**Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, & the Charter Township of Van Buren**
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BELLEVILLE-AREA
# INDEPENDENT

**Vol. 21.8 Thursday, February 19, 2015** Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **FREE**

# Debra Green announces her retirement as Library Director

By Rosemary K. Otzman
*Independent* Editor

Debra Green, Belleville library director for 28 years, submitted her letter of resignation on Feb. 11 to the Belleville Area District Library Board, announcing her decision to retire on May 15.

Debra Green

Board Chairwoman Mary Jane Dawson announced the retirement to the public on behalf of the district library board.

Dawson said Green has been director for 28 years: Initially the director of the Fred C. Fischer Library within the Wayne County Library System and then as the director of the Belleville Area District Library on April 17, 2010 when the library changed from a county to a district library.

Dawson said Green told her when she began working as director of the Fischer Library two of the amenities were a card catalog and a heavy black rotary phone without a "hold" button.

Dawson said during Green's tenure as library director, the size of the building tripled, the circulation and usage of the library collection and services quadrupled, the library became automated, and the internet was made available to the community. All of the current employees of the library were hired by Green.

"On behalf of the BADL Board, I would like to publicly thank Ms. Green for her outstanding work as the director of the library, as well as commend her for the devotion and commitment she has unselfishly given to the tri-community for so many years. We wish her the very best as she begins her retirement," Dawson said.

On Saturday, Green sat down with the

*(continued on page 22)*

# BP seeks special approval for Dunkin' Donuts drive-through

By Rosemary K. Otzman
*Independent* Editor

Sadek Properties, which owns the BP station on Belleville Road at the North I-94 Service Drive, is seeking approval for a drive-through restaurant.

At the Feb. 11 meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission, Chris Sadek sought special land use in the C-2 district for a Dunkin' Donuts drive-through.

The planners will vote on the request at a future meeting and then send their recommendation on to the township board for a final vote.

BP will remove its car wash and renovate the building currently occupied by Quizno's. The site will be brought to current zoning standards.

Jack Knowles, VBT Director of Building and Planning, said Sadek has added an escape lane to the drive plans, as requested by the township.

Planning Commissioner Carl Johnson read a letter from Mark Mitra, owner of the Arby's restaurant next door. He said 70% of his business comes from his drive through.

"While I welcome the Dunkin Donuts to the township, I am concerned that the placement of their drive-thru would have

*(continued on page 19)*

*Postal Regulations Require This Space On The Front Page.*

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# 7th Annual Report to Taxpayers

## Van Buren Township Public Safety Department
## Employees Wages & Actual Cost to Township 1/1/14 - 12/31/14

| Employee Name | Police Wages | Fire Wages | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Floro, Kenneth | $96,247.31 | $71,049.40 | $48,282.95 | $215,579.66 |
| McCormick, Ryan | $71,862.10 | $45,995.06 | $39,871.50 | $157,728.66 |
| Abdilla, Mark | $80,923.16 | $35,525.97 | $40,432.91 | $156,882.04 |
| Keele, Louis | $83,122.69 | $29,194.92 | $40,019.06 | $152,336.67 |
| Champagne, David | $72,791.75 | $32,594.67 | $43,742.54 | $149,128.96 |
| Moening, Michael | $83,600.99 | $18,760.02 | $38,729.20 | $141,090.21 |
| Laurain, Gregory | $101,866.72 | —— | $37,604.92 | $139,471.64 |
| Bazzy, Charles | $92,403.79 | —— | $43,298.33 | $135,702.12 |
| Buckberry, Mark Jr. | $94,057.16 | —— | $38,235.71 | $132,292.87 |
| Schulz, Alexander | $88,948.99 | —— | $37,182.02 | $126,131.01 |
| DeVos, Bart | $98,156.76 | —— | $27,397.60 | $125,554.36 |
| Papin, Michael | $85,725.02 | —— | $36,623.37 | $122,348.39 |
| Buxton, Mark | $85,189.64 | —— | $36,467.91 | $121,657.55 |
| Toney, Kenneth | $83,939.44 | —— | $36,200.65 | $120,140.09 |
| McCarthy, Donovan | $81,995.15 | —— | $35,840.13 | $117,835.28 |
| Besson, Daniel | —— | $74,079.29 | $43,478.94 | $117,558.23 |
| Gueli, Jeffery | $94,124.74 | —— | $19,723.61 | $113,848.35 |
| Byrd, Adam | $73,438.86 | —— | $39,485.69 | $112,924.55 |
| Perez, Derek | $76,984.10 | —— | $34,819.50 | $111,803.60 |
| Rini, Michael | $84,846.09 | —— | $24,695.78 | $109,541.87 |
| Bidwell, Ryan | $69,321.23 | —— | $38,676.61 | $107,997.84 |
| Raschke, Matthew | $73,707.66 | —— | $34,187.09 | $107,894.75 |
| Wehrman, Patrick | $73,445.50 | —— | $34,160.13 | $107,605.63 |
| Sweet, Frederick | $72,568.36 | —— | $33,987.80 | $106,556.16 |
| Stanton, Jeffrey | $66,937.62 | —— | $38,208.19 | $105,145.81 |
| Hayes, Christopher | $69,235.42 | —— | $33,332.84 | $102,568.26 |
| Harrison, Dale | $69,669.69 | —— | $31,115.18 | $100,784.87 |
| Valinski, Christopher | $67,564.51 | —— | $33,004.50 | $100,569.01 |
| Traster, Carrie | $61,698.53 | —— | $37,178.74 | $98,877.27 |
| Smith, Amy | $73,774.84 | —— | $23,574.49 | $97,349.33 |
| Herrick, Christopher | $66,416.42 | —— | $30,418.68 | $96,835.10 |
| Griggs, Scott | $69,498.26 | —— | $27,332.18 | $96,830.44 |
| Long, Michael | $72,977.83 | —— | $22,546.20 | $95,524.03 |
| Bettendorf, William | $57,133.47 | —— | $29,272.16 | $86,405.63 |
| Brooks, Dennis | $65,112.19 | —— | $16,580.77 | $81,692.96 |
| Fleming, Pamela | $46,189.72 | —— | $28,542.90 | $74,732.62 |
| King, Mark | $49,127.66 | —— | $19,302.81 | $68,430.47 |
| Barry, Ryan | $46,433.19 | —— | $17,147.68 | $63,580.87 |
| Short, Jordan | $45,901.07 | —— | $12,463.40 | $58,364.47 |
| Venier, Andrew | $41,647.32 | —— | $8,547.26 | $50,194.58 |
| Schewe, Heather | $35,184.95 | —— | $11,516.66 | $46,701.61 |
| Karver, Anthony | —— | $28,207.97 | $8,763.00 | $36,970.97 |
| Folks, Ronald | —— | $31,724.80 | $2,394.40 | $34,119.20 |
| Marcotte, Lacey | —— | $31,326.20 | $2,364.68 | $33,690.88 |
| Thornsbury, Ernie | $25,265.08 | —— | $8,150.72 | $33,415.80 |
| Henderson, John | —— | $30,005.40 | $2,266.28 | $32,271.68 |
| Worth, Joshua | —— | $29,013.20 | $2,192.37 | $31,205.57 |
| Skotak, Ian | —— | $27,450.40 | $2,075.92 | $29,526.32 |
| Yono, Frederick | $20,789.45 | —— | $6,303.59 | $27,093.04 |
| Fey, Christopher | $19,021.86 | —— | $7,703.95 | $26,725.81 |

*(continued on page 3)*

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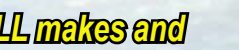


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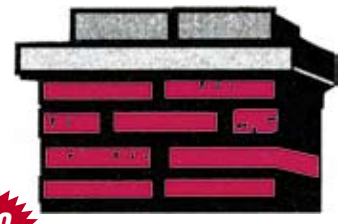

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## 7th Annual Report to Taxpayers

*(continued from page 1)*

| Employee Name | Police Wages | Fire Wages | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Campbell, Bronson | ——— | $24,719.28 | $1,773.71 | $26,492.99 |
| Doty, Douglas | ——— | $23,180.68 | $1,757.85 | $24,938.53 |
| Dougherty, Eric | $19,115.42 | ——— | $5,700.48 | $24,815.90 |
| Landstrom, Kenneth | ——— | $22,332.40 | $1,694.63 | $24,027.03 |
| Hayden, John | ——— | $21,840.20 | $1,657.99 | $23,498.19 |
| Walter, Danieal | ——— | $20,576.35 | $1,563.84 | $22,140.19 |
| Hoggard, Clay | $18,936.59 | ——— | $2,796.50 | $21,733.09 |
| Queen, Timothy | ——— | $19,032.80 | $1,448.83 | $20,481.63 |
| DeWitt, Charles | ——— | $18,519.40 | $1,410.57 | $19,929.97 |
| Ferris, James | ——— | $17,908.80 | $1,364.98 | $19,273.78 |
| Hamill, Richard Jr. | ——— | $17,736.20 | $1,350.24 | $19,086.44 |
| Brouillette, David | ——— | $17,648.20 | $1,345.66 | $18,993.86 |
| Lunsford, Curtis | ——— | $16,634.08 | $1,300.95 | $17,935.03 |
| Roy, Christopher | ——— | $16,197.30 | $1,237.57 | $17,434.87 |
| Smith, Ryan | ——— | $15,800.62 | $1,208.04 | $17,008.66 |
| Jones, Stephen | ——— | $15,438.60 | $1,181.07 | $16,619.67 |
| Kowalski, Greg | ——— | $15,273.42 | $1,168.78 | $16,442.20 |
| McCormick, Elizabeth | ——— | $13,974.40 | $1,071.94 | $15,046.34 |
| Laskaska, Patrick | ——— | $13,921.20 | $1,068.00 | $14,989.20 |
| Sorrell, Todd | ——— | $12,660.80 | $974.05 | $13,634.85 |
| Van Gemert, Bruce | ——— | $12,053.73 | $928.88 | $12,982.61 |
| Shores, Michael | ——— | $10,964.80 | $847.77 | $11,812.57 |
| Wright, Jason | $7,183.90 | ——— | $4,559.57 | $11,743.47 |
| Vlademar, Michael | ——— | $9,829.23 | $763.13 | $10,592.36 |
| Cox, Dustin | ——— | $9,749.38 | $757.21 | $10,506.59 |
| Rose, John | ——— | $9,426.00 | $733.11 | $10,159.11 |
| Spence, Rachel | ——— | $8,559.38 | $668.57 | $9,227.95 |
| Martin, Jason | ——— | $8,311.08 | $650.07 | $8,961.15 |
| Hayes, Angela | ——— | $8,200.60 | $641.82 | $8,842.42 |
| Craiger, Timothy | ——— | $7,433.65 | $584.69 | $8,018.34 |
| Schulz, Jeffrey | ——— | $5,767.40 | $460.56 | $6,227.96 |
| Malek, Justin | ——— | $5,326.54 | $427.71 | $5,754.25 |
| Bojanic, Christina | ——— | $4,386.20 | $357.69 | $4,743.89 |
| Oleszkowicz, Dallas | ——— | $2,986.70 | $253.40 | $3,240.10 |
| Kennedy, Nolan | ——— | $2,715.77 | $233.23 | $2,949.00 |
| Driscoll, Kurt | ——— | $2,291.82 | $201.63 | $2,493.45 |
| Kail, David | ——— | $2,087.83 | $186.43 | $2,274.26 |
| Bush, Alexander | ——— | $1,354.70 | $131.83 | $1,486.53 |
| Keeton, Jimmy | ——— | $1,265.45 | $125.18 | $1,390.63 |
| Hungerford, Thomas | ——— | $1,169.83 | $118.04 | $1,287.87 |
| Kerns, Matthew | ——— | $1,163.45 | $117.58 | $1,281.03 |
| Pierce, Christopher | ——— | $816.01 | $91.68 | $907.69 |
| Timm, Dana | ——— | $433.51 | $63.19 | $496.70 |
| Fondaw, Kyle | ——— | $382.51 | $59.39 | $441.90 |
| Griffin, LaMar | ——— | $306.01 | $53.69 | $359.70 |
| Willett, Dale | ——— | $184.88 | $44.66 | $229.54 |
| Wood, Daniel | ——— | $19.13 | $1.43 | $20.56 |

| Dispatch Employee | Dispatch Wages | Fire Wages | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| McInally, David | $54,412.98 | $45,646.90 | $36,387.82 | $136,447.70 |
| Martin, Robert | $54,893.66 | | $31,339.77 | $86,233.43 |
| Lucas, Gretchen | $54,528.31 | | $30,267.97 | $84,796.28 |
| Brooks, Terri | $55,238.88 | | $28,295.93 | $83,534.81 |
| Jones, Julie | $61,434.78 | | $20,856.47 | $82,291.25 |
| Donaldson, Sally | $58,197.97 | | $19,308.59 | $77,506.56 |
| Rea, Teri | $53,106.81 | | $19,233.62 | $72,340.43 |
| Baker, Georgia | $53,903.66 | | $11,187.59 | $65,091.25 |
| DuFresne, Susan | $11,436.13 | | $2,271.38 | $13,707.51 |
| Waldrop, Myra | $1,882.05 | | $369.83 | $2,251.88 |
| Lucidi, Brooke | $1,144.00 | | $224.80 | $1,368.80 |

| Ordinance | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| David Schuler | $44,358.54 | $45,798.52 | $28,111.18 | $118,268.24 |
| Robert Queener | $52,596.59 | ——— | $35,068.36 | $87,664.95 |

**Total Public Safety Compensation Costs to Township** **$6,263,674.26**

### Van Buren Township
### Employees Wages & Actual Cost to Township 1/1/14 - 12/31/14

| | Wages | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Elected Officials** | | | |
| Linda Combs | $79,979.38 | $33,306.66 | $113,286.04 |
| Leon Wright | $74,064.58 | $39,513.35 | $113,577.93 |
| Sharry Budd | $76,064.96 | $34,920.88 | $110,985.84 |
| Phillip Hart | $17,425.58 | $3,203.32 | $20,628.90 |
| Jeffery Jahr | $14,525.54 | $10,896.72 | $25,422.26 |
| Brenda McClanahan | $12,660.96 | $8,975.49 | $21,636.45 |
| Regina Miller | $12,660.96 | $2,545.32 | $15,206.28 |
| **Assessing Dept.** | | | |
| Linda Stevenson | $65,189.58 | $37,065.21 | $102,254.79 |
| William Guenther | $24,492.00 | $1,873.62 | $26,365.62 |
| Patricia Veerkamp | $10,868.00 | $831.38 | $11,699.38 |
| Angela Nettro | $600.00 | $45.90 | $645.90 |
| Juanita Jensen | $540.00 | $41.31 | $581.31 |
| Loretta Speaks | $540.00 | $41.31 | $581.31 |
| Harry Roesch III | $600.00 | $45.90 | $645.90 |
| **Building Dept.** | | | |
| Judy Fields | $71,290.33 | $33,553.24 | $104,843.57 |
| Brenda Kurtz | $50,581.07 | $29,256.38 | $79,837.45 |
| Tina Grishaber | $44,342.50 | $17,471.88 | $61,814.38 |
| Arthur Mullen | $37,746.14 | $14,660.87 | $52,407.01 |
| Murray Knowles | $862.07 | $65.95 | $928.02 |
| **Cable Dept.** | | | |
| Alwena McCracken | $40,024.38 | $8,390.82 | $48,415.20 |
| Eliza Chase | $2,112.50 | $161.62 | $2,274.12 |
| Robert Carnacchi | $645.00 | $49.35 | $694.35 |
| **Clerk's Dept.** | | | |
| Vernon Morse | $64,107.42 | $31,393.52 | $95,500.94 |
| Kathleen Cline | $42,801.87 | $29,043.96 | $71,845.83 |
| Joanne Montgomery | $58,487.89 | $11,945.39 | $70,433.28 |
| Carol Towles | $52,505.28 | $10,638.31 | $63,143.59 |
| **Service** | | | |
| Christina Harman | $47,665.60 | $26,194.10 | $73,859.70 |
| Jennifer Price | $43,888.80 | $28,192.98 | $72,081.78 |
| **DDA Director** | | | |
| Susan Ireland | $74,240.30 | $23,384.15 | $97,624.45 |
| **Election Dept.** | | | |
| Nicole Sumpter | $15,465.25 | $7,063.46 | $22,528.71 |

*(continued on page 8)*

# OPINIONS

*Editorial*

## Belleville to host Relay for Life at lakeside park

In the past, Belleville's Relays for Life have been held out on the high school athletic fields and in VBT's Quirk Park. This year it's going to be on High Street and Horizon Park on the lake right in the middle of the city of Belleville.

At Tuesday's meeting, the Belleville City Council approved holding the May 30 Relay for Life event at Horizon Park with High Street closed in that area.

Relay for Life, the big fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, had been a sleepover event. This year the plan is to involve the community more, so they are moving into downtown Belleville. And, the event will be 12 hours, rather than the overnight 24 hours.

At the council meeting, BHS teacher Jen Garland said last year at Quirk Park they had 15 tents and earned $33,000 to help find a cure for cancer.

This year they are hoping to sell relay wrist bands so buyers can get discounts at the hardware store and restaurants downtown.

The hours will be from 10 a.m. May 30 to midnight, with two hours of cleanup thereafter. There will be a stage and entertainment and walking a route. They hope to get teams involved from the city government and others downtown.

Steve Windom got to the meeting late because of slippery road conditions. He's the rep from the Cancer Society. Call him with questions at 810-730-2667 or email steve.windom@cancer.org .

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

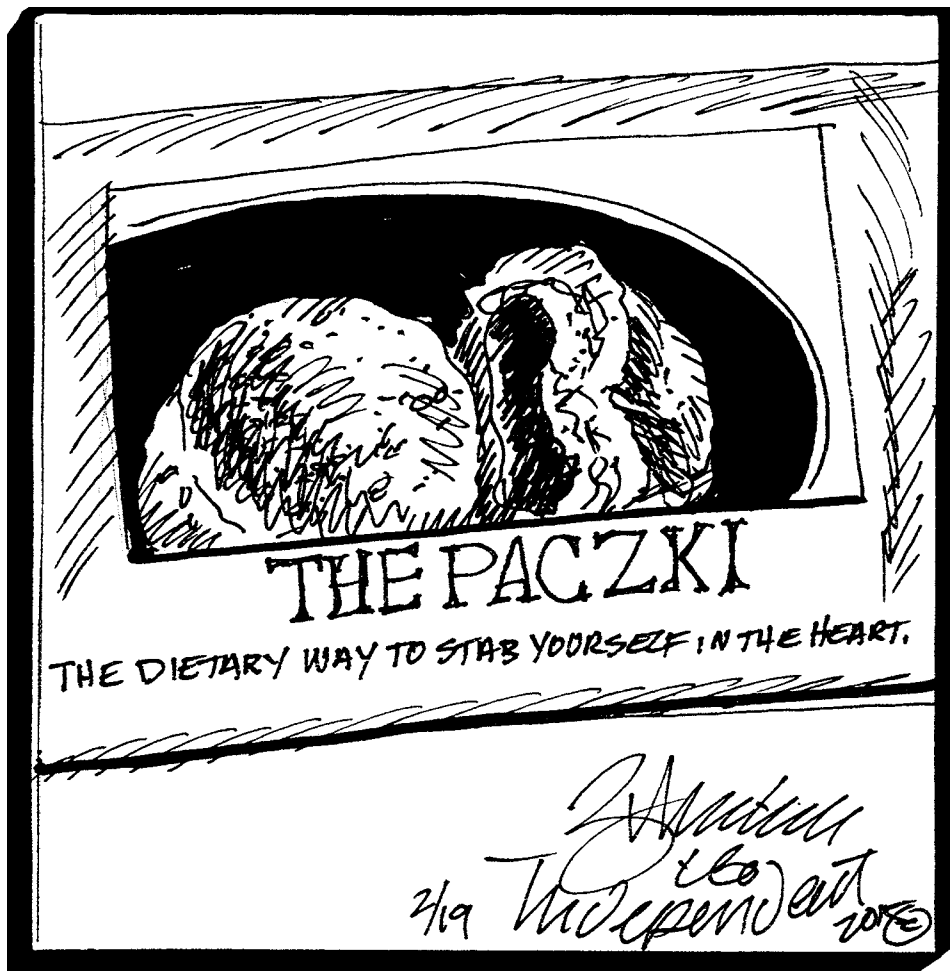
There was a lot of activity in the 46000 block of Ayres Ave., west of Quirk Road, in Van Buren Township on Sunday. The neighbors were very unsettled watching all the comings and goings. In the morning there were police, fire, and ambulance on hand and the male resident at a house, with his hand wrapped, was taken away in handcuffs. Neighbors say he tried to run from police and police were very good at trying to calm him down. His girlfriend was arrested on warrants.

The neighbors said the FBI was in and out of the house and garage in the afternoon, but Police Lt. Ken Floro said the FBI was not there. Someone saw some grow-lights in a truck, but it had been known he was growing medical marijuana. Lt. Floro said the reason for the man's arrest was domestic violence. The couple had an ongoing disagreement overnight and then, allegedly, he assaulted her.

Neighbors also were concerned about the man's dog, Bailey, a German shepherd mix, who was running around in the bitter cold. They asked police to put the dog inside the house because it was so cold and were told it wasn't safe for the dog in the house because the man tore the house apart the previous night.

Then, the dog bolted out the open gate. A woman, dropping off her grandchildren at their home after church and lunch at a restaurant, said she saw a dog running south on Quirk Road to the Service Drive with the police in pursuit. I called dispatch on Sunday night and they told me the dog was not captured.

Two neighbors said they drove around for two hours trying to find Bailey so they could get him inside and warm him up, but they couldn't find him, either.

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A school bus driver asked me to clarify our story in last week's paper about bus drivers getting raises. We said they would get a 1% raise this school year and another 1% next school year.

"It's not a raise," she said, noting that the custodians, maintenance, parapros and bus drivers earlier had a 3% cut in pay. Now, the district is giving them back 1% this year and 1% next year. The custodians, maintenance, and parapros are getting back ½% each of those two years.

The district is giving them back the money it took away, she stressed.

"It's not a RAISE!"

As an aside, the school board vote on that VBEST contract was taken twice – once on Feb. 9 and once on Feb. 11.

***

I received an email from a reader who was very upset that Chase bank in downtown Belleville was going to be open on Presidents' Day.

She said, "Our schools, PO, Charter One, etc. will ALL be closed."

She said she put in a call to speak with the Corporate Office (Terry Goulet) and one person here at Belleville branch office said she is out of town but she will have her call on Friday. "What is happening to our town / country?" she wanted to know.

***

It sure was slippery on Saturday. A Nixle alert from Van Buren Township Police warned drivers to avoid westbound I-94 between Belleville and Rawsonville roads for several hours due to numerous crashes. I got the alert at 1:32 p.m. and just before 3 p.m. when I was heading over to the library, a report on WWJ News radio said the I-94 highway had just reopened. It was very slippery on Valentine's Day.

***

We had a sad occurrence at our house on Friday the 13th. Comet, my son Jim's close canine pal, died two hours after we got home from work. He was fine in the morning when we told him goodbye and he was very lethargic when we got home.

We petted him and talked to him and planned to take him to the vet in the morning if he didn't feel better. Then, he died. No crying, no wincing, just left us.

Dr. Yvonne Craiger and her staff at Sumpter Pet Care have been very kind and we want to thank them for their help.

It's tough to lose a friend, as you all know. We loved Comet a lot.

This dog came to us from Michelle over at A&W when her son became allergic to the dog. We welcomed Comet and loved him and now he's gone. There's a big hole in our hearts.

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# Letters

## Thank you for focusing on what we can't say

To the Editor:

On behalf of so many VBPS staff members, thank you so much for your recent editorial about VBPS. You made so many people happy by publishing those three pieces two weeks ago and gave us hope. We are not allowed to speak publicly by the district as we have been told it will cost us our jobs so we hope that you will follow up on what is happening at our schools.

We decided that for the purposes of this letter, we are only going to talk about the staff and not the problems with no discipline at the schools. We are not able to sign this letter as it will mean our jobs. Our hope is that someone will bring to light what is really going on at VBPS.

Staff members are not allowed to talk openly with board members when they visit the schools. Administrators have to be notified when board members are in a building and they walk around with them. We have been cautioned to say nothing negative.

Staff members have been repeatedly told they cannot talk with one another and be negative about VBPS. We are only allowed to talk about positive things. This is really put into play when contract negotiations are going on.

Staff are not allowed to go on any social media site and post inflammatory comments regarding VBPS – you will be fired for this.

VBPS is forcing out employees that actually live in the district. New hires do not live in the district – even the support staff. For years teaching staff have been encouraged to not live in the district.

Staff who are strong and/or outspoken are targeted. They are written up continually or found to be ineffective. They are pressured to quit or retire.

So many families are leaving the district. Could it be because of the lack of student discipline that parents find that their kids are not safe and are not learning anything at VBPS. We wish parents would come spend an entire day in their child's class and at lunch. See what goes on and what your child is subjected to every day.

Keep up the great job!

Many Van Buren Public Schools Staff Members

## Leo's Coney Island closed for repairs

Dear Customers:

Due to the extreme cold and winter conditions, we've experienced frozen / bursting water pipes here at Leo's Coney Island on Belleville Road and will be temporarily closed.

We are working hard to reopen as quickly as possible. Please call us at 697-1000 for recorded updates. Until then, we will miss you.

Management, Leo's Coney Island
(734) 697-1000

## Request from 5th grade student in California

Dear People of the Great State of Michigan:

Greetings! My name is Citlalli and I am a 5th grade student at Salida Elementary School in Salida, California. We live in the central valley located east of San Francisco. This year we are to each complete a State Project. I picked Michigan! I am asking for any and all information from and about your Great State of Michigan to be sent to me. If you would please send me any postcards, articles, maps, pictures, pins, pencils, posters, pamphlets, or any other special items from Michigan for my project.

My school address is:

Citlalli Alvarado
c/o Ms. Ford's 5th Grade
Salida Elementary School
4519 Finney Rd.
Salida, CA 95368

I really appreciate your help in making my project the best! I am lucky to have and learn about an awesome state like Michigan!

Sincerely,
Citlalli Alvarado
Salida, CA

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# Obituaries

Billy Wayne Richardson

**BILLY WAYNE RICHARDSON**
(August 5, 1940 - February 8, 2015)

Billy Wayne Richardson, age 74, of Belleville, passed away Sunday, February 8, 2015 at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit. He was born August 5, 1940 in Trenton, TN, son of the late Benjamon Hooper & Jimmie Lou (Harber) Richardson.

Billy Wayne retired from the Willow Run General Motors plant after more than 20 years of loyal service. He was a member of Connection Church, Canton. He was a huge Detroit Tiger fan and enjoyed playing cards, singing and visiting Frankenmuth.

Billy Wayne is survived by his wife of 54 years, Freddie Faye (Cocherell) Richardson, son Kenneth (Alina) Richardson of Melbourne, FL, four grandsons Robert A. Lewis, Jonathon W. Richardson, Christopher C. Richardson and Tyler W. Lewis, two granddaughters Christine Lewis Prince and Lisamarie A. Richardson, two great-granddaughters Autumn and Sicily Prince, one great-grandson Dawson Prince, also a sister Joyce Henderson. He was preceded in death by his parents, two daughters Karan Fay Lewis in 2006 and Katheriane Kay Richardson in 2013, also a son Billy Wayne Richardson, Jr. in 1970.

Services were February 13 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, with Pastor Dave Stephens. Interment was in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.

Memorial contributions may be made to Connection Church. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

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# Obituaries

Johnny W. "Mego" Wenzel

**JOHNNY W. 'MEGO' WENZEL**

(September 27, 1946 - February 6, 2015)

Johnny W. "Mego" age 68 of Wayne, MI went home to the Lord on Friday, February 6, 2015. He was born September 27, 1946 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of the late Arthur and Alice (Agge) Wenzel Sr.

John is survived by his Beloved Wife of 39 years, Ruth Ann; Dear Father of Rebecca A. (Nick) James of Saline, MI and Kurt W. (Jennifer) Wenzel of Westland, MI; Loving Papa of Ryan W. James and Evelyn G. James; one sister Kae (Jay) Hartford and one brother Richard Wenzel, both of Belleville, MI; also several nieces, nephews, cousins and many good friends.

Mego graduated from Belleville High School in 1965. He retired from Delta Airlines after 32 years of service.

He enjoyed camping, golfing, watching football or baseball and spending time with his family and friends at "His" Lake Huron Cottage!

He was a member of the CrossPointe Community Church in Wayne, MI. His true faith in the Lord gave him Hope and Peace.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Marvin C. Wenzel Sr. and Arthur T. Wenzel Jr., two sisters-in-law Patricia A. Wenzel and Sherry L. Wenzel, one nephew Marvin C. Wenzel Jr., also a very caring Uncle Harvey "Happy" Wenzel.

Family received friends Monday, February 9, 1-8 p.m. Funeral was Tuesday, February 10, at 10 a.m. at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood Rd., Westland, MI. The Rev. John Parker officiated the service.

Private Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Family requests memorials to GAIN-Global Aid Network. Please visit and sign a tribute at www.uhtfh.com .

**STEVEN ANTHONY DOUGLAS**

(April 15, 1964 - February 9, 2015)

Age 50, of Taylor. Retired from the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott. Survived by mother Shirley Brown, grandmother, two sisters, six nieces and nephews, many friends. Services Feb. 15. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

Amelie Zola Strzalkowski

**AMELIE Z. STRZALKOWSKI**

(October 18, 2010 - February 13, 2015)

Amelie Zola Strzalkowski, age 4, of Howell, MI, passed away Friday February 13, at home in Howell, MI. She was born at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI on October 18, 2010, daughter of Shelley and Jason Strzalkowski, sister of Anya Strzalkowski.

Amelie was a vibrant, intelligent, passionate and creative child that warmed the hearts of all those who met her. Diagnosed at 22 months with an aggressive brain cancer, she battled through endless rounds of chemotherapy and radiation, all with a smile and a joke for others. Armed with a box of crayons and a desire to make the world a brighter place, and with her sister Anya at her side, she blazed a path through this world for nearly 4 ½ years.

Treatments for her illness were delivered at the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI, where she wholeheartedly enjoyed her "sleepovers" with all her friends (the hospital staff). During those two years, through her jokes, her laughter, her inquisitive nature, and boundless love for her family, she was a shining beacon of life for many. She will be sorely, unendingly, and energetically missed by all those who got to know her.

Visitation and services were held at the Borek Jennings Funeral Home in Howell, MI. Donations can be made to: Special Days Cancer Camp (named by Anya Strzalkowski as the best place in the world), 2232 S. Main St. #161 Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Cornella L. Covington

**CORNELLA L. COVINGTON**

(December 23, 1919 - February 11, 2015)

Cornella Laura "Connie" Covington, age 95, of Saline, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Wednesday, February, 11, 2015 at Saline Evangelical Home, Saline, MI. She was born December 23, 1919 in Snow Hill, MD, daughter of the late George Hasty & Eliza (Taylor) Collick.

Connie was 1 of 21 siblings born in Maryland. She and her husband Charles "Covie" Covington, left Maryland for New York City, where she was employed as a domestic, while studying and becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse. Covie worked as a laborer digging tunnels for the New York City subway system. They pooled their savings and bought a candy store in Harlem. At some point Connie encouraged Covey to get a job that had wages and benefits and she would continue in Nursing. Covie worked for General Motors until he retired and Connie worked as an emergency room nurse in Harlem until moving to Mt Vernon, NY where she continued in Nursing until she retired.

She and her husband also owned various resorts and entertainment venues in New York. They offered each of Cornella's siblings the opportunity to live with them. This enabled them all to be able to explore their education and careers in New York, because Maryland had much less opportunities. This strong character created a solid foundation of family values she instilled in not only 21 siblings, but her children and grandchildren as well. Connie was a huge entertainer and welcomed everyone into her home. She enjoyed cooking, baking and teaching her grandchildren. She could make a fruitcake even people who don't like them would eat! She also loved to dance and garden, especially her roses.

She is survived by a son Chuck (Kris) Covington of Belleville; 6 grandchildren Sam, D'Wayne, Beth, Jessica, Egypt and Jordan; 5 great-grandchildren Alex, Presley, Naomi, Charlie and Edward; five sisters Elsie Purnell, Ernestine Collick, Ruth Carey, Anna McIntosh and Marion-Jeanette Johnson; also numerous nieces & nephews and great-nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Charles Wendell Covington on October, 21, 1993, a son in infancy, Sylvester, also 16 siblings.

Visitation was held 10-11 AM February, 16, 2015 at Mount Calvary United Methodist Church, Fruitland, Maryland. Home-going services were at 11 AM. Rev. Sheneatta Whittington officiated and Connie's nephew Rev. Lawrence Purnell performed the eulogy. Local arrangements were entrusted to David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville, MI, (734) 697-4500. Interment will be in Green Acres Memorial Park, Salisbury, MD. Flowers or Well Wishes should be directed to Lewis N. Watson Funeral Home, 1618 North West Road, Salisbury, MD. (410) 546-6937. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a story for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

**More Obituaries on pages 6 and 10**


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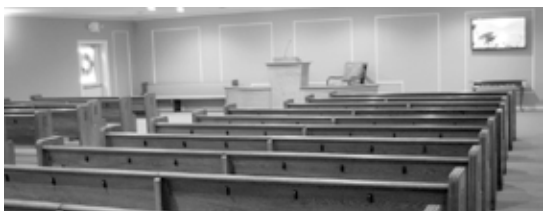

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# 7th Annual Report to Taxpayers

*(continued from page 3)*

**Van Buren Township**
**Employees Wages & Actual Cost to Township 1/1/14 - 12/31/14**

| | Wages | Benefits | Total Compensation |
|---|---|---|---|
| **IT Dept.** | | | |
| Steve Rankin | $127,187.11 | $22,029.47 | $149,216.58 |
| Dandy, Kenneth | $58,651.37 | $30,676.35 | $89,327.72 |
| **Maintenance Dept.** | | | |
| Jeffery Fondaw | $65,140.00 | $31,000.41 | $96,140.41 |
| Kirk Jenkins | $59,847.46 | $35,267.58 | $95,115.04 |
| Michael Burgor | $53,199.66 | $27,069.65 | $80,269.31 |
| Ryan Drotar | $47,487.20 | $17,251.69 | $64,738.89 |
| Gerald Taylor | $27,516.04 | $23,005.70 | $50,521.74 |
| Patty Miller | $32,977.82 | $6,749.01 | $39,726.83 |
| **Museum Dir.** | | | |
| Kathryn Dallos | $36,923.92 | $16,068.96 | $52,992.88 |
| **Parks** | | | |
| Earvin Nicholson II | $12,033.95 | $920.60 | $12,954.55 |
| Freddie Campbell | $8,192.35 | $626.71 | $8,819.06 |
| Ryan Dybicki | $8,160.66 | $624.25 | $8,784.91 |
| David Ruff | $6,866.00 | $525.24 | $7,391.24 |
| Judith Andrews | $3,429.93 | $262.39 | $3,692.32 |
| Kayla Priebe | $3,093.75 | $236.67 | $3,330.42 |
| Kyle Cooley | $2,610.00 | $199.67 | $2,809.67 |
| Rebecca Jenkins | $2,554.90 | $195.43 | $2,750.33 |
| Kathleen Blackstone | $1,761.38 | $134.75 | $1,896.13 |
| **Recreation Dept.** | | | |
| Jennifer Wright | $60,900.29 | $31,109.13 | $92,009.42 |
| Jennifer Zaenglein | $43,327.64 | $28,523.23 | $71,850.87 |
| Scott Fleming | $9,452.32 | $723.12 | $10,175.44 |
| Melissa Blackstone | $8,273.09 | $632.88 | $8,905.97 |
| Ryan O'Neill | $7,300.66 | $558.53 | $7,859.19 |
| Tiffani Patterson | $6,462.42 | $494.42 | $6,956.84 |
| Karli Zantop | $3,586.00 | $274.33 | $3,860.33 |
| Samuel Villa | $3,111.02 | $238.00 | $3,349.02 |
| Stephanie Ralls | $2,882.00 | $220.49 | $3,102.49 |
| Alexandra Stamper | $2,844.00 | $217.56 | $3,061.56 |
| Lindsey Smith | $2,540.00 | $194.32 | $2,734.32 |
| Caroline Manley | $2,362.00 | $180.68 | $2,542.68 |
| Christian Dowell | $2,306.00 | $176.41 | $2,482.41 |
| Devine Loving | $2,178.00 | $166.62 | $2,344.62 |
| Marrissa Hawley | $1,750.00 | $133.88 | $1,883.88 |
| **Senior Center** | | | |
| Lynette Jordan | $49,500.07 | $29,492.06 | $78,992.13 |
| Patricia McBride | $21,772.50 | $1,665.71 | $23,438.21 |
| Melvin Moore | $11,622.50 | $889.21 | $12,511.71 |
| Treana Callahan | $9,673.07 | $740.01 | $10,413.08 |
| David Callihan | $9,022.50 | $690.32 | $9,712.82 |
| Beverly Porter | $8,198.67 | $627.23 | $8,825.90 |
| Henry Johnson | $5,260.00 | $402.45 | $5,662.45 |
| Janine Alexander | $542.50 | $41.51 | $584.01 |
| **Supervisor's Office** | | | |
| Karin LaMothe | $60,068.69 | $36,760.60 | $96,829.29 |
| Cynthia Belanger | $16,227.25 | $1,241.39 | $17,468.64 |
| Sarah Undy | $6,780.00 | $518.68 | $7,298.68 |
| **Treasurer's Dept.** | | | |
| Sean Bellingham | $74,792.92 | $33,865.58 | $108,658.50 |
| Kathy Adams | $35,314.11 | $23,511.14 | $58,825.25 |
| Jessica Lampinen | $12,412.50 | $949.56 | $13,362.06 |
| **Water Dept.** | | | |
| Mario Pinard | $73,327.81 | $44,090.17 | $117,417.98 |
| Joseph Strickland | $65,228.33 | $29,636.31 | $94,864.64 |
| Noah Caincross | $69,381.48 | $25,195.94 | $94,577.42 |
| Bradley Hine | $61,646.22 | $30,138.95 | $91,785.17 |
| William Turner | $56,285.34 | $30,738.94 | $87,024.28 |
| James Taylor | $70,231.74 | $14,595.51 | $84,827.25 |
| Jeffery Osborne | $49,080.66 | $34,466.05 | $83,546.71 |
| Jason Valinski | $62,651.37 | $18,508.72 | $81,160.09 |
| Laurie McIntosh | $44,013.96 | $33,529.22 | $77,543.18 |
| Karen Smith | $48,049.54 | $28,451.49 | $76,501.03 |
| Kristy Bovitz | $43,943.56 | $28,748.56 | $72,692.12 |
| Charles Esch | $49,940.89 | $16,966.29 | $66,907.18 |

Benefits include employer FICA, Medicare, Health Care, Vision, Life and in some instances, longevity, Pay in Leiu of Health Care.

| Retiree Costs | Health Care | Life Insurance | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Greene | $25,095.69 | | $25,095.69 |
| Miller | $24,559.85 | | $24,559.85 |
| Kauppila | $23,162.38 | | $23,162.38 |
| Szuma | $23,162.38 | | $23,162.38 |
| Partridge | $22,675.08 | | $22,675.08 |
| Guenther | $21,031.35 | | $21,031.35 |
| Kennedy | $20,899.38 | | $20,899.38 |
| Foster | $18,665.77 | $36.00 | $18,701.77 |
| Yono | $17,227.61 | | $17,227.61 |
| Thornsbury | $17,156.68 | | $17,156.68 |
| Noye | $12,938.19 | | $12,938.19 |
| Sears | $12,584.40 | | $12,584.40 |
| Wilson | $9,538.98 | $36.00 | $9,574.98 |
| Smyth | $9,447.90 | | $9,447.90 |
| Soja | $9,336.20 | $18.00 | $9,354.20 |
| Gutowski | $9,332.92 | $18.00 | $9,350.92 |
| Smith | $9,118.89 | | $9,118.89 |
| K. Brooks | $9,118.83 | | $9,118.83 |
| Schroeder | $7,151.01 | | $7,151.01 |
| Hunter | $6,469.13 | | $6,469.13 |
| Hodge | $5,649.08 | | $5,649.08 |
| D. Brooks | $3,009.12 | | $3,009.12 |
| Cline | $18.00 | | $18.00 |
| **Total** | | | **$317,456.82** |

*(continued on page 9)*

**Thank you!**
**All the hard work to compile and present the information from Van Buren Township was done by Diane Madigan.**

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# 2015 SOUP Project set for March 5 at Belleville High School Commons

The 2015 Belleville SOUP Project will be held Thursday, March 5, at the Belleville High School Commons area with the doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and a simple soup supper being served at 6 p.m.

During supper guests will hear BHS New Tech students present their ideas for a new downtown Belleville project and diners will vote for their favorite projects. While they eat the votes will be counted.

Proceeds from the event help fund the winning project. The 2014 winner was a Zombie Run that took place during the city's Booville celebration in October.

The 2015 winning project will be announced after dessert and the winners will be presented with a cash stipend to help make it happen.

Tickets are $15 for adults, $9 for students, and $40 for a family of four.

The SOUP project is sponsored by the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, the City of Belleville, and BHS New Tech.

RSVPs to the DDA at (734) 646-0504 or email dda@bellevill.mi.us .

"The Belleville High School New Tech students and faculty are working hard to develop and grow strong community partnerships," said Belleville DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson. "The City of Belleville and DDA are excited to hear what these young leaders propose next. Please come out and support them."

# 7th Annual Report to Taxpayers

*(continued from page 8)*

**Pay in Lieu of Health Care**

| | |
|---|---|
| Phillip Hart | $2,400.00 |
| Alwena McCracken | $2,400.00 |
| Joanne Montgomery | $2,400.00 |
| Jeffery Gueli | $2,400.00 |
| Terri Brooks | $1,600.00 |
| Carol Towles | $2,400.00 |
| Patty Miller | $2,400.00 |
| Georgia Baker | $2,400.00 |
| Nicole Sumpter | $400.00 |
| **Total** | **$18,800.00** |

**Longevity**

| | |
|---|---|
| Leon Wright | $1,731.80 |
| Sharry Budd | $6,475.04 |
| Phil Hart | $2,364.62 |
| Jeff Jahr | $1,864.58 |
| Linda Stevenson | $5,134.08 |
| Kathy Cline | $2,713.80 |
| Vern Morse | $4,609.36 |
| Steve Rankin | $2,273.07 |
| Jennifer Wright | $3,542.15 |
| Lynette Jordan | $2,515.19 |
| Sean Bellingham | $3,288.29 |
| Pam Fleming | $5,076.61 |
| Ken Dandy | $2,316.18 |
| **Total** | **$43,904.77** |

## Birthdays

Feb. 16 – Debbie Simpkins
Feb. 19 – Anna Cinnamon
Feb. 20 – Robert Stoner
Feb. 22 – Toby Leis, Sandy Askew, William Zilke

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

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Sunday, March 1, 2015
Moose Lodge 934
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(Corner of Harris and Sumpter Road)
Door Open – 12:30 pm
Auctioneer Terry Mohr – 1:00 pm
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# Obituaries

William Thomas Cooper, Jr.

**WILLIAM T. COOPER, JR.**
(February 26, 1945 – December 8, 2014)
William Thomas Cooper, Junior, age 69, passed away Monday, December 8, 2014 at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, Livonia, MI. He was born February 26, 1945 in Detroit, MI, son of William Thomas Cooper Senior, of Marion, Indiana and Mevaline Daisy Powell Cooper of Burkesville, Kentucky.
Bill was a member of the Belleville High School class of 1964.
Mr. Cooper was a proud veteran of the US Army, having served as a Specialist 4 in the Special Weapons Unit, based in Augsburg, Germany. His job was to drive an explosives truck for his unit. "Willy" was honorably discharged following two years of service. In 1968 he went to work for Ford Motor Company at the Wayne Assembly Plant. Leaving Ford some years later, he went to work for the Inter-National Door Company, where he worked in supervision for a number of years.
Willy was known for his creative and artistic ability, and put that gift to use in the 1970s when he formed a "Chopper Shop" with a life-long friend, Dennis Sohn. They called the business "Moose and Willy's Customs" and created motorcycle masterpieces which were seen in many of the custom bike shows and competitions.
Mr. Cooper was preceded in death by his parents, brother Charles E. Cooper, mother-in-law Morrean F. Broome, sister-in-law Connie Eldridge Cooper, brother-in-law George A. Kreitner, sister-in-law Ramona Lee Cooper, brother-in-law Robert P. Helton, brother-in-law John W. Helton, nephew Joseph Kreitner, and niece Jennifer Kreitner.
William is survived by two children Angelique (Christian) Whitt of Belleville, MI and William (Star) Cooper III of Tarpon Springs, Florida; five grandchildren Joshua Burger-Whitt, Jacob Whitt, Zachariah Whitt, Devin Cooper and Sara Cooper; sister Janice Cooper Kreitner of Gaylord, MI; brother Dennis Cooper of Social Circle, Georgia; also several nieces and nephews.
A memorial service will be held Sunday, February 22, 2015 at 3 PM at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500 with a gathering 1-3 PM. Pastor John N. Grenfell will officiate. VFW #4434 will provide full military honors immediately following.
Memorial contributions may be made to VFW Post 4434, Belleville, and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for the family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

**RICHARD JAMES JENKINS**
(May 30, 1941 - February 1, 2015)
Age 73. Journeyman carpenter and truck driver. Survived by wife Joan, 3 children Jennifer, Richard, and Kirk; 6 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; half-sister Lynn Ann. Viewing Feb. 5 at Janowiak Funeral Home.

Mary Theresa Gilbert

**MARY T. GILBERT**
(July 23, 1936 - February 15, 2015)
Mary Theresa Gilbert, age 78, of Ypsilanti, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI passed away Sunday, February 15, 2015. She was born July 23, 1936 in Ann Arbor, MI, daughter of George Joseph & Theresa Irene (Peterson) Austin.
Mrs. Gilbert was a Paraprofessional for Van Buren Public Schools for over 20 years. She worked at Rawsonville and Savage Elementary schools in the kindergarten classrooms. She was a Girl Scout Leader for more than 20 years, as well. She loved children. She also enjoyed quilting, cross stitch, needle point and decorating cakes. She was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville, and enjoyed her weekly Bible Study with friends. She was also Neil Diamond's biggest fan.
Mary is survived by three daughters Jo Ann Rogers of Ypsilanti, Vickie (Mohamad) Bagherzadeh of Saline, and Patricia Gilbert of Ypsilanti; son Daniel (Dawn) Gilbert of Dexter; 7 grandchildren Eric, Scott, Nicholas, Amir, Amanda, Danny and Adam; 6 great-grandchildren Nevaeh, James, Shyann, Kaylee, Keeona and Anthony; two sisters Elizabeth (James) Murray of Rochester Hills, and Christine (Ronald) Foster of Memphis, TN; brother-in-law Don (Lillian) Gilbert of Hamburg, MI; two sisters-in-law Dorothy Russ of Ypsilanti and Donna (Garrett) Bakker of Whitmore Lake; also several nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Dean LeRoy Gilbert on June 11, 2004, also a son in infancy Theodore George Gilbert.
Visitation was 4-8 PM Tuesday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500 with a 7 PM Prayer Service followed by a Time For Sharing. Visitation also was 9:30-10:30 AM Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, with a 10:30 AM Funeral Mass. Father Thomas H. Cusick served as Celebrant. Interment was in Washtenong Memorial Park, Ann Arbor.
Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or to St. Anthony Catholic Church and would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a story for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

**JEFFREY BLAINE RHODES**
(February 15, 1959 - February 6, 2015)
Age 55, Belleville. Survived by parents, Blaine and JoAnn Rhodes; 3 children Shane, Adam, Kyleigh; 2 grandchildren; 2 sisters; 1 brother. Services held Feb. 9 at Victorious Life Church of God. Janowiak Funeral Home, Ypsilanti.

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Lillian N. Kuzel

**LILLIAN N. KUZEL**
(August 20, 1925 - February 10, 2015)
Lillian Natal Kuzel, age 89, of Belleville, MI, passed away Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born August 20, 1925 in Detroit, MI, daughter of the late Guseppe "Joseph" & Virginia (Bradanini) Cola.
Lillian's father died when she was an infant. She began working at a young age to help her single mother support the family. Her first job was as a "Soda Jerk" at Mr. Brewer's Drug Store in Detroit. She then began wrapping Christmas gifts for Hudson's. In her free time, she enjoyed roller-dancing at Arena Gardens on Woodward and roller-skating. She went all through Catholic school and aspired to be a nun, however, a nun once told her she couldn't. She said Lillian would cause too much trouble in the convent trying to change everything! Lucky for her family, because she married Edward Kuzel and together, they ran numerous businesses, of which she did all the bookkeeping. She was the co-owner and manager of the Belle Villa and Belleville Estates Mobile Home Parks for many years. She also worked as a secretary for Social Security and as the Administrative Director for Peaker Services, South Lyon, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI.
Mrs. Kuzel was a very active member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville. She was a huge supporter of St. Vincent de Paul. She sang in the choir for many years, took the nuns to dinner and volunteered as often as she could. She also volunteered for Easter Seals and the American Red Cross and she even hand-sewed cancer pads for the American Cancer Society. During retirement, Lillian loved spending winters in Daytona Beach, Florida with Ed. She was an avid reader who enjoyed cross stitching, playing golf, cheering for the Detroit Red Wings and she loved going to casinos and playing the slots. She was passionate and dedicated to everything she did. Lillian was an amazing wife, mother, employee, volunteer and friend.
Mrs. Kuzel is survived by two sons Mark (Deanna) Kuzel of Superior Township, MI and Matthew (Pamela) Kuzel of Ann Arbor, MI, also four grandchildren Alexandra, Gregory (Kara), Jeffrey and Christopher. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Edward Kuzel on October 31, 2011, two brothers John and James Cola, also a sister Martha Kurko.
Visitation was 4-8 PM Monday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500 with a 7 PM Prayer Service. Visitation continued 10-11 AM Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave. Belleville, with an 11 AM Funeral Mass. Father Thomas H. Cusick served as Celebrant, assisted by Deacon Peter Cornell. A private Inurnment was planned in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton, MI.
Memorial contributions may be made to St. Vincent de Paul at St. Anthony Catholic Church and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

Leila Mae Wallis

**LEILA MAE WALLIS**
(March 9, 1936 - February 10, 2015)
Leila Mae Wallis, age 78, of Ypsilanti Township, MI, passed away Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at Cedar Woods Assisted Living, Belleville. She was born March 9, 1936 in Escanaba, MI, daughter of Edwin William & Laura (Milne) Sivertsen.
Leila was a bookkeeper at Beyer Hospital, Ypsilanti, for many years. She was a member of Metro Baptist Church, Belleville. She enjoyed reading, boating, and loved to travel, especially to Disney World every year! She and her late husband Earl also enjoyed eating at Cracker Barrel, Belleville.
Leila is survived by three sons Steve (Evangeline) Wallis, Dale (Kathy) Wallis and Paul Wallis, and a daughter Debra (Darren) Guthrie, all of Ypsilanti Township; two granddaughters Katrina Wallis and Sara (Matt) Elsass, a great-grandson Zander Warren, brother Ralph (Yvonne) Sivertsen of Brooksville, FL, also a sister Elaine Delmotte. She was preceded in death by her parents, her step-father Joe Weary, also her husband Earl Albert Wallis on April 30, 2012.
Visitation was 4-8 PM Thursday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Visitation also was 10-11 AM Friday, February 13, 2015 at Metro Baptist Church, 47100 North I-94 Service Dr., Belleville, with a 1 PM Funeral Service. Pastor John Vaprezsan officiated. Interment was in Knollwood Memorial Park, Canton.
Memorial contributions may be made to Metro Baptist Church and would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com .

## Upcoming Meetings

• Tuesday, Feb. 24 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Water and Sewer Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Feb. 25 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission canceled

• Monday, March 2 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, March 3 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

• Tuesday, March. 10 – September Days Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Financing Authority, 2 p.m., Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library meeting at 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, March 11 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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425 Burton, Ypsilanti

$50,000– 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 864 sqft ranch w/ new windows, fenced bkyrd, new flooring & paint , new furnace & hot water tank & more!

45230 Greenbriar, Belleville

$183,100– 4 bedroom, 2.1 baths, 2378sqft, fam rm w frplc, lrg deck, full pre-plmd bsmt, office, loft, newer kitchen, & dining room. ***To be auctioned on Homesearch.com***

13216 Mauntak, Belleville

$161,900– 3 bdrm, 2.2 bths, 2080 sqft home w/ 1st flr master ste, great rm w/ vaulted ceilings, full partially fnshd bsmt, backs to pond, & more!

45883 Purplesage, Belleville

$70,000–2 bdrm, 2 bath upper unit condo. Updated kitchen, covered balcony, master ste w walk-in closet.

19681 Somers, New Boston

$34,900- Corner lot! Home on .41 acres, 1 1/2 story home, det 2 car garage, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1072 sqft.

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# Russell Dore to tell story of founder of GM at Feb. 19 museum event

The Belleville Area Museum continues its annual Third Thursday Lecture Series at 6 p.m. Feb. 19 with Russell Dore's story of William Crapo Durant, a true entrepreneur.

Durant was not a builder of cars but rather a builder of companies, a dreamer who put several automobile companies together into what became the world's largest corporation: General Motors.

Dore will discuss the roles that David Buick, Ransom Olds, Walter Chrysler, Charles Nash, and Louis Chevrolet played in the development of General Motors

Dore also will tell how this high school dropout became worth millions and yet died penniless. This presentation with visual aids covers Durant's successful life before entering the automobile industry, his creation of General Motors, his exit from the company and his attempts to begin again. The strengths and weaknesses of his personality, his family life, and his contributions to American industry will be discussed.

The doors will open at 5 p.m., pizza will be served at 5:30 p.m., and the lecture will begin at 6 p.m. The event is free to historical society members and $5 for non-members.

William Crapo Durant


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Read The Newspaper On The Web!

# Belleville Day in Florida

Photo courtesy Peter Dodge

Those attending Belleville Day in Florida on Feb. 4 posed for a group picture to send back to their Belleville friends. The gathering was at the Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club in Hernando, FL. Sandy and Sam Vicchy hosted the event. Sandy said 68 people attended and everybody seemed to have a really good time.

## Orphan of the Week

**Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue**

## "DUSKY"

**Dusky** will make a "purr-fectly" delightful friend to spend your time with from dusk to dawn as well as all day long! She's a pretty petite 4 1/2 year old kitty which only means she has a ton of years left to make a fur-ever family feel very loved and happy. **Dusky's** gentle and sweet personality is hard to beat, trust us some of the cats here have tried to compete. She's got polite kitty manners and would never get under your feet, act pushy or pick a fight. **Dusky** enjoys sunny catnaps, yummy food and chasing a laser beam for exercise in-between naps. She may be a little shy with you at first but responds well to gentle pets and a soothing voice. She will do best in a calm, laid-back home setting. Her pretty midnight black coat is soft like velvet with the tiniest splash of white on her chest. **Dusky** is small in size and along with her perfected super cute hello meow will almost have you believing she's still a kitten. If **Dusky** sounds "purr-fect" for you call today to come meet her. She's spayed, vaccinated, tested neg. for Feluk/FIV and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

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## Ypsilanti Moose hosts spaghetti fund raiser for girl with brain tumor

A five-year-old girl named Lexy is being honored with a spaghetti dinner fund raiser from 1 to 5 p.m., March 15, at the Ypsilanti Moose Lodge, 5506 Stoney Creek, Ypsilanti.

Lexy has been diagnosed with a stage-four brain tumor. Ticket donations for the fund raiser are $10. There also will be a raffle, 50/50, and bake sale.

For questions, donations, or to volunteer, call Colleen at (734) 487-7880.

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Until then, we'll miss you!
-- The Management

# Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, Feb. 19 –** Third Thursday lecture at 6 p.m. at the Belleville Area Museum features Russell Dore telling the Story of Billy Durant, founder of General Motors. Free to members of the Belleville Historical Society and $5 for non-members.

• **Friday, Feb. 20 –** All Free Friends Family Theater Movie Night at 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road, at Bemis Road, Ypsilanti. Bounce House at 6:30 p.m. Includes free food. Movie about football and perseverance the whole family will enjoy, 2014, 98 minutes. Also, "Veggie Tales Noah's Ark," 2015, 52 minutes. Questions? (734) 482-5074. Previews: www.friendsfamilytheater.com

• **Saturday, Feb. 21 –** Belleville's Polar Plunge starts at noon at the BYC on Belleville Lake, former Moose Lodge.

• **Saturday, Feb. 21 –** The Belleville Community Chorus invites everyone to its second-annual Baked Potato Dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. at Open Arms Lutheran Church, 7865 Belleville Rd. Large baked potato with choice of toppings, plus beverage and dessert for a $5 minimum donation. Tickets at the door.

• **Saturday, Feb. 21 –** Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, Second-Annual Cabin Fever Bowling Fundraiser at Thunderbowl Lanes, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. Check in 4:30 p.m.; 5 p.m. start time. $20 per person, includes three hours of bowling, pizza and pop. Pre-registration by Feb. 10. Questions: Pat Clemens (313) 319-4715 or (734) 461-9458 or email pado01@att.net .

• **Sunday, Feb. 22 –** Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners in the Abbott Building at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. FREE, but donations accepted. You Pugs will love you for their new social life! www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

• **Friday, Feb. 27 –** Thirty-fourth District Court employees are sponsoring an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast benefit for retired Romulus Police Officer Cliff West, who is fighting Inclusion Body Myositis. The breakfast will run from 7 to 9 a.m. at the Romulus Progressive hall, 11580 Ozga Rd. Donation $10.

• **Friday, Feb. 27 –** Sumpter Township Seniors Black History Day Celebration starts at 1 p.m. in the Sumpter Community Center Gym. Cost $4. Bring a dish to pass.

• **Friday, Feb. 27 –** BHS Band Boosters invite you to their annual spaghetti dinner, 5-8 p.m., at the Belleville High School Commons. $8 at the door. Music by the BHS Jazz Band.

• **Friday, Feb. 27 –** Celebrate "Mardi Gras Around the World" at the Van Buren Eagles, with the social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m., dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and music by the Paul Keller "At Sundown" Quintet. All-you-can-eat buffet dinner. Tickets $15 in advance; $20 at the door, if available. Information and reservations, Keith & Ginger Bruder, (734) 461-2498.

• **Friday, Feb. 27 –** All Free Friends Family Theater Movie Night at 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road, at Bemis Road, Ypsilanti. Bounce House at 6:30 p.m. Includes free food. "McKenzie's Gifts" is the movie, 2014, 10 minutes. Also, a film about another oversized hero, 2014, 102 minutes. Questions? (734) 482-5074. Previews: www.friendsfamilytheater.com

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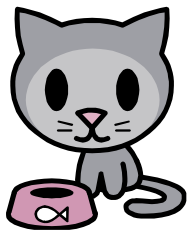

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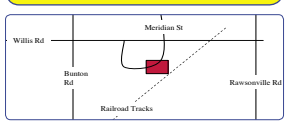


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***

The **Leo's Coney Island** on Belleville Road in the Murray's Plaza is closed for cleanup from water damage from pipes freezing on Sunday. Management said they hope to be back open within a week. For recorded updates call (**734) 697-1000**.

***

**The Q**, by **JNG Events** on Sumpter Road in the Belle Plaza, said there were several couples that tied the knot and more than a dozen others renewing their wedding vows in a one-day Valentine's Day event last Saturday. The couples enjoyed champagne and other treats. One bride and groom came all the way from Holland, MI and wore a wedding drees and suit. Business owners Jeff and Gina Hamilton said they plan to offer the event again next year.

***

The **Yankee Air Museum** will be holding its Historic Presentation Night on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. with a video of a presentation by the granddaughter of **Jimmy Doolittle.** She was at the YAF Museum's Gala last November, where she told tales and interesting facts about her famous grandfather not found in books. The program is free and open to the public. Call **(734) 483-4030.**

In other YAF news, an F-16 Demo Team has been added to this summer's **Thunder Over Michigan Air Show** at Willow Run Airport. The demo team joins up with the Blue Angels who are also returning in August. For tickets, visit **www.yankeeairmuseum.org.**

***

**A Baked Potato Dinner Fundraiser** will be held this Saturday, Feb. 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the **Open Arms Church** on Belleville Road. There is a $5 minimum donation with all proceeds going to the **Belleville Community Chorus.**

***

With the planning of Sumpter Fest and Strawberry Festival already under way, we also are working on advertising packages for the official programs for the festivals. Watch this column for more details in the weeks to come.

***

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***

*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 charge to be in this column.*

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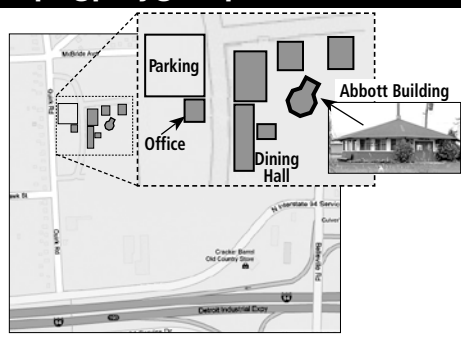

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# Library Board changes time of meetings to accommodate Sumpter

By Rosemary K. Otzman
*Independent* Editor

At the Feb. 10 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library board, the board voted unanimously to change the beginning time of each month's meeting in hopes Sumpter Township residents will be able to attend.

Starting in June, the library board meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month and that time will continue throughout the rest of the year.

Board chairperson Mary Jane Dawson asked them to wait until the June meeting to begin the new time since the next newsletter comes out in May and she wanted to allow the public to be informed of the time change.

"We can't just change it right now," Dawson said. "We need to give community members notice. If you continue telling people when you're going to be meeting, to try to get them to come, you can't arbitrarily change the time."

On Jan. 13, her first meeting after being sworn in to her board position, LaChelle Reed Caver asked Dawson to put the board meeting schedule on the agenda.

Dawson put it on the Feb. 10 agenda and Caver thanked her for that. Caver, who lives in Sumpter, said maybe the board could meet on a different day, since Sumpter residents already have a township board meeting on the same night as the library board and are unable to attend both meetings at once.

The district library serves the communities of Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter.

After board members went over the days the board possibly could meet, they found, again, various members were busy and/or the meeting room was busy on every other day. Board members said they did want to keep away from weekends because they felt people had other things to do and didn't want to have meetings then.

Library Director Debra Green said, "Maybe we could change it to 7:30 p.m. Then interested people could get to our meeting after the Sumpter meeting."

Sumpter resident Mary Ban, who regularly goes to the Sumpter Township board meeting at 6:30 p.m. and comes to the library meeting late, after the Sumpter meeting had adjourned, said the time change might work.

The *Independent* also sits through the complete Sumpter meeting, which usually ends around 7 p.m., and then drives to Belleville to arrive late for the library meeting, which began at 7 p.m..

At the Feb. 10 meeting, there were just three people in the audience: Ban and the *Independent* reporter (who both arrived late) and David Wilson, who apparently arrived on time.

At the end of the meeting, Caver again thanked Dawson for putting the item on the agenda and thanked Green and Deputy Director Mary Jo Suchy for coming up with the solution.

In other business at the Feb. 10 meeting, the board:

• Approved putting the new board treasurer Tonya Stoudemire as a signatory on the library bank account;

• Heard a six-month financial report by Ron Traskos, CPA. Also, the audit by Alan C. Young & Associates of the library financials for year ending June 30, 2014 was presented; and

• Heard board member John Juriga report that on Jan. 18 the new library windows were installed and since then the fascia around the windows have been done. Employees report their working areas are much warmer now. Also, Green said between the new heat tape, new commercial gutters, and the new windows, they have not had the problem of ice dams and related ice accumulation on the walkway. She said replacement of ceiling tiles in the staff room can now begin since the problem of the ice dams appears to be abated.


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## Zachrey-McManigal graduates from Airman Leadership School

Air Force Senior Airman Lindsay S. Zachrey-McManigal, a 2008 graduate of Belleville High School, has graduated from Airman Leadership School at Ellsworth Air Force Base, SD.

Zachrey-McManigal is the daughter of Dianna L. Zachrey, granddaughter of Margaret Zachrey, and niece of Debra L. Zachrey of Belleville.

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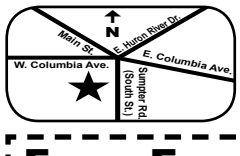


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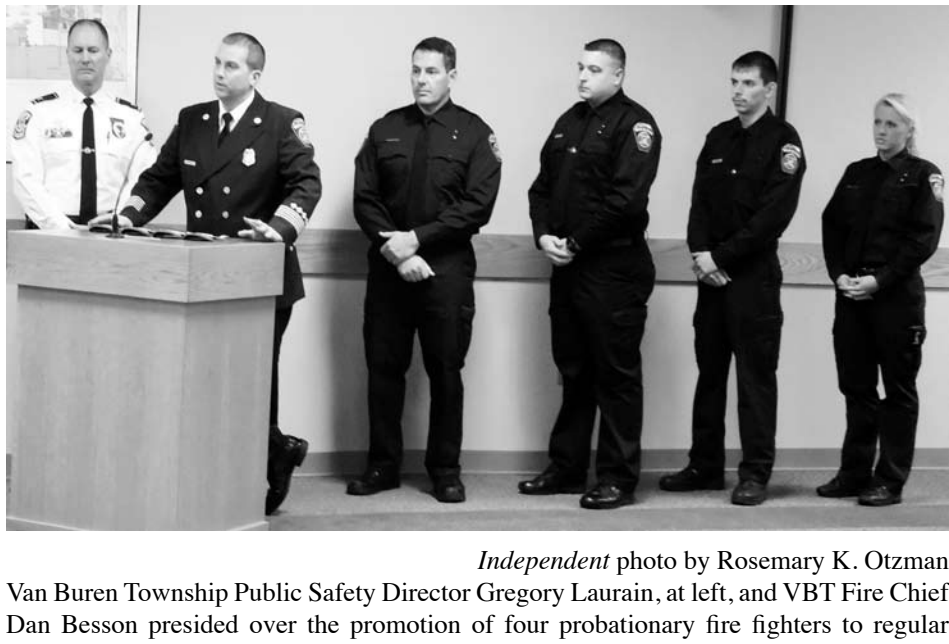

*Independent* photo by Rosemary K. Otzman
Van Buren Township Public Safety Director Gregory Laurain, at left, and VBT Fire Chief Dan Besson presided over the promotion of four probationary fire fighters to regular fire fighters during the Feb. 3 township board meeting. Fire fighters, from left, are Mike Vlademar, Ryan Smith, Dustin Cox, and Rachel Spence. A fifth fire fighter, Jason Martin, could not be present for the ceremony and was promoted earlier in the day. The new fire fighters received badges and their helmet shields carrying their official numbers.

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# City of Belleville Public Notice

**City of Belleville**
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
**CDBG PROGRAM TRANSFER**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled before the City Council on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, for the purpose hearing comments in the City of Belleville, in accordance with the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The Community Development Block Grant Program provides for citizens the opportunity to participate in the preparation of the City transferring 2013 CDBG funds by discussing City needs and expressing preferences on proposed activities. At its February 17, 2015 City Council meeting, approval was granted to set a Pubic Hearing to consider the transfer of 2013 CDBG funds.

Total funds to be transferred for the City of Belleville from 2013 Community Development Block Grant (Barrier Free Improvements) funds are $39,204.00 and is planned for replacement of the Village Park playscape to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If you wish to be heard on this matter please make arrangements to be present, or send written communications to the Belleville City Clerk.

The City of Belleville will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and service to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon advanced notice to the City Clerk, by writing or calling Lisa Long, City Clerk, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. Telephone 734 -697-9323.

Lisa Long, CMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLISH: February 19, 2015

# Sumpter Township Public Notice

**Sumpter Township**
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**
**January 27, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by J. Morgan, Supervisor showing present: Supervisor Morgan, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustees, Hamm, P. Morgan, Oddy, Swinson. Also present: Attorney Young, Debbie Bowman and approximately 16 residents.

**3. Agenda:**
**A.** Motion by P. Morgan supported by Hoffman to approve the agenda for the January 27, 2015 meeting with the addition of Item 10.c , Approve the 2015 Sumpter Country Festival. Motion Carried

**4. Public comments only on agenda items:** None

**5. A.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve the regular board meeting minutes of January 13, 2015 as presented. Motion carried.

**B.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to accept the Planning Commission minutes of January 8, 2015 as presented. Motion Carried.

**6.a Warrants:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve warrants totaling ~~$1,374,180.41~~. (Corrected February 1, 2015 $1,385,946.43) Roll call vote: Yes: J. Morgan, Hoffman, Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, Oddy, Swinson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**7.** Trustee Swinson read a letter, from a Township resident commending the Township on the Children's Christmas Party. Trustee Swinson also reported on the Chamber of Commerce luncheon and commended Supervisor Morgan for his representation of the Township.

**7.** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to receive and file Parks & Recreation/ Chamber report. Motion Carried.

**8. Attorney's Report** – None at this time.

**9. Board Response** – None at this time.

**10. New Business**
**A**. Motion by Hoffman supported by Swinson to approve the CDBG Funding for 2015-2016 in the amount of $101,824.06 and Housing Rehabilitation Program Income (14A) in the amount of $5,000.00. Motion Carried.

**B.** Motion by Hoffman supported by P. Morgan to concur with the recommendation of Chief Pierce, Jr. to hire Susan Dufresne as part-time clerical for the Police Department. Motion Carried.

**C.** Motion by P. Morgan supported by Hoffman to approve the 2015 Sumpter Country Festival. Motion Carried.

**11. Announcements**
Trustee Hamm advised the Board and residents the Public Service Credit Union, on Sumpter Road, will be closing that branch office on March 6, 2015.

Supervisor Morgan stated the Library Committee would like input from the Board and residents as to what they want in a library. Supervisor Morgan stated there is a form at the township Hall.

Joe Januszyk, Fire Chief showed the Board the old turnout gear that was being used by the Fire Department and pointed out that it was not safe. Bill Hamm, Trustee showed the new gear that was recently purchased. Both Trustee Hamm and Chief Januszyk thanked the board and the residents for the purchase of the turnout gear.

**12. Open Floor**
Trustee Oddy updated the Board on the Marihuana Committee's progress. Trustee Oddy stated Attorney Young is drafting an updated ordinance and it should be ready in March. Attorney Young advised residents the Marihuana Committee meets at the Township Hall every other Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and anyone is welcome to attend.

**12**
Mary Ban, resident – Asked if the Township would be contributing to the Belleville Museum. Supervisor Morgan stated it is being looked into. Questions regarding a recent power outage. Ms. Ban advised Breast Cancer Awareness license plates are available through the Secretary of State.

**13. Adjournment:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:03 pm. Motion carried.

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 January 27, 2015 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
Published: February 19, 2015

***Correction:***

## Dr. Wilson retired after teaching at Vanderbilt U.

In an editor's note beneath a letter from David J. Wilson in last week's *Independent* we wrote that Dr. Wilson taught at and retired from Eastern Michigan University.

He wrote to us: "… while it would have been a pleasure and privilege to teach at EMU, in fact I taught at and retired from Vanderbilt U., located in Nashville, TN. (That was pretty nice, too.)"

We apologize for the error and appreciate Dr. Wilson's gentle rebuke.

Dr. Wilson serves on the Van Buren Township Environmental Commission and will be giving a presentation on the dangers of coal tar-based driveway sealers at the 7 p.m. March 18 commission meeting. The public is invited.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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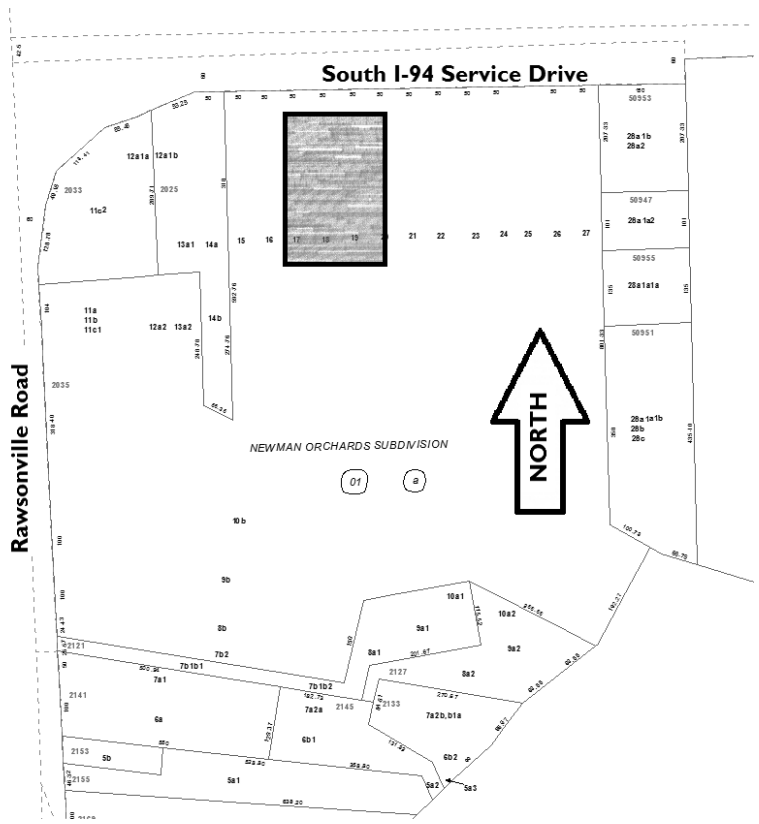
## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**
**PLANNING COMMISSION**
**PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a temporary land use request on the following described property.

Lakewood Shopping Plaza, **2095 Rawsonville Road**, is the subject of this hearing. This site is located on the east side of Rawsonville Road south of the South I-94 Service Drive.




The applicant, Phantom of Michigan, is requesting Temporary Land Use that extends beyond the allowable seven (7) consecutive days and requires a Public Hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with the requirements found under the Temporary Land Uses, Buildings, and Structures Section 4.44 of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted by the Planning and Economic Development Department until 4:00 p.m., the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

Posted: February 13, 2015
Published: February 19, 2015

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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– Albert Einstein

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**Call 734-699-5100**

**PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE**
**Wood Renewal Technicians. No experience needed. Cleaning experience a plus. Attention to detail and effective communication skills. Candidates must have a valid driver's license and be able to pass background check and drug test. Entry level. $9/hour. Call 734-787-3387.**

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

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DRIVERS CDL-A: $2400 sign on bonus. Excellent Money & Benefits. Dedicated Routes-Michigan or Canada. Monthly Bonus Programs. (855) 219-4839. 3/5

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PART-TIME CLEANING help needed. Mature/retired welcomed. Call Leslie (734) 299-3555 3/5

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AUTO BODY TECH. Restoration experience a plus. Full-time. (734) 587-3597 2/19

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## HELP WANTED

**DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT**
**Start off the new year feeling great about the work that you do helping people we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training provided.**
**$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits.**
**Call (248) 437-7535 New Hudson**
**Email resume to: recruiter questserv.org**

## HELP WANTED

**DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT**
**We're looking for fun, energetic & caring individuals to assist persons we serve in their homes in the Wixom & Novi communities.**
**$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits.**
**Call (248) 960-9657 or (248) 946-4425**
**Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org**

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR SALE

**HAY FOR SALE**
**Round Bales Only.**
**Leave Message.**
**734-587-2344**

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LAZYBOY RECLINING sofa and chair, excellent condition, only 5 years old. Asking $500 for both in Belleville. (734) 325-2369 3/5

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NEW IN-BOX TROY-BUILT Portable Generator, Model 7000XP. Plus transfer switch for up to six outlets. $800 OBO. (734) 270-2246 or Cell (419) 345-0743. 3/5

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## VEHICLE FOR SALE

F350 - 4 DOOR, 1999, 7.3 diesel, auto, 4 wheel drive, electric start. New tires/brakes. 98,000 miles. No rust. Customized. $24,000. (734) 699-3452 2/26

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2001 BLACK GRAND PRIX. 3.8L 170K $2,400. Looks & drives great! Serious inquiries Only. Located in Belleville. (734) 328-2404 3/5

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## WANTED

**WE BUY JUNK CARS**
**7 Days A Week**
***We'll Beat Any Competitors Offer!***
**CASH PAID!**
**(734) 787-1444**

**WANTED:**
**SCRAP CARS**
***We Also Sell Used Cars!***
**True II Life Towing**
**(313) 268-3452**
***Call for all your Towing Needs***

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

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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

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## WANTED

WORK WANTED. I can take you to doctors, shopping, clean house/garage, shovel snow, etc. Asking $11/hour plus mileage. (734) 697-7506. 2/19

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## FREE

RICH CETNAROWSKI E. ANNAPOLIS CIRCLE 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

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27" RCA TV. Large but works. Call Karen (734) 941-9567. 3/5

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## LOST

LOST ON FEB. 6 in the Belleville Area a gold ring. Call (734) 699-1114 2/26

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## FOR RENT

DUPLEX 2 BR/1 BATH. Available Immediately. $550/mo. 1st month & security. No washer/dryer permitted. (734) 635-4260 2/26

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3 BEDROOM/1 Bath. 1 car garage. All appliances. $950 plus Security. (734) 417-5722 2/26

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2 BR/1 BATH. 2 car garage. All appliances. In City limits. $875 + utilities + security. (734) 635-0065. 3/12

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"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

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:**

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

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

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

## SERVICES

**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**

**M.D. APPLIANCE SERVICE**
Refrigerators • Washers
Dryers • Ranges
$20 House Call
**Phone (734) 782-3354**

**PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN**
***OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!***
***CALL US!***
**Local To The Belleville Area. Call (313) 740-6276. Ask For Bill.**

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

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

**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.

# VBT Plan

*(continued from page 1)*

a direct negative impact on our business," Mitra wrote.

He said the noise and words from both speaker systems will interfere with each other and many customers drive diesel trucks that while idling would make it difficult for Arby's customers to hear and speak.

He asked for the speaker and menu board to be moved 70 feet south of where they have either speaker board and a fence/sound barrier to be built for the distance of the drive between their two properties.

"Lastly, the proposed drive thru will have vehicles so close that customers will be looking at each other head on. This could detract from our customer experience. Having people basically stare at each other while they wait could make customers uncomfortable and avoid doing business with us," Mitra wrote.

Sadek said the majority of the Dunkin' Donuts business will be from 5 to 9 a.m. and he will control the volume.

"I'm not a fan of fences, but maybe landscaping would work," he said. "People looking at each other? What would be wrong with that?

"I'll work with the tenant and Mark one-on-one to address the sound," he said.

"I talked to Mr. Mitra earlier today and acknowledged his concerns," Knowles said, adding he asked if Mitra would participate in landscaping screening and his answer was "maybe."

"That's better than a no," Knowles said.

**Bedford Cove PRD extended**

After discussion, the planning commission voted unanimously to recommend a five-year extension for the Planned Residential Development agreement for Elro Corporation and Bedford Cove.

This recommendation to extend the PRD until April 9, 2020 now will go to the township board for a final vote.

Bedford Cove, located on the south side of W. Huron River Drive between Hoeft and Elwell, previously got a PRD extension to April 9, 2015, which is ready to expire. It is 98.58 acres and will contain 201 residential units.

More than 30 acres is planned to be open space, including a four-acre park and a 17-acre natural preserve. All the units are to be detached single-family dwellings.

Attorney Eric Lind and Jessie Krantz of Elro explained the situation. They reminded the planners that Elro was a family land developer started in 1960. They built Charter Club and Mission Pointe in VBT, which they said were assets to the community.

The land for Bedford Cove was acquired in the late 1990s after a 6.5-year process. The PRD agreement was formally agreed to in April 2007 and, "in a year the economy really crashed and things came to a halt."

They said they had four years to begin construction, but nothing could take place.

"If we started, the infrastructure could

*(continued on page 20)*

# VBT Plan

*(continued from page 19)*

be in place but there would be vacant lots that the police would have to patrol," Lind said.

In 2011 they entered into an extension agreement for four years with VBT. For the first three years nothing could take place and the site remained partially farmed and wooded, Lind said.

Last year, Cobblestone and others started building single-family homes.

Lind said in VBT, there are 700 lots fully developed and no houses on them.

He said there will be a slow absorption rate. If they built a few homes, it would slow down Cobblestone.

They asked for no more than five years extension. Lind said they could start in the next two years when the absorption rate is better.

Basically, the property would stay the same, he said, adding the farmer lives adjacent to the property and there would be farming. The property includes the former site of the popular Girard produce farm and stand.

Lind said this would give the township a chance to catch up with the lots available.

Knowles reminded the planners that Elro gave VBT the right of way, at no charge, for the water line that went under the lake.

"We have a bonafide developer who weathered the storm when others have not, through careful planning … They've got a positive track record in the township," Knowles said.

Commissioner Bob McKenna suggested they get a three-year extension and then come back, if they need more time.

Treasurer Sharry Budd disagreed with McKenna, citing what they did with Mission Pointe. She said by the third year they should start and after five years not need an extension.

Lind said because of the uncertainties involved they would like the five years, "but as a compromise, after three years we could come before the commission or give a written report on where we stand."

The commission recommended approval of a five-year PRD extension, with reports by letter every two years.

**Outdoor Dining Ordinance**

Proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance to permit outdoor dining and table service in the C-1 district were completed and a public hearing will be set for 7:30 p.m. March 11.

**Special Work Study Meeting**

At 5 p.m., Feb. 4, the VBT Planning Commission held a special work/study meeting to hear the plans for a hotel and extended-stay parking lot at the northeast corner of North I-94 Service Drive and Quirk Road, the former Jacobs horse farm.

The proposal was presented and no action taken.

The proposed hotel is located in the C-2 zoning district, which permits hotels. The proposed extended-stay parking lot is located in the R-1B zoning district, which does not permit parking lot uses. The number of parking spaces proposed on the site exceeds the maximum permitted by the zoning ordinance for a hotel use.

The parcels combined measure about 11.316 acres.

A public hearing on the proposal has been set for March 11 at 7:30 p.m. before the VBT Planning Commission.

## Carlos Clark of BHS named to CMU recruiting class

Carlos Clark of Belleville High School is among 18 named to Central Michigan University's 2015 recruiting class. The choices were announced by the Chippewas on Feb. 4.

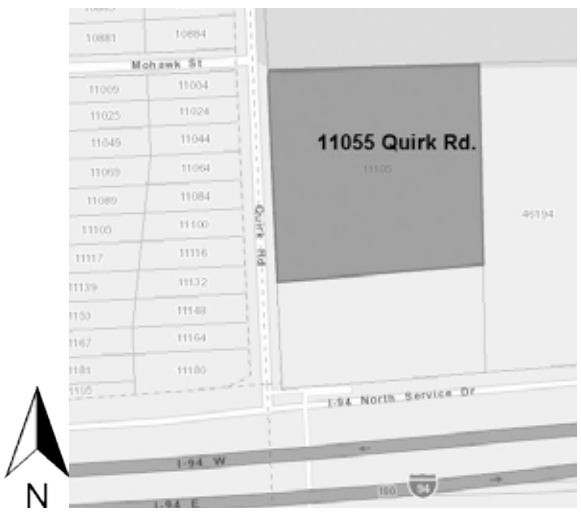
Carlos is 6' tall, weighs 210, and is a linebacker.

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**
**PLANNING COMMISSION**
**PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, Wayne County, Michigan to consider a request to rezone the following described property.

Parcel tax ID number **V-125-83-064-99-0002-002, also known as 11055 Quirk Road,** is the subject property of this hearing. The parcel measures approximately 7.421 acres. This property is located on the east side of Quirk Road between Mohawk St. to the north and N. I-94 Service Drive to the south.




The applicant, Belleville Development, Inc., is requesting this rezoning action. The Public Hearing is in regards to amending the Charter Township of Van Buren Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, zoning map by rezoning the subject property from **R-1B (Single-Family Residential) to C-2 (Extensive Highway Business)**.

Written comments will be accepted by the Planning and Economic Development Department until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

Posted: February 13, 2015
Published: February 19, 2015

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP**
**2015 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW**

**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 the following dates:

March 3rd, Tuesday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
(Organizational Meeting)
**No Appeals Heard at this Meeting**

March 9th, Monday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

March 11th, Wednesday
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

March 12th, Thursday
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**REVIEW IN PERSON IS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Taxpayers/Property Owners may appeal by making an appointment to appear before the Board of Review **OR** by letter appeal (personal appearance is not required).

**Letters of appeal must be received on or before MARCH 11, 2015.**

**Appointments to appeal in person may be scheduled by calling the Assessing Office at 734-699-8946 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by MARCH 10, 2015.**

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

| Classification | Ratio | Multiplier |
|---|---|---|
| Agricultural | 50% | 1.0000 |
| Commercial | 50% | 1.0000 |
| Industrial | 50% | 1.0000 |
| Residential | 50% | 1.0000 |
| Developmental | 50% | 1.0000 |
| Personal | 50% | 1.0000 |

Leon Wright
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: Thursday, February 12, 2015
Thursday, February 19, 2015
Thursday, February 26, 2015

# City of Belleville Public Notice

**City of Belleville**
PUBLIC NOTICE
**MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING**

The City of Belleville Board of Review will be held on the following dates:

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015**
**TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015**

Hours will be from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. A second meeting will be on Tuesday March 10, 2015 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and from 6:00p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Please call (734)697-9323 ext. 7014 to set up an appointment.

The meetings will be held in the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto. Resident and non-resident taxpayers are permitted to file protests in writing without personal appearance. Letters must be received by March 10, 2015.

Lisa Long,
City Clerk/Treasurer
Publish: February 19, 2015
February 26, 2015

# Sumpter Township Public Notice

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**
**2015**
**MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW**

NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP. THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP WILL MEET AT THE SUMPTER TOWNSHIP HALL, 23480 SUMPTER RD, BELLEVILLE MI 48111 ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

*TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015 AT 4:30$^{PM}$*
*ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING*
*NO APPOINTMENTS*

*MONDAY MARCH 9, 2015 AT 9:00$^{AM}$-9:00$^{PM}$*
*BY APPOINTMENT ONLY*

*TUESDAY MARCH 10, 2015 AT 9:00$^{AM}$-12:00$^{PM}$*
*BY APPOINTMENT ONLY*

*THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015 AT 9:00$^{AM}$-12:00$^{PM}$*
*BOARD OF REVIEW WORK DAY*
*NO APPOINTMENTS*

All hearings are by appointment only and must be accompanied by a petition form. Please call one of the numbers below for an appointment. Petitions are available at the Sumpter Township Supervisors Office or download a petition form at www.michigan.gov/treasury : click on forms: type in form number L-4035.

Written appeals are accepted as well and must be accompanied by a petition form and received in the assessing department by Thursday March 12, 2015 at 9:00$^{AM}$. No postmarks are accepted. Mail petitions to: Sumpter Township Board of Review 23480 Sumpter Rd, Belleville MI 48111.

Hardship/poverty exemptions are accepted as well. Please call the assessing department for more information on this exemption.

Any questions regarding the Board of Review, contact the Supervisors Office at (734) 461-6201 ext. 2229, or the Assessing Department Monday, Tuesday & Thursday only at (734) 256-4413.

Publish: February 12, 2015
February 19, 2015
February 26, 2015

Sumpter Township Clerk-
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.
Sumpter Township Supervisor-
John Morgan

# School Board meets to redo vote on VBEST contract provisions

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education held a special meeting at 8 p.m., Feb. 11, for the rescission of an invalid board ratification vote on Feb. 9 and reconsideration of approval of the Van Buren Education Support Team (VBEST) contract.

Board President Brent Mikulsi was unable to attend the meeting and Trustee Sherry Frazier abstained from the vote, with the other five board members voting to ratify the contract.

The board voted to ratify the contract on Feb. 9, but School Supt. Michael Van Tassel determined that approval was invalid because Trustee Frazier made the motion to approve the contract, which covered her son, who is a paraprofessional. She abstained from that vote, but her participation in the approval made the vote invalid.

No other action was taken or discussed at the Feb. 11 meeting, according to Pam Johnson, Assistant to the Superintendent, who takes the official minutes for board meetings.

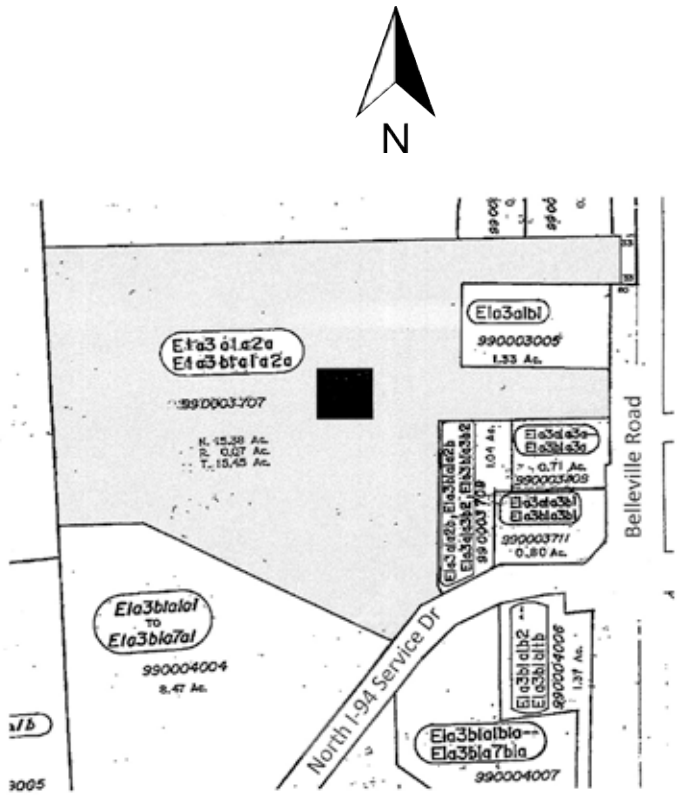
"Don't gamble! Take all your savings and buy some good stock and hold it 'till it goes up, then sell it. If it don't go up, don't buy it."
– Will Rogers

# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**
**PLANNING COMMISSION**
**PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a temporary land use request on the following described property.

Belleville Square Shopping Center, **10864 Belleville Road**, is the subject of this hearing. This site is located on the west side of Belleville Road north of the North I-94 Service Drive and south of Tyler Road:




The applicant, USA Fireworks Inc., is requesting Temporary Land Use that extends beyond the allowable seven (7) consecutive days and requires a Public Hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with the requirements found under the Temporary Land Uses, Buildings, and Structures Section 4.44 of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted by the Planning and Economic Development Department until 4:00 p.m., the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

Posted: February 13, 2015
Published: February 19, 2015

# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected calls for VBT Police.*

**Sunday, Feb. 8:**
0024 – narcotics crime, Westlake
0253 – intimidation threat, Maple Dr.
0858 – assault & battery, Outer Dr.
0911 – warrant arrest, Westland PD
1151 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1205 – assault & battery, Belleville Rd.
1558 – fraud, Belleville
1620 – assault & battery, Brandi
1854 – assist fire dept., I-275/Ecorse
2105 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / Van Born Rd.
2138 – motorist assist, S. I-275/Ecorse
2228 – disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

**Monday, Feb. 9:**
0808 – larceny, Vernon St.
1355 – warrant arrest, Canton PD
1424 – assist citizen, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1449 – narcotics crime, Belleville Rd.
1523 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275
1552 – driving under the influence, Rawsonville McDonald's
1638 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Fret Rd.
1949 – suspicious person, Rawsonville/Grove
1958 – mental, E. Adams
2248 – disturbance, Belleville Rd.

**Tuesday, Feb. 10:**
0626 – malicious destruction of property, Lindsey
1033 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville & Haggerty
1130 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Denton
1142 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1252 – assist fire dept., Michigan Ave. / Rawsonville Rd.
1331 – malicious destruction of property, Bemis
1537 – fraud, Ayres Ave.
1546 – retail fraud, Walmart
1650 – property damage accident, Rawsonville
1703 – suspicious person, Belleville/I-94
1816 – disturbance, Redwood
1916 – suspicious situation, Belleville/Quirk
2022 – suspicious situation, Rawsonville/Bog
2052 – intimidation threat, Tyler Rd.
2212 – operating while intoxicated, Haggerty / WB I-94
2242 – property damage accident, NB I-275 / Ecorse

**Wednesday, Feb. 11:**
0026 – operating while intoxicated, Huron River Dr./Haggerty
0039 – missing person, Sheldon Rd.
0809 – motorist assist, Martinsville/Hull
1436 – private property accident, Belleville
1541 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1712 – assault & battery, Buchanan St.
1718 – fraud, Belleville
1827 – assault & battery, Truman
2146 – assault & battery, E. Archwood Dr.
2201 – robbery, S. Bellridge Dr.

**Thursday, Feb. 12:**
0203 – private property accident, Van Born Rd.
1219 – private property accident, Sadie Ln.
1438 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
1601 – agency assist, Sumpter Rd./Owen St.
1637 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1724 – property damage accident, Bog Rd.
1810 – property damage accident, E. Schooner
1826 – harassment call, Arthur St.
2008 – harassment call, Beckley
2034 – assault & battery, McBride Ave.

**Friday, Feb. 13:**
0127 – fight, Hot Spot
0312 – suspicious situation, Denton Rd.
0315 – suspicious person, rest area
0354 – sexual assault, Sheldon Rd.
1033 – assist citizen, Dewitt Rd.
1357 – sexual assault, Quirk Rd.
1440 – warrant arrest, Dearborn Heights
1646 – prisoner check, St. Joe's
1703 – assault & battery, Westlake
1816 – disturbance, Belleville Rd.
1942 – disturbance, Parkwood Dr.
2013 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2033 – lost property, W. Huron River Dr.
2116 – water leak found, Belleville
2141 – retail fraud, Belleville
2216 – fight, JT's Pub & Grub
2240 – disturbance, Village Green Ln.
2248 – fire investigation, Haggerty Rd.
2249 – assist fire dept., Haggerty Rd.
2309 – fight, Belleville
2312 – property damage accident, Martinsville / Hull Rd.

**Saturday, Feb. 14:**
0019 – disturbance, Michigan Ave.
0051 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0135 – suspicious vehicle, Bayshore
0136 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor Rd. / Tyler Rd.
0227 – property damage accident, Burtrig St.
0240 – agency assist, NB I-275/ramp to Ecorse
0250 – family trouble, Parkwood Dr.
0320 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.
0642 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Ecorse Rd.
1300 – personal injury accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville Rd.
1323 – personal injury accident, WB I-94/rest area
1337 – property damage accident, EB I-94/rest area
1343 – property damage accident, WB I-94/rest area
1353 – all other traffic, EB I-94/Belleville Rd.
1443 – disorderly conduct, Ayres Ave.
1506 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
1503 – E-911 cellular, WB I-94/Belleville
1516 – larceny, Daniel Dr.
1616 – assist citizen, Redwood
1616 – assault & battery, Maple Dr.
1658 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Beck
1714 – property damage accident, Denton Rd.
1826 – assist citizen, Harmony Ln.
2042 – suspicious vehicle, Water's Edge
2257 – assault & battery, Hardwood Dr.

Also on this week's log are 71 traffic stops, nine of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

# Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Feb. 8:**
1330 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1341 – parking complaint, Benito's
1600 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.

**Monday, Feb. 9:**
0219 – private property accident, 5th/Liberty
0305 – abandoned auto, N. Liberty St.
0938 – follow up, N. Liberty St.
1332 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1631 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
1633 – harassment call, Biggs Ave.
1826 – noise complaint, N. Liberty St.
2337 – intrusion alarm, Main St.

**Tuesday, Feb. 10:**
0543 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0718 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Church
1007 – suspicious person, Main St.
1154 – suspicious person, N. Aberdeen Ct.
1230 – warrant arrest, Tyler
1308 – harassment call, Main St.
1423 – traffic control, Quirk/Belleville
1849 – follow up, Church St.
1918 – civil matter, Main St.

**Wednesday, Feb. 11:**
0005 – suspicious vehicle, Belle Plaza
0134 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.
0852 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1348 – civil matter, South St.
1507 – property check, Cool Cone
1640 – fraud, Henry St.
1747 – follow-up, Church St.

**Thursday, Feb. 12:**
0259 – agency assist, Belleville/Harmony Ln.
0359 – suspicious person, Victorian Ln.
1016 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1555 – harassment call, Main St.
1558 – personal injury accident, Sumpter/Owen

**Friday, Feb. 13:**
0025 – motorist assist, 5 Points
1658 – private property accident, Main St.
1843 – warrant arrest, Dearborn Hgts.
2008 – agency assist, Belleville/Tyler
2106 – serve warrant, S. Aberdeen Ct.
2138 – domestic assault, Loza Ln.
2213 – agency assist, Paloma
2302 – neighbor trouble, N. Liberty St.
2330 – suspicious situation, San Carlos St.

**Saturday, Feb. 14:**
0033 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
0703 – E-911 hang up/investigation, W. Columbia
0805 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1205 – property damage accident, South/Wabash
1306 – assist citizen, Belleville/I-94
1336 – agency assist, W. Huron River Dr.
1353 – intrusion alarm, Henry St.
1430 – civil matter, N. Aberdeen Ct.
1647 – traffic complaint, Chase Bank
1915 – vehicle lockout, E. Huron River Dr.
2205 – civil matter, San Carlos St.

Also on this week's log are 57 traffic stops.

# Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Feb. 8:**
0022 – fire dept. assist, 6500 bl. Oakville Waltz
0049 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
0300 – suspicious incident, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1027 – 911 hang up, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1239 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1928 – fire dept. assist, Nevada
2040 – assist other agency, 1100 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
2100 – child abuse/neglect complaint, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

**Monday, Feb. 9:**
0146 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming
0640 – civil dispute, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1153 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1226 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1351 – suspicious vehicle, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1536 – assist other agency, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1631 – animal complaint, 26000 bl. Martinsville
1755 – property damage accident, Karr/Judd
2148 – family trouble, Carriage Ln.

**Tuesday, Feb. 10:**
0828 – larceny, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1101 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Paris Rd.
1440 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1512 – reckless driver complaint, Rawsonville / Bemis
1524 – death investigation, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1631 – identity theft complaint, E. Arizona
1656 – civil dispute, 23000 bl. Clark Rd.
1914 – mental health commitment, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.

**Wednesday, Feb. 11:**
1013 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1025 – family trouble, Wyoming
1127 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1140 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1634 – fire dept. assist, Oregon
1803 – attempt warrant pickup, 2nd St.
1808 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1812 – flee & elude, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1829 – disorderly person, 17000 bl. Martinsville
1839 – property damage accident, Harris/Sumpter
2100 – attempt warrant pickup, 2nd St.
2143 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.

**Thursday, Feb. 12:**
0415 – personal injury accident, Clark/S. Huron
0631 – property damage accident, Judd/Prince
0902 – family trouble, 41000 bl. Willow Rd.
1201 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1322 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Roy Ct.
1625 – animal complaint, Sumpter/Judd
1719 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1750 – animal complaint, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1942 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2240 – well-being check, 44000 bl. Paris Rd.

**Friday, Feb. 13:**
0422 – citizen assist, Arkona/Sherwood
0522 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
0726 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
0852 – animal complaint, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1049 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Willis
1244 – civil dispute, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1629 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1758 – trespassing complaint, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2107 – suspicious incident, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.

**Saturday, Feb. 14:**
0123 – suspicious incident, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0956 – down wires, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1030 – suspicious vehicle, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1342 – property damage accident, Bemis / Rawsonville
1412 – suspicious person, Willis/Rawsonville
1523 – civil dispute, W. Arizona
1656 – fraud complaint, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1750 – well-being check, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
2023 – suspicious vehicle, 28000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Also on this week's log are 14 follow-up investigations, 32 miscellaneous details, 84 patrol checks, and 10 traffic stops.

# Green retirement

*(continued from page 1)*

*Independent* to talk about her decision.

A big family trip is coming up with seven family members traveling to Lyon, France for the Race Walking Masters Championship in which some of her family members are competing.

The family did that in Italy and Spain in the past and, "I was working," she said. "This time, I'm going."

She said her parents are 83 years old and they are going and the family will rent a home to stay together.

"The library is in good shape," she said. "I really like the new board members. It will be fine."

Green will turn 61 in June and she said it's a good time for her to leave. The library will be in good hands and she will be able to travel, work in her half-acre garden, see more of her grandchildren, and enjoy her parents while she can.

She really enjoyed the three international walking trips she took with her church, Trinity Episcopal, and would like to do something like that again.

"It's time for someone else," she said. "I felt like the luckiest person in the world having this job – except for the past five years. Young people need jobs."

"I worked while Claire was young and now I'm working while my two grandchildren are young. That's not right."

Claire and Marcos Cabrera have two children, Matthew, 7, and Sofia, 4, and "both are smart as can be, and exhausting," Green said. They live in Traverse City.

Green said it was hard to retire. She's been thinking about it for a long time, with Marcos claiming she's been saying she was retiring for each of the past seven years.

As to whether she is retiring because she is disappointed in the voter rejection of the library on the lake project, Green said, "I would have retired if it would have passed, anyway. It would have been fun to leave on that… I want it visible and it would be visible there. No one would have to ask where the library was. Main Street would be nice, but the city doesn't want to give up that valuable commercial space.

"As employees, we like being able to walk to the Bayou, Andrew's, and the bank," she said.

"I spent almost my entire adult life here," she said. She said her blood pressure went up during the last few years and now she can relax.

As to her replacement, Green said the board will talk about whether to go out for a search. Deputy Library Director Mary Jo Suchy is interested.

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The fourth-annual Belleville-Ypsi Young Life Bean Bag Tourney was held Jan. 31 to earn funds to help send local youngsters to camp this summer. Enjoying the tourney, from left, were Joel Smith, Jennifer Leonard, and Aaren Reeves. For information about all that is happening with Belleville-Ypsi Young Life, visit www.belleville-ypsi.younglife.org .

## Congresswoman Dingell delivers homemade valentines to veterans

On Saturday, Valentine's Day, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12), Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-07), staff, and friends delivered Valentines to veterans at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit.

On Sunday, they delivered to veterans in the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Over the last two weeks, students and residents from across the state, including Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Dearborn, Taylor and Belleville pitched in to help with the "Valentines for Veterans" project, creating more than 2,000 handmade cards to show veterans that they are loved.

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**13001 LAKEVIEW, VAN BUREN**
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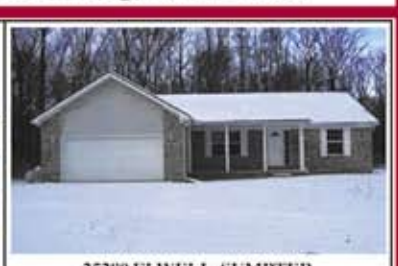
**BELLEVILLE LAKE**

**44233 HARMONY LANE, VAN BUREN**
**BELLEVILLE LAKE FRONT ESTATE.** Indoor olympic pool & whirlpool, multiple fireplaces, skylights, large bath with bidet, family room with fireplace, 4 1/2 baths and 5 bedrooms. Many newer improvements, 350 ft lake frontage on 2+ acres with boathouse and tennis court. This is a Castle to make one feel like Royalty. $699,000

**42435 N CUMBERLAND, VAN BUREN**
**A FAVORITE OF ALL** Who See It! Outstanding three bedroom, Two and One Half Bath Brick Colonial. Offering an open Family Room, Larger Master Bedroom and Premium Master Bath and Updated Kitchen. Expansive Living Room-Dining Area and Full Basement. An open rear yard finds a deep green lawn - Manicured Salon Style and features the surrounding fragrance of flowers. Offering a Measureless Value. $184,900



**25280 ELWELL, SUMPTER**
**IMPRESSIVE COUNTRY RANCH** On One acre overlooking woods in the rear. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Oak Kitchen with Great views of the Fireplace. Vaulted ceilings and ceiling fans. Master Suite offers a Jetted tub and Separate Shower. Larger Walk-in closets and more. 2 1/2 car attached garage with 9 ft ceilings and finished drywall. $169,900.

**19350 SUMPTER RD, SUMPTER TWP**
**GREAT LOCATION** with little competetion. 4,100+ square foot set up for a bar/ restrurant or pizzeria. Most equipment could be included. Looks great and shows even better. Plenty of parking on 2+ acres. A Best Buy investment property at only $387,000

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| 14435 HAGGERTY 1.42 ACRES | $24,900 |
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| 49809 BOG 2.74 ACRES | $49,500 |
| 5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES | $40,000 |

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP**

| | |
|---|---|
| 49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES | $180,000 |
| ELWELL 19.34 AC (WAS $150,000) | $95,000 |
| 25817 SUMPTER RD .97 ACRES | $20,000 |
| 26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES | $30,000 |
| VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES | $30,000 |
| RAWSONVILLE 12 ACRES | $94,900 |
| WEAR ROAD 10 ACRES | $49,900 |

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| COGSWELL ROMULUS .71 ACRES | $35,000 |

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| 337 MAIN .32 ACRES 83X165 | $79,500 |

**45205 JEANETTE, VAN BUREN**
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