



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 19.11 Thursday, March 14, 2013

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## VB Fire Dept. struggles with Affordable Care Act

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

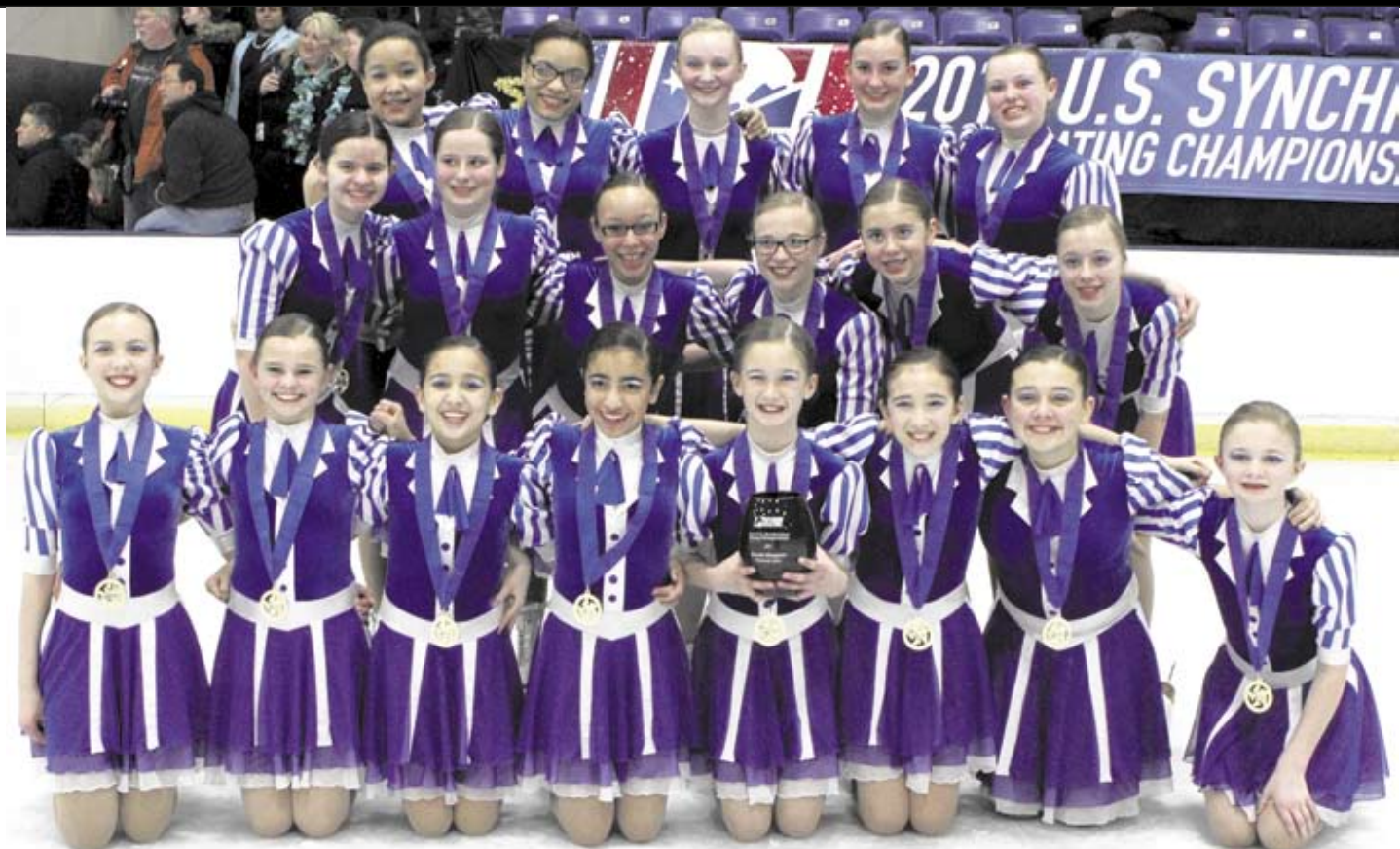
Van Buren Township is working hard to comply with the country's new Affordable Care Act, signed by President Obama in March 2010 – and the work shifts of part-time fire fighters are at risk.

Fire fighters have to watch their hours meticulously or they could lose their jobs.

Township Supervisor Linda Combs said two important designations of the Affordable Care Act includes whether or not a business is a large employer or a small employer. Those with at least 50 full-time employees are considered large employers.

Van Buren Township is considered a large employer and is required to provide affordable health care to all employees who work an average of 30 hours or more a week or 130 hours a month.

“Van Buren Township is not in the financial  
(continued on page 10)



Paige and Faith Spitznagel of Sumpter Township skate on the Juvenile team for the Dearborn Crystallettes. They competed at the 2013 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships at Compuware Arena in Plymouth on Feb. 28 and their team won the gold medal, making them the current national champions in their division. Faith is in the front row on the far right end; Paige is in the center of the back row. They both attend Keystone Academy. Paige is in 7th grade; Faith is in 6th grade. They were honored at an assembly at Keystone Academy on Friday. The *Independent* ran a story on them in 2010 when their team won 4th place at the national championship. Their proud mother is Kimberly Kowalski.

## School District sets used-furniture sale at Haggerty School

On Tuesday, the Van Buren Public Schools issued an announcement that it will be having a used school furniture and equipment sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, at Haggerty Elementary School, 13770 Haggerty Road.

Most of the items will be from Elwell Elementary School, which is slated for demolition.

Items for sale include: tables, chairs, school desks, teacher desks, filing cabinets, lunch room tables, tube TVs kitchen appliances, etc. All items will be reasonably priced and will be for cash only.

## VB T pulls proposed changes to Rules of Conduct from agenda

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

After members of the public took part in an enthusiastic work/study session opposing updates to the Van Buren Township Board Meeting Rules of Conduct, the board decided to remove the item from the agenda for the regular meeting on March 5.

VB T Supervisor Linda Combs said the board was listening to the people and will reconsider some of the changes proposed.

Members of the audience at the March 4 work/study session especially opposed cutting the time allowed to speak from the

present 4.5 minutes (one 3-minute speech, followed by a 1.5-minute speech) to 3 minutes for one time only.

“I have major heartburn on this,” said John Delaney, who had called a roomful of friends to attend the work/study to speak out against the changes.

Delaney said all the questions and answers will end up at the work/study.

“There is no time to debate,” said Clerk Leon Wright. “You’re not a participant ... we’re participants. You are allowed to comment.”

Delaney started reading from a Michigan Township Association bulletin.

Trustee Brenda McClanahan cut in stating the board members need to talk to each other to come to consensus.

Trustee Reggie Miller said the MTA says that the meeting is the board’s meeting.

“You have elected us to represent you,”

said Supervisor Linda Combs.

Two attorneys were waiting for the board to go into closed session to discuss a letter to Visteon, so the board wanted to suspend the work/study so they could meet with the attorneys and then come back for more work/study.

Some of the people in the audience who had come to discuss the changes objected to them shutting down the meeting and leaving.

Ernie Tozier said he was against limiting citizens to three minutes, when developers come in and talk for an hour.

“That’s not fair and I’m paying your salary,” Tozier said.

Supervisor Combs said, “In all fairness, I have not watched the clock since I’ve taken office ... but we have to have some limits.”

(continued on page 3)

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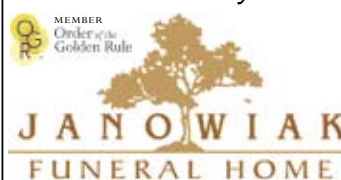


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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## VBT Board

(continued from page 1)

Clerk Wright said there are other avenues to talk to board members and he is not likely to change his mind at a board meeting. He said he needs the information before the meeting.

Clinton Anton of Belleville said he received a phone call earlier that day about these changes and he read a prepared statement, saying he taught Robert's Rules of Order for 30 years.

The board then went into executive session, coming back later to discuss the subject further.

At the next day's regular meeting on March 5, Combs announced the changes would be reconsidered.

During public comment Delaney said the public is getting less and less time to come up and speak in other townships, too. He said the changes would give VBT speakers "only one bite of the apple no matter how many items are on the agenda."

Delaney said Dr. Lou Bennett taught a session through the Michigan Township Association saying that the board meeting is only about board members and "we get to watch but have very little say-so ... Audience participation is being taken away."

Delaney said he likes to comment, "but it's not about me ... This isn't about me. It's a freedom of speech issue." He said this is being "mis-taught" through the MTA, noting other publications of the MTA have audience participation as a prime focus.

"We listened to the people and we are going to reconsider some items," Supervisor Combs said.

"I'm glad the brakes got put on," Delaney said, adding that otherwise there would be some major issues "litigation-wise."

Combs said to Delaney, "Some people say they don't attend meetings because you, sir, monopolize the meetings."

Ruth Bleeker, who lived in VBT for 40 years and then 27 in the City of Belleville, complimented Combs on the way the meetings are being run, but added, "You were elected to serve us." She urged them to continue with the present 4.5 minutes.

Sandy Croswell said three to four minutes is not enough time and meetings should be for everyone. "Please don't shut the people out." She said Delaney gets requests from people to speak for them.

Ernie Tozier was back voicing his concern of limiting residents and even the 3 minutes followed by 1.5 minutes isn't enough, especially when you have a laundry list of issues to discuss. He said sometimes the planning commission and board members are cheerleaders for developers.

"Even if we need to rant, to vent, you watch the clock" and then are glad when we are done, he said. He paraphrased Clerk Wright who said, at the previous day's



A roomful of Boy Scouts from Trinity Episcopal Church Troop 231 attended the March 5 meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees to lead the pledge to the flag.

meeting, "If you think I'm going to change my mind at a board of trustees meeting, you're wrong!" He said he was saddened when nobody on the board said that was not true.

"You're here to help us and protect us," Tozier said.

"You're absolutely right," Supervisor Combs said, noting the policy is being reconsidered. She said everyone on the board has an open-door policy.

Tozier said he spent a couple of hours with someone on the previous board to explain his concerns about the Hoosier project and the board member then said he was relying on the planning commission and no homework was done.

"We're counting on you," Tozier said. "... We have to live with the results of that."

"Be assured, we will listen to you," Combs said.

Reggie Ion also spoke against the 3-minute limit which gives the impression it's for hushing them up. He said during the Hoosier discussion, the Planning Commission chairperson kept hitting people with the time limit. Ion said he would like to see her step down.

Dave Frankling also spoke on the present Rules of Conduct that originated in 2007 to shut people down. He pointed out that "chiding" is not permitted and then explained that the word means "gentle rebuke." It's illegal in the current law and should be taken out. He spoke of other aspects of the 3-minute rule.

Mac Black said he has lived in VB for 46 years and wants the board to listen to the residents.

Pam Ruff of Canton asked about why there are no new meetings on the township's Live Stream and Combs said the cable director had surgery and when she comes back to work they will be on.

Also at the March 5 meeting, the board:

- Approved Supervisor Combs' reappointments of William Osier and G. Frank Bellomo to the Construction Code of Appeals Board with term to expire Feb. 28, 2016;



Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

Eagle Scout Jeffrey Scott Neal, center, was honored at the March 5 meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees for the work he did on cleaning up Tyler Cemetery. It was this big project that led to his Eagle Scout designation. At left is his scoutmaster Michael Holmes and, at right, is VBT Clerk Leon Wright, who read the board proclamation, signed by all board members, honoring Jeffery. The scout, a member of Troop 231 at Trinity Episcopal Church, cleaned up the cemetery and monuments of veterans, designed and constructed benches, put up a sign, and completed other projects to greatly improve the township cemetery.

- Approved Supervisor Combs' reappointments of Charles Coleman, Mark Duff, Harold Gant, Kimberly Nofz, and Tammy Wall and the appointment of Sam Villa to the Recreation Committee with terms to expire Feb. 1, 2014. Villa fills the position of Ralph Nodwell who did not wish to be reappointed. Villa is a life-long resident of VBT, attended BHS and EMU and has a Master's Degree in Education. He currently is employed by Van Buren Public Schools as a physical education teacher;

- Approved the second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2-19-2013 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance pertaining to storm water basins and landscaping design standards;

- Witnessed Clerk Wright read a proclamation honoring Eagle Scout Jeffrey Scott Neal for his work to clean up and improve Tyler Cemetery; and

- Was informed that the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) awarded the Merit Award to VBT's Water System Improvement Project, which

included the water tower, lake crossing water main, new water main, and water main control valves..

In the middle of the March 4 work/study session, the board went into closed door session with two attorneys to discuss "privileged written opinion letter concerning Visteon."

### Pay for lodging?

Also at the work/study session, Treasurer Sharry Budd complained about Clerk Wright asking for payment for Michigan Township Association conference lodging at the Marriot Ren Cen for \$348.66, plus MTA conference meals of \$37.68.

Budd said she wanted to pull the Voucher List out of the Consent Agenda and put it farther down in the meeting so she could vote against it.

Budd and Trustee Jeff Jahr said at the budget sessions last year board members discussed payment for conferences, which is allowed under the policy. Jahr said they decided no one would get paid for nearby

(continued on page 9)



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### March 10-16 is Sunshine Week

March 10-16 is Sunshine Week, a national effort aimed at highlighting the importance of transparency in government and access to public meetings and records.

The late Supreme Court Judge Louis Brandeis noted that "sunshine is the best disinfectant" when it comes to government transparency.

We at the *Independent* try, in our own way, to keep the doors of information open to the citizens in this small area of the world in which we operate.

In the last few weeks we have made several Freedom of Information Act requests, appealed two FOIAs that were denied, gathered court documents, and made personal visits to courtrooms and many, many meetings to get information for our readers.

Our elected officials know that we are there, on behalf of their taxpayers and our readers, to watch what they are doing and shine the light on it. Our readers decide whether it's good or bad. Can you imagine what it would be like if elected officials knew they *weren't* being watched?

We have many, many readers who call us with tips. Without all of them, we would have a hard time keeping up with all the secrets. Sometimes we are overwhelmed with information and have to step back and choose our battles.

Celebrate Sunshine Week. Thank your elected officials for listening to citizens, cable casting their meetings, answering your questions – and chastise them if they aren't open enough to suit you.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Early Friday morning, while Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor was on his way to work, he was cutting through Sumpter and saw what he thought was just a stack of tires in the ditch at the corner of Judd and Haggerty roads.

Next to the tires in the ditch was a dead horse. He stopped to see if it could be still alive, but it wasn't. He called Sumpter PD.

Sumpter Police Lt. Eric Luke said his department called Wayne County Roads and they said they would be sending out a truck.

I asked if there was any indication that someone hit the horse in an accident and Lt. Luke said there was no indication there was an accident there and it appeared possibly the horse was just dumped there.

One person said it was like the horse was just thrown out with the trash. To horse lovers this is a very sad story. One said if he had known sooner he would have come out and buried it himself.

\*\*\*

Last Thursday I received a call from the father of the young man who gave a false report to police (as I had described in this column). The father said his son, a 22-year-old college student, made a stupid mistake.

He said his son was delivering a pizza for Hungry Howie's to earn some money and one order was from Lake Villa. It was in the back of the complex where it is dark, with no lights, he said.

When the deliveryman got to the address on the order some young men in hoodies were there. He gave them the pizza and pop, but didn't get the money before they



ran off. He's supposed to get the money first.

He told his father he was robbed and the father said to report it to VBT police, which he did. Police went to the delivery address on the pizza order. The people who lived there didn't know anything about it, but police were able to find the pizza thieves in an apartment eating their pizza and drinking their pop.

The deliveryman was charged for filing a false police report and has yet to go to court. From what I understand, the guys eating the pizza weren't charged.

\*\*\*

VBT Police Officer Ryan Bidwell put out a Nixle alert last week concerning a new scam involving Social Security and Medicare. A lady reported that a man with poor English and an accent called claiming he was from the "Verification Department of Social Security and Medicare." What he needed was bank account information, which the smart lady didn't give to him.

Officer Bidwell said this scam is making the rounds and to be aware that government agencies do not ask for your banking information over the phone. Also, many of these scams are based outside of the U.S. and use computer technology to display false telephone numbers and caller information on caller ID units.

The number provided by the citizen was 409-574-1214 and Bidwell checked it out online and found there are numerous

references to this number and scams.

\*\*\*

The reader who called to complain about the picture of the eagle eating his lunch on Belleville Lake called again on Monday to say she didn't appreciate the comment of a man who called to say he liked the picture.

She said it was really rude for him to suggest she be taken to a slaughterhouse to see how the food she eats is killed. She said she was raised on a farm and knows what it takes to slaughter animals. She said she is very careful of what she puts in her mouth and tries to eat little meat.

She just said she couldn't see anything beautiful about the picture and hopes we don't publish any more pictures like that.

\*\*\*

On Monday evening, during one of the two executive sessions held by the school board, I asked the board's sound engineer if they were ever going to show the meetings on cable. The cameras were back and recording the meeting, as they have been for the last few meetings. But they haven't been shown anywhere.

He said all he needs is an optic hookup and then the meetings will be cablecast on Channel 19. He said they were waiting for an OK.

\*\*\*



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**BELLEVILLE - AREA**

**INDEPENDENT**

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## Letters

### VBT Trustee Reggie Miller donates to camp

To the Editor:

The Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank Van Buren Trustee Reggie Miller for her recent contribution of \$1,000 for our summer camp program. We are extremely grateful for her generosity.

This contribution will mean that two children, whom otherwise would not be able to attend summer camp, will now be able to join their peers in a wonderful summer experience enjoying outdoor fun, field trips, crafts and games. We will also be able to add to our camper's agenda of fun experiences with the remainder of the donation Trustee Miller was generous enough to give.

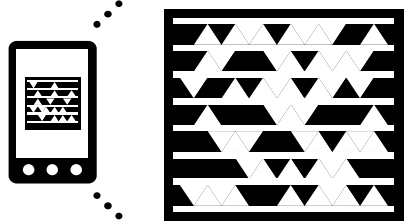
Supporting The Charter Township of Van Buren Parks and Recreation Summer Camp Program is a great way to influence our local children. We pride ourselves in offering a fun and safe environment for our young people to enjoy during summer break. Thank you to Trustee Reggie Miller for helping us make this happen!

Jennifer B. Zaenglein, Deputy Director  
Van Buren Township Parks and  
Recreation Department

**Editor's Note:** Zaenglein said Trustee Miller said when she campaigned for office she said if elected she wanted to give part of her salary back to the community. She decided to give a donation to the VBT Summer Camp program and Zaenglein said our readers might want to know.

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

Mark Twain



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## I need some help with my fight against cancer

To the Editor:

My name is Wally Steinaway. When I was 21 I was diagnosed with testicular cancer early on. I fought with this cancer every day for a year and after a year I was blessed with the diagnosis that I had gone into remission and that I had finally beat that nasty thing called cancer.



Steinaway

I am now 32 and went back to the doctor for a check up and again was diagnosed with testicular cancer, but this time it was more serious. I was diagnosed with stage three, which would be harder to fight off than the first time I battled.

Over my lifetime, I have worked 13 years and after 6 months of being off because of my cancer I will lose my job, along with all of my medical benefits.

I have three children who rely on my incomes, along with my wife who is now expecting my fourth child.

I am writing this letter today, hoping that you can take my situation and consider helping my family and me with a small donation. I have a website on Facebook where you are able to purchase bracelets that read "Cancer Sucks." The group is titled "Wally Steinaway says Cancer Sucks". Also, there is a Wally Steinaway donation at TCF national bank.

Wally Steinaway, Grass Lake

**Editor's Note:** Wally's aunt Thereasa Bailey of Van Buren Township brought in this letter to share with our readers. She said her brother Robert Manier of VBT and lots of other relatives in the Belleville area are supporting Wally's fight for life. Wally and Carrie will be married in April. Carrie's sister Miranda Torcolacci (734-358-5752) is a manager at a TCF bank. Wally has three children from a previous marriage. Wally lived in Belleville before moving to Grass Lake.

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## More Letters

### Attn. Veterans: We have assistance for you

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If you are a veteran and you need any type of assistance, come to 24101 Sumpter Road between Dunn Road and Wear Road on April 4 and April 5 between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

If you have questions, you can call 734-461-1767.

Crystal Harris  
Sumpter Progressive Civic League

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



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# Obituaries



Carol Guenther

## CAROL S. GUENTHER

(July 29, 1935 - March 10, 2013)

Carol Sue Guenther, age 77, of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, March 10, 2013 at Whitehall Healthcare Center of Ann Arbor. She was born July 29, 1935 in Detroit, MI, daughter of the late Charles Frederick & Henrietta (Wittig) Waggoner.

She lived in Belleville since the late 1940s. She was a member of the Yankee Air Museum and sang in the Belleville Community Chorus. She enjoyed volunteering and especially loved doing things with her boys, being Den Mother of their Cub Scouts, etc. She was an avid bowler and was the secretary of her league for years. She visited nearly all fifty states traveling coast to coast bowling. She also cherished her annual Hot Air Balloon rides with family, traveling to Albuquerque nearly every year since 1988.

Carol is survived by her beloved husband of nearly 60 years, Clyde; two sons Kenneth (Vonda) Guenther and Steven F. Guenther, both of Belleville; step grandchildren Jennifer, Jeremy and Matthew; step great-grandchildren Makylah, Tylor and Kayson; her sister Margaret Waggoner of Belleville; four nieces and one nephew: Jackie, Theresa, Sherry, Elizabeth and Leonard; also numerous other family, friends and team mates. She was preceded in death by her parents, also a brother Frederick Waggoner. Visitation was 5-8 PM Monday and 10 AM until Noon Tuesday, March 12, 2013 with a Noon Funeral Service at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing and Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr. Belleville. Pastor Gordon Moore will officiate.

Interment was in Denton Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue and would be greatly appreciated by the family. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for them to treasure at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## PATRICIA LORRAINE REHAHN

(July 5, 1955 - March 7, 2013)

Age 57. Survived by her extended family Walter Redina Rehahn, Debra Banks, Tammie Crays, Kathleen Phillips, Walter Rehahn Jr., and many nieces and nephews. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

## BEVERLY ANN WRIGHT

(February 15, 1945 - March 7, 2013)

Age 68 of Canton, after a long illness. Survived by her daughter Kris Wright of Canton, also her fur-baby, a dog, "Sammy". Cremation rites have been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

## More Letters

### Don't usurp the rights for which I fought...

**Editor's Note:** The following statement was read to the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at its work/study meeting on March 4. The board was discussing proposed new meeting rules that shortened the time for a citizen to speak from 4.5 minutes to 3 minutes, among other changes.

Madam Supervisor  
Members of the Board:

When one reads "The Declaration of Independence" we remember the preamble and the first few lines. But when one proceeds to the "meat & potatoes" one finds listed, in abundance, the grievances alluded to King George III or Parliament and how they surreptitiously disposed of them.

When the chairperson places time limits on comments it is usually for the expeditious management of a long agenda and for the conservation of continuity within a reasonable time frame. As excerpted from "Van Buren Township Resolution 2011-31" dated Oct. 4, 2011:

"No person shall have a second opportunity to address the Board until all persons have had a first opportunity. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may not be 'shared' or 'loaned' to others. Time limitations shall be routinely imposed in a fair and equitable manner. However, an extension

of time is permissible at the discretion of the Township Supervisor or Chairman..."

Also noted in another paragraph is the perfunctory statement: "Parliamentary Authority, Roberts Rules of Order, revised. Robert's Rules of Order, as revised, shall govern all questions or procedures that are not otherwise provided by these rules or by state or federal law."

An analysis of the "three minute" abridgement of freedom of speech rule will be done in statement order would be:

Article V Section 30 Robert's Rules of Order

"Limit or Extend Limits of Debate

Motions, or order, to limit or extend the limits of debate, like the previous question, take precedence of all debatable motions, may be applied to any debatable motion or series of motions, and, if not specified to the contrary, apply only to the immediately pending question. If it is voted to limit the debate, the order applies to all ...

An order modifying the limits of debate on a question is in force only during the session in which it was adopted. If the question in any way goes over to the next session it is divested of this order and open to debate according to the regular rules: "... (2) To limit the length of the debate, the motion may be made thus: "I move that debate on the pending amendment be limited to 20 minutes."

Article VIII Section 47 Robert's Rules of Order

"Votes that are Null and Void even if Unanimous

No motion is in order that conflicts with

the laws of the nation or state, or with the assembly's constitution or by-laws, and if such a motion is adopted, even by unanimous vote it is null and void. No rule that conflicts with a rule of a higher order is of any authority; thus, a by-law providing for the suspension by general consent of an article of the constitution would be null and void, so the general parliamentary rule allowing two-thirds vote to amend the by-laws after due notice, is only in force when the by-laws are silent on the subject."

Bill of Rights – Amendment I

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech..."

Ergo, one may surmise that the original Resolution 2011-31 is invalid in its abridgment of freedom of speech by mandate as all three (Robert's, state, and federal) organizations categorically reject the capricious enforcement of the "Three Minute Rule" as standard operating procedure. I take issue with anyone who attempts to usurp the rights for which I fought, for which some gave their lives, and for those who continue to be the guardians of freedom.

If all is well, if all is proceeding in government as perceived to be an orderly and magnanimous entity there would be no reason for the "Three Minute" debacle. My suggestion is to delete this travesty as, again, procedural expediency is already accommodated in "Robert's Rules of Order."

Sincerely,  
Cornell Anton, Jr.  
Belleville

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## Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



**Doug Dalton Auctioneer** of Belleville will be holding another estate antique auction beginning at 5 p.m., Friday, March 15, at the **Romulus Progressive Hall on Ozga Road**. Preview begins at 4 p.m. and auctions begin at 5 and 6 p.m. Items include duck decoys, signed art works, a huge amount of furniture, Victorian oil lamps, jewelry, clocks, nautical items and so much more. See their ad in today's paper and visit their website for more details at [www.dougdaltonauctioneer.com](http://www.dougdaltonauctioneer.com).

\*\*\*

Since 1946, **Burhop's Collision** on Davis Street along the railroad tracks have been serving the Belleville community with expert collision and auto glass service, deductible assistance, glass replacement and chip repair. Owners **Al and Sam Arndt** are state-certified technicians and will work with all insurance companies to get you back on the road quickly. They're open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Towing is available. Call (734) 699-3641.

\*\*\*

**Sumpter Pet Care** on Sumpter Road north of Willis Road will be holding a 1-day **Dog and Cat Vaccine Clinic** on Wednesday, March 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Walk-ins only please; no appointments. Get a brief exam for your pet, distemper, and rabies shots for just \$35. See their ad in today's paper for other vaccines.

\*\*\*

**Honey Pest Control** owner **John Honey** says that his office is already getting calls regarding ants and so spring must be coming. With over 30 years of experience, Honey Pest Control is licensed and insured and offers senior discounts on services with bees, fleas, mice, bed bugs, rats, spiders and other pests. Call (734) 699-6889. Ask about their money-back guarantee.

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\*\*\*

The **Belleville Lake Water Ski Club** will be holding a charity party titled **The Frozen Leprechaun** at 2 p.m. this Saturday, March 16, off the docks at **Johnny's Grill** on High Street. The public is welcome and donations will be accepted with the proceeds going to the **Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation**.

\*\*\*

**Bayou Grill** on Main Street is gearing up for **Easter Brunch** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 31. Adults are \$9.99, and children under 10 are \$4.99. See their

ad in today's paper for the brunch menu. Reservations are recommended. Call (734) 697-2300.

\*\*\*

**Belleville Charhouse** is celebrating **St. Patty's Day** with a special featuring a Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner & a beer for \$11.95. Their Sunday Brunch will also be available. A special Easter Brunch will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 31. Reservations are suggested. Call (734) 699-9959.

\*\*\*

Our color giveaway promotion here at the *Independent* continues through the month on March. Simply advertise in color with us this month and get free color for all of April. We're also offering free color for an entire year if you sign up for a 52-week

run, not to mention you'll also get 35% off the entire series. Call (734) 699-9020.

\*\*\*

*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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## Prush in the Marines

Marine Corps Pvt. **Joseph C. Prush**, son of Dawn M. Prush of Eastpointe and Joseph C. Mauldin, of Belleville, earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from 13-week recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC. Prush is a 2012 graduate of Warren Woods Tower High School.

\*\*\*

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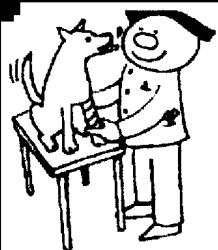
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#### Upcoming Clinics:

**PET SPA 2, 970 Sumpter Rd., BELLEVILLE, Sun., March 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-6 p.m.**

**PET RESORT, 50425 Bemis Rd., BELLEVILLE, Sun., March 24<sup>th</sup>, 3-6 p.m.**

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## VBT Board

(continued from page 3)

conference lodging.

"We've never paid for anything that close before," Budd said.

Trustee Reggie Miller said she stayed downtown and incurred expenses because they didn't get out until late and she didn't know her way around Detroit.

"I paid my own," Budd said, noting it was only 25 miles from home.

"Two years ago I stayed and I paid for my conference," said Jahr. "I agree with you ... I find it very difficult to drive back and then get up early and drive back."

But, Jahr recalled, "We were not going to ask the township to pay... I didn't turn in my expenses."

Wright said in the past, he had turned in his expenses and it was a big deal, so last year he didn't go. He said in the past he and Trustees Ostrowski and Partridge rode together in inclement weather and there was almost an accident.

"I refused to do that again," Wright said, adding, "I totally disagree with not paying. Anything for elected officials should be reimbursed."

He said the MTA convention is only once a year and he doesn't go to any other conferences.

He said next year's conference is in Traverse City. He pointed out if he's not the clerk, he's not going to be at the MTA.

"At the budget preparation hearing, we said we wouldn't pay," Budd insisted.

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# Affordable Care

(continued from page 1)

position to offer health care benefits to its part-time employees," Supervisor Combs said in a fact sheet distributed by her office.

Supervisor Combs said the VBT Fire Department has 38 part-time, paid-on-call fire fighters and is hardest hit by this mandate.

She said Interim Public Safety Director Greg Laurain and Fire Chief Dan Besson are working to ensure compliance with the Act, while at the same time maintaining the excellent fire fighting and medical emergency services VBT residents and others have grown to expect.

Combs said, contrary to rumors, no exemptions have been made for public safety or fire fighting personnel. She said there presently exists no waiver or opt-out provision.

Combs said VBT staff has been in contact with both federal and state legislators and they have met with State Senator Patrick Colbeck regarding the impact of the Affordable Care Act on fire department training, operation, and staffing hour limitations.

On Feb. 25, Combs sent out a stern memo to all township directors and supervisory personnel informing them that as of March 1, the tracking of hours for all part-time employees would be in full effect to determine employee status.

A copy of the memo was obtained by

the *Independent* through a Freedom of Information Act request.

"According to consistent attorney opinion, tracking of employee hours was to have begun in October 2012," Combs wrote in the memo. "Beginning tracking on this date would have enabled the township to provide a 12-month window within which employers were to ensure compliance with the legislative mandate that full-time employment will be determined with 30-hour weekly / 130-hour monthly averages.

"But, since tracking did not officially begin until February 2013, flexibility with hours is now significantly compromised to fall below this aforementioned average.

"The auditing process for all part-time hours was back-tracked to Jan. 1, 2013. Unfortunately, several employees exceeded the 29-hour maximum, so the month of January could not be used in the tracking window.

"The month of February also had a few part-time employees in excess of 29 hours per week, so February cannot be used in the tracking window," she wrote.

"Given the devastating financial impact the Health Care Reform Act legislation could have on Van Buren Township, it is vital that ALL part-time employees work neither more than 29 hours per week nor 129 hours per month.

"Directors have been informed regarding the issue that could arise with scheduling in months with 31 days – a 29-hour work week could result in significantly more than 129 hours in the month. In those circumstances, directors and employees MUST plan ahead

and reduce the work week(s) accordingly to comply."

Combs emphasized, "Exceptions to the 29 hours per week/129 hours per month will not be made under any circumstances, including deadlines, special events, or covering for absences. Please plan the remainder of your calendar year ahead to ensure adequate staffing for any issues that might arise."

Combs warns that VBT is not in the financial position to provide full-time employment or benefits for its part-time staff.

"Failure of directors or supervisory personnel to ensure employee compliance will result in disciplinary action and may result in elimination of part-time staffing positions," Combs stated.

VBT fire fighters told the *Independent* that they will have to reduce their duty crew hour shifts to two, 12-hour shifts a week, and allow five hours for training and call-backs. This could result in not enough duty crew fire fighters available to man two fire stations during a month, they said.

Reportedly there was a problem with filling all the duty crew slots for March.

Also, fire fighters voiced concern about what would happen at a big fire when some of the fire fighters are at their 29-hour limits. They asked: Would they have to stop fighting the fire and go home?

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

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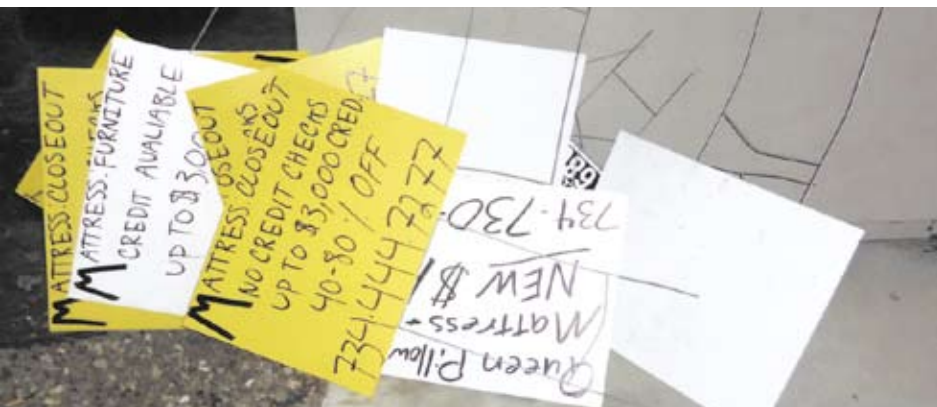
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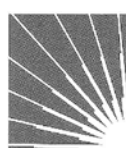
"Like" Van Buren Estates   
Manufactured Home Community on  
Facebook and stay up to date on our  
newest homes and incentives!

Have you thought about  
living in a manufactured  
home but didn't want to buy  
one. Check out our lease  
with option to buy program.





About a dozen signs that apparently had been pulled up from inappropriate placements in the county right of way were deposited outside the front door of the Van Buren Township Hall early Monday. VBT Ordinance Officer Dave Schuler said he didn't know anything about the signs. He said when ordinance officers pull up such signs from inappropriate placement they put them in their trucks and then take them to the DPW barn so owners can pick them up.



## JACKSON HEWITT<sup>®</sup>

### TAX SERVICE

**841 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111**  
(IN THE SECRETARY OF STATE PLAZA)

# (734) 252-2100

**BRING THIS AD IN FOR  
\$50 OFF YOUR TAX RETURN**

Offer Expires April 15, 2013

**25% OFF 1 ITEM IN THE STORE w/AD\***

## Marti's Gift Gallery

**668 E. Huron River Drive  
Belleville, MI 48111    734-699-GIFT**



*Where you'll find the most unique collection of  
St. Patrick's Day gifts for your family and friends.*

- ♣ Cards
- ♣ Home Decor
- ♣ Heritage Lace
- ♣ Baby
- ♣ Inspirational Throws
- ♣ Swan Creek Candles
- ♣ Country Home Creations Dip Mixes

- ♣ Remembrance Collection
- ♣ Music Boxes
- ♣ Porcelain Dolls
- ♣ Baptism/Christening Gifts
- ♣ Military/Armed Forces Decor

**GIFT  
CERTIFICATES**






**HOURS:**  
Tues., Thurs. & Fri.  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday  
Noon - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
*Closed Sunday  
and Monday*

\*LIMIT 1 PER VISIT.

# DREAMING OF OWNING A NEW HOME?

## *LET US SHOW YOU HOW YOUR TAX REFUND CAN HELP!*

We will match the tax return of anyone  
who purchases a New or Franklin  
Owned Home up to \$2,000.00!\*

*Hurry, offer only available  
through March 15, 2013!*

\*Home must close by March 15, 2013! It is just for homes purchased only!

Not ready to purchase? We have a lease to  
purchase option that might be right for you!  
Call for details.

\$1,000.00 FOR REFERRALS!

Do you know someone looking  
for a new place? Refer them  
to Franklin Homes and we will  
show our appreciation.



## Franklin Homes at Belleville Manor

Contact Belinda at  
**734-699-7700**

[www.franklinhomesales.com/bm](http://www.franklinhomesales.com/bm)








**Ask Angela**  
By Angela Nettro

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

**Question from John in Romulus:** My wife and I recently wrote an offer on a home with multiple offers. Our offer was chosen and accepted by sellers as the back-up offer to a better offer the seller accepted as first offer. It has been a few weeks, and the first offer is going through the mortgage process. We really want this home, but we do not want to lose out on another home we would like, that might come on the market in the meantime. How long do we have to wait as a back-up buyer and would we lose our earnest deposit?

**Answer:** If you had a clause in your purchase agreement, back-up offer, that designates a date that your offer is valid to -- OR language that gives you the right to withdraw your offer within a certain time period after acceptance or at anytime with written notice to seller of your withdrawal, then you can release from the offer and receive your deposit back.

If you do not have any such clauses in

the offer and you want to withdraw, ask your agent to notify the seller of your request to withdraw and if the first in line offer closes, the seller should return your deposit.  
-- Angela

ANGELA NETTRO/Broker  
Angela Nettro & Co.  
(734)697-6655  
Email: [nettroandco@comcast.net](mailto:nettroandco@comcast.net)

## Boy Scouts set St. Patrick's Day pancake dinner at St. Anthony's

Boy Scout Troop 793 will present a St. Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast from 8 until 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 17, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville.

The King Brothers are cooking the all-you-can-eat pancakes with three sausages and coffee, milk or juice for \$6. Extra sausages are 25 cents each. Children under 6 years of age eat free.

The breakfast is being put on to earn funds to help the Boy Scouts go to summer camp.

## Birthday

March 21 – Jennifer Delaney

Do you have a birthday in March? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020.

**Belleville Frosty Boy**

**NOW OPEN!**

**67 Main Street**

**HEATED LOBBY CARRY OUTS!**

**699-7188**

often licked



never beaten

**WE'VE MOVED & EXPANDED OUR FACILITY TO SERVE YOU BETTER!**

**Now Located In Former Belleville Transmission. Towing Service Available. Bring In Your Used Oil For Free!**

**Absolute Auto Care, Inc.**

**541 E. Huron River Dr. Belleville, MI**

**734-697-8533**

**MOVING SALE SPECIAL**

**\$49<sup>95</sup> FRONT END ALIGNMENT**

Includes Free Spring Inspection. with coupon • Not valid with any other offer. Absolute Auto Care Coupon • Expires March 30, 2013.

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## SERVICES

**Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!**  
**Call FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**  
**(734) 699-4711**  
**FREE ESTIMATES!!!**  
**YEAR ROUND SERVICES**  
Weekly Mowing, Aerations,  
De-Thatching, Seed & Sod,  
Tree, Brush & Stump Removal  
And Much More!  
[www.FIRSTCLASSLANDSCAPING.net](http://www.FIRSTCLASSLANDSCAPING.net)

**A&L SERVICES**  
**Home Improvement & Handyman Service**  
**Painting, Drywall, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath. Serving Belleville Since 1995. Call Aaron Schultz @ 734-740-0628**

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

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

R & M HANDYMAN SERVICE. (734) 306-8909 Specialize in Mobile Homes, Painting, Power Wash, Stain Decks, Home Repairs. 4/25

HANDYMAN - Carpenter, Custom decks, Painting, Power washing & Roofing. Anything at all. Call and Check. Cheap & Honest. (702) 499-0356 3/21

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



## Notice to Advertisers:

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

## MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

**A FEW LOTS LEFT!**  
Relocate your home on us! We will help with your relocation expenses to move to Lakeview Manufactured Community. Lot rent \$199 for 3 years!  
[www.4lakeview.com](http://www.4lakeview.com)  
EHO Expires 3/31/2013  
\*Some restrictions apply

**FREE HOMES! FREE HANDYMAN SPECIALS! FREE 3 BED 2 BATH HOMES!**  
Call Sun Communities Lakeview Today  
**888-219-5958**  
Or apply online  
[www.freemobilehomes.net](http://www.freemobilehomes.net)  
EHO Expires 3/31/2013  
\*some restrictions apply

## 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.



# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

**NOW OPEN!**  
**Depot Town Flea Market**  
**Inside Every Saturday**  
**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**800 Lowell Street**  
**Ypsilanti**  
*(I-94 to Huron, follow signs)*  
**Info call 734-340-4241**

## FOR SALE

**MOVING SALE - 18 MENLO PK. DR.**  
 Furniture, Kitchen items, Tools & Much  
 More. All Must Go. March 15-17, 9-5  
 p.m. (734) 699-9793 3/14

**MOVING - OUTSIDE TABLE** Umbrella,  
 3 big chairs, \$25. Brand new Eden Pure  
 Heater, \$50. Folding chairs, \$2 each.  
 (214) 300-9197 3/14

**NEW HEAVY DUTY** Wheeled Walker  
 with seat, red. \$100 (734) 697-2439 3/21

**REMINGTON AMMO** 30-06, Box  
 of 20 Accelerator 55GR. \$45  
 (734) 699-5971 3/28

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

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

**1994 LINCOLN TOWN CAR**, clean.  
 \$1,200 obo (734) 218-4787 leave  
 message. 3/28

## PETS/LIVESTOCK

**AKC GERMAN SHEPHERD Puppies.**  
 Male, \$400. Female, \$500. Both parents  
 on site. (734) 740-6300 3/28

## WANTED

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

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

**WANTED - CASH** for old Guitars or  
 parts. Any condition. Also repair services  
 available. (734) 697-1128 Ray 4/18

## WANTED

**WE BUY JUNK CARS**  
**7 Days A Week For**  
**\$300 & Up!**  
**Cash Paid!**  
**(734) 787-1444**

## WANTED: JUNK CARS

**Running or Not. Top \$**  
**Paid. Call For Free**  
**Pickup. Drive In For**  
**Extra Dollars.**  
**734-282-1700**

## PRIVATE COLLECTOR

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

## FREE

**RACHEL KOZLOWSKI - Hannan Rd.**  
**YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses.** Pick  
 them up at Main St. Flower's downtown,  
 Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or [www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com](http://www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com) TFN

**IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH!!!** Come in  
 for your free health evaluation, free meal  
 shake or tea and information on Free boot-  
 camp. Mike Owens (248) 636-3971 3/21

(4) CATS approx. 2 yrs old. 2 Blk & Wht  
 1 Grey, 1 Blk. All healthy.  
 (734) 635-2567 or (734) 219-2150 3/28

## FOR RENT

**2 BR. APT. \$700/mo. or \$650/mo. w/**  
**security. Heat included. No lease or**  
**credit check. Available immediately.**  
 (734) 844-8241 3/14

**3 BR. 2 BATH HOUSE. Approx. 1**  
**acre partially fenced. Near Belleville**  
**Rd. & Ecorse. No pets. \$750/mo.**  
 (734) 697-7576 3/21

**1 BR. APT. corner of 5<sup>TH</sup> & Liberty St.**  
**\$575/mo. plus security. Includes heat**  
**& water. 1 yr. lease. Must have good**  
**credit. No Pets. (734) 945-2409** TFN

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

## MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

**RAWSONVILLE WOODS**  
 Bankruptcy, Foreclosures  
 and bad credit ok.  
 Handyman Homes starting at \$1.  
 Rental homes available  
 Ask about our specials  
 734-461-6700

## HELP WANTED

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

**EXPERIENCED Bookkeeper wanted in**  
**Quick books & Data entry. Part Time.**  
 (313) 444-2396 3/14

**NEED PART-TIME BARTENDERS.**  
**Days/Nights Available. Call Chuck**  
**Eaton for interview and application.**  
 (734) 699-8836 3/28

**SOFT SERVE ICE CREAM Workers**  
**needed. Experience a Must. Days,**  
**Evenings & Week-ends available. Call**  
 (734) 904-9353 3/21

**Drivers: CDL-A Teams Owner Oper-**  
**ators & Company Drivers Wanted.**  
 \$1000 Sign On Bonus for 0/0 Dedicated  
 Lanes \*Great Home Time\* Safety  
 Bonus Program\* Benefits available  
 after 90 days. 6 months verifiable exp.  
 Call (502) 664-1433 3/12

## HELP WANTED

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

**Work close to home assisting persons**  
**we serve in their homes in the**  
**Belleville & Romulus communities.**  
**\$8.25 total per hr. plus good benefits.**  
**Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543**  
**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

**Feel good about the work that you do. Support persons**  
**we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training**  
**provided. \$8.40 total per hr. plus good benefits.**  
**Call (734) 753-4804 New Boston**  
**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

## Public invited to learn HVA Behind the Scenes in free, 6-week program

The public is invited to take part in a free,  
 six-week program to explore what it takes to  
 provide emergency medical services to Huron  
 Valley Ambulance's multi-county area.

HVA Behind the Scenes will run from 6:30  
 to 8:30 p.m. for six consecutive Wednesdays,  
 April 3 through May 8. Classes on April  
 10 and May 1 run until 9:30 p.m. The bulk  
 of the classes will be at the HVA center in  
 Plymouth. The April 17 class will be held at  
 the Pittsfield Department of Public Safety,  
 6227 W. Michigan Ave., Pittsfield Township.

Participation is limited to 25 people who  
 must be residents of HVA service areas and  
 at least 18 years of age.

Register at [hva.org](http://hva.org). For more information,  
 call Jason Trojan at (734) 477-6781 or  
[jtroyan@emergenthealth.org](mailto:jtrojan@emergenthealth.org).

HVA Behind the Scenes participants learn  
 how 9-1-1 medical calls are dispatched, train  
 in the latest first aid and CPR techniques and  
 visit Pittsfield Public Safety for an up-close  
 look at fire and police operations.

## HELP WANTED

## ATTENTION ANIMAL LOVERS:

**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](mailto:seatonsandra@yahoo.com)**

## HELP WANTED

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



# Doing well at college

Seven Belleville students made the Fall Dean’s List at the **University of Detroit Mercy**.

**Niema Harvey** and **Jennifer Daugherty** are pursuing degrees in the College of Liberal Arts and Education; **Sheila Putnam**, College of Engineering and Science; and **Dawnquel Hamby, Holly Hofsess, Jennifer Littleton, and Jennifer Howie**, McAuley School of Nursing.

\*\*\*

Thirteen local residents have been named to **Wayne State University’s** fall 2012 Dean’s List for academic excellence.

They are: **Robert Cox**, majoring in accounting; **Anthony Azzi**, pre-electrical engineering; **Blaise Michna**, pre-electrical engineering; **Emily Verde**, music; **Aaron Connors**, philosophy; **Rebeca Lazarean**, English; **Cicero Mungo**, liberal arts; **Ashley Parker**, Slavic studies; **Saman Razi**, biomedical physics; **Asher Veres**, pre-medicine; **Christopher Wensley**, pre-library and information science; and **Shanetta Dixon** and **Maria Lebron**, professional nursing – traditional.

\*\*\*

**Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo** announces the following Belleville students have been named to the Fall 2012 Dean’s List: **Chelsea Collins**, Nursing, College of Health & Human Services; **Samantha Edwards**, Pre-Speech Path/Audiology, College of Health & Human Services; **James McGeachy**, undecided Pre-Business, Haworth College of Business; **Karlie Mitchell**, Pre-Social Work, College of Health & Human Services; and **Jenna Pinter**, University Curriculum.

\*\*\*

Three Belleville students received degrees from **Western Michigan University** in December, following the 2012 fall semester.

**Candice L. Stegink** earned a master of arts in communications. **Malissa A. Moore** earned a bachelor of arts in French. **Spencer Rames Pickell** earned a bachelor of arts in communications study.

\*\*\*

Three Belleville students are on the Dean’s List for the 2012 fall semester at **Michigan Technological University** in Houghton, including **Brian Mitchell**, who received a straight-A, 4.0 average in his studies in computer network and system administration.

Also on the dean’s list, making an average of 3.5 or higher, are **Alex Juchartz**, studying chemical engineering, and **Roger Yeager**, biochemistry and molecular biology.

\*\*\*

**Leah Richter**, a freshman, and **Earl Schumake**, a senior, have been named to the Dean’s List for the second semester of the 2012-13 school year at **Hope College** in Holland, MI.

Both students are residents of Belleville.

\*\*\*

# Public Notice

## NOTICE OF LETTING OF DRAIN CONTRACT AND DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS THROOP DRAIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that I, Kenneth Kucel, P.E., County Drain Commissioner of the Charter County of Wayne, State of Michigan, will, on **Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2013**, at the Downriver Wastewater Treatment Facility, 797 Central St., Wyandotte, Michigan 48192, in said Charter County of Wayne at 10:30 a.m. in the morning of that day receive sealed bids, when bids will be opened and publicly announced for the maintenance and improvement of a certain drain known and designated as “Throop Drain,” located and established in Van Buren Charter Township and the Township of Sumpter, in said County. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Department of Public Services Field Office at (734) 285-7233 at least one week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

The maintenance and improvement of the Throop Drain is described as follows, having the average depth and width as set forth. All stations are 100 feet apart.

- Beginning at Station 11+40 (near Sumpter Road) proceeding upstream Station 120+43 (near Martz Road), a distance of 10,903 feet, and having an average depth of 3.0 feet, and an average width of bottom of 5 feet.
- Continuing at Station 120+43 proceeding upstream to the point of ending at Station 205+80 (near Rawsonville Road), a distance of 8,537 feet, and having an average depth of 2.1 feet, and an average width of bottom of 3 feet

This Notice of Letting, the project plans, specifications, and bid proposal shall be considered a part of the Contract. The Throop Drain improvement project includes the following approximate quantities and type of tile or pipe, along with appurtenances, will be required and contracts let for the same. The following quantities are approximate and final payment will be made of measured quantities:

### DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS

|      |      |                                                 |
|------|------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Sumpter to Bak           |
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Bak to Elwell            |
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Elwell to Martz          |
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Martz to Hoeft           |
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Hoeft to Sta 1+55        |
| 1    | Lsum | Clearing and Grubbing, Sta 1+55 to Rawsonville  |
| 6600 | Ft   | Open Channel Excavation, 3 ft bottom            |
| 1800 | Ft   | Restricted Open Channel Excavation, 3 ft bottom |
| 7400 | Ft   | Open Channel Excavation, 5 ft bottom            |
| 3300 | Ft   | Restricted Open Channel Excavation, 5 ft bottom |
| 1    | Lsum | Temporary SESC Control Measures                 |
| 1    | Lsum | Audio Video Route Survey                        |
| 1    | Lsum | Traffic Maintenance and Control                 |

### CULVERT CROSSINGS

|     |      |                                                                      |
|-----|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 178 | Ft   | Culvert, CMP, 42 inch                                                |
| 42  | Ft   | Culvert, RCP, 42 inch                                                |
| 35  | Ft   | Culvert, Reinf Conc Ellip, CI IV, 38” x 60” with Flared End Sections |
| 62  | Ft   | Culvert, Reinf Conc Ellip, CI IV, 38” x 60”                          |
| 48  | Ft   | Culvert, Reinf Conc Ellip, CI IV, 48” x 76”                          |
| 48  | Ft   | Culvert, Reinf Conc Ellip, CI IV, 48” x 76” with Flared End Sections |
| 65  | Ft   | Culvert, CMP, 48 inch in Steel Casing Pipe, Jack & Bore              |
| 30  | Ft   | Culvert, CMP, 48 inch with Flared End Sections                       |
| 1   | Lsum | Culvert Cleanout                                                     |

### RESTORATION

|       |      |                              |
|-------|------|------------------------------|
| 4     | Each | Driveway Restoration, Grass  |
| 3     | Each | Driveway Restoration, Gravel |
| 1     | Each | Driveway Restoration, HMA    |
| 3     | Each | Road Restoration, Gravel     |
| 4     | Each | Guardrail Restoration        |
| 210   | Syd  | Riprap, Plain                |
| 13900 | Ft   | Slope Restoration, Type A    |
| 5000  | Ft   | Slope Restoration, Type B    |

### ADDITIVE ALTERNATE

|    |     |                                                         |
|----|-----|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 65 | Ft  | Culvert, CMP, 48 inch in Steel Casing Pipe, Jack & Bore |
| 10 | Syd | Riprap, Plain                                           |

Said drain maintenance and improvement will be let in accordance with the plans and specifications now on file with the other documents pertaining to said drain, in the office of the County Drain Commissioner of the Charter County of Wayne located at 400 Monroe, Suite 400, Detroit, Michigan 48226, to which reference may be had by all parties interested. Complete copies of the plans and specifications with required bid forms are available to prospective bidders upon request.

Contract Documents may be obtained from Wade Trim’s website at [www.wadetrim.com/resources/bidlist.htm](http://www.wadetrim.com/resources/bidlist.htm). Bidders are responsible for purchasing official Procurement Documents and full size Plans from Wade Trim at 25251 Northline Road, Taylor,

(Continued on page 17)

# Public Notice

(Continued from page 16)

MI 48180 at a cost of Seventy Dollars (\$70.00) if picked up or Eighty Dollars (\$80.00) if mailed. The cost of the Procurement Documents and Plans is nonrefundable.

Contracts will be made with the lowest responsible bidder of each division, giving adequate security for performance of the work, in the sum then and there to be fixed by the office of the Wayne County Drain Commissioner, reserving the right to reject any and all bids, and if no satisfactory sealed bids are received, we reserve the right to proceed immediately after the rejection of sealed bids and at the same time and place and without further notice to let the contract by open bidding, likewise reserving the right to reject any and all such open bids and to adjourn such letting to such time and place as shall be publicly announced.

The date for the substantial completion of such contract is August 31, 2013. Any persons desiring to bid on the above mentioned work will be require a 5% bid bond deposit (certified check or money order - cash is not acceptable) as a guarantee that they will enter into a contract and furnish the required bond as prescribed by law. The checks shall be drawn payable to "Throop Drain Drainage District". The checks of all unsuccessful bidders will be returned after contracts are awarded. The payment for the above-mentioned work will be made as follows:

In accordance with Payment Schedule No. 1 of Act No. 524 of Public Acts of 1980, payment requests shall be made on a monthly basis. All such payments will be measured by the schedule of values established in Article 14 of the General Conditions (and in the case of Unit Price Work based on the number of units completed) or, in the event there is no schedule of values, as provided in the General Requirements.

NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2013, at the Downriver Wastewater Treatment Facility, 797 Central St., Wyandotte, Michigan 48192, or at such other time and place thereafter, to which I, the County Drain Commissioner of the Charter County of Wayne aforesaid, may adjourn the same, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the "Throop Drain Special Assessment District," and the apportionments thereof will be subject to review for one day, from 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon until 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. At the meeting to review the apportionment of benefits, the Drain Commissioner will have available to review the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within the drainage district. The computation of cost of construction of the drain will also be open for public inspection by any parties interested. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Wayne County Department of Public Services Field Office at (734) 285-7233 at least one week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

The drain assessments against land in the drainage district will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If the drain assessments against land are collected by installment, the land owner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges. Please contact the office of the Wayne County Drain Commissioner with any questions about payments of drain assessments.

Pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code, any owner of land within the drainage district or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the Wayne County Drain Commissioner, may appeal the apportionment within ten (10) days after the day of review of apportionment by making an application to the Wayne County Probate Court for the apportionment of a board of review.

The following is a condensed description of the land constituting the Throop Drain Drainage District. The description of area that is served by the Throop Drain consists of lands situated in Sections 29-33 of Van Buren Township, T.3S.-R.8E.; Sections 4-5 of Sumpter Township, T.4S.-R.8E. in Wayne County, Michigan.

## Van Buren Township – T.3S.-R.8E.

In Section 29 – The Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of the Section. In Section 30 – The Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ and the East ½ of the Southwest ¼ and the South ½ of the Southeast ¼ of the Section. In Section 31 – The North ½ and the North ½ of the Southwest ¼ and the North ½ of the Southeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ and the North ½ of the Southeast ¼ and the North ½ of the South ½ of the Southeast ¼ of the Section. In Section 32 – The South ½ of the Northeast ¼ and the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ and the South ½ of the Northwest ¼ and the South ½ of the Section. In Section 33 – The Southwest ¼ of the Northeast ¼ and the South ½ of the Northwest ¼ and the Southwest ¼ and the North ½ of the Southeast ¼ and the Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ and the North ½ of the Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼.

## Sumpter Township – T.4S.-R.8E.

In Section 4 – The Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of the Northeast ¼ and the North ½ of the Northeast ¼ of the Northwest ¼ and the North ½ of the North ½ of the North ½ of the Northwest ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of the Section. In Section 5 – The North ½ of the North ½ of the Northeast ¼ and the North ½ of the Northeast ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of the Section.

The following public corporations will be assessed at large to pay part of the cost of the drain:

Charter County of Wayne  
Van Buren Charter Township  
Township of Sumpter

(Continued on page 18)

## Doing well at college

**Jasmyne Henderson**, a resident of Belleville majoring in Health Sciences, was among 1,973 students from **Tennessee State University** in Nashville who were named to the fall 2012 Dean's List.

\*\*\*

Three Belleville students were granted degrees at **Spring Arbor University** during commencement exercises on Nov. 17.

**Kellie Massey** received a master of arts in Family Studies, **Jean Stigen** received a bachelor of science in Nursing, and **Donald Schwandt** received a bachelor of arts in Family Life Education.

\*\*\*

**Davenport University** in Grand Rapids announces three Belleville students have been named to the President's List and three have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2012 semester.

Named to the President's List are **Samantha Cole**, **Jessica Hurley**, and **Verlinda Lee**.

The three Belleville students named to the Dean's List are **Bridget Cole**, **Karen Montoya**, and **Michelle Overby-Long**.

\*\*\*

The following Belleville-area residents were among the 2,600 students graduating from **Wayne State University** during winter commencement ceremonies on Dec. 8.

**Melissa Berry** received a master's degree in educational leadership; **Eve Boykins**, bachelor's degree in public affairs; **Daniel Childerston**, bachelor's degree in Social Studies Education Sec.; **Shaun Halaberda**, master's degree in mathematics; **Shana Hayden**, master's degree in elementary education; **Leaunte Johnson**, bachelor's degree in media arts and studies; **Janet Lloyd**, bachelor's degree in psychology; **Lakisha Mack**, bachelor's degree in mortuary science; **Stacey Puchalsky**, bachelor's degree in mortuary science; **Sara Richards**, bachelor's degree in psychology; **Daniel Young** of Van Buren Township, master's degree in instructional technology; and **Mohd Zalmout**, bachelor's degree in chemistry.

## They're in the Marines

Marine Corps Pvt. **Tia M. Elliott**, daughter of Barbara Elliott of Redford and Gregory Elliott, of Belleville, earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

Elliott is a 2012 graduate of Redford Union High School.

\*\*\*

Marine Corps Pvt. **Steven J. Pace**, son of Gloria D. Clark of Belleville and Donald E. Pace, of Dearborn, earned the title of United States Marine after graduating from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC.

Pace is a 2006 graduate of Belleville High School.

\*\*\*



## Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, March 14** – Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano invites Sumpter Seniors to have lunch with him beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Sumpter Senior Center, 23501 Sumpter Rd. The Lunch With Bob event is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year.

• **Thursday, March 14** – Author Susan Whitall will discuss “Fever: Little Willie John, a Fast Life, Mysterious Death and the Birth of Soul” at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library as part of the Homegrown Knowledge Series. Free.

• **Friday, March 15** – Friends Family Theater Free Friday Movie starts at 7 p.m. and Bounce House at 6:45 p.m. Fun, Food, Fine Films in the Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road (at Bemis Road), Ypsilanti. Featuring “*Nature of God: Great Lakes Discoveries*”, 2011, 30 minutes & another feature. Movie questions (734) 482-5074 or [www.friendsfamilytheater.com](http://www.friendsfamilytheater.com)

• **Saturday, March 16** – Join the Belleville Lake Water Ski Club for its Frozen Leprechaun benefit party at 2 p.m. off the docks at Johnny’s Grill on High Street. All donations go to the VanBuren Public Schools Education Foundation.

• **Sunday, March 17** – Boy Scout Troop 793 is holding a Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, to earn money to help the boys go to summer camp. King Brothers are cooking the all-you-can-eat pancakes with three sausages with coffee, milk or juice for \$6. Children under 6 are free.

• **Sunday, March 17** – Bring your pug to SE Michigan Pug-N-Play at 2 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd. Off-leash playtime with other friendly pugs and pug owners. Free, but donations accepted.

• **Thursday, March 21** – The Other Book Group meets at 7 p.m. at different local restaurants. Call the library at 699-3291 for tonight’s location. They will be discussing “Lady” by Thomas Tryon.

## Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, March 14 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m., township hall, public hearing on new Zoning Ordinance. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, March 18 -- Van Buren Township work-study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, March 19 -- Van Buren Township board meeting, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, March 20 – South Huron Valley Utility Authority, 10 a.m., Brownstown Township Hall. Also, Van Buren Township Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

# Public Notice

(Continued from page 17)

NOW, THEREFORE, All unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above-described lands, and you:

Supervisor of Van Buren Charter Township, Linda Combs  
Supervisor of Sumpter Township, Johnny Vawters  
Clerk of Wayne County, Cathy M. Garrett  
Director of Wayne County Department of Public Services, Terry Spryszak

are hereby notified that at the time and place aforesaid, or at such other time and place thereafter to which said letting may be adjourned, I shall proceed to receive bids for the construction of said “Throop Drain,” in the manner hereinbefore stated; and, also, that at such time and place as stated above from 9:00 o’clock in the forenoon until 5:00 o’clock in the afternoon, the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the Throop Drain Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

AND YOU AND EACH OF YOU, Owners and persons interested in the aforesaid lands, are hereby cited to appear at the time and place of such reviewing of apportionments as aforesaid, and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation thereto, if you so desire.

This review of apportionments is consistent with Section 154 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956.

**Dated the 1st day of March, 2013.**

Kenneth Kucel, P.E.  
Wayne County Drain Commissioner

Published: March 7, 2013; March 14, 2013

## Sumpter Township Public Notice

### Grass Cutting Bids

The Township of Sumpter is seeking sealed bids for Grass cutting for Senior Citizens. This is a Community Development Block Grant Project. Must comply with Davis Bacon Act and Equal Opportunity. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Sumpter Township Clerks Office, Attention Clarence J. Hoffman Jr. 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Specifications are available in the Clerks office. Bids must be received no later than 3:00 pm March 28, 2013. Bids will be opened at 3:05 pm March 28, 2013.

Published March 14, 2013

## THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!

(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



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

Huron School District

**Kindergarten Round-Up**

**For 2013-2014**

**Brown Elementary**

**Wednesday, April 10th**

**6-8 p.m.**

**734-782-2716**

**Miller Elementary**

**Thursday, April 11th**

**6-8 p.m.**

**734-753-4421**

# **Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice**

## **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES MARCH 5, 2013**

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Absent: None. Others in attendance: DPW Director MacDonald, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director Zaenglein, Engineer Nummer, Executive Assistant LaMothe, Secretary Cline and an audience of sixty-nine (69).

Supervisor Combs thanked the Trinity Episcopal Church Boy Scout Troop 231 for leading the pledge of allegiance tonight.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda as amended. To remove from the agenda New Business Item #2 "Consider adoption of Resolution 2013-05, Board Meeting Rules of Conduct as amended." and to renumber the remaining Agenda Items as follows: New Business Item #3 is renumbered to New Business Item #1 and New Business Item #1 is renumbered to New Business Item

#2. Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Budd moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Work Study Session Minutes February 19, 2013; Closed Session Minutes February 19, 2013; Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 19, 2013; Consider the reappointments of William Osier and G. Frank Bellomo to the Construction Code of Appeals Board with terms to expire February 28, 2016; Voucher lists of March 5, 2013.] as presented. Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Supervisor Combs read a thank you email from residents regarding a refrigerator left on the road and the prompt response by township employees Jennifer Price, Account Clerk and Bob Queener, Ordinance Officer for having the situation addressed. Clerk Wright presented Eagle Scout Jeffrey Scott Neal with a Proclamation from the Township Board honoring him for this accomplishment. Supervisor Combs stated the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) awarded the Merit Award to the Van Buren Charter Township Water System Improvement Project. Director MacDonald stated the project include the Water Tower, lake crossing water main, new water main and water main control valves.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Wright moved, Hart seconded to approve the second reading

for adoption of Ordinance 2-19-13, to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to revise regulations pertaining to storm water basins. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Miller, McClanahan, Jahr, Hart, Budd, Wright and Combs. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried. \*(A synopsis of Ordinance 2-19-13 follows the minutes. A complete copy of the ordinance is available in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Rd., during business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Wright moved, Budd seconded to approve the reappointments of Charles Coleman, Mark Duff, Harold Gant, Kimberly Nofz and Tammy Wall; the appointment of Sam Villa to the Recreation Committee with terms to expire February 1, 2014. Carried.

McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the proposal from Wade Trim for Preliminary Engineering Services for the 2013 Water Main Project with budget implications of \$32,000. Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Wright announced Project Healthy Living will be held at Wayne County Community College District Western campus located at 9555 Haggerty Road on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room. Participants attending will be educated on disease prevention, encouragement of adopting healthy habits and lifestyles and to regularly monitor their health status with a battery of free and low cost health screening services.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** Comments were made from 7:54 p.m. to 8:27 p.m. by the audience regarding the following topics: Board Meeting Rules of Conduct; audience participation/time limit for audience; Planning Commission; Open Meeting Act; Live Stream of Board Meetings; Work Study Meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jahr moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leon Wright, Township Clerk  
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor  
Publish: March 14, 2013

# **Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice**

## **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN ORDINANCE 2-19-2013**

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

Second reading for adoption.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92 as amended of the Charter Township of Van Buren to revise regulations pertaining to storm water basins.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS AMEND

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS -STORM WATER BASINS AMEND

SECTION 3. CONFLICTS

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.

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

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

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Leon Wright, Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Supervisor

Adopted: 3-5-13

Published: 2-28-13 & 3-14-13

Effective: 3-14-13

## **Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice**

### **Used School Furniture**

Van Buren Public Schools will be having a used school furniture and equipment sale on Saturday, March 23, 2013 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. It will be held at Haggerty Elementary, 13770 Haggerty Rd., Belleville, MI 48111. Items for sale include: tables, chairs, school desks, teacher desks, filing cabinets, lunch room tables, tube tv's, kitchen appliances, etc. All items will be reasonably priced. **CASH ONLY PLEASE!**

Publish: March 14, 2013; March 21, 2013

## **Corrections**

In last week's *Independent* on page 8, Elaine Guterrez's quote should read: "Fraud can be so flagrant." We had printed that fraud can be "fragrant", which is the wrong word and we apologize.

\*\*\*

Also, in the VBT DDA fence story on page 3, the fence in question runs along Belleville Road from Harmony Lane to *Sunrise*, not *Sunset* as reported.

\*\*\*

Also, on page 4 in the editorial, John Delaney said a correction is needed. He said his statement was he "stays mostly in Canton" not "lives mostly in Canton". He said his legal residence is in Van Buren Township on Mida Drive. His lady friend lives in Canton.

We apologize for the errors.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected runs for VBT Police.*

**Sunday, March 3:**  
0055 – assault & battery, 49241 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0804 – larceny, 7141 Sadie Ln.  
0853 – mental, 42901 Tyler Rd.  
1050 – assault & battery, 9326 Parkwood  
1441 – private property accident, 41567 S. Bellridge Dr.  
1533 – harassment call, 7422 Lacy Dr.  
1540 – breaking & entering, 50724 Martz Rd.  
1626 – missing person, 11875 Quirk, Girlstown  
1823 – larceny, 75 N. Ponderosa Trl.  
1830 – fraud, Walmart  
1937 – missing person, 11875 Quirk, Girlstown  
2223 – harassment call, 12692 Hannan Rd.  
2257 – intimidation threat, 10960 Lighthouse  
2341 – felony assault, 6418 Western St.  
**Monday, March 4:**  
0302 – noise complaint, 158 Aspen  
0617 – disorderly conduct, 45000 Van Born Rd.  
0839 – harassment call, 48470 Denton Rd.  
0942 – larceny, 6703 Haggerty Rd.  
1237 – private property accident, Meijer  
1238 – breaking & entering, 6889 Belleville Rd.  
1344 – narcotics crime, 10667 Oak Ln.  
1559 – malicious destruction of property, W. Huron River Dr./Elwell Rd.  
1644 – assault & battery, 41452 E. Archwood Dr.  
2009 – private property accident, 10667 Oak Ln.  
2210 – harassment call, 9214 Parkwood Dr.  
**Tuesday, March 5:**  
0713 – intimidation threat, 10960 Lighthouse  
1317 – intimidation threat, 10960 Lighthouse  
1341 – assault & battery, 41472 E. Archwood Dr.  
1351 – sexual assault, 35 Maple Dr.  
1544 – larceny, Kmart  
1550 – mental, 817 E. Huron River Dr.  
1707 – malicious destruction of property, 6316 E. Sadie Ln.  
1738 – missing person, 305 Oxford  
1755 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1759 – fraud, Walmart  
1802 – assault & battery, 10702 Oak Lane  
2042 – malicious destruction of property, 49060 Denton Rd.  
**Wednesday, March 6:**  
0054 – suspicious vehicle, DNR Boat Launch  
0728 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Circle  
0833 – larceny, 990 Sumpter Rd.  
1300 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Amanda  
1343 – private property accident, 58 Maple Dr.  
1343 – private property accident, J&T Towing  
1543 – disturbance, 6119 Rawsonville Rd.  
1552 – malicious destruction of property, 43046 Lexington Ct.  
1827 – noise complaint, 9331 Parkwood Dr.  
1914 – disturbance, 990 Sumpter Rd.  
2154 – breaking & entering, 10894 Oak Ln.  
2236 – missing person, 46141 Village Green Ln.  
**Thursday, March 7:**  
0846 – harassment call, 49060 Denton Rd.  
0904 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1042 – trespassing, 42794 Patty Ln.  
1124 – harassment call, 17305 Elwell Rd.  
1324 – disorderly conduct, 46425 Tyler Rd.  
1330 – malicious destruction of property, 42695 Leon Dr.  
1335 – breaking & entering, 10300 Jackson St.  
1454 – juvenile complaint, 45201 Owen, school  
1528 – fraud, Meijer  
1531 – trespassing, 303 Holly Ln.  
1607 – juvenile complaint, 29 Oak Blvd.  
1617 – breaking & entering, 39965 S. I-94 Service  
1621 – disorderly conduct, 45501 S. I-94 Service  
1629 – disorderly conduct, 45501 N. I-94 Service  
1644 – disorderly conduct, 45501 N. I-94 Service  
1709 – private property accident, 48501 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1734 – disorderly conduct, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1844 – personal injury accident, Oak Ln/N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1918 – disorderly conduct, 45501 N. I-94 Service

1927 – disorderly conduct, 45501 S. I-94 Service  
1952 – fraud, 11000 Belleville Rd.  
2015 – malicious destruction of property, Meijer  
2144 – assault & battery, 48551 Denton Rd.  
2346 – disorderly conduct, 45707 S. I-94 Service  
**Friday, March 8:**  
0054 – suspicious situation, 11175 HaggertyRd.  
0722 – property damage accident, Tyler/Morton Taylor  
0816 – suspicious person, 9920 Andover Dr.  
0831 – malicious destruction of property, FD #2  
0835 – juvenile complaint, 47097 McBride, school  
0839 – suspicious situation, 9645 Belleville Rd.  
1134 – vehicle pursuit, 48551 Denton Rd.  
1218 – harassment call, 10819 Oak Ln.  
1332 – suspicious person, 49311 Peninsular Dr.  
1841 – juvenile complaint, 11875 Quirk, Girlstown  
2013 – fraud, 11000 Belleville  
2021 – noise complaint, 48870 Denton Rd.  
2221 – intimidation threat, 41900 Arthur St.  
**Saturday, March 9:**  
0019 – missing person, 43693 N. Timberview Dr.  
0055 – loud party complaint, Greenbriar Ct. / Briarwood Dr.  
0114 – private property accident, 41900 Arthur St.  
0335 – disorderly conduct, 2033 Rawsonville Rd.  
0514 – disturbance, 6720 Rogers Ave.  
0556 – breaking & entering, 13720 Sumpter  
0807 – holdup alarm, 7143 Amanda Dr.  
0812 – missing person, 43693 N. Timberview Dr.  
1104 – larceny from auto, 48771 S. I-94 Service  
1122 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 11150 Oak Ln.  
1124 – suspicious person, 40105 Robbe Rd.  
1127 – fraud, 11175 Haggerty Rd.  
1132 – fraud, 11132 Quirk Rd.  
1157 – fight, 11875 Quirk Rd., Girlstown  
1159 – intimidation threat, 9058 Parkwood Dr.  
1206 – assault & battery, 10574 Oak Ln.  
1701 – harassment call, 47220 Lauren Ct.  
1730 – parking complaint, N. Cumberland/Power Lines  
1747 – harassment call, 51291 Sylvia Dr.  
1812 – private property accident, Walmart  
1925 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 51329 I-94 S. Service Dr.  
2048 – juvenile complaint, 46145 Village Green Lane  
2238 – disturbance, 50935 Old Michigan Rd.  
Also on this week’s log are 290 traffic stops, 61 of which were on the freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, March 3:**  
0022 – domestic assault, 6 Main St.  
0054 – mental, BHS  
0143 – follow-up, 341 W. Columbia Ave.  
0853 – fraud, 585 E. Thornhill Ct.  
1233 – assist fire dept., 247 Church St.  
1326 – malicious destruction of property, 375 N. Liberty St.  
1802 – juvenile complaint, Carmell/Belle Villa Blvd.  
**Monday, March 4:**  
0138 – agency assist, 10960 Lighthouse  
1134 – assist fire dept., 25 Owen  
1301 – disturbance, 15 Santa Clara St.  
1411 – property damage accident, Main/Denton  
1419 – domestic assault, 181 Church St.  
1744 – juvenile complaint, 100 Carmell St.  
1858 – traffic complaint, 50 Carmell St.  
2237 – civil matter, 170 N. Liberty St.  
**Tuesday, March 5:**  
0437 – suspicious vehicle, Lakeview  
0818 – intrusion alarm, 650 Light Tower  
0825 – intrusion alarm, 650 Light Tower  
0940 – holdup alarm, 201 Third St.  
0953 – property check, BHS  
1108 – harassment call, 6 Main St.  
1124 – malicious destruction of property, 221 Henry St.  
1306 – property check, Owen Middle School  
1559 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court  
1640 – bank drop, 6 Main St.  
1820 – disorderly conduct, 550 W. Thornhill Ct.  
1826 – agency assist, 550 W. Thornhill Ct.

**Wednesday, March 6:**  
0134 – disorderly conduct, 584 Main St., Lakeview Tavern  
0434 – assist fire dept., 10 San Carlos St.  
0842 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.  
1013 – fight, 285 Victorian Lane  
1244 – information, 6 Main St.  
1732 – misc. complaint, 6 Main St.  
1950 – intimidation threat, 271 Henry St.  
2108 – welfare check, 132 Wexford Ave.  
**Thursday, March 7:**  
0040 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter/Owen  
0756 – assist fire dept., BHS  
0907 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.  
0934 – intrusion alarm, 45 S. Edgemont Ave.  
1156 – juvenile complaint, Owens  
1402 – PPO violation, 45201 Owen, school  
1608 – found property, 6 Main St.  
1648 – abandoned auto, 38 Fifth St.  
2005 – assist fire dept., 195 Belle Villa Blvd.  
2045 – suspicious situation, BHS  
2102 – serve warrant, 50 Clarence St.  
**Friday, March 8:**  
0147 – welfare check, 509 N. Liberty St.  
0740 – narcotics crime, BHS  
1001 – civil matter, 6 Main St.  
1055 – information, Belleville/Harmony  
2157 – assist fire dept., 97 Menlo Park Dr.  
2257 – agency assist, 598 W. Thornhill Ct.  
**Saturday, March 9:**  
0225 – suspicious vehicle, Owen Middle School  
1434 – suspicious person, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr.  
1605 – assist fire dept., 265 Sumpter  
1803 – suspicious vehicle, Victory Park  
2158 – serve warrant, 230 Henry St.  
2208 – suspicious situation, 181 Church St.  
2219 – suspicious situation, Charhouse  
2335 – domestic assault, 132 Carmell St.  
2355 – juvenile complaint, 30 Owen  
Also on this week’s log are 101 traffic stops.

# Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, March 3:**  
0245 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1126 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1712 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1748 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
**Monday, March 4:**  
0840 – parking complaint, 9900 bl. Rawsonville  
1217 – animal complaint, 47000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1303 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1347 – runaway juvenile, Greenmeadow  
1433 – assist other agency, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1442 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1538 – malicious destruction of property, Bemis / Haggerty  
1733 – follow-up investigation, 28000 bl. Sumpter  
1842 – follow-up investigation, 26000 bl. Sumpter  
1843 – follow-up investigation, 28000 bl. Sumpter  
1933 – larceny, Stonecrest  
1938 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.  
2013 – follow-up investigation, Greenmeadow  
2101 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
2251 – civil dispute, Maine  
2349 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willis  
**Tuesday, March 5:**  
0910 – animal complaint, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1055 – alarm, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1258 – animal complaint, Sumpter/Willis  
1500 – alarm, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1605 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
1652 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.  
1731 – 911 hangup, Wyoming  
1804 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1901 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2352 – warrant arrest, Creekside  
**Wednesday, March 6:**  
1028 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1432 – family trouble, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1602 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1703 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
1800 – follow-up investigation, 28000 bl. Sumpter  
2013 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico  
2202 – follow-up investigation, 39000 bl. S. Huron  
**Thursday, March 7:**  
0227 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Oakville Waltz/Rawsonville

0531 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.  
0928 – juvenile complaint, Lohr/Harris  
0929 – harassment complaint, 26000 bl. Sumpter  
1602 – breaking & entering report, 22000 bl. Sumpter  
1849 – warrant arrest, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2138 – suspicious incident, Edgewood  
**Friday, March 8:**  
1020 – civil dispute, Timberlane  
1042 – ordinance violation, 25000 bl. Carleton West Rd.  
1115 – follow-up investigation, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1136 – suspicious person, Walnut  
1423 – follow-up investigation, 25000 bl. Carleton West Rd.  
1454 – well-being check, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1521 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
1702 – breaking & entering report, Carriage Ln.  
1759 – shots fired, 23000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1838 – follow-up investigation, 40000 bl. Willow  
1846 – trespassing, 46000 bl. Claxton Dr.  
1902 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
**Saturday, March 9:**  
0550 – breaking & entering report, 13000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0726 – malicious destruction of property, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
0841 – animal complaint, 24000 bl. Carleton West  
0854 – civil dispute, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0900 – death investigation, 43000 bl. Willis Rd.  
1138 – suspicious vehicle, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1148 – larceny, Country Club  
1308 – dumping complaint, Wear/Haggerty  
1333 – property damage accident, Willow / Rawsonville  
1400 – shots fired, 46000 bl. Executive Dr.  
1507 – harassment complaint, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1523 – subpoena service, 25000 bl. Martinsville  
1545 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
2041 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Bemis  
Also on this week’s log are 28 miscellaneous details, 94 patrol checks, and 56 traffic stops.

## Rebecca Kesler of VBT gets reprimand from Attorney Discipline Brd.

Attorney Rebecca Kesler, P 54287, of Van Buren Township was given a Notice of Reprimand (By Consent) by the State of Michigan Attorney Discipline Board Tri-County Hearing Panel #25, effective Jan. 2.  
The notice was issued Jan. 21.  
Kesler and the Grievance Administrator submitted a stipulation for consent order of discipline in accordance with MCR 9.115(F)(5).  
The stipulation was approved by the Attorney Grievance Commission and was accepted by the hearing panel.  
The stipulation contains Kesler’s plea of no-contest to the allegation that she committed professional misconduct by violating or attempting to violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, contrary to MRPC 8.4 (a).  
The stipulation was approved by the hearing panel and, in accordance with the agreement of the parties, the panel ordered that Kesler be reprimanded.  
Costs were assessed in the amount of \$872.89.  
The notice was signed Jan. 21 by John F. Van Bolt, executive director of the State of Michigan Attorney Discipline Board.

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

## VBPS approves contract for internal connections to apply for E-Rate

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education approved a \$143,123 bid from NETech Corp to install internal connections that would allow the district to apply for E-Rate funding of about \$100,440 of that cost.

At Monday's school board meeting, Director of Finance Karen Moffitt explained the procedure, saying the district had to approve the bids for the 2013-14 school year before it could apply for E-Rate.

The purchase would be contingent upon receiving approval for E-Rate funding.

The internal connection bid from NETech was \$68,923 for servers and switches (district cost to be \$21,290.84) and up to \$74,200 for cabling in various buildings (district cost to be \$21,392).

Moffitt said, if approved, the district would receive a reimbursement through E-

Rate of 82% of the total cost of the internal connections for all buildings except Savage.

One of the guidelines to qualify is the number of students in schools with free and reduced lunches, which eliminates Savage. Savage will get the connections at district expense, she said.

Moffitt said the district received \$200,000 in E-Rate funds last year for web postings, local and long distance calls, and other usage.

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel explained the district is still working on the plan for this, but the deadline to apply is March 14 for next school year.

"We want to make sure the plan makes sense in all the buildings," he said, adding they are still working on details for terms of 1 and 3 years.

"This is a good deal," he said.

Board Vice President Martha Toth pointed out, "Every time we pay our telecommunication bill, we contribute to E-Rate."

E-Rate is the commonly used name for the Schools and Libraries Program

of the Universal Service Fund, which is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The program provides discounts to assist most schools and libraries in the United States (and U.S. territories) to obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access. It is one of four support programs funded through a Universal Service fee charged to companies that provide interstate and/or international telecommunications services.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the board:

- Approved the retirement of Donna Wright after 32.5 years of service at BHS as of March 18;

- Approved hiring Laura Maher as an intervention specialist at Owen as of March 7 and Blair Chamberlin as a math teacher at McBride as of March 18;

- Received an update on events at Belleville High School given by teachers Stefanie Halliday, Connie Testorelli, and Aaron Lang, with about 27 slides as part of the presentation;

- Approved the minutes of a March 4 disciplinary hearing, partly in closed session, that resulted in Student A being expelled from the Van Buren Public Schools. Sherry Frazier was absent and asked for a closed session at the beginning of Monday's meeting to discuss those minutes. After 24 minutes the board returned to open session and unanimously approved those minutes;

- At the end of the meeting, went into a second closed session that resulted in a vote in open session that denied a student's request for reinstatement in the Van Buren Public Schools. This was based on the recommendation from the committee "as convened under MCL 380.1311";

- Heard Toth mark the passing of Bob Crain, who was a special education teacher in the district for 30 years. She said he promoted early childhood education, vocational education for all who were interested, and originated some of the earliest parent groups. Toth said she thinks someone who advocates for others, like he did, is very special; and

- Heard Supt. Van Tassel announce that the March 18 work/study session is cancelled, but the regular meeting on March 25 will have a lot of items on the agenda.

## BHS Career, College, and Business Expo seeking local businesses

Calling all local businesses: The Belleville High School Counseling Staff, in conjunction with the BHS Business Department, invites all local businesses to participate in their inaugural BHS Career, College, and Business Expo from 6 to 8 p.m. on April 25.

To sign up for this event contact Slavica Vidojevski by March 20 at 697-9133 ext. 2008 or by email at: [svidojevski@vanburenschools.net](mailto:svidojevski@vanburenschools.net).



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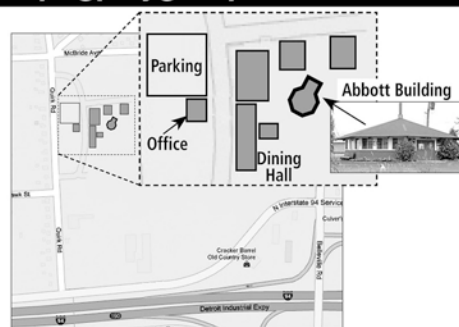
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**All Pugs & Pug Owners are Welcome!!  
One Sunday *EVERY* Month – 2:00pm**

### 2013 Dates:

|             |           |              |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| January 20  | May 19    | September 29 |
| February 17 | June 9    | October 20   |
| March 17    | July 14   | November 17  |
| April 21    | August 25 | December 15  |



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**CORNER BEEF & CABBAGE & A BEER**  
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**\$69.95**

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WEDNESDAY 8:30am to 12:30pm!**

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**Happy**



**Easter**

**Easter  
Brunch**

**Sunday  
March 31  
11:00am - 3:00pm**

Adults  
**\$9.99**

Children  
under 10  
**\$4.99**

**Menu:**

Made to order Omelets,  
Waffles, Biscuits,  
Sausage Gravy, Ham,  
Mashed Potatoes, Gravy,  
Corn, Catfish, Fried Chicken,  
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