



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Man who shot Officer Jerry Philpot found dead in prison cell

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The man sentenced to life in prison for killing Detroit Police Officer Jerry Philpot with an AK 47-like assault rifle in a gang-related shooting in Detroit in 1995 was found dead in his cell June 21.



Officer Philpot, now 37, was found lying face-down in his cell and medical personnel were unable to revive him. At last report the cause of death was unknown and his family had requested an autopsy.

On May 25, 1995, Detroit Police Officer Jerry Philpot, 28, was killed in the line of duty in Southwest Detroit. Younes, 18, a reputed member of the Latin Counts gang, was convicted of shooting him with an AK-47 assault rifle.

Officer Philpot had ties to the Belleville area and had worked part time as a police officer for Van Buren Township for a year and two months, in 1991-92, while he was laid off from the Detroit Police Department.

When he was called back from layoff he went back to his job in Detroit.

Officer Philpot was buried at Belleville's Hillside Cemetery and a huge contingent of police mourners came to Belleville for the burial. It was called the biggest funeral ever in Belleville and involved more than 500 cars.

The procession on May 30, 1995 reached from Wayne Road on I-94 to the I-94 S. Service Drive and Denton Road as it headed toward Hillside Cemetery. Cars



Younes



Photos by Angela Bennett

The board of Bethany Bible Church posed for a picture after Sunday's ground-breaking ceremony that officially kicked off an expansion project to build a new worship auditorium, fellowship area, and office space. From left are Jeff Neumann, David Murray, Paul Rice, Jim Lancaster, chairman of the board and chairman of the building committee Kevin Losen, Assistant Pastor Aaron Walters, Pastor Duane Bonner, Jim Smith, Bob Neumann, and Bob Lorincz.

Wayne Co Prosecutor's Office taking its time on high-profile police case

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Gregory Laurain, Van Buren Township Director of Public Safety, said last week that the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office is taking its time with the high-profile warrant being sought by his department.

Director Laurain said whenever a police officer is involved it is a high-profile case.

Romulus Police Officer David Brooks has been suspended while charges against him are being considered by the Prosecutor's

Office.

Director Laurain said the Prosecutor's Office is short on prosecutors and has other high-priority cases.

"They're going to take their time," he said, noting at that time it had been three weeks since VBT asked for a warrant.

Laurain said when a police officer is involved an assistant prosecutor makes a determination on a warrant and then that is reviewed by a supervisor and, eventually, by Prosecutor Kym Worthy herself.

Off-duty Officer Brooks, a Van Buren Township resident, was stopped May 29 by VBT police in response to a road rage report. After investigation, a week later on June 5, VBT police requested a warrant for



Using the ceremonial shovel to break ground were Pastor Duane Bonner, left, and John Losen, who was pastor from 1970 to 2001.

(continued on page 14)

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(continued on page 14)

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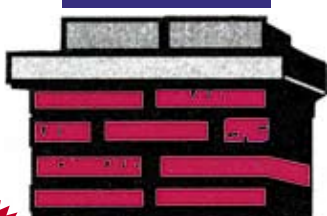
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter OKs first reading of ordinance on provisional centers

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting June 24, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the first reading of an ordinance to establish the lawful use of Medical Marijuana Provisioning Centers.

This is the general ordinance that will be paired with a zoning ordinance on the subject being prepared by the planning commission.

Attorney Rob Young explained that the ordinances will work to try to control the dispensing of medical marijuana.

It will allow the police to regulate the centers and to limit those locations.

Young said the state government is leaving management of the centers to local municipalities.

As to other communities, "A lot of people had thrown their hands up and said willy-nilly, do what you want," Young said.

Sumpter is trying to set up rules to regulate the local provisioning centers which are legal under state law.

He said there will be some modifications to the general ordinance being presented that evening. He said the zoning ordinance being prepared by the planning commission on the subject will have a public hearing at 7:05 p.m., Aug. 14.

Young said the general ordinance will be brought back for its second reading and final adoption after the public hearing on the zoning ordinance.

In other business at the June 24 meeting, the board:

- Approved with regrets the retirement of Rodney Wiley from the fire department after 13 years of service. A plaque will be presented in about a month;

- Approved the requested leave of absence for fire fighter James Talbert to attend college. Talbert has been offered a scholarship in Pennsylvania to go to school to be a police officer. He will return to Sumpter in January;

- Approved a resolution on the merging of Comcast and the name change to Midwest Cable, Inc., as part of the merger. Sumpter is a Franchise Authority of Comcast's local franchise;

- Heard Trustee Donnie Swinson announce that Parks and Recreation's annual Family Fun Day will be held from noon to 3 p.m. at Graham Park;

- Agreed to amend the fast-track agreement with Carleton Farms landfill to require any new construction to use the new synthetic liner that has been developed. The current agreement carries a liner requirement that is 25 years old, Young said, adding this amendment is prophylactic in nature and

there have been no problems with the landfill;

- Heard Mary Ban ask about the number of fire fighters on hand, since fire fighters continue to resign and move out of the township. Fire Chief Joe Januszyk said he still has 25 and they are recruiting new fire fighters;

- Heard Ban say the proposed lease agreement from the Belleville Area District Library Board for space in the community center for a satellite library is "not worth the paper it's written on." Young said Trustees Alan Bates and William Hamm will be sitting down with him on the following Thursday to study the lease;

- Heard Ban mention that the lease agreement proposes \$1 for 30 years to be paid by the library to Sumpter. She said Head Start paid \$17,000 a year for that space. Young said the library will be participating in the cost of utilities, which Head Start didn't. Treasurer John Morgan said the former school building was scheduled for demolition 25 years ago and the township talked to the school board and got the building. "A 30-year lease on that building and it won't last 30 years," Morgan said. "That's how little thought they put into the subject."

- Heard Sharon Douglas warn the township about what would happen to the township environment if Savoy Energy proceeds with its planned drilling for oil and gas. "We are committed to preserving our environment," said Treasurer Morgan. "Those things we control, we'll do everything we can"; and

- Heard State Rep. LaVoy report on business in Lansing, including a 5.3% increase in Sumpter's state shared revenue, if the governor signs the new bill. He said the cities and villages in the state will get an average of 2.5% increase.

Belleville resident reappointed to Michigan State Housing Board

On April 18, Gov. Rick Snyder announced the appointments of Carl English of Bingham Farms and Deborah Muchmore of Laingsburg and the reappointment of Tyrone Hamilton of Belleville to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board.

The five-member board provides financial and technical assistance through public and private partnerships to create and preserve safe, affordable housing. It also engages community economic development activities, addresses homeless issues



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

On June 25, John Delaney erected the sign paid for by the Belleville Area District Library Board to mark the proposed site of a proposed new library building – if voters approve the project in the Aug. 5 election. At a recent meeting, the library architect, based in Ann Arbor, recommended an Ann Arbor sign company for the work and Delaney, who said he had a local sign company, asked to submit a price quote. He won the job and dug holes at the site of the first position pointed out on the property. Then, there were three more places pointed out to him with this fourth, final place, approved.

VBT has no business on workshop agenda; goes into closed-door session

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Monday, the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees opened its regular work/study meeting at 4 p.m. and adjourned into closed-door session at 4:02 p.m. After that session, they adjourned.

There was nothing on the agenda for open discussion but the closed-door session with attorney Patrick McCauley was to discuss:

- An attorney-client opinion letter on litigation pursuant to Open Meeting Act Section 8(h); and

- An attorney opinion letter and recommendation on the Waste Management demolition waste product proposal. The board had been asked by Waste Management at a recent work/study session to give WM an answer by the end of the month on whether it will accept a reduced tipping fee for its special project of disposing of the waste from homes being demolished in Detroit.

As to the first attorney opinion letter to be discussed under Section 8(h), the Michigan Open Meeting Act's Section 8 reads "A public body may meet in a closed session only for the following purposes: ... (h) to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute..."

The hotline attorney for the Michigan Press Association, Joseph Richotte of Butzel Long law firm, explained to the *Independent*: "Written legal opinions are protected by the attorney-client privilege, and FOIA (the Freedom of Information Act) exempts attorney-client privileged material from disclosure. MCL 15.243(1)(g). Thus, the document the trustees were going into closed session to discuss was 'material exempt from ... disclosure by state ... statute.'"

and develops vibrant cities, towns and villages.

Hamilton is the owner of Hamilton Productions where he serves as a disc jockey for weddings and events as well as provides musical therapy for nursing homes. He previously served as a darkroom technician. Hamilton volunteers at the Detroit Medical Center playing music for patients, something he has done for more than 25 years. He will continue to serve as the resident member.

"Whenever you have an efficient government, you have a dictatorship."
– Harry S. Truman

OPINIONS

Editorial

Fourth of July week: New home for veteran's family

It took about a half hour standing on a cement driveway in the humid, hot sunshine on Monday, but nobody complained. The crowd was there to welcome a U.S. veteran and his family into a renovated home given to them as a gift.

And, everyone had uplifting things to say about Sgt. Beesley's service to our country and the generosity and hard work of all involved to get the home given to him, free and clear, so he could be relieved of some of the expenses of raising his family.

It seemed the fitting date, just before the Fourth of July. Flags were flying all over the front yard in Van Buren Township as everyone gathered to say a few words before Sgt. Beesley and his family were ushered into their new home – without a mortgage to worry about.

It was a big surprise to the family when their new home was announced on the day after Christmas during half time at the Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl at Ford Field in Detroit.

The family members thought they were there for dad to do something with the game ball and say "hi" to the crowd. Then it was announced they were getting a free house and Sgt. Beesley said he almost fainted at the news.

We, too, welcome the big Beesley family to our community. What a nice way to tell them we appreciate his service and the service of all our veterans.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Last week, on page 15, we published a photo of Joanne Montgomery after she was sworn in as the new deputy clerk by her boss, VBT Clerk Leon Wright. The only problem was, we referred to her as Marilyn Montgomery. Actually, Marilyn is her mother-in-law and someone I've known since our days at BHS. I apologize to Joanne and Marilyn.

In the same issue on page 3, I referred to Ali McCracken as "Ali McGraw." I apologize to her, as well. My goodness!

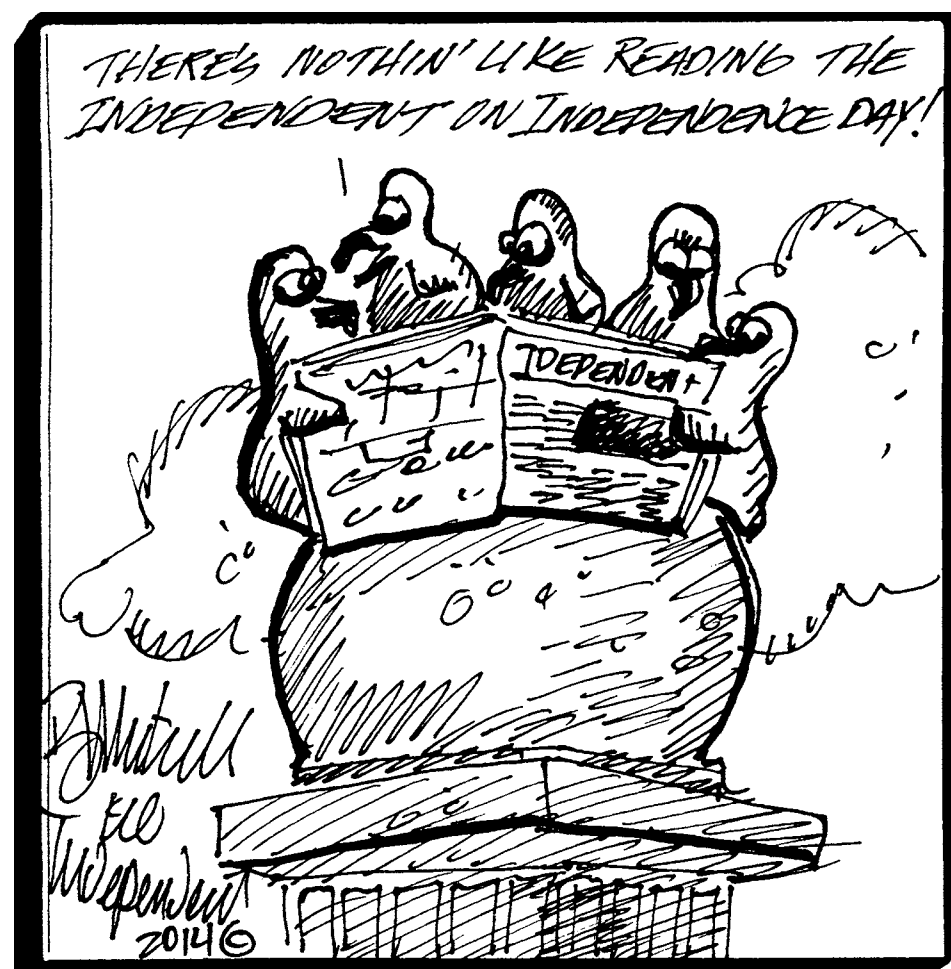
Dr. Dave Wilson advises me he has but one Ph.D. and my comment in this column last week was incorrect. I wrote that I always referred to him as Dr. Dr. Wilson because he had two Ph.D.s.

Dr. Wilson sent me a brief email on Friday: "Thanks very much for your mention of my award from the Huron River Watershed Council -- pleasing to me and a nice helpful puff for the HRWC. One minor correction, however; rumors that I have two Ph.D.s are grossly exaggerated. I have only one, having never felt the need to have a Ph.D. for each hand..."

Made me smile. Thanks for the note.

On June 24, I got a tip that a bunch of Michigan State Police cars were at the cell phone store next to McDonald's on Belleville Road. VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain explained. He said the MSP has a mandate to do seat belt enforcement and so was setting up selective enforcement on Belleville Road.

He said about six cars were pulled over, noting MSP had a motorcycle and three



cars working that area. Director Laurain said MSP met with VBT and alerted them to their project. The next day they had their seat belt enforcement in Taylor.

A lady who has lived in VBT for 15 years said her uncle retired and moved to Florida. He was back in town for a memorial service and they were at Van Buren Park. He wanted to go look at the Garden of Hope that is dedicated to veterans at the park. It was exceedingly weedy and they were very disappointed at the condition of the Garden of Hope that he remembered.

The lady said she called the VBT Parks & Recreation department and talked to a lady named Jennifer, who told her there were so many cuts in their budget that they can't do all the weeding. The woman was very upset. She said VBT charges people to get into the park and makes money on the pavilions. She said she saw people sitting in township trucks in the park doing nothing. She said the "headstone is huge" but a bunch of volunteers could weed around it. "It used to be so well taken care of," she said. "The township used to take more pride in itself."

A woman from Florida who visited Hillside Cemetery to check on the graves of her mother and father, called to tell me how upset she was. The family is putting in new headstones for the two graves and the foundations for the stones were supposed to be poured.

She understood it had been rainy and the city couldn't get the cement poured on schedule, but when she went to see the graves on the Monday after Strawberry Festival there were two pieces of warped, torn plywood thrown over the graves – presumably to keep people from falling into the holes for the pouring. She found that very disrespectful.

She went to City Hall to complain and she said she was told 30-some people were waiting to have their foundations poured and that crew only works one day a week. She said you'd think the city could afford to buy new pieces of plywood every few years. She says in Florida she knows about plywood since they use so much of it to board up buildings for hurricanes. It looks the way the plywood on the graves look from lying out in the rain for a long time.

A reader in Sumpter Township called on June 25 to tell me she got a threatening phone call from the IRS, but it was on her answering machine. The "IRS" person calling left a long message. Our reader called the telephone company and the telephone company said it was NOT the IRS calling. It was a scam. The IRS has stated it DOES NOT call people. It contacts people by mail.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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**Letters****181 tickets sold to baked
potato fund raiser**

To the Editor:

Thank you to Van Buren, Sumpter and
Belleville Community Members,

Here is a big round of applause for coming
out to our first fund raiser.

The baked potato dinner at Belleville
High School on June 27, was a resounding
success. 181 tickets were sold and all three
communities were well represented.

We had so much fun helping you fill
those gigantic potatoes, visiting with you,
and watching your faces light up as you
won one of the silent auction baskets. The
winner of the 50/50 raffle even donated a
portion of her winnings back.

Thank you also, to Belleville High School
administration for allowing us to use the
beautiful new cafeteria for the dinner. The
custodians were very helpful in setting up
and arranging the area so we could take
advantage of the panoramic view from the
bay windows for the evening.

Most of all, we greatly appreciate your
continuing support for our vision of a new
library for all to enjoy. When you drive
past the DNR property, notice the new sign
indicating the future site of the proposed
new main library. The absentee ballots
are starting to arrive in our mailboxes so
don't forget to vote YES and YES on the
proposals for the Belleville Area District
Library.

Once again, thank you,
Bonnie McRitchie, secretary
Belleville Area Citizens for a New Library
- Ballot Proposal Committee

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- Albert Einstein

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To the Editor:

I agree with the lady who called our
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beautiful Belleville Lake.

Surely, everyone will agree that Belleville
Lake IS Belleville. It has been THE open
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Township for many years, from every
direction.

Of course, this is not the first year our
shores have been neglected. Everyone is
talking about all the seeds and new weeds!
One can barely see beyond our
lovely blue bridge because of
the overgrowth and neglect.

What a shame our elected officials are
either wearing "blindness" or simply don't
care how our lakeshores look to visitors, as
well as we -- the residents and taxpayers.

Of all the varied contests, sculptures,
strawberry festival/carnival, etc. along
Main Street, Belleville Lake remains our
greatest asset -- an exceptional, beautiful
attraction.

WHY is it neglected? Manpower / funds?
WHY?

Now that our Belleville students have
been dismissed for the summer, perhaps we
could recruit those who are homebound,
unemployed to volunteer in cleaning-
up the Belleville Lake shoreline while
beautifying Belleville.

Like other communities, we could even
call it COMMUNITY SERVICE. Other
communities do this, so why can't we?

Thank you,
(Mrs.) Ruth E. Bleeker
Belleville

**Airman 1st Class York
graduates from basic
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Air Force Airman 1st Class Robert John
M. York graduated from basic military
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York is the son of Kimberly Meggison
and John (Kelly) York of Belleville, and
brother of Anthony Meggison of Ypsilanti.

He is a 2011 graduate of Ypsilanti High
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--Alex Levine



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Moose Lodge announces new hours of operation

The Moose 934 Board of Officers has approved new days and hours of operation beginning July 11, as follows:

- Monday through Thursday, 1 p.m. to midnight;
- Friday, 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.
- Saturday, noon to 2 a.m.; and
- Sunday, noon to midnight.

Moose #934 opens Friday, July 11, at 1 p.m., according to Robert Coutts, administrator.

The lodge is at its new location at the corner of Sumpter and Harris roads, in Sumpter Township.

Parker earns BBA from Western Michigan Univ.

Rodney Lamont Parker, Jr., of Belleville earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo during commencement ceremonies in April.

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



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Obituaries



Elroy Henry Nieman

ELROY H. NIEMAN

(September 2, 1927 - June 25, 2014)

Mr. Elroy Henry Nieman passed away Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born September 2, 1927 in Romulus, Michigan the son of Albert H. and Anna (Lang) Nieman.

On November 28, 1953 he married his soul mate, Dorothy Hazel Wallman, in New Boston, Michigan. Elroy and Dorothy shared 60 wonderful years together and were lifelong Belleville residents.

Elroy was tremendously devout and a proud member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. He was extremely active and energetic – he could often be found outside, putting in the garden and raised the most amazing tomatoes. He had an amazing green thumb and could make anything grow! Elroy was also a master handyman that could fix just about anything, as well as an avid fisherman!

Prior to his retirement in 1983, Elroy had been employed by the DT&I Railroad (now the Grand Trunk Railroad) for many years. However, he was never happier than when he was with his beloved wife and family.

Elroy is survived by his loving wife, Dorothy Nieman; his beloved children, Debora (William) Myhand, Sherry Rye, and Mark (Wendy) Nieman; and his adoring grandchildren Lauren (Jonathan) Villeneuve, Meghan (Brandon) Eller, Myriah Rye, and Kendal Anne and Erin Nieman. He is also survived by his siblings, William (Sally) Nieman, Alice Ries, and Evelyn Roberts. He is preceded in death by his mother, father, and 8 brothers and sisters.

Visitation was held on Friday, June 27, 2014 from 2-8 P.M. at the Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville (734-697-9400). Final visitation began at 12 Noon on Saturday, June 28, 2014 with services at 1 P.M. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 47445 W. Huron River Dr., Belleville, Michigan. Burial followed at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, Michigan.

The family suggested memorial contributions to one of the following: Michigan Heart and

Vascular Institute – Cardiology Donation Fund, 5325 Elliott Dr., Ypsilanti, MI 48197; Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue, P.O. Box 854, Belleville, MI 48112; or St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 47445 W. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 in lieu of flowers. www.hnfhome.com



Gregg Dion Richardson

GREGG D. RICHARDSON

(May 25, 1965 - June 22, 2014)

Gregg Dion Richardson, age 49, of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, June 22, 2014 at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI. He was born May 25, 1965 in Lincoln Park, MI, son of Gary Ivan & Gail Diane (Smith) Richardson.

Gregg was a member of the Class of 1983 Romulus High School. He worked as a Superintendent in Construction as an Engineer. He loved traveling all over the United States, especially Colorado. Gregg was a workaholic who was always up early doing things. He also delivered the *Belleville Enterprise* for Associated Newspapers for many years. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and loved his dogs.

He is survived by his loving companion Frankie Bitz of Romulus, MI; daughters Olivia Richardson of Pennsylvania, Rose & Jaclyn Bitnsons, 16-month-old son Dean Raymond Richardson, all of Romulus; parents Gail & Dave Ellis of Belleville, MI; two sisters Ginger Smith of Michigan and Daney (Brendon) Hughes of Fort Myers, FL; a brother David

Aarin (Melissa) Ellis of Westland, MI; former wife Nanci Richardson of Pennsylvania; 5 nieces & nephews; also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Memorial contributions may be made to the family and would be appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for them to treasure.



ROBERT W. HOEFT

(June 26, 1919 - June 27, 2014)

Age 95. Visitation was June 29 at Higgeson & Neal Funeral Home, Belleville. Funeral Mass was June 30 at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Burial with Military honors at Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.



Edward L. Vernier

EDWARD L. VERNIER

(March 22, 1928 - June 29, 2014)

Edward Leon Vernier, age 86, of Belleville, MI, passed away Sunday, June 29, 2014 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born March 22, 1928 in Highland, MI, son of Gilbert Paul & Irene (Rabadoo) Vernier.

Mr. Vernier proudly served his country in the

U.S. Army in WWII. He served on the Honor Guard and in the Military Police for several years, as well. He was an active member of Faith Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti, MI where he was a Trustee for many years. Ed enjoyed old cars and trucks, driving, and loved the outdoors; fishing, hunting and golfing. Most of all, he loved spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rebecca Dawn Vernier; three sons Paul (Mary) Vernier of California, Kenneth Allen (Gail) Vernier of Willis, MI and Edward (Tami) Vernier of Ortonville, MI; two step-daughters Tina Stewart and Carla Vernier; 8 grandchildren including special grandsons Edward Joseph Vernier II and Allan Vernier; 11 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great-grandchildren; a sister Daisy Hillman of E. Tawas, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and four sisters.

Visitation was 10-11 AM Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at Faith Lutheran Church, 1255 E. Forest Ave., Ypsilanti, 48197 with an 11:00 AM Funeral Service. Interment was in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Lutheran Church and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to treasure.

VBT Police will be out enforcing fireworks ordinance this weekend

Van Buren Township Police officers will be enforcing the township's newly passed fireworks ordinance this Fourth of July weekend.

VBT Public Safety Director Greg Laurain said the June 3, 2014 amended ordinance can be found on the township's web site where Municode presents all the VBT ordinances.

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Obituaries



Jean B. Schell

JEAN B. SCHELL

(June 18, 1922 – November 15, 2013)

Jean B. Schell, 91, of Missoula, passed away on Friday, November 15, 2013 at St Patrick Hospital in Missoula, Montana.

She was born June 18, 1922 in Ripley, New York to Walter and Florence Burgess. She attended Orlando Business School in Florida and began a lifelong career in the banking industry. She was a teller, general teller and an assistant branch manager at the National Bank of Detroit before retiring in the mid-1980s.

On November 27, 1942 she married the love of her life, Charles (Charlie) Schell in Ripley, New York. She stayed in New York until Charlie completed his military service in the United States Navy during World War II. They then moved to Belleville, Michigan where she lived until 2011, when she moved to Missoula. She and Charlie enjoyed traveling, in the U.S. and around the world.

Jean enjoyed reading, knitting and playing the piano. Although she lost most of her sight to macular degeneration, she continued all these hobbies with the help of her sharp memory and the Montana Talking Book Library. She was a lifelong Detroit Tigers fan.

She was preceded in death by her husband Charles Will, and her son Charles Walter.

Survivors include two daughters, Karen (Craig) Stabnau of Missoula, Montana and Barbara Schell of Missoula, Montana and one daughter-in-law, Laurie Schell, of Tecumseh, Michigan. She is also survived by her sister Laura Lick of Ripley, New York and grandchildren Eros Biox in Los Angeles, California; Jared (Katie) Stabnau in Kodiak, Alaska; Travis (Jessie) Stabnau of Missoula, Montana; Crystal (Josh) Parker in Adrian, Michigan; Melissa Schell in Tecumseh, Michigan and Charles Schell in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Jean is also survived by great grandchildren Logan Stabnau, Hadley Stabnau, Alaina Parker and Miranda Parker.

A celebration of Jean's life will be held in Belleville at David C. Brown Funeral Home on July 13, 2014 at 12 PM. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to the Montana Talking Book Library, PO Box 201800, 1515 E. 6th Ave., Helena, MT 59620-1800, the American Macular Degeneration Foundation (www.macular.org) or the charity of the donor's choice.

She was much loved and will be missed by all those she touched.

Arrangements are being handled by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. For more information or to offer a condolence to the Schell family, visit www.davidcbrownfh.com.

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Jeanette A. Holcomb

JEANETTE A. HOLCOMB

(October 10, 1955 - June 27, 2014)

Jeanette Agnes Holcomb, age 58, of Ypsilanti, MI, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, June 27, 2014 at her home. She was born October 10, 1955 in Dallas, Texas.

Jeanette worked for AVL in accounting for the Plymouth office. She was an avid reader who enjoyed cooking and hosting family events. She loved animals, traveling, dining in fine restaurants, most of all, spending time with her grandchildren.

Jeanette is survived by her husband of almost 20 years, David Charles Holcomb; daughter Diane (Herb) Martin of Ypsilanti, MI; son Dan (Danielle) Swartz of Toledo, Ohio; 7 grandchildren; a great-granddaughter Emma; a sister Barb (Chuck) Keller of Flat Rock, Ohio; also numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents Norbert & Helen (Ruffing) Schindly, also a son Robert Swartz.

Visitation was 1-6 PM Tuesday, July 1, 2014 with a 6:00 PM Funeral Service at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a story for her family to cherish.

Belleville man dies after being hit on I-75

A 55-year-old man from Belleville was killed Saturday morning in Auburn Hills when he was hit by a vehicle on I-75 at Walton Road while checking his semi-truck on the side of the highway.

Police say that a vehicle was traveling north on I-75 at around 1:45 a.m. when it hit a pedestrian walking near the fog line. The driver of the vehicle didn't stop at the scene.

Police believe the suspect's vehicle is a silver 2013-14 Ford car, possibly a Focus or Escape.

Anyone who witnessed this incident is asked to call the Auburn Hills Police Department at 248-370-9444.

Library presents programs on Great Lakes, Huron River

The final two, free adult programs for the Summer Reading Program are coming up in the second week of July at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth Street.

• "Discover the Great Lakes!" will be at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 10, in the Library Program Room. It will be an evening of discovery with Brent M. Lofgren, a physical scientist from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. He will provide an overview of the Great Lakes Ecosystem and more.

• "Our Huron River" will be presented at 11 a.m., Saturday, July 12, in the Library Program Room. How well do you know the river that flows right through your backyard? Come learn something new about the Huron River and Belleville Lake! Dr. David Wilson will share stories and photos

of its problems and its delights, including the beautiful plants and the abundant little critters he's encountered in his decade of conservation and education experience with the Huron River Watershed Council.

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8731 Lilly, Ypsilanti Twp
\$259,900— 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath brick home! 2 stry foyer, brick pvr patio overlooks pond, mstr ste +!



381 Harbour Pt, Bellville
\$169,900— 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath beauty with dual fireplace, full finished bsmnt & vaulted ceilings



9263 Parkland, Ypsilanti Twp.
\$164,900— 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath gem! Full bsmnt, open floor plan, master suite, fireplace & more!



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9502 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN
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47090 DENTON, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
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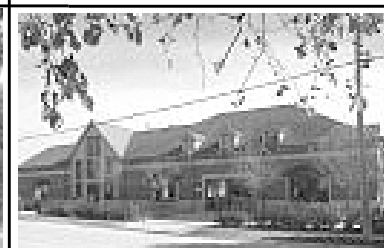
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Photo by Tony D'Onofrio

Recently, the Van Buren #3996 Fraternal Order of Eagles presented checks for \$5,309 each to Burger School for Students with Autism in Garden City and Webster School in Livonia. Both schools provide special education for autistic children in this area. The fraternal organization held the fundraiser in April in order to raise money for technology devices that facilitate learning and communication. A total of \$10,618 was raised. From left are Richard Cetnarowski, Jr., Eagles treasurer; Lora Boka, principal of Webster Elementary; Gary Smith, Eagles president; and Betty Tessmer, teacher at Burger School.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztman

Joanne Montgomery, right, was sworn in on June 23 as the new deputy clerk in Van Buren Township, taking the place of Kathleen Cline who was retiring. At left is VBT Clerk Leon Wright who officially swore Montgomery in and then signed the register with her. Montgomery has worked for the township since 2004 as Elections Account Clerk. Before that she was a Realtor at Remerica Main Street and served as a Warranty Administrator for both Walt Michals RV Center of VBT and Freightliner of Grand Rapids. She has a bachelor of science degree from Eastern Michigan University.

BHS All-Class Alumni Reunion set for Sept. 13 at high school cafeteria

This year's Belleville High School All-Class Alumni Reunion will be held in the BHS cafeteria on Saturday, Sept. 13.

A social gathering and school tour is set for 2-5 p.m., followed by dinner from 5-8 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person before Aug. 16 and \$30 per person thereafter. Checks should be made payable to Mildred Baker, Treasurer, and sent to the class representative for the graduate's particular year.

Late registrations and walk-ins are not guaranteed seating with their classmates.

Holiday Inn Express, Belleville, has

reserved rooms for out-of-town guests. Mention Belleville High School Alumni for a reduced rate for Sept. 12 and 13. Call before Aug. 1 for a reservation, 734-857-6200.

For more information, see Facebook: Belleville H S Alumni Reunion, phone 734-787-4601 or email the committee at bellevilleallclass@gmail.com.

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Sgt. Louis Keele, left, and Sgt. Marc Abdilla

VBT Sgts. Keele, Abdilla graduate from School of Police Staff, Command

Two sergeants with the Van Buren Township Police Department graduated Friday from the 351st Class of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command.

VBT Director of Public Safety Gregory Laurain congratulated Sgt. Louis Keele and Sgt. Marc Abdilla.

"This 10-month program is the most challenging and rewarding law enforcement management program in the nation and I am proud of you on your successful completion," Director Laurain said to the two.

Sgt. Keele has been with the department since 1995. During his 19-year career he has served in the road patrol, detective bureau, and cross-trained as a public safety officer in 2008. Sgt. Keele was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2013 and is now assigned as shift supervisor.

Sgt. Abdilla has been with the department since 1996. During his 18-year career he

has served in road patrol, detective bureau, and cross-trained as a public safety officer in 2006. Sgt. Abdilla was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2013 and is now assigned as shift supervisor.

Visteon completes acquisition of part of Johnson Controls

Visteon Corporation (NYSE: VC) announced on Tuesday that it has completed the acquisition of the automotive electronics business of Johnson Controls (NYSE: JCI), creating one of the world's three largest suppliers of vehicle cockpit electronics. The two companies announced plans for the \$265 million cash transaction on Jan. 13.

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Huron Valley Ambulance Camp 9-1-1 is coming Aug. 6-7 at the U of M Boathouse at Van Buren Park. Campers will be guided by Paramedics and EMTs through a variety of experiences including ambulance tours, learning CPR, and visiting a local emergency room. Space is limited for campers, ages 8-12, and reservations are required and can be made online at www.hva.org or by calling (734) 477-6781.

The **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** of Sumpter is gearing up for their **5th Annual Golf Fundraiser** on July 17 at the **Green Oaks Golf Course** in Ypsilanti. There will be a \$10,000 prize for hole-in-one on Hole 3 this year. To reserve a foursome or info on sponsorships or to donate to the event to benefit the no-kill shelter in Sumpter Township, call (734) 461-9458.

An **Antiques Appraisal Day** is coming up with Belleville's own **Doug Dalton** on Thursday, July 17, from 2 to 6 p.m. at the **Township Municipal Center**. Admission is \$10, which includes one appraisal with additional appraisals \$5 each. Proceeds will go to the Belleville Area Museum's **Don Keene Memorial Fund**. The event will also feature a yard sale, from noon to

7 p.m.

The **Belleville Area Council for the Arts' Concert Lakeside Series** continues tonight with the Bill Bynum (Bluegrass) 7 p.m. at Horizon Park on High Street. Rain location is **First United Methodist Church**. The concert is free. Call (734) 697-8123.

Want free color in the *Independent*? Simply sign your ad up for a year. If you're an advertiser that runs every week with us anyway, the 52-week run will not only get your ad colorized by our award winning production team, you'll save 35% off the total contract. To learn more, call me at (734) 699 9020.

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

Secretary of State to close July 14-18; reopen July 21 in new site

Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announces the Belleville Secretary of State office will be closed July 14-18 and reopen at 9 a.m. July 21 in its new site at the Davenport Plaza, 164 E. Columbia Ave., Belleville. Those wishing to visit a Secretary of State office in the meantime may visit those in Westland, Canton, Brownstown or Ypsilanti.

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More Letters

Create a hazard, then provide a solution!

To the Editor:

Create a hazard then provide a solution! This seems to be the philosophy of the BADL and their 'experts'. Put the "proposed debacle" on land that has not been purchased from an agency well known for its history of demands then abdication of responsibility defies rationality.

No traffic hazard in "speed trap alley?" Just check the complaint letters and traffic court records of contesting speeders caught in ignoring the 30, and 35 mph zone (right where the "traffic engineer" says there is no problem). If one follows the speed LIMIT posting, one will have other motorists riding your rear bumper, honking their horns, or passing in the next lane with a look of disgust or disdain -- if not the "Hawaiian Good Luck" finger sign.

As drivers leave the stop light at the bridge it's, "Gentlemen start your engines, we've got one lane to two lanes so and pedal to the metal! Oops, all stop, someone has activated the Library light. Ah yes, it's a pedestrian! All stop on a secondary main arterial for walkers and bikers. Ready, go! Oh no, we now have a "loop trigger"

outbound from the library -- still a stop or does it turn green then amber then red and only two cars get through for work or on their way home?

Heaven help the person who wants to make a left turn southbound on Belleville Road into the "planned library site."

Now we're told "...they don't have to coordinate this light with others farther north on Belleville Road." How about coordinating with lights south? Ah, yes! No need as the Library will take precedence over all other citizens, drivers, or entities with "loop triggers" in the pavement to accommodate the library's 190-car parking lot, or, "...pedestrians," according to Dawson and Labadie, "could push a button to cross...." And according to Labadie, "You won't delay people unless you have to."

You HAVE TO? We know where the BADL priorities lie and they are NOT with the public, commuting public or VOTING PUBLIC!

According to Labadie, "...but, schools are not a big generator of traffic volume on roads." Just for Belleville High School the student lot was designed to be for 265+ cars plus staff of 120 = 385 cars (and this does NOT count the students who do not use the school parking lot). Now add school bus and parent drop off and pick up for ALL of the schools and can it still be said schools have no impact on traffic?

Check out Geddes/Canton Center Road or Owen/Sumpter at 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.!

As per usual, everything looks and sounds great on paper, but when really analyzed and scrutinized and applied with an element of common sense this whole concept of the BADL is ludicrous!

VOTE No on District Library Proposals.

Cornell Anton, Jr.
Belleville

Editor's Note: In the above letter BADL stands for Belleville Area District Library Board, Dawson refers to BADL president Mary Jane Dawson, and Labadie is engineer Michael J. Labadie of Fleis & Vandenbrink who did a recent traffic study of Belleville Road in front of the proposed library site that determined no full traffic light was necessary there.

Invest in a brighter future; vote YES Aug. 5

To the Editor:

A vivid memory I enjoy reflecting back on was of travel in another country where I noticed the use of the library as a civic hub, where the community came together and young families with baby strollers met up with each other. I remember thinking what a wonderful addition to the informational resource a library offers!

Now, right here at home, our communities of Belleville, Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township have the opportunity for a library system that offers space to meet our community needs as well as much needed upgrades to our holdings of books and information technology.

Our Library Board has done a wonderful job in assessing community needs and proposing siting that takes advantage of our unique community natural resources.

The proposed new main library site promises to be a stunning and welcoming gateway into the greater Belleville area, offering our community public space for community gatherings as well as necessary improvements to our current impressive array of library services which have far outgrown their existing cramped space.

I urge members of our community to invest in a brighter future for all of us by

voting yes on both library proposals on the Aug. 5 ballot.

Sharon C. Peters
Van Buren Township

Library will be an asset for everyone; Vote Aug. 5

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of the proposed Belleville area library. Our family, including our grandchildren, has used the library for over 30 years.

Although there is a great library staff, we see the physical inadequacies of the present library. The possibility of a new, improved, and larger library, as well as a branch library in Sumpter Township, I believe will certainly be an embellishment for all of our communities.

With the new proposed library just north of the city of Belleville there will be more space for books, materials, larger community meeting rooms, study rooms, expanded computer lab, with computer classes being offered at the main library as well as the Sumpter Library. The budget for books and other materials will be doubled. There will be greatly increased programming for our children, teens, and adults -- and the main library will be open seven days a week!

How will this affect your budget and my budget? First, the average millage rate to pay off the bond for constructing and equipping the new library would be 0.96 mils. Second, the increase in the millage for operating the library would be 1.00 mils (added to our present millage of 0.70 mils). The combined cost of the bond millage and the increase in the operating millage would therefore be 1.96 mils. To find out the increase in your tax bill, multiply your home's taxable value by 0.00196. For a home worth \$150,000 and having a taxable value of \$75,000, this would average \$147 a year.

Being retired and on a fixed income any increase will affect us as well; however, we are proud of our community and we believe that the proposed library will certainly be an asset for everyone. Please vote on Aug. 5.

Karen Monte, Van Buren Township



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Sherry Danowski of Belleville reads her *Independent* in May after visiting the historic San Cristobal Fort in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico, and heading back to the cruise ship. Erik Keller of Novi took the picture. They were on an 8-day cruise on the Carnival cruise line's ship The Breeze out of Miami into the eastern Caribbean. They both are 1985 graduates of Belleville High School.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions -- and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

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Shooter dies

(continued from page 1)

turned into the cemetery at 1 p.m., led by the Michigan State Police. At 1:03 p.m. the police radio crackled with condolences for the family from those officers on duty who were unable to attend the funeral.

Mourners' cars that were unable to park in the cemetery parked three abreast on Denton Road.

Motorists reported a 20-minute wait after the brief service while police cars exited Denton Road onto Main Street, heading north over the bridge.

The late George Heifner covered the funeral for the *Independent* and took many pictures for the local story.

Officer Philpot was born in Dearborn and graduated from Henry Ford High School in 1984 and the Michigan Christian College in Rochester in 1986. He served in the Army for two years, then attended the police academy, joining the Detroit force in 1989.

He was survived by his wife Diane and their 7-month-old daughter, his mother, father, sister and brother.

On May 28, 1996, a jury convicted Younes of first-degree murder (life sentence), two charges of assault with intent to commit murder (20-40 years each), and one felony firearms weapons charge (2 years).

VB T warrant

(continued from page 1)

Brooks' arrest.

According to unconfirmed reports, the incident involved brandishing a police service revolver and verbal threats to another motorist.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, July 3** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Bill Bynum (Bluegrass). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Sunday, July 6** – Bugles Across America is held at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street in Belleville to honor military people serving and at rest with a brief ceremony.

• **Thursday, July 10** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with One Love Reggae (Reggae). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Sunday, July 13** – Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

• **Thursday, July 17** – Yard Sale and Antique Appraisal Day noon to 7 p.m. at the museum. (Appraisals: 2-6 p.m.) Admission to appraisals and first item is \$10; each

additional item is \$5, limit 4. Also, book signing by Jean Scheffler, author of "The Sugar House," 1-3 p.m.

• **Thursday, July 17** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Paul Carey Organ Trio featuring Benny Reeves (Blues). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Saturday, July 19** – Family Fun Day at Sumpter's Graham Park

• **Saturday, July 19** – Garden/Art Walk through the villages of Huron Township from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nine spectacular gardens featured, some with art for sale. Museum and Grass Roots Nursery also on the walk. Benefit for Soroptimist International of the Flat Rock Area. Ticket, \$10. Information: (734) 753-3447.

• **Thursday, July 24** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Cash O'Riley (Rockabilly). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Thursday, July 31** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Rustbelt Revival (Classic Rock). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Sunday, Aug. 3** – Bugles Across America is held at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street in Belleville to honor military people serving and at rest with a brief ceremony.

• **Monday, Aug. 4 – Saturday, Aug. 9** – Wayne County Fair at the fairgrounds on Quirk Road in Van Buren Township, north of the North I-94 Service Drive.

• **Thursday, Aug. 7** – Music Lakeside at Horizon Park at 7 p.m. with Blue Steel (Big Band). Free. Bring your own chairs. Presented by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• **Sunday, Aug. 17** – Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

• **Sunday, Sept. 7** – Bugles Across America is held at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial on High Street in Belleville to honor military people serving and at rest with a brief ceremony.

• **Saturday, Sept. 13** – Belleville High School All-Alumni Reunion at the BHS Cafeteria. 2-5 p.m. social gathering and school tour; 5-8 p.m. dinner. \$20 per person in advance. For more information: see Facebook: Belleville H S Alumni Reunion or phone 734-787-4601 or email bellevilleallclass@gmail.com.

• **Sunday, Sept. 14** – Car show and Demolition Derby at the Sumpter Township fairgrounds.

• **Wednesday, Sept. 17** – Antique Appraisal Day at the museum from 2 to 6 p.m. Appraisals: \$10 admission and first item; \$5 for each additional item (limit 4).

• **Sunday, Sept. 28** – Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs

Upcoming Meetings

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

• Tuesday, July 8 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA), 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 9 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, July 10 – Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, July 14 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building.

• Tuesday, July 15 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, regular meeting, 7 p.m.

Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

Public Notice Advertisement for Pizza Bid

The Van Buren Food Service Department is now accepting firm, sealed bids to provide fresh-made pizza for the 2014-15 school year. Bid specifications are available at Van Buren Public Schools Administration Office, 555 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, from Deb Evans no later than July 31, 2014, 9:00 a.m. No determination of winning bid will be revealed at that time. Bids will not be accepted via oral, telephonic, email or fax.

Publish: July 3, 2014, July 17, 2014



Sumpter Township Public Notice



Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 10, 2014

Meeting called to order by Treasurer J. Morgan at 6:30 pm showing present: Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Also present Deputy Clerk Hurst and approx. 14 residents. Excused medical, Supervisor Vawters.

3. Agenda: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hamm to remove item A & C and approve the rest of agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public comments only on agenda items

5. Minutes:

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve regular board meeting minutes of May 27 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Warrants: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve warrants totaling \$153,323.95. Roll call vote: Yes: Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan & Swinson. Nays: None. Motion carries unanimously.

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

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

9. Building/Ordinance: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the building/ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Fire: Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the fire report as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

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

12. Attorney: No report

• Wednesday, July 16 – Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, City of Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, July 21 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, July 22 – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Water & Sewer Commission, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, July 23 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, Aug. 4 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Aug. 6 – Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

13. Board Response:

A. Motion by Hamm, supported by P. Morgan to approve the non-union personnel policy. Motion carried unanimously.

14. New Business:

A. Removed

B. Motion by Hoffman, supported by Swinson to approve for township employees to construct a memorial courtyard on south side of township hall at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00 for supplies. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Removed

D. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve resolution 2014-09 Fire department grant. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Announcements

16. Open Floor

17. Adjournment: Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to adjourn at 7:09 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on June 10, 2014 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: June 3, 2014

Court Watching:

Dauwan Smith bound over for trial on Chop Shop charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Dauwan Smith, 54, has been bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information at 9 a.m., July 2, for charges surrounding a chopped-up F-150 truck in the back of a U-Haul in which he was a passenger.

After a preliminary exam on June 25 before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley, Judge Oakley ruled the prosecutor had fulfilled his burden of proof and there was probable cause to bind Smith over to the higher court.

Smith's bond of \$250,000 or 10% was continued on Chop Shop charges and receiving and concealing stolen property.

But, bond wasn't a problem, since Smith was brought to court in prison garb by two Michigan Department of Corrections officers. He already was on a hold for violation of probation.

Smith's court-appointed attorney was David Lankford and the special prosecutor was John Johnson.

Michigan State Police Trooper Ben Sonstrom was the first witness. He testified that he pulled over a small U-Haul box truck going westbound on I-94 near Rawsonville Road in Van Buren Township.

He said it was a traffic stop, with the truck going 75 mph in a 70 mph zone. He said he was in his MSP uniform in a marked MSP car. He said he noticed a red fluid dripping down from the back of the rollup door.

He testified that he took the driver back to his MSP vehicle and made contact with the passenger, Smith, who had dirty clothes

and dirty and greasy hands.

Trooper Sonstrom called for backup. He found the driver did not have a valid driver's license. He said they found a bunch of car parts in the back of the U-Haul, tires, and an engine or transmission.

He said they took both the driver and passenger into custody, towed the vehicle, and contacted the Southeast Auto Theft Team.

Sonstrom testified there were parts and tools in the back and saw blades in the front, from a reciprocating saw or Sawzall.

On cross-examination by Lankford, Sonstrom said they could not find a key for the padlock on the back of the truck, so they cut it open with a bolt cutter.

Sonstrom testified he didn't know how long Smith was in the vehicle, but Smith told him he was just out for a ride with his friend.

Sonstrom said he contacted a person at U-Haul and found that Smith didn't rent the truck and it was rented by Bobby Drennan. Lankford said, speaking of the man at U-Haul, "He told you about it and Smith never came up," and Sonstrom said that was true.

The second witness was MSP Trooper Brian Ball, with the Motor Carrier Enforcement Division. He testified that he came to assist Trooper Sonstrom on westbound I-94 near Rawsonville. He said he put Smith in his patrol car. He patted down Smith for weapons and found none.

Trooper Ball, too, described Smith as having dirty hands and clothes.

After transporting Smith back to the post, he emptied the suspect's pockets and found a chrome socket in his front pants. He turned everything in the pockets over to Det. Lt. Ray Collins of the Southeast Michigan Auto Theft Team.

Det./Lt. Collins was the third witness. He said he was called to state police headquarters to investigate the case and looked at the interior of the cab and saw the blades.

He said there was oil all over the step going into the cargo area and he had to be careful climbing up.

Det./Lt. Collins testified that inside the cargo area were a Ford engine, transmission, all three interior seats, five wheels (4 tires and a spare), a PCM (brain) all for a Ford truck. There also was a large bag of tools and a cherry picker.

All the parts were for the same Ford truck, a 2014 F-150 truck, reported stolen the previous day by U-Haul.

Judge Oakley clarified that the pickup in pieces in the U-Haul truck was owned by U-Haul and reported missing by them.

Collins said Mr. Robinson was the driver and neither he nor Smith had permission to be using the U-Haul truck.

When the prosecutor asked the value of the parts in the cargo hold, Collins checked his written report and said the engine was worth \$6,100, the transmission \$5,100, the power train control module \$725, tires and rims \$2,100...

Defense attorney Lankford interrupted the report saying defense would stipulate the parts were worth more than \$1,000 total.

Lankford pointed out the socket in Smith's pocket was 11 mm, about half an inch in size, and Collins said that was so, but several other similar sockets were in the toolbag in back with the same wording engraved on them.

Prosecutor Johnson summarized his evidence against Smith: a stolen U-Haul, stolen parts, greasy, dirty, and socket in pocket.

Judge Oakley ruled Smith bound over to circuit court.

Court records show that Smith has a history of more than a dozen convictions involving stolen vehicles and a 1988 conviction for escape from prison.

Clarence Joseph Johnson

A preliminary exam on a charge of possession of narcotics against Clarence Joseph Johnson was adjourned until July 2

by Judge Oakley. Johnson's bond of \$4,000 personal recognizance was continued. Chief officer on the case is VBT Detective Donovan McCarthy.

Stephon Douglas Hansle

Stephon Douglas Hansle, 21, waived his preliminary exam and Judge Oakley bound him over for an arraignment on the information July 9 at circuit court.

His bond of \$20,000/10% was continued. He was lodged in the Wayne County Jail.

Hansle is charged with fleeing a police officer in a vehicle, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, and operating without a license, all on June 5.

Sumpter officer in charge is Det. John Toth.

Det. Toth said this is the case where Randy Lynch from the Sumpter Township Water Department was rear-ended in his township truck at Sumpter and Willis roads. The driver fled and Lynch followed, updating dispatch.

Sumpter Officers Jerry Cox, Jr. and James Cayce gave chase on Rawsonville Road until Snow Road and then the chase was terminated because of nearby Rawsonville School.

Washtenaw County Sheriff's Deputies found the car in West Willow with defendant Hansle standing next to it. Officer Cox identified the driver and the case moved forward, Toth said.

Toth said Lynch had been a reserve police officer in the past and served as a great witness.

Donna Sue Fairley

Donna Sue Fairley, 45, who was charged with malicious destruction of personal property worth more than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000 in VBT waived her preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a 9 a.m., July 9 arraignment on the information.

Her personal recognizance bond of \$10,000 was continued. The alleged incident occurred on Oct. 8, 2013. VBT Det. Mark Buxton is the officer in charge and court-appointed attorney Lankford was her defense attorney.

Maurice Demming

Maurice Demming pled guilty to being a disorderly person. He told Judge Oakley that he was being loud in the 100 block of Western Street in Belleville (VBT) on Dec. 16, 2012. The original charge against him was dismissed in the plea deal. Judge Oakley fined him \$570.

Demming said he had three different cases pending and has an Aug. 26 court date.

Five bench warrants

At the end of the court session, around 11 a.m., Judge Oakley order five bench warrants for defendants who were supposed to be in court that day at 9 a.m. and didn't show up.



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Expires 7/31/2014. NMLS #33675

2 BR., 1 BATH DUPLEX, 1 car
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7/24

Baltia Air Lines to be title sponsor of 2014 Thunder over Michigan

Thunder Over Michigan Air Show officials
announced June 25 that Baltia Air Lines
will be the show's 2014 title sponsor.

The 2014 show is to be named the Baltia
Air Lines Thunder Over Michigan Air
Show. This year's show will feature the
United States Air Force Thunderbirds on
Aug. 9 and 10 at Willow Run Airport.

Baltia Air Lines, Inc. (BLTA) is a New
York corporation headquartered at JFK
International Airport in New York with a
base of operations at Willow Run Airport.

Upon certification, Baltia's goal is to
become the leading U.S. airline in the
Trans-Atlantic market between the major
U.S. cities and capital cities of Eastern
Europe, including Russia, Latvia, Ukraine,
and Belarus.

"We are very excited to partner with an
emerging aviation star like Baltia Air Lines,"
said Kevin Walsh, Thunder Over Michigan
Air Show Director. "Their support will
allow us to put on a world-class air show at
Willow Run."

Igor Dmitrowsky, President of Baltia Air
Lines said, "We are very proud to be the
lead sponsor of one of America's premier
air shows."

The USAF Thunderbirds, the show's
featured performer, are internationally-
known for their hard-charging demonstration
of precision formation flying while pushing
their F-16 Fighting Falcons to the limit.

Known as "America's Ambassadors in
Blue," the Thunderbirds have traveled
throughout the world performing before
millions of spectators. Their distinctive red,
white and blue F-16 jets along with their
precise routines make the Thunderbirds' show a favorite.

HOUSE FOR SALE



**\$350,000 -- 4 Bedroom,
3.5 Bath, Finished Basement,
2 Acres, Detached Garage
with Power, Paved Driveway.
(734) 645-8563**

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UNBELIEVABLE SAVINGS!

**2 bed/2 bath for only
\$16,995? Yes! All appliances
including washer, dryer, a/c,
shed and deck.**

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with incredible amenities.**

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*WAC, EHO. Financed: \$17,995

@ 10.5% APR, 36 months.

Discount lot rent for 3 years. Financing
arranged through Sun Home Services,
Inc. NMLS # 33675
Expires July 31, 2014

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

GREAT CONDITION DOUBLE Wide
home. 14 Carmell, Belle Villa Mead-
ows. 3 BR., 2 baths. \$23,900 obo.
(248) 797-5050 or millen@advdata.net 7/17

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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.

HELP WANTED

Drivers: Carter Express - CDL-A.
Dedicated Routes, Romulus, MI to
Smyrna, TN. Average 2,695 miles/
wk. Solos up to 37 cpm to start.
Dedicated Routes \$195 per day Romulus,
MI to Anderson, IN. Home Weekly. No
Slip Seat. No Touch, Newer Equipment.
(855) 219-4838

7/24

HELP WANTED

**Friends of Michigan Animal
Rescue of Sumpter Twp. is
looking for volunteers
to help with our dogs.
Morning & afternoon
positions available.**

**Call Sandy at (734) 417-5117
or email
seatonsandra@yahoo.com**



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

CAREGIVER NEEDED for elderly
woman. Please call Tina
(734) 552-7909

7/03

HELP WANTED

Apartment Communities in Belleville and Ypsilanti are
looking to fill a full time Maintenance, and Grounds posi-
tion, with fair pay, and full benefits to Dependable, Hard
working, Enthusiast people. Maintenance must have basic
knowledge in plumbing, electrical, be HAVA certified, and
have a valid drivers license. If you qualify for this position
please send your resume to bellevillepointe@yahoo.com,
or apply in person at the Belleville Pointe office.

**There's a good chance we're right in your
neighborhood. We're looking for Direct Care
Assistants to support persons we serve in their
homes in the Belleville & Romulus communities.
\$8.25 total per hr. plus good benefits.
Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543
Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org**

DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

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

HELP WANTED

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

TFN

HAIR STYLIST with or without Clientele
needed at a Modern Salon w/ Friendly
Workers. Bladez (734) 697-5600

TFN

LAWN SERVICE - Must have experience
in all areas of lawn service. Must have
own transportation. (734) 587-2410
No Experience? Don't Call

7/03

CONSTRUCTION LABORER NEEDED
F/T or P/T needed immediately for
local excavation & septic compa-
ny. No experienced necessary. Wages
negotiable (734) 461-6838 or email
kovalak@comcast.net

7/10

LOCKWOOD MANAGEMENT is hiring
3 Maintenance Technicians for two loca-
tions in Belleville and Ypsilanti. Must
be able to pass background, drug screen
and have valid driver license and 1 year
apartment experience. Send resume to
esimmons@lockwoodcompanies.com or
(734) 699-7322.

7/03

HELP WANTED

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR SALE

2 Twin Serta Hospital Beds, like new.
Combine into King Size Bed. \$900. each
or \$1,500. both. (734) 559-4682. 7/10

TABLETOP SINGER Sewing Machine
w/ attachments, \$45. Electric portable
typewriter in carrying case, \$35. Wooden
Knee hole desk, 7 drawers w/ chair &
lamp, \$200. (734) 697-7470 7/10

CRAFTSMAN Yard tractor, 15.5 Kohler
engine. Needs work or great for parts.
\$350 obo 3 pc. Bistro table & 2 high back
chairs, like new, \$75. (734) 485-9148 7/17

2004 CALICO Stock/Horse Trailer.
Floor & trailer good condition. \$3,500
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C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!
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1985 GM BLUEBIRD SCHOOL
BUS, Runs Good, 81,000 miles
(734) 740-8761 7/17

1993 OLDS CUTLASS Supreme
Convertible from Georgia. 3.1L V6,
104K miles, Auto., PS/PB, Power top,
Windows & Leather seats. Lady owned.
\$2700 negotiable. (734) 391-7371 7/17

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Silver Minivan. 84,900 actual miles, one
owner. A-1 condition inside & out. \$3,900
(734) 699-2534 7/10

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Newmar. 34 Ft., 2 Slides. \$14,000
(734) 699-7129. 7/10

1994 RAM TRUCK 318. Good
condition, Navy blue. \$1,800
(313) 978-8024 7/17

1992 CHEVY EXTENDED Cab Pick-
Up. 4 WD, Many new parts. \$750
(734) 941-6323 7/17

WANTED

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

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

WANTED - WORK - Asking \$13/hr. plus
mileage taking you to Doctors, Shopping,
Cleaning, Gardening, etc. Belleville Area
(734) 697-7506 7/17

WANTED

**WE BUY
JUNK CARS**

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

**WANTED:
JUNK CARS**

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

FREE

BETTY GOTT BAYSHORE DR.
You've won a dozen free roses. Pick
them up at Main St. Flower's down-
town, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or
www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

FOUND

BLACK & WHITE YOUNG CAT.
4 white paws, very friendly. Found
corner of Ecorse & Edwards area.
(734) 697-1812 7/10

"The world is a dangerous place to live;
not because of the people who are evil,
but because of the people who don't do
anything about it."
- Albert Einstein

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

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

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



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Serving Belleville Since**

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@ 734-740-0628**

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too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL.
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Commercial & Residential Lawn Care.
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MD APPLIANCE SERVICE
Refrigerators, "Washers, Dryers, Ranges,
\$20 House Call (734) 782-3354 8/28

MICHIGAN VIDEO Game Repair.
X BOX 360 & X BOX 1. PS3 & PS4
Repair. (734) 707-8725 7/03

"Being powerful is like being a lady. If
you have to tell people you ARE, you
AREN'T."

-- Margaret Thatcher
British Prime Minister, 1925-2013

FOR SALE

CRYPTS in Michigan Memorial Park,
Shrine of Remembrance, Flat Rock, MI.
Pair, \$12,000 Cell (313) 909-3770 7/03

POULAN PRO Model #625 Power
Mower. 22" cut, Mulch, Bag, Electric
start, New battery, Self propelled. \$70
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GENERATOR 5500 will run a three
bedroom house. \$350. (734) 587-2024 7/03

REMODEL SPECIAL - Complete
Kitchen. (4) white GE appliances. Dark
oak raised panel cabinetry. \$1,500
(734) 697-2029 for details. 7/03

18' 2003 Assembled Crest Pontoon
Boat. 2010 40 h.p. Mercury Big Foot.
2006 Galvanized Trailer. Fish finder
and more. \$6,499 obo full package.
(734) 753-4003 7/03

CEMETERY PLOT in Knollwood,
Canton, MI. You can pick lot. Value
\$1,175 asking \$1,000 plus transfer fees.
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12" WOOD LATHE w/20 parting
tools, \$300. 10" Radial Arm Saw,
\$150. Saber Saw w/extra blades, \$75.
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1991 25' Layton Camper. Excellent con-
dition. (734) 788-8966. 7/10

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, June 22:
0035 – disturbance, Tyler Rd.
0106 – fireworks, Elwell Rd./Lauren Ct.
0207 – disturbance, Denton Rd.
0242 – disturbance, Haggerty
0443 – fight, Haggerty
1141 – shots fired, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1229 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1245 – private property accident, Marina Dr.
1258 – narcotics crime, Quirk Park
1529 – assault & battery, Anna Dr.
1745 – private property accident, DNR/E. Huron River Dr.
1945 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
2047 – ATV/ORV complaint, Pebblebrook Dr.
2127 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.
2342 – juvenile complaint, N. Ponderosa Trl.

Monday, June 23:
0922 – animal bite, Ash Dr.
0950 – malicious destruction of property, Fisher
1003 – missing person, Sylvia Dr.
1156 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.
1232 – malicious destruction of property, Wilson
1248 – private property accident, Southport
1638 – agency assist, Lake Villa Dr.
1818 – malicious destruction of property, Wilson
1838 – assault & battery, Republic Dr.
1846 – harassment call, Chinkapin Dr.
1942 – intimidation threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2100 – assault & battery, Maple Dr.
2112 – harassment call, E. Sadie Ln.
2112 – sexual assault, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2151 – animal bite, McBride Ave.
2217 – dumping complaint, Lake Point Blvd.

Tuesday, June 24:
0011 – noise complaint, Westlake
0127 – suicide or attempt, Oak Ln.
1149 – animal bite, Burtrig St.
1257 – ordinance violation, Christina Ln. / Cobblestone
1354 – larceny, Lake Pointe Pass
1624 – private property accident, W. Huron River Dr.
1722 – assault & battery, Oak Blvd.
1742 – lake complaint, Huron River Dr./boat launch

1756 – juvenile complaint, Denton
1855 – agency assist, Parkwood Dr.
2005 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.
2051 – disturbance, Maple Dr.
2132 – agency assist, Country Walk Blvd.
2232 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Manor

Wednesday, June 25:
0817 – agency assist, Ponderosa
0939 – private property accident, Kent Dr.
1111 – narcotics crime, Maurice Dr.
1336 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1821 – suspicious person, Wildbrook/Savage
1827 – property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.
1858 – fraud, Rawsonville
1917 – narcotics crime, Parkwood Dr.
2205 – suspicious person, W. Huron River Dr. / Cobblestone
2215 – fireworks, Parkwood Manor
2301 – suspicious person, Lighthouse Dr.
2310 – shots fired, Kirkridge Park Dr.

Thursday, June 26:
0344 – disturbance, Pine Dr.
1259 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.
1325 – vagrant, Belleville
1350 – assault & battery, I-94 Service/EQ
1350 – panic alarm, Brookside Dr.
1349 – harassment call, Parkwood
1511 – malicious destruction of property, Johnny’s Hot Spot
1636 – mental, Brookview Dr.
1655 – assault & battery, Haggerty BP
1705 – agency assist, Belle Villa
1745 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1842 – narcotics crime, Ecorse Service Dr. B / Mida Dr.
1844 – weapons violation, Buchanan St.
1903 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1949 – operating while intoxicated, Hannan/Ecorse

2051 – motorist assist, EB I-94/Rawsonville
2102 – trespassing, Ironwood Dr.
2153 – fireworks, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2226 – mental, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2227 – mental, Belmont Dr.

Friday, June 27:
0008 – breaking & entering, Belmont Dr.
0039 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
0125 – disturbance, McKinley St.
0843 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Westlake Cir.
1209 – malicious destruction of property, S. Bellridge Dr.
1315 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1333 – disorderly conduct, Sugarbush Ln.
1427 – property damage accident, Belleville/Tyler
1532 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
1617 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.

1642 – assault & battery, Mida
1645 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Tyler
1710 – assault & battery, Haggerty Rd.
1716 – intimidation threat, Denton Rd.
1740 – intimidation threat, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1830 – assault & battery, N. Timberview Dr.
1835 – private property accident, Haggerty
2051 – fireworks, N. Ponderosa Trl./Peachtree Ln.
2330 – private property accident, Belleville

Saturday, June 28:
0021 – noise complaint, Meadows Ln.
0042 – fraud, Belleville
0056 – agency assist, Rawsonville
0124 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0152 – disturbance, Belleville
0309 – operating while intoxicated, Haggerty/I-94
0346 – agency assist, Willow Run Airport
0827 – lake complaint, Belleville Lake
0846 – property damage accident, Tyler/Belleville
0912 – mental, Belleville
0952 – fight, Lake Villa Dr.
1043 – private property accident, Belleville
1047 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.

1044 – private property accident, E. Archwood Dr.
1154 – agency assist, Main/W. Columbia
1203 – malicious destruction of property, Denton
1211 – loitering, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1307 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1340 – assault & battery, Gilmore St.
1419 – disturbance, Metro Parks Party Store
1420 – shots fired, Hull Rd.

1500 – intimidation threat, Westlake
1605 – loitering, Van Buren Park Beach
1711 – loitering, Village Green Ln.
1825 – missing person, Colony Ln.
1857 – fireworks, Brookview Dr.
1859 – juvenile complaint, Denton Rd.
1909 – traffic hazard, Ecorse/I-275
1958 – noise complaint, Parkwood
2008 – sexual assault, W. Huron River Dr.
2025 – larceny, Denton Rd.
2029 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2032 – juvenile complaint, Sheldon Rd./Van Born
2235 – fight, McBride Middle School

On this week’s log were 167 traffic stops, with 16 of those being on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 22:
0046 – suspicious person, N. Liberty/Second
0224 – disturbance, N. Liberty St.
0637 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
0841 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0843 – missing person, N. Aberdeen Ct.
0854 – assist citizen, Main St.
0958 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
1309 – missing person, Belle Villa Blvd.
1320 – private property accident, Carmell St.
1722 – juvenile complaint, Carmell St.
1752 – agency assist, Huron River DNR
1901 – juvenile complaint, Hillside Cemetery
1927 – agency assist, Main St.
2058 – noise complaint, Greylock St.

Monday, June 23:
0058 – warrant arrest, Main St.
0125 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.

0641 – assist fire dept., Madelon St.
0913 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.
1137 – intrusion alarm, S. Aberdeen Ct.
1357 – E-911 hang up/investigation, Fourth St.
1432 – larceny, Henry St.
1434 – suspicious situation, Sumpter Rd.
1454 – animal complaint, Potter Dr.
1804 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.

Tuesday, June 24:
0447 – assist fire dept., Brain St.
0811 – mental, Harbour Pointe Ct.
1013 – background investigation, Main St.
1236 – ordinance violation, Main St.
1243 – lost property, W. Columbia Ave.
1325 – welfare check, Robbe St.
1345 – vehicle lockout, Belle Villa Blvd.
1643 – agency assist, Quirk/S. I-94 Service
1703 – harassment call, W. Wabash Ave.
1749 – disorderly conduct, DNR boat launch
1908 – suspicious situation, W. Columbia Ave.
2041 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
2129 – suspicious vehicle, Owen St./Sumpter Rd.
2142 – disturbance, Estrada

Wednesday, June 25:
0041 – suspicious person, Estrada Dr./Central
1101 – found property, Owen
1104 – narcotics crime, Owen
1629 – traffic complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
2117 – suspicious vehicle, Biggs/Huron River
2246 – suspicious situation, Carmell St.

Thursday, June 26:
0035 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.
0051 – warrant arrest, Main St.
0054 – agency assist, Waterbury
0843 – assist fire dept., Victorian Ln.
1520 – disorderly conduct, S. Liberty St. / E. Huron River Dr.
1546 – found property, Main St.
1701 – domestic assault, Belle Villa Blvd.
1959 – civil matter, Loza Ln.
2105 – neighbor trouble, W. Columbia Ave.
2255 – agency assist, Belleville/S. Service Dr.

Friday, June 27:
0306 – vehicle repossession, W. Wabash Ave.
0450 – suspicious vehicle, Lakeview
0814 – assist fire dept., Owen
1019 – property damage accident, Main St./Second
1340 – follow-up, Texas
1522 – property damage accident, Main St./High
1705 – property check, W. Columbia Ave.
1755 – suspicious situation, N. Liberty St.
2120 – suspicious situation, Menlo Park Dr.

Saturday, June 28:
0047 – agency assist, Madison
0058 – assist citizen, Tim Horton’s
0323 – traffic hazard, S. Liberty St./E. Columbia Ave.
1118 – agency assist, Belle Villa Blvd.
1155 – personal injury accident, E. Huron River Dr. / N. Liberty St.
1431 – fraud all, Main St.
1702 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1730 – agency assist, Sumpter
1752 – suspicious person, Sumpter/South St.
1759 – family trouble, W. Columbia Ave.
2013 – intrusion alarm, Owen St.
2106 – fireworks, Victory Park
2226 – fireworks, Henry St.
2329 – welfare check, Menlo Park Dr.
Also on this week’s log are 43 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 22:
1010 – suspicious person, 26000 bl. Haggerty
1023 – 911 hang up, 24000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1409 – warrant arrest, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1454 – suspicious vehicle
1531 – ORV complaint, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2047 – assist other agency, 28000 bl. Haggerty
Monday, June 23:
0151 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
0944 – well-being check, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.
1127 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Collyer Ct.
1152 – warrant arrest, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1207 – personal injury accident, Judd/Fenster
1947 – suspicious person, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
Tuesday, June 24:
0010 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Weimer Dr.

0147 – suspicious person, Elwell/Willis
0204 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
0228 – warrant arrest, Stonecrest
0429 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0914 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
1029 – citizen assist, Bemis/Sumpter
1119 – well-being check, 5800 I. Oakville Waltz
2125 – harassment complaint, 21000 bl. Sumpter
2311 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.

Wednesday, June 25:
0036 – mental health commitment, Rustic Ln.
0308 – suspicious person, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
0336 – fire dept. assist, Walnut
0812 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico
0951 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.
1002 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1400 – warrant arrest, 9100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1412 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1511 – mental health commitment, 45000 bl. Judd
1749 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2038 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Thursday, June 26:
0552 – fire dept. assist, Walnut
1111 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1447 – larceny report, 21000 bl. Fenster Rd.
1538 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming
1615 – fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1723 – fraud complaint, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1723 – well-being check, 13000 bl. Rawsonville
1901 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Sherwood
1934 – suspicious incident, 21000 bl. Fenster
2111 – suspicious vehicle, Virginia/California
2218 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.
2222 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming

Friday, June 27:
0041 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter / Willis
1146 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Judd Rd.
1312 – threats complaint, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1457 – well-being check, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz
1538 – traffic hazard, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1551 – alarm, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.
1609 – civil dispute, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1705 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1738 – assault, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1914 – fire dept. assist, 29000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2045 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2155 – death investigation, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
2205 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.

Saturday, June 28:
0040 – suspicious incident, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
0227 – shots fired, Dakota
0321 – family trouble, Edgewood
0551 – fire dept. assist, Wyoming
0653 – abandoned vehicle, 9800 bl. Rawsonville
0710 – alarm, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.
1154 – 41000 bl. Wear Rd.
1205 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1257 – fire dept. assist, 8900 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1445 – alarm, 26000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1608 – suspicious person, Country Club Blvd.
2034 – family trouble, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2244 – fireworks complaint, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2250 – noise complaint, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

Also on this week’s log are seven follow-up investigations, 37 miscellaneous details, 145 patrol checks, and 110 traffic stops.

Birthdays

July 1 – Angela Netto
July 2 – Linda Anne Mitchell
July 6 – Rose Laginess
July 9 – Georgia Currier
July 18 – Steven McArthur
July 25 – Timmy Laginess

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

“No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.”

– Abraham Lincoln

Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan
Animals Rescue

"SIMITRI"



Simitri reminds us of a big orange and vanilla creamsicle of love that we think most people will more than enjoy spending time with. He's got a friendly, laid-back personality that really just likes chilling out in a basket or up on a window ledge while waiting for someone to give him attention. He loves getting pets and will often show his appreciation with excited finger nibbles of thanks which he can at times get carried away with if you let him. **Simitri** would love a nice fur-ever home that includes several cozy cat-napping areas, delicious food and tons of attention from loving caretakers. Affectionate, friendly and handsomely orange there is really no down side to bringing this big fellow home to stay. He's neutered, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. Call Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more info.



Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman

On Monday afternoon, Van Buren Township Supervisor Linda Combs, right, welcomed Sgt. Todd Beesely, his wife Jennifer, and their six children to the township and their new, mortgage-free home on Belle Pointe Drive.

Sgt. Beesley's family moves into their new free home in VBT

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Monday afternoon, officials from Van Buren Township and a crowd of other well-wishers welcomed Sgt. Todd Beesely, his wife Jennifer, and their six children into their new, mortgage-free home at 7114 Belle Pointe Drive.

After her welcoming remarks, VBT Supervisor Linda Combs said the family should let the township know if they have any problems and, "We hope you stay a long time."

Also on hand were Sr. Vice President and Regional Sales Executive of Bank of America Mark Stevens. He said in 2012 his bank had pledged to turn around 1,000 foreclosed properties and they hit that goal in early June.

Keisha Sanders, chief operating officer of

National Faith Home Buyers, was present to tell how they helped get the home for the Beesley family to offer them a hand up.

Bob Miller of National Faith had the idea to give a veteran a home and they worked with Bank of America's veterans' program. There were lots of people involved in making the Beesleys' home a reality for them, including a veteran who drove up from Peoria three or four times to do special woodworking on the cabinets in the house. The finish was still drying when the house was turned over to the family.

Also on hand to say a few words were Kevin Kelley, director of Wayne County's Department of Senior and Veteran Services, and T.F. Scielein, Sr., 1st Sgt./USMC (ret), division director of the county's Veterans Services.

The gift of the home was announced

the day after Christmas at half time at the Little Caesar's Pizza Bowl at Ford Field in Detroit. The servicemen thought they were on the field just to say hi to the crowd and hand over the game ball.

But what happened was a complete surprise and Sgt. Beesley said, "When they announced that, I literally thought I could have passed out."

The Beesleys didn't want to move their family from Flat Rock to Belleville until their son Todd, Jr. had graduated from high school, so June 30 was the day set for the move-in.

Beesley and his wife Jennifer have six children: Todd, Jr., 17; Kyle, 15; Ashley, 12; Collin, 10; Jayden, 2; and Jayce, 1.

The family ran out of room in its modular home in Flat Rock. The living room was Jayden's bedroom and the den was a nursery.

Also receiving a new home, this one in Detroit, were Army Lt. Anthony Ashford and his wife and family of Detroit. Lt. Ashford lost his health-care job in September and was struggling to pay the rent. Now he has a house to share with his wife Kaprina and three sons.

Dina Harris with National Faith was unable to be on hand Monday, but after the surprise announcement on Dec. 26 she said, "The homes that they are getting are beautiful and it's going to give them a hand up that they much deserve. For these married veterans with children, it means they can provide a better life for their families."

The Beesley's home in VBT was worth \$235,900 when it was new in 2005. It went into foreclosure in December, 2012.



Hours:

Monday - Saturday 6am - 10pm
Sunday 7am - 9pm

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