



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 21.18 Thursday, April 30, 2015

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

VBT planners to consider marijuana dispensary ordinance

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The job of looking into a proposed ordinance on marijuana dispensaries has been turned over to an ordinance committee at the Van Buren Township Planning Commission.

The item was put on the agenda of the planning commission's regular meeting on April 22 by VBT Developmental Director Jack Knowles.

He said the township board had put a six-month moratorium on marijuana businesses in the township until the issue could be studied and an ordinance proposed.

He said the township has to decide where such zoning uses are appropriate. He said communities across the state are handling it in different ways.

Knowles said the township attorney suggested a committee at the board level, but this is a land use problem.

He said the commission has a zoning ordinance committee working with consultant Patrick Sloane to update the zoning ordinance and they could suggest the committee divert their attention for a while to work on the marijuana issue.

He said the committee's use was suggested by VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd, a voting member of the planning commission.

"We do think this is a pressing issue," Treasurer Budd said, adding, "There was a moratorium in the past and nothing happened."

Members of the zoning ordinance committee are Byron Kelley, Donald Boynton, and Joan Franzoi.

Commissioner Robert McKenna said there is a zoning ordinance on private clubs.

Knowles said those are allowed in C-1 and Industrial zonings.

"But, is it really a club? A clinic?" Knowles asked. "Canton recently shut down two medical clinics that had no

medical licenses."

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson said her understanding is that within six months they need to come up with a written ordinance.

Knowles said the police and fire departments indicated they wanted input.

In other business at the April 22 meeting, the commission:

- Held a public hearing on the request of Ashley Capital for special land use approval for a 593,776 square foot distribution center at 42000 Ecorse Road, on the north side of Ecorse Road between Haggerty road to the east and Morton Taylor Road to the west. Sue Farr, a neighbor to the project, said Ashley Capital got an agricultural permit two years ago and cut down trees. Then they planted corn and let it rot in the field. She said Baskin Robbins, Dunkin' Donuts, and others called to start talks on buying their property, but then they called back and said McKenna Associates, the township's planning consultants, were going to change the zoning from Commercial to Industrial and they were no longer interested. She said truck docks will be 80' from their property. Tim Sterling said he moved in 10 years ago and did not know this was going to happen. "It could be good for the township, but we suffer," Sterling said. A decision on the request will be made at a future commission meeting;

- Voted to recommend to the township board rezoning of 51257 W. Huron River Drive, next to Rite Aid, from C (Local Business) to R-1A (Single Family Residential). David Woodard said when he bought the home he thought it was residential zoning; and

- Approved the final site plan for Sadek Properties to have a drive-through restaurant for Dunkin' Donuts on the northwest corner of Belleville Road and North I-94 Service Drive. The car wash and Quizno's are being removed.



The Pride Soccer GU12 Twisters and GU10 Flames both won first places April 19 in competition in Indoor Winter Session 3 at High Velocity in Canton. Special thanks to coaches Ed Dobbins, Coach Andrea, Jeremiah Yoder, Bob Cote, Kevin Werner, and Chris Yoder.

Update on installation of VBT Emergency Alert Sirens

Frost Law restrictions were recently lifted allowing the installation of an additional seven towers this past week giving us a total of 11 that are completed.

Two remaining towers left to be completed are located near Hull and Bak and Tyler and Belleville roads. Power service for the existing sites should begin next week. The remaining two sites are expected to be going in within the next ten days. Other equipment to be placed within our Dispatch Center is on order and will be installed upon its arrival.

A tentative date of Saturday, June 6, 2015, has been set to be our actual first monthly test cycle, if all installation goes as planned. Our plan is to have the Emergency Alert Siren system fully operational before the first test.

Because these Emergency Alert Sirens have to be spread out within the township boundaries to provide adequate overlapping coverage, some may be located in less than a desirable area and close proximity to some residents' homes. We apologize for any sound disruption and will only be testing on the first Saturday of each month excluding December, January and February

and the test duration will be for only one minute. Sirens lasting for more than one minute will designate an emergency alert and for you to take action.

Locations of all EAS systems will be provided by visiting our website at www.vanburen-mi.org under Public Safety page. There you will find other information on how the EAS system works and the system protocol for Van Buren Township.

There will be further information disseminated in the following weeks over VBT-12, local news media, our township website and Facebook page.

Gregory M. Laurain
Director of Public Safety
Van Buren Township

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May 5
ballot
on page 13**

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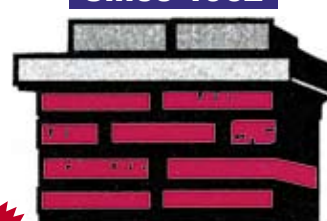
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

VBT Public Safety Director reads statement on scheduling of officers

At the beginning of the regular meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees on April 21, VBT Public Safety Director Gregory Laurain read the following statement to board members.

In light of recent articles to our local news media regarding practices and scheduling of Public Safety personnel, I find it imperative that I respond to you and our residents on behalf of our Public Safety Department.

It has been past practice for many years that the crossed-trained employees are able to utilize accrued time off (comp, personal, vacation) to work fire department shifts. There has been no previous policy prohibiting them from using accrued time to work for the township in another capacity. This practice in the recent years has steadily increased due to the inability to retain sufficient fire personnel to fill fire department shifts.

The Affordable Health Care Act (AHCA) has also restricted the amount of hours each paid on-call firefighter can work per week causing more open monthly shifts. These open shifts create staffing problems and because crossed-trained employees are already full-time within the township, they are not restricted under the AHCA and are usually the most available to cover the open shifts.

The crossed-trained employees are covered under their respective Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA) to include POLC Command Officer, POLC Patrol/Dispatch Personnel and AFSCME, which covers the Ordinance Officer. Each cross-trained employee is also covered under the Michigan Association of firefighter (MAFF) CBA.

No police employees have abandoned their full-time position, only schedules have been adjusted to accommodate both departments. This practice has assisted with staffing at the fire stations as personnel in an emergency response. Even operating under this practice there are still times the fire shifts run short. There is no policy or contract violation and certainly nothing criminal is occurring. Proper fire department staffing has been our focus.

Over the last year the Public Safety Management Team and the Township Board have worked aggressively to change past practices and reduce costly staffing coverage at the fire department. This along with negotiating with four separate labor unions is the township's attempt to establish best practices.

Over the last several months, the Public

Safety Management Team and the Township Board have been working collectively and have made several changes by revising and adopting the following:

- Resolution 2014-13 May 2014 (Prohibits any future township personnel to be employed in more than one job classification with the township.)

- Successful negotiation of contractual language concerning 18-hour Rule with POLC Patrol/Dispatchers in October 2014.

- Resolution 2015-07 March 3, 2015 (Prohibits an employee from using accrued time to work for the township in some other classification.)

- Revising current police department Secondary-Interdepartmental Employment Policy March 5, 2015 (To include the 18-hour Rule and minimum 6 hours off before returning to work at the police department.)

In conclusion: These changes that have been initiated are the best practices for Public Safety and our community as we move forward. Since March 3, 2015, NO police employees are allowed to work at the fire department while on accrued time at the police department. While employees are performing police functions, they are limited to a maximum of 18 hours of work time for the township in a 24-hour day.

In closing: Several years ago we asked our police officer [sic] to help us by cross training them as fire fighters to assist in filling open shifts on the duty crew. A few of them stepped forward unconditionally and took on this added responsibility to assist with staffing our fire stations.

Over the years they continued to assist in maintaining staffing levels as needed along with working their full-time police job. Now some of these same officers are being portrayed negatively by people, because of the number of hours they have worked for the township.

Though some may not agree with our past scheduling practices, these crossed-trained employees worked within the parameters of the policies and collective bargaining agreements of the police and fire departments and provided public safety service for both departments and for our community. They are all dedicated professional employees who safeguard our community.

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Sumpter Township Police Captain Eric Luke, left, and Chief James Pierce, right, welcomed two new part-time police officers into the force at the April 14 meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees. In the center are Joshua James Scaglione, 26, and Patrick Douglas Russell, 26. Scaglione graduated from Wayne County Regional Police Academy in December 2013 and is also a 2013 graduate of Schoolcraft College where he received an associate's degree in Criminal Justice. He graduated from Stevenson High School in Livonia and lives in Livonia. He has been a police officer with the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority for almost a year. Russell graduated from Oakland County Police Academy in December. He also is a 2012 graduate of Central Michigan University where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology. He graduated from Novi High School and lives in South Lyon. He has no prior police experience, but has worked as a juvenile intensive probationary officer in the Lapeer County Family Court and he also interned as an adult probation intern in the Isabelle County Trial Court.



Van Buren Township Fire Chief Dan Besson introduced three new paid-per-call fire fighters at the April 21 meeting of the VBT Board of Trustees. From left are: Kody Gazdag, Bradley Gudith, and Matthew Jovanelly. Chief Besson said he has ten more candidates in the hiring process.

VBT Director Knowles resigns as of May 22

Jack Knowles, who has been serving as the Van Buren Township Director of Planning and Economic Development since December, has resigned with an exit date of May 22.

Knowles, who also serves as an elected trustee in Scio Township, said he has several job possibilities and so he can leave the township on his own terms.

Knowles told the *Independent* on Tuesday that if the township can get someone in place

to do his job, he would be glad to leave before May 22 to save the township some money.

Recently VBT hired a deputy director to assist Knowles. Darryl Fecho was approved for a full-time salary of \$62,400.

Knowles did not tell the *Independent* why he had resigned, but an inside source said Knowles submitted a letter to Supervisor Linda Combs explaining in detail.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Sumpter Twp. to consider rules for target shooting

A 30-year resident of a farm in Sumpter Township told the Sumpter board at its meeting Tuesday night that firearm shooting has started again – and it usually lasts all summer.

She said the other day there was gunfire all day long.

She recalled in 2000 their horse was shot and killed in a meadow where children played. She said she talked to Police Chief Brown at the time who she said told her a girl had been shot and killed inside her home in Sumpter Township through the window or wall by what was apparently a stray bullet.

“Two killings are enough,” she said.

Township attorney Rob Young said he, Police Captain Luke and Chief Pierce have been working on an ordinance for target practice shooting.

“We are aware of some of the complaints that come in,” Young said. “We have some drafts to pass around.”

When the woman asked if the township would take public input, Young said that was a good idea. He said they’ll get a draft prepared and then have a public hearing.

“People are passionate about the right to own guns,” said Supervisor John Morgan. “But, safety is important.”

This is sure to be another controversial subject in the township and the public hearing on any rules for any guns should be packed with those on both sides of the issue.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

George Phifer, who was a candidate for chief of police in Sumpter Township in 2004, has been named Director of the Huron-Clinton Metroparks. The announcement was made April 9. As Director, Phifer is the chief executive officer and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority.

In May 2004, the Sumpter Township Board chose as chief Melvin Turner, a 30-year veteran of the Wayne County Sheriff’s Department. There were 28 candidates for the position at the time and that was pared down to four. Besides Pontiac Police Captain Phifer, the other finalists for chief were former VBT Public Safety Director Mark Perkins and VBT Officer Roy Schroeder.

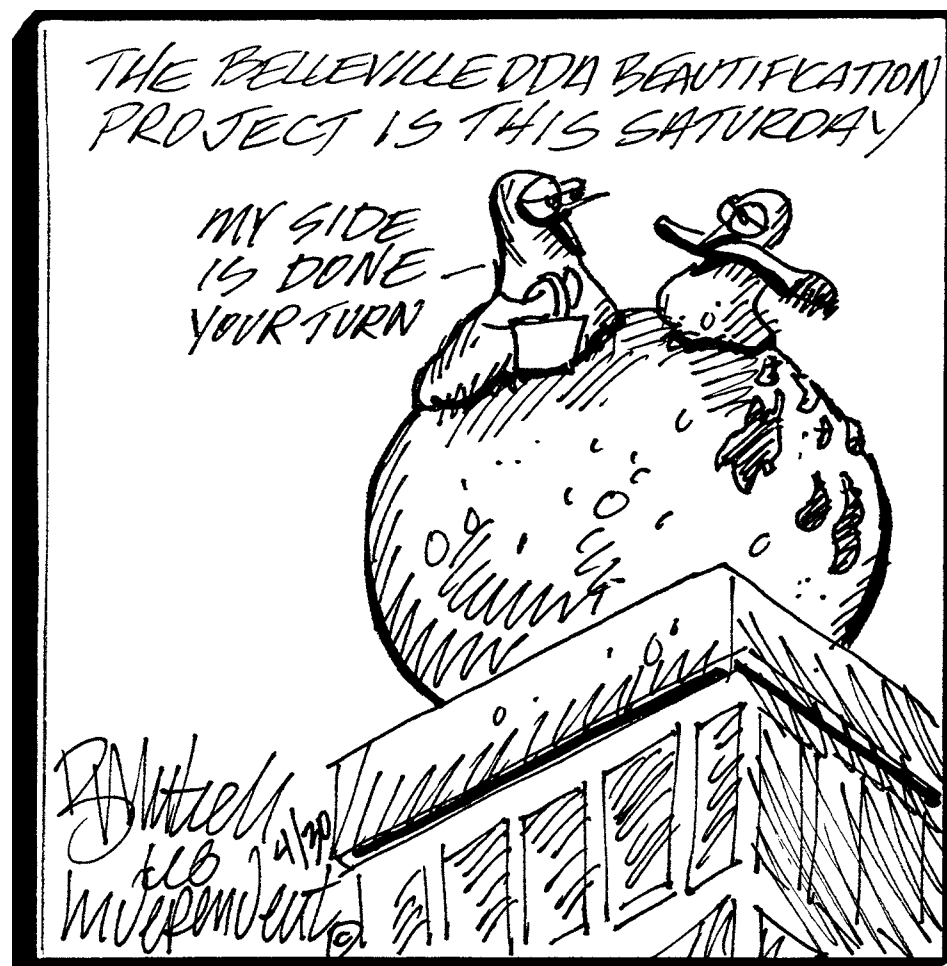
The position had been vacant for a year after a previous board fired Police Chief Eddie Womack.

Then, Chief Turner got James Pierce hired as his second in command. Pierce also had 30 years of experience with Detroit PD and Wayne County Sheriff’s Department. Then, when the board forced Turner to resign, Pierce became chief. Turner sued and won a \$100,000 out-of-court settlement.

Now things are calmer in the Sumpter PD. Eric Luke, who came up through the ranks, is second in command and is being groomed to be chief when Pierce retires.

That was the recent history of the Sumpter Police Department brought to mind by George Phifer’s promotion at the HCMA.

Joe Moore, who has been selling Sunday Detroit Free Press newspapers at Frosty Boy has been absent from his post for the past few weeks and people have shown



concern for him.

I called him up and he said he had been looking for full-time employment and he found a job. He works for Hanson Windows from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., six days a week.

“It would be a little over the top to sell papers on Sunday,” Joe said. He thanked everyone who cared enough to ask about him.

We hear our closest Office Depot in Canton is closing May 16 and steering customers to OfficeMax, a former competitor. The two companies have merged. The closure is among plans to close 400 locations nationwide.

Also, if approved by the FTC, Staples will buy the newly merged Office Depot. Makes my head swim.

On April 22, we received an email from a person who said he had been at Gettysburg National Military Park on the April 21 and saw the eighth-grade students from McBride Middle School. He described how they were acting up and said he was disgusted. He sent his email to me and Supt. Van Tassel, the superintendent’s assistant Pam Johnson, School Board President Brent Mikulski, and McBride Principal John Leroy.

Principal Leroy talked to Van Tassel and then called me. He said they spent five hours at the school sorting this out, calling everybody they could think of at

Gettysburg and everyone said the McBride students were fine.

There were 18 schools at Gettysburg that day in 22 buses. Principal Leroy said there was one adult for every six kids on the McBride trip and nobody saw the misbehaving described. There were about 100 McBride students on the trip.

The teacher leading the visit was Jason Strzalkowski, who is highly regarded by his principal and school. The tour guide at Gettysburg, Chuck Roderick, said he saw no incidents and, “I can honestly say Jason is one of the more organized leaders I have seen. I sincerely wish more groups were as organized as he is, and this is speaking from experience.”

Was this a case of mistaken identity or something else? Who knows? Suffice it to say those weren’t our students acting up, if there were any students acting up at all.

On Friday, a lady dropped by to ask if we’ve heard of anybody else getting a call from the IRS, saying those called would get arrested by police if they didn’t pay the IRS at once. Yep. Heard it before. It’s a scam. The IRS writes to you, doesn’t call and threaten you.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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Letters

Thank you for your service, Captain Karver

To the Editor:

Anthony, you have dedicated 22 years of commendable service to the citizens of Van Buren Township and had to say goodbye to a career in the community where we have started our life and family together, in a way that you could have never predicted.

Although your name has been cast in a negative shadow lately, I want you to know that we are very proud of everything you have accomplished and the extreme resilience that you continue to display each time you get knocked down.

However, you continue to get right back up and stand tall. I admire your courage to stand up for what you believe in, even if that meant being disliked by many.

I look forward to walking alongside you as you choose your next path. Thank you for 22 years of self-sacrifice, upholding great responsibility to the community, and for being a trustworthy public servant.

Your biggest fan,
Nicole Karver
Van Buren Township

The truth will set you free ... free from a job

To the Editor:

John 8:32 – The truth will set you free.

Tony Karver's dismissal from the Van Buren Township Fire Department was upheld in arbitration. Makes you wonder if he had good representation. It's clear to me that the rule used for dismissal did not exist until needed.

Tony never dreamed that "the truth will set you free" meant free from your job and near retirement.

I believe the message to all Van Buren employees is: The truth will get you fired.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

Emergency siren is right in front of house

To the Editor:

I am wondering if you can investigate how the VBT decided where to place the new weather alarms.

On Thursday a truck arrived and installed one of the systems right front of the house next door (it is for sale) and the alarm faces directly toward our home.

We feel this has severely diminished our property value and we know anyone that sees that monstrosity on the property next door will run the other way.

With all of the open spaces around here we don't understand why the township would choose to devalue the property of our homes in this manner. They could have placed the alarm a 1/4 mile away on Hull Road where there are no houses. We would still be able to hear the alarm, as we can hear the one in Sumpter Township from here without difficulty.

It makes no sense to place it right on top of our homes.

I have enclosed a couple of pictures so you can see how close they put it to the houses. Thank you for checking into this situation.

Lee Michna
Van Buren Township

'Hooray for Hollywood' and hooray for chorus

To the Editor:

Hooray for Hollywood! And Hooray for the Belleville Community Chorus!

The musical show on Saturday evening at the Belleville United Methodist Church (to a packed house) was just wonderful, wonderful in every way.

How lucky our community is to have this group of talented singers sharing their talents and time. And it's a big thank you to the terrific band who accompanied the chorus. Thanks to the army of energetic young singers who participated to the delight of the audience. Thanks to the sponsors who make the show possible. A great time was had by all. Thanks again.

Barbara Rogalle Miller
A Van Buren Resident

"The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending and having the two as close together as possible."

--George Burns



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April 30 – Glenn Silvenis
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May 2 – Bruce Driver
May 3 – Shari Ferguson Antieau
May 4 – Lucas Sattler, Evelyn Crispell
May 5 – Jerry LaVaute
May 6 – Brenda Leonard, James Demond
May 7 – Terri Morioka
May 11 – Sylvia Sala
May 16 – Greg Wells
May 21 – Cheyenne Broome
May 26 – Dan Posegay
May 27 – Marion Reynolds

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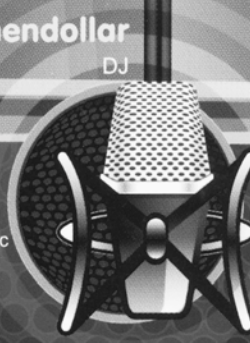

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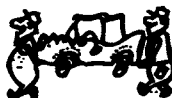
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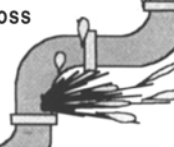

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Obituaries

MARILYN LUCILLE HORTON

(March 5, 1931 - April 7, 2015)

Marilyn Lucille Horton, age 84, resident of Belleville, MI, passed away Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at her home. She was born March 5, 1931 in Ypsilanti, MI, daughter of Elmer A. & Eda Amanda Marie (Lidke) Rutherford.

Mrs. Horton worked for Michigan Bell and Bendix Aerospace as a telephone operator for many years. She also worked on the line for Ford Motor Company, Saline plant for more than ten years before retiring. She was a devoted mom, grandma and great-grandma. She loved hosting Sunday dinners and babysitting for her family. She was a huge Detroit Tiger and Red Wings fan. She enjoyed gardening, QVC and trips to the casino.

Marilyn is survived by five children: Deborah Schoeff of Ypsilanti, MI, Frank (Lori) Horton of Rochester Hills, MI, Jim Horton of Addison, MI, Jan Etherton and Mari Horton, both of Belleville; 13 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a sister, Evelyn Grannis of Jackson, MI; brother-in-law, Lawrence Urbaniak of Belleville; also numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Frank G. Horton in 1992, son-in-law, Keith Schoeff, sister, Shirley Urbaniak, also three brothers, Leroy, Carl and Melvin Rutherford.

Visitation was Thursday, April 9, at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Funeral service was 11 AM Friday, April 10, 2015 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, with visitation 10-11 AM at the church. Rev. Christine Thompson officiated. Interment was in Denton Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, or to Emmanuel Lutheran 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.

JANICE KAY SCOTT

(November 23, 1948 - April 24, 2015)

Age 66, of Ypsilanti. Survived by husband Virgil Ray Scott, sons Bill and Jeff Scott, daughter Tammy Scott, five grandchildren. Service April 27 at Graceway Baptist Church, Ypsilanti. David C. Brown Funeral Home.



Steven Dennis Porterfield

STEVEN DENNIS PORTERFIELD

(April 28, 1968 - April 21, 2015)

Steven Dennis Porterfield, age 46, of Belleville, MI, passed away Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at McLaren Macomb Hospital, Mt. Clemens, MI. He was born April 28, 1968 in Ypsilanti, MI.

Steve is survived by his loving wife of 18 years, Christine May (Updyke) Porterfield; three children Heather (Robert) Kecskes of New Boston, MI, Nichole Buska of Belleville, and Lloyd (Stacy Laboda) Updyke of Belleville; 5 1/2 grandchildren: Brooke, Hayden, Bobbie, Landen and Mia and Stevie May on-the-way; his mother; grandmother Eugenia McEvoy of Ohio; two sisters Kris (Wade) Bates of Belleville and Deborah (Jason) Baxter of Ypsilanti, MI; 8 nieces and nephews; 5 great-nieces and great-nephews; also many friends. He was preceded in death by his Poppa, his father Thomas Clinton Carpenter, also a niece Stacy Lynn Stone.

Steve enjoyed off-roading, casino trips, playing cards and sailing with the captain. Most of all, Steve loved time with his family and friends.

Visitation was Noon until 5 PM with a 5:00 PM Funeral Service Saturday, April 25, 2015 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Mrs. Kathy Mayer officiated. Cremation rites were accorded. Interment of cremated remains was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angels of Hope and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Jean Vivian Shuryan

JEAN VIVIAN SHURYAN

(February 22, 1928 - April 22, 2015)

Jean Vivian Shuryan, age 87, of Wayne, MI, formerly of Garden City and Belleville, passed away Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at Oakwood Hospital-Annapolis Center, Wayne, MI. She was born February 22, 1928 in Ecorse, MI, daughter of Llewellyn H. & Ethel (McGarvey) Jones.

Jean retired from General Motors Willow Run plant after 15 years of loyal service. She was a former member of the Van Buren Eagles and the Belleville Moose. She enjoyed playing bingo and crocheting and she loved the Detroit Red Wings.

Jean is survived by son Ric Morgan, daughter Evelyn (Gary) Gladhill, both of Belleville; 3 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and one on-the-way; sister Kathleen Darfler of Wayne, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Jean's wish was to be cremated. Her family will hold a private memorial service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Belleville Moose #934 and would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Betty Jo VanZandt

Betty Jo VanZandt

(September 30, 1928 - April 26, 2015)

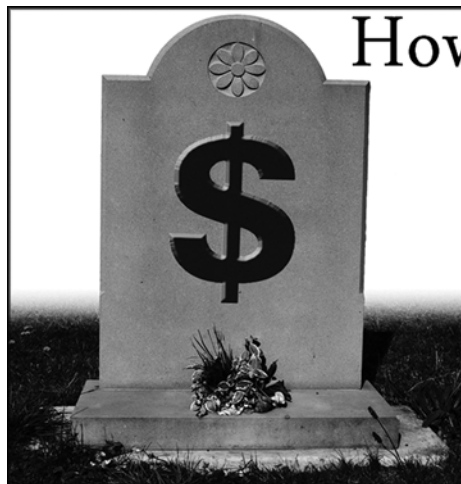
Betty Jo VanZandt, age 86, of Belleville, MI, passed away April 26, 2015 at Bortz Health Care, Ypsilanti, MI. She was born September 30, 1928 in Medina, Tennessee, daughter of Willie Andrew & Mary (Baker) Barnes.

Betty Jo loved to cook, travel and make other people happy. Her family was her whole world. She is survived by her loving husband of 33 years, Wayland L. VanZandt; four children James Harold (Evelyn) Hicks of Belleville, Bobby Jack (Sandy) Hicks of Jerome, MI, Geraldine (Don) Pennington of Ypsilanti, MI and Danny Ray Hicks of Belleville; 7 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson; two sisters Gladys Lurlene of Tennessee and Helen Dolores of Kentucky. Betty was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband James Oscar Hicks in 1976, also a great-granddaughter Jillian Katke in 2001.

Public visitation will be 3-8 PM Thursday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500 and 10-11 AM Friday, May 1, 2015 with an 11 AM Funeral. Interment will be in Cadillac Memorial Gardens, Westland, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family and would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for them to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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More Letters

Sinking Fund vote important to our schools

To the Editor:

A state-wide Special Election on May 5, 2015 is being held for residents to vote on Proposal 1. Vote your conscience on that issue.

However, the second proposal directly concerns our residents in Belleville, Sumpter, and Van Buren Township, which is the renewal of the Sinking Fund.

We currently are being taxed on 1.13 mills for 7 years from 2008 through the spring of 2015. The renewal of the sinking fund **will not increase your property taxes.**

This issue is personal because during the period that I was a trustee on the Van Buren School Board, we were in deficit and every penny and every dollar had to be stretched. The board was under review by the State of Michigan and the plan that was submitted had to be adhered to or the state had the option to take over the school district.

A Sinking Fund is a pool of money specifically used for public school districts to make needed repairs on school buildings, acquire technology, and provides for the installation of that technology. These funds are used in lieu of taking money out of the general fund. In addition, through the Michigan Department of Treasury technology is defined as wiring and materials (software) for installing technology but not equipment such as computers.

One of the safeguards that is required by the state is an audit of the Sinking Fund every year. This audit is sent to the Department of Treasury. If any funding is misused, whether intentional or not, the school district would forfeit any additional millage revenues and would have to pay back the funds with penalties attached.

On the website of Edgemont Elementary School the "Our Sinking Fund Renewal page" the following projects are slated for the 2015-2017 school year:

- HVAC upgrades at Edgemont, Rawsonville, Savage, and Tyler Elementaries
- Exterior signage completion at Edgemont, Savage, Rawsonville, and McBride
- Savage & Tyler boiler replacements
- Savage & Tyler interior lighting upgrade, exterior doors & windows replacement
- Bathroom renovations, parking lot and

sidewalk renovations & redesign

- McBride & Owen boiler & roof top unit Upgrades
- McBride outdoor lighting
- Security card swipe controls at all buildings
- McBride locker room upgrades
- Owen Media Center renovations
- McBride replacement of interior doors
- McBride floor renovations to band room, cafeteria, central office & classrooms.

A little-known fact that I read recently in *Universe Today*, titled "How Fast Does the Earth Rotate?" dated May 20, 2013 says:

"You might be surprised to know that a spot on the surface of the Earth is moving at 1,675 km/h or 465 meters/second. That's 1,040 miles/hour. Just think, for every second you're moving almost half a kilometer through space, and you don't even feel it."

I found that fact interesting when you realize that we live on a rock whirling in space at 1,040 miles per hour and we have no control over what would happen if the trajectory curved an extra eighth of an inch!

So let's vote for an issue that we have control over, our schools. The life of our community depends on future generations of our kids and grandkids. Let's give them a "leg up" and support this worthy cause!

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 5.

Sincerely,
Brenda McClanahan
School District Resident

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

Many thanks to Justin from Michigan PC Tech

To the Editor:

Many thanks to Justin from Michigan PC

Tech in Belleville. He saved the day and my computer! Keep up the good work. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND their service!
Ronda Stoner
Ypsilanti

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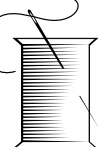
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More Letters

Vote 'Yes' for sinking fund millage on May 5

To the Editor:

Please consider voting "Yes" for the sinking fund millage renewal on Tuesday, May 5. It does not say this on the ballot, but this is actually just a renewal of the existing sinking fund millage, so there will be no increase in your taxes.

The sinking fund is very tightly regulated by the state, so it can only be used to improve the school buildings. The current sinking fund has been a big help in making our older schools look and function better. I don't know if people remember what Owen looked like when they first transitioned it to 5th/6th grade school, but when I went to the orientation open house, I thought it was a dump. In the two years since, it has been greatly improved thanks to the sinking fund – it got new windows, new bathrooms, and a new boiler. Now it is much more energy efficient so your tax dollars are being used

for education and not utilities.

Please consider coming out to vote and voting yes for the renewal. The Van Buren students and teachers will thank you!

Sincerely,
Andrea VanDenBergh
Van Buren Township
Owen Intermediate School
PTSO Secretary

Post Office Food Drive coming Saturday, May 9

To the Editor:

The National Post Office Food Drive is coming to our community soon. Every year on Saturday of Mother's Day weekend the National Letter Carriers, aka your local mail man/woman, have their food drive to support your local food pantry, aka the First United Methodist Church Food Closet.

This year the annual food drive will be held on Saturday, May 9. This wonderful program began 23 years ago and has grown into one of the largest one-day food drives in the country. Last year over 72 million pounds of food was collected and over the years since 1993 over one billion pounds of food has been collected by the letter carriers.

You can be a part of this national event simply by putting a bag of non-perishable food items out by your mail box on Saturday, May 9. Your letter carrier will pick up the food, deliver it to the Belleville Post Office to be weighed and then the food will be transported to the First United Methodist Church. There it will be sorted, packaged and stored until it is distributed back into the community.

The Food Closet distributes food every week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to folks in need. Our clients have received referrals from the Salvation Army, Community Care Service, or many of the other social agencies in the local communities of Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township and the City of Belleville. The Church has had a food closet since 1984 and has served thousands of people since first opening its doors.

You can help the mail carriers help the food closet and help feed those in need in our community simply by remembering to

set your bag of non-perishable food out for collection on Saturday, May 9.

Some of the food items most frequently packed are: canned vegetables, canned fruit, Mac & Cheese, tuna, canned chicken, pork & beans, soup, Rice-a-Roni, canned spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly (plastic container), boxed potatoes and cereal.

Sandy Askew
Food Closet

Library survey reminds me of another survey

Dear Editor

The recent survey conducted by the Belleville Area District Library brought to mind a memory of the actions of my high school principal, where I was teaching a few years ago.

I cannot recall the exact context of the debate within the faculty (of 120 teachers), but I do know that opinions were decisively 50/50 -- or 60 teachers pro and 60 teachers against this issue. I do remember that it was an administrative decision that was to have a financial impact on salary and time issues and hotly debated and discussed as a constant topic in the faculty room and teachers' lounge.

The principal, in his infinite wisdom, decided to do a survey to determine just what the teachers wanted. This survey only added fuel to the fire of discontent and the debates and discussions became more heated and irascible. Some teachers became so vehement they refused to sit in the same lunch room where persons with opposing views would be eating.

Faculty meetings were separated down the middle of the aisle Pro vs. Con, just like Republicans and Democrats in government.

Finally, the end of the debates came, the survey was taken, and the results given to the principal. I can still remember that day as I walked to the faculty room with the principal and I asked him, "Ralph, now that the survey is over what did you decide?" He responded, "Oh, I'd already made up my mind before the survey. I just wanted the faculty to feel they had some input." Does this sound *deja vu*?

Sincerely
Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville

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Makenna Wiljanen, 13, earns honor of laying wreath at Arlington

Makenna Wiljanen, 13, daughter of Matt and Darlene Wiljanen of Brighton won the top honor in a Brighton Area Schools contest for her essay on "Laying of the Wreaths."

She earned the honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia later this month. She is an eighth grade student and member of the State Championship Hockey Team for girls 14 and under.

Makenna also is the great niece and godchild of Jackie Garner of Van Buren Township. Garner retired last year from her longtime position as *Independent* Office Manager.

The essays were written with number identification only and Makenna's name was determined after the top essay was chosen. Here is her winning essay.

Laying of the Wreaths

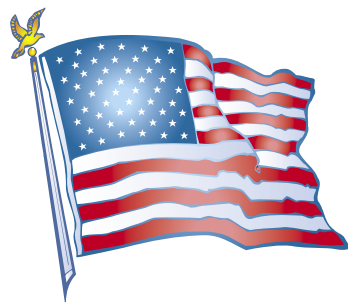
As young Americans, at an early age, we are exposed to a world of super villains and heroes. Heroes who are protecting children from the villains and are constantly saving a made up city, day after day. Where we don't recognize the real heroes, the ones who save real citizens of a real city, day after day. Millions have lost their lives, and yet some names went unknown. They never had a catchphrase or a jingle whenever they did something heroic. Instead, they are rewarded with the pride and the respect of our country.

At the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, located in Arlington Cemetery, the tomb guards have the precise task of watching over the tomb 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As a guard they take 21 steps across the tomb which is in reference to the 21 gun salute, the highest honor you can receive as an American soldier. To many it may be a tourist attraction, however, the step by step action of the tomb guards and the silent gatherings of the crowds represent much, much more. Three bodies lay unknown

from three wars. As written on the side of the tomb it reads, "Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God." Peace, Victory, and Valor also written on the side of the sarcophagus explain the unknown soldiers' way of life. This is how they faced each day. The way they lived with boldness, determination, and triumph is what makes them real heroes.

"For love of county they accepted death," a profound quote made by James A. Garfield describing the actions of the unknown soldiers. As an American citizen, it would be an absolute honor to lay a wreath to show the love for my country. I was born and raised in the amazing United States of America and I owe all of my freedom to those who fought and are still fighting at home, overseas, or anywhere on the planet earth. To have the opportunity to represent my country, my state, my city, my schools, to be chosen to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier would let me show my respect for those who rest unknown.

Honor is what one feels when they are thought of with high respect, fairness, and integrity. Honor is what you feel when the American National Anthem plays at a professional baseball game, and everyone rises and removes their caps. Honor is what all American students feel when we stand every day and recite our nation's Pledge of Allegiance. When we all come together as one. We gather together in America during the good times and the bad. Our worst days to our best, we are bound together as one. Honor is what I feel every day breathing fresh American air, living free. I would truly be blessed to have this wonderful opportunity to show my gratitude and love of my home. America, the great.

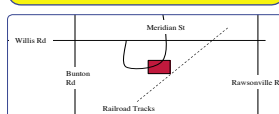


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BHS Varsity Men's Golfers go 2-0 over Annapolis, Redford Union

Last week the Belleville High School Varsity Men's Golf team beat Annapolis, 194-213, and Redford Union, 182-205.

At home on Monday, Anthony Guthrie shot 45, Cameron Johnson 48, Ty Thompson 49, and Austin Marsnick 52.

Away Wednesday Anthony Guthrie shot 44, Cameron Johnson 44, Ryan York 46,

and Ty Thompson 48.

The remaining home schedule is:

- May 1 – John Glenn
- May 4 – Garden City
- May 13 – Thurston

All starting times are 3 p.m. Come out to see these linksters perform. All the other matches are away. Admission is free.

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Harbour Club Golf Course is open to the public with great spring rates. **Salisbury Golf of Belleville** is managing it for the

Orphan of the Week

Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

"SHERLOCK"



All the clues point to **Sherlock** being a great family pet! He's a 2 year and 2 month old Terrier/Jack Russell mix with a people oriented, mellow and lovable personality. He can be a bit hesitant when first meeting people but is easily won over with ear scratches and gentle pets. If you include belly rubs into the equation he melts like butter and becomes yours no questions asked. We think he may not have always been treated the best but seems to do well with all ages as long as he gets treated with the kindness and respect all animals deserve. **Sherlock** has a mellow type of energy and seems to prefer walks and light running for his required daily activity versus fast paced fetch or chase. He's got a little extra weight right now and would be thrilled to have a new family to take him on lots of walks and outdoor fun to help get him back into shape. His smaller size makes him well suited for most living environments as long as he gets his daily activity. His adorable looks include a short mostly white coat, one brown eye patch, spotted ears and a goofy grin when he's happy. There's no mystery to solve with **Sherlock** so come meet him and you'll see he's the pet for you. He's neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

second year and course improvements have made a positive difference in the overall golfing experience. Harbour Club offers a driving range, league play, professional lessons and more. The golf club is also home to both Belleville High School golf teams. See their ad in today's paper for rates and membership info. Call (734) 697-6845.

The **Belleville Chamber of Commerce** is planning its annual golf outing on Thursday, June 4 at the **Fellows Creek Golf Club** in Canton. The cost is \$100 per golfer, which includes 18 holes, power cart, lunch at the turn, steak dinner, four drink tickets and a door prize ticket. Sponsorships are also available, from Tee Sponsorships at \$100 to the Banquet Sponsorship at \$1,500. Proceeds from the event will go to the Chamber and to the Van Buren Public School Education Foundation. To register or for more sponsorship info, call **Paul Henning** at (734) 697-7151.

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THURSDAY -- HOT ROAST BEEF
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Onion, Mushrooms, Swiss Cheese.
With Hashbrowns & Toast

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— MONDAYS —

ENJOY OUR CLOWN, FACE PAINTING
& BALLOONS 6-8PM

The **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** of Sumpter Township is selling tickets to this Saturday's **Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser Dinner**. Call (734) 461-9458.

Robson's Greenhouse is now open for the season at **9015 Haggerty Road**, just north of Tyler Road. Since 1929, the Robson family has been selling annuals, vegetables, specialty and potted plants, posy bags, hanging baskets and more. They're open at 8 a.m. seven days a week. Call (734) 397-2252 and visit www.robsonflowers.com.

The public is invited to the ribbon-cutting ceremony with the **Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce** at the new **Sugar Plum Candy Shoppe** at **111 South Street** in front of **Our Father's Child Day Care**. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. Monday, May 4, and will include a walk-through with owner **Dorene Mroz**, and, yes, there will be free samples. For info, call (734) 697-7151.

Tuesday, May 5 is **Fish Day** at the **Willis Feed Mill** in nearby Willis. **Arkansas Pondstockers** will be at the location from 4 to 5 p.m. selling Channel Catfish, Largemouth Bass, Red-ear, Bluegill,

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BACK SALOON EVERY FRIDAY
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Minnows, Black Crappie, and Koi. To place an order, call **1-870-578-9773**. While you're there, check out the chicks and ducklings that have arrived for spring. Call (734) 461-1111.

Today's paper features an insert from **Ruby Tuesday Restaurant**. The nearest location is on Michigan Avenue near Canton Center Road. For information on how you can get your flyer/advertisement into this newspaper, call (734) 699 9020.

This Saturday, May 2 is the final chance to take part in the **Fly Zone Family Days** at the **Yankee Air Museum** at Willow Run Airport. The free event features two new educational exhibits, the **Five Simple Machines of Aviation**, where participants will learn what makes airplanes fly, and the **Fly Zone**, where students 5th grade and up (10 years and older) will learn how to fly a radio-controlled drone. Both hands-on activities are centered on the principles of flight. Registration is required. Call (734) 483-4030.

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Check Out These Offers!

<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">Buy 5 Coney's, Get 1 Free!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Not valid on Mondays. With coupon. Not to be combined with any other offer or discount.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$2 OFF</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Your Entire Bill</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">of \$20 or More With coupon. Not to be combined with any other offer or discount.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">10% OFF</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Your Entire Bill</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">With coupon. Not to be combined with any other offer or discount.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; color: blue; font-size: 1.5em;">Create Your Own Omelette</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 1.5em;">\$7.99</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Up To 5 Items With Hashbrowns & Toast With coupon. Not to be combined with any other offer or discount.</p>



BREAKFAST SPECIALS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
6am - 11am
Starting at only \$2.49
With Beverage Purchase
No Coupon Needed!

Shelby Wilson graduates from U of M, Dearborn, gets scholarship at EMU

Shelby Wilson of Belleville, the 2011 valedictorian at Huron High School in New Boston, recently graduated from the University of Michigan–Dearborn earning the department award for honors in psychology.



In 2014 Shelby Wilson received an award as a Difference Maker for her work as volunteer coordinator for the Michigan Urban Farming Initiative, a very productive farm in Detroit. She also received a scholarship and a grant for the farm in Ford Blue Oval competition.

Shelby has worked the past two years as a behavior therapist at the Children's Center in Detroit, one on one with the children, as well as doing research on how autism affects families. Her thesis, "Treatment Related Stress in Parents of Children with Autism," may be published.

Shelby was accepted into the General Clinical Psychology Master's program at Eastern Michigan University as well as a graduate assistantship, allowing her to teach psychology labs to undergraduates.

Shelby is the daughter of proud parents Lena and Michael Wilson.

"Out of clutter, find simplicity."
– Albert Einstein

Alyssa Harris is state finalist in Nat. American Miss Michigan pageant

Alyssa Harris, age 15, has been chosen as a state finalist in the National American Miss Michigan Pageant to be held July 4-6 at the Adoba Hotel in Dearborn.



The National American Miss pageants are held for girls ages 4-18, and have five different age divisions. Alyssa will be participating in the Junior Teen age division.

The winner of the pageant will receive a \$1,000 cash award, the official crown and banner, a bouquet of roses, and air transportation to compete in the national pageant in California.

The National American Miss Pageants are unlike any other. All activities and competitions are kept age-appropriate. Girls under the age of 12 are not allowed to wear make-up, and there is no swimsuit competition. The pageant program is based on inner-beauty, as well as poise and presentation, and offers an "All-American spirit of fun for family and friends." Emphasis is put on the importance of accomplishments of each girl while encouraging her to set goals for her future.

Alyssa, the daughter of Jennifer and Albert Harris, is a student at Belleville High School.

Alyssa's activities include cheerleading, singing, and dancing. She also enjoys volunteering at Relay for Life events, animal shelters, and senior citizen homes.

Andy the Ambulance to teach VBT youngsters how to call 9-1-1

Van Buren Township children between the ages of 4 and 7 are invited to join Andy the Ambulance on a special adventure as he learns to call 9-1-1.

The program will run from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, at VBT Fire Station 2, 7981 Belleville Road.

At this free program, children will learn about emergencies and emergency community helpers. The evening includes a special presentation from Andy the Ambulance and these interactive stations:

- Calling 9-1-1: Dispatchers will practice mock 9-1-1 calls.
- Ambulance, Fire, and Police equipment tours: Trained personnel will guide them and answer questions.
- What's my address? A special craft station will provide children with take home emergency cards for the refrigerator at home and to be carried in a backpack.
- Children will receive a t-shirt and 9-1-1 certificate.

Only children that live in Van Buren Township are eligible since the program is limited to 30 children due to space limitations.

Ready to register? Go to: www.hva.org and click on the link that says "Learn to Call 9-1-1 with Andy the Ambulance" and fill out the online form. Questions? Contact Jason Trojan at (734) 477-6781 or jtrojan@emergenthealth.org.



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Belleville Planners reelect Jones, Hawkins

At a half-hour meeting March 12, the Belleville Planning Commission voted to reelect Steve Jones as chairman and Michael Hawkins as vice-chairman for the 2015 year.

This was the first commission meeting since Aug. 14 because of a lack of business.

The commission also discussed planning projects for the year, including reviewing the parking ordinance and reviewing policies on keeping fire hydrants and storm drains clear and in working order.

Chairman Jones said there will be more subjects brought before the commission in the coming months.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, April 30** – At 6:30 p.m. at the Romulus Public Library there will be an event about climate change and how you can help cut down on your environmental impacts. Presenter Jerry Hasspacher is chairman of the Sierra Club SEMG Green Schools Promotions Committee, member of SSEMCOG Citizens Advisory Committee, and other environmental groups. Space is limited, so pre-register at (734) 942-7589.
- **Saturday, May 2** – City/BYC Clean-up Day of the lake and city begins at 9 a.m. with a picture of the volunteer workers all together at BYC site on N. Liberty St.
- **Saturday, May 2** – Used book sale at the Belleville Area District Library starting at noon. Perennial Plant Swap noon to 1 p.m.

in library courtyard, or on library porch if raining.

- **Saturday, May 2** – Take your Household Hazardous Waste to the Wayne County-sponsored collection from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Flat Rock Community Fields, off Gibraltar Road by Flat Rock High School, 25600 Seneca Street, Flat Rock.
- **Saturday, May 2** – Doors open at 5 p.m. and the Mexican dinner buffet starts at 6 p.m. for the Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue Cinco de Mayo Fund Raiser at the Ypsilanti Eagles, 2935 Homes Rd., Ypsilanti 48198. Donation is \$25 each. Dancing to live music, raffle, prizes, Chinese auction. Call (734) 461-9458 or go to shelter1@comcast.net with questions or to reserve tickets.
- **Tuesday, May 5** – ELECTION DAY – State Proposal One on roads, etc. and Van Buren Public Schools renewal of sinking fund.
- **Wednesday, May 6** – BHS Coaches Recognition and Alumni Reunion, 5:30-7:30

p.m., BHS Commons. Suggested donation \$20. Contact Charles Smelt, BHS '79, csmelt@comcast.net, cell: (248) 760-3257.

• **Thursday, May 7** – The September Days Senior Center Pool Tournament begins at 10 a.m. at the center, 46425 Tyler Road. Fee \$3, includes hot dog, chips, and light refreshments. Taking part are senior center members from Canton, Romulus, Sumpter, Van Buren, Westland and Ypsilanti. Sign up at the center on or before April 30, 699-8918.

• **Thursday, May 7** – Second Thursday Lecture and Pizza Party at the Belleville Area Museum at 7 p.m. FREE to ALL. "The Journey of Letters" based on the book "A Thousand Letters Home." Co-sponsored by the museum and Belleville Area District Library.

• **Friday, May 8** – Southwestern Wayne County Democratic Club's Chili Cook-off is from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd. Cost is \$20 to enter a pot of chili. Ticket to enjoy the chili is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 6-12. Hot dogs, chips, raffle and prizes also available. Info: (734) 634-3569

• **Wednesday, May 13** – Chicken Supper from 5 p.m. to sell out at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston, (734) 654-9020. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m. Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$5.

• **Wednesday, May 14** – The Friends of the Belleville Area District Library host Stephen Bohlen presenting his study on "Belleville Library Architecture" from 7 to 8 p.m.

• **Friday, May 15; Saturday, May 16; and Sunday, May 17** – The 67th-annual St. Stephen Spring Polish Festival is under way at 18855 Huron River Drive in New Boston. Three days of live entertainment, homemade

dinners, prizes, and fun. Friday 4 p.m. to midnight, Saturday noon to midnight; and Sunday noon to 7 p.m.

• **Saturday, May 16** – The Van Buren Civic Fund and the Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation are hosting a charity softball game at noon at BHS featuring former members of the Detroit Tigers baseball team. For more information: (734) 751-2046.

• **Saturday, May 16** – Eagle Scout fund-raising spaghetti dinner will be from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Community Center to raise funds to erect a weather shelter at the Recycling Center.

• **Sunday, May 17** – 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 to help. Your Pugs will love you for their new social life! www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

• **Monday, May 18** – State Sen. Hoon-Yung Hopgood invites you to his 6 p.m. coffee hour at The Romulus House, 9110 Wayne Road in Romulus. Tell him your concerns. His district includes Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the city of Belleville.

• **Tuesday, May 19** – September Days Senior Center is offering Aromatherapy from 1 to 2 p.m. with instructor Sissel Bridges, fee \$5. Location 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township.

• **Thursday, May 21** – Salad Luncheon at noon at St. John's Lutheran Church, 28320 Waltz Rd., Waltz. Put on by St. John's Ladies' Aid/LWML. Donation of \$6 includes salad luncheon, dessert and door prizes. To be assured of tickets, call Diana at (734) 654-6366, M-F, 8-4.



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Sample Ballot for May 5, 2015

PROPOSAL SECTION	
STATE	
PROPOSAL 15-1	
A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.	
The proposed constitutional amendment would:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eliminate sales / use taxes on gasoline / diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.• Increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund (SAF).• Expand use of SAF to community colleges and career / technical education, and prohibit use for 4-year colleges / universities.• Give effect to laws, including those that:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Increase sales / use tax to 7%, as authorized by constitutional amendment.o Increase gasoline / diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.o Expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects.o Increase earned income tax credit.	
Should this proposal be adopted?	
YES	☐
NO	☐
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	
VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS MILLAGE PROPOSAL BUILDING AND SITE SINKING FUND TAX LEVY	
Shall Van Buren Public Schools, Counties of Wayne and Washtenaw, State of Michigan, create a sinking fund for the purpose of construction or repair of school buildings and the improvement and development of sites and for any other purpose which may be authorized by law, and be authorized to levy not to exceed 1.13 mills (\$1.13 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of seven (7) years, 2016 to 2022 inclusive? This levy would renew the sinking fund levy previously authorized by the voters in 2008 for an additional seven (7) years. It is estimated that the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the 2016 calendar year shall be approximately \$1,715,961 from the local taxes authorized in this proposal. A portion of the revenue collected may be subject to capture by the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority.	
YES	☐
NO	☐



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Correction: There were only two candidates for Library Director

In our story on page three last week – “Library Board approves \$3,800 for consultant to help in director search” – we reported that board chairman Mary Jane Dawson said there were three applications as of April 14.

Dawson said she said there were two applications and she wanted a correction. We regret the misunderstanding.

School Board clarification

On page 13 in the April 23 edition, we published a story “James Williams gives school board update on bus garage fire” in which School Supt. Van Tassel is said to have said it is all right to have the first reading of a change to a board policy on bullying in a work study session, since the second and final reading would be at a regular meeting. We wrote Van Tassel said that was good enough.

The superintendent’s assistant, Pam Johnson, sent an email saying, “Someone brought to my attention ...” that we quoted the superintendent. (She doesn’t read the *Independent* and doesn’t let it into the administration building because she finds it too negative to Van Tassel, so she couldn’t have read it herself.)

Johnson tried to clarify that under Board Policy the first reading may be done at any meeting, “as there is no action taken, but that adoption would take place at the next regular meeting.”

She said he said the board has handled first readings in this manner before. She referred to a section in the board Bylaws and Policies that said a first reading may be done at any meeting.

The reason I asked at the meeting if this was right, and even included it in the story, was because in my 60 years or so of covering municipal and school board meetings I’ve never seen a first reading taken in a workshop. Workshops have always been for discussing matters but not for taking action.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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

Mark Twain

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

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

COLLISION REPAIR TECH wanted for body shop in Belleville. Plenty of work. Mon-Fri. Pay based on experience, benefits. Call (734) 699-3641. 4/30

LOCAL TENT COMPANY is looking for summer help. Work available starting in May and running through August. Please complete the online application at www.DeluxTents.com 5/7

HANDYMAN TO REPAIR manufactured homes in manufactured community. Send resume to: P.O. Box 85530, Westland, MI 48185 5/7

SALON PROFESSIONAL wanted for a fun & exciting salon in Belleville. Apply at Planet Hair, 9330 Haggerty Rd. (734) 697-4247 4/30

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PERMANENT PART-TIME messenger wanted. M-F, 2pm-5pm. Retirees welcome. Call (313) 350-5497 4/30

DAY CARE ASSISTANT needed. 18 years and older. Call (734) 231-7326 4/30

MAINTENANCE PERSON needed at Janowiak Funeral Home. Call Chris at (734) 699-6000 or (734) 482-6000. 5/7

MORNING CASHIERS & sales associates wanted at Belleville Dunham’s. Print application at www.dunhamssports.com or pick up at 2035 Rawsonville Road (Lakewood Shopping Center). 5/14

“I’ll try anything once, twice if I like it, three times to make sure.”

— Mae West

HELP WANTED

Johnny's Grill Restaurant located on Belleville Lake is looking for experienced Bartenders, Chefs, Pizza Makers, Managers, Dishwashers, Servers and Delivery Drivers. Also need a full time Maintenance Person. Must be reliable. Mail resume to: Johnny's Grill, 146 High St., Belleville, MI 48111 or fax to (734) 699-7847

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED



McDonald's Franchisee Seeking Quality Crew & Managers to fill Immediate hourly positions (fast food experience a plus). Open interviews every Tuesday 3-5pm. Apply online at www.mcmichigan.com/18650

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“Fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities. Truth isn't.”

Mark Twain

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

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



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MOVED, DOWNSIZING. Appliances, shelving, equip, furniture, Casio Piano, moving supplies. Call between 10am-3pm. (734) 516-0600. 4/30

TWO FAMILY SALE. May 16 & 17, 9 am - ??, Clark Rd-South of Willis, Sumpter Twp. Watch for signs. Woodworking machine/tools, Cabela's hunting gear, CA1900 Staffordshire 123 pc. dinnerware service, Cobalt dinnerware, Waterford Crystal, depression glass, collectibles/antiques, vintage steam engine toy, vintage sewing machines, crocks/butter churns. 5/14

BIG YARD SALE. April 30, May 1-2, 9am to 6pm. 50462 Bog, 1/2 mile So. of Huron River Drive and Textile. East of Rawsonville. Something for everyone. 4/30

MAY 1-3, Fri-Sun, 9am-??, 211 Charles Court. A little bit of everything! 4/30

MAY 1 & 2. Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-5:30pm. Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Road. Info (734) 699-8836 4/30

FOR SALE

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

ALL COMPLETE 550 remainders. New items for our store with tag/without. Sorry no sale for single item. Clothes, shoes, purses, miscellaneous. Looking for Best offer. (734) 697-2705 5/14

2007 HARLEY DAVIDSON Dyna Super Glide Custom, 14K, detachable windshield, backrest, saddle bags. Newer battery/tires, black/chrome. Two travel bags included. \$7,300 (734) 697-7501 4/30

ATTN: STAINED GLASS ARTISTS. Selling off all supplies. Glass, art glass, tools & patterns: Taurus saw, irons, cutters, solder. Take as whole package, make a reasonable offer or purchase by piece. (586) 883-3508. 4/30

BEAUTIFUL SOLID-OAK BED, 6'x3' mirror w/moveable pedestals on each side, bed board 10' wide. Paid \$2,250 asking \$500 OBO. (734) 787-9710. 4/30

TWIN LAZYBOY SLEEPER, matching chair/ottoman (sleeper never used). Two occasional chairs, six tables, plant stand, sofa table, small chest, cedar chest. (734) 664-4475 4/30

FOR SALE

4 CRAFTSMAN riding lawn mowers. 1 12' alum. Fishing boat W/2 motors Deep Sea finder (trailer). 1 PediSteel heavy duty grinder 1"x2"x12" wheels. (734) 699-2912 5/14

NOMAD CAMPING trailer, 25', sleeps 6, self-contained. (734) 699-2912 5/14

CHURCH FOR SALE

BELLEVILLE. Sanctuary seats 225. Classrooms, fellowship hall, kitchen, offices. 9,400 SF. \$399,000. Motivated seller. (734) 604-6222 5/21

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. \$22,000. (734) 699-3452 4/30

1997 FORD RANGER. 4 cyl, auto, clean inside and out. Must See, \$1,800 OBO. (734) 697-1417 after 5 pm 4/30

1984 PONTIAC FIERO SE 56K, 4 cyl, 4-speed manual, cold AC, Moon Roof, power windows/locks & more. \$2,500 OBO. Bob (734) 272-2412 5/14

2000 DODGE NEON. Leaks oil. \$450 OBO. (734) 483-1507. 5/14

WANTED

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

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

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

YOUR UNWANTED Tiger Day Lilies. (734) 699-6847. 5/7

LOOKING FOR DOCK SPACE/sea wall space for a 21' pontoon boat on Belleville Lake for the summer (734) 502-8292 5/14

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

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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
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Local To The Belleville Area. Call (313) 740-6276.
Ask For Bill.

Serving Belleville, Sumpter, Van Buren & Willis

Gerry's Small Engine and Equipment Repair
Tractors, Lawn, Garden, Snow Blowers & Small Construction Equipment
Gerry Gentz Willis, MI 734-461-0158

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

MURRAY'S GENERAL SERVICE. Spring clean-up, seasonal mowing, commercial/residential. Licensed and Insured. (734) 325-6062 5/14

VIP PROPERTY SERVICES. Spring is here! Time to schedule your sprinkler openings. Call (734) 699-9871 4/30

"You have to be odd to be number one."
— Dr. Seuss

MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

Got grass? We do!
When you purchase a home from Franklin Homes we'll save you up to **\$1000** on your first month rent and security deposit!* Visit our website for a list of homes for purchase or lease **www.FranklinHomeSales.com**

 **Franklin**
• Manufactured Homes • Communities
Belleville Manor
734-699-7700
Belleville Road just 1 mile north of I-94
Van Buren Estates
734-697-6159
3 miles south of I-94 at the Rawsonville Exit
Mohawk
734-513-4108
Joy Road between Middlebelt and Inkster
*WAC, Certain restrictions apply. Offer ends 4/30/15

FREE

JOHN DANKS ROLAND
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

16' X 24' KAYAK POOL - needs liner. You pick-up and disassemble. Call (734) 223-7394. 5/14

Joe Boycott of Belleville exhibits in Madonna Univ. senior art show

Madonna University Art seniors exhibited their Art and Design work on April 18 in the Art Gallery above Kresge Hall in Livonia. It was the Silhouettes: Senior Art Show."

Featured student artists included Graphic Design students Katy Rand and Anthony Putrus of Farmington Hills and Joe Boycott of Belleville, Fine Arts major Maria Elliott of Royal Oak, and Visual Arts Education student Kaitlyn Brasher of Grand Blanc.

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.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 21, 2015

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Development Services Director Knowles, DPS Director Taylor, Public Safety Director Laurain, Public Safety (Police) Deputy Director Wright, Public Safety (Fire) Deputy Director Besson and an audience of ninety four (94).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Combs introduced representatives from the Van Buren Civic Fund who provided a brief overview of the organization and presented the winners of the Earthday Poster Contest. The contest was sponsored by the Van Buren Civic Fund, Van Buren Public Schools Education Foundation and the Belleville Area Council for the Arts and Belleville McDonalds.

Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson introduced the following, recently hired, Paid on call Fire Fighters: Kody Gazdag, Bradley Gudith and Matthew Jovanelly.

Public Safety Director Laurain read a statement addressing recent letters received and published in the local newspaper regarding cross trained officers changes are the best practices for Public Safety and our community.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Special Work Study Session Minutes of April 1, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of April 1, 2015; Special Work Study Session Minutes of April 2, 2015; Work Study Session Minutes of April 6, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of April 6, 2015; Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2015; Prepaid List of April 10, 2015; Prepaid List of April 17, 2015; Voucher List of April 21, 2015; Approval of Resolution 2015-14 the Metro Act Right of Way Permit Extension, to AT&T, for a 5 year term ending July 31, 2020 and Approval of Resolution 2015-15 to Authorize Litigation against Visteon Corporation].

Discussion regarding authorization of litigation against Visteon Corporation among Board members focused on the Board's disappointment with Visteon.

PUBLIC HEARING: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to open the Public Hearing on the Venetian, Jeanette and Dewitt Road Improvement Special Assessment District at 7:25 p.m. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Jahr, Hart, McClanahan and Miller. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Director Knowles explained that this hearing was the first of two Public Hearings required under PA 188 of 1954, as amended, for the creation of the Venetian, Jeanette and Dewitt Road Improvement Special Assessment District. Petitions were filed by property owners representing over 72% of the linear foot frontage of the roads, with the Township, indicating the desire to participate in a special program initiated by Wayne County called a "Partnering Initiative for Local Roads". The County has proposed to pay 80% of the construction funds for improving these roads. The Township will agree to loan the balance of required funds to the Special Assessment District to match the required 20% local funding necessary to

construct the project. The funds will be repaid, with interest, by the property owners through collection of an annual Special Assessment. Notices of this Public Hearing were published in the newspaper of record and mailed to each property owner of record as required. Road improvements will be engineered and inspected by the Township Engineering firm of Wade-Trim. The purpose of this hearing is to accept public input on the creation of the district, the properties to be included and the project in general. Total estimated cost of construction is \$684,814. The total proposed to be paid by the property owners through the Special Assessment District is \$131,309. Each tax parcel is proposed to pay on equal share or 1/46th of the total cost.

Resident commented that these roads are in desperate need of repair, welcomed the opportunity to participate and thanked the Board for their assistance in the process.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to close the Public Hearing at 7:33 p.m. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Resident commented on New Business item #5 [To consider whether or not to contribute additional funds towards the bond refinancing for the Local Development Finance Authority (L.D.F.A.) Tax Increment Refunding Bonds, Series 2015] and urged the Board not to put money down because the reduction that would be achieved was not significant and funds may be needed unforeseen issues in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the reappointments of Dr. Gerald Graf and Carl Pedersen to the Water & Sewer Commission with terms to expire May 31, 2017. Motion Carried. Board members thanked both applicants for their service and acknowledged the expertise each brings to the commission.

Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the Lawn Maintenance Contract with Gonczy's Property Maintenance from 2015 through 2017 with options to renew in 2018 and 2019 and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Motion Carried. Gonczy's was the lowest bidder and has performed exemplary service to the Township in the past. Included in the contract is trimming of shrubs and weeding of the senior garden at no charge. Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve Resolution 2015-11 the Alliance of Downriver Watersheds amended by-laws. Motion Carried. The by-laws were amended to integrate streamlined practices, modified customs, and allow for voting practice changes.

Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the request by Sadek Properties, LLC (Dunkin' Donuts) for Special Land use approval for a drive-through restaurant at the BP Service Station, 10950 Belleville Rd. Motion Carried. The car wash will be removed, Quiznos will be eliminated and a Dunkin' Donuts drive through will be incorporated.

Supervisor Combs read a short narrative regarding refinancing of a portion of the bonds associated with the Visteon project. In her narrative she pointed out the opportunity for the Township to save nearly two million in interest charges; that both the LDFA and the Board have approved the refinancing; that discussions and informational meetings have occurred and that the benefits of a down payment include: (1) paying down the overall debt, (2) pushing the shortfall out to 2020, (3) when facing Visteon in court we would be able to show we did everything possible to mitigate our damages and, (4) it was stated to the Township that we may find it more difficult to sell the bonds at a desirable rate if we do not make a payment up front. Supervisor Combs stated she favors 1111a down payment

because she believes it is the Board's duty to seize the opportunity to decrease the amount of interest paid on the overall debt and that the Township would likely secure a better interest rate on the re-financing. Budd moved, Miller seconded to not contribute any additional funds for the refinancing of the Local Development Finance Authority tax incremental refunding bonds, series 2015. Board members discussed the following in consideration of not approving a down payment: (1) a down payment would cut reserves in half, (2) reducing the reserves is too high a risk, (3) saving the money allows the Township to address the needs of the community while working on a plan "B", (4) the savings do not outweigh the risk, and (5) if we give up the money and something happens we have nothing left to fall back on. Supervisor Combs stated that out of respect for her colleagues she would be voting with them as a unified board. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Hart seconded to accept the petitions, cost estimates and availability regarding the Venetian, Jeanette and Dewitt Road Improvements, approve Resolution 2015-17 to establish the Venetian, Jeanette and Dewitt Road Special Assessment District and set the second Public Hearing for May 19, 2015. Motion Carried.

Resident addressed the Board with a concern that individuals included in the proposed Special Assessment District had not received answers to questions. Hart moved, McClanahan seconded to reopen the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Combs, Wright, Budd, Jahr, Hart, McClanahan and Miller. Motion Carried. Residents questioned in the event a special assessment district was formed if vacant lots would be included; when the project would start, how long it would take and how residents would be able to get to their homes. Director Knowles explained that vacant parcels would be included; potentially the project could begin in August or September and take approximately 90 days to complete and accessibility to homes and drainage issues would be addressed during the pre-construction meeting. Residents of the proposed district were encouraged to contact Director Knowles with any additional questions. In addition a fact sheet will be mailed to all residents in the district addressing common questions.

Jahr moved, Wright seconded to close the Public Hearing at 8:45 p.m. Motion Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve Resolution 2015-18 and schedule a Public Hearing for the next meeting in May (May 19, 2015) to discuss the special assessment district and to tentatively set the roll for 5 years. Motion Carried. Supervisor Combs recessed the meeting from 8:55 p.m. until 9:05 p.m.

REPORTS: Representatives from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (M.D.E.Q.) presented the finding of the Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (TENORM) report. In August 2014 Governor Snyder directed the DEQ to assemble a panel to provide a technical review of Michigan's disposal guidelines of TENORM to ensure protection of public health and the environment. The report may be reviewed online at: www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/deq-RMG-TENORM_Disposal_Advisory_Panel_White_Paper_-_FINAL_481404_7.pdf Residents and audience members expressed concerns regarding reporting; transparency; monitoring; radon leaks; contamination of ground water; health risks; exposure; down blending; and acceptable levels of TENORM in Michigan vs. other states. Board members expressed opposition to Fracking in our community and will meet with State

Representatives to determine what course of action can be taken.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Clerk Wright announced that the Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday May 2, 2015 for the purpose of absentee voting and acceptance of absentee ballots. The last day registered voters may vote an absentee ballot is Monday May 4, 2014 before 4:00 p.m.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Residents expressed the following: stop the disruptions from the audience; the Board should take steps to regulate Fracking waste by establishing ordinances and thanked the Board for allowing the MDEQ to present the TENORM report at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 10:35 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor
Published: April 30, 2015

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



**Sumpter Township
Public Notice**



Sumpter Township Public Hearing Meeting Minutes March 24, 2015

Meeting called to order by Supervisor J. Morgan at 5:00 pm showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustee: P. Morgan, Oddy & Swinson. Excused absence Trustee Hamm. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 7 residents.

3. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to open public hearing at 5:02 pm. Motion carried unanimously

Accountant Jim Glahn spoke presenting a balanced budget for the 2015-2016 Township Budget stating that the township is in a good financial position. We have only 2 bonds left to pay on. The water department continues to be self-sufficient not relying on the general fund. The landfill royalties have increased slightly which has helped with the unfunded liability in the police department due to new officers. Fire fund has struggled due to equipment that needed to be replaced and brought up to state standards.

	Amended	Proposed
General #101		
	\$4,603,335	\$ 4,565,450
Royalties #227		
	\$1,750,500	\$ 1,612,500
Fire Fund #206		
	\$315,700	\$ 325,700
Police Fund #207		
	\$940,250	\$ 940,250
911 Fund #261		
	\$66,000	\$ 66,000
Water & Sewer Fund #591		
	\$ 2,376,610	\$ 2,406,610

4. Motion by Bates, supported by Hoffman to close the public hearing at 5:40 pm.

5. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 5:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr.

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 Public Hearing Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on March 24, 2015 at 5:00 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk
Publish: April 30, 2015

City of Belleville Public Notice

Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Flag Placement for Memorial Day 2015
8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16th



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery. The flag placement project will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16th.

Volunteers are needed to help place the flags. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work - a small sacrifice for us in honor of those who fought to keep us free.

Join us to help honor our veterans as we prepare for Memorial Day 2015, an important year in the history of defending our liberty.



Lisa Long
 City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLISH: April 30, 2015
 May 7, 2015

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, May 4 – Van Buren Township work/study session cancelled because of May 5 election. Belleville City Council meets at 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 5 – ELECTION. Van Buren Township regular board meeting cancelled because of May 5 election.
- Monday, May 11 – Belleville City Council work/study session to consider rehabilitating all the streets in the city with a possible bond, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Tyler Elementary School
- Tuesday, May 12 – September Days Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Financing Authority, 2 p.m., Also, Van Buren Township special meeting/board retreat, 6 p.m., at township hall for SEMCOG presentation, etc. 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, May 13 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 14 – Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m., required meeting. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, May 18 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 19 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 20 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

“Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory.”
 — George S. Patton

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

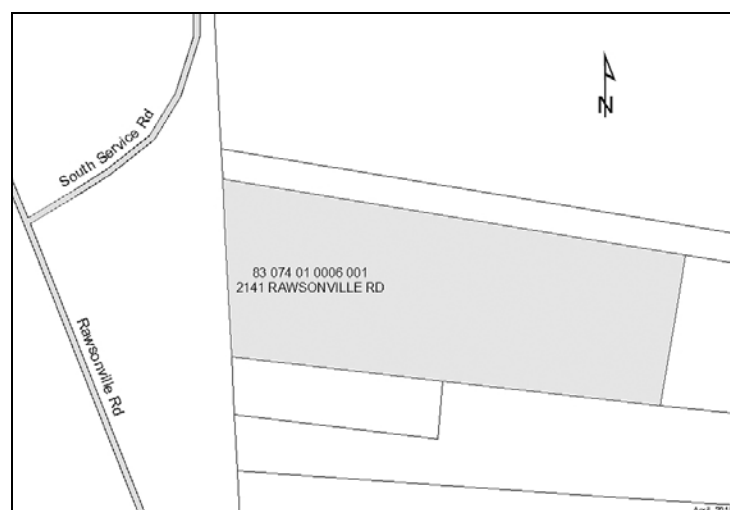
Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, May 27, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a Special Land Use request on the following described property.

Parcel number V125-83-074-01-0006-001 also known as 2141 Rawsonville Road is the subject of this hearing. The site is approximately 1.15 acres in size and is located in the C-1, General Business Zoning District. This site is located on the east side of Rawsonville Road, south of the I-94 South Service Drive.

The applicant, Tim Donut U.S. Limited Inc., is requesting approval of a drive-through restaurant. A drive-through restaurant is a Special Land Use in the C-1 District, and a proposed Special Land Use requires a public hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with Section 12.03 (Permitted Uses with Special Approval) of the Zoning Ordinance.

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

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting to request accommodations.



Posted: April 30, 2015
 Published: April 30, 2015

Sumpter Township Public Notice

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 24, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor J. Morgan, showing present: Supervisor J. Morgan, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer Bates, Trustees: Oddy, P. Morgan & Swinson. Excused absence Trustee Hamm. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 21 residents.

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

4. Public comments on agenda items only: Bewey Horn owner of the Sumpter Roller rink spoke regarding item B under new business. He apologized for his outburst at the planning commission. He does not want to have his Special exception use rescinded. He would like to go back to the planning commission and work with them. Mr. Horn stated that he will not rent in the future till he gets prior approval by the police department.

5. Minutes:
A. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve minutes of the regular board March 10, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to accept minutes of the planning commission February 12, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve warrants totaling \$91,675.00. Roll call vote: Yea: J. Morgan, Hoffman, Bates, P. Morgan, Oddy, & Swinson. Nay: None. Excused absence Hamm. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Parks & Recreation: Motion by Bates, supported by Hoffman to approve the parks & recreation report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Attorney: Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve the Charter-Comcast Communications agreement contingent on attorney finalize for signatures, and approving the attorneys report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Board Response

10. Old Business:
A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve the second reading and approval of the provisional center zoning ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

11. New Business:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve to direct Carlisle/Wortmen Associates to update the master plan cost \$9,500. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to send Bewey Horn owner of the Sumpter Roller rink 19750 Sumpter back to the planning commission to work out the uses, details and procedures for the special exception use permit. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve to allow free of charge using the community center gym for an eagle scout fundraiser spaghetti dinner May 16, 2015 from 4 to 8 pm to raise money to erect a weather shelter at the recycling center. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Bates to approve the 2015-2016 township budget. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to approve a fireworks display for Sumpter Country Festival May 24, 2015 with a rain date of May 25, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve of fiscal year insurance with Burnham & Flower \$130,471.00. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Announcements

13. Open Floor

14. Adjournment: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
 Clarence J. Hoffman Jr, Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on March 24, 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
 Publish: April 30, 2015

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 462 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, April 19:
0102 – personal injury accident, WB I-94 rest area
0134 – vehicle pursuit, Michigan Ave./W. Schooner Dr.
0158 – noise complaint, Bemis Rd.
0231 – mental, Ecorse Rd.
0234 – larceny from auto, Rolan Meadows Dr.
0604 – suspicious person, Parkwood Dr.
1314 – larceny, Ironwood Dr.
1525 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1619 – ATV/ORV complaint, Pebblebrook Dr.
1642 – disturbance, Westlake
1813 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
2001 – disturbance, Park Estates Dr.
2043 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2127 – operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville
2141 – retail fraud, Belleville
2252 – retail fraud, Belleville

Monday, April 20:
0603 – property damage accident, Tyler/Morton Taylor
0756 – juvenile complaint, Belle Pointe Dr. / Lindsey Dr.
1047 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1307 – harassment call, Parkwood Dr.
1323 – property damage accident, Belleville / Ecorse
1329 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
1642 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Blvd.
1709 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1930 – narcotics crime, E. Archwood Dr.
1941 – agency assist, Tyler Rd./Hannan Rd.
2020 – fraud, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, April 21:
0047 – noise complaint, Kirkridge Park
0818 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0859 – intimidation threat, Pinewood Ln.
1033 – malicious destruction of property, Riggs
1039 – agency assist, Haggerty/Van Born
1050 – suicide or attempt, Belleridge
1158 – breaking & entering, Ecorse Rd.
1207 – mental, Tyler Rd.
1209 – private property accident, Haggerty Rd.
1448 – unauthorized driving away of auto, E. Schooner Dr.
1939 – missing person, Jackson St.
2126 – noise complaint, Westlake

Wednesday, April 22:
0052 – abandoned auto, W. Huron River Dr. / Ormond Dr.
0053 – disturbance, Oak Ln.
0836 – larceny, Quirk Park
0936 – larceny, Martinsville Rd.
1022 – juvenile complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1139 – ordinance violation, Haggerty Rd.
1231 – mental, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1325 – fraud, Western St.
1404 – trespassing, Ash Dr.
1414 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1559 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1738 – assault & battery, N. Timberview Dr.
1737 – suspicious person, Rawsonville Rd.
1758 – fight, Rawsonville Rd.
2023 – larceny, Jeremy Rd.
2227 – agency assist, Grove/Rawsonville
2257 – assault & battery, Gilmore St.
2355 – assault & battery, Michigan Ave.

Thursday, April 23:
0155 – private property accident, S. I94 Service Dr
0742 – loitering, McBride Middle School
1115 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
1127 – suicide or attempt, Van Buren St.
1310 – property damage accident, Morton Taylor
1644 – private property accident, Denton
1754 – fraud, Visteon
1935 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2000 – neighbor trouble, Belle Pointe Dr.
2000 – fraud, Belleville
2046 – fight, Maple Dr.
2217 – disturbance, Ash Dr.

2315 – property damage accident, Haggerty/RR tracks
2317 – assault & battery, Wildrye Ct.
2346 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
Friday, April 24:
0418 – property damage accident, Hot Spot
0902 – noise complaint, Rolan Meadows
0959 – property damage accident, Belleville
1017 – child abuse, Maple Dr.
1048 – child abuse, Maple Dr.
1049 – juvenile complaint, Lighthouse Dr.
1226 – code enforcement, Haggerty Rd.
1231 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / Ricardo Dr.

1336 – personal injury accident, Belleville Rd. / Van Born Rd.
1400 – intimidation threat, Stamford Rd.
1618 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1628 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Parkwood Dr.

1643 – larceny, Bemis Rd.
1900 – larceny, McBride Ave.
1944 – ATV/ORV complaint, Western/Cross
2224 – noise complaint, Outer
2321 – private property accident, Denton
2324 – disturbance, Milton Dr.
2350 – agency assist, BP Haggerty

Saturday, April 25:
0003 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.
0048 – agency assist, Town and Country
0049 – larceny from auto, Winchester St.
0127 – disturbance, Denton Rd.
0200 – disorderly conduct, Borgman Ave.
0147 – shots fired, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0214 – shots fired, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0225 – agency assist, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0252 – agency assist, Cedarhurst Dr.
0341 – noise complaint, Meadows Ct.
0425 – disorderly conduct, Bak Rd.
1059 – property damage accident, Haggerty / Riggs
1215 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service
1251 – weapons violation, Belleville/Ecorse
1320 – property damage accident, Belleville
1517 – agency assist, High/Church
1549 – ATV/ORV complaint, McBride/Van Buren
1943 – assault & battery, Linda Vista Ct.

Also on this week’s log are 121 traffic stops, 43 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 19:
0659 – malicious destruction of property, Belle Villa
0804 – intrusion alarm, Third St.
1730 – domestic assault, Clarence St.
2000 – suspicious situation, W. Thornhill Ct.

Monday, April 20:
0901 – found property, Main St.
1213 – intrusion alarm, E. Thornhill Ct.
1242 – larceny, Henry St.
1305 – disorderly conduct, W. Columbia Ave.
1433 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1449 – personal injury accident, Savage/Madelon
1719 – private property accident, Potter Dr.
1828 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
1902 – assist fire dept., Charles St.
1930 – property damage accident, South/Huron River Dr.
1931 – assist fire dept., Five Points
1945 – operating while intoxicated, W. Columbia / High
2101 – suspicious person, N. Liberty St.
2154 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
2229 – animal complaint, Main St.

Tuesday, April 21:
0102 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
0422 – domestic assault, N. Liberty St.
0702 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0848 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1123 – assist fire dept., Third St.
1128 – assist fire dept., Loza Ln.
1154 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.
1451 – vehicle lockout, Menlo Park Dr.
1604 – lost property, Main St.
1749 – property check, E. Huron River Dr.

Wednesday, April 22:
0729 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

0933 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
1503 – information, Sumpter Rd./Industrial Park
1616 – malicious destruction of property, Victorian Ln.
1641 – warrant arrest, Dearborn Heights PD
1648 – suspicious person, Church St.
1744 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
2357 – disturbance, N. Liberty St.

Thursday, April 23:
0355 – E-911 hang up/investigation, W. Columbia
1132 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1232 – suspicious situation, Main St.
1509 – follow up, Potter Dr.
1528 – parking complaint, Potter Dr./E. Huron River Dr.

1747 – motorist assist, Main St./E. Huron River Dr.
1938 – agency assist, W. Columbia Ave.
2035 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter
2101 – loitering, Frosty Boy

Friday, April 24:
0809 – property damage accident, Edison/High
1022 – assist citizen, Sumpter Rd.
1056 – in station report, Main St.
1316 – assist fire dept., Third
1548 – background investigation, Main St.
1552 – welfare check, N. Liberty St.
1734 – trespassing, Estrada
1756 – E-911 cellular, South St.
2047 – assist fire dept., Capistrano Ct.
2107 – parking complaint, Victorian Ln.
2208 – family trouble, Carmell St.
2231 – family trouble, Belle Villa Blvd.

Saturday, April 25:
0151 – agency assist, Outer
0226 – agency assist, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0343 – agency assist, Meadows
1207 – intrusion alarm, Belle Villa Blvd.
1516 – narcotics crime, High/Church
2247 – vehicle lockout, Chase

Also on this week’s log are 52 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, April 19:
0002 – violation public health code, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0408 – suspicious vehicle, 12000 bl. Rawsonville
1643 – alarm, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1913 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1922 – subpoena service, out of township
2006 – family trouble, Second St.
2054 – attempt warrant pick up, Second St.
2110 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2130 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2139 – citizen assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2354 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Monday, April 20:
0416 – fire dept. assist, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1101 – threats complaint, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1117 – malicious destruction of property, Rustic Ln.
1152 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1444 – suspicious incident, Greenmeadow
1538 – breaking & entering report, 48000 bl. Timberpark
1609 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1619 – wires down, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1829 – suspicious incident, Oregon
1947 – civil dispute, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2119 – suspicious person, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.

Tuesday, April 21:
0802 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1100 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1318 – suspicious vehicle, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1610 – disorderly person, 50000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1831 – animal complaint, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2021 – property damage accident, Clark/S. Huron

Wednesday, April 22:
0833 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0854 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1249 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
1328 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1526 – wires down, Oakville Waltz/Elwell
1612 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1647 – suspicious incident, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1851 – disorderly person, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
1859 – animal complaint, 25000 bl. Martinsville
1905 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Thursday, April 23:

0631 – reckless driver complaint, Willow/Haggerty
1100 – alarm, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1119 – larceny, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1159 – solicitor complaint, 20000 bl. Sherwood
1649 – animal complaint, 40000 bl. Wear Rd.
1751 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Sully Dr.
1900 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
1902 – alarm, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1943 – larceny, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2124 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
2255 – well-being check, Second St.

Friday, April 24:
0805 – animal complaint, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.
1040 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1105 – abandoned vehicle, Idaho
1143 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
1157 – warrant arrest, 45000 bl. Victoria Ave.
1503 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1614 – civil dispute, Pecan
1636 – well-being check, Judd/Clark
1832 – larceny, 27000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1913 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1949 – traffic hazard, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.

2154 – property damage accident, Harris / Martinsville

Saturday, April 25:
0827 – assist other agency, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
0922 – suspicious incident, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1230 – assist other agency, out of township
1407 – civil dispute, 48000 bl. Timberpark
1559 – personal injury accident, Sumpter/Kozma
1634 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1826 – animal bite investigation, 23000 bl. Elwell
1916 – shots fired, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 18 follow-up investigations, 35 miscellaneous details, 195 patrol checks, and 46 traffic stops.

Perennial Plant Swap At noon Saturday, May 2

Library courtyard --
or porch, if raining

167 Fourth Street
Coordinated by Belleville Area
Garden Club
Event ends at 1 p.m.
Come early, as the plants go fast.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Charter Township of Van Buren Job Vacancy Posting

Position Title: Assessing Account Clerk
Department: Assessor’s Department
Classification: Part- Time
FLSA Status: Non-exempt
Hourly Wage: \$15.00
Opening Date: 04/27/2015
Closing Date: 05/27/15
Summary/Objective

This is a part-time account clerk position, 24 hours per week, based in the Assessing Office. Employee works under the direction of the Assessing Coordinator. Emphasis is placed on customer service and computer related functions including word processing, BS&A Equalizer Software System, and excel spreadsheets. Employee will be responsible for dealing with routine customer concerns while projecting a positive image of the department.

For Full Description at <http://www.vanburen-mi.org/about-the-community/help-wanted/>

Publish: April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 2015

“inspired” - 2015 VBPS STUDENT ART SHOW – GRADES K – 12

Artists in grades K-3 received participation stickers.

- 4th GRADE**
1st Place – Evan Sills from Edgemont Elementary, glue, chalk pastels
2nd Place – Krystal Kendrick from Edgemont Elementary, tissue paper collage
3rd Place – Amelia Wilberding from Edgemont Elementary, chalk
Honorable Mention – Cidnee Capers from Edgemont Elementary, tissue paper collage

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FRI. 11AM - 11PM
SAT. 12PM-11PM
SUN. 12PM-10PM
**Wi-Fi
HOTSPOT**

- OWEN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**
5th GRADE
1st Place – Johnathan Demetrius, mixed media
2nd Place – Amarie Belton, watercolor
3rd Place – Claudia Jenkins, paint
Honorable Mention – Israa Kabir, paint
6th GRADE
1st Place – Alanys Suazo-Garcia, watercolor and ink
2nd Place – Lauren Begeson, colored pencil
3rd Place – Olivia Newnan, watercolor and ink
Honorable Mention – Taliah Blair, mixed media
McBRIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL
7th GRADE
1st Place – Cailin Bishop, watercolor
2nd Place – Hiba Kabir, pencil
3rd Place – Courtney Dethloff, weaving with yarn
Honorable Mention – Natalie Brzozowski, mixed media
8th GRADE
1st Place – Juliet Marshal, pencil
2nd Place – Kiersten Mullett, scratch-paper
3rd Place – Allison Reed, weaving with yarn
Honorable Mention – Alexandra Vanover, pencil and thread
BELLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
9th GRADE
1st Place – Katelyn Thomas, yarn, nylon rope; weaving/basket
2nd Place – Haley Laine, chalk pastel
3rd Place – Abby Riggs, Shannon Thomas, Karissa Attard (group), shells
Honorable Mention – Mari Skinner, oil pastels
10th GRADE
1st Place – Jason Dytyniak, acrylic
2nd Place – Briana Powe, pencil
3rd Place – Briana Powe, pencil
Honorable Mention – Jason Dytyniak, pencil

- 11th GRADE**
1st Place – Aurea Bearfield, colored pencil
2nd Place – Rashaun Williams, pencil
3rd Place – Brittany Powe, pencil
Honorable Mention – Keith Steiner, nuts, bolts, washers

- 12th GRADE**
1st Place – Sebastian Baker, acrylic
2nd Place – Sebastian Baker, acrylic
3rd Place – Sebastian Baker, pencil
Honorable Mention – Valenna Malone, mixed media

Lifelong Belleville resident Bettie Thurston celebrates 95th birthday

Bettie (Wilson) Thurston, lifelong Belleville resident, recently celebrated her 95th birthday.

She was born April 28, 1920, at home, which was located behind what is now Chase Bank. She was the youngest of seven children. Her mother, Florence, was from England. She passed away of pneumonia when Bettie was three years old.

Her father, Henry Wilson, owned a blacksmith business behind the library. Their property stretched from Roys Street to High Street. Mr. Wilson sold this property to the City of Belleville in 1955.

In 1929, the stock market crashed when young Bettie was nine years old. Her father lost all his money, and at times, earned just 65 cents a week! She recalls growing up during those painful years of the Depression, when everything was scarce, and you valued what little you had.

She shares the story of how in 1924, Detroit Edison widened around the Huron River, also known as the Flats, into the Belleville Lake we all enjoy today. During winters, ice chunks were carved out of the lake, and stored amid straw at a local barn; as ice boxes were used in those days.

She remembers standing on the corner in 1928, watching as Main Street was paved. At that time, Main Street consisted of little more than CF Smith Store, the Movie Theatre, and a Hotel, which served a lunch for 25 cents. She later observed as it burned down.

The mode of transportation to school in those days was horse and buggy. School lunches were 10 cents and consisted of a bowl of soup and a hamburger bun. No meat, just the bun.

Bettie recalls working at the Belleville Movie Theatre as a teen, where she earned 50 cents a night. She remembers the excitement when Shirley Temple's "The



Bettie Wilson Thurston

Little Princess" movie came to town. Of course, back then, tickets were a whopping 20 cents for adults and 10 cents for kids.

She graduated from Belleville High in 1936 and shortly after she began employment at the Belleville Post Office, where she earned \$52 a month. She married Donald Thurston, also from Belleville, in 1943. They enjoyed 67 years together, before Donald's passing in 2010. They had one son, Roger, who resides in Belleville, as well.

Bettie has a sister who is currently 98 years old.

-- Pam Faust

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On The Web!**
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bellevilleareaindependent.com**

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18 Holes	\$18	\$23
Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays	9 Holes \$14, Power Cart \$19 18 Holes \$20, Power Cart \$25	

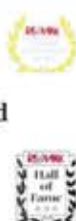
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CHECK THE PRICE - NOW \$104,900 - TWO - 2 1/2 CAR GARAGES. Country vinyl ranch featuring 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Brand New Furnace and Brand New Water Heater. Close to Lower Huron Metro Park, Freeways, Metro Airport and Shopping. Paved Street and paved drive plus more. This is a must see property just minutes from everywhere.



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A FAVORITE OF ALL Who See It! Outstanding three bedroom, Two and One Half Bath Brick Colonial. Open Family Room, Larger Master Bedroom & 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. Offering a Measureless Value. \$184,900



9019 COGSWELL, ROMULUS
WAKE UP TO EXCITEMENT EVERY MORNING in this 4,900 sf masterpiece. Only the finest of construction with 4 large bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths, 2 fireplaces, marble floors, 2 master bedrooms with Jacuzzis, finished basement, 2 bars, 3 car attached and 2 car detached garages. On 4 manicured acres. This home is one of the finest in style and quality. \$499,900.



19350 SUMPTER RD, SUMPTER TWP
GREAT LOCATION with little competition. 4,100+ square foot set up for a bar/ restaurant or pizzeria. Most equipment could be included. Looks great and shows even better. Paved street, in the middle of Downtown Sumpter with Plenty of parking on 2+ acres. A Best Buy investment property at only \$387,000



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MULTIPLES OF VALUE ARE PRESENT IN This Larger 1,571 Sq Ft Custom Built 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home. Featuring Open Kitchen-Dining-Living Room, Gas Fireplace in Family Room, 90+ Furnace, Deck, Shed, 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage on .92 Acre Parcel. This is One Wins the 1 Love Clean Contest! \$159,900.



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NATURE'S INNOCENCE COMPLIMENTS This Outstanding 3 Bedroom Home that has been Constantly Cared for with Love, Attention, and Detail. Hardwood Floors, Family Room with Fireplace, Updated Bath, Ceramic Tile, Wallside Windows, Deck, Small Greenhouse Plus Extra 3.7 Acre Lot for a total of 5.43 Acres. \$250,000



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HIGHEST QUALITY! Brick Commercial building in the City of Belleville. Former florist, coffee house, and bakery with potential for immediate franchise opportunity The quality, potential and design of this newer (2002) constructed building are beyond description. \$750,000 (or \$18.00 square ft - triple net lease)

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