



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.21 Thursday, May 26, 2016

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

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Photo courtesy of BYC

On Saturday, May 14, the "Belleville Lake Beautification" project volunteers, organized by the BYC, including the Belleville Ski Club, family and friends, collected debris from around the lake shore. And yes, it rained a little, too.

Four Savage teachers file Civil Rights lawsuit against VB Schools

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The four Savage Elementary school teachers who have been on paid administrative leave for more than five months filed a Civil Rights law suit in U.S. District Court on Friday against the school district, two administrators and six of the

seven school board members.

The 32-page suit was filed by Bloomfield Hills' attorneys Deborah L. Gordon and Benjamin I. Shipper on behalf of teachers Pamela Bradley, Michelle Komaromi, Brent Held, and Rebecca Tennis.

A violation of their constitutional rights is claimed rising out of their employment

relationship with the defendants. A jury trial is demanded.

Defendants in the suit are the Van Buren Public School District, Michael Van Tassel, Shonta Langford-Green, the Van Buren Public School District Board of Education, Brent Mikulski, Martha Toth, Kathy Kovach, Kevin English, Alison Bennett, and Kelly Owen, with all individuals sued in their individual and official capacities, jointly and severally.

Board Trustee Sherry Frazier, who has spoken out repeatedly in support of the teachers, was not named in the suit.

All the suing teachers are residents of the school district. Bradley has taught for the district for the past 18 years; Komaromi, the past 13 years; Held, the past 18 years; and Tennis, the past 25 years.

The suit's timeline starts with the May 2015 M-STEP standardized test given to third and fourth graders in the district. The teachers did not proctor the test for students in their own classroom, but rather the

students from all classrooms were mixed and divided into separate classrooms.

About June 12, 2015 the popular principal of Savage Elementary, Kelly Villa, resigned after 19 years with the district due to harassment by former School Supt. Van Tassel, the suit said.

Van Tassel became superintendent in 2012 and "ever since has had a history of harassing behavior, which resulted in multiple teacher resignations, and which

(continued on page 18)

Sumpter suspect caught in VBT

At about 8:55 a.m. Friday, Sumpter Township Police were called to a residence on Greenmeadow Drive, inside the Rawsonville Woods Mobile Home Community, on the report of a domestic assault.

Upon arrival, officers were met at the clubhouse by the victim, a 23-year-old female who told officers that her 26-year-old live-in boyfriend, Brad Edward Fields, had assaulted her several times throughout

(continued on page 23)

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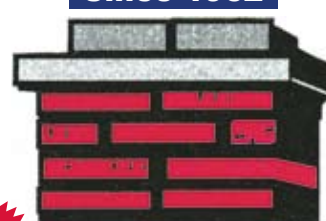
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Sumpter Fest honors 100-year-old citizen Walter Krakowiak

When Walter Krakowiak celebrated his 100th birthday in January, he was surprised by a party at the Sumpter Senior Center hosted by his fellow senior members.

He had no idea that was just the beginning of the celebrations of his longevity.

This year, the Sumpter Country Fest Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission also selected Krakowiak as the Honored Citizen for 2016. Each year, the committee members attempt to find the oldest member of the community to honor during the event and parade.

He and Grand Marshal Dave Seegert will be leading this year's parade, which will start at noon from the corner of Judd and Sumpter roads, heading to the fairgrounds.

Krakowiak has lived in Sumpter Township for 95 of his 100 years and he is proud

of his community heritage. His parents purchased a farm on Sherwood Road in 1918 where his family, including his two sisters and three brothers, lived.

He only moved from the family farm when he married Florence Soja in 1940. The newlyweds purchased a house in Dearborn, but in 1942 he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served for 32 months in the Pacific Islands. When he returned from his military service, he and his wife and their two daughters returned to Sumpter and lived in a home on Rawsonville Road.

He began building his present home on Willis Road in 1955 and has lived there to this day. His family now includes eight grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Krakowiak, a member of the PLAV and

VFW, enjoys gardening and sharing the produce and flowers he raises with friends, neighbors and family members. He and his wife began a bed of gladiolus while they lived on Rawsonville Road and often went to Eastern Market in Detroit to sell their flowers.

To this day, he said, he plants a few bulbs for cutting of the tall, regal stalks of gladiolus blooms. He has also had many vegetable gardens at his Willis Road home where, since his retirement from Ford Motor Co. in 1977 after 30 years of employment, he also enjoys hobbies like fishing, coin collecting and woodworking. He especially enjoyed cypress clock making and cabinetry, he said.

He and his wife also traveled extensively after his retirement including winters in

Florida in their motor home.

Krakowiak has been a member of the Sumpter Senior Center for many years and said he enjoys riding the bus and having lunch with the other members. He said he was surprised and grateful for the party the seniors group hosted for him this year.

"The girls worked very hard planning the party and did a wonderful job for me," he said. "I wish to thank the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission for selecting me as the Honored Citizen of the 2016 Sumpter Country Fest Parade this year," he said.



Walter Krakowiak

Sumpter Fest Grand Marshal Dave Seegert will lead parade on Sat.

When it came time to choose the Grand Marshal of the Sumpter Fest this year, members of the festival committee and Parks and Recreation Commission agreed immediately on their choice.

They overwhelmingly voted to honor Dave Seegert, the division manager for Republic Services / Carleton Farms Landfill and Sauk Trail Hills Landfill.

Seegert, as Grand Marshal, and Walter Krakowiak as Honored Citizen will be leading Saturday's noontime parade.

Seegert has been helping the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation

Commission in preparing the arena at the Sumpter Township Fairgrounds for the Sumpter Country Fest and is always willing to lend a helping hand. He helps prepare for the planned Demolition Derby set for Sunday and Monday and also prepares the arena for the Don Rochon Memorial Car show and Swap Meet that takes place annually in September, along with another Demolition



Derby.

Derby.

Members of the committee agreed unanimously that this was an opportunity to thank Seegert for his help and show their appreciation.

Seegert has more than 29 years of professional experience in the waste disposal industry. He began his career in 1986 as a paper picker at the Adrian Landfill in Adrian and came to Carleton Farms Landfill in 1993 as an equipment operator. His responsibilities continuously increased during his career and he was steadily promoted to Lead Operator,

Operations Manager, and his most recent role as Division Manager.

Today, Seegert is responsible for the management of about 50 employees that support the daily operations of the Republic Wayne County-based landfills.

Seegert was born and raised in Michigan. He grew up in Deerfield and recently became a resident of Clinton. Seegert said he likes to spend his off-work hours with his wife of 20 years Debbie at their cabin in the northern Michigan town of Harrison.

Memorial Day: Time for 12th-annual Thunder Rolls in Belleville

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

David C. Brown Funeral Home and the Brown Family Center are sponsoring the 12th-annual Motorcycle Ride and Memorial Day Service to honor veterans.

On Monday, motorcyclists will start registering at 11 a.m. for the 27.8-mile ride at Wayne County Community College, 9555 Haggerty Road in Van Buren Township, north of I-94.

The riders will pay \$10 per person, which all will go to help veterans and their families. Each paying rider will receive a commemorative pin.

The motorcycle ride, with police assistance, begins at 1 p.m. Several hundred bikes are expected to take part.

Throughout the years people have waited along the route to applaud the bikers and wave American flags at them.

The motorcycles, with patriotic flags flying, will go south on Haggerty road to Harris Road, west to Martinsville and then south to Willis Road. They will take Willis

west to Sumpter Road and then head south on Sumpter to Oakville Waltz Road and head west on Oakville Waltz to Rawsonville Road, which they will take north to West Huron River Drive and then east into the City of Belleville and High Street.

When the motorcycle contingent gets to the Veteran's Memorial in Horizon Park, at about 2-2:30 p.m., the Memorial Day service will begin.

Brown Funeral Home and Family Center is sponsoring the event.

There will be speakers, prayers, music, a 21-gun salute, and refreshments. The names of local veterans who have died since last year's ceremony will be called out and a bell tolled for each name.

BHS women's soccer team wins conference championship

On Monday, the Belleville High School women's varsity soccer team won its second consecutive Western Wayne Athletic Conference championship with a 3-0 victory over Dearborn Edsel Ford in a game at Belleville.

The win left the Tigers with an 8-0-1 league record and an overall record of 15-2-2 going into next week's District Tournament.

Belleville started the game aggressively, maintaining possession and looking to find a weakness in the Edsel Ford defense. Gradually the momentum changed and the Thunderbirds maintained a few minutes of pressure in the Belleville end without

creating many scoring chances.

Finally after 20 minutes, the Tigers broke through as a Morgan Marshall pass found Madison Marshall open in front of the Edsel Ford goal. She made no mistake and buried a hard shot for the game's first goal.

At that point, Belleville upped the tempo and increased the pressure on the visitors. With nine minutes left in the first half, Morgan Marshall scored from a centering pass from wingback Jazmine Carter. The half ended with the Tigers ahead by two but with the result still in doubt.

The second half was more of the same, with the Tigers dominating the play.

"Every season our number one priority is to win the league, so we are delighted to have achieved that goal," said Belleville coach Bill Cline. "We are very proud that we have been able to win back-to-back championships, and our two-year league record of 16-1-1 is a remarkable achievement. This game today, however, was much closer than the score might indicate. Edsel Ford is a very good, well-coached team, and we had to be at our best to defeat them. Now we have to turn our focus to the State Tournament."

The Tigers open their District play with a home game against Southgate Anderson on Tuesday, May 31 at 4 p.m.

OPINIONS

Editorial

School Board looks for new leader

The Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education interviewed three candidates for superintendent on Tuesday and were set for two more interviews on Wednesday. That same night they may choose the one they want. (Past our deadline.)

All of the candidates on Tuesday were aware of the chaos within the district. No one mentioned the new law suit by Savage teachers, but each of Tuesday's candidates mentioned the healing that needed to be done within the district.

The Tuesday candidates all were ready to help VBPS get back to being a respected district and to win back the 2,500 students who have fled to other districts.

All three of Tuesday's candidates were appropriate choices. One was a Rotarian ready to get his hair cut in Belleville and be involved in local projects. Another was very experienced in several districts and ready to move to town. The female candidate considers moving to Belleville from Fenton, an hour's drive away. She also was full of energy and plans for the district.

What a breath of fresh air: Candidates who want to be part of the Belleville community, to live here and intermingle with parents, grandparents and other taxpayers. Let's hope this ill-fated school board makes the right decision for a new leader for this district. It's going to take a long time for the scars to heal here, but some of the problem people are jumping ship, so that should help.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Van Buren Township resident Charles Tackett called me from Florida on Friday. He'll be back in Michigan within a few weeks, but he wanted to talk to me about the new library being proposed. As you may know, Charles is a builder.

He read the story I wrote about the design of the library which included the big preliminary drawing of the general building design. I'm assured a prettier, more detailed drawing is coming in the near future.

Charles said building round structures is more expensive than rectangular (referring to the rounded stairwell in the design) so that atrium is costing taxpayers more money than they need to spend. And, the flat roof is a maintenance problem waiting to happen.

Charles said in Clearwater they have built two, awesome library buildings of 22,000 square feet each at a cost of \$160 per square foot, less than \$4 million total. He said when he does the math, Belleville's new 32,000 square-foot library will be costing \$500 a square foot, figuring in all the expenses.

"I could build them a Victorian library at much less," Charles said.

He said he thinks the library board has the wrong architect for the job. He said architects just want to draw pretty pictures. But the people who employ architects can tell them what they want to build and the architect will draw what they want. Charles will be back soon to talk about this in person.

There was a report on WXYZ-TV Channel 7 on Sunday saying the Huron Police and



Fire Departments were being honored for saving two women from a murder-suicide at Michigan Memorial Park Cemetery last month.

Huron Police Chief Everett Robbins said the Monroe County Sheriff's Department alerted Huron PD that a woman who may be suffering from depression had taken her elderly sister out of a nursing home in Van Buren Township and planned to roll her wheelchair into the Huron River and then jump in herself. According to Channel 7, police and fire crews quickly arrived. The elderly sister was still in the car, but the woman was already in the water. A police officer held onto her hand as she submerged up to her neck, keeping her safe until she could be rescued. Using all kinds of equipment the officers rescued the woman.

Belleville City Council met for two-and-a-half-hours on Monday to discuss the budget for the upcoming 2016-17 fiscal year. The budget is due to be approved on June 6, but it's not ready. It's some \$91,000 over budget. There will be a little more cutting done so it can be a balanced budget without dipping into the fund balance.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer and Plante Moran's Kelly Howey will work at cutting the budget down a little more, but it will be difficult and "may not be possible." Estimated revenues for the upcoming year have been set at \$2,084,898.

One of the things the council did decide was that in an upcoming meeting they will take official action that stops the annual leaf pickup, since council members figured it cost at least \$16,000 to do and ties up the DPW for six weeks each fall. The City of Belleville no longer can afford it, they said.

Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria didn't like that idea, since he rakes his leaves into the street and, I believe, he helps his senior citizen neighbors with getting their leaves to the curb for pickup.

"People are spoiled rotten on leaf pickup," said City Manager Diana Kollmeyer, noting the city is using the fund balance to pay for that.

"I don't think anyone in the universe picks up leaves," Councilwoman Kim Tindall said, referring to other municipalities.

Rick Rutherford, who is Building Official and filling in as DPW Director, said Dearborn does, and, he believes, Plymouth does, too. "I can just see problems coming," he said over suspending the pickup. "They'll put it in the street anyway. We need an ordinance to not put it in the street." Ordinance amendment coming up.



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BELLEVILLE - AREA

INDEPENDENT

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Letters

Thank you to strangers for anniversary luncheon

To the Editor:

We stopped to have lunch at the Tin Pan restaurant Saturday, May 21. We had told our waitress it was our 61st wedding anniversary and she began congratulating us.

After our meal, we asked for our check and to our surprise, we were told our bill had already been paid.

Many thanks to the very kind people who made our day special.

Sincerely,
Fred and Carolyn Bonanni
Sumpter Township

Thanks for helping place flags on veterans' graves

To the Editor:

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee wishes to thank the volunteers who helped place American flags on all veterans' graves at Hillside Cemetery for Memorial Day 2016. On Saturday, May 21, volunteers from the Belleville community and surrounding areas met at the cemetery to place flags on the graves of over 500 veterans. This project is done twice each year, in anticipation of Memorial Day and Veterans' Day.

We appreciate the contribution of these volunteers in recognizing the service of our deceased veterans.

The Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee
City of Belleville

Thank you for donating to Perennial Swap

To the Editor:

The Friends of the Library held their annual Perennial Plant Swap on Saturday, May 7, in the Belleville Area District Library Courtyard. It was a beautiful afternoon with the spring blossoms in full bloom. Participants swapped their plants and talked about gardening tips. This event was sponsored by the Belleville Area Garden Club.

The Friends wish to thank the businesses who donated annuals and perennials for door prizes: Banotai's Greenhouse, Garden Fantasy on Tyler Road, Pinter's Flowerland and Greenhouse, and Zywicki Green House. Other door prizes were generously donated by Don Swinson at Atchinson Ford, Starbuck's on Belleville

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Road, Sumpter Ace Hardware, and Sumpter Township. Thank you for contributing to this fun event.

Brochures were handed out for the 2016 Belleville Area Garden Walk, "Dally Down the Alley." The Walk will take place on Sunday, July 10, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. All the gardens will be on Roland Street in the City of Belleville. The Garden Market Place with artists and vendors of garden-related products will also be on Roland Street.

Advanced discounted tickets are now available for \$10 at the Belleville Area District Library, Garden Fantasy on Main, and Garden Fantasy on Tyler Road.
Elaine Gutierrez
Friends of the Library

Thank you for support for Honor & Remember

To the Editor:

Michigan Chapter of Honor and Remember would like to say Thank You to everyone who came out to show their support for our fundraiser at Leo's Coney Island on Belleville Road, Wednesday, May 4, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. A special thank you to Sam, the owner, and Kim, the manager, and the wait-staff for doing all they did to make us feel like we were welcome there.

To all the patriots, veterans and some that come to Leo's on a regular basis, we appreciated your helping us with our goals of showing all the Gold Star families of Michigan that their loved ones will always be Honored and Remembered and to Establish, Educate, Present, and Comfort those who don't understand our reason for doing what we do.

The following businesses contributed gifts to aid our silent auction and we Thank You:

1. Denny's Salon; 2. Johnny's on the Lake Grill; 3. Frosty Boy; 4. Applebee's; 5. Kebob Garden; 6. Kutz' Barbershop; 7. Leo's Coney Island; 8. Q'doba's; 9. Taco Bell; 10. Garden Fantasy. Contributing also: Jeannie Branham and Kim, manager of Leo's Coney Island.

Without all of you we couldn't have done what we did.

Thank you all.
LeRoy Paige
Michigan Chapter
Honor and Remember, Inc.

Correction: Menards not coming until 2017

We've been informed that Menards will not be building in Van Buren Township until next summer, 2017. Earlier we published information that Menards would build this summer, 2016. We regret the misinformation.

Wedding was in 1941, not 1945
Stanley and Dorothy Lightfoot of Romulus recently observed their 75th wedding anniversary and last week on page 15 we printed their story. But, the date we were given for their wedding was incorrect. They were married in 1941, not 1945. We regret the misinformation.

Rosemary K. Oztzman, editor

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8:05 - Trustee candidates

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Obituaries



Christopher James Marker

CHRISTOPHER JAMES MARKER

(September 20, 1985 – April 28, 2016)

Christopher J. Marker, age 30, of Belleville, passed away April 28, 2016. Beloved father of Symon William Brown. Loving son of Robert (Sybil) Marker and Juanita (David) Hutchinson. Dearest brother of Jacquelyn Marker and Ethan Marker.

He is also survived by his grandmothers Dorothy Butzin and Madeline Marker and his uncle Melvin D. Butzin. He is preceded in death by his grandfathers Michael Marker and Melvin Butzin. The family would like to thank the Sumpter Police & Fire Departments for their help through the years.

Arrangements made by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646.

www.mimemorial.com



Catherine "Katie" L. Cilley

CATHERINE 'KATIE' L. CILLEY

(January 7, 1973 – May 19, 2016)

Catherine "Katie" L. Cilley, 43, of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on May 19, 2016. Catherine was born January 7, 1973 in Dearborn, Michigan. She was the daughter of Arville T. Cole and Virginia (James) Cole.

Catherine enjoyed cooking and spending time with her family. Her children were her life.

To cherish her memory she leaves one son, Harry F. (Tiffany) Cilley of Taylor; four daughters, Christina V. Cilley of Taylor, Margaret E. (Scott) Dunsmore of Monroe, Maria E. Cilley of Romulus, and Joni L. Cilley of Romulus; two brothers, Richard L. West of Belleville and Arville T. Cole Jr. of Romulus; four sisters, Deborah Lal of Inkster, Margaret (Jose) Lopez of Romulus, Jennifer (Tony) Foust of Carleton, and Valda (John) Pitylak of Belleville; and eight grandchildren, Scotty, Bella, Joshua, Serenity, Harry, Jaxson, Karson, and Grayson.

Catherine was preceded in death by her husband Harry Frank Cilley, father Arville T. Cole and her mother Virginia Cole.

Friends gathered from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday May 21, 2016, at Crane Funeral Home, 36885 Goddard Rd. Romulus, Michigan 48174, (734) 941-9200 and again on Sunday May 22, 2016 from 1 to 8 p.m. The funeral service was held on Monday May 23, 2016 at 11 a.m., with Pastor Robert Lafferty, of Belleville Lighthouse Worship Center, officiating.

Online guests may leave condolences, share a photo, or light a memorial candle by visiting www.cranefuneralhome.net.



Sandra Kay (Bruder) Brown

SAUNDRA K. BROWN

(February 17, 1945 – May 20, 2016)

Sandra Kay (Bruder) Brown, age 71, long-time resident of the Belleville/Sumpter Township, MI area, passed away Friday, May 20, 2016 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born February 17, 1945, daughter of Chalmer & Shirley Helen (Fenn) Bruder. Sandy worked in food services for Van Buren Public Schools for many years before she retired from McBride (formerly North) Middle School. She also enjoyed bowling, wood carving, winning at the casino, coaching softball in the Van Buren Little League and teaching ceramics to Seniors at the Sumpter Township Community Center. She was a member of the Women of the Moose, Van Buren Eagles Auxiliary, Huron Valley Conservation Association and served on the Committee for the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation.

Mrs. Brown is survived by sons George Franklin (Donna) Brown of Livonia, Robert Clinton Brown of Lexington, SC and David Charles (Kimberly) Brown of Milan; three grandchildren Scott (Echo), David, and Whitney; one great-granddaughter Willow; brother Keith (Ginger) Bruder; sister Dawn (Bruder) Pluff; mother-in-law Elesa Brown; brothers-in-law Robert (Diane) Brown, Clinton (Dorothy) Brown, Patrick (Lee) Brown, and Timothy Brown; sisters-in-law Beverly Brown, Rebecca (Michael) Stephens, and Mary (Robert) Nickels; also many nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her husband George Franklin Brown on January 10, 2016, father Chalmer Bruder, mother Shirley (Albert) Straub, daughter Judy Brown, sister Kathy (Ralph) VanValkenburg, brother-in-law Butch Pluff, father-in-law George Brown Sr., and sister-in-law Maggie Brown.

Visitation was 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 25, 2016 and will be 10-11 a.m. Thursday, May 26, 2016 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Funeral Service will begin at 11 a.m. Thursday. Deacon Peter Cornell will officiate. Interment will follow in Alban Cemetery, Ypsilanti Township, MI.

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

RICHARD S. LUTZ

(July 18, 1940 – May 15, 2016)

A memorial service will be held Monday, June 13, at 7 p.m. at Metro Baptist Church, 41700 N. I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, MI 48111, with Dr. Jim Lutz officiating. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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More Letters

Tips for water safety on Belleville Lake

To the Editor:

Summer is coming soon and before you know it, we will all be out enjoying the water. Officers Jeffery Stanton and Patrick Wehrman from the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department Marine Unit will be out patrolling from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

This Unit performs certain functions to insure the safe operation of watercraft on Belleville Lake. These Marine Safety Officers not only enforce safe boating laws on Belleville Lake, but also function as surface support to our Public Safety Underwater Search and Recovery Team.

We are urging boater safety for those who plan to take to the water this summer on Belleville Lake. Plan on making this not only an enjoyable, but safe boating season by following prudent safety steps, and we are also urging boaters and swimmers to please use caution at all times when out on the lake this summer. Whether out tubing, diving, jet or waterskiing, people need to remember the rules of the water and use extreme care during sporting activities.

Here are some simple tips to make your boating experience more enjoyable.

- Before you leave -- Make sure your watercraft is in good condition by checking batteries, fuel lines, drain plugs. Important items that people think they won't need include - Paddles, anchor, bailing bucket, hand tools and a tow rope.

- At the ramp -- The boat launches are sometimes very congested so be patient and try to have everything ready to launch when it's your turn. If possible have one person operate the boat and another person drive the vehicle and trailer allowing you to launch the boat in a timely manner.

- On the water -- Laws specific to Belleville Lake are: (1) Speed limit 40 mph, (2) Maintain a slow, no-wake speed within 100 ft. of Belleville Rd. and Denton Rd. bridges, (3) Obey counterclockwise operation - which means stay to the right side of the lake when operating at anything above idle speed.

- Van Buren Park Swim Area -- It is illegal to tamper with, move, hang onto or tie your watercraft up to the swim area buoys. Please keep all watercraft out of the swim area and operate at slow, no-wake speed within 100 ft. of the swim area.

PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (JET SKI) LAWS

- The current law allows for Personal Watercraft to be operated from 8 a.m. through sunset. Personal Watercraft must be operated in a safe and prudent manner being especially mindful of the distances between the PWC and moving vessels, anchored or drifting vessels, swimmers and the shore line.

BOATER SAFETY CERTIFICATES

- Persons born after June 30, 1996 MUST obtain a Boater Safety Certificate prior to operating any boat.

- Persons born after Dec. 31, 1978 MUST obtain a Boater Safety Certificate prior to operating a Personal Watercraft.

- Directions for obtaining a Boaters Safety Card can be found at www.michigan.gov/dnr.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

- State Law requires a boat to have enough Type I or Type II personal flotation devices for every person on board. Also, any boat over 16-feet in length is required to have a Type IV (throwable) personal flotation device.

- Persons on board a vessel that are under 6 years old are required to wear a Type I or Type II personal flotation device at all times.

- All marine vessels should be equipped with a well-maintained, properly charged fire extinguisher and sound-producing device in case of emergency.

ALCOHOL AND BOATING

Michigan State Law states it is unlawful to operate any watercraft with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 or greater (the same standard operating a car). Alcohol is one of the top causes of boating-related crashes, injuries and fatalities. So please be responsible as your life, the life of your family, and the lives of other boaters are at stake.

Being a responsible boat operator means understanding the rules and knowing how to keep yourself and your passengers safe during a day of boating.

On behalf of Van Buren Township Public Safety Department we encourage a safe and enjoyable summer on Belleville Lake this year to our residents and visitors.

Sincerely,
Gregory M. Laurain
Director of Public Safety
Van Buren Township

Sumpter Progressive League sale this week end

To the Editor:

The Sumpter Progressive Civic League, located at 24101 Sumpter Road between Dunn and Wear roads, is having a holiday week end rummage sale. We will have a stove, microwave, tables, chairs, and numerous other items available. Everything must go.

Our hours are 12 noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29. We will also be selling hot dogs, chips, pop, and water. All items will be available in our parking lot and grounds.

Karitheia Murry-Hanible, president
Sumpter Progressive Civic League

Creating fair access to cancer treatment

To the Editor:

It is sometimes difficult to understand the barriers cancer patients face, until you see it for yourself. That can include the high out-of-pocket costs that come with treatments like oral chemotherapy.

Doctors often prescribe pills for cancer patients, instead of requiring them to visit a hospital multiple times a week for hours to receive intravenous (IV) chemotherapy. These pills are usually more effective than the alternative -- or they might be the only treatment for that type of cancer. Oral chemotherapy can also help patients lead a more "normal" life through their cancer journey.

That's unfortunately not always the case with IV chemo. I'm happy to see the Michigan Senate voted to add Michigan to the long list of states that make sure oral chemotherapy doesn't have higher co-pays than IV chemo. I hope the House of Representatives will follow the Senate's lead.

Cancer is hard enough. Let's help Michiganders make decisions based on what their doctors recommend -- not based on cost.

Sue Wade
Van Buren Township

Owen teachers made wonderful trip happen

To the Editor:

I had the pleasure of accompanying my daughter and the fifth-grade Owen Intermediate classes on a two-day Mackinac trip last week. We started our day at 6:30 a.m. to take off. I am sure the teachers were there at 5 a.m. getting organized.

We were able to relax on the bus. The teachers were taking attendance, organizing,

(continued on page 9)

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More Letters

(continued from page 8)

planning and keeping the students excited and pumped up.

We arrived a little later than scheduled. The teachers rearranged our itinerary slightly so that we didn't miss anything. The hotel couldn't accommodate the entire group (200+) at once for dinner or breakfast. The teachers were getting drinks, helping with plates, etc. I think they were able to take three minutes to eat the leftover cold food.

It rained on the island. In an effort to get everyone on the lower level of the ferry, they made a last-minute change to get a second ferry so that no one had to ride on top. Our evenings ended around 11 p.m. and the teachers still had to do bed checks. When we arrived at Owen at 10:45 Thursday night, the teachers still had to stay to get every student reunited with their parent.

They were also all returning to school on Friday to educate our children. These teachers worked 17-hour days for two straight days with a smile. This doesn't include all of the time they were planning prior to the event and time away from their families.

I could go on and on, but the point of this letter is to express my appreciation and thanks to the wonderful Owen staff.

Teachers have a positive impact on us daily. I am sure everyone has been inspired by a teacher or several at some point in their life. They dedicate their lives to better our children and genuinely love each and every one of them.

Having two daughters in VBPS I have

always recognized that, but was able to further witness this over the past two days. I am so grateful to have had that opportunity. Please be sure to thank your child's teacher, especially the amazing Owen staff.

Ms. Stiles, Mr. Tenbrook, Mrs. Palowski, Mrs. Runyan, Mr. Richardson, Ms. Harden, Mr. Roberson, Ms. Morning, Ms. Spudich and any other staff members that I may have not mentioned, thank you for making this trip happen.

Thank You,
Amy Asher

Ongoing concern for Savage teachers

To the Board of Education:

Savage teachers were escorted out, humiliated, gag orders, no trespassing, needing permission to attend their own children's sporting events, practices, honor programs, and many more events.

You are telling your lawyers what you want (they give you legal advice only)? You say you want the teachers back to work, but they must have more **rights** taken away (may not sue anyone, gag orders, etc.). This situation was created by this district and an embarrassment to the entire community just because of an over-zealous superintendent.

I am not concerned where the blame goes, but it is out of control. It's time to step up and make decisions. Thank you for your time.

Barbara Brendtke

P.S. After leaving the School Board meeting let me add, you are real happy with RESA and all they do for the district. Well, during

the study sessions for last year's M-Step they came and let the Savage teachers know what a great job they were doing in preparing the students!

Lawyer fees. Well we know at least during the last few months you could have reinstated the teachers with no restrictions and most of that expense would be over!

About school of choice: You have to release students to go out of the area and I really don't think there will be a balance. Good luck with that -- in a toxic district.

Update for school board on 2015-16 school year

To the Board of Education:

This is an open letter to the BOE, updating them on the 2015-16 school year. The details outlined in this letter are an overview of the school year from a parent's perspective. It seems like it is now time to educate the board of education.

HIGHLIGHTS

1. Oct. 31, 2015 – School Superintendent initiates the "INVESTIGATION" into the Savage M-Step scores.

2. Dec. 2, 2015 – State of Michigan approves school superintendent's request for self-examination.

3. Dec. 18, 2015 – Collins and Blaha issues report on investigation.

4. Dec. 18, 2015 – School superintendent requests the State to invalidate Savage Elementary's M-Step scores.

5. Jan. 8, 2016 – State invalidates Savage Elementary's M-Step scores.

6. Jan. 21, 2016 – Four teachers escorted out of the school building.

7. Jan. 22, 2016 – Fifth teacher escorted out and first day of picketing by parents.

8. Jan. 25, 2016 – ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE AT THE BOARD MEETING!

If the **HIGHLIGHTS** have not caught the attention of the board, then the following facts just might:

1. 110 days teachers have NOT been in their classrooms.

2. 110 days teachers have not been charged of any wrongdoing.

3. 110 days parents with full-time jobs have picketed in front of Savage.

4. 110 days since parents have been contacting the board with NO answers.

5. 110 days since Savage students were penalized for a test they truly did well on.

6. 110 days since Savage students were celebrated for their achievements.

QUESTIONS: It has been 110 days or more since parents have been requesting

answers from the board. 110 days is OVER three months of our time invested in this farce and still no answers.

1. Is the BOE aware that the Collins and Blaha report dated Dec. 18, 2015 does NOT prove there was wrong doing?

2. Is the BOE aware that the scores can be reinstated? The State has pretty much said it is at the discretion of the district.

3. Is the BOE aware that PCCS has **250** openings? (One of the top-performing district's in the state.)

4. Is the BOE aware that Huron and Romulus are Schools of Choice?
WHERE ARE THE ANSWERS?

Manju Patnaik

Parent of Aadi Samineni - 5th Grade at Owen and Avani Samineni - 1st Grade at Savage

Good events happened in Belleville area

To the Editor and Residents:

April and May have been months of good news happening in our area. First, I wish to thank Mr. Richards, librarian at Owen School, for inviting me to speak at Career Day. It was a wonderful experience to see and hear the young people's enthusiastic questions and answers.

Also, I attended the Belleville Community Choir's concert held at United Methodist Church in Belleville. The choir embraced the youth of Belleville with their instrumental numbers. It is nice to see adults take our youth under their wings and give them an opportunity to show their talents.

In May I attended Trinity Episcopal Church's concert to support Adopt-A-Child-Size and support Services, Inc. for the benefit of giving needy children the warmth of new clothing. The Trinity Choir, joined by Ford Motor Company Chorus, was a delightful afternoon of songs from hymns to Rodgers and Hammerstein. Each branch of the armed forces was represented by their own song in "The Armed Forces Medley" sung by The Ford Motor Company Chorus. Tears flowed as each branch was represented by members in the audience.

The evening ended with "God Bless America" and "America, the Beautiful." It was an exciting and heartfelt evening for all who attended.

Remember to say thank you to a Soldier, to a Veteran. They appreciate your support.
Marian Caldwell
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Sumpter Country Fest

schedule on page 11



Belleville High School Senior wrestler/football player Donavon McCoy signed a letter of intent to continue his wrestling career at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, MI. Donavan was a 30-win wrestler for the league champion Tigers this past season. He was a two-year starter at heavyweight and had several tournament medals and finished the season as a senior leader. Coach Grant Mackenzie, a coach from Henry Ford, shakes Donavon's hand. Coach Derek Phillips is the BHS coach.

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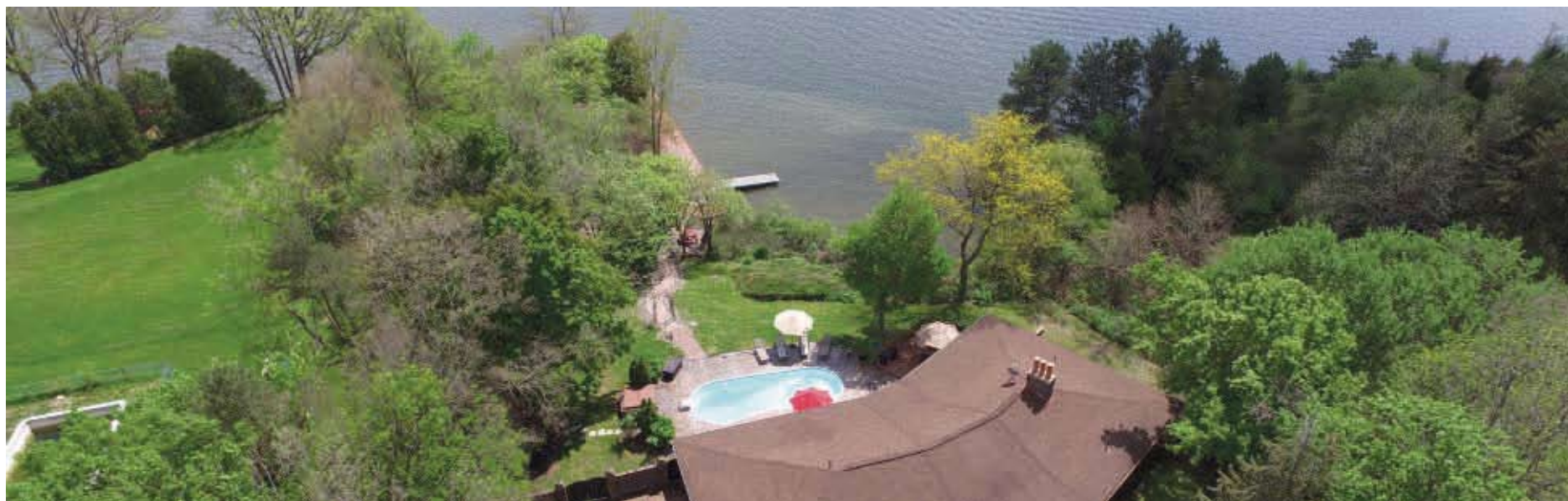
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On Saturday, May 21, the Van Buren Civic Fund hosted the annual Detroit Tiger Alumni baseball game at Quirk Park. Van Buren Public Safety Honor Guard presented colors for the opening ceremonies. The Van Buren Civic Fund presented a check for \$4,500 in support of the purchase of Van Buren Honor Guard Uniforms. "We thank all the Board of Directors of the VB Civic Fund for their continuous support of this unit since its inception," said Van Buren Township Director of Public Safety Gregory M. Laurain. From left are VBT Treasurer Sharry Budd, a representative of the Civic Fund; Honor Guard members Detective Ken Toney, Officer Mike Long, Officer Ryan Bidwell, and Sgt. Louis Keele; VBT Supervisor Linda Combs; and business owner Craig Atchinson, current chairman of the Civic Fund.

2016 SUMPTER COUNTRY FEST

Schedule of Events – May 27th - May 30th



Thursday, May 26

Carnival Opens @ 5pm – Close

Friday, May 27

Festival Opens @ 5pm – Close 12 Midnight

Carnival Opens/Beer Tent

Live Music – Denise Davis and the

Motor City Sensations Band

Baby Contest

Bingo

Silent Auction

Live Music – Glass House – Classic Rock

Saturday, May 28

Festival Opens @ 12pm – Close 12 Midnight

Carnival Opens/Beer Tent

Parade (From Sumpter Rd. & Judd Rd to Dunn Rd.)

To Be Announced by Randy Brown

Parade presentations immediately following parade

Michigan Mini Horse Pulling

Baby Contest

Bingo

Silent Auction

Tribute To The Legends (Impersonators)

5pm – Close

4pm – 7pm

5pm – 9pm

5pm – Close

5pm – Close

8pm – Close

12pm – Close

12pm

1:30pm

12pm – 9pm

12pm – 9pm

12pm – Close

2pm – 10pm

2pm – Close

Sunday, May 29

Festival Opens @ 12pm – Close 12 Midnight

Car Show (10am Registration)

Carnival Opens/Beer Tent

D.J. Music/Karaoke

Baby Contest

Bingo

Silent Auction

Live Music – Tall Cool One

Robert Plant/Led Zeppelin Tribute Band

D.J. Music/Karaoke

Truck Demolition Derby (Arena)

Live Music – TJ Thomas and the Kentucky Strait Band

Fireworks – D.J.

Monday, May 30

Festival Opens @ 12pm – Close 10pm

Carnival Opens/Beer Tent

Live Music – Two Timin Band – Country

Baby Contest

Bingo

Baby Contest Awards & Raffle Winners Announced

Silent Auction Final Bid

Silent Auction Items Picked Up

Auto-Cross/Demolition Derby (Arena)

(Adults \$12/Children 12 and under \$4)

Live Music – Stealin Time

12pm – 4pm

12pm – Close

12pm – 3pm

12pm – 9pm

12pm – Close

12pm – 10pm

3pm – 5pm

5pm – 7pm

5:30pm

7pm – Close

Dusk

12pm – Close

2pm – 5pm

12pm – 1:30pm

12pm – Close

5pm – 5:30pm

5pm

6pm – 8pm

6pm

6pm – Close



LOCATED AT: 23501 SUMPTER ROAD, BELLEVILLE, MI 48111

Baby Contest starts Friday, May 27th through Monday, May 30th (Contest ends at 1:30pm. Winners announced 5:00pm)

Silent Auction starts Friday, May 27th through Monday, May 30th (Last bid 5pm, pick-up items 6pm-8pm) • Crafters - All day Friday, May 27th through Monday, May 30th

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**Minding
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This weekend is **Sumpter Fest** at the Sumpter Fairgrounds on Sumpter Road. See the schedule in a display ad in today's paper. I'll be at parade central at noon on Saturday. Other feature events include fireworks, car show, truck demo derby on Sunday at the arena and an auto-cross derby at 6 p.m. on Monday. All weekend events include a carnival midway, live music, baby contest, arts and crafts, bingo, beer tent, food concessions and more.

Thunder Rolls in Belleville on Memorial Day Monday with the **12th Annual Motorcycle Ride & Memorial Day Service** to honor veterans. Registration and lineup for the ride begins at 11 a.m. at the Wayne County Community College parking lot on Haggerty Road with the ride itself starting at 1 p.m. The convoy of motorcycles will arrive at Belleville's Veteran's Memorial in Horizon Park between 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The cost to register for the ride is \$10. For info, call **Jackie Dalzell** at (734) 697-5090 or **Shelly Chudzinski** at (734) 697-4500. The David C. Brown Funeral Home is organizing the event.

The **Thunder Over Michigan** air show Aug. 20-21 at Willow Run Airport has added the US Navy F/A-18 Hornet Demo to its air show line-up. The demo joins the Breitling Jet Team from France and the US Air Force F-22 at this year's event. For tickets visit the TOM website via the links at www.yankeearmuseum.org. The airport will also be holding a first-ever evening air show on Wednesday, June 22, featuring the Canadian Forces Snowbirds jet team, a CF-18 Demo and the CF-Skyhawks Parachute Team. Gates open at 5 p.m. Tickets are available for both shows and sold separately.

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

ORPHAN OF THE WEEK "FRITO"



Meet **Frito**, he's a large 3 year old tiger tabby that's sure to be a tasty cholesterol free treat for your heart and home. This good-natured big boy is looking for a fur-ever home that will spoil him with love, comfy napping spots, toys and delicious food. **Frito** has a nice and laid-back personality that prefers enjoying things in the slow lane of life. He likes leisurely days that include naps in the sun, visiting with people and cat friends and some light playtime. He does have a shy side and might take a little time to warm up to new people but really does enjoy getting attention and pets from all his favorite people visitors. Once in his own home his affectionate side will only continue to bloom until he's become a truly amazing furry friend. His handsome tabby coat is thick and soft and his green eyes twinkle with happiness he would love to share with you. Call today to meet **Frito**; he's all the tasty treat your heart and home will need. He's neutered, vaccinated, tested neg. for FeLuk/FIV and micro-chipped. **Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

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City Council approves agreement with library for property swaps

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

"No cash is moving," said Belleville city attorney Steve Hitchcock as he explained the property agreement worked out between the City of Belleville and the Belleville Area District Library to make way for a new library building. This was

at the regular city council meeting on May 16.

After a short discussion, Councilman Tom Smith made the motion, with Councilman Tom Fielder supporting, and the council unanimously approved the agreement. The library board already had approved it at its May 10 meeting.

Following the council vote, members of the audience including a contingent from the library board, broke out into applause.

"This is a great compromise," said Mayor Kerreen Conley.

Hitchcock said he met with the committee of city and library representatives and they worked out an agreement for trading parcels of equal values. He said they used Craig Fuller who had appraised the city hall property and the library property in 2013.

"Nobody is giving away their assets," Hitchcock said. "The parking lot has to be built with an underground retention pond, which is costly."

He said the city abandons a portion of Fourth Street and exchanges its parking lot for parts of parcels 78 and 79, 43 feet.

He said the footprint of the library needed open space around it, to enter from the jointly owned parking lot.

The library will tear down the present building and the city and library will jointly own the public parking and customers of the businesses downtown will be able to use the new parking lot, he said.

Hitchcock said this is all subject to the

library being approved by voters.

In other business at the May 16 meeting, the council:

- Approved White Cane Week during which Belleville's new Lions Club will solicit donations on Main Street, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m., Friday through Sunday, May 27-June 4. Martha Brown is chairperson of White Cane Week. Amos Johnson Jr. is the president of the new Belleville Lions Club. He said this is the third time he has been president of the Belleville club, being a president in the past before the local club folded;

- Approved closing part of High Street from noon to 4 p.m. for the Thunder Rolls Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Monument;

- Approved the mayor's appointment of Councilman Fielder as alternate representative to the Conference of Western Wayne. Mayor Conley is the representative;

- Approved an annual Hardcap Healthcare Premium Contribution by the City of Belleville for all employees eligible for healthcare coverage. The hardcap amounts are: single coverage, \$6,142.11; two-person, \$12,845.04; and family, \$16,751.23. MCL 15.563, as amended in 2013, sets a limit on the amount a public employee may contribute to a medical benefit plan;

- Set a special budget meeting for 6:30 p.m., May 23, and a public hearing on the 2016/17 budget at 7:30 p.m., June 6;

- Adopted an Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and a Disability Accommodation Policy as required by the state to settle a complaint brought by a parent of a handicapped child;

- Heard LeRoy Paige question why he wasn't put on the agenda for his Honor and Remember request. He wanted the city to fly the Honor & Remember flag at the Veterans Memorial on Memorial Day, to pass a resolution honoring veterans, and to read names into the minutes that are on the Veterans Memorial. "Local groups in this community have felt some reservation about it," Councilman Fielder said of the flag, adding the city and veterans are honoring specific veterans listed on the memorial each year. "I have heard nothing that convinced me it's the right thing to do," Fielder said. The local VFW and PLAV have voiced opposition to the Honor and Remember project; and

- Heard Kathy Paige say she supports her husband's Honor and Remember project. She said she was on the committee that raised money to put up the Veterans Memorial. She said it is not a VFW memorial, not a Vietnam memorial, and not a PLAV memorial. She said it is for everyone. She said the Honor and Remember flag is to recognize loved ones lost and it is not to replace the "United States of America flag." She said to the council: "I feel like you're being closed minded".



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- Review the issues Phil has identified and follow comments as they are released.
- Join Phillip on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram --links are found on the website.

On August 2nd Vote Hart





The Bardell Team, from left, are Ronald Barrington Robinson, Jay Bardell II, Jane J. Stalmack, Lydia Graber, Deb Callison, and Jerry Anderson, Jr.

Lydia Graber for Treasurer

Lydia Graber, a 22-year resident of Sumpter Township, is running for treasurer.

She has been married to her husband Marvin Graber for 28 years.

Graber said she has 20 years of banking experience, V.P. Mortgage Servicing; 35 years as a disability advocate/consultant; 11 years on the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns, appointed by Governor John Engler; 14 years as a national motivational speaker; seven years as a member/president of the Pontiac Optimist Club; member of Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America; and consultant on the accessibility committee for Comerica Park, Ford Field, and Red Wings Stadium.

She also was an actress in "Star Wars" and as a Stunt Ewok appeared in several movies, music videos, and improv comedy troupes.

Deb Callison for Clerk

Deb Callison, a Sumpter resident for 17 years, is running for township clerk. She started her own business at age 27 and now has full responsibility for record

keeping for two businesses. She volunteers services needed by numerous seniors in the community.

She has been married to Dave for 45 years. They have a daughter Kelly and grandchild Corbin.

"If elected, I would give more back to the community to see it grow and maintain country lifestyle that the area residents feel so strongly about," Corbin said.

Jane J. Stalmack for Trustee

Jane J. Stalmack, a township resident for more than 60 years, is running for trustee. She has been a member of the planning commission for three terms and currently is chairperson. She previously was a member during the early 1980s, prior to moving to New York.

She earned a bachelor of science degree in special education from Eastern Michigan University and did graduate work in Educational Leadership. She has 25-plus years of senior management in Human Resources and has spent 10-plus years as a substitute teacher in all grade levels and

(continued on page 15)

Sumpter Township new board candidates running as a slate

The Bardell Team is running as a slate to unseat six of the seven incumbents on the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees in the Aug. 9 primary election.

The Bardell Team says it has: 130-plus years of senior management and supervision in the following disciplines: private (family-owned) companies, publicly traded companies, governmental departments, and sovereign nation. The members have 200-plus years of residency in Sumpter Township.

They also have professional experience in trucking companies, grocery warehouse, steel mill, body shop, corrections departments, TV and internet production, banking/mortgage, lawn services and snow removal, human resources, teaching, real estate, and film.

Jay Bardell, II for Supervisor

Jay Bardell II, candidate for supervisor, has been a Sumpter resident for 35 years. He is retired. He worked for 21 years in a grocery industry, 19 years of that in supervision. He was employed with a steel company and the company closed.

Bardell has been on the Parks and Recreation Commission for three years and on the township planning commission for 10 months. He served on the committee to review and revise the marijuana ordinances.

He has been married to Roxanne for 18 years and is father to four daughters. He has five grandchildren. All are residents of Sumpter.

He enjoys his grandchildren, gardening, caring for his animals, and socializing around the community.

"I am dedicated, honest and loyal, willing to help anyone in need," Bardell said.



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- Polls are open from 7 am until 8 pm so be prepared to arrive earlier and stay later than open hours.

Contact the Clerk's Office to request or submit an application today:

City of Belleville: 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111 (734-697-9323 ext. 7010)

Sumpter Township: 23480 Sumpter Rd. Belleville, MI 48111 (734-461-6201)

Van Buren Charter Township: 46425 Tyler Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 (734-699-8909)

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Sumpter slate

(continued from page 14)

special education.

Past affiliations include the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library and secretary of the Adirondack Red Cross executive board.

She is a member of SHRM (Society of Human Resources Management), member of the steering committee of EMU-Career Horizons; Police Commissioner of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Personnel Women's Association; and served on the selection committee for superintendent search in Bonner's Ferry, Idaho.

Ronald Barrington Robinson for Trustee

Ronald Barrington Robinson, a Sumpter Township resident for 19 years, is running for trustee.

He holds a bachelor of science degree in Criminal Justice, Certified in LERN Law Enforcement Resource Network, and is a retired lieutenant with the State of Michigan Department of Corrections after serving 23 years.

Robinson is a reporter and columnist at the Michigan Enquirer newspaper in Flint; a Block Club president; and lifetime member of NAACP, last holding the position of vice president.

He has been active in several community programs and established the "Feed a Family" program in 2011, assisting in feeding thousands of families, veterans, elderly, and people with disabilities; and L.A.R.R. Loving Arms Rescue Ranch.

He is owner of "In My Opinion" show, viewed on Comcast Cable Television in Flint; Michigan channel 17 weekly, and Detroit Michigan Comcast Cable Television channel 68 weekly; Facebook; also on the internet on YouTube via his own channel RBRIMO. He also has a blog: The Barrington Report on Facebook.

He said he is a family man.

Jerry Anderson, Jr. for Trustee

Jerry Anderson, Jr., worked for his father at his sawmill and trucking company in Sumpter all of his life.

He followed in his father's footsteps and continued running the family business and expanded it to what it is today: Family Trucking.

He said he provides numerous types of volunteer services via his company's resources.

Anderson is a member of the NRA and a dedicated family man, married to the "love of his life" Marie. He is father to his son Jay, who works for the family business; and step-father to James, a graduate of Western Michigan University; Samantha, who currently is attending Ferris State University; and Daniel, a current employee of the family business.

"I was raised by honest, hard-working parents who instilled the same values in me," Anderson said.

He has lived in Sumpter Township all of his life.

Brandon Underwood accepts membership in NSCS for academics

Brandon James Underwood of Van Buren Township, a sophomore at Wayne State University, has accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS).

"NSCS is more than just a symbol of academic achievement," said Stephen E. Loflin, NSCS founder and chief executive officer. "Membership gives students access to a number of amazing benefits including career and networking resources, scholarships, travel, and service projects both on campus and in the community."

NSCS is a member of the Association of college Honor Societies and is the nation's only interdisciplinary honors organization for first-year and second-year college students. Membership is by invitation only, based on grade point average and class standing. NSCS has more than one million lifetime members and 300 chapters in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Underwood is a 2014 graduate of Belleville High School. He has a double major of German and Slavic Studies, with a concentration in Russian.

His mother Dana (Stamper) Underwood, graduated from BHS in 1986.

Sumpter Country Fest
schedule on
page 11

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or call (734) 782-1418**

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our detail shop. Full time
with benefits. Please
see Eric Carter or call
734-697-9161 ext. 227
Apply in person at:
9800 Belleville Road
Belleville**



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Estate Firm. For appointment call
(734) 697-1800 TFN

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FULL TIME Auto Technician. Must
have tools & be certified or willing to
be certified. Call Cindy (734) 697-5811
or e-mail superior307@gmail.com 6/02

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Good pay & good work environment. Call
Rick. (248) 807-0068 6/09

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Collision, 21585 Sumpter Rd. or
call (734) 699-7758. 6/09

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED LAWN CREW
WORKER. 2 years' experience a must.
Pay commensurate with experience.
(734) 796-5888. 6/2

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT part-
time (16+ hours weekly). Friendly,
answer phones & create flyers. Organized
& keep track of community events.
Microsoft Office Suite, Microsoft
Publisher, Facebook a must. Send resume
to: Belleville Area Chamber of
Commerce, 248 Main Street, Belleville,
MI 48111. 5/26

Anniversary

May 21 -- Linda & Tom Mitchell, 20th
anniversary

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to
awaken joy in creative expression and
knowledge."
— Albert Einstein

GARAGE/YARD SALE

MOVING SALE – 19295 Haggerty Road
(South of Harris Road). May 27-29.
Household items, Furniture, Tools
& more. 5/26

YARD SALE – 44077 Willis Road.
May 26 & 27, 9am.-? Ford 5 bottom plow,
5 lug Jeep tires & wheels, yard lights, Jet
dust collector system & much more. 5/26

50981 WEAR ROAD (between Sherwood
& Rawsonville Roads). May 27-29, 8am-
7pm. Twin bed, magazine end table,
bookcase, DVD's, books & clothes. 5/26

MULTI-FAMILY SALE. Saturday, June 4,
9am-3pm on Farm Road (East of West
Huron River Drive). Priced to sell.
Something for everyone. 6/02

ROMULUS, 11486 WAHRMAN
(between Grant & Goddard). Electric
stove, wedding décor, women L-3X
clothes & men L-XL, 8' truck rack, 1991
Ford tailgate & bumper. A lot of misc.
Priced to sell. June 3 & 4, 10am-? 6/2

YARD SALE. Thursday, Friday,
Saturday starting May 26-28 & June 2-4
& June 9-11, 9:30am-2pm. 13900
Haggerty. Items change weekly. 6/9

COMMUNITY-WIDE yard sales at
College Park Estates, 51024 Mott,
Canton. June 2-5, 9am-3pm. 6/2

WALDEN WOODS SUB-WIDE garage
sale. Friday & Saturday, June 3-4, 8am-
4pm; Sunday, June 5, 8am-2pm. 6/2

FOR SALE

RIDER MOWERS – Cub Cadet
Model 2166, Craftsman Model DYT
4000, Hustler Fastrak 52" zero turn.
(734) 461-0158 6/09

ESTHER WILLIAMS swimming pool
15x24x52 – pump, netting, all accessories.
You take down. \$300 (734) 637-9279 5/26

TRUCK CAMPER. Fits 6 or 8' bed.
New carpet, table/bed, faucet & hose.
22 gallon water tank. Propane furnace,
gas/electric refrigerator. 3 burner gas
stove. Custom built steps for easy access.
Port-a-potty with pop-up out house.
Plenty of storage. \$2,800 OBO
(734) 395-8822 5/26

100' Chain link fence, black, \$150.
County gate, 15' x 48" with all hardware,
\$200. Small chain link gate, \$20.
(734) 787-9627 6/02

PIONEER Laser Disc player w/ 183
albums consisting of all kinds of music
& movies. Some in original cases
never used. \$2,500 OBO Ask for Jim
(734) 699-6905 6/02

TRAILER for riding lawnmower, single
axle 6x4 w/14" tires, lights and hauls
anything. \$450 (734) 697-1417 after
6 p.m. 6/02

BILL HAMM Green House plants for sale.
(734) 776-2437 6/09

BY OWNER. Beautiful 2-bedroom condo
at The Meadows, Tyler Road. Two full
baths, garage. \$130,000. (734) 635-1551
or (734) 716-0289. 5/26

JOHN DEERE lawn tractor, 190C, 54"
cut, 3 sets of blades, 220 hrs. \$2,450 obo.
Troybilt Rototiller, Horse model with
snow blade. \$450 obo (734) 309-5732 6/09

MUST SEE! 4 pc. bedroom set, king size
w/head board, dresser, mirror, frame. Hand
painted Queen Anne style. \$1,800 OBO.
(940) 367-5287. 6/9

POOL: Intex Ultra Frame, 14' round, 42"
deep. Pool filter & ladder. Used 2 seasons.
Stored inside. Great condition. \$60.
(734) 697-3264. 6/9

"A day without sunshine is like,
you know, night."
— Steve Martin

FREE

2 Finished cabinets, 7' tall 7'
wide w/ doors and shelves. Heavy.
(734) 461-6839. 6/02



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Care Agency in Belleville at (734) 697-0888**

VBPS law suit

(continued from page 1)

provoked several lawsuits against VBPSD,” the suit said.

“In addition, Van Tassel had sent bizarre, anonymous letters to third parties about VBPSD employees with whom he was unhappy,” the suit said.

In 2014, under Principal Villa, Savage Elementary had received the highest State of Michigan “Report Card” rating of all schools in VBPSD. The resignation of Villa as principal at Savage caused a great deal of concern on the part of parents and the community.

The suit states, at a standing-room-only meeting of the school board on June 22, 2015 the board was questioned by the audience about why Villa and other educators had left the district while Van Tassel was superintendent. Some parents pressed for exit interviews and a survey of remaining teachers to gauge their morale.

Van Tassel was clearly the subject of concerns raised at the board meeting and questions about him continued to be raised after the board meeting by parents and the community, the suit states.

“Under pressure, Van Tassel began a secret campaign to find ways to discredit Villa and Savage Elementary in the fall of 2015,” the suit states.

Then, the M-STEP scores showed Savage had performed very well.

“As a part of his plan or scheme to discredit Ms. Villa and her school, on a date shortly before Dec. 2, 2015, Supt. Van Tassel contacted the Michigan Department of Education and reported that he believed the M-STEP scores from Savage Elementary were indicative of cheating in some way,” the suit states.

Van Tassel wanted the MDE to take some action which he could then use to his advantage in his campaign against Villa and other teachers that worked at Savage Elementary, the suit states.

At Van Tassel’s instigation and request, on Dec. 2, 2015, the MDE asked Van Tassel to have the school district conduct a “self-investigation” of the data Van Tassel had pointed out as unusual, the suit states.

Van Tassel and the school board retained Collins & Blaha legal counsel to investigate “unusual data anomaly patterns on the M-STEP results at Savage [Elementary].”

The investigation was not “independent” as it purported to be, the suit states. The results were pre-ordained by Van Tassel with the support of the school board, the suit said. On Dec. 18, 2015, the Collins & Blaha written report was provided to the defendants, but it has never been released to the public.

In fact, defendants publicly took the position into 2016 that the matter was still being “investigated,” although the investigation had already concluded and the Collins & Blaha Report was issued, the suit said.

The report’s conclusion was that some level of coaching did occur by staff members during the testing. This conclusion was

allegedly based on interviews with unnamed third- and fourth-grade Savage Elementary students who were questioned seven months after the M-STEP was conducted without notification or permission from their parents or guardians, the suit states.

The report does not name any teachers who allegedly coached students, nor does it reference any rule or policy the teachers violated, the suit states.

Van Tassel and the board members, without releasing the Collins & Blaha Report, made multiple public statements about “cheating” having occurred and that “it would not be tolerated within our schools,” the suit states.

All of the public statements were designed to place Villa and Savage Elementary in a poor light, the suit states, and Van Tassel, with the support of the school board, had a plan in place to fire the teachers.

In January, frustrated parents and community members who had received no answers formed a Facebook group called “SavageStrong” in support of removing Van Tassel as superintendent, the suit states.

On Jan. 21, in furtherance of Van Tassel’s plan, five teachers were publicly escorted out of the building, while school was still in session, as if they were criminals, the suit states.

The five teachers, including those four bringing suit, were targeted for suspension and termination because they were known to Van Tassel to be friends with Villa, their former boss, the suit states.

A letter from the district states they had been placed on “a non-disciplinary paid administrative leave, due to alleged improprieties with M-STEP testing,” the suit states.

The teachers were informed in the letter that upon conclusion of the investigation they will be informed of any discipline up to and including filing tenure charges against them recommending termination of employment.

Until then, they were warned not to appear on any school district property or it would be treated as a trespass. They were directed not to discuss this investigation with staff, parents, or students, other than union/legal representatives. Failure to comply with the directives will be deemed insubordination, subjecting them to discipline up to and including discharge.

The suit states the teachers have never been given notice of any violation of any rule giving rise to suspension and never have been provided a hearing to allow them to refute the allegations.

Two of the teachers have children enrolled in the Van Buren Public schools, but they have been prohibited from freely associating with them, their teachers, administrators, or other parents on school property under threat of discharge.

The suit states that in February 2016, in furtherance of his plan to discredit and retaliate against Villa, Van Tassel stepped up his malicious, reckless activities and sent to Villa’s new school district employer and its board of education an utterly false and defamatory letter stating she helped teachers cheat on the Savage M-STEP and,

“A teacher who is being investigated for cheating told friends at a recent gathering at a local bar, ‘well yeah, she [Villa] told us ‘if they don’t know the answer, I’d just give it to them.’ ”

The suit states the letter Van Tassel sent to Villa’s new employers said Villa is the de facto head of a group called SavageStrong which aims to remove the superintendent for exposing and reporting the cheating scandal to the State of Michigan. He wrote Villa wants to be reinstated as Savage principal and to remove the superintendent who has done nothing wrong.

The letter also states, “Villa has spoken vehemently at VBPS School Board meetings and has encouraged violence and massive disruption to the daily operations of the school district...” according to the law suit.

Van Tassel also is quoted as stating to Savage Elementary staff on Jan. 6 that, “case law says cheating on a test is worse than having sex with students.”

On Feb. 22, due to community pressure and Van Tassel’s bizarre action, the school board terminated Van Tassel’s employment as superintendent. However, as part of the ongoing scheme and developing cover-up, the board took the public position – and continues to take the position – that Van Tassel had suddenly and without notice simply resigned, the suit states.

In exchange for this resignation without notice, the board approved a payment to Van Tassel of \$350,000. Around Feb. 16, the teachers received phony teacher tenure charges, marked “Draft.” Teacher tenure charges are brought by school districts for the purpose of terminating the teacher’s employment permanently, the suit states.

These charges were designed to intimidate the teachers by including such terms as “academic fraud” and statement that the “data incontrovertibly proves that cheating occurred.” After the phony teacher tenure charges were given to the teachers they were never pursued, the suit states.

Around March 23, the Defendants

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.



presented a Voluntary Settlement Agreement to the teachers between Plaintiff and VBPS and between Plaintiffs and the MEA and NEA. In the agreement with the teachers included was language stating everything the school district did was “true, accurate, and appropriate” including their removal from their classrooms.

The teachers were also required to accept disciplinary counseling, which would be put in their files, indicating wrongdoing on their parts and release all possible legal claims. The agreement also would release the MEA from any possible claims by the teachers. A joint public statement with the school district was also required.

The agreement tried to convince the teachers to give up their legal rights, the suit states. The five teachers refused to sign. They wrote a letter on March 31 to Interim-Superintendent Green asking to be returned

(continued on page 19)

Public Notice

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION ON HEARING

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF KENT
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
FAMILY DIVISION

TO: ASHLEY ELY
Child’s Name: ARION ELY
Case No.: 16-50271-NA-103842401
Hearing: JUNE 29, 2016 AT 2:00 P.M.
Judge GARDNER, 9TH FLOOR,
COURTROOM 9-D

TO: DANIEL VELLA
Child’s Name: ARION ELY
Case No.: 16-50271-NA-103842401
Hearing: JUNE 29, 2016 AT 2:00 P.M.
Judge GARDNER, 9TH FLOOR,
COURTROOM 9-D

An initial and/or supplemental child protective petition has been filed in the above matter. A hearing on the petition, including a permanency planning hearing, will be conducted by the Court on the date and time stated above in the **17th Judicial Circuit Court, Family Division, Kent County Courthouse, 180 Ottawa NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan**. The permanency planning hearing will result in the child(ren) being returned home, continued in foster care, or the court may order proceedings to terminate parental rights. **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that you personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above and exercise your right to participate in the proceedings.

This hearing may result in a temporary or permanent loss of your right to the child(ren).

Dated: May 18, 2016

PATRICIA D. GARDNER
JUDGE OF PROBATE

VBPS law suit

(continued from page 18)

to the classroom since they had not been charged with any wrongdoing. Green did not reply.

On April 2, the agreement was changed in hopes of getting the five to sign. Now disciplinary counseling was dropped completely, as was the requirement that the five teachers had to sign in unison.

In April, one of the five teachers who had the least seniority, agreed to sign the agreement and on April 18 she was returned to her classroom with no counseling or discipline of any kind.

The law suit pointed out the teacher who was returned to work after she signed the agreement had allegedly performed the same "cheating" as the other four teachers, who now are suing.

The suit said if the teachers give up their rights in order to return to work, they

will have no discipline, the prohibition against stepping on school property and speaking freely will be removed and they will be allowed to continue their careers as teachers.

The suit alleges, in detail, four Violations of Civil Rights: Freedom of Speech, Freedom to Petition, Freedom of Association, and Due Process.

The suit requests compensatory, exemplary, and punitive damages, and an award of interest, costs, reasonable attorney fees and expert witness fees. It also requests removing files and records on the allegations and investigation at issue from their records and reinstatement as tenured teachers in good standing. The suit also asks for an injunction prohibiting any further acts of wrongdoing or retaliation against the teachers.

Federal Judge Robert H. Cleland is the presiding judge on the case.

Tooley vs. Van Buren Schools

The Civil Rights lawsuit filed Sept. 5, 2014 against the school district by Kimberly Tooley and Seth Tooley, with the U.S. government as an interested party, is wending its way through the courts. A hearing on a motion to dismiss is set for Aug. 10 before U.S. Federal Court Judge Avern Cohn. The final pretrial conference is set for Nov. 8.

This case involves alleged bullying and sex discrimination of a transgender student. Van Buren Public Schools, its school board, and principals at Owen are among those named in the suit.

Local Gulf War veteran to march in National Memorial Day Parade

Kandy Sue Crawford of Belleville will be among Gulf War veterans marching on Monday in the National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C.

During Desert Storm she was a corporal in the United States Marine Corps, serving with MAG-14 as an aviation ground support equipment mechanic. They were stationed near the port in Al Jabal.

"The place I was in Desert Storm was better known as 'The Scud Bowl,'" she said.

She served in the Marine Corps from 1987 to 1997 and was honorably discharged as a sergeant. She went on to work for Boeing and Rolls Royce after the military, able to obtain those positions because of the training in the corps.

Twenty-five years ago, more than 600,000 service members took part in Operation Desert Storm, at the time the largest deployment of U.S. Armed Forces since Vietnam.

Crawford, then a corporal from Garden City, was one of those who left friends and family behind to serve the nation and secure a victory for freedom.

To mark the 25th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm and honor those who served and sacrificed, the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association and American Veterans Center have invited more than 500 Gulf War veterans to reunite at the National Memorial Day Parade.

The veterans are participating thanks to the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association and its mission to honor the legacy of the Gulf War through building a monument in the nation's capital to the 383 service members who fell during the war and honoring those who served in this pivotal moment in world history.

"While foremost our mission at the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association is to build a monument to our fallen brothers and sisters, we are also committed to honoring the many hundreds of thousands of men and women who left homes, jobs, and families to stand up for American's values," said Scott Stump, founder, president and CEO of the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association.

"We are so glad that veterans like Kandy Sue Crawford, are marching with us to teach Americans about the service and sacrifice made by all veterans of Operation



Marine Cpl. Kandy Sue Crawford
Operation Desert Storm

Desert Storm."

Crawford and other veterans will follow part of the same route service members returning from the Middle East marched 25 years ago. Like their comrades of the past, Crawford is expected to be met with the cheers of hundreds of thousands of patriotic Americans. The parade will honor Gulf War veterans alongside veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the most recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 2014, Congress passed legislation and President Barack Obama signed a law approving construction of the National Desert Storm War Memorial in Washington, D.C. Since that day, the National Desert Storm War Memorial Association has been working to build the monument and aims to raise the millions of dollars needed to support that mission.

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Upcoming Meetings

- Tuesday, May 31 – Final interviews for superintendent by Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 6 p.m.
- Monday, June 6 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 7 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, June 9 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. (optional) Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, June 13 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons.
- Tuesday, June 14 – Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board

of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, June 15 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Environmental Commission meeting, 7 p.m.
- Monday, June 20 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study session, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 21 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Monday, June 27 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building.
- Tuesday, June 28 – Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 5 – Van Buren Township

work/study session at 4 p.m., followed by regular board meeting at 7 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, July 12 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority, 2

p.m. Also, Sumpter Township work/study at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 17, 2016

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Engineer Nummer, Developmental Services Director Akers, Developmental Services Deputy Director Best, Deputy Director of Police Wright, and an audience of nine (9).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA motion Hart, Miller seconded to approve the agenda as amended [Addition of Correspondence item #8 and #9 from Consent Agenda]. Motion Carried. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended removal of item #8 and #9. [Board Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2016; Prepaid List of April 22, 2016; Prepaid List of April 29, 2016; Prepaid List of May 5, 2016; Prepaid List of May 11, 2016; Voucher List of May 3, 2016; Voucher List of April 17, 2016 and the contract between the Township and Wiese's Lawn Care for the 2016 Ordinance and Code enforcement mowing of Non-Township properties.] Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Hart and Jahr seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as amended [Addition to consider approval of Zambelli Fireworks Company for the 2016 Fireworks Show and have the Supervisor and Clerk execute the contract.] Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Trustee Hart recognized National Peace and Police Officer Memorial Day and Week.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jahr moved, Miller seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance #05-16-16 to provide regulation for the registration of medical marihuana cultivation facilities in the Township. Motion Carried. The ordinance creates a process to register with Public Safety and an annual renewal. A fee schedule will be set and approved at the same time of second and final reading. A special use approval must still be obtained in addition to the registration.

Budd moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with L & W. Engineering at 6201 Haggerty and authorize the Supervisor or her designee to sign the permit. Motion Carried. The agreement takes responsibility from the Township to the property owner. Wayne County requires the Township to maintain jurisdiction over the storm water maintenance. Two attorney opinions indicate the County does not have authority to impose this requirement. Jahr will vote for the Township agreement of previous responsibility however, he still opposes the Wayne County requirement.

A meeting will be set to review further.

Hart moved, Wright seconded to approve the Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with Bethany Bible Church at 810 East Huron River Drive and authorize the Supervisor or her designee to sign the permit. Motion Carried. The agreement will transfer the maintenance

requirement from the Township to the property owner.

Hart moved, Miller and Jahr seconded for approval of Zambelli Fireworks Company for the 2016 Fireworks show and have the Supervisor and Clerk execute the contract. Motion Carried. The funds for this event are not taxpayer's money but donations collected in the amount of \$20,000 with an additional \$2,000 needed.

REPORTS: January 2016 Budgetary Report and February 2016 Budgetary Report are available at the Clerk's Office 46425 Tyler Road Van Buren Charter Township, Michigan 48111.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Combs presented and read a Proclamation to Mr. Paige to make May the Month of Remembrance for Veterans. Clerk Wright announced that the Township will be closed on Monday May 30, 2016 for Memorial Day; In an effort to assist voters with polling locations Voter I.D. Cards are being mailed out soon and to contact the Clerk's office if you do not receive one by June 1, 2016; Alicia Smith of Channel 7 and TV 20 ran a Public Service Announcement to attract Poll Workers, an ad was also placed in the Free Press and local papers. Anyone interested in working should contact the Clerk's Office; Student Council Election was held on May 10, 2016 at Belleville High School. Increased young adults registration and received commitments from students to work the polls for the August Primary and General election; Attendance at a NAACP meeting brought about conversation on MCL 168 of the 1954 Election Law that stifles the right to vote with a two minute limit in voting booth. The concern has been taken to Representatives Pagan, Geiss and Hopgood who are all working on a repeal; special thanks to Rosemary of the Independent for placing the Help Wanted ad for Poll workers and getting the Election News out to the public; Resident announced a sponsored drive for the community May 21, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Quirk Park. \$20 will go to the Van Buren Township Education fund up to \$6000.00 for every five minute test drive; Treasurer Budd announced that on the same day, the Civic Fund will sponsor the Tiger Alumni Baseball Game at Quirk Park from 1p.m. to 2 p.m.

NON AGENDA: Wright moved, Jahr seconded, for the approval of a change order for the Walden Woods Paving Repairs Project in the amount of \$123,796.50 for additional work to take advantage of remaining Wayne County funding and approval for the proposal from Wade Trim for an additional \$11,000 for construction engineering relating to the project. Subject to the following condition: Submittal of the matching funds from the Walden Woods Home Owners Association prior to signing the change order. Motion Carried. The project was presented at the work study agenda with two to three weeks with clean-up, no residents came forward to discuss concerns.

ADJOURNMENT: McClanahan moved, Wright seconded to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda Combs, Supervisor

Publish: May 26, 2016

City of Belleville Public Notice

City of Belleville NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING 2016-17 PROPOSED CITY BUDGET



Notice is hereby given that the Belleville City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 6, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street, Belleville MI, to consider the proposed 2016-17 City Budget.

The proposed General Fund budget is \$2,200,000 based on estimated sources of revenue, including a proposed 2016-17 City property tax levy of 18.126 mills for general operating purposes.

The City Council has authority to establish the proposed total millage rate of 18.126 mills, the current maximum allowable millage rate permitted by State Statute and the City Charter.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The budget includes proposed appropriations for the following funds:

FUND	REVENUES	EXPENDS.
General Fund	\$ 2,085,000	\$ 2,200,000
Major Street Fund	\$ 187,000	\$ 175,000
Local Street Fund	\$ 97,000	\$ 80,000
Cemetery Fund	\$ 66,000	\$ 70,000
Sanitation Fund	\$ 198,000	\$ 200,000
Perpetual Care Fund	\$ 5,000	\$ -0-
Building Dept. Fund	\$ 72,000	\$ 120,000
Budget Stabilization Fund	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Public Improvement Fund	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Capital Equipment Fund	\$ 30,255	\$ 60,000
DDA Operating Fund	\$ 425,000	\$ 580,000
DDA Debt Service Fund	\$ 349,145	\$ 349,145

A complete copy of the proposed 2016-17 City Budget is available for public inspection during regular business hours at City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan.

Public comments on the proposed budget may be submitted in writing prior to the public hearing, and in writing or in person at the hearing.

Lisa Long
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish 5/26/2016

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, May 26** – The Varsity Softball Field at Belleville High School will be named for Coach Peggy Curtis at 3:30 p.m. before the final home game of the season at 4 p.m.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF INTENT TO EXECUTE TAX-SUPPORTED CONTRACT AND RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REFERENDUM THEREON

TO THE TAXPAYERS AND ELECTORS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Cities of Flat Rock, Gibraltar and Woodhaven in the County of Wayne, the Charter Townships of Brownstown, Huron and Van Buren in the County of Wayne, and the Village of South Rockwood in the County of Monroe (collectively, the “Local Units” and each a “Local Unit”) have each approved the execution of a contract (the “Contract”) with the South Huron Valley Utility Authority (the “Authority”) pursuant to Act No. 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended, which Contract will provide among other things that the Authority will acquire, construct, furnish and equip improvements to the Authority’s sewage disposal system, consisting generally of reequipping existing biological treatment tanks with new diffused aeration equipment, including mixers, diffusers, blowers, valves, gates, control system improvements, and safety improvements, together with all necessary appurtenances and attachments thereto and will issue its bonds in the approximate amount of not to exceed \$3,700,000 to finance all or part of the cost of said improvements. Each Local Unit, including the Charter Township of Van Buren, will pay to the Authority annually all sums necessary to retire its share of the principal of and interest of said bonds pursuant to a proposed Financing Contract among the Authority and the Local Units. Each Local Unit’s share of such payments shall be based generally on the weighted average of the last three calendar years’ flow percentages for each Local Unit served by the sewage disposal system, approximately as follows:

Local Unit	Percentage of Share
Brownstown Twp.	24.62%
Flat Rock City	15.96%
Gibraltar City	10.02%
Huron Twp.	15.97%
South Rockwood Village	2.29%
Van Buren Twp.	16.96%
Woodhaven City	14.18%

CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS OF THE LOCAL UNITS

It is presently contemplated that said bonds will be issued by the Authority in the principal amount of not to exceed \$3,700,000 and will be payable in not to exceed twenty (20) years, and will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 6% per annum on the outstanding principal balance, subject to revision pursuant to Michigan law and the Contract. The Contract includes the pledge by each Local Unit of its limited tax full faith and credit as security for its obligations under the Contract including payment of its share of debt service on the bonds. PURSUANT TO SUCH PLEDGE, EACH LOCAL UNIT, INCLUDING THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WILL BE REQUIRED TO LEVY AD VALOREM TAXES ON ALL TAXABLE PROPERTY WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES, SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY AND CHARTER TAX RATE LIMITATIONS, TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO MAKE THE LOCAL UNIT’S REQUIRED PAYMENTS UNDER THE CONTRACT IF OTHER FUNDS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. It is the present intention of each Local Unit to use the revenues derived from the operation of its sanitary sewer collection system to make substantially all of the payments required to pay its obligations under the Contract.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

FOR EACH LOCAL UNIT, THE CONTRACT WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE without a vote of the electors of the Local Unit, as permitted by law, UNLESS A VALID PETITION REQUESTING AN ELECTION on the question of entering into the Contract, SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF SUCH LOCAL UNIT, is filed with the Clerk of the Local Unit WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS after publication of this notice. If such petition is so filed, the Contract will not become effective with respect to such Local Unit without an approving vote by the majority of electors of the Local Unit voting on the question.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 8 of Act No. 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended. Further information concerning the details of said contract and the matters set out in this notice may be secured from the Charter Township of Van Buren Clerk’s office.

Leon Wright
Leon Wright, Clerk
Charter Township of Van Buren

This is the first facility named for a person in the history of the Van Buren Public Schools.

• **Thursday, May 26** – This is the second day of “Arts, Beats, and Sweets” at Keystone Academy on Bemis Road. Music performances in the gym are at 5 p.m. for third grade, 6 p.m. for fourth grade. Drawings, paintings, sculptures in the hallways and gym. PTO-run bake sale in the music room.

• **Thursday, May 26 through Monday,**

May 30 – The carnival opens at 5 p.m. Thursday at the Sumpter Country Fest. The festival opens at 5 p.m. on Friday and runs throughout the weekend, ending on Monday, Memorial Day at 10 p.m. Parade is Saturday at noon. Fireworks are at dusk on Sunday.

• **Saturday, May 28** – Tell your state representative what your concerns are with state issues. Rep. Kristy Pagan will share coffee with you and listen to you at 10 a.m. at Leo’s Coney Island, 9624 Belleville Road, Van Buren Township.

• **Saturday, May 28** – Yankee Air Museum event to send support letters to those serving in the military runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the museum. This supports the USO’s goal to send 1 million messages.

• **Saturday, May 28** – Sumpter Country Fest Parade begins at noon. Runs on Sumpter Road, starting at Judd Road and ending at the fairgrounds at the Community Center.

• **Sunday, May 29** – Sumpter Country Fest 2016 Car Show, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville. Entries are \$5, eight classes, registration is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Information: Margaret Rochon, (734) 699-5275.

• **Monday, May 30** – Yankee Air Museum hosts a Memorial Day ceremony from 9 to 10:30 p.m. In downtown Belleville, the Thunder Rolls Memorial Day service begins around 2 p.m. after the motorcycles arrive at the Veterans Memorial on High Street.

• **Tuesday, May 31** – Life Line Screening for preventive health at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. Packages start at \$149. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit website at www.lifelinescreening.com.

• **Sunday, June 5** – Big City Country band performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, June 5** – Bugles Across America is at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans’ Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville. Those attending pledge the flag, listen to “Taps” played and honor those who have and are serving in our armed forces.

• **Tuesday, June 7** – The public is invited to the Martha-Mary Café at the Belleville

Presbyterian Church at 10 a.m. to hear guest-speaker Amanda Love tell about modern-day slavery in the United States and how the Better Way Imports program works.

• **Saturday, June 11** – Romulus Historical Society’s annual flea market runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Romulus Historical Park, 11147 Hunt St., Romulus 48174. New this year: set up under the pavilion (sheltered area) \$20 per 10’x10’ space, or, set up on the lawn along the sidewalk on the unsheltered patio area, \$15 for unlimited size space. For availability of pavilion space, call Cathy Morse, (734) 941-6361.

• **Sunday, June 12** – Country Music TBA band performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Thursday, June 16** – League of Women Voters presents a candidate forum for those running for Van Buren Township offices in the Aug. 2 primary election. It runs from 7 to 9 p.m. at Wayne County Community College, Haggerty Rd., D-100 Lecture Hall. Treasurer candidates at 7:05 p.m., supervisor candidates at 7:25 p.m., and trustee candidates at 8:05 p.m.

• **Friday, June 17, to Sunday, June 19** – Annual Strawberry Festival week end.

• **Sunday, June 19** – Cinnamon’s Annual Father’s Day Car Show, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Victory Park at Five Points in Belleville. Pre-registration gathering is 6-8 p.m. Friday, June 17, at Belleville Faith Assembly Church, 894 E. Huron River Dr. Free hot dogs, chips and drink to all who pre-register for the Sunday show. \$10 pre-registration; \$20 at the gate. Information: (734) 260-0250 or BigCinnamon@gmail.com.

• **Sunday, June 19** – Southern Echo band performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Wednesday, June 22** – The non-partisan League of Women Voters presents a candidate forum for those running for Sumpter Township offices in the Aug. 2 primary election. At 6:30 p.m. at the Sumpter Community Center.



City of Belleville Public Notice



BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Belleville Police Department is accepting sealed bids for the following vehicles:

2000 Ford Crown Victoria
2001 Ford Crown Victoria

The vehicles are being stored at the City of Belleville’s parking lot on 6 Main Street. Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with which vehicle you are bidding on and “Bid for Vehicle.” Bids are due in the City Clerk’s Office by Friday, June 3, 2016, no later than 4:00 p.m. They will be opened and read publicly at the June 6, 2016 City Council Meeting at Belleville City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111 in the Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

Vehicles may be viewed in the parking lot of the City of Belleville.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in the best interest of the City of Belleville.

DATE: May 10, 2016

**PUBLISH: May 19, 2016
May 26, 2016
June 2, 2016**

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 526 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, May 15:
0152 – disturbance, Westlake Cir.
0235 – fight, Belleville Rd.
0236 – noise complaint, Westlake
0452 – assault & battery, Meadows Ct.
0830 – vehicle repossession, Denton Rd., cancel
0956 – noise complaint, Bemis Rd.
1019 – assault & battery, Rose Blvd.
1151 – assault & battery, Ecorse Rd./Beck Rd.
1420 – property damage accident, Hull Rd./Hoef
1439 – malicious destruction of property, Hoef
1824 – mental, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1848 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.
2302 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
Monday, May 16:
0756 – trespassing, Denton Rd.
0819 – vehicle repossession, Jackson Ln.
0820 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Samuel Barton Dr.
0840 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1232 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
1245 – assist fire dept., WB I-94/Haggerty
1429 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1506 – private property accident, Hull Rd.
1544 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1625 – larceny, Michigan Ave.
1656 – ATV/ORV complaint, Sandlewood Dr.
1730 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
1835 – fraud, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1918 – suicide or attempt, Meadows Cir.
2008 – juvenile complaint, Ironwood Dr.
2128 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
2227 – weapons violation, Tyler Rd.
Tuesday, May 17:
0043 – property damage accident, EB/Belleville
0055 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
0914 – special detail, S. Wayne
0916 – property damage accident, Belleville / Walmart
1107 – fraud, Oak Ln.
1122 – neighbor trouble, Arthur St.
1127 – suspicious person, Denton Rd./Beckley Rd.
1225 – property damage accident, Martz Rd./Lohr
1236 – juvenile complaint, Westlake
1249 – private property accident, Southport
1356 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1453 – code enforcement, Hamlin St.
1454 – fraud, Salem Ct.
1521 – property damage accident, Burtrig St.
1635 – malicious destruction of property, Denton
1707 – breaking & entering motor vehicle, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1756 – assault & battery, E. Archwood Dr.
1807 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1921 – juvenile complaint, Ironwood Dr./Vine St.
2012 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
2045 – private property accident, Waters Edge Ln.
2139 – missing person, Parkwood Dr.
Wednesday, May 18:
0117 – agency assist, Willis
0142 – assault & battery, Borgman Ave.
0604 – private property incident, Valero
1145 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1149 – traffic hazard, Belleville/French Landing
1200 – disturbance, Belleville Rd.
1202 – agency assist, Sumpter/Five Points
1229 – fraud, Hull Rd.
1252 – agency assist, Village green Ln.
1315 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1323 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1329 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1338 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1344 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1347 – fraud, Haggerty Rd.
1446 – operating while intoxicated, S. I-94 Service
1459 – larceny from auto, Haggerty Rd.
1545 – sexual assault, Greenbriar Dr.
1618 – PPO violation, Heatherfield Blvd.
1624 – trespassing, Stonybrook sub pond
1853 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1901 – property check, carnival
1948 – personal injury accident, Yost/Belleville
1958 – PPO violation, Parkwood Dr.

2012 – water leak found, I-94 Service Dr., cancel
2022 – family trouble, Belleville Rd.
2039 – harassment call, Outer Dr.
Thursday, May 19:
0033 – neighbor trouble, Westlake Cir.
0247 – abandoned auto, Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville
0728 – breaking & entering, Samuel Barton Dr.
0945 – code enforcement, Stoneybrook Ct.
1232 – operating while intoxicated, S. I-94 Service
1243 – noise complaint, Westlake
1336 – motorist assist, Ecorse Service Dr. A / Denton Rd.
1510 – assault & battery, Gilmore St.
1629 – harassment call, Westlake
1716 – missing person, Tyler Rd.
1840 – abandoned auto, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1842 – disturbance, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1953 – operating while intoxicated, Maple Dr. / Oak Blvd.
2045 – intimidation threat, Wheeler St.
2108 – larceny, Fairbanks St.
2152 – malicious destruction of property, McBride
2208 – intimidation threat, Wheeler St.
2236 – water leak found, Peninsular Dr.
2332 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd. / Sheldon Rd.
Friday, May 20:
0122 – assault & battery, Brandi
0909 – sexual assault, W. Huron River Dr.
1017 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1045 – agency assist, Sylvia Dr.
1138 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1519 – mental, Van Buren St.
1703 – juvenile complaint, Potter
1732 – harassment call, Outer Dr.
1830 – property damage accident, Lighthouse Dr.
1937 – juvenile complaint, Bellepoint Estates
2004 – narcotics crime, Rawsonville
2211 – noise complaint, Harbor Club
2232 – property damage accident, Tyler Rd. / Belleville Rd.
2307 – noise complaint, Briarcliff Dr.
Saturday, May 21:
0122 – disorderly conduct, Westlake
0239 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Belleville
0337 – larceny from auto, Waters Edge Ln.
0542 – sexual assault, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0608 – assault & battery, Freedom Way
0737 – missing person, Park Estates
0951 – hold-up alarm, Sandalwood
0951 – juvenile complaint, Denton Rd.
1024 – malicious destruction of property, Buchanan St.
1253 – missing person, E. Sadie Ln.
1414 – juvenile complaint, Denton Rd.
1515 – juvenile complaint, Burger King at Mobile stop
1624 – trespassing, Farm Rd.
1628 – private property accident, Belleville
1728 – harassment call, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
1753 – sexual assault, Greenbriar
1828 – fight, Belle Pointe Dr.
1848 – juvenile complaint, Belleville/I-94
1913 – noise complaint, Dartmore/Lancaster
2010 – private property accident, Haggerty
2044 – disorderly conduct, Belleville Rd.
2054 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
2111 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.
2244 – malicious destruction of property, Oak Ln.
Also on this week’s log are 176 traffic stops, 21 of which were on the I-94 freeway.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 15:
0918 – E-911 cellular, N. Liberty St.
1046 – assault & battery, Church St.
1302 – civil matter, N. Liberty St.
1355 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
2231 – information, Main St.
Monday, May 16:
0207 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0246 – property check, Tuscan Manor
0336 – assist fire dept., Church St.
1632 – missing person, W. Columbia Ave.

2014 – neighbor trouble, W. Columbia Ave.
2232 – suspicious vehicle, Carmell
Tuesday, May 17:
0930 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter Rd.
1115 – vehicle lockout, South St.
1305 – assist fire dept., Clarence St.
1305 – E-911 hang up/investigation, South St.
1426 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1505 – dumping complaint, High St./Main St.
1546 – operating while intoxicated, Main St.
1814 – property damage accident, Main St.
1853 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1932 – vehicle lock out, Edgemont
Wednesday, May 18:
0133 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0945 – suspicious situation, High St./Main St.
1111 – vehicle inspection, Main St.
1147 – property damage accident, Sumpter / Five Points
1309 – abandoned auto, Victoria/Columbia
1404 – vehicle inspection, South St.
1431 – suspicious person, Menlo Park Dr.
1517 – parking complaint, N. Aberdeen Ct.
1537 – vehicle lock out, Owen
1605 – welfare check, Main St.
1846 – malicious destruction of property, Potter
1851 – intimidation threat, E. Columbia Ave.
1907 – unattended death, Menlo Park Dr.
Thursday, May 19:
0929 – suspicious person, Main St.
1124 – PPO violation, E. Columbia Ave.
1247 – fraud, South St.
1352 – assault & battery, McBride
1353 – assault & battery, McBride
1549 – follow up, W. Columbia Ave.
1625 – hold-up alarm, Owen
1704 – follow up, Carmell St.
1705 – hold-up alarm, Owen
1906 – E-911 cellular, N. Liberty St.
1921 – suspicious situation, Menlo Park Dr.
1931 – weapons violation, Carmell St.
Friday, May 20:
0005 – assist fire dept., Biggs Ave.
0405 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
0937 – suspicious person, Main St.
1042 – intrusion alarm, Owen
1053 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1437 – background investigation, High St., cancel
1654 – operating while intoxicated, Main St./High
1706 – operating while intoxicated, South St.
1819 – harassment call, N. Edgemont Ave.
2213 – domestic assault, Church St.
2324 – noise complaint, Carmell St.
Saturday, May 21:
1006 – civil matter, Marathon
1334 – malicious destruction of property, Carmell
1408 – malicious destruction of property, Carmell
1429 – parking complaint, Waterbury
1510 – code enforcement, Belleville Rd. Bridge
1623 – assist fire dept., Anaheim St.
2339 – vehicle lockout, Marathon
Also on this week’s log are 25 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 15:
0317 – fire dept. assist, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0403 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Oakville Waltz
0710 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
1019 – suspicious incident, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
1106 – alarm, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1218 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1501 – ORV complaint, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1711 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
2040 – assist other agency, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
Monday, May 16:
0734 – alarm, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.
0906 – suspicious person, Delaware
1123 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1329 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1457 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1511 – assault, Butternut
1728 – civil dispute, California
1840 – juvenile complaint, Sumpter/Dunn
2226 – breaking & entering report, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
Tuesday, May 17:
0704 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0837 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

1203 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1220 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
1239 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.
1503 – property damage accident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1901 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2111 – civil dispute, California
2359 – death investigation, 21000 bl. Fenster
Wednesday, May 18:
0007 – alarm, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
0112 – family trouble, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
0223 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
0728 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
0753 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
0938 – breaking & entering report, 39000 bl. Judd
1513 – parking complaint, Fenster
1518 – civil dispute, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1600 – reckless driver, Martinsville/Willis
1638 – alarm, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1847 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1857 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
2138 – fire dept. assist, 39000 bl. Judd Rd.
2226 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Martinsville / Oakville Waltz
Thursday, May 19:
0034 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter / Bemis
0909 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Judd Rd.
1309 – threats complaint, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1327 – fire dept. assist, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1626 – death investigation, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1728 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1755 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1801 – civil dispute, California
1817 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1934 – suspicious incident, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
2241 – personal injury accident, 43000 bl. Willow
2347 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
Friday, May 20:
0303 – fire dept. assist, Second St.
0855 – family trouble, Greenmeadow
1110 – assist other agency, Montana
1731 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1956 – suspicious person, Willis/Elwell
2001 – traffic hazard, Sumpter/Harris
2123 – juvenile complaint, 18000 bl. Martinsville
2137 – suspicious vehicle, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
2226 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
Saturday, May 21:
0108 – noise complaint, Elwell/Wear
0135 – suspicious incident, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1309 – criminal sexual conduct investigation, Sumpter Rd.
1647 – disorderly person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1948 – suspicious incident, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2059 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Judd
2318 – suspicious incident, E. Arizona
Also on this week’s log are 11 follow-up investigations, 32 miscellaneous details, 131 patrol checks, and 44 traffic stops.

Belleville City Council approves new police union contract

At its regular meeting on May 16, the Belleville City Council approved a new, 3.5-year union contract with police department employees that gives them a 2% raise retroactive to July 1, 2015.

This contract with the local unit of the Police Officers Association of Michigan expires in December 2018.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said the contract also includes a new pension plan for new hires with lesser defined benefits. Language about Reserve training also is included.

The hard cap on health care now includes retirees. She said until now, retirees Carl Arnett and Joe Arrick did not pay anything for health care.

“Reality leaves a lot to the imagination.”
– John Lennon

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Sumpter suspect

(continued from page 1)

the night and had possibly shot her dog.

She also reported that he told her he had, for unknown reasons, intentionally shot himself in the leg earlier in the night while away. She observed blood soaking his pants near his left inner thigh and he showed her a hole in the pants that he described as being caused by the bullet traveling through. When she attempted to call 911, Fields allegedly took her phone and broke it to keep her from calling for help.



Brad Fields

The victim found an opportunity and was eventually able to flee the residence. While running away, she says Fields threatened to shoot her with a handgun if she didn't run fast enough. She ran to the clubhouse where she called 911.

The victim was transported by ambulance to a nearby hospital with injuries sustained from reportedly being punched numerous times in the head and upper torso. Her dog was also found running loose nearby bleeding from an injury to its hind-quarter. It was transported by a family member to a nearby veterinarian for treatment, but the exact cause of the injury could not be determined.

Sumpter Township Police, with assistance by officers from the Huron Township Police Department, cordoned off the area and evacuated nearby neighbors while attempting to make contact with Fields by phone and loudspeaker. When no contact was made, assistance was requested from the Emergency Support Unit of the Michigan State Police as it was believed that he was still armed and barricaded inside the residence.

Telephone contact was later made with Fields after he called a family member using a third-party telephone. Information gathered through several conversations

with him by a negotiator with the Michigan State Police, and by other means, showed that he had apparently fled the location just prior to officers' initial arrival and was at a location on Robson Road in Van Buren Township.

Several members of the Emergency Support Unit were sent to that location to provide surveillance on the residence. They were also there to take action if Fields was sighted and appeared to pose an immediate threat to anyone in the area.

Entry was made into the Greenmeadow residence and it was found unoccupied. Several handguns were recovered there, with one being illegal.

Sumpter Township and remaining Michigan State Police personnel then went to the Robson Road location. Fields was eventually taken into custody without incident after exiting the residence and surrendering to members of the Emergency Support Unit in the front yard.

Once in custody, it was found that Fields had actually staged the self-inflicted gunshot wound by using an alternative substance to mimic the appearance of blood. He had also cut a small hole in his pants to make it appear to the victim that he had actually shot himself. When asked why he did that by investigators, he refused to answer.

Fields was arraigned Saturday morning on the following charges approved by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office: One count of Domestic Violence – Aggravated, one count of Weapons-Firearms-Possession by Felon, one count of Weapons-Felony Firearm, and also Habitual Offender-Second Offense Notice.

Police Chief Eric Luke
Sumpter Township

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43260 HURON RIVER DR, VAN BUREN
UPDATED 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath **BELLEVILLE LAKE** Home with 1600+ Square Feet Offering Enchanting Lake Views, 30 ft Deck, 75 ft Boat Dock on Belleville Lake. Natural Stone Fireplace, Refinished Hardwood Floors with New Carpet, Partially Finished Basement, 2 1/2 Car Garage, \$247,900.



11716 JUNIPER, VAN BUREN
MILLION DOLLAR LAKEFRONT Panoramic Views in this Custom Built Full Brick 4 Bedroom, 3 Bath Home. More than 150 Feet of Lake Frontage. Home Professionally Designed for Optimum Lakefront Enjoyment and Constructed with an Unyielding Commitment to Quality. Premiere Lake Lot \$495,000



929 HURON RIVER, VAN BUREN
SERENE, PEACEFUL AND PRIVATE with 100+ Feet of Lake Frontage. 1.7 Acres, First Floor Master, Kitchen with Granite Countertops, Finished Walkout Lower Level with Family Room and Full Bath. Three Decks on All Levels, Hot Tub, Waterfront Dock, New Furnace 2014, Brand New Roof in 2016 This one has it All! \$629,900



11933 BELLEVILLE, VAN BUREN
It's a Showoffs Dream! This exciting custom full brick 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home offers it all! Paradise nestled in a private cove with dense foliage for maximum privacy! Ultra premium kitchen, finished walkout basement w/ kitchen and bedroom. 175ft boardwalk with dock, large boat house and deck. \$550,000



368 CHURCH BELLEVILLE
Timeless Design with Finishing Touches they used to include. Impressive and ageless 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath 2811 Square Foot City Home. Large Rooms Everywhere, Master Bedroom with Fireplace, Hardwood Floors and Huge Basement, Bigger Yard with 2 1/2 Car Garage, Seconds to Downtown & First Time Offered at \$250,000.



8533 MEADOW SPRINGS, SUMPTER
QUALITY BUILT Cape Cod w/ Cherry Cabinets, Marble Counter tops, Ceramic, Hardwood Floors, Oak Trim & Pella Windows. 2 Fireplaces, 4 Colossal Bedrooms 3 Full Baths, Finished Walkout Basement & Views of Large Stocked Pond, 2 1/2 Car Garage & 24x30 Pole Barn \$319,900.



23845 CLARK, HURON TOWNSHIP
COMPLETELY UPDATED 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch. Features include Family Room, Fireplace, Master Bedroom with Master Bath, New Carpet, Floor Coverings, Dishwasher & Microwave. New Roof, Furnace, Central Air, Water Heater. 2 1/2 Car Garage, New Concrete, Large Yard and More. IT'S LIKE NEW. \$117,900.



17700 ODYSSEY, SUMPTER
GRACED WITH NATURE'S TOUCH OF PRIVACY. Alluring 3 Bedroom 2 1/2 Bath home. Upgraded Kitchen with Quartz Island and pantry, Open Great Room, Fireplace, Large Rear Yard Constantly maintained & updated. New roof 2015. Secluded 1.3 Acre Parcel, Screened Porch off deck, 3 Car Garage \$329,900



12540 BECK, VAN BUREN
NATURE'S BEAUTY SURROUNDS this Full Brick Ranch with Walkout Basement in THE Preferred Location. 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Family Room with Fireplace, Central Air and Florida Room. Large Barn & Near Belleville Lake. Built with Quality, Fine Design and Pampered with Loving Care \$225,000



6315 DENTON, VAN BUREN
CLASSIC LINES AND TIMELESS DESIGN. Impressive and Updated 4 Bedroom Victorian Home with Wrap Porch Master Bedroom with Fireplace, Hardwood Floors, Basement, High Energy Efficient Furnace and Updating Everywhere. 2 1/2 Car Garage PLUS Bonus Second Home w 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. \$209,900

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26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000
26405 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308 \$35,000

25817 SUMPTER RD .97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT \$27,500
24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES \$30,000
20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC \$29,500
VACANT RAWSONVILLE 57 AC \$250,000

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49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
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BOHN NEAR DUNN 5 ACRES \$29,000

BELLEVILLE
337 MAIN .32 ACRES 83X165 \$79,500
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES \$35,000
47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES \$176,000
VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES \$29,750

VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES \$30,000
VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES \$129,000
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