline installed and owned by Enbridge, originating at Stockbridge and terminating at Freedom Township in Washtenaw County.

There it connects to an existing 16-inch diameter pipeline owned by Wolverine from Freedom Township through VBT to the Marathon refinery in Trenton.

From Freedom Township to VBT, Enbridge has leased about 29 miles of the Wolverine pipeline. At the VBT station, Enbridge will provide for the delivery of crude oil to Marathon Petroleum Corp., which will transport the crude oil to its refinery in the Detroit area via the portion of the Wolverine line running east from the VBT station, which is leased by Marathon.

In a legal opinion on the project, township

(continued on page 27)

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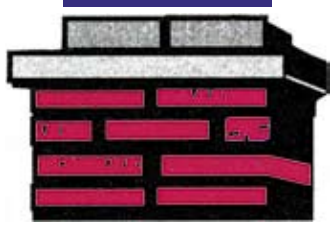

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Twp. Board puts 1-mill fire tax renewal on Nov. 6 ballot

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously at its July 10 meeting to place a renewal of the Fire Protection millage before voters in the Nov. 6 General Election.

The previous millage has expired. The previous one mill had been reduced to .889 mills by the required millage rollback.

This ballot question will return it to one mill ($1 per $1,000 of taxable value) which would be levied for four years, 2012 through 2015, inclusive, for fire department operation and maintenance.

The tax is expected to raise an estimated $337,938 in the first year the millage is levied.

In other business at the July 10 meeting, the board:

• Approved a memo of understanding, contingent upon the attorney's review, to allow Huron Valley Ambulance to park a unit in the fire hall, so there would be a 24-hour car in Sumpter, available for calls in Sumpter and nearby areas. HVA personnel could sleep in the bunkroom. "I think it's beneficial to us," said Fire Chief Les Powell in presenting the memo, adding it was proposed as temporary, but there is no end date on the memo of understanding;

• Approved the Annual Implementation Plan for 2013 for the Senior Alliance, which is the designated Area Agency on Aging body for Southern and Western Wayne County;

• Approved going out for bids to fence the new parking area at Banotai Park;

• Approved paying warrants totaling $114,548.40;

• Held a moment of silence in memory of Barbara Moody who passed away unexpectedly on July 5. She was the wife of Deputy Supervisor Craig Moody;

• Heard Trustee Bill Hamm, who is also a fire fighter, announce that the firehouse treadmill took its last turn and they needed someone to donate a treadmill of some sort. The fire hall already has a stair-stepper. Someone in the audience raised a hand, so Trustee Hamm said it looked like they had a donation already;

• Heard resident Mary Ban say Sumpter Township is more sophisticated and up to date than some other nearby townships who do not have emergency warning sirens. She said she appreciated the sirens going off at 4:30 a.m. on July 5 to warn of the big storm coming. She said Sumpter got the sirens because it was a priority. Ban said she still contends Huron Township should have come to Sumpter to set up the joint dispatch system, instead of the other way around; and

• Discussed what to do about the new state fireworks law that has resulted in lots of nighttime noise, after resident Marty Kalasz brought up the issue. Attorney Rob Young said there has been a lot of discussion in statewide groups and local municipalities on the subject. Everyone is trying to get it right, since the law is new and may yet be amended. Police Lt. Eric Luke said for a disturbing the peace citation, the complainant has to sign a complaint, give his/her name, and show up in court, which some are unwilling to do.

Sumpter Twp. approves buying materials to erect pavilion at fire station

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its July 24 meeting, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved allocating $2,310.72 for materials to erect a pavilion at Fire Station #1.

The 14'x20' structure is being put up by a candidate for Eagle Scout.

Also at the July 24 meeting, the board:

• Set the first public hearing on the Judd Road Special Assessment District for 6 p.m., Aug. 8, to hear input on plans to pave the road and assessments of properties on Judd;

• Approved paying warrants totaling $298,106.09;

• Heard a report from Supervisor Johnny Vawters on the FEMA floodplain properties that had signed up for help from the township. He said 86 signed up and 53 were removed from the floodplain, 8 are pending and expected to be removed, 3 needed extra information to be submitted, and 15 cancelled because they found they didn't need the flood insurance. Supervisor Vawters said seven more properties just signed up for help;

• Heard Supervisor Vawters report the township is concluding negotiations on the police contracts and is starting negotiations with the new fire union;

• Heard Vawters report that 30 township seniors have signed up "to bring home the Gold" in the annual Senior Olympics that begins Aug. 13 and runs through Aug. 17;

• Heard Kit Dwyer invite the board to attend the Senior Olympics to support Sumpter seniors. She said the event kicks off with breakfast at 8 a.m., Aug. 13, at Hines Park. [Senior Director Mary Ann Watson later clarified that the breakfast is only for participants who have signed up and paid their $5 and is not a free breakfast for all comers.] Dwyer also thanked the township for Family Fun Day. "I never heard so much giggling and laughter from the children. Thanks for that," she said;

• Heard Mary Ban ask about vote processing, since she heard a radio report about a company that processed votes in 500 jurisdictions being sold to a Spanish firm. She said the information said that once the votes are "merged" it is impossible to prove local integrity. Clerk Clarence Hoffman said Sumpter sends the results of its voting to the county and he is not sure what they do with it from there. "We have a county clerk that's really on the ball. She makes sure things are done right," Hoffman said;

• Was informed that at the next township board meeting on Aug. 14 Hennessey Engineers will give an update and recommendation on what to do about the deteriorating sewer pump station at the corner of Sumpter and Willis roads;

• Heard Trustee Peggy Morgan report that the Parks & Recreation Commission balance at the end of June was $56,026.28. She also reported on Family Fun Day which had "a fantastic turnout" and lots of participation in the pie eating, tug of war, sack race, limbo, and hula hoop contests, among others. She said there was a grandmother who was great at the hula hoop and a young girl who kept her hula hoop going for so long she amazed everyone. Morgan said the girl may still be out there at Graham Park with her hula hoop going; and

• Heard Supervisor Vawters congratulate all the candidates for running a good campaign and, "nobody's hurt." He said, "We're all family. After it's over, we all have to work together." Those in the meeting room applauded his comment.

Independent photo by Bob Mytych

One of the 46 artists participating in Artaffair on Main last weekend was Tim Marsh, well-known wildlife artist with his studios in the Denton community of Van Buren Township. Marsh was named one of the Belleville High School Distinguished Graduates this spring.

Shooting victim refuses to press charges after July 25 incident in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A 27-year-old Van Buren Township man was shot in the leg by an Ypsilanti man, but the victim refuses to press charges, so the alleged assailant has been released by VBT Police.

VBT Police Captain Greg Laurain said the incident occurred around 2 a.m. on July 25 in the 10500 block of Belleville Road.

When police arrived, the Ypsilanti man remained silent and would not cooperate with the investigation, Captain Laurain said.

Witnesses at the scene did not see anything nor wanted to make statements to police.

"One witness verbally stated he heard the victim and Ypsilanti man arguing in another room, heard a gunshot, then heard the victim yelling that he was shot by the Ypsilanti man," Laurain reported.

The Ypsilanti man was taken into custody and a semi-automatic hand gun was recovered at the scene and taken into evidence.

The resident was taken to University of Michigan Hospital for treatment and was released on July 26.

Laurain said police had made several attempts to contact the victim for a statement and to have him sign a complaint against the Ypsilanti man, with no response.

The Ypsilanti man was released from police custody late July 26 because of no complainant, but the case remains open, Laurain said.

A report to the *Independent* that the two men are brothers was not confirmed by police.

OPINIONS

Editorial

It's finally here: Primary Election Day is Tuesday, Aug. 7

It seems like forever that candidates have been putting up signs, knocking on doors, writing letters to the editors, and spending their hard-earned campaign funds on ads. At last, the end is nigh.

Many people have already cast their ballots, but there are those who prefer to put the ballot into the counting machine themselves. Then, they know it got there.

Although the election teams are the salt of the earth in these parts and wouldn't think of doing anything out of line, there are those of us who just like to put the ballot in the machine ourselves, with our own hands.

This has been a bewildering time, with 21 candidates (plus a write-in) in Van Buren Township running for seven seats and 11 running in Sumpter Township for seven seats.

Then there are judges and state and federal legislators and county officials. Also, the important tax decisions on the art institute authority and the jails.

This ballot is going to take some time to fill out, but it's our jobs as citizens of the United States of America to decide who we want for our leaders and how much we wish to be taxed.

More big decisions are coming in the November General Election and the decisions made on Tuesday will determine who will be on that ballot locally.

Vote on Tuesday, if you haven't already cast your ballot. The primary season is finally grinding to a halt. Whew!

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW ...By Rosemary K. Otzman

We received a call from Judy Bell last week concerning the report from a reader that he saw desks and filing cabinets in the rubble of the Belleville High School demolition.

She said that really disturbed her.

Judy said in Fort Myers, FL, where they have a home, the schools operate a store that sells used school items to the public or to other schools and that is what she would like to see here.

"We still have Elwell," she noted, when I told her the BHS demolition was almost done.

Yes, Elwell Elementary School is reportedly up for demolition and it would be nice if the useable furniture and equipment inside could be sold to the public instead of just trashed.

***

In the June 20 minutes of the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission there is a line about items missing from the Parks & Recreation building, specifically "a yellow Igloo cooler and one turkey."

The minutes said a motion was made and carried to install a lock and dead bolt on the interior door along with a new lock for the refrigerator and freezer.

I should think so.

***

I received a call from Crystal in Wildbrook neighborhood in VBT, just east of Country Ponds. She had just seen another coyote go by her unfenced backyard where her 7-year-old son was playing.

She said she called VBT Animal Control and they told her they would "make a note of it."

Crystal said she has seen coyotes every day since Saturday, including one walking across Savage Road heading from Country Walk south to her neighborhood with a kill in its mouth – a rabbit or cat or something that size.

She said some deer with babies are nesting in her area and she thinks the coyote may be stalking the young deer. The coyote seem to be nesting somewhere in that area, as well.

She said she moved here eight years ago and had lived in Allen Park. She said she had never seen a coyote before. Now she sees them every day. The one she saw on Saturday was just 10 feet back from her yard. It just sat down and looked at her.

***

For those of you who want to follow Lou Kovach's law suit against Van Buren Township, pursuing the parcel splits he wants for the former Coy Kendall greenhouse property, a court date has been set.

VBT officials Terry Carroll, Linda Stevenson, and Tom MacDonald have been summoned to Circuit Court Judge John H. Gillis, Jr.'s courtroom for a 9 a.m. Aug. 17 show cause hearing. The three officials make up the VBT Parcel Division Board that denied Kovach's split request.

Judge Gillis is located in courtroom 1901 in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

***

Over the week end, the BHS Class of 1954 held its annual reunion at the Canton home of Lois Mida Zilka, our class' Pearl Mesta who always is a gracious hostess at her home with the big yard and spacious deck. She's always having one party or another there and I think the family reunion is coming up this week end.

Lois is also on the BHS all-class reunion committee and alerted us to the plans for an all-class reunion on Sept. 22 at Van Buren Park.

We'll get more information to pass on to you, but that's all I know right now. We had held the reunion that included all the classes from BHS at the cafeteria, but that site has been off-limits while school construction was under way so we haven't had that reunion for two years. Now, the cafeteria is being turned into a Commons area, with the raised roof, so we still can't use that area.

This year the picnic at the park seemed like a good idea. I'll let you know more information when I receive it.

***

We received lots of letters to the editor that were unsigned, but we had so many signed letters that we couldn't even consider printing the unsigned.

***

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Letters

Sumpter Twp. Police helped my autistic son

To the Editor:

I would like to extend my sincere heartfelt thanks to Chief Jim Pierce, Officer Danielle Buccellato and Officer Beth Egerer.

Several months back, I had a great deal of trouble with my autistic son. These officers were called to my home on several occasions due to my son's erratic behavior, part due to his illness, part due to teenage rebellion.

These people, especially Officer Buccellato, took a great deal of time to talk to my son in an attempt to get him on the right track. They sat at our kitchen table and instilled in him the necessity of getting his diploma, excelling in school, being respectful to his parents and others.

Apparently, their messages sunk in. My son has achieved the diploma, albeit a few months later than his graduating class, and is in the process of getting acceptance into Michigan Career and Technical Institute.

I believe that my son would have been on a less-productive path if not for the intervention of these officers. They let him know that his attitude, as well as his actions, affect his future.

I often see these officers out and about, and always, they ask about my son. They are truly gems and make me proud and thankful I live in Sumpter Twp. where officers care.

Thanks for all your help and guidance.

Sincerely,
Robin Keller, Sumpter Township

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In Sumpter: I'm voting for experienced people

To the Editor:

Well, Ms. Editor, it is election time in Sumpter Township. This year's candidates feature a girl running for Treasurer whose only qualification is that she is endorsed by the UAW Region 1A and 15th District Democrats. This is no surprise considering "Ma-Ma" is on the endorsement committees of both groups.

Second, is a disgruntled fireman who after being suspended for 30 days for insubordination now wants to run to be a trustee.

Third and fourth are two candidates who are backed by the former Supervisor. This was a time of recalls and turmoil – Do we really want her back trying to run this Township?

Enough said, I'm voting for experienced people who have provided Sumpter Township with unified leadership, a balanced budget, and have moved Sumpter forward for the past eight years.

I'm voting for the JOHNNY VAWTERS TEAM: Johnny Vawters, Supervisor; Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk; John W. Morgan, Treasurer; Alan D. Bates, Trustee; Bill Hamm, Trustee; Peggy Morgan, Trustee; Don Swinson, Trustee.

Sincerely,
David L. Oliver
Sumpter Township

Safety, welfare of students is top priority

To the Editor:

Subject: VBPS teacher – Andrea Brennan

As a Trustee of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, I can only speak for myself on this matter. The safety and welfare of all of our students is my top priority.

I have complete confidence in our state's legal system and I am certain justice will prevail.

As for Ms. Brennan's employment status with the district, I trust our administrative team will handle this matter in accordance with our district's established guidelines and procedures.

My thoughts and concerns go out to all those affected during this uncertain time.

Scott Russell
VBPS Board member

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More Letters

Thanks to those who helped Flag Day 2012

To the Editor:

Over 235 years ago, an Act of Congress created Flag Day, June 14, 1777. Each American has their own reasons regarding the Flag. Some people replaced worn-out Flags, purchased Flags for loved ones in the Military and others were proud just to be able to display the Flag.

The sad part about it is Flag Day celebrations have fallen by the wayside in the United States. Only one state has set aside a holiday for it and it is Pennsylvania, celebrating the day with parades and displays.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers and major sponsors for showing their American Pride for Flag Day 2012. Major sponsors: Burhop's Collision, Delux Tent & Events, Belleville Central Business Community, Polish Legion of American Veterans Post #167, Tuscan Manor, Mr. Muffler, Belleville Charhouse, Amalia Chedreau, DiPietro & Day PC, and Anonymous.

Overall there were over 200 standard flags sold/given out and 200 smaller flags purchased.

As Henry Stimson, Secretary of War (1940s) stated, "We are determined that before the sun sets on this struggle our Flag will be recognized throughout the world as a symbol of freedom on one hand and overwhelming power on the other."

Display your Flag however you wish, but do it with pride, just as the men and women of the American Olympic team are proudly displaying the Flag throughout the Olympics. They don't let their pride fade, why should you?

Gene Taylor
Belleville Chief of Police

I'm voting for Sharry Budd for treasurer

To the Editor:

In a recent bio. John Herman states that the current treasurer got the township in a financial bind with the Visteon bonds. He seems to think she woke up one day and went to Visteon and told them she would sell the bonds and they were welcome to build in Van Buren Township.

He seems to forget, yet again, that HE was on the board of trustees and that she sold them at the behest of the board. Mr. Herman seems to be suffering from the same thing his friend Bob Ficano has. (I did it but it ain't my fault.)

Harry Truman had a sign on his desk. I believe it said THE BUCK STOPS HERE. I know I don't want anyone handling millions of dollars of mine who wouldn't man up and say, "I made a mistake, but I will also do everything in my power to correct it."

I have to vote for Sharry Budd. I hope you do also.

Vic Franzoi, Van Buren Township

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Obituaries

William Edward Langer

WILLIAM EDWARD LANGER
(September 29, 1963 - July 30, 2012)
William Edward Langer, 48, of Belleville died suddenly July 30, 2012. He was born in Livonia, the son of Paul Langer and Jeannie Danald.

He attended Belleville High School with the class of 1981. He was an over-the-road truck driver. He liked video games, guitar, and his Indian motorcycle.

He is survived by his parents; his sister Julie Langer; and his nieces Danielle Roullier and Katherine Roullier.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A party in his memory will be held at Lakeview Tavern on Friday.

DANIELLE RENEE BEAVERS
(April 15, 1993 – July 24, 2012)
Age 19 of Belleville. Survived by parents Theresa and James Beavers, sisters Angel Blake and Andrea (Justin), grandparents Beatrice Casanova, Edna James. Services were July 27 at Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Wayne.

BROOKE KENNEDY
(July 24, 2012)
Died in a motor vehicle accident at Belleville Road and Michigan Avenue with her friend Danielle Beavers. Both were graduates of Belleville High School.

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More Letters

Financial literacy needed for VBT Trustees

To the Editor:

The community of Allen Park is on the brink of a state takeover by an emergency manager because the elected officials invested in a $31 million investment in 2009 that failed. The investment was a $146 million movie studio project located on Southfield Road on land formerly occupied by the auto supplier Visteon and the retailer Montgomery Ward.

According to The Detroit News, Allen Park bought the property for $28.3 million and issued bonds to pay for it in order to attract Unity Studios. The expectation was that the studio would employ 3,000 workers, which included people from their community. However, perception isn't reality and the reality was that in less than two years the studio left Allen Park.

The City of Allen Park has to cover $2.9 million annually on the bonds it issued. Since that time the elected officials who orchestrated this deal are no longer in office and the voters have since rejected three millages. Their financial situation is dire since there has been a decline of property values as a result of the recession.

In 2003, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees entered into an agreement with a Local Development Finance Authority of the Charter Township of Van Buren, and Visteon Corporation for Visteon Village. Visteon Corporation has left Van Buren Township and the township backed $32 million in bonds. As a result, our credit will be compromised if our revenues do not keep pace with the re-payment schedule.

Since the departure of Visteon, our property values have dropped significantly and per the LDFA our township will have a negative balance of $550,000 by 2015 and a negative balance of $32 million by 2032. This will impact the future for our citizens and should be a wake-up call for the politicians that we elect.

In hindsight, mistakes were made in both communities and the citizens of Van Buren Township will have their future plans compromised as a result of higher property taxes if this situation is not rectified.

On Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2012, the residents of Van Buren Township are asked to vote for elected officials that will have to deal with the impact that the board made in 2003. We need a board that has the financial literacy to take this community forward and deal with the impact our previous board made.

As an educator that teaches finance at the graduate level coupled with a Master of Administration Degree I have the education that it takes to take our community forward.

As the Vice President of the Van Buren Public School Board I have proven local leadership in our community. I am asking for your support in electing me to our Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees.

Brenda McClanahan
www.electbrenda.com

I support White, Wright, Partridge, Ostrowski

To the Editor:

I support Paul White for Van Buren Township Supervisor. He has shown strong leadership in spite of inside pressure.

His effectiveness in management goes beyond our past two or three township supervisors by far.

Paul has a sound plan in preserving the character of our township. He is our best choice.

Do not be fooled by the little chicks screaming the "sky is falling."

Hate has many faces. This has not been a term for Paul; it has been a battle. For Paul as well as all of the newly elected board members. The stronghold is hard to break; that's what they have done.

Paul White, Leon Wright, Denise Partridge and Al Ostrowski.

Support them. They have taken the punches, the hits, the disrespectful conduct.

Meeting after meeting, threats, texts, e-mails, set ups and knock downs.

Sour grapes leave a stench for a long time, a nasty stench.

Vote them back into office to finish the job. Tough times are ahead; we need tough leadership.

Not mean, not nasty, not obnoxious, not disrespectful and not oblivious.

We are on the road to changes; let's keep on the right track by voting for Paul, Leon, Denise and Al.

Remember, do not be fooled by "Want to Be's and Wish They Were's".

Most of all, do not be fooled by "THE SKY IS FALLING". I am in full support of Paul White, Leon Wright, Denise Partridge, Al Ostrowski for the betterment of Van Buren Township.

Sincerely,
Reg Ion, Over 30 Years Van Buren Township Resident, Mayor of Ecorse Rd.

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More Letters

Don't leave primary choices to senior voters

To the Editor:

Here we are, at another election where no one will vote. Yes it is just a primary, but the results will leave us with the list of people we can choose from to run our local government for four years, in the most cases.

There are so many choices to pick from. How do you decide who has told the real truth about what they hope to do and who has told us what they want us to think they will do. This shouldn't be a popularity contest or a "guess" about a well-known name. Think about it before you mark your ballots or pull those levers; four years is a long time to spend on a guess.

Myself, well, Mr. Wright has shown that he can do the job he is seeking and my other choices are mine to make. I've done just that and sent in my absentee ballot.

Now it is everyone else's turn. Get out and vote. Don't leave it up to us seniors to decide your choices for you.

Van Buren Township Senior
Carol Kraus

Don't hang a noose around future leaders

To the Editor:

We have an election in November. The choice for me is easy. Do we vote our children and grandchildren into a mind-numbing, insensitive, killing form of slavery known as socialism or do we vote for free enterprise. (Notice, I underlined "free".)

Free to set our own course – where ambition, success, accomplishment are rewarded and not looked down on.

I know of an 11th grader from Saline that was invited to Washington, D.C. to participate in a student forum. I know of a young lady helping to start an urban farm in downtown Detroit. This week she is at a camp for special-needs children in Tennessee. I know a young lady surgeon that has gone on mission trips to Africa to help the neglected there.

In all these cases these young people have paid their own way. They do this to learn and serve. Don't hang the noose of socialism around their necks. Vote for freedom.

These ambitious and talented young people are our leaders of tomorrow.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

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Thank you.

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And more, complete list at www.aworker4mi.com and Facebook, Jim Pedersen aworker4mi
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Official Endorsed Candidates List

Please help GET OUT THE VOTE on
Tuesday, August 7, 2012

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U.S. House of Representatives
12th District

DIAN SLAVENS
Michigan Rep. 21st District

JIM PEDERSEN
Michigan Rep. 17th District

BENNY N. NAPOLEON
Wayne County Sheriff

RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ
Wayne County Treasurer

Wayne County Circuit Court:

DANA HATHAWAY

JANE GILLIS

BRIAN MORROW

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP:	VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP:
JOHNNY VAWTERS, Supervisor	PAUL WHITE, Supervisor
ANDREA CHAMBERLAIN, Treasurer	LEON WRIGHT, Clerk
ALAN BATES, Trustee	JOHN HERMAN, Treasurer
WILLIAM HAMM, Trustee	JEFF JAHR, Trustee
PEGGY MORGAN, Trustee	ANGELA NETTRO, Trustee
DON SWINSON, Trustee	AL OSTROWSKI, Trustee
Every VOTE Counts!	DENISE PARTRIDGE, Trustee

VOTE AUGUST 7TH!

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Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych

The Depot Town Flea Market, a 3-day antique and collectible event is coming up Aug. 17-19 in conjunction with the **Ypsilanti Heritage Festival** in Downtown Ypsilanti. A limited number of spaces for the market are still available and can be reserved by calling **Kim's Resale Shop** at **(734) 340-4241.**

***

Susan Walker of **First United Methodist Church** in Belleville announces **One-Hour 5-Day Bible Clubs** coming to the community Aug. 6-10. The programs are geared for children kindergarten through 5th grade and will feature Bible stories, songs, snacks and prizes. Three locations will be available each day: Rawsonville Elementary School, from 10-11 a.m.; First United Methodist Church on Charles Street, from 1-2 p.m.; and the Club House at Augusta Woods on Rawsonville Road, from 3-4 p.m. Call Walker at **(734) 250-0485.**

***

The **Belleville Church of God** is gearing up for **Children's Vacation Bible School** Aug. 8-10 at the church on Hull Road behind the Van Buren Township Fire Station. The camp is titled: **Sky … Everything's Possible With God.** The camp will run from 6-8 p.m. each night and is geared for children 3-11. Activities at the free event include Bible adventures, songs, snacks, games, movie clips, and craft making. For info call 697-0927.

***

A special thank you and the best of luck to all candidates running for various positions in next week's election. We appreciate your business. People in all walks of life and occupation choose this hometown newspaper to get their word out. From business owners to the homemaker gearing up for a garage sale, this paper is the paper of choice, since 1995. The key to advertising success is first to get it in the hands of the reader, which we believe we do, and do better than anyone else. Simply try finding one on any given Friday. To learn more about advertising opportunities, call me at (734) 699-9020 or visit our website at www.bellevilleareaindependent.com

***

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

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More Letters

Sumpter: Vote for Andrea Chamberlain

Dear Sumpter Neighbors/Voters,

Here are a few things to consider before you cast your vote for Treasurer on Aug. 7th:

Sumpter's Treasurer is a part-time position responsible for collecting real and personal property taxes, keeping an account of township receipts (revenues) and expenditures, issuing township checks, depositing township revenues in approved depositories, investing township funds in approved investment vehicles, collecting delinquent personal property tax, jeopardy assessments in collecting property tax and collecting mobile home specific tax.

In addition, the Treasurer is expected to attend board meetings and other township meetings and events, and in conjunction with the other elected board members, to give leadership to our township and township auxiliary boards (planning, zoning, parks & rec., etc.) The treasurer is required to post a surety bond.

Sumpter Township has a deputy treasurer (required) that works full time and assists the Treasurer in carrying out these duties.

Andrea Chamberlain is very qualified for this position. Andrea, a 2001 graduate from Belleville High School, has always been very responsible, reliable, and of good judgment. She grew up in Sumpter Township and deeply loves our community. Andrea is an avid reader and is very astute to current events along with the politics of our community, our state, and our country.

Andrea has been active with UAW Local 735, UAW Region 1A, the Michigan Democratic Party, and our local community democratic clubs. She is endorsed by the Southwestern Wayne [County] Democratic Club, the 15th District Democratic Organization, and UAW Region 1A.

Andrea has experience in retail and customer service where she was responsible for reconciling monetary accounts, as well as the safekeeping and accountability of funds. During that time, she worked closely with both, computers and people. She works well with people and has been involved in several group projects in which she has always put forth the effort to ensure that she did her very best.

Strong leadership, communication, problem-solving and people skills are among the assets Andrea brings to the table.

True, township board meetings are much more civil, no longer resembling the "The Jerry Springer Show". However, I question the practice of everybody voting yes on all issues without any discussion. While it is good to get along, conflict can be healthy and generate good discussion. I recently attended a workshop session that lasted less than five minutes, with very little discussion on anything. New ideas, growth, and transparency in government come from open discussion of the issues.

With no disrespect to the current board, it is time for younger residents to step up, get involved, and bring some diversity to our township board. Our supervisor and clerk are both in their mid 70s. Our treasurer, of the past 30 years, turns 80 this year (Happy Birthday, Sir!). Though I appreciate their concern for and past service to our community, I feel it necessary to mentor and encourage younger residents to get involved to help shape the future of our township.

After all, they are the future of Sumpter Township -- they are the ones making homes and raising families here.

Please join me in voting for change on Tuesday, Aug. 7th & cast your vote for Andrea Chamberlain for Treasurer of Sumpter Township!

Sincerely,
Debbie Chamberlain
Sumpter Township
(Andrea's Mom)

P.S. Please join me in supporting longtime friend and Sumpter resident Marty Kalasz for Trustee - also endorsed by UAW Region 1A and the 15th District Democratic Organization.

"And to preserve their independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our election between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude."

-- Thomas Jefferson

Politicians, regardless of their party affiliation, should not be rewarded for bad decisions that impact the taxpayers in a negative manner.

-- Charles Tackett, *A Disabled Vietnam Veteran & Van Buren Township Taxpayer*

Paid Advertisement

Let's review the facts…

MOTION

Hart moved, Budd seconded to adopt Resolution 2003-21 Pledging Township's Limited Tax, Full Faith and Credit General Obligations to payment of Tax Increment Bonds, Series 2003 of the Local Development Finance Authority of the Charter Township of Van Buren. Carried.

Yeas: King, Budd, Hart, Jahr and Rochowiak

Nays: None.

Absent: Payne and Herman

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a motion adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren at a regular meeting held May 20, 2003.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC, Township Clerk

Charter Township of Van Buren
County of Wayne, State of Michigan

Resolution 2003-21

RESOLUTION PLEDGING TOWNSHIP'S LIMITED TAX, FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, GENERAL OBLIGATION TO PAYMENT OF TAX INCREMENT BONDS, SERIES 2003, OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan held on May 20, 2003 at 7:30 o'clock p.m., local time.

PRESENT: Supervisor King, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak.
ABSENT: Clerk Payne (excused) and Trustee Herman (excused)

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Hart and supported by Treasurer Budd:

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2003, following a public hearing on the matter, this Board of Trustees approved by resolution (the "Resolution") a Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan (the "Plan") recommended to the Board of Trustees by the Local Development Finance Authority of the Charter Township of Van Buren (the "Authority") pursuant to Act No. 281 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1986, as amended (the "Act"), which provides for the acquisition and construction of certain "public facilities" (as defined in the Act) to encourage and assist Visteon Corporation in establishing its world headquarters (commonly referred to as "Visteon Village") in the Charter Township of Van Buren (the "Township"), which Plan was subsequently amended by action of the Authority on May 13, 2003, and this Board of Trustees on May 20, 2003; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2003, the Authority resolved (the "Bond Resolution") to issue a series of tax increment bonds (the "Bonds") pursuant to Section 14(1) of the Act, which are payable primarily from all tax increment revenues received by the Township and the Authority pursuant to the Plan and the Act, in order to finance a portion of the costs of the public facilities described in the Plan as amended with respect to Visteon Village (collectively, the "Visteon Village Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Bond Resolution, a copy of which has been provided to this Board of Trustees, was adopted by the Authority in contemplation of the pledge by this Board of Trustees of the Township's limited tax, full faith and credit, general obligation, as additional security for the Bonds, as set forth in the Bond Resolution (the "Pledge"); and

WHEREAS, this board of Trustees has been advised by its Bond Counsel and the Authority's financial advisor that the Pledge is necessary to make the Bonds saleable, if at all, at reasonable interest rates; and

WHEREAS, Section 14(2) of the Act authorizes the Township to pledge its limited tax full faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Authority's Bonds as contemplated by the Bond Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has determined that the Pledge is both necessary and appropriate under the circumstances and is in the best interests of the Township and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. GENERAL OBLIGATION; PLEDGE OF LIMITED TAX FULL FAITH AND CREDIT: The Township hereby pledges its limited tax, full faith and credit, general obligation for the prompt payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds as and when due. Such pledge is a first budget obligation of the Township, and the Township may advance from its general funds a sufficient amount to pay principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds when due in the event that tax increment revenues pledged by the Authority are insufficient therefor. Further, in the event that the Township's general fund moneys are insufficient for the payment for the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds, the Township shall levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property within the boundaries of the Township, which tax shall be limited as to rate and amount by applicable charter, statutory and constitutional tax limitation on the taxing power of the Township. This pledge shall continue until payment in full of all the Bonds or until sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust for payment in full of all outstanding Bonds.

2. INTERNAL REVENUE CODE: The Township understands that the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, contains certain requirements on (i) the expenditure of proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, (ii) the investment of the proceeds from the issuance of the Bonds and (iii) the rebate of interest earned on the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds under certain circumstances. The Township hereby covenants to comply with such requirement to the extent that proceeds of the Bonds come within its control.

3. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY: The Treasurer of the Township is hereby authorized, to the extent necessary or desirable, to file the appropriate information and documentation with the Michigan Department of Treasury with respect to the Bonds and the Township's pledge hereunder and to request prior approval or other authorization from the Department of Treasury for issuance of the Bonds and the Township's pledge hereunder pursuant to Act No. 34 of the Michigan Public Acts of 2001, as amended ("Act 34"). For purposes of Act 34 and this resolution, the Township Treasurer is the "chief administrative officer".

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same hereby are rescinded.

AYES: King, Budd, Hart, Jahr and Rochowiak
NAYS: None.
RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.
Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

I, Joannie D. Payne, Clerk of the Charter Township of Van Buren, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting held on May 20, 2003, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.
Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

As can be seen by the resolution, the Treasurer was designated as the Chief Financial Officer of the Visteon legislation. As the CFO, Treasurer Budd was responsible for the oversight of the administration of Resolution 2003-21. The cost of the engineered drawings, foundations and pilings were paid by Treasurer Budd. This was a blunder as these costs are onsite improvements for the benefit of Visteon only. Public Act 238 of 1986 certainly does not allow for the payment of the aforementioned. We need to recover the costs of the onsite improvements. As Treasurer, this will be a priority of my clean-up list.

These actions will inure to our children.

John Herman, Candidate for Treasurer
Van Buren Township

Paid for by Citizens for John Herman, 6329 Greenwood Court, Belleville, MI 48111.

More Letters

In VBT: Vote against TEAM Politics

To the Editor:

I have talked to a lot of residents about the issues that involved Van Buren Township. The main one I keep hearing is that most of the elected officials work for others and not for the residents.

When I decided to run for elected office, I decided I would only do it for the residents and no one else. We have seen over the last few months this TEAM running against this TEAM and no one knows who is for the residents. I believe the residents have had enough of TEAM POLITICS.

You can tell by just driving down the road and seeing the grouping of lawn signs or the endorsements by political clubs, who is TEAMED with whom. Over the last four years we have seen what TEAM POLITICS has done for the township and the residents. I believe the residents have had enough and want elected leaders who work for the residents and hold no allegiance to a political club or a TEAM.

The entire Board of Trustees should only work for the residents of Van Buren and only them. When TEAM POLITICS come into play, then the residents lose and become second to a small group of individuals and that is what has happened to Van Buren Township.

We have seen large corporations move into Van Buren Township against the wishes of many residents and their voices were ignored. We have seen the self-interests of large corporations taken care of and the residents of Van Buren Township holding the bag and picking up the tab.

When you look at all the candidates, look at the ones who have connections or have been members of TEAM POLITICS. You have ones that have been direct members of TEAM POLITICS. You have ones that either were appointed to committees or are related to individuals who have been appointed to positions in the township by TEAM POLITICS.

So you have to ask yourself, will these people represent the voters and residents of Van Buren Township or will they represent TEAM POLITICS? The residents have told me they want an entire Board that works for them and not TEAM POLITICS. So I ask all the residents, please remember to **Vote** on Tuesday Aug. 7, 2012 and Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2012. VOTE for the individuals who will represent the best interest for the Residents of Van Buren Township and not just a small group or TEAM POLITICS.

Allen Babosh
Resident and a Candidate for Trustee of Van Buren Township.

I will be voting Leon Wright for VBT Clerk

To the Editor:

I will be voting Leon Wright for Township Clerk on Aug. 7.

Clerk Wright has been an active member of the Van Buren community. He has served on Van Buren Schools PTO's as his children attended school. He has also coached as his children played sports in the Van Buren area. He has taken an active role in his subdivision association serving as an officer for several years.

As a parent he understands the needs of families to have a safe community with opportunities for kids to have fun, play sports, and have access to fun activities.

As a business owner he worked to support the community and understands the needs of small businesses in this community.

As Township Clerk, he has worked to make it easier to find your polling place by placing signs at the subdivision entrances to remind you where to vote. He has worked with the clerks of Belleville and Sumpter to help all three communities register new voters. He has also reached out to the high school to talk to Seniors about the importance of voting and giving them the opportunity to help at polling places.

Aug. 7, I will be voting Leon Wright for Township Clerk.

Martha Hanoian
Van Buren Resident

Vote for Paul White for VBT Supervisor

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to remind the residents of VBT what great leadership that Supervisor Paul White has exhibited during his tenure in office as Supervisor of Van Buren Township. His ability and dedication to good government is impeccable as well as his genuineness of focusing on the real issues that we, as a community, have faced and are continuing to face.

Even in this dire economy, Supervisor White has managed to balance the budget with no employee layoffs since he was voted into office, but he also improved the budget by $1.25M and increased the general fund by $730,000 in 2011. He has proven fiscal responsibility and he has provided transparency in VBT Government as well as an "Open Door Policy for Residents". His reputation for displaying honesty, integrity and intelligence in all of his endeavors has been established since taking office in his position as Supervisor of Van Buren Township.

I am endorsing his candidacy and I am asking our VBT residents to re-elect Supervisor White on Aug. 7. Your "yes" vote will continue the impressive leadership that Supervisor White has continually demonstrated and Van Buren Township will continue in the correct direction.

I want to thank Supervisor White for his dedication and commitment to the residents of VBT. I applaud him for his tenacity and determination in what I am sure can sometimes be a thankless position. Keep up the good work, Supervisor White. You have my vote!

Shirley and Jack Goodman
Van Buren Township

I do not reward politicians who mess up

To the Editor:

Legislators Hart and Budd certainly loaded us with debt that will inure to our children. I, for one, do not reward politicians who mess up our way or get funny with the money, regardless of their party affiliation.

Charles Tackett
A Disabled Vietnam Veteran
And Van Buren Township Taxpayer

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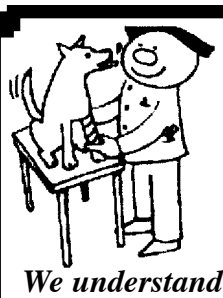
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Mention this ad and receive a one time $5 discount on grooming!

Dogs		Cats		Other Services	
DHPP, Corona, BDT, Lepto	$39	RCP and Leukemia	$29	Extended Exams (ear. skin, etc.)	$18
Heartworm Test	$19	Rabies 1 yr.	$14	Pocket Pet Exam	$18
Rabies 1 yr.	$14	Rabies 3 yr.	$16	Anal Glands	$12
Rabies 3 yr.	$16	Heartworm Test	$25	Micro Chip	$30
*Discount rates for litters.		WE OFFER FRONTLINE PLUS!		Fecal Check	$10
De-worming also available				Toe nail trim	$5

*Cash or Check (with valid I.D.), Now Accepting VISA MasterCard
Upcoming Clinics:
PET SPA, 5260 Willis Rd., YPSILANTI, Sun., Aug. 12th, 4-6 p.m.
PET RESORT, 50425 Bemis Rd., BELLEVILLE, Wed., Aug. 15th, 5-8 p.m.
PET SPA 2, 970 Sumpter Rd., BELLEVILLE, Sun., Aug. 19th, 4:30-6 p.m.
NEW FLU VACCINE FOR DOGS AVAILABLE
DENTISTRY PACKAGES START @ $115
CAT NEUTERS - $35

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Congressman Dingell comes to Belleville to talk to merchants

On Monday, July 16, U.S. Rep. John Dingell and State Rep. Dian Slavens met with local merchants in Belleville to discuss the current economic climate for locally owned small businesses.

Visiting storefronts along the Main Street Downtown District, Dingell praised local leaders for their commitment to surviving the current tough economic situation.

"These businesses are the glue that holds small cities like Belleville together," said Dingell. "Their success directly impacts the health of the community, and I am happy to see Belleville's businessmen and women work together to problem solve and support each other during these unpredictable times."

Dingell, whose district was redrawn for the 2012 election, will be representing Belleville for the first time if reelected.

"I am very pleased to have Belleville in the new district," Dingell said. "After meeting with the town's business owners, I found that the questions and concerns they have are largely the same as those across the 12th district.

"It is imperative that elected officials intimately understand the business atmosphere in their districts, and I was glad to answer their questions and listen to what they need from Washington. I remain committed to seeing to it that the voices of small businesses are heard while I work with my colleagues to get Michigan's economy turned back around."

Angela Stroud is the new administrative assistant to Van Buren School Supt. Michael Van Tassel. On June 6, she took over the job of Kathy Kovach, who retired.

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A SUPERVISOR for the RESIDENTS

Vote August 7th Primary

MENARD'S
Welcome to Van Buren Township

Supervisor Paul D.White

Paul D. White
DEMOCRAT for
Van Buren Township
Supervisor

- *PROVEN LEADERSHIP*
- Improved 2011 Budget by $1.254M
- Increased 2011 General Fund $730,000
- 6% Water & Sewer Millage not renewed saving our residents thousands of $$$$$$
- Proven Fiscal Responsibility
- Reduced cost of Staff this term
- Honesty & Integrity Proven
- Transparency in VBT Government
- Elect Officials wages frozen 2010-2011-2012
- Open Door Policy for Residents
- Represents VBT In many Committees

A VOTE FOR PAUL D. WHITE
IS A VOTE FOR Yourself
e-mail White4VBTSuper@aol.com

PRIORITY ONE: Represent Our Residents

Paid for by:
Friends of Paul D. White
17329 Haggerty Rd.
Belleville, MI.. 48111

Endorsed By:
UAW Region 1A
South Western Wayne Democratic Club
Member UFCW Local 876-539

Re-elect
LEON WRIGHT FOR VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP CLERK

- Commitment
- Collaboration
- Leadership
- Preservation
- Community/Service

My vision for the future is to see Van Buren Charter Township develop into a community of excellence admired by others. My role as Clerk is to help ensure that this becomes a reality. On August 7, 2012 choose to vote and re-elect me, Leon Wright for Van Buren Township Clerk.

"It's the Wright thing to do."

Endorsements by:
- Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club
- UAW Region 1A
- Detroit Police Officers Association

Thank you for your support!
Clerk Leon Wright

Paid for by Committee to Elect Leon Wright, 9961 Andover Drive, Van Buren Township, MI 48111

RE-ELECT JOHN W. MORGAN FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TREASURER!

Re-Elect
John W. Morgan
Sumpter Township Treasurer
VOTE: AUGUST 7

- Continuous Balanced Budget for 32 Years!
- Expanded Services in Treasurer's Office!
- Reduced Operating Costs!
- Strong Advocate for Homeowner Property Values
- Proud United States Army Veteran
- Endorsed by Sumpter Township Democratic Caucus Club
- Member of Wayne County Treasurers Association
- Member of Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association
- Member of Belleville Area Council of the Arts
- Treasurer of Sumpter Progressive Civic League
- Member of Michigan Assoc. of Retired School Personnel
- Member of Sharon SDA Church

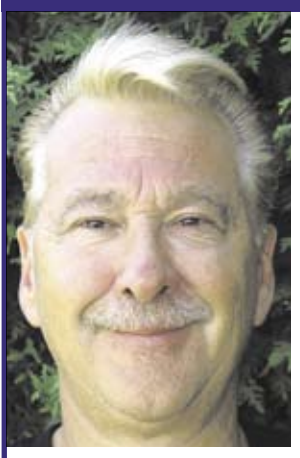
Paid for by the CTE John W. Morgan, 27555 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111

- Elect -
Johnny Vawters' Team
Voices for the People
DEMOCRATS!

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor
Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
John W. Morgan, Treasurer
Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee
VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Paved Roads
2. Completed water service to all residents
3. Reduced senior water billing
4. Negotiated contracts while reducing costs
5. Sewer service to high populated areas
6. Welcomed new businesses into township
7. Expanded recreational opportunities
8. Helped with the development of programs & activities at Crosswinds Marsh

RE-ELECT WILLIAM "BILL" HAMM FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE!



Re-Elect

William "Bill" Hamm

Sumpter Township Trustee

- Active UAW Member 33 Years
- Parks and Recreation Member 5 Years
- Country Fest Co-Chair
- Planning Commission Member
- Building Department Liaison
- Sirens Installed With More to Come
- Sumpter Township State Certified Firefighter
- Certified Medical First Responder
- Certified Advanced PADI/Diver
- Endorsed by Commissioner Kevin McNamara
- Endorsed by Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club
- Endorsed by Sumpter Township Democratic Caucus Club

VOTE: AUGUST 7

Paid for by the CTE William "Bill" Hamm for Sumpter Township Trustee, 21411 Karr Rd., Belleville, MI 48111

- Elect -

Johnny Vawters' Team

Voices for the People

DEMOCRATS!

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor
Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
John W. Morgan, Treasurer
Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee

VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Hired more road patrol officers
2. Hired and certified new firefighters
3. Reduced speed limits on certain roads from 55 to 35
4. Worked diligently on correcting the FEMA flood zone
5. Hired assessing personnel
6. Shared services neighboring communities for cost savings

RE-ELECT PEGGY MORGAN FOR SUMPTER TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE!

Member of MEA
(Michigan Education Association)

Re-Elect

Peggy Morgan

Sumpter Township

Trustee

ENDORSEMENTS: Sumpter Democratic Caucus Club, Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, Kevin McNamara, and (in past) Region 1A UAW

*Balanced Budget for 8 Years! *Township Liaison to Parks and Rec & Fire Department! *Improvements to PNA Hall (including Parking Lot)! * "Reduced Speed Limit" Signs for School Zones @ Elwell , Keystone, and Bessie Hoffman Schools! *Stop Light @ Bemis & Rawsonville Roads! *Helped bring in Over $300,000.00 in Grant Money (at no cost to residents) to Improve Township Owned Parks!

Paid for by the CTE Peggy Morgan, 46300 Claxton Dr., Belleville, MI 48111

- Elect -

Johnny Vawters' Team

Voices for the People

DEMOCRATS!

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor
Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
John W. Morgan, Treasurer
Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee

VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Reduced Speed Limits on some Gravel Roads (from 55 to 35 mph)
2. Early Warning Sirens Throughout Sumpter
3. Re-negotiated contract w/ Republic Waste for each Resident to receive a Waste Receptacle.
4. Services such as Senior Grass Cutting and Snow Plowing
5. New Street Lights Installed at Judd/Rawsonville Roads, Bemis/Lohr Roads, and at Willis/Wilmot Roads

PROVEN LEADERSHIP, EXPERIENCE PLUS UNITY PRODUCES PROGRESS!

Re-Elect

Alan D. Bates

Sumpter Township Trustee

VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Water Department Liason.
2. Served on library commisions.
3. Helped create and maintain channel 12 and the Township website.
4. Member of Parks and Recreation Commision.
5. Member of Sumpter Seniors
6. Member of Sumpter Progressive League.

ENDORSED BY:

15th Democratic District, UAW Region 1A, Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, Sumpter Democratic Caucus Club

Paid for: Committee to Re-Elect Alan D. Bates, 17469 Odyssey, Belleville, MI 48111

- Elect -

Johnny Vawters' Team

Voices for the People

DEMOCRATS!

Johnny Vawters, Supervisor
Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk
John W. Morgan, Treasurer
Alan D. Bates, Trustee
Bill Hamm, Trustee
Peggy Morgan, Trustee
Don Swinson, Trustee

VOTE: AUGUST 7

1. Balanced the budget with minimum layoffs.
2. Merged dispatch with Huron Township to reduce costs.
3. Contracted with Republic Services to improve rubbish pick-up.
4. Have made major improvements to Banotai and Graham parks.
5. Started program to help citizens with the FEMA flood insurance problem.
6. Passed ordinance to protect citizens from synthetic marijuana and other dangerous products.

In VBT: Julianne Chard announces she is running as Rep. write-in

Julianne Chard, 57, of 49029 Togowtee Pass, announces she is running as a Republican write-in candidate for Van Buren Township Supervisor in the Aug. 7 Primary Election.

She is married to Kenneth Chard and they have a son Kenneth.

Chard is a Licensed Architect in Michigan. She earned her Master of Architecture degree at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture at Lawrence Technological University, Southfield.

Chard has more than 20 years of experience in planning, design and construction for General Motors Real Estate, University of Michigan Facilities, Planning & Design, Campus and Ann Arbor Public Schools.

Chard filed her intentions to run as a write-in candidate on the Republican ticket for Van Buren Township Supervisor and then took some time to think about it. On Monday, she announced she has decided to continue her candidacy.

Chard said she moved to VBT from Ann Arbor in March 2011.

"I believe we can do much more in government services for the taxpayers of VBT without raising taxes," she said. "For this reason, I am running."

Birthdays

Aug. 3 – Katherine Niemann
Aug. 4 – Gloria Kauffman
Aug. 8 – Kathy Briggs
Aug. 21 – Lynn McArthur
Aug. 22 – Louise Montie
Aug. 23 – Lynne Mills

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

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More Letters

UAW Local 600 endorses Johnny Vawters Aug. 7

To the Editor:

The Aug. 7 Primary is fast approaching. We must elect candidates that are truly concerned about the future of working families, education and our senior citizens. Johnny Vawters has been the voice on these issues for his adult working life.

As former chairman of the Dearborn Assembly Plant and former 1st Vice President of UAW Local 600, Johnny has always stood on the side of promoting family values, on the shop floor and in the community. As Supervisor of Sumpter Township, he has brought to the office respect for its citizens and provided quality services for homeowners and businesses.

You have an opportunity to make a difference Aug. 7. A vote for Johnny Vawters is a vote for outstanding stewardship for the residents of Sumpter Township.

Vote Aug. 7, or by absentee ballot, for a better tomorrow. Vote Johnny Vawters for Sumpter Township Supervisor and The Johnny Vawters' Team.

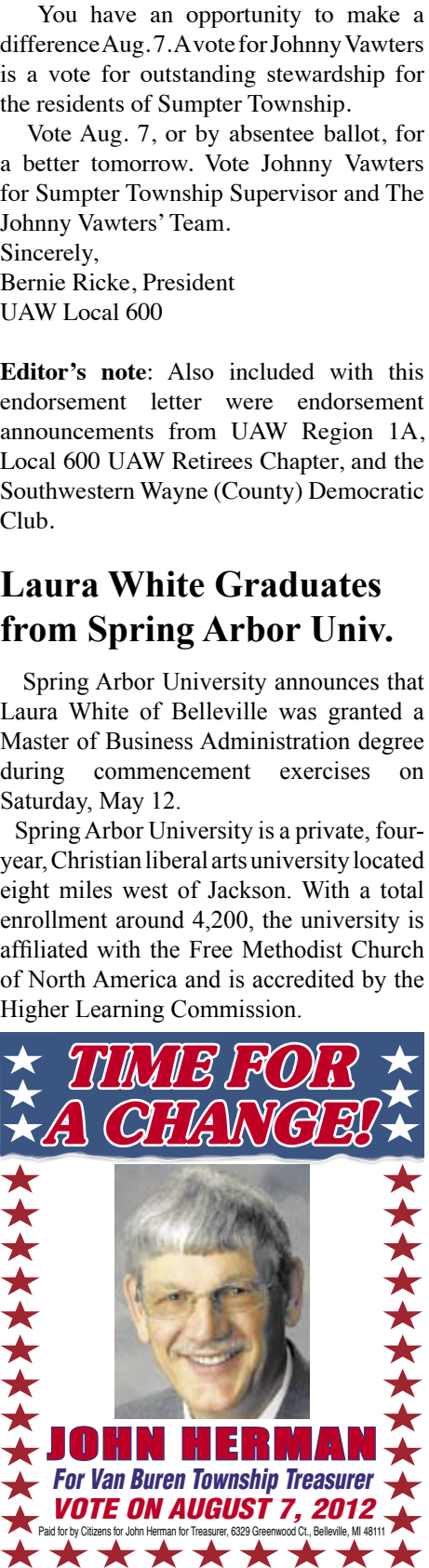
Sincerely,
Bernie Ricke, President
UAW Local 600

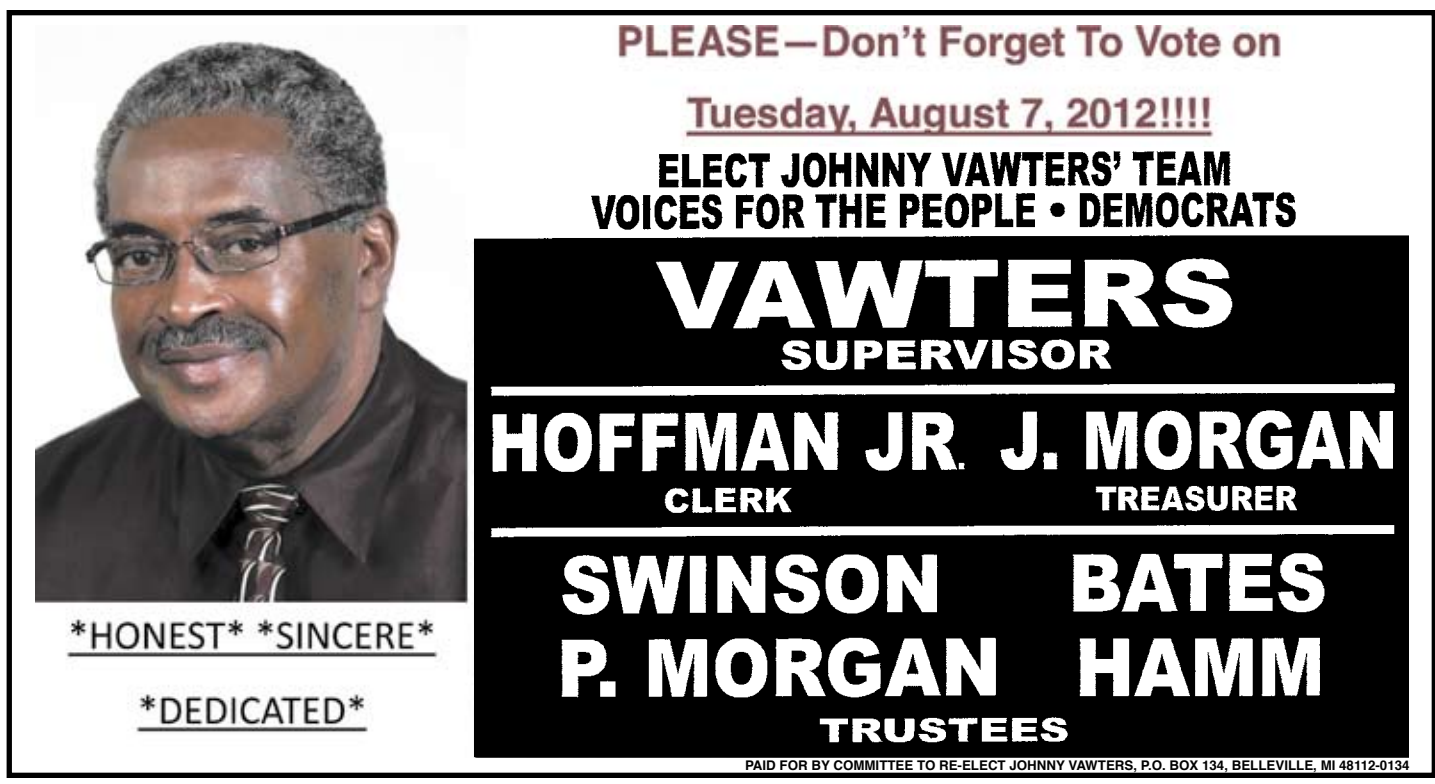
Editor's note: Also included with this endorsement letter were endorsement announcements from UAW Region 1A, Local 600 UAW Retirees Chapter, and the Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club.

Laura White Graduates from Spring Arbor Univ.

Spring Arbor University announces that Laura White of Belleville was granted a Master of Business Administration degree during commencement exercises on Saturday, May 12.

Spring Arbor University is a private, four-year, Christian liberal arts university located eight miles west of Jackson. With a total enrollment around 4,200, the university is affiliated with the Free Methodist Church of North America and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.





Paid Advertisement

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD
Psalm 33:12a

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
2 Chronicles 7:14

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They're reading the Independent everywhere

Jennie Sliwa and her daughter Patricia Shephard, both of Sumpter Township, traveled by air to Anchorage, Alaska, on July 11, rented a car and drove north. Jennie wanted to see where her granddaughter Kimberley (Shephard) Burrows lives and works at Denali National Park with her husband Rob. The Burrows celebrated their first wedding anniversary on July 9. Jennie and Patricia loved their visit to Alaska. It was refreshing break from our hot Michigan summer.

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

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

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VOTE FOR
LARRY J. FIX
SUPERVISOR, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
AUGUST 7, 2012

Van Buren Township, is our community better off now than it was four years ago? We need a Supervisor who is ready to face the challenges and issues and not ignore them or our citizens!

Grace Lake bond debt is not going away!

FEMA imposed flood plane will devastate our property values!

62% increase in home invasion crimes will not be diminished by using patrol officers as revenue collectors!

Property owners are being ignored along with our Master Plans while a potential toxic co-gen facility is planned for the northeast end of VBT!

NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE BACK OUR COMMUNITY!

We need a problem solver with a vision and hope for our community.

VOTE FOR UNITY AUGUST 7TH

Paid for by Citizens for Community & Unity, 13103 Ormond Dr., Belleville, MI 48111

Upcoming Meetings

• Monday, Aug. 6 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Aug. 7 – Primary Election

• Wednesday, Aug. 8 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Aug. 9 – Keystone Academy school board, 6 p.m., at Keystone Academy. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, Aug. 13 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building

• Tuesday, Aug. 14 – Van Buren Township LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, VBT Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, Aug. 15 – South Huron Valley Utility Authority, 10 a.m., Brownstown Township Hall. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

• Thursday, Aug. 16 – Belleville Bridge Walk and Taste of Belleville, 5-7 p.m., Horizon Park

• Monday, Aug. 20 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Aug. 21 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Aug. 22 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Aug. 23 – Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.

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Diane Madigan for Van Buren Township Trustee

My Goals as Trustee are:

- To support businesses that will better serve the community both now and in the future.
- As an animal advocate, to represent you in preserving your rights to responsible animal ownership.
- As an independent thinker, to thoroughly and thoughtfully research every topic brought before the Board of Trustees.
- To support the hiring of additional patrol police officers and fire fighters to obtain a 2010 level of service.
- To insist on accountability and responsibility in providing services.
- To remain a source of support and information to the residents.
- To put the SERVICE back into Public Service.

Any questions, comments or wishes of support: please contact me at DianeMadiganVBT@aol.com or 734-699-9207.

Paid for by CTE Diane Madigan
16163 Bak • Belleville, Michigan 48111

VOTE August 7th

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Principals at Keystone, Van Buren Public Schools get high ratings

A recent report from the state shows the effectiveness of Keystone Academy and Van Buren Public Schools principals is rated high.

Keystone's one principal was rated Highly Effective, as were two principals in the VBPS. Nine other VBPS principals were rated Effective. No local principals were rated Ineffective.

There are 3,214 principals in Michigan and 60 were found to be Ineffective, 2,102 were Effective, and 1,052 were Highly Effective.

These were the results of the Principal Effectiveness Rating Report PILOT for the 2010-11 school year.

The information from the State of Michigan website said the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) intends that this report will meet one of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-enacted State Fiscal Stabilizaiton Fund (SFSF) reporting requirements.

Under the SFSF requirements, districts must report each principal as Highly Effective, Effective, or Ineffective.

Each local public school district determined the factors used for evaluating its own principals. The data in this report reflect the effectiveness measure public school districts reported to the State of Michigan for the school year 2010-11.

DOWNTOWN ON THE LAKE

ANNUAL BRIDGEWALK
AND
TASTE OF BELLEVILLE
THURSDAY AUGUST 16 2012

BRIDGEWALK Steps off 5:30 PM. Gather at BELLEVILLE GATEWAY SIGN Sponsored by City of Belleville

TASTE OF BELLEVILLE 6 - 8 PM at HORIZON PARK
Delicious Tastes from Local Restaurants and Eateries
Belleville Water Ski Club Show
Sponsored by Belleville CBC - Central Business Community

LUCKY DUCKY RUBBER DUCK RACE
Ducks launch at HORIZON PARK 6:30 PM Sponsored by Belleville

www.buyitinbelleville.com

"Honesty, Integrity, Ability"

Vote August 7, 2012

Linda H. Combs

Democrat for

Van Buren Township

Supervisor

Paid for by Committee to Elect Linda H. Combs, P.O. Box 1861, Belleville, MI 48112

ONE HOUR 5 DAY BIBLE CLUBS COMING

AUGUST 6-10TH

Bible Stories • Songs • Prizes • Snacks

All children Kindergarten – 5th Grade are Welcomed!

3 Different locations and times. You pick or come to all!

Belleville First United Methodist Church	Rawsonville Elementary	Augusta Woods Club House
1pm-2pm	10am-11am	3pm-4pm
417 Charles St., Belleville	Grove Rd., Ypsilanti	Corner of Rawsonville & Bemis, Willis

Brought to you by the Good News Club of BFUMC
Please contact Susan Walker at 734-250-0485 or swalkerforjesus@juno.com

Re-elect Phillip C. HART | Van Buren Township Trustee

On Election Day August 7th, Make the **Right Choice:** Vote for **Phillip C. HART**

Phillip C. HART has the right credentials including his Management Leadership Experience and record of Governmental Service to help us not only navigate our way thru current issues but to also look forward and plan the future.

- √ 29 year resident and community advocate.
- √ Experienced - Local Legislative and Business Management.
- √ Education - B.B.A. Degree Business Management and Commerce.
- √ Honesty and Integrity - Holds and displays to the Highest Level.
- √ Leadership - Proven Leadership and Teamwork in resolving issues.

√ Experience that you can Trust and Count On

- 16 Years Legislative Experience. Board Representative for Public Safety.
- Former Board representative to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Cable and Environmental Commissions and Lake Committee. Member of Michigan Townships Association and Governance Academy.
- Experience with Forward Planning, Grants, Alternative Funding, Balanced Budgets, Investments, Preserving History, Collaboration with Local, County & State Officials.
- Supports Senior Center program funding.
- Supports Cultural and Recreational Programs for all ages.
- Public Safety: Proponent of Police / Fire initiatives to improve Public Safety.
- Member of the Belleville Chamber of Commerce.
- Employer: Ford Motor Company - New Model Programs Launch Management. (Manage Launch Engineers, Budgets and Global suppliers).
- Married to Karen for 27 Years, we have two Daughters both Graduates of BHS and Eastern Michigan University. Member of St. Anthony Church.

Paid by Citizens for Phillip Hart -12992 Lindavista, Belleville, Michigan 48111 734-740-9499

Re-Elect

JEFFREY L. JAHR

VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

- ☑ Proven leader who will listen to the concerns of all residents
- ☑ Strong record of community and governmental service
- ☑ Practicing attorney with municipal law experience
- ☑ Graduate Belleville High School, University of Michigan B.A. & J.D.
- ☑ Reputation for honesty and integrity

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR JEFFREY JAHR - 45281 HARMONY LANE, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

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

Sunday, July 22:
0019 – assault & battery, 45945 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0119 – assault & battery, 8431 Belleville Rd.
0142 – mental, 10960 Lighthouse
0145 – disturbance, 6735 Rogers Ave.
0148 – disturbance, 27 Ash Dr.
0207 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
0224 – noise complaint, 10741 Van Buren St.
0330 – missing person, 19 Brandi Dr.
0358 – disturbance, 41246 N. Woodbury Dr.
0425 – ATV/ORV complaint, Martz/Lohr
0813 – malicious destruction of property, 83 Maple Dr.
0914 – larceny from auto, 13080 Lake Point Pass
1239 – larceny from auto, 41470 E. Archwood Dr.
1243 – assault & battery, 7981 Kirkridge Park Dr.
1352 – larceny from auto, 48375 Bayshore Dr.
1431 – harassment call, 252 S. Ponderosa Trl.
1757 – property damage accident, 6065 Rawsonville
2045 – disturbance, 6597 Parkside Dr.
2114 – assault & battery, 9864 Hamilton St.
2339 – noise and complaint, 42038 Arthur St.
Monday, July 23:
0415 – property damage accident, Bemis / Martinsville
0908 – larceny, 2193 Rawsonville Rd.
1134 – felony assault, 46131 Village Green Ln.
1524 – mental, 10960 Lighthouse
2117 – narcotics crime, 9900 Belleville
2119 – larceny, Kmart
Tuesday, July 24:
0035 – fraud, Walmart
0137 – suicide or attempt, 41610 N. Bellridge
0406 – disorderly conduct, Meijer
1134 – child abuse, 8922 Parkwood Dr.
1135 – malicious destruction of property, 49110 Denton Rd.
1425 – private property accident, 48821 Denton
1539 – larceny, 41500 N. Bellridge Dr.
1720 – malicious destruction of property, 41536 Coolidge St.
2015 – disorderly conduct, 9202 Parkwood Dr.
2318 – larceny from auto, 11100 Lighthouse Dr.
2332 – juvenile complaint, 10850 Lighthouse Dr.
2357 – disorderly conduct, 6096 Dellor St.
Wednesday, July 25:
0117 – disturbance, Meijer
0201 – felony assault, 10573 Belleville Rd.
0335 – disturbance, 41450 E. Archwood Dr.
0838 – larceny from auto, 41450 E. Archwood Dr.
0923 – felony assault, 70 N. Ponderosa Trl.
1124 – disorderly conduct, 9556 Belleville Rd.
1143 – malicious destruction of property, 13494 Country Walk Blvd.
1327 – property damage accident, I-94 S. Service Dr. / Haggerty
1411 – fraud, Meijer
1637 – fraud, 2025 Rawsonville
1854 – trespassing, Meijer
2029 – property damage accident, 45295 Ecorse
2148 – suicide or attempt, 84 Park Estates
2223 – lake complaint, North Shore Dr./Stanley
2352 – noise complaint, 41455 S. Bellridge Dr.
Thursday, July 26:
0242 – hospice, 27 Ash Dr.
0901 – larceny from auto, 10940 Lighthouse Dr.
1148 – assault & battery, 6560 Anna Dr.
1248 – harassment call, 51214 Silvia
1254 – private property accident, 48450 Denton
1407 – private property accident, Walmart
1442 – harassment call, 39 Maple Dr.
1501 – fraud, Kmart
1556 – malicious destruction of property, 7754 Belleville Rd.
1633 – fraud, 13636 Stamford Rd.
1656 – trespassing, Hillside Cemetery
1729 – breaking & entering, 15615 Martinsville
1939 – larceny, Kmart
2054 – assault & battery, 49946 W. Huron River
2313 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / I-94 S. Service Dr.
Friday, July 27:
0654 – noise complaint, 158 Aspen
0749 – fraud, 45520 Harmony Ln.
0955 – assault & battery, 9470 Hampton Dr.
1433 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1503 – intimidation threat, 2 Pine Dr.
1517 – personal injury accident, Van Born/Hannan
1631 – holdup alarm, 15516 Pebblebrook Dr.
2259 – fraud, Walmart
Saturday, July 28:
0051 – noise complaint, 11 Ash Dr.
0337 – missing person, 9237 Parkwood Dr.
0601 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Martz
1122 – malicious destruction of property, 49364 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1425 – fraud, 10743 Oak Lane
1606 – juvenile complaint, Rawsonville / McDonald's
1619 – sexual assault, Water's Edge
1631 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
1901 – sexual assault, 6035 Winchester St.
2057 – loud party complaint, Edwards/Ecorse
2116 – hospice, 44401 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2212 – noise complaint, 7597 Kirkridge Park Dr.
2219 – noise complaint, 45341 Harmony Ln.

Also on this week's log are 259 traffic stops, 49 of which were on the freeways: I-94 and I-275.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 22:
0003 – disturbance, 112 Carmell St.
0204 – agency assist, 2111 Rawsonville
0227 – intrusion alarm, 305 Oxford Ct.
0257 – information, 6 Main St.
0725 – suspicious situation, South Middle School
0900 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.
0938 – welfare check, Belleville/Denton
1304 – E-911 cellular, 14 Carmell St.
1307 – private property accident, 465 W. Waterbury Ct.
1555 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.
2106 – assist fire dept., 16 San Carlos St.
2143 – domestic assault, 388 Main St.
2318 – suspicious vehicle, Village Park
Monday, July 23:
0008 – assist fire dept., 41 Loza Lane
0135 – suspicious vehicle, Lakeview
0841 – assist citizen, 6 Main
0951 – abandoned auto, Chase Bank
1107 – background investigation, 6 Main St.
1159 – intrusion alarm, 250 N. Liberty St.
1231 – larceny, 237 Main St.
1301 – intrusion alarm, 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.
1548 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty/E. Huron River
1653 – PPO violation, 6 Main St.
1709 – suspicious person, 494 W. Columbia Ave.
1947 – suspicious vehicle, 379 High St.
2208 – assist fire dept., 26 Loza Lane
Tuesday, July 24:
0722 – malicious destruction of property, 305 Oxford Ct.
1004 – intimidation threat, 231 N. Aberdeen Ct.
1203 – juvenile complaint, 140 Biggs Ave.
1236 – larceny, 279 Church St.
1308 – traffic complaint, 6 Loza Lane
1416 – larceny, 317 S. Industrial Park Dr.
1803 – serve warrant, 75 Walnut
1811 – intrusion alarm, 250 Henry
1903 – property damage accident, 39 Loza Lane
2132 – water leak found, 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.
2141 – property check, Victory Park
2233 – suspicious situation, Horizon Park
Wednesday, July 25:
0221 – property check, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr.
0930 – malicious destruction of property, Victoria Park
1136 – assist fire dept., 162 Belle Villa Blvd.
1222 – malicious destruction of property, 6 Main
1541 – fraud, 465 Main St.
2104 – disturbance, 509 N. Liberty St.
2219 – weapons violation, 575 Sumpter Rd.
2312 – PPO violation, 606 Estrada
Thursday, July 26:
0026 – suspicious person, South Middle School
0236 – disturbance, 130 Carmell St.
0325 – hospice, 459 E. Waterbury Ct.
1244 – larceny, 52 Loza Lane
1937 – fraud, 215 N. Aberdeen Ct.
2053 – misc. complaint, 342 Brain St.
2146 – civil matter, 59 Loza Lane
2153 – assist fire dept., 142 South St.
Friday, July 27:
0029 – parking complaint, 317 Oxford Ct.
0331 – malicious destruction of property, 416 Sumpter Rd.
1042 – larceny, 495 Victorian Lane
1111 – intimidation threat, 91 Potter Dr.
1214 – suspicious person, 144 Clarence St.
1230 – E-911 hangup/investigation, BHS
1356 – assist fire dept., 31 Menlo Park Dr.
1818 – property check, Hillside
Saturday, July 28:
0014 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.
0201 – property check, 222 Belle Villa Blvd.
0224 – assist fire dept., 584 Main St.
1146 – civil matter, 6 Main St.
1226 – intrusion alarm, 201 Third St.
1646 – assist fire dept., 109 Potter Dr.
1730 – civil matter, 230 Henry St.
1816 – civil matter, 6 Main St.
2125 – suspicious situation, 75 S. Liberty St.
2131 – suspicious situation, 59 Carmell St.
2154 – suspicious vehicle, Hull/Sumpter
2254 – agency assist, 14889 Brookside
2311 – property check, BHS

Also on this week's log are 21 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, July 22:
0015 – suspicious person, Carriage Lane
0227 – warrant arrest, out of township
0547 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Willis
0702 – malicious destruction of property, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1014 – larceny, Utah
1155 – found property, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1223 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
1349 – family trouble, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1528 – larceny, Wayside
1654 – well-being check, Rustic Lane
1733 – citizen assist, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1907 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Rawsonville/Judd
2051 – warrant arrest, out of township
2157 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
Monday, July 23:
0724 – suspicious vehicle, 27000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0807 – malicious destruction of property, Stonecrest
0902 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
0933 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1020 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1033 – trespassing complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1422 – fraud, New Mexico
1445 – citizen assist, Harris/Haggerty
1451 – suspicious vehicle, 43000 bl. Clay Rd.
1607 – breaking & entering report, Utah
1644 – citizen assist, 6300 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1758 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
2011 – family trouble, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
2104 – suspicious incident, 6300 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
2306 – fire dept. assist, Utah
Tuesday, July 24:
0104 – fight, Judd/Sumpter
0129 – suspicious incident, Creekside
0236 – malicious destruction of property, Edgewood
0428 – threats complaint, Stonecrest
0631 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
0809 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
0845 – suspicious person, Haggerty/Judd
1210 – alarm, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1240 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.
1425 – larceny, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1648 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1755 – animal complaint, Willow/Sumpter
1803 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.
1845 – suspicious incident, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1906 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Willow
1909 – citizen assist, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
2013 – assist other agency, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
2101 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2129 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
2137 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Willis Rd.
2313 – disorderly person, New Mexico
Wednesday, July 25:
0018 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming
0557 – animal complaint, Willow/Martinsville
0915 – harassment complaint, 44000 bl. Harris
1059 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
1327 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
1609 – warrant arrest, out of township
1755 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
1813 – fire dept. assist, 9600 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1813 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
1842 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Sherwood
2035 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Martinsville
2106 – mental health commitment, Utah
2210 – fire dept. assist, Dakota Ct.
2213 – 911 hangup investigation, Rustic Lane
2253 – disorderly person, Rustic Lane
2313 – trespassing complaint, Rustic Lane
Thursday, July 26:
0138 – suspicious vehicle, Oakville Waltz/Haggerty
0834 – traffic hazard, Savage/Harris
0935 – larceny, 7900 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1127 – fire dept. assist, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1344 – larceny, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1445 – dumping complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1556 – harassment complaint, 18000 bl. Sumpter
1819 – warrant arrest, out of township
1838 – fire dept. assist, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
2054 – assist other agency, California
2220 – found property, Redwood
2353 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
Friday, July 27:
0421 – fire dept. assist, Birch
0433 – disorderly person, Utah
0630 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0829 – threats complaint, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
0841 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Martinsville
0958 – citizen assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1321 – threats complaint, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
1332 – suspicious vehicle, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1503 – alarm, 22000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1520 – reckless driver, Sumpter/Dunn
1541 – larceny, Utah
1658 – breaking & entering report, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1734 – larceny, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1759 – fire dept. assist, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1810 – fight, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
1813 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
2220 – suspicious person, Oakville Waltz/Sumpter
Saturday, July 28:
0220 – assault, Knollwood
0802 – property damage accident, 49000 bl. Judd
1117 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1552 – property damage accident, 42000 bl. Willis Ct.
1601 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1818 – fire dept. assist, Washington
2018 – shots fired investigation, Judd/Sumpter
2218 – larceny, Rustic Lane

Also on this week's log are 13 follow-up investigations, 31 miscellaneous details, 173 patrol checks, and 53 traffic stops.

VBT Public Safety switches over to 800 radio system on July 26

Van Buren Township Public Safety Department officially switched over to the 800 MHz system on Thursday evening, July 26.

"We are now in the 21st century with our radio system and have interoperability with other agencies," said Captain Gregory Laurain on Tuesday.

An email to the Independent asked for how to update police scanners since the system has changed.

Captain Laurain said the frequency for police is 31EC (12780) and fire is 31ED (12781).

"Don't ask me how to program or enter this into the 800 scanners. Not a clue," Laurain added.

Paid Advertisement

I Support John Herman

Dear Editor:

This letter is my letter of support for John Herman, a candidate well qualified to be Van Buren Township Treasurer. John Herman, a 29 year resident, is a former Van Buren Township (VBT) Trustee (11 years), served for 12 years on VBT Planning Commission-including Chair, plus other leadership roles. John retired from Ford Motor after 35 years of service. While at Ford he worked in accounting, management, security and safety. John is a pleasant, engaging, energetic person, open to suggestion and will encourage cooperation within the Township Hall.

I am supporting John Herman for Treasurer and ask Van Buren Township residents to do the same.

Meanwhile, Our Current Treasurer has some explaining to do.

1. **Malcontent:** Our Current Treasurer did aid and abet the unsuccessful, vicious recall, not only by donating substantial sums to its cause but also by inviting recall activists into her township office to dish the dirt. She worked as a powerful force behind the scenes, hoping to destroy the newly elected officials. Her side lost, contrary to Ms. Budd's plans. But the cost of the recall fiasco was substantial in many ways.
2. **Troublemaker:** Our Current Treasurer has been at the vortex of discontent within the Township Hall during the current administration, treating Supervisor Paul White and Clerk Leon Wright with disrespect, if not downright contempt, calling them "dummies," making employees choose sides. Outrageous conduct from a public servant.
3. **Careless:** Our Current Treasurer failed to get performance bonds renewed to hold developers accountable. Some of the newer Township developments have serious infrastructure problems (unfinished streets, open basements, inadequate street lighting, Homeowner Associations not activated, blighted-unbuilt lots and incomplete public improvements). The homeowners have no easy remedy, in part because Our Current Treasurer neglected to require the builders to renew their performance bonds, a specific duty of the treasurer's office. She dropped the ball and the residents in those subdivisions are stuck with the resulting problems.
4. **Heedless:** Finally, we come to the Visteon bonds. Before the bond vote, the Board was warned in an open meeting by its Bond Counsel of the risks if Visteon defaulted. As a member of the Township Board, Our Current Treasurer voted to guarantee the Visteon Bonds with the full faith and credit of Van Buren Township. That is, if Visteon were to default on its bond payments, the township (read Taxpayers) would have to make good on the shortfall. Even though angels would fear to tread, Our Current Treasurer and others on the King team rushed in to pledge the Township's treasury and more. If Visteon is unable to pay the taxes necessary to cover the bond payments, with the shortfall expected in 2018, VBT residents may be obligated to pay millions to make the bond payments. Our Current Treasurer, with other members of the King Team –some are holdovers in the current administration, failed VBTresidents by their Visteon vote. **John Herman**, a trustee at the time of the Visteon vote and a Visteon employee, **did not vote to support a guarantee for the Visteon debt.**

Our Current Treasurer has a sorry record. **The far better for choice in VBT for Treasurer is John Herman**, a candidate well qualified to serve all the residents of Van Buren Township. **For sure, John Herman has my vote.** I ask thinking residents to support John Herman for Treasurer.

Along with **John Herman for Treasurer**, I am supporting
Paul White for Supervisor,
Leon Wright for Clerk,
Denise Partridge and Al Ostrowski for Trustees.

This slate would be strengthened by electing **Angela Nettro as Trustee**, a candidate who has years of experience on the VBT Board of Review (property taxes), has an excellent professional reputation and is a tireless worker.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Rogalle Miller
Van Buren Township Resident

PAID FOR BY BARBARA MILLER, 321 MAIN ST., BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

At the July 24 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees, the Parks and Recreation Commission honored two youngsters for volunteering at Sumpter Township Country Fest in May. From left are James and Rosalynn Green. Presenting the framed certificates of appreciation were Trustee Peggy Morgan, board liaison to the commission, and Don Swinson, Parks and Rec. and Country Fest chairman.

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Library space expert Anders Dahlgren to visit Belleville on Sept. 26

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Library space expert Anders Dahlgren is scheduled to visit Belleville on Wednesday, Sept. 26, to talk about library space needs for a new building, but the time and location is yet to be determined.

That was the message to the public at the July 10 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board.

The library board hopes to get use of the Belleville High School's new mini-auditorium, which seats 92, or the main auditorium, which seats around 400.

The board recently hired Dahlgren to update a 2005 report he did on the space needs for a new library. His new report recommends 1,000 more square feet than his original report.

At its June 12 meeting, the board approved spending up to $1,900 to have Dahlgren come to Belleville to explain his recommendation. Board member John Juriga voted against the motion, saying the board could have its architect explain the report to it.

In the long written report Dahlgren sent to the library board, he noted library trends call for increased eBooks, the need for more computers in libraries, the move toward shorter, more accessible shelving with wider aisles and computerized check outs.

When a location for the meeting is determined, it will be announced.

In other business at the 48-minute meeting, the board:

• Discussed selection of an auditor, since the fiscal year ended June 30. Financial consultant Ron Traskos is being asked to review the request for proposals being considered;

• Heard board chairman Mary Jane Dawson thank Barbara Miller about the reminder concerning Miller's suggestion of hiring a professional fundraiser to help with the new building. Dawson said the board hasn't discussed it. Miller said people will memorialize loved ones with donations, especially during construction of a new building. There could be pledges for donations for public art, public rooms, and other things. "People could make commitments for the library besides their taxes," Miller said, adding the board has been functioning for more than two years now and should be discussing a professional way to raise funds. The fund raiser could approach Visteon, GE, and other corporations in a professional manner, she said. Board member Joy Cichewicz said both libraries where she has worked have an annual appeal and fund drive. The finance and policy committees will put together a policy on fundraising, to present to the board hopefully at the next meeting;

• Was informed the new fiber optic line has been installed at the library, with internet responsiveness greatly improved. The line went from the previous 3 megabytes to the new 10 megabytes;

• Learned eCirculation went up 189% year to date from this time last fiscal year and total circulation was down 0.53%. Children's programming increased 9.03% and adult programming 38.24%. Adult internet use was up more than 13%, with children's internet use down almost 33%;

• Discussed investigating the FEMA flood plain maps to determine specifically if the favored DNR library site on lakeside property is in the floodplain which would require special permits to build and flood insurance; and

• Heard Juriga say he liked Miller's idea to send a letter to the Belleville City Council asking for a response to the library board's request to donate the library building property to the library. Juriga pointed out it has been 145 days since the library board made the request.

Belleville Polar Plunge 2013 set for 10 a.m. Feb. 9 at Moose Lodge

The Belleville Polar Plunge will take place on Feb. 9 at the Belleville Moose Lodge. Registration will start at 10 a.m. with the parade of costumes starting at 11:45 a.m.

Plungers will be taking the plunge at noon. Awards and the post plunge party will start at 12:45 p.m.

For information on how to participate, contact Dave Katz at 313-460-2604 or email katz.david.b@gmail.com .

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township
Notice of Public Hearing
Variance

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals on August 22, 2012 at 7pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, for the purpose of receiving statements and views on a proposed Variance on #81-131-99-0007-000 better known as 6482 Oakville Waltz. The Variance request is to erect a pole barn in the front yard. The Sumpter Township Ordinance, Article XI, Section 17.03, does not allow for an accessory building and/or garage to be located in a front yard.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk, Sumpter Township Publish: August 2, 2012

"Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising."
Mark Twain

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider the following:

An ordinance to amend the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92, as amended in the following:

SECTION 4.24 WIRELESS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

SECTION 4.31 COLOCATION ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL

The complete text of the proposed amendments is available at the Township Department of Developmental Services during regular business hours. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date of August 22, 2012. You can also contact the Department of Developmental Services with questions at (734) 699-8913.

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

Published: August 2, 2012
Posted: August 2, 2012

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Public Act 188 of 1954 Proceedings
Sumpter Township
Wayne County , Michigan
Notice of Public Hearing on the Special Assessment Roll for the
Judd Road Paving Special Assessment District

To the residents and property owners of Sumpter Township, Wayne County, Michigan, the owners of land within the Judd Road Paving Special Assessment District and any other interested persons:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and assessing officer of the Township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination, a petition to create a special assessment district ("SAD") signed by more than 50% of the property owners for all properties on Judd Road between Sumpter Road and Rawsonville Road for the purpose of undertaking and completing a road paving project and for the assessment of said properties to cover the cost of such paving.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has scheduled a public hearing at the Sumpter Community Center Gym, 23501 Sumpter Road, Belleville, Michigan on August 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of considering the petition for the creation of the SAD and hearing any objections thereto. Said Petition may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of said hearing.

An owner, or party in interest, or his or her agent may appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or shall be permitted to file his or her appearance or protest by letter and his or her personal appearance shall not be required. (The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll. However, in the event that any owner or party in interest fails to object to the creation of the SAD or to the confirmation of the rolls, may be prohibited from appealing to the Michigan Tax Tribunal the assessment.)

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP

Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk Publish August 2, 2012

After hearing, Board of Determination OKs big drain project in Sumpter

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

About 100 people attended the more than two-hour Board of Determination public hearing July 11 which resulted in a "Determination of Necessity" for a huge drain cleaning project in Sumpter Township.

The project includes 37 miles of drains serving a third of Sumpter Township, about 8,000 acres.

More than 45 people had their statements recorded by a court reporter as they addressed the three-member board that ultimately voted unanimously that the project was necessary.

The meeting was held in the Sumpter Community Center gymnasium, where there was no air conditioning and the loud fans made the acoustics so bad that people in the back of the room said they couldn't hear the proceedings or testimony. No sound system was available.

Some residents were hopeful that the project would solve their drastic flooding problems, while others said people will not be able to afford the hefty assessments and there will end up with more vacant homes in the township.

After the meeting, several township officials put their heads together seeking a way to head off the huge, costly project with a court order.

Wayne County Deputy Drain Commissioner Kerreen Conley facilitated the hearing. She explained the hearing was set up after five landowners petitioned the county for relief.

The July 11 meeting was an opportunity for people to give testimony to the board of three, disinterested county residents who would decide if there was a need for the project.

The cost of the project will be determined once engineers have been determined through bidding and studies done to show the scope of the work.

Rodney Vallis of Spicer Engineers explained that the North Branch of Swan Creek Consolidated Drain includes 25 individual tributary county drains, that run to the main branch of North Branch of Big Swan Creek, which was established in 1901.

In 1999, Sumpter Township and Wayne County consolidated the district and all 26 are joined together to handle all 37 miles of established county drain.

Vallis said the county couldn't find the records, but it's been 60 or 70 years since any kind of maintenance was done on these branches or the main branch. He said there was some repair work in 2007.

Vallis said many of the crossings are undersized, the drains are overgrown with large trees, and there are erosion problems.

After hearing lengthy testimony, Paul Sincock, who was sitting on the Board of Determination, summarized the statements of property owners. Sincock is Plymouth City Manager.

He said the testimony showed a lot of lack of trust in government and engineers and several people worried about the cost of the project, size and potential scope of the district.

Sincock said several were anxious about giving Wayne County "a blank check". While there were tales of flooding along Willow Road and a woman reported a 2-foot-long fish in her flooded driveway, flooding in the district is somewhat limited. But, the roads are not draining, culverts are not working and there are different issues, he said.

Sincock said this board is supposed to make a determination on the need and he said there does seem to be a need for the project. All three members concurred.

Then they approved an At-Large Assessment to Sumpter Township, those in the district, and Wayne County for the public health and welfare.

Conley said if people are not happy with the board's decisions they can appeal to Wayne County Circuit Court within 10 days. If there is no appeal, they will proceed to go out for proposals so they can select an engineer to design the project.

The selected engineering firm will be given testimony from the hearing and will walk the drain and talk to the residents before designing the project.

Then a public informational meeting will be held in a place where there is a sound system. At this meeting, people will be informed on what the project will look like and they can see their properties on maps. This is when they would find out how much the total project is estimated to cost. They also will consider how long to assess the project, 10 years or 20 years or what is palatable to the property owners.

Conley said after that meeting, there will be Notices of Letting and Day of Review at the drain office, where people can learn how much the assessment will be for them. There is a way to appeal the assessment. Then the roll is set.

Conley said there will be no construction this year and may not happen until 2014. She said the costs will be held until the project is financed and then the assessments will be put on the tax bills, possibly in 2014.

The large district starts at the northwestern corner of the township, at Bemis and Rawsonville roads, and goes across the middle of the township, ending near the southeast corner in the Willow Road area at the Huron Township border.

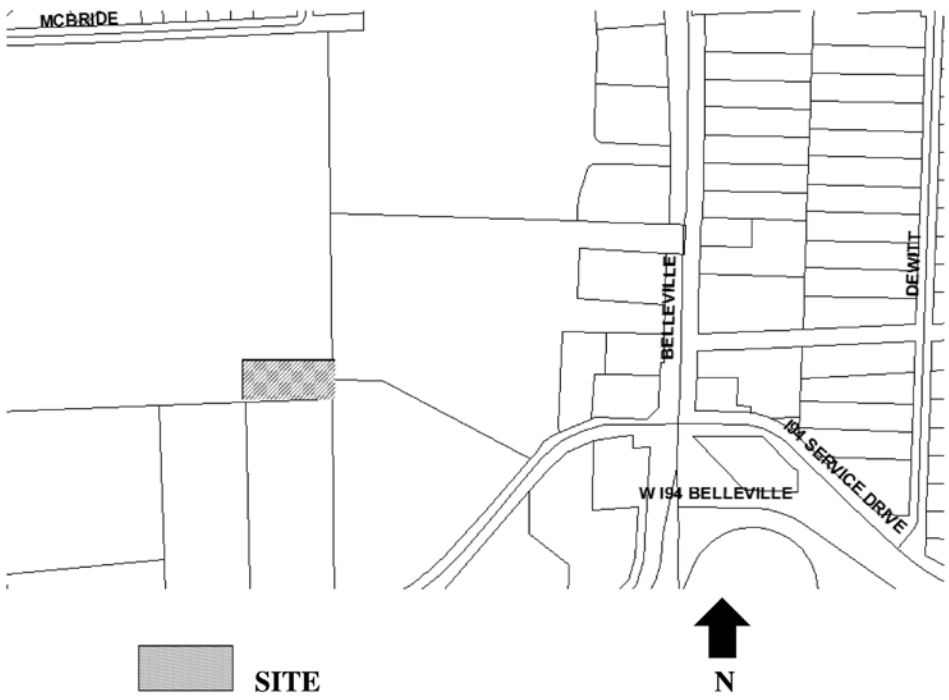
Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, August 22, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a zoning change on the following described property:

A portion of parcel number V125-83-064-99-001-000 also known as the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road equal to 0.61 acres is proposed to be rezoned from R1-B (Single Family Residential) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business). This property is located north of the I-94 Service Drive, west of Belleville Road, east of Quirk Road and south of McBride Street.

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



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

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

Published: August 2, 2012
Posted: August 2, 2012

More Letters

Kovach rebuts letter's endorsement of White

To the Editor:

The recent articles in the local newspaper contained Paul White questioning Kovach's numbers and the accuracy of his information. Let's begin by the cost of the so-called water line improvements.

The FOIA contract documents page #00 4243-3 show the water line project cost $467.147.25. To me, that is closer to a half million dollars that Kovach stated than the $289,490.00 stated by Paul White.

Next, Paul White was well aware in advance of the denial of not only Kovach's property, but all of his neighbors. He ignored his fellow residents and continued to pursue his plan that the township paid for that required the use each property owner's land because Wayne County would not allow the use their easement.

At that time, Paul White backed a plan created by the former DPW director that would support the Coy Kendall land splits. Following that director's departure, the current DPW director met with Wayne County officials and convinced them to allow the county easement, but only two feet away from the property owners right-away.

With this new plan in hand, it then became apparent the township was withdrawing their support for the Coy Kendall property split. Kovach naturally withdrew his support for the use of over 1,400 feet of easement the township was asking for.

The township ordered a second set of engineering plans at taxpayers' expense using the new construction plan. Kovach reviewed these new plans then warned the township officials at a township meeting that this plan would not work, but they refused to listen to reason. They responded to Kovach, "We will just engineer around you. No problem." The township then informed the contractor that everything was in place for the project to begin.

Kovach went out on the first day of construction with his FOIA plans of the project and informed the Site Engineer at the job site for Wade Trim it was impossible for him to construct this project per the plan. Kovach then showed him the construction details of the water valves, water hydrants and other aspects of the project that would encroach on his and his neighbors' property. Believe it or not the Site Engineer declared right on the spot that Kovach was right and the project would have to be reengineered for a third time. The township then went back after a long delay with Wayne Country and requested that the water line be moved again, this time some 12 feet to accommodate Kovach's concerns.

Problem solved. Right? Wrong! It was during a phone conversation between Kovach and the contactor where his crew had trespassed on Kovach's property and complaint was being filed with the police (Case#2020112) that Kovach asked if the township was going to pay him [contractor] any additional money for the reengineering and delays that were caused by Paul White's lack of preparation and foresight. He answered, he had written a few letters indicating a request for more money, but the township indicated to him that no addition money would be given for the township's mistakes. This was understandable from the township's point of view, considering the high profile of Kovach's efforts.

This really made Kovach think long and hard. Why would a man who doesn't live in this community be so generous to our township and community? The answer is simple when there is money involved. It's just a matter of how to hide it to pass the money on to the contractor.

Now the question is to discover how it was hidden. It was done in a very clever way by removing the number of water valves used in the project. These water valves are one of easiest things to hide because there is only a manhole cover to indicate their position. It's not like a fire hydrant that would be easy to count. In fact, the number of water values from the original plans and bid which Kovach was able to FOIA had FIVE water valves along the route, now there are only THREE. These water valves are one of highest priced item on the bid sheet (page #00 4243-2).

The answer is now so very simple once you know where to look. The contractor who bid the job gets paid for FIVE water values but installed THREE. Who would ever check and walk down the road and simply count the number of water values?

You guessed it! KOVACH. For those in doubt, come to Bemis Road and count the number of manhole covers. They are very easy to see when you know what to look for.

The choices are now clear for Paul White. He should ask the contractor for a refund of this line item and any others that they have changed for which they bid and would be paid, but did not install. In addition, could Paul White, who signed the contract explain line item #26 page 00 5200-4 an expense item Traffic Maintenance and Control for $32,000.00 which is the biggest unit priced line item on the contract?

Using Paul White's figure of $289,490.00 that would be 11.05% of the total project for traffic maintenance and control? Is this possible?

There is one more detail. It concerns the Wade Trim Site Engineer who was only scheduled for 35 days (page 00 4243-3) with this project starting in the middle of May. That means this project has been going on for over two months now with no end in sight. That is a little more than 35 days listed in the contract. It should be very interesting to find out how Wade Trim gets paid.

If this is the type of saving and financial management that Rogalle Miller speaks about when referring to Paul White, you would like to think that a better way could be found. This is only one project of many that Paul White has handled, but this one with a person who has a reason to spend the time and effort to find out what really happens in our township.

How many other people have similar issues, but not the time or expertise to pursue what is right? This type of accounting or saving may benefit the officials of the township, but it certainly does not benefit the residents of this community which we all are trying to improve.

There is only one thing Kovach can agree with in Rogalle Miller's letter and that is, "The White Administration has had some setbacks and missteps." And, this makes it clear that we must make a change to this administration AUG. 7 and answer the call to Remember Bemis Road and Remove Paul White.

Sincerely,
Louis Kovach
Van Buren Resident 53 years

Editor's Note: Kovach refers to the letter from Barbara Rogalle Miller published on page 6 in the July 26 issue of the *Independent*.

BHS yearbooks from years 1967 to 2011 on sale at museum

There are still plenty of old Belleville High School yearbooks for sale at the Belleville Area Museum.

Various quantities from the years 1967-2011 are available. The cost is $25 each or two for $40. The yearbooks were donated to the museum by BHS when the old school was being readied for demolition.

The Civil War exhibit also continues at the museum with a $2 special exhibit admission fee.

The museum will close for summer break, July 30-Aug. 10.

The museum's summer hours are in effect: Tuesday, 3-7 p.m.; and Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, noon to 4 p.m.

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VOTE FOR
LARRY J. FIX
SUPERVISOR, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
AUGUST 7, 2012

It is less than a week before the VBT election and Larry Fix is still the only Supervisor candidate that is acknowledging the real issues facing VBT

The three biggest issues facing VBT are:
- The toxic Visteon methane burning plant
- The incorrect F.E.M.A. floodplain levels
- The Visteon (Grace Lake) bond crisis

Paul White has mishandled all three of these issues, favoring big business and the federal government. Larry Fix pledges to represent only the citizens of VBT.

Larry Fix: The new floodplain levels proposed by F.E.M.A. are incorrect. Despite the ineptness of White, the township can still fight the proposed changes because the levels don't coincide with established numbers. Sumpter Township is fighting for their citizens while White proposes VBT join the National Flood Insurance Plan that will result in irreparable damage to the value of every home and piece of property in our community.

Paul White: Favors shifting the burden to the residents of VBT instead of big business and the federal government.

Larry Fix: We must fight this incorrect and improper intrusion by the federal government. This plan is nothing more than revenue collecting to offset losses from other parts of the country.

Paul White: Ignored the looming Visteon Bond crisis the first two years of his term. After the Visteon bankruptcy proceedings, White negotiated a terrible settlement with Visteon, leaving VBT exposed to a $31 million bond debt that the citizens will be responsible for. A similar example of this dilemma would be the movie studio in Allen Park, except that VBT does not own the buildings or property at Visteon (Grace Lake).

Paul White: Continues to blame the previous administration instead of working towards a solution that will give our township stability. His election time concerns are too little, too late and nothing more than an attempt to disguise his complete lack of management skills.

Larry Fix: Will fight for the citizens of VBT by presenting the correct floodplain elevation levels to F.E.M.A. Any underlying conflicts with these issues, which Paul White has kept hidden from the citizens, will be resolved in the best interest of the residents of Van Buren Township.

Larry Fix pledges to represent only the taxpayers of the township, not big business or the federal government.

We need to VOTE IN UNITY *August 7th*

ELECT LARRY J. FIX SUPERVISOR, VBT

"One Community in Unity"

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR COMMUNITY UNITY, 13103 ORMOND DR., BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

NMS teacher

(continued from page 1)

on Tuesday morning, accompanied by her husband, Rich.

After the arraignment, Brennan's attorney Loren M. Dickstein told camera crews from channels 2, 4, and 7 that his client's husband is very supportive of his wife and loves her dearly.

Dickstein said Brennan's husband will be with her at all her court appearances.

Judge David Parrott read the charges and Brennan stood mute, which is treated as a not-guilty plea.

A pre-exam was set for 1 p.m. Aug. 6 before Judge Brian Oakley and, if necessary, a preliminary exam will be held at 9 a.m., Aug. 8, in front of Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green.

Attorney Dickstein asked for a waiver of the 14-days limit for the preliminary exam because he wanted 30 days for discovery to seek out all the facts. Judge Parrott said, quite frankly, there was not that much to discover and Dickstein could take it up at the pre-exam.

"You can always waive the 14 days at that time," Judge Parrott said.

Brennan was released on $10,000 personal recognizance bond. Judge Parrott said no funds were required because she turned herself in and the police department recommended the personal bond.

Judge Parrott said the terms of the bond include no contact of any sort with the alleged victim, including by electronic devices, personal contact, or written.

Also, Tuesday morning, Van Buren Public Schools Supt. Michael Van Tassel issued a statement on Brennan's status.

"There have been charges of improprieties brought against an adult who teaches in the district," Supt. Van Tassel wrote. "We are cooperating with the criminal authorities to obtain the facts and information regarding these charges.

"Van Buren Public Schools will take all appropriate steps necessary to determine the future employment status of this individual to ensure the utmost protect of all our students."

The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com Read The Newspaper On The Web!

Sewer gas disrupts work day at Auto Auction on Rawsonville Road

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Insurance Auto Auction, 8251 Rawsonville Road, had its workday disrupted last Thursday afternoon after fumes sickened about six employees in the office area.

Sumpter Township Fire Chief Les Powell said his department was called in the early afternoon after some employees had trouble breathing because of fumes and evacuated the building.

Chief Powell said he called Washtenaw County Hazmat for a technician to come out and help him assess the situation.

Something was coming up through the floor drains in the restrooms. He said because of the dry summer, the water that is usually in the drains dried up, but the water is necessary to keep the sewer gases from rising.

No real water goes into the floor drains, he said. The hot, dry summer and use of fans helped to dry up the drain.

Chief Powell said the fumes were only in one area of the building. Fire fighters ran "a bunch of water" down the drain, restoring the "water stopper", and the fumes disappeared.

The employees were checked out by Huron Valley Ambulance personnel. There were no injuries.

Fire fighters were on the scene for almost three hours.

The business, in Sumpter Township's industrial district, is on a municipal sewer system.

Haggerty/Huron River Dr. intersection to be resurfaced at Metropark entrance

The Wayne County Roads Division will be milling and resurfacing the intersection of Haggerty Road and Huron River Drive at the Metropark entrance through Friday, Aug. 3, weather permitting.

Work was scheduled to start on Tuesday, July 31, and was to take place daily through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. During the project, the intersection will be closed except for through traffic.

"Hurting someone with the truth is better than making them happy with a lie"

-- Author Unknown

The powers that be have hardly been truthful about the Visteon matter. And we, the Taxpayers, are going to pay for their indiscretions.

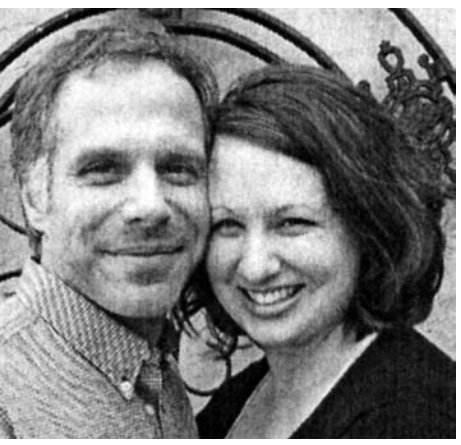
GOD BLESS AMERICA!

-- Charles Tackett, ***A Disabled Vietnam Veteran & Van Buren Township Taxpayer***

Crystal Howard, Greg Keller to wed in Sept.

Crystal Howard of Belleville and Greg Keller of Romulus are planning a Sept. 14 wedding at St. Stephen's Church with Fr. John Hedges officiating.

Crystal is the daughter of Thomas and Nancy Howard of Belleville. Greg is the son of Matthew and Madeline Keller of Dearborn.



Crystal and Greg are tying the knot, September 14th, at 4 on the dot! We wanted to share their happy news, May God bless the new couple in all that they do!

Submitted by Adrian Schulz

Ryan Richter earns *magna cum laude* honors at Hope College

Ryan Richter of Belleville, a recent graduate, has earned *magna cum laude* honors at Hope College for outstanding academic accomplishment during his four years of study.

Magna cum laude honors are awards to graduates who achieved a minimum 3.7 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

Hope College is located in Holland, MI.

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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FOUND

MOTOROLA T 45 hundred Walkie/Talkie. Found in Village Park by Victoria Commons July 11, 2012. (313) 515-3322 8/02

Found - Small dog about 2 or 3 yrs. old on Martinsville Rd. off Willow Rd. Call and identify. (734) 740-8470 8/09

RING FOUND at Belleville Rd. car wash July 19th . Call to identify. (734) 635-1531 8/09

LOST

LOST GO PRO CAMERA. Lost our Go Pro camera in the lake on the 4th of July. It's attached to an orange float buoy. Reward if found. (573) 452-1886 8/09

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"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on or by imbeciles who really mean it."

Mark Twain

HELP WANTED

ATTENTION ENERGETIC SENIORS:

If you love animals and have a couple hours to spare in the morning, 1 or more days a week, Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue would love to hear from you! To join our team of dedicated volunteers, please call or email Sandy @ (734) 417-5117 *or* seatonsandra@yahoo.com

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EXPERIENCED AUTO BODY & Collision Repair Technician needed. Contact Burhop's Collision (734) 699-3641 8/16

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INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

GARAGE/YARD SALE

BARN SALE - 42999 WILLIS CT. behind Martinsville Cemetery. Aug. 3, 2-7 p.m., Aug. 4, 8-5 p.m., Aug 5, 12-4 p.m. 90% GUY STUFF. Bring a trailer or buy one of mine. (9) Snowmobiles, (4) 3-Wheelers, Go Kart, 1976 T-Bird, Trailers, Boats, Outboards, Jet Skis, Toys, Woodworking, Hand & Power tools, Animal cages, Feeders, Electrical supplies, Guns, Auto parts (Perf.). 8/02

YARD SALE - 1053 SAVAGE RD. Every Friday-Sunday starting July 27th thru August. Books, Movies, VHS, DVD, Boys clothes, Holiday items, Generator, Tools. Little Bit of Everything. 8/09

HUGE GARAGE SALE. 48631 SULLY Dr. August 2-4, 9-5 p.m. Tools, Horse tack, Household items. 8/02

HUGE GARAGE/YARD SALE. 21000 Martinsville Rd. July 27-30, 8-6 p.m. Personal, Household, Books, Gardening, Patio & Bar set, Tiller, Electric cement mixer, Log Splitter, Hay elevator, etc. 8/02

YARD SALE - 43105 RIGGS RD. AUG. 2-3, 9-5 p.m., Aug. 4, 9-3 p.m. All Proceeds to benefit Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. 8/02

MULTI FAMILY Yard Sale - 46695 Willis Rd. between Sumpter & Elwell Rds. Aug. 2-4, 8:30-6 p.m. Large variety of items including Bisque and a wood stove. Something for Everyone. 8/02

YARD SALE -9831 Willow Rd., Willis. W. of Bunton. Aug. 3-5, 9-5 p.m. Toys, Tools, Clothes, Golf cart parts, Bicycles, Misc. household items. 8/02

5915 BIG PINE CT. off Textile between Tuttle hill & Whittaker. Aug. 2-4, 9-4 p.m. Go carts, Electric mini bike, Boys, Girl teen & Women's clothes. Household items & misc. items Something for Everyone. 8/02

GIANT MOVING SALE. 17925 Huron River Dr., New Boston. Aug. 2-5, 9-6 p.m. Downsizing after 20 yrs. Power tools, Antiques, Household goods, Furniture. You name it, it's here. 8/02

HUGE GARAGE SALE - 1305 Commonwealth Ave. off Wendell between Clark & Holmes. Something for Everyone. 8/02

ESTATE SALE - 49155 BEMIS RD. Aug. 2-4, 9-6 p.m. Antiques, Toys, Books Bikes, Household, Winchester 30-30, Machinist tools, Atlas & Southbend Lathe's, 200 lb. Anvil, Steam Whistle, Hit or Miss engine, Workbenches, Electrical, Plumbing, Fishing, Boat & Much More.8/02

GARAGE/YARD SALE

YARD SALE - 49241 BEMIS RD. Aug. 2-4, 9-5 p.m. Lots of "Stamp Up" things Most things half off Saturday. 8/02

FOR SALE

24" TV, MAGNAVOX. Panasonic VCR. Mahogany Colored Wooden stand. $100. Hide-A-Bed Sofa, seats 2, sleeps 1, $50. (734) 697-7470 8/02

1998 STARCRAFT POP-UP CAMPER w/ slide out, A.C., Screened in room & extras. Mint Condition. Original Owners. $2700 (734) 699-9920 8/09

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(6) TIRES - 255/70R/22.5 $450 all. (734) 697-0746 8/02

MAYTAG electric dryer, $50. Headboard & frame, Full/Queen, $20. Broyhill wing back chair/ottoman, $30. Headboard & frame Full/Queen, $35. (734) 483-5081 8/09

PATIO FURNITURE - Chaise Lounger, $30. Love seat, 2 chairs, sofa table, $150. 4 Recliner chairs, $30. Pipe wrenches, various sizes/prices. Electric edger/weed-wacker, $40. (734) 483-5081 8/09

ALL STEEL BUILDINGS. Factory Deals Ask for discounted sizes. Limited Inventory. Can Erect. Source # 1PI (989) 414-4262 8/16

1988 LARSON LAZER 18'6" BOAT. 130 hp. I/O with full canvas, low hrs., garage kept. $5000 obo. (734) 461-0359 8/16

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7 Cu. Ft. CHEST FREEZER $75. Video gaming chair, $20. Solid wood kitchen table & 4 chairs, $100. (313) 550-9550 8/16

VEHICLE FOR SALE

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions Discount Prices - Guaranteed! (734) 282-1700 TFN

1992 BMW 525. Runs & Drives Great. CD Player, Moon roof. $1800 obo. (734) 697-1417 8/09

1991 GMC EXT. CAB 2 Wheel Dr. Tenn. Truck, new 350 motor, dual exhaust 5 spd. Manual trans. Great Condition. $3800 obo (734) 699-1968 8/16

WANTED

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 TFN

WANTED

WANTED: JUNK CARS
Running or Not. Top $ Paid. Call For Free Pickup. Drive In For Extra Dollars.
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WE BUY JUNK CARS
7 Days A Week For $300 & Up!
Cash Paid!
(734) 787-1444

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

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

FREE

KIM MIDA - NORTH LIBERTY YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

FREE BEAUTIFUL CALICO CAT. (313) 384-0877 8/09

BELLEVILLE CHURCH of GOD Food Pantry is giving away donated food. Some meat & canned goods. Every 1st. and 3rd. Thursday of the month. What do you need! Call 1 day ahead. (734) 697-0921 or (734) 697-1142 TFN

SERVICES

LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL. Residential Power Washing. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

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WEST BRANCH BUILDERS. Licensed & Insured. Residential & Commercial. Specializing in Storm Damage. Free Estimates. (734) 476-1098 8/06

The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com
Read The Newspaper On The Web!

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, August 2** – Free outdoor concert with The Rootsologists with special guest Kenny Brinkley, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street in Belleville. Music Lakeside sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Thursday, August 2** – The Evening Book Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. This month's book: "The World We Found" by Thrity Umrigar.

• **Friday, August 3** – Van Buren Township Summer Concert Series: Toppermost (Beatles Tribute), 7 p.m., Van Buren Park, South I-94 Service Drive, $4 per car fee at gate

• **Saturday, August 4 –** Used Book Sale at the Belleville Area District Library, put on by the Friends group. From 11 a.m. to noon shoppers may be Friends only. From noon to 3 p.m. the general public is welcome. Great bargains and for a good cause.

• **Sunday, August 5 –** Bugles Across America, 7:15 p.m., at Veterans Memorial on High Street, Belleville, to honor the military, past and present.

• **Monday, August 6 –** Have a cup of coffee and conversation from 8 to 9 a.m. with State Rep. Dian Slavens at the Belleville Charhouse, 524 Main St., Belleville. Or, meet with her later, from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Daydream Café, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

• **Monday, August 6 –** Cruisin' on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9 p.m.

• **Tuesday, August 7 –** It's PRIMARY ELECTION DAY and time to vote, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Many local elections will be decided in the Primary Ballot, with the November General Election just a formality in many cases.

• **Tuesday, August 7 –** Tuesday's Cruzin the Belleville Moose, 6-9 p.m., music, food, drinks every Tuesday, 831 E. Huron River Dr.

• **Wednesday, August 8 –** Classic Car Show at Diamond Back Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Drive, sponsored in part by Ypsi Street Rods and Country FM 959, 6 p.m. – dark, DJs, BBQ, prizes, drag races

• **Thursday, August 9** – Free outdoor concert with Motor City Brass Band, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street in Belleville. Music Lakeside sponsored by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Friday, August 10** – Van Buren Township Summer Concert Series: The All Directions Band (top hits of the '60s, '70s, '80s), 7 p.m., Van Buren Park, South I-94 Service Drive, $4 per car fee at gate

• **Friday, August 10** – 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.

• **Monday, August 13 –** Cruisin' on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9 p.m.

• **Tuesday, August 14 –** Tuesday's Cruzin the Belleville Moose, 6-9 p.m., music, food, drinks every Tuesday, 831 E. Huron River Dr.

• **Wednesday, August 15 –** Classic Car Show at Diamond Back Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Drive, sponsored in part by Ypsi Street Rods, 6 p.m. – dark, DJs, BBQ

• **Thursday, August 16 –** "The 4th Michigan Infantry" presented by Martin Bertera and Kim Crawford, 6-8 p.m. at the museum, free to historical society members, $3 to others.

• **Friday, August 17** – Van Buren Township Summer Concert Series: Stolen Moments (jazz performance), 7 p.m., Van Buren Park, South I-94 Service Drive, $4 per car fee at gate

• **Saturday, August 18** – Attend the ribbon-cutting of the new Belleville High School at 10 a.m. and then explore the new school building until 5 p.m.

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

"BEANS"

Beans is just plain doggy fun! This 1 year and 7 month old Boxer mix is still very much a puppy with a youthful, enthusiastic personality. He's eager to play and excited to be with both people and dog friends. His strong, lean body frame is fit as a fiddle and along with his energetic nature makes him perfect for taking walks or any other outdoor fun you have in mind. His rather comical looking face is simply adorable and highlighted perfectly by floppy ears that look like two small wings trying hard to get him airborne when he runs. Beans is a good match for kids and other pets but will still need some training to help curb his naturally boisterous nature when it comes to smaller friends. He'll make a loyal and affectionate addition that will delight you with his intelligent, quick to learn and sometimes goofy self. Beans is neutered, vaccinated, micro-chipped and eager to get another chance to make himself a part of a fur-ever family. Call 734 461-9458 to meet this fantastic pup.

ELECT MARTY KALASZ

For Sumpter Township Trustee

New Ideas From A Lifelong Resident!

Give The Power Back To The People!

- Veteran U.S. Navy
- Retired Truck Driver, Teamsters Local 299
- 40+ Years Firefighter
- Community Volunteer

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UAW Region 1A

15th Democratic District Club

Paid for by Committee to Elect Matrin Kalasz, 21467 Ewell Rd., Belleville, MI 48111

Bill LaVoy

ELECT

Think Global. Vote Local.

Your Voice in State Government

Lifelong Democrat

17th District State Representative

- Restore Funding for Public Schools
- Protect and Preserve the Great Lakes
- Bring Business to Michigan to Create Jobs
- Ensure Fiscal Responsibility

Paid for by Bill LaVoy for State Representative - 306 Godfroy, Monroe MI 48162

ENDORSED BY:

Construction Laborers' Local Union 499 of the Laborers' International Union of North America

Monroe County Sheriff Command Officers Association

Southeast Michigan/Monroe Chapter of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors

Michigan Farm Bureau Agripac as a "Friend of Agriculture" as recommended by the Wayne & Monroe County Farm Bureaus

Michigan Association of Realtors

Sheet Metal Workers International Association Local Union #33 Toledo District

"A" Rating by the Michigan Coalition For Responsible Gun Owners PAC

"A-" Rating by the National Rifle Association Political Victory Fund

Enbridge

(continued from page 1)

attorney Patrick McCauley said the activities at the site "will be the measurement and sampling of crude oil volumes being delivered and the receiving and launching of internal inspection tools. There will be no refining of any crude oil at the site."

There was some discussion by Enbridge representatives at the meeting concerning the December 2010 Enbridge spill of 800,000 gallons of heavy crude oil into the Kalamazoo River that is still being cleaned up 24 months later. They called the incident a very large problem created by human error in Marshall "by the experienced folks from Enbridge".

On July 10, the day before the planning commission meeting, there was a National Transportation Safety Board report on Enbridge that representatives called "humbling" which noted the "poor response" to the spill that the NTSB chairman Debbie Hersman said couldn't help but make you think about the Keystone Kops.

This report came a week after federal fines of $3.7 million were levied against Enbridge for what has been called one of the worst inland oil spills in history.

Enbridge representatives told the planning commission that the new VBT station will be enhancing the line maintenance and increasing safety.

The neighbors to the site said the pipes have been in the ground there since the early '30s at least and what Enbridge is building is a monitoring station.

"I feel more secure, not less secure," she said of the planned construction. "It's like having a baby in a bath and having one more adult watching."

She said there currently are regular, low-flying airplanes monitoring the pipelines and if neighbors have a question, they call Wolverine and they get to talk to a person and get answers.

Terry Carroll, VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development, said the staff will sit down with Enbridge, the neighbors and the Metropark to work out details of screening, landscaping, and the preferred building façade. Then, Carroll will bring a report back to the planning commission.

In other business at the July 11 meeting the planning commission reviewed proposed amendments to the Wireless Communication zoning ordinance, most changes due to recent changes in state law.

A public hearing on the amendments will be set on the next available agenda, allowing for the necessary number of days required for a published announcement of the hearing.

In discussion at the end of the meeting, Commissioner Carl Johnson said there were 23 fireworks complaints on the police dispatch log starting July 1 and he thinks the commission should revisit the law on fireworks.

Carroll said there may be some push on the state level either to withdraw or change the new law. He said local ordinances can regulate the hours allowed for fireworks and how far from structures they can be set off. He suggested waiting until it can be determined what the state is going to do.

Belleville High School

Van Buren Public Schools
Cordially Invites You To The
Dedication Ceremony and Open House

Saturday, August 18th
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
10:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Belleville High School Open House
Tour the New Building
Refreshments will be served!

Be a Part of Van Buren Public Schools!

Thunder Over Michigan Air Show takes to the skies this weekend

By Bob Mytych
Independent Sports Editor

Thunder will fill the skies over Belleville this weekend with the annual Thunder Over Michigan Air Show at Willow Run Airport.

Discounted tickets are still available on line at the Yankee Air Force Museum's website at wwwyankeeairmuseum.org. The cost, if purchased by noon on Aug. 5, is $25; $30 if bought at the gate. Parking tickets are $5 online and $10 at the gate.

This year's show is themed Mustang Mania where over 25 P-51 Mustangs will take part in the show schedule. Other performers include a Sea Harrier F/A2, an F-86 Sabre "Smokey," a Boeing B-29 Superfortress, and a Lockheed P-38L Lightning. A World War II battle re-enactment will also take place involving over 100 WWII personnel, related WW II aircraft and ground military vehicles from that time period. Just added this week to the list of static display aircraft is a pair of F-18 Hornets from the west coast.

A special Kid Zone area will feature aviation-themed inflatables, which is sure to be popular.

On Friday evening, the Thunder over Michigan Ground Parade and WWII reenactors will arrive in Belleville in convoy to Victory Park for the community to enjoy in static display. Then they will parade up Main Street at 6:30 to Horizon Park and then back to the airport at 7:45 p.m. There will also be some military flybys over Main Street featuring vintage aircraft. This event is free.

Rotary to run Lucky Ducky Rubber Duck fund raiser Aug. 16

The Belleville Rotary will conduct its Lucky Rubber Ducky Race fund raiser again this year during the Taste of Belleville on Thursday, Aug. 16.

The special race course will be set up on Belleville Lake at Horizon Park. The race will begin at 6:30 p.m.

"Walk the bridge, come to the Taste of Belleville, and hang around to take in this exciting race where numbered ducks float at breakneck speed toward the finish line," said Ray Eissinger, Rotary's public relations man.

"Don't miss out on your chance to win some cash. Buy a ticket and you win if your lucky-numbered duck crosses the finish line first, second, or third," Eissinger said.

Proceeds from the ticket purchases will help fund Rotary projects around the tri-community.

Tickets at $5 each or 5 for $20 are available around town at the Belleville Area District Library, Main Street Flowers, Garden Fantasy or from any Rotarian. For more information, contact Rotarian Beverly Neal at 734-697-9400

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www.ElectReggieMillerVBT.com

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Reggie Miller

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FREE RABIES VACCINE*
with Your Pet's Surgical Sterilization in August**
*Rabies vaccine required for surgery; if not due can substitute one dose free flea control. **Surgery must be scheduled and performed in August 2012. May be additional requirements. Cannot combine with other discount.

Treasurer - Van Buren Township

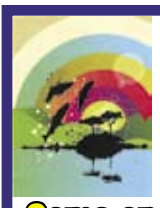
HarryRoesch

Your Vote for New Leadership

- Engineering degree from TriState College, Angola, Indiana
- 35 years with Great Lakes Steel
- Experienced in various management positions: Operations, Quality Control and Technology departments
- 16 years Board of Directors, Community Focus Federal Credit Union, Currently Chairman of the Board, CFFCU
- Educated and Licensed as a Stock Broker
- Project Development at Detroit Steel, Trenton, Michigan
- Not a career Politician.
- Experienced and qualified.
- Will bring a new perspective to the Treasurer's Office, using common sense ideas.

HarryRoesch
roeschfortreasurer@yahoo.com
734-635-0150

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT HARRY ROESCH FOR TREASURER, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, P.O. BOX 501, BELLEVILLE, MI 48112



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