



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 19.27 Thursday, July 4, 2013

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**

Walter Hazel pleads 'no contest' in deal on animal cruelty

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor
and Diane Madigan
Independent Court Reporter

It all started when Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor found a dead horse dumped in a Sumpter Township ditch on his way to work in March.

It ended 19 animal cruelty charges later in a June 11 plea deal before 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley.

In the plea, 18 animal cruelty charges and dumping charges were dropped in exchange for Walter Bradley Hazel's plea of "no contest" to one animal cruelty charge and one charge of dumping.

Judge Oakley sentenced Hazel, 35, of Carleton West Road, to one year of probation on each of the two charges. One black and white pit bull that had been removed from his farm, had been returned to him and that was the only animal allowed on his property for a year.

Judge Oakley said Hazel must take his dog to be examined periodically by Sumpter veterinarian Yvonne Craiger to make sure the dog is doing all right, with cost of the exams to be the responsibility of Hazel.

Judge Oakley asked Hazel what his dog's name was and Hazel said his dog is "Barack, like the president."

The judge gave Hazel fines totaling \$525 for the animal cruelty and an additional \$975 for dumping. A payment plan was to be set up.

Judge Oakley said Sumpter Township is not a dumping ground for trash and the paperwork didn't show whether the dumping was for the animal or the tires, wallpaper, and household debris. He wanted to know who cleaned it up.

Sumpter Township Detective John Toth told the judge Wayne County crews and possibly the 34th District work crew cleaned up.

(continued on page 15)



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Friday, the newly organized Sumpter Little League held its first game at Graham Park, playing most of it in a pouring rain. Posing for their first league picture are the red and blue T-ball teams and, in back, League President Christy Darty, red coaches Jason Smith and DeRonald Carver, and blue coach and player agent Marc Delaney. Because of the rain, earlier in the day the game was cancelled, but then in the afternoon it was rescheduled. After the picture was taken, Darty said the parents may have been expecting her to cancel the game again because it's raining. "We're not. Play ball!" she said and everyone cheered. Before play began, Kenneth Stewart sang the National Anthem.

VBT planners OK eight years of 'temporary land use' for corn maze

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Owners of the corn maze on Martz Road can comfortably invest in new equipment for the growing business after the Van Buren Township Planning Commission approved eight years of "temporary land use."

At the June 26 commission meeting Norm and Scott DeBuck of New Lawn Sod Farm said the success of their corn maze operation makes it necessary for them to expand.

"Because of all our investments, we need to have a longer time for the special use permit," Norm DeBuck said, asking for 12 years.

The corn maze first received a one-year permit from the township and when that expired it got a three-year permit, which now is expiring.

(continued on page 13)



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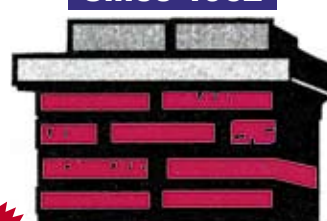
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Board of Determination votes for work on Head Drain, branches

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Residents of Van Buren and Sumpter townships attended the formal Wayne County Board of Determination meeting June 24 to consider testimony on whether maintenance and improvement is necessary of the Head Drain and its Torrey and Elwell branches.

The meeting was held at the Van Buren Township Hall.

After hearing public testimony, the Board voted unanimously that maintenance and improvement of the Head Drain and its branches is necessary and conducive to Public Health, Convenience or Welfare and necessary for Protection of Public Health to Municipality.

Arthur Nagy of Brownstown served as chairman of the board; Patricia Ganzberger of Southgate served as secretary; and Paul Sincock, Plymouth City Manager, served as board member. Jack Franzil stood by in case a third board member was needed.

Matt Best, Wayne County drains manager, gave an introduction to Head Drain that he said was established in 1862, is three miles long, and travels along both sides of Bemis Road and then drains into Throop Drain.

Best said there are 390 individual parcels in the drainage district and there have been cleanouts in 1876, 1925, and 1952.

He said in the years 2000-2012 there have been numerous complaints on the drain, including log jams, blocked culverts, and stagnant water.

In December 2012, the county received a petition from residents which led to the Board of Determination hearing.

Rodney Valez of Spicer Group engineers said at the request of the Drain Commission and Richard Graham did an inspection of the drain on May 31.

They walked the drain between Sumpter and Rawsonville roads and found the drain had the same character all along its three-mile route.

Valez reported and showed pictures of the debris, obstructions, vegetation, the drain right of way overgrown with brush and trees, and a lot of garbage, and localized erosion.

He said close to Martha's Lane, west of Sumpter Road, someone had dammed up the drain and made a pool of stagnant water.

Along the mobile home park on Elwell Road, he showed pictures taken of a fence falling into the drain, a large tree next to the drain washing out, and debris in the drain. Closer to Lohr Road, he showed a fort built over the drain. East of Lohr Road there were trees flat in the drain building up sediment.

Valez said the culverts along Bemis were 50-60% full of sediment, along with

cattails and Phragmites.

He stated that, according to records, the last time the drain was cleaned was in 1952, with some intermittent maintenance over the years.

John Hughes, 46445 Harris Road, asked where the cleaned Head Drain will drain. He asked if the Throop Drain, where Head empties, is cleaned?

Hughes was told Throop wasn't cleaned and he commented, "Unless you clean Throop, we're just making a pond."

Stacy L. Hissong, attorney, said Head outlets to Throop Drain and Riggs Drain and bids went out this spring on Throop and the work will be done before this construction on Head.

Hissong said the drain work is paid by apportionments of percentages to Wayne County, for benefits to county roads; to MDOT for benefits to highways (which probably doesn't apply here); to the townships for public health; and a portion to the property owners, based on acreage and zoning. The assessment is levied for up to 20 years.

Hughes said he would like to know how much this was going to cost and Hissong said the Drain Code that has to be followed was made by the Legislature.

The Board of Determination votes yes or no on whether it is needed, then there is a request for proposals for engineers to hire, an informational meeting on the costs, and then a day of review.

Hughes was concerned about the cost and hoped the board will consider the actual need and the hardship cleaning it will cause.

Jim Richendollar of Harris Road said nine homes are affected and he had signed the petition that resulted in that day's board meeting.

He said on April 8, 1999 a study was done by JCK & Associates and the Board of Determination came out and surveyed the entire Torrey Drain and part of Head Drain and the board decided not to do it.

Richendollar said he had to put in a sub pump to keep his furnace operating.

He said he knows of no one on the Head Drain that is upset and he has no problem. He said they hired equipment and cleaned the drain eight years ago.

But, the nine people on a quarter mile of Harris Road need help, Richendollar said.

Aline B. Smith of 45821 Harris Road said she got oceanfront property without moving her home. She said she had 3½ inches of water in her garage and almost lost her freezer.

She said she called Fox News and they came out. The county tried to blow the ditches out. She said Sumpter said to clean out your own ditches.

Lonnie Lee, from the road commission,

came out and said he could do something, but he couldn't clean part of the county drain and, "There was no place for our water to go."

Smith said these drains need cleaning and were last cleaned the year before she was born.

Barney Ban of Lohr Road said there was a cleanup on the Head Drain by Sumpter Township in 1993 or 1994. He said his complaint is that the county has done no maintenance for at least 20 years.

"I think it's mostly the county's fault," Ban said, referring to the condition of the drains. "The county should be maintaining

the drains ... It was cleaned."

A man who lives on Bemis in Van Buren Township said he has no water problems and doesn't want to pay for others having problems. He said he uses his own equipment to solve drainage problems.

Others at the Board of Determination meeting included Wayne County Drain Commissioner Kenneth M. Kucel, Deputy Commissioner Elmeka Allen, VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Arthur Mullen, VBT DPW Director Jim Taylor, and VBT engineering consultant Dave Nummer from Wade Trim engineers.



Independent photo by Bob Mytych

Safety Track on Main Street in Downtown Belleville held their ribbon cutting ceremony on June 21 with the Belleville Chamber of Commerce and local and township officials. Safety Track is a vehicle camera and GPS Tracking systems developer and provides its products and services to retail and commercial community. The company is owned by Jeffrey and Sue Stoker and standing behind them is Senator Pat Collbeck.

VBT rescinds moratorium on DTE Energy Smart Meters

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees unanimously rescinded a moratorium on DTE Energy Smart Meters at its regular meeting on June 18.

There was no discussion on the move, which was said to be the township attorney's recommendation, and the item was included in the Consent Agenda, which approves items that don't need discussion.

At the June 3 work/study meeting, about 120 pages of information was distributed to the board on the Michigan Public Service Commission and Smart Meter issues, but there was no discussion.

In the written request for action from Supervisor Linda Combs, she wrote, "Because the Smart Meter issue falls directly within the Michigan Public Safety [sic] Commission's regulatory purview, it is recommended the Township Board of

Trustees rescind Resolution 2012-10."

Treasurer Sharry Budd made the motion to institute the moratorium "until further notice" at the May 1, 2012 meeting of the township board, with Trustee Phil Hart seconding the motion.

Trustee Jeff Jahr was the only board member voting against the moratorium and Trustee Denise Partridge was absent and excused.

The moratorium was passed while the Michigan Public Service Commission was studying opposition to Smart Meters, which are computerized electronic devices that allow for remote reading via radio frequencies and two-way communications.

VBT residents and those from other parts of Southeastern Michigan came to a VBT board meeting early last year to voice their concerns about health, safety, privacy and potential cost issues with the Smart

(continued on page 10)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Independence Day is a time to show your colors

Patriotism in the U.S.A. is a silly, maybe dangerous attitude to some. It's putting our country ahead of other countries in our hearts. That's foolish, say some. We should be thinking globally and feeling that all people and countries are equal. That's what we read in the papers and magazines.

But, in the Belleville area the thought that other countries could be better than ours is pretty much considered deluded fiction. In this area, people still fly their American flags, turn out in droves to decorate veterans' graves, donate to groups that help veterans.

But, there are little things that are happening that make us wonder if our love of country is eroding.

While most governmental meetings in the tri-community historically have opened with a pledge to the flag, some no longer do so. At a recent school board meeting the chairman decided to skip the pledge and no one objected.

When the governor signed a law that each classroom should have an American Flag and an opportunity for students to pledge the flag, our local school district had to scurry around to find flags. Not every room had a flag. The VFW and PLAV donated some to help.

But in Sumpter on Friday, the new Little League opened with the National Anthem and 5 and 6-year-olds being taught how to stand at attention. Maybe there's hope.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

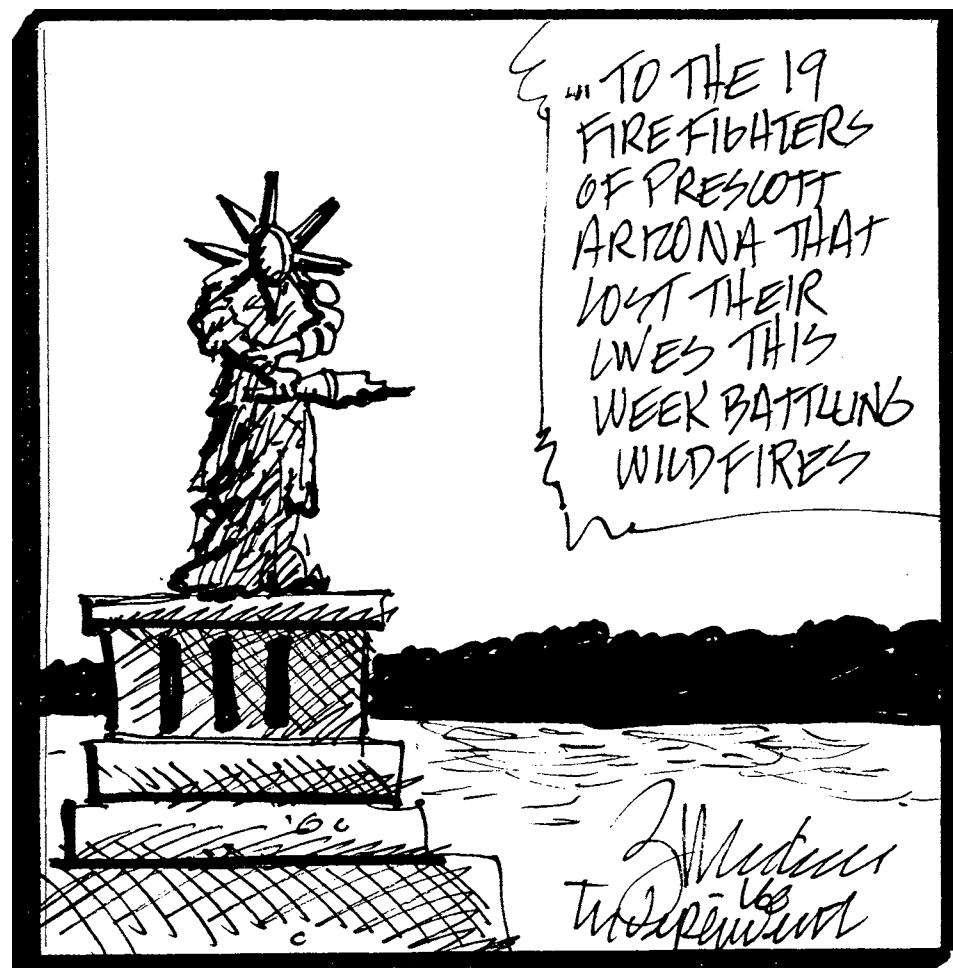
Last Saturday's fireworks at Beck Field in Van Buren Township were wonderful, according to all reports. The traffic in and out of the event was smooth and people observed VBT police and fire fighters out doing their work to make sure the public was safe, with some EMTs on bicycles.

One motorist said he happened to get in the lane that was directed north on Beck Road to Ecorse. It was out of his way, but he could take Ecorse east to get home. OK. But, on eastbound Ecorse when he got to Belleville Road, the traffic lights were still very brief because of the ongoing construction there. He said it took 20 minutes for him to get up to the light and finally through it.

He said he sure hopes they get that problem solved before the big Willow Run Air Show in August where the traffic is much greater than it was Saturday.

The weather has been just right for the yucca crop this year and those exotic-looking plants are blooming their hearts out. As are the Stella D'oro lilies. Everywhere I've driven the last week or so, I have seen huge blooming stalks on the yucca and cascades of blooms on the Stella D'oro plants (which, I'm told are not true lilies). Whatever, they are beautiful. The true lilies also are blooming in abundance and are very showy.

When the Van Buren Public School board was talking about the budget during a public hearing on June 17, Finance Director Karen Moffitt said that to reopen Haggerty School would cost \$92,000, plus half of the cost of the coordinator.



School Supt. Michael Van Tassel pointed out at first they were looking at a \$200,000 expense when they were thinking of demolishing Haggerty School.

Of course, they are demolishing the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) that used to be the old Edgemont School. I remember when the district went out for bids on that at the same time they went out for Elwell demolition bids at the first of the year, but I never heard the board approve any ECDC bid. It is slated to be torn down, however.

The last walls on Elwell School were knocked down the morning of May 2.

Karen Moffitt also said there would be a lower payment to Wayne Westland of \$196,428 for the vocational classes since fewer students have been sent there by the VB district.

Supt. Van Tassel often refers to recommendations made by his "cabinet" and at the June 17 meeting, Treasurer Sherry Frazier asked him just who was this "cabinet."

He said it was himself, Human Resources Director Shonta Langford-Green, Curriculum Director Diane Kullis, Building and Grounds Director James Williamson, Special Services Director Karen Johnston, and Finance Director Karen Moffitt. Now we all know.

Carl and Brenda McClanahan recently took a long vacation to Arizona and thereabouts. They saw a newspaper called the *Independent* in Gallup, New Mexico, and thought of me. They brought me home a copy.

It was very interesting and I appreciate their kindness. I like to read newspapers from other areas to see how different, and how very much the same, our papers are.

Sumpter Township has had Little League in the past, but this is the first time it's ever had T-ball that anyone can remember. It hasn't had Little League play at all for many years.

So, everyone was excited at Graham Park last Friday when the youngsters gathered, with lots of enthusiastic parents and grandparents and Parks and Recreation Commission members and township board members. Supervisor Johnny Vawters threw out the game ball to start the game after Kenneth Stewart sang the National Anthem.

I met Kenneth years ago when I did a story about how he, as a blind man, won many awards in the Senior Olympics. He will be singing the National Anthem as the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics kicks off this year's games on Aug. 12.



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**Letters****Our community has
something to celebrate**

To the Editor:

Last week, the Michigan Department of Education released 2013 test data for Michigan high school juniors' performance on the Michigan Merit (MME) and ACT exams.

I found it interesting that the press release focused not on the 2013 data but rather on the four-year trend in test scores. No doubt this is because the one-year progress was minimal, although the overall trend over four years is more impressive.

ACT score averages, for example, were up slightly except in Math, where they declined slightly. Math scores showed the exact same slight decline at Belleville High School, but growth in all the other areas greatly outpaced average state growth. English scores grew more than twice as much at BHS. Science scores grew three times as much. And Reading scores grew a stunning six times as much as state average.

Our scores do not yet match those state averages, as we were considerably behind in 2010, but we are making up ground very quickly.

These are nationally normed tests, and they are the basis for whether our students are considered "college ready" when they graduate.

If the long-term trend is what's important, then our whole community has something to celebrate, indeed.

Martha Toth

Editor's Note: Martha Toth serves as vice president of the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education.

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**Our school tried those
student lounges in '75**

To the Editor:

I just had the occasion to visit my son this last weekend and asked him, "Do you have the morning paper?" He replied, "Dad, this is a modern house, we use 'i-Pads!'" He later asked if I had found the i-Pad and I said, "Yup, and that fly never knew what hit him!"

So I guess one can only surmise that the library and the new high school have no flies since they are so high tech with i-Pods, computers, WI-FI, etc.; and heaven forbid a fly should ever appear in the new "lounges" at the high school.

Student lounges? When did we have time for a lounge what with classes, activities, sports, clubs, and full schedules?

The powers that be make this sound like a new concept. Nay, not so, for we had them at the high school I taught at way back in the old days of 1975 with the idea that if the school made it more comfortable for the disadvantaged students they would enjoy school and be more likely to attend classes.

You can check -- it didn't work and within three years the classrooms were back, the lounges were gone, and the same number of students were status-quo.

Of course, if you asked, no program or idea or concept in education ever failed. It just slowly fades away and disappears and appears to have been successful.

I have a flash for the administration! The students we observe making the sojourn to the wetlands every morning and afternoon (during class hours) to inhabit their own lounge did not cost ½ million dollars and they have been using it for over 15 years!

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More Letters

Thanks to those who made fireworks happen

To the Editor:

On Saturday, June 29, the Van Buren Township Fireworks display attracted residents from the entire township & surrounding communities. The Beck Rd. Ball fields were packed, as were the parking lots at McBride Middle School & Quirk Park. As always, our Public Safety Department did a fantastic job with traffic & crowd control.

After four years' hiatus, this event was made possible by the following generous corporate sponsors, whose donations also paid for all employee staffing: Waste Management, Belleville Square Shopping Center, Ashley Capital, Sovereign Partners (Grace Lake), Environmental Quality (EQ), Exel Supply, Rose Moving & Storage, Wade Trim and one anonymous donor.

Many residents have expressed their appreciation for bringing this free family event back to the community. My sincerest thanks to all of the sponsors for making it happen! Thanks also to Jennifer Wright, Jennifer Zaenglein & the Parks & Recreation staff for making all of the arrangements. Everyone had a great time!

Linda H. Combs, Supervisor
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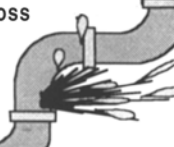
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Obituaries



Gary Richard "G.G." Gentle

GARY RICHARD 'G.G.' GENTLE

(September 13, 1950 - June 25, 2013)

Gary Richard "G.G." Gentle, age 62, of Belleville died Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital with his loving family at his side.

He was born September 13, 1950, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of Leo Rolland Gentle and Virginia Mae McCully. Gary was a kind-hearted man and was well-loved by everyone who knew him. As the third-generation owner of Gentle Machine Tool and Die in Belleville, MI, he was a devoted and hard-working man. He was a gifted athlete in the sport of baseball where he received the honor of "All American" while attending Belleville High School (Class of 1969) and received a full-ride scholarship to attend Eastern Michigan University. He also was drafted by the Detroit Tigers that same year. Gary will always be remembered for his sense of humor, playing a great game of golf, boating and going out to dinner, but his greatest joy was spending time with his wife, Linda, his children and grandchildren.

Survivors besides his wife Linda, include two children Aaron (Kiley) Gentle and Traci (John) Richards; two grandchildren, Jack and Margaret Richards; two step-daughters Jennifer Anderegg and Kimberley Wright; sisters and brothers Karen (Mike) Shinkevich, Lynda (Mike) Topping, Jill Gentle, Alan Gentle and Tim Gentle; his aunt, Shirley Earl and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life Service will be held Wednesday, July 10, 2013, at Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel, 19865 Sumpter Rd., Belleville at 7:00 p.m. Contributions in his memory may be made to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue. P.O. Box 854, Belleville, MI 48112-0854. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home where the family will receive friends on Wednesday, July 10th from 5:00 p.m. until time of service at 7:00 p.m.



FRANK E. STOPERA

(February 12, 1919 - June 20, 2013)

Age 94 of Romulus. Survived by 10 children, 36 grandchildren, 61 great-grandchildren. Military honors at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Arrangements by Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Township Chapel.



ROBERT W. FINKBEINER

(September 18, 1948 - June 28, 2013)

Age 64 of Belleville. Served in the Vietnam Conflict, retired from Kelsey Hayes. Survived by loving adoptive family. Cremation accorded. Celebration of Life services announced soon. Brown Funeral Home.

THELMA MANNS

(October 29, 1922 - June 20, 2013)

Age 90 of Sumpter Township. Survived by four children, eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, two brothers, a sister. Services and burial in West Virginia. Arrangements by Janowiak Funeral Home Sumpter Chapel.

RICHARD TRUXAL

Of Belleville, died June 20, 2013, at Arbor Hospice Residence in Pittsfield Township. Cremation will take place. A complete obituary will appear at a later date. Arrangements by Janowiak Funeral Home. Guestbook at janowiakfuneralhome.com



Raymond A. Sinkiewicz, Jr.



RAYMOND A. SINKIEWICZ, JR.

(July 3, 1944 - June 28, 2013)

Raymond Andrew Sinkiewicz, Jr., age 68, of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, June 28, 2013 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. He was born July 3, 1944 in Romulus, MI, son of the late Raymond Andrew Sinkiewicz, Sr. and Lottie (Smollen) Sinkiewicz.

He graduated from Belleville High School in 1962. He proudly served his country in the U.S. National Guard. He worked for General Motors at the Willow Run Plant and Auburn Hills for over 25 years. He was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, where he enjoyed being a Cub Scout Leader for many years. He loved the outdoors, camping, metal detecting, playing and making things with his grandchildren. He also loved going to the casino.

Ray is survived by his wife of 46 years, Carole Louise (Colton) Sinkiewicz; two sons Raymond J. (Ashley) Sinkiewicz of Houston, Texas and Jason (Kristen) Sinkiewicz of Ypsilanti, MI; 5 grandchildren Parker, Kennedy, Scout, Nathan & Kelsey Sinkiewicz; two sisters Debbie (Rollie) Culp of Florida and Tina (David) Henderson of Florida; also numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, also a sister Ramona Murray.

Visitation was Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at Higginson-Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main Street, Belleville, 11 AM until 1 PM with a 1:00 PM Funeral. Father Thomas H. Cusick will

officiate. Interment was in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI. Arrangements by David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel, Belleville. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Non-juried art show set for Sept. 13, 14 by Belleville Arts Council

It's time to start preparing your entries for the Community Art Show on Friday, Sept. 13, and Saturday, Sept. 14 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church Father Folta building.

This show, put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, is a non-juried show open to all artists and all media.

There are three categories for entry: ages 6-12, 13-17, and 18+. Cash prizes will be awarded in each age group. Entry fee for artists is \$10 and deadline for submission is Aug. 23.

The public is invited to view the artworks and admission is free.

Baked goods will be available for purchase.

Entry forms are available at bellevilleartscouncil.org.

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Court Watching:**Brian Baker was set to be arraigned July 3 on fifth B&E charge**

By Diane Madigan
Independent Court Reporter

Brian Bernard Baker, 17, who is scheduled to go to trial in August on four breaking and entering charges, was to be video arraigned on a new, fifth charge July 3 at 34th District Court in Romulus.

All the break-ins were in Haggerty Subdivision in Van Buren Township between Feb. 19 and April 12.

In the fifth case, Baker is accused of 1st degree home invasion at 10914 Buchanan that took place on April 5. Baker is also accused of stealing firearms, stealing money, receiving and concealing weapons-firearms, and two counts of felony firearm.

On June 19, Baker was scheduled for a 9 a.m. status conference with Circuit Court Judge Mark T. Slavens at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

When Baker's attorney, James McGinnis, showed up at 10 a.m., jury selection for a trial in another case was occurring. Baker's grandmother had been waiting all morning.

After the jury had been selected, they were given a short break before the trial got under way. During the break, McGinnis asked that Baker be called from jail to the courtroom for his status conference on the four cases.

After speaking with Assistant Prosecutor Danielle Russo, McGinnis said an unfortunate snafu occurred when 34th District Court in Romulus could not find Baker to arraign him on a fifth case. McGinnis requested a motion for Habeas Corpus.

Baker was then scheduled for his arraignment on the fifth charge. That was first set for June 26, but on June 26 Baker was not brought to 34th District Court and it was postponed in favor of a video arraignment planned from the jail on July 3.

Judge Slavens set a pre-trial exam for July 9 and a final conference for July 17. Baker's trial is set for Aug. 29.

Baker is being held in the Wayne County Jail with each of the bonds on his four cases set at \$10,000 or 10%. The bond on his fifth case was to be set at the arraignment.

Joseph Venable accepts plea deal in assault on Sumpter Police officer

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Joseph Andrew Venable, 21, who was arrested May 13 on a charge of assaulting a Sumpter Township police officer causing injury, accepted a plea deal at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice and was to be formally sentenced June 26.

Venable appeared before Judge Chylinski on May 29 where he was arraigned on the information. Immediately, Judge Chylinski held a disposition conference between the prosecutor and defense attorney.

Then Venable agreed to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge of attempted assault on a police officer causing injury, in exchange for dismissal of the assault charge, a felony.

Venable was first brought before 34th District Court Judge Brian Oakley on May 22 where Venable waived his preliminary exam and was sent on to circuit court.

Judge Oakley was told a youthful-offender agreement for a Dec. 6, 2012 breaking and entering had been fulfilled and Venable had a disorderly person charge in 2010.

The prosecutor told Judge Oakley that the police officer broke his hand in the incident and may require surgery.

Venable had been given a \$50,000 or 10% bond, with no drugs or alcohol, at his video arraignment before Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green. Judge Oakley reduced that to a personal recognizance bond, but kept the no drugs and alcohol provision.

Judge Chylinski continued that bond and referred the case to the probation department for a pre-sentence report.

Sumpter Detective John Toth said at 10:18 p.m. May 12, Officer David McKean

was dispatched to a report of someone stumbling and vomiting in the roadway in the Sumpter and Willis area. Officer McKean was unable to locate the man at first, but then found him inside Sumpter Market.

The man, later identified as Venable, was trying to get out of the building through a door that was locked, Toth said. He was able to force open the door and exit. Then Officer Brian Stefani pulled into the market parking lot and Venable took off on foot.

Toth said Venable had fallen and McKean

tried to get him under physical control. Officer McKean suffered an injured right thumb and, after Venable's arrest, McKean drove himself to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital for treatment.

Officer McKean needed surgery and will be off duty three to four months while recuperating, Det. Toth said.

Det. Toth noted Venable's alcohol consumption had proved to be extremely high the night of his arrest.



Venable

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Perspective Eyecare at 11824 Belleville Road is now offering \$50 off any Rx sunglasses or \$15 off most non-Rx sunglasses, for a limited time. Designer sun wear starts at just \$99 and some restrictions apply. See store for details. To make an appointment with **Dr. Robert Kennedy** call (734) 699-1010 or visit www.perspectiveeyecare.com.

Harbour Club Golf Course is operating under new general manager **Jeremie Lopez** and right now they are offering a super summer special deal with their ad coupon in today's paper. Get 9 holes and power cart for just \$9 and 18 holes for \$18. Offer valid Monday through Thursday before 3 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday after 3 p.m. For tee times, call (734) 699-8844.

The **Creek Bar & Golf Driving Range** at 50521 Huron River Drive in Van Buren Township now offers an all-new outdoor patio with fire pits and a Tiki Bar on weekends. The Creek also has daily lunch, dinner and drink specials, pool table, free internet, darts and other games.

Happy Days Specials take place 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Trivia Tuesday evenings from 8 to 10 p.m. Enjoy their ever-famous steak dinners on Thursday, beginning at 6 p.m. Enjoy a live DJ every Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

While the golf course is no longer operating, a driving range is open on the property. Right now, save \$1 on a bucket of balls with their ad coupon from today's paper. Call (734) 483-5010.

Golf tickets and sponsorship opportunities are now available for the **14th Annual Gregg Brinkerhoff Scholarship Golf Outing** set for Aug. 3 at the Pine View Golf Course in Ypsilanti. For information and to register by July 26, call **Mike or Beth Sampson** at (734) 697-0440. The 2013 scholarship recipients from BHS are **Kyle Archer, Darrius Gregory, Chaney Jones, Jacob McClinton, and Ryan Patton**.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, July 4** – Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. Tonight is Belleville Community Chorus.

• **Friday, July 5** – Friends Church Family Drive-in, free movie at sunset, 9:15 p.m. Come early and enjoy the bounce house and playground. Free popcorn and refreshments, at 7890 Tuttle Hill Road at Bemis in Ypsilanti. Movie questions (734) 482-5074 or previews www.friendsfamilytheater.com.

• **Sunday, July 7** – A brief ceremony called Bugles Across America honors soldiers fighting now and veterans of past wars at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Monument in Horizon Park on High Street in Belleville.

• **Thursday, July 11** – Music Lakeside at 7 p.m. at Horizon Park put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts. Tonight is Detroit Elvis.

• **Friday, July 12** – VBT Summer Concert Series, 7-8:30 p.m., Van Buren Park, \$4 entry fee per car. Tonight is the Belleville Community Band, with free hot dog dinner to the first 100 people.

Upcoming Meetings

• Monday, July 8 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meeting cancelled.

• Tuesday, July 9 – VBT LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 10 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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VBT Board

(continued from page 3)

Meters. Other communities had placed moratoriums on the meters.

The Resolution especially asked the MPSC to review the opt-out provision proposed by DTE Energy and to allow individual customers, instead, to decline Smart Meter installation in their homes without penalties or additional fees.

At the June 14 meeting of the Council of Western Wayne, representatives of the municipalities reportedly were told by DTE that they would begin Smart Meter installations in all the communities this fall and customers would pay a \$67 fee upfront and then \$9.80 per month if they didn't allow the Smart Meters to be installed. The fee, approved by the state, would be to pay for a meter reader to come out to read the meter.

Opponents of Smart Meters have appealed the MPSC ruling.

On June 18, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette said he is investigating because he still thinks those who opt out shouldn't have to pay a fee.

In other business at the 29-minute, June 18 meeting, the VBT board:

- Approved promoting interim DPW Director James Taylor to at-will Director of the Department of Public Works with a salary of \$70,000, "a little less" than the previous DPW Director Tom McDonald, who retired. Taylor worked from 1989 through 2011 for the City of Dearborn's Water and Sewer Division and retired as its Water and Sewer Utility Manager. He holds an S-1 Waterworks Systems Operator certification from the State of Michigan. Supervisor Combs said there were 19 applicants for the position and Taylor was tops;

- Helped the Fire Department honor Danny Wilson, who has served 30 years as a fire fighter and will retire as of June 28. "I spent exactly half my life as a fire fighter," Wilson said. "I'm the last one of the group I started with. I'm glad I was a part of it." He was presented with certificate of appreciations from the VBT board and from the VBT Fire department, along with a helmet purchased for him by the Fire Fighters Association;

- Heard Supervisor Combs announce a new program for the police department aimed at building trust with members of the community. The first "Coffee with a Cop" will run from 8 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 13, at Leo's Coney Island. Captain Greg Laurain will be there, along with whomever he brings, she said. It is relaxed, one-on-one interactions to discuss issues. Supervisor Combs said the program is supported by the U.S. Department of Justice and Community Oriented Policing Services. The national project currently is held in 80-plus cities in 24 states, Combs said; and

- Heard Supervisor Combs announce she has named her executive assistant Karin LaMothe as her Deputy Supervisor.

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1979 CORVETTE L-82. Sm Blk, Auto, T-Top. \$4500 or Best Reasonable Offer. (734) 697-0796 7/04

1986 CUTLASS - 455 Holly, \$3,000 obo. 2003 Blazer, good condition, great stereo, \$3,000 obo (734) 699-1207 7/04

VEHICLE FOR SALE

1997 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE. 140,000 miles, runs good, comes with cargo hauler, \$1,700 obo. Also Hitch for Chevy Mini Van, \$70. (734) 277-1228 7/04

RARE 2003 FORD CROWN Victoria LX Sport. Like Mercury Marauder. 91,900 miles, fully loaded. \$7,000 obo (734) 765-0093 7/11

2003 F-150 FORD LARIAT. 68,000 miles. Very clean, non-smoker, no accidents. \$12,500. Call Greg (734) 391-8669 7/18

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 GUITARS. Have one you don't play any more. Call (734) 697-1128 Ask for Ray. 7/04

FREE

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

FREE AMERICAN FLAGS - In time for the Forth of July. Refurbished flags 11"x16" available at 48 S. Biggs, Belleville or call (734) 699-8563 7/04

MOBILE HOME - Good condition. Must complete application process to stay in park. Call Jean (734) 395-9156 7/11

FREE - 21" QUASAR TV with remote. Large back, excellent condition. (734) 697-7805 after 3 p.m. 7/04

Birthdays

June 28 - Derek Bennett
July 1 - Angela Nettro
July 3 - D'Athony Harmon
July 4 - Debra Carter
July 6 - Rose Laginess
July 10 - Kyle Teachout
July 13 - Deb Downard
July 17 - Mary Jo Martin, Gregg Sturtz
July 18 - Steven McArthur
July 19 - Jeanie Knox, Tabatha Hampton
July 23 - Melaina Keller
July 25 - Timmy Laginess
July 27 - Shelbie Hardrick
July 28 - Shane Carpenter
July 31 - Elaine Wisniewski-Bonfiglio

HELP WANTED

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

ZUMBA INSTRUCTOR WANTED Monday - Wednesday nights. Tuesday - Thursday mornings. Call Curves at (734) 697-2000 7/11

DEPENDABLE LAWN SERVICE & LANDSCAPING. Must have experience in all areas of lawn cutting. (734) 587-2410 or (734) 693-4712 7/04

Drivers CDL-A: Lots of Miles. Great Pay/Benefits & Bonuses. Home Weekly. No Slip Seat. No Touch. Newer Equipment. (877) 723-8932 7/11

EXPERIENCED BARTENDERS Wanted. Apply in person. Van Buren Eagles. 9961 Beck Rd. TFN

HOME HEALTH AIDES needed in Belleville area. (734) 697-0888 7/04

ATTENTION: HARD WORKING young lady willing to do yard work, housecleaning, babysitting. Please contact Amber at (734) 699-3227. 7/04

Drivers: \$3,000 Sign-On! Home Daily! Dedicated. CDL-A, 1 yr. OTR, Good background. 320 Matzinger Rd., Toledo. www.mtstrans.com or (800) 748-0192 7/04

DOCK REPAIR PERSON NEEDED for Ford Lake Community. Call (734) 323-6834 7/04

HELP WANTED

LANDSCAPER NEEDED

Exp. A Plus! Pay Is \$10-\$12 Per Hour Based On Exp. Call Jenene To Find Out How To Apply At (734) 323-8973

Bartenders, Servers, & Cooks Wanted.

Apply in Person

Tin Pan Saloon & Pizzara 19350 Sumpter Rd.

(Next to Sumpter Ace Hardware)

HIRING IMMEDIATELY

Dedicated & Reliable Bus Drivers for Permanent Positions for Van Buren Public Schools. Starting Pay: \$11.50/hour. Call 734-699-5100

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

HELP WANTED

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

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

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Van Buren Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, on **Wednesday July 24, 2013** at 7:30 PM to consider the following:

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren to amend and modify provisions in several sections of the Zoning Ordinance to do the following: revise the parking requirement for industrial establishments; add a definition and amend the regulations for Drive-Through facilities; add banks to the list of uses in the Commercial Districts; and update the definitions for gas stations and automotive repair and servicing facilities and the standards that pertain to them.

Section 6.01.E.1

ARTICLE VI, PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS, SECTION 6.01.E.1 NUMBER OF MINIMUM PARKING – INDUSTRIAL

Section 2.02

ARTICLE II, DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.02 SPECIFIC TERMS – DRIVE-THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT

Section 12.02.j

ARTICLE XII, C-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 12.02 PERMITTED USES

Section 12.03.d

ARTICLE XII, C-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 12.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL

Section 11.02

ARTICLE XI, C LOCAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 11.02 PERMITTED USES

Section 2.02

ARTICLE II, DEFINITIONS, SECTION 2.02 SPECIFIC TERMS

Section 4.15

ARTICLE IV, GENERAL PROVISIONS, SECTION 4.15 LOCATION OF SERVICE STATIONS AND COMMERCIAL GARAGES

Section 12.02.ss

ARTICLE XII, C-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 12.02 PERMITTED USES

Section 12.03.e

ARTICLE XII, C-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 12.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL

Section 12.03

ARTICLE XII, C-1 GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 12.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL i

Section 13.02

ARTICLE XIII, C-2 EXTENSIVE HIGHWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 13.02 PERMITTED USES

Section 13.03

ARTICLE XIII, C-2 EXTENSIVE HIGHWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 13.03 PERMITTED USES AFTER SPECIAL APPROVAL

Section 13.02.A.1

ARTICLE XIII.A, FS FREEWAY SERVICE DISTRICTS, SECTION 13.02A PRINCIPAL USES PERMITTED

Section 6.01.c.14

ARTICLE VI, PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS, SECTION 6.01.C. NUMBER OF MINIMUM PARKING – BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL

A complete text of the proposed amendment will be available for review at the Township Department of Developmental Services Office. Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

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

Published: July 4, 2013

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Special Board Meeting Minutes June 19, 2013

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, & P. Morgan. Excused absence Trustee Swinson. Also present Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and 10 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by J. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A. Consider disciplinary action on employee Denise Komora

1. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to go into closed session at 3:03 pm by the request of Denise Komora. Roll call vote: Yes: Vawters, Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Absent: Swinson. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to go back into open session at 4:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to concur with the recommendation of the Human

Resources Director and to terminate the employment of Denise Komora and deny step 3 of the grievance for all reasons stated in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Open Floor

5. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to adjourn at 4:32 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Special Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on June 19, 2013 at 3:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: July 4, 2013

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

Sumpter Township Public Notice

SEEKING ROOF BIDS

The Sumpter Township Clerks Office is seeking bids for a new roof at the Community Center Building located at 23501 Sumpter, Belleville, MI 48111 and the Old Township Hall 23483 Sumpter, Belleville, MI 48111 specifications are available in the Sumpter Township Clerks Office 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 . EEO, Compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act for Minority Hiring and Prevailing Wages set forth by Wayne Co. & H.U.D. paid by Wayne County Community Block Grant Funds. Sealed Bids are due at the Sumpter Township Clerks Office Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk by 3 pm July 17, 2013. Bid opening will be on at 3:15 pm. Sumpter Township reserves the right to refuse any or all bids.

Publish: July 4 & 11, 2013

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

JULY BOARD OF REVIEW CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting will be:

- 1) to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact;
- 2) Homestead exemption status; and
- 3) Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to July 8, 2013.

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: July 3, 2013, July 11, 2013



Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 11, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Also present Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 31 residents.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments only on Agenda items

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Hamm to approve the regular board meeting minutes May 28, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the warrants totaling \$164,851.17. Roll call vote: Yes: Vawters, Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Water & Sewer: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the water & sewer report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Police: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve the police report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Building/Ordinance: Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to approve the resolution 2013-06 Accessory building fees and approve the building/ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Fire: No report.

11. Treasurer: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

13. Attorney: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve #1. Set up a meeting for June 25, 2013 at 6:00 pm to listen to residents' concerns regarding the intercounty drains being cleaned out. #2. The residents who illegally turn on their water to be taken to court and charged with a larceny criminal charges, if over \$100 owed to township then felony charges would be assessed. #3. To approve the attorney's report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Board Response

15. Presentation: Plaque & Badge to retired firefighter Marty Kalasz.

16. New Business:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve appointing Trustee Alan Bates as the park administrator to complete the 5 yr. plan & maintain the parks out of the supervisor's office. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve to promote Lieutenant Eric Luke to rank of Captain of Sumpter Police Department. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Announcements

18. Open Floor

19. Adjournment: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 7:15 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on June 11, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

Publish: July 4, 2013

Notice to Advertisers:

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

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



VBT Plan

(continued from page 1)

Planning consultant Sally Hodges of McKenna Associates recommended a six-year permit, but the commission approved eight years.

There was discussion on the parking, which now will be on six grassy acres, for 500-700 cars.

"We want to have stress-free parking. It's a farm," Norm DeBuck said of the large parking spaces planned.

Arthur Mullen, VBT director of planning and economic development, suggested allowing 500 "country parking spaces," a term he made up.

Scott DeBuck said people like to take their carts of pumpkins out to the cars and if they are parked too closely together there is a danger of dinging a car.

Mullen said the longer time period on the temporary land use gives some comfort to the applicant.

"They've operated and been a good neighbor," Mullen said of the corn maze which has brought no complaints over four years of operations.

Commissioner Don Boynton suggested they establish a first aid area staffed with an EMT or others trained in CPR and first aid. He suggested one of the staff members get trained as an EMT and come back and train others.

"That's a good idea," Scott DeBuck said. "I can do that for sure."

Norm DeBuck said once they had a lady

that fainted from a diabetic episode and they had to call an ambulance. He said with all the children coming to visit, it would be a good idea to have such an area for emergencies.

A motion was passed to approve the eight-year temporary land use, plus approval of not to exceed 500 "country parking spaces," and a few other stipulations drawn up by Hodges.

The corn maze site is on 25+ acres at the north side of Martz Road between Hoeft and Rawsonville roads. It runs for eight weeks each fall, from Labor Day to Halloween. The rest of the year it is a sod farm.

Hodges pointed out at the May 8 commission meeting when the applicants first came to request eight years of temporary land use that the applicants had tripled the parking area beyond what was approved in 2010 (going from 150 parking spaces to 770) and they should have come back to the township for approval first.

Hodges suggested the commission give the applicants a chance to make revisions to their request and put it in writing, so the commission would have "something in black and white." Then, they could come back for approval or denial.

That's what the DeBucks did and on June 26 commission members had a 16-page, detailed document in hand, with pictures, on the corn maze and pumpkin patch's current activities and plans.

C.T.S. AUTO

Cash Paid For Your Junk or Wrecked Cars or Trucks!

If You Can't Or Don't Want To Donate It, call Us.

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734-282-1700

The Creek

BAR & GOLF RANGE

Join us on our all new Outdoor Patio featuring Fire Pits & Weekend Tiki Bar.

DAILY, LUNCH, DINNER & DRINK SPECIALS

HAPPY DAYS SPECIALS

11 am - 6 pm

TRIVIA TUESDAYS

8 - 10 pm

OUR FAMOUS STEAK DINNER

Every Thursday Starting at 6 pm -- \$9.99

Live D.J. -- Thurs., Fri. & Sat.

25¢ WINGS -- Sun., Mon., & Tues.

(with Drink Purchase)

FISH FRY FRIDAYS!

OUR DRIVING RANGE SPECIAL

\$1

OFF A BUCKET OF BALLS

WITH COUPON, THE CREEK BAR & GOLF RANGE COUPON EXPIRES JULY 31, 2013

POOL TABLE • FREE WI-FI INTERNET JUKEBOX • DARTS • GAMES

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734-483-5010

One Call Does It All . . .
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699-9020

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, June 23:
0125 – fight, 6525 Parkside Dr.
0150 – fight, 6699 Rogers Ave.
0310 – disturbance, 6533 Parkside Dr.
0744 – breaking & entering, 45520 Harmony Ln.
1013 – personal injury accident, WB I-94 / Belleville Rd.
1127 – private property accident, 45525 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1146 – private property accident, 45525 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1337 – hospice, 41589 Van Born
1350 – lake complaint, Denton/Belleville
1501 – lake complaint, Belleville Lake/Island
1616 – lake complaint, Belleville Lake
1842 – narcotics crime, 48711 S. I-94 Service Dr.
1856 – assault & battery, 47237 Lauren Ct.
2017 – operating while intoxicated, Tyler/Beck
2041 – assault & battery, Parkwood/Ecorse
2045 – marine violation, Hayward’s
2108 – noise complaint, 49221 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2131 – larceny from auto, 42826 Kent Dr.
2218 – breaking & entering, 48993 Ashbury
2222 – assault & battery, 48681 Denton Rd.
2312 – juvenile complaint, 8800 Parkwood Manor
Monday, June 24:
0059 – operating while intoxicated, 48611 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0106 – malicious destruction of property, 41921 E. Huron River Dr.
0207 – assault & battery, 10638 Oak Lane
0325 – fraud, 41450 Archwood Dr.
0712 – larceny from auto, 48401 Bayshore Dr.
0752 – personal injury accident, 48074 Bemis Rd.
1317 – suicide or attempt, 14200 Robbe Rd.
1327 – fraud, 7889 Jeremy Rd.
1710 – larceny, 9527 Revere Dr.
1725 – noise complaint, 9985 Jackson Ln.
1732 – missing person, Belleville/I-94
1830 – mental, Ayers/Endicott
1832 – larceny, 10989 Jackson Ct.
1908 – malicious destruction of property, 51358 Sylvia Dr.
2022 – robbery, 5968 Victoria St.
2109 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville / Tyler
2116 – fireworks, 600 Sumpter
2215 – narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler Rd.
2228 – larceny, 45501 N. I-94 Service Dr.
2241 – property damage accident, Van Born / Hannan
2249 – intimidation threat, 51351 America
2316 – noise complaint, 11807 Meadows Cir.
2339 – assault & batter, 6236 E. Adams
Tuesday, June 25:
0011 – disturbance, 8903 Parkwood Dr.
0104 – disturbance, 46145 Village Green Ln.
0136 – breaking & entering, 13116 Dover Ct.
0456 – breaking & entering, 44054 Harmony Ln.
0520 – personal injury accident, WB I-94/I-94
0839 – breaking & entering, 831 E. Huron River
1338 – domestic violence, 9185 Parkwood
1510 – domestic violence, 1009 Savage Rd.
1853 – property damage accident, 17101 Elwell
Wednesday, June 26:
0314 – harassment call, 41477 S. Bellridge Dr.
0418 – property damage accident, Hannan/Tyler
1123 – fraud, 18 Oak Blvd.
1249 – property damage accident, I-275/Ecorse
1312 – suicide or attempt, 41452 Archwood Dr.
1339 – harassment call, 10574 Oak Ln.
1352 – private property accident, Meijer
1409 – private property accident, 287 Industrial
1417 – breaking & entering, 41941 S. I-94 Service
1512 – harassment call, 11579 Dewitt Rd.
1522 – private property accident, Victory Lane
1621 – property damage accident, Denton / Michigan
1630 – malicious destruction of property, 46425 Tyler Rd.
1716 – private property accident, 9800 Belleville
1829 – property damage accident, Meijer
1845 – sexual assault, 46141 Village Green Lane
1930 – violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, 46425 Tyler Rd.

2010 – sexual assault, 46141 Village Green Ln.
2137 – fireworks, 8800 Parkwood Manor
2155 – harassment call, 6575 Parkside Dr.
2216 – larceny from auto, 11090 Lighthouse Dr.
2225 – noise complaint, 49011 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2309 – larceny from auto, 11090 Lighthouse Dr.
2334 – noise complaint, 49011 S. I-94 Service Dr.
Thursday, June 27:
0020 – assault & battery, 17104 Westlake
0131 – disorderly conduct, 6825 Anna Dr.
0512 – larceny from auto, 7310 Westlake
0722 – dumping complaint, McBride Middle School
0731 – larceny from auto, 46111 Village Green Ln.
1356 – private property accident, 42350 Van Born
1449 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
1630 – assault & battery, Greenbriar/Belleville
1632 – mental, 48601 Denton Rd.
1634 – property damage accident, Yost/S. Sheldon
1646 – property damage accident, Haggerty/N. I-94 Service Dr.
1706 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1711 – narcotics crime, 2095 Rawsonville, Kmart
1709 – missing person, 9805 Van Buren St.
1731 – assault & battery, 339 Redwood
1907 – personal injury, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1919 – larceny from auto, 10667 Oak Ln.
2102 – disorderly conduct, 111 Peachtree Ln.
2321 – juvenile complaint, 10917 Van Buren St.
2323 – sexual assault, 46425 Tyler Rd.
Friday, June 28:
0109 – private property accident, 46121 Village Green Lane
0705 – breaking & entering, 905 Savage Rd.
1110 – juvenile complaint, Walmart
1137 – shots fired, 9298 Parkwood Dr.
1227 – fraud, 9645 Belleville Rd.
1246 – juvenile complaint, 47500 W. Huron River
1257 – trespassing, Parkwood Pavillion
1559 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 11010 Lighthouse Dr.
1643 – domestic, 49050 Denton Rd.
1730 – breaking & entering, 49041 S. I-94 Service
1818 – malicious destruction of property, Michigan/ bypass
1822 – trespassing, 6609 Outer Dr.
1827 – hospice, 6984 Liberty Ln.
1903 – violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, 45707 S. I-94 Service Dr.
2107 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Circle
2203 – malicious destruction of property, 295 Holly Lane
2214 – fireworks, Rolan Meadows/Tyler Rd.
2224 – disorderly conduct, 11175 Haggerty Rd.
2250 – assault & battery, 13585 Milton Dr.
2322 – noise complaint, 9302 Parkwood
2339 – juvenile complaint, 10574 Oak Lane
Saturday, June 28:
0009 – disorderly conduct, 9286 Parkwood
0224 – loud party complaint, 434555 Heatherfield
0245 – juvenile complaint, Hamilton/Hayes
0248 – missing person, 43364 E. Huron River Dr.
0357 – shots fired, Timberview Ct./Vinewood Dr.
0444 – intimidation threat, 11175 Haggerty Rd.
0506 – assault & battery, 49051 S. I-94 Service Dr.
0518 – assault & battery, W. Archwood
0751 – larceny from auto, 48255 Bayshore Dr.
0814 – malicious destruction of property, 48171 Bayshore Dr.
0907 – malicious destruction of property, 43036 N. Cumberland Dr.
1109 – assault & battery, 7974 Kirkridge Park Dr.
1112 – missing person, 43364 E. Huron River Dr.
1227 – overdose, 51171 Sylvia Dr.
1247 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1319 – fraud, 41472 E. Archwood Dr.
1409 – larceny, 43436 N. I-94 Service Dr.
1430 – malicious destruction of property, 180 S. Ponderosa Trl.
1535 – larceny from auto, 5302 Westlake
1618 – malicious destruction of property, 36 Brandi
1705 – personal injury accident, Belle Pointe Dr. / Lindsey Dr.
1802 – property damage accident, 10705 Belleville
1809 – assault & battery, 8305 Westlake
1927 – disorderly conduct, 44509 Briarwood Ct.
2203 – loud party complaint, Milton/Country Walk

2230 – noise complaint, Basswood Cir. / Cobblestone Dr.
2258 – fireworks, Belle Pointe/Lindsey Dr.
2304 – juvenile complaint, 11667 Meadows Ln.
2300 – miscellaneous complaint, Belleville Lake
2351 – fireworks, E. Huron River Dr./Martinsville
Also on this week’s log are 251 traffic stops, 104 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 23:
0355 – traffic complaint, W. Waterbury Ct. / Victorian Lane
1023 – welfare check, N. Biggs Ave./Potter Dr.
1151 – welfare check, 537 E. Huron River Dr.
1240 – mental, 185 E. Huron River Dr.
1607 – assist citizen, 53 Biggs Ave.
1914 – miscellaneous complaint, Edison/High
1917 – operating while intoxicated, E. Huron River Dr./Loza Lane
2019 – assist fire dept., 195 Belle Villa Blvd.
2037 – overdose, 176 W. Columbia Ave.
2200 – suspicious vehicle, 359 N. Liberty St.
2230 – agency assist, 48681 Denton
Monday, June 24:
0817 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court
1337 – larceny, 6 Main St.
1336 – assist fire dept., Columbia Court
1345 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.
1423 – assist fire dept., 35 N. Biggs Ave.
1612 – assist fire dept., Columbia Court
1747 – assist fire dept., Columbia Court
1927 – suspicious situation, 50 South St.
Tuesday, June 25:
0045 – domestic assault, 118 Clarence St.
0133 – parking complaint, Belle Villa
0828 – disturbance, 42 Carmell St.
0903 – ordinance violation, 35 South St.
1117 – domestic assault, 251 Henry St.
1304 – larceny, 50 South St.
1345 – follow up, 25894 Sumpter Rd.
1556 – parking complaint, 38 Fifth St.
1648 – PPO violation, 99 Carmell St.
1730 – disturbance, 99 Carmell St.
1752 – miscellaneous complaint, 6 Main St.
1826 – intrusion alarm, 525 E. Huron River Dr.
1843 – serve warrant, 81 Carmell St.
1849 – breaking & entering, 231 South St.
2031 – vehicle lockout, 111 Bedell St.
Wednesday, June 26:
1106 – warrant arrest, I-275/Will Carleton
1111 – miscellaneous complaint, 54 Carmell St.
1152 – private property accident, Belle Villa
1334 – abandoned auto, 371 W. Columbia Ave.
1713 – juvenile complaint, N. Liberty St. /E. Huron River Dr.
1749 – civil matter, 201 South St.
1755 – warrant arrest, Canton
1915 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter, Co-op
2020 – assist fire dept., 216 Victorian Ln.
2055 – suspicious vehicle, Edison/W. Columbia
2112 – intimidation threat, 6 Main St.
Thursday, June 27:
0950 – follow-up, 573 E. Thornhill Ct.
1054 – assist fire dept., 201 Potter
1253 – follow-up, 195 Belle Villa Blvd.
1559 – property damage accident, Fifth/Main
2217 – missing person, 509 Estrada
2302 – assist fire dept., 35 Carmell St.
Friday, June 28:
0027 – assist fire dept., 500 N. Liberty St.
1003 – E-911 cellular, 216 Belle Villa Blvd.
1719 – neighbor trouble, 476 W. Columbia Ave.
1723 – loitering, Fred C. Fischer Library
2157 – suspicious vehicle, Village Park
Saturday, June 29:
0026 – noise complaint, 356 Oxford Ct.
0204 – suspicious person, Horizon Park
0709 – E-911 hang up/investigation, 357 Light Tower Ct.
1122 – civil matter, Lunch Box
1508 – assist fire dept., 348 Oxford Ct.
2003 – neighbor trouble, 476 W. Columbia Ave.
Also on this week’s log are 49 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 23:
0013 – noise complaint, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0149 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0327 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Bemis
0723 – traffic hazard, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
0848 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1033 – warrant arrest, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1229 – mental health commitment, Clark/Judd
1506 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1619 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Griffin Court
1827 – animal complaint, 26000 bl. Martinsville
1834 – follow-up investigation, 48000 bl. Bemis
1944 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
1958 – suspicious person, Rawsonville/Judd
2210 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sumpter
Monday, June 24:
0128 – disorderly person, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0606 – death investigation, 42000 bl. Willis Rd.
0733 – alarm, 45000 bl. Wear Rd.
0738 – property damage accident, Willow/Carleton West
0742 – property damage accident, 48000 bl. Bemis
0822 – suspicious person, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
0921 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1110 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Bemis
1112 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Sumpter
1222 – alarm, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1421 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1447 – citizen assist, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1450 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1635 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1658 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1954 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
2236 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2236 – suspicious incident, Washinton
Tuesday, June 25:
0643 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1043 – disorderly person, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1148 – accidental damage report, 19000 bl. Sumpter
1349 – civil dispute, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1405 – assist other agency, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1613 – citizen assist, Sherwood/Wear
1624 – malicious destruction of property, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
1637 – alarm, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1652 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1833 – animal complaint, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
2003 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2100 – suspicious vehicle, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
2351 – 911 hangup, Arizona
Wednesday, June 26:
0313 – traffic hazard, Willow/Karr
0803 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0825 – suspicious incident, Judd/Sumpter
0930 – malicious destruction of property, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1017 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1228 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1259 – suspicious incident, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1500 – animal bite complaint, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1517 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1531 – alarm, Knollwood
1627 – well-being check, 23000 bl. Carleton West
1807 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Willow Rd.
1809 – disorderly person, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2019 – breaking & entering report, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2022 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Martinsville
Thursday, June 27:
0544 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
0806 – 911 hangup, Arizona
0949 – alarm, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.
0955 – civil dispute, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1012 – assault, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1110 – citizen assist, out of township
1251 – civil dispute, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1415 – suspicious incident, Texas
1612 – follow-up investigation, New Mexico
1630 – alarm, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1842 – mental health commitment, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1934 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
2000 – follow-up investigation, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.

(Continued on page 15)

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(Continued from page 14)

2036 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.

2134 – family trouble, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

2219 – suspicious vehicle, Willow/Martinsville

Friday, June 28:

0220 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

0226 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

0742 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.

0913 – disorderly person, Country Club Blvd.

1004 – threats complaint, 8300 bl. Rawsonville

1601 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.

1700 – citizen assist, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.

1821 – ORV complaint, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.

2128 – warrant arrest, 47000 bl. Judd Rd.

Saturday, June 29:

0035 – ORV complaint, 22000 bl. Martinsville

0551 – reckless driver complaint, 43000 bl. Judd
1254 – alarm, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

1402 – reckless driver complaint, Martinsville /
Willis

2125 – leaving the scene of a property damage
accident, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

2158 – fireworks complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.

2256 – fireworks complaint, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.

2256 – fireworks complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.

2318 – follow-up investigation, 45000 bl. Harris

2356 – juvenile complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week's log are 34 miscellaneous details,
102 patrol checks, and 40 traffic stops.

Animal abuse

(continued from page 1)

Hazel's attorney John McKinney said,
"These charges stem from not a lot of
experience on how to do it," referring to
taking care of animals.

He supported the plea deal "... to prevent
this from happening again and to ease into
farming."

Hazel had inherited the farm. His attorney
said Hazel had no criminal history.

Hazel told the *Independent* he had a team
of white mules that he would drive to Mary

Ann's in New Boston and people would
take their pictures with the team because
they were so beautiful. His animals were in
good shape, he claimed.

Hazel also told the *Independent* of the
animals that were removed from his farm,
and conceded, "Maybe I could have done a
better job of taking care of them."

Det. Toth said Sumpter Township did
not impose restitution costs, so all animals
were signed off on by Hazel.

The day the search warrant was executed,
Dr. Craiger was on site with two or three
others from her veterinary clinic and there
were about six from Loving Arms Animal
Rescue.

The dog was malnourished, Toth said.
Police took lots of pictures. On the scene,
Hazel signed documents surrendering
all the animals to the Sumpter Township
Police Department.

"We seized everything," Toth said. Then
someone asked, "What are we doing with
the dogs?" The warrant was for "farm
animals." There were three pit bulls (four
at the beginning, but one was missing).

Toth said there were piles of animals
burned up on the back of the property. Toth
said the animals had inadequate care and
Toth said he is unsure if Hazel just didn't
know how to farm or what the problem
was. Hay became very expensive and there
was no water. He was feeding the animals
straw.

On May 1 Hazel signed the plea agreement
and was allowed to pick up one dog – a
black and white pit bull – from the Sumpter
animal pound.

Toth said at the beginning of the
investigation, every time police went out
to talk to Hazel, an animal turned up dead:
one dog turned up missing, one mule was
killed, one llama was missing and found
shot. Hazel said "somebody" came and did
it and he didn't know who.

The rescuers brought food with them.

Among the animals taken by police were
three pit bulls (including Barack), three
llamas, one miniature pony, two horses,

three mules and one bull.

The dead horse in the ditch found by
Chief Taylor on March 8 in the area of Judd
and Haggerty roads that brought attention
to this farm was explained by Hazel. He
said some scrappers came and offered to
dump the dead horse for him. He said they
loaded it on their trailer and took it. The
trailer Hazel described as belonging to the
scrappers was found at the back of Hazel's
property.

Sumpter police decided not to worry
about prosecution

"All we cared about is the animals, so
we went in as an animal rescue," Toth said.
He said it took just 24 hours for all the
rescuers to get together to come and rescue
the animals.

Toth said since then he has seen pictures
of some of the animals on flyers and on
the internet as the rescuers worked to find
them new homes.

Toth said Hazel's no contest plea to the
charges, means he is "not disputing what I
say" on the police report.

Toth said the animals were in terrible
shape and police have pictures. He said he
learned that a horse or mule grows a longer
coat in the winter. Even though there was a
longer coat, the individual bones could be
seen on the emaciated animals, he said.

The llamas were three years old and
had never been combed – ever, Toth said.
"They were a ratty mess."

Toth said there is a scoring system for
animal health. Llamas score from 1-5, and
one of Hazel's llamas scored below that,
at .5. The bull was in the mid range, but a
horse, on a 1-10 scale, rated just 1.

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loves his outside playtime and with
his high-energy personality will
definitely need daily outings to keep
him happy and healthy. His breed
mix plus being a puppy equals one
distractible little guy but we have
found he's very willing and able to
get some training under his belt if
you keep it in short bursts. He plays
very nicely with his twin friend
Murphy here at the shelter and
would probably do equally well with
another doggie playmate after good
introductions are made. **Doug** would
also be great with kids making a fun
and energetic furry companion for
the whole family. He's also super
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